

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the Board of Aldermen

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

October 26, 2017, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Board of Aldermen's minutes. While reasonable efforts have been made to assure the accuracy of the data provided, do not rely on this information without first checking with the City Clerk.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Alderman At Large William A. White Jr.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M. Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Alderman At Large	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Robert J. McWatters	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Mark Niedergang	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Lance L. Davis	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Katjana Ballantyne	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	

1. Roll Call (ID:17222) Call of the Roll.

	<p>Alderman Ballantyne sponsored a moment of silence for Kevin Raymond. Alderman Rossetti sponsored a moment of silence for Blondjy Bonnet. Alderman Connolly sponsored a moment of silence for Neil O'Neill. Alderman Sullivan sponsored a moment of silence for Daniel Foley, Richard Carroll and Carol Ann Tsoukalas. Alderman Heuston sponsored a moment of silence for Kelly Lee Susi and Allan Brown. Aldermen McLaughlin, White and Niedergang sponsored a moment of silence for Ralph Hergert. Alderman White sponsored a moment of silence for John Craig.</p> <p>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</p>
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2. Minutes (ID:17223) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, September 28, 2017.

	<p>RESULT: APPROVED</p>
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CITATIONS

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| 3. | <p>Citation
204454
(ID:17224)</p> | <p>By Ald. the Entire Board and the Mayor
Commending Mary Caruso, on the happy occasion of her 85th birthday.</p> |
| | | <p>Alderman Sullivan moved to table the item until the Caruso family could be in attendance. With no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p>RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Board of Aldermen</p> |
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| 4. | <p>Citation
204455
(ID:17225)</p> | <p>By Ald. McWatters, the Entire Board and the Mayor
Commending Anna Ciccariello Sherwood on the happy occasion of her retirement from the city after 27 years of dedicated public service.</p> |
| | | <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |

PUBLIC HEARINGS

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| 5. | <p>Grant of
Location
204456
(ID:17226)</p> | <p>Submitted by Eversource to relocate Pole 325-68 at 343 Summer St 15 feet to the east, and to install 7 feet of conduit in Summer St from Pole 325-69A to a point of pickup at 343 Summer St.</p> |
| | | <p>The President opened the public hearing. Jacqueline Duffy of Eversource described the work to be completed. With no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
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| 6. | <p>Grant of
Location
204457
(ID:17227)</p> | <p>Submitted by Eversource to install 5 feet of conduit in Oak St from Pole 258/8 to a point of pickup at 43 Oak St.</p> |
| | | <p>The President opened the public hearing. Jacqueline Duffy of Eversource described the work to be completed. With no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
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| 7. | <p>Grant of
Location
204458
(ID:17228)</p> | <p>Submitted by Eversource to install 9 feet of conduit in Beacon St from Pole 269/13 to a point of pickup at 191 Beacon St.</p> |
| | | <p>The President opened the public hearing. Jacqueline Duffy of Eversource described the work to be completed. With no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |
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| 8. | <p>Grant of
Location
204459
(ID:17230)</p> | <p>Submitted by Comcast to install 36 feet of conduit in Warwick St from Pole 2 to a point of pickup at 12 Warwick St.</p> |
| | | <p>The President opened the public hearing. Dave Flewelling of Comcast described the work to be completed. With no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> |

9. Grant of Location 204460 (ID:17229) Submitted by Patriot Custom Homes to install 36 feet of conduit in Chandler St from Pole 227/9 to a point of pickup at 74 Chandler St.
10. Grant of Location 204461 (ID:17231) Submitted by Lightower Fiber Networks to replace a pendant streetlight at 445 Artisan Way, and relocate it 10 feet to the east, with a new ODAS node and accessory equipment installed.

The President opened the public hearing. Dylan James of Patriot Custom Homes described the work to be completed. Roger Greene, owner of 74 Chandler Street, stated that after major renovations, he plans on moving in shortly and would very much like to have internet access. With no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing.
RESULT: APPROVED

The President opened the public hearing. Stephanie Stephans of Lightower described the work to be completed. With no other speakers, the President closed the public hearing.
RESULT: APPROVED

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

11. Resolution 204462 (ID:17174) By Ald. Davis, Ballantyne, and the Entire Board That the Administration advise this Board on enforcing city ordinances, and develop a better response to repeat violations, including whether eyewitness reports or submitted evidence can be the basis for a citation.

Alderman Davis and other Board Members said that the City has a problem enforcing City Ordinances; constituents get the run around on who to call to get satisfaction. Members concurred that the Administration needs to advise the Board on methods to enforce City Ordinances, and report violations of those Ordinances.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

12. Resolution 204463 (ID:17204) By Ald. Davis, Ballantyne, Lafuente That the Administration revise applicable ordinances and policies to prevent construction crews from closing sidewalks unless accommodations for safe pedestrian passage have been made, including the presence of detail officers at mid-block crossings if needed.

Alderman Davis reported that current policies leave pedestrians stranded when sidewalk work is done. He requested that the Administration follow the example of neighboring communities and insist on providing safe passage at all times.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

13. Order 204464 (ID:17184) By Ald. Rossetti
That the Director of Personnel submit to this Board by its next regular meeting, a report of all department vacancies and the starting date of each vacancy, as well as any hires in process.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
14. Resolution 204465 (ID:17185) By Ald. Rossetti, Davis, Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr.
That the Administration give immediate attention to its ability to contact any of the communication companies when safety concerns arise.
- Alderman Rossetti requested from Comcast that they supply an emergency contact line (for City official's use only) for times when emergency concerns arise. Comcast representative David Flewelling said he would supply the 24/7 phone number and email address for municipal use only to the City.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
15. Communication 204466 (ID:17186) By Ald. Rossetti
Reporting on the High School Building Committee meeting.
- Alderman Rossetti reported on the items discussed at the meeting. The project for the High School went before the Zoning Board on October 18, 2017. At the request of Planning Director George Proakis, the High School project application was split into two. The Zoning Board briefly took up the section on relief from setback and building height rules. The section on parking relief was not discussed.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**
16. Order 204467 (ID:17187) By Ald. McLaughlin
That the Commissioner of Public Works address the uneven sidewalk at 153-155 Pearl Street.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
17. Order 204468 (ID:17188) By Ald. McLaughlin
That the Commissioner of Public Works trim the trees on Pleasant Avenue that are blocking street lights.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
18. Resolution 204469 (ID:17189) By Ald. McLaughlin
Requesting the State Delegation to support House Bill 3027, An Act to Establish the Office of Adult Guardianship and Decisional Support Services.
- RESULT: APPROVED**

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| 19. Order
204470
(ID:17205) | By Ald. Niedergang
That the Superintendent of Inspectional Services report to the Ward 5 Alderman on the status of the dilapidated two-family house at 19-21 Vernon Street. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 20. Order
204471
(ID:17206) | By Ald. Niedergang, Davis
That the Commissioner of Public Works install a bench halfway between Willow Avenue and Grove Street on the Community Path. |
| RESULT: WITHDRAWN | |
| 21. Order
204472
(ID:17207) | By Ald. Niedergang
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the sidewalk and storm drain at the driveway/curb cut at 32 Warwick Street. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 22. Order
204473
(ID:17208) | By Ald. Niedergang
That the Commissioner of Public Works trim the weeds near Warwick Street and the Community Path ramp, and report to the Ward 5 Alderman who owns that property. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |
| 23. Communication
204474
(ID:17209) | By Ald. Niedergang
Reporting on the activities of the Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

Alderman Niedergang provided an update on the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The two major items that the Affordable Housing Trust Fund has been dealing with are the Hundred Homes Project and the Clarendon Hill redevelopment plan to add three hundred units. |
| RESULT: PLACED ON FILE | |
| 24. Resolution
204475
(ID:17210) | By Ald. Heuston
Urging the MBTA to maintain the fencing along the commuter rail corridor, to prevent the needless loss of life.

On October 11, 2017 a Somerville woman was killed on the commuter rail train tracks adjacent to Washington Street. The cause is still under investigation but it is clear that the lack of secure fencing along that stretch of track is cause for concern. Alderman Heuston crafted a letter to Governor Charlie Baker and MBTA General Manager Luis Ramirez about this and asked the Board for its support. |
| RESULT: APPROVED | |

25. Order 204476 (ID:17211) By Ald. Heuston
That the City Clerk request that the owner of Master Used Cars, 121 Prospect Street, appear before this Board's Licenses and Permits Committee to respond to neighborhood concerns about the business.

RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

26. Order 204477 (ID:17212) By Ald. Heuston
That the Superintendent of Inspectional services inspect the Adrian Street area for rodents and report back to the Ward 2 Alderman.

RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Rodent Issues Special Committee

27. Resolution 204478 (ID:17213) By Ald. Heuston
That the Administration provide a means for Ward 2 residents to report helicopter noise early on weekday mornings, and partner with Cambridge to prepare a formal complaint.

Ald. McLaughlin recused.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

28. Order 204479 (ID:17214) By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works provide information related to returning the bike racks to the Argenziano School yard.

RESULT: APPROVED

29. Resolution 204480 (ID:17215) By Ald. Heuston
That the Administration inform this Board how Somerville participants will be chosen for the proposed GLX Community Working Group.

Mayor's Aide Tim Snyder said that the member selection process is still being developed. He will convey the details to the Board as soon as possible.
RESULT: APPROVED

30. Order 204481 (ID:17216) By Ald. McWatters
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the sidewalk panels at 17 Pleasant Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

31. Order 204482 (ID:17217) By Ald. McWatters
That the Chief of Police order a directed patrol on Vinal Avenue from Highland Avenue to Summer Street at various times to monitor speeding motorists.

RESULT: APPROVED

32. Order 204483 (ID:17218) By Ald. McWatters
That the Police Chief order a directed patrol on Atherton and Beech Streets for motorists making illegal left turns.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
33. Order 204484 (ID:17219) By Ald. McWatters
That the Director of SPCD consider placing a roundabout at Munroe Street and Prospect Hill Avenue, and consider a neighborhood meeting to discuss the proposal.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
34. Order 204485 (ID:17220) By Ald. McWatters
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a sign on Hamlet Street: OPEN TO RESIDENTS AND BICYCLISTS ONLY, M-F 7-9 AM and 4-6PM.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
35. Ordinance 204486 (ID:17221) By Ald. White Jr., Davis, McWatters
Proposing an Ordinance for the management and elimination of natural gas leaks.
- Alderman White said he modeled his proposal on Boston's Ordinance for the management and elimination of natural gas leaks.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**
FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

36. Resolution 204160 (ID:16874) By Ald. Rossetti
That the Mayor provide to this Board, by October 26, 2017, the analysis he referenced in a communication on June 28, 2017 regarding the costs and uses of Dilboy Field by city nonprofit sports programs.
- Alderman Rossetti sponsored Mayor's Aide Tim Snyder, who said that the team working on the nonprofit cost analysis will have it completed by the next meeting.
- RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE**
FOLLOWUP: Board of Aldermen
37. Order 204300 (ID:16999) By Ald. Rossetti, Davis, Connolly, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Communications review the attached email regarding better communication to residents for items before the Planning and Zoning Boards, and report back to this Board by October 23.
- Alderman Rossetti commended the Planning Director's proactive plan to improve Board-constituent communications, described in #204522.
- RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

38. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 204487 (ID:17194) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on October 25, 2017.

<p>Alderman Lafuente reported on the items discussed at the meeting. The Administration presented a briefing on the Union Square District Improvement Financing Strategy.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p>
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- B. Mayor's Request 204441 (ID:17153) Requesting acceptance of a \$1,703,572 grant that requires a match, from HUD to the SPCD Housing Division for its lead abatement program.

<p>RESULT: APPROVED</p>

39. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 204488 (ID:17190) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on October 16, 2017.

<p>Alderman Niedergang reported on the items discussed at the meeting. He spoke about developers violating the terms of their permits. Inspectional Services Director Goran Smiljic said that violations are handled on a project by project basis. Instead of issuing tickets, ISD assesses triple fees for violations. The Committee also discussed the Housing Division's work on the Stable Neighborhood Working Group recommendations and learned that it was proceeding slowly because of staffing issues, but that the Division is fully staffed now. Another major item was the City's report of progress on the SomerVision goals. Alderman Ballantyne asked why is there so much housing development in traditional neighborhoods, not transformational areas. Planning Director George Proakis said the pending zoning overhaul, if enacted, would address that problem.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p>
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- B. Order 202148 (ID:14822) By Ald. Ballantyne That the Director of SPCD and the Administration discuss pre-planning and planning processes and requirements for private developers and city infrastructure projects, identifying differences and similarities.

<p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p>

- C. Order 203980 (ID:16796) By Ald. Niedergang, McLaughlin That the Director of SPCD report to this Board why even the top priority recommendations of the Sustainable Neighborhoods Working Group have not yet been implemented after almost two years, and consider hiring additional staff to effectively address the affordable housing emergency.

<p>RESULT: WORK COMPLETED</p>

D. Order 204168 (ID:16888) By Ald. Niedergang, Rossetti, Davis, and the Entire Board That the Superintendent of Inspectional Services report to this Board by September 28, 2017, the owners and addresses of all properties where Stop Work Orders were issued over the past two years, along with the names of the permit applicants and a list of any fines issued.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

E. Officer's Communication 204187 (ID:16921) Community Preservation Committee responding to #203735 re: prioritizing affordable housing funds for municipal workforce housing.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

F. Order 204299 (ID:16998) By Ald. White Jr., Rossetti, Sullivan, Connolly That the Director of SPCD appear before this Board's Committee on Housing and Community Development to discuss plans to connect the Inner Belt with North Point and the substance of any discussions with the City of Cambridge.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

G. Order 204301 (ID:17024) By Ald. Niedergang That the Director of SPCD report to this Board on the city's Assessment of Fair Housing recently completed for HUD, and explain what the city is doing to advance fair housing and combat housing discrimination.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

40. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

A. Committee Report 204489 (ID:17191) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on October 19, 2017. Alderman Rossetti reported on the items discussed at the meeting. Most items were kept in Committee.

RESULT: APPROVED

B. Order 202360 (ID:15017) By Ald. Niedergang That the City Solicitor prepare a draft ordinance for jobs linkage fees.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

C. Order 203870 (ID:16591) By Ald. Niedergang, Rossetti, Ballantyne That the Director of SPCD report to this Board no later than August 1, 2017 on progress on a revised demolition review ordinance following the 3 community meetings this spring.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

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| D. | Resolution
204490
(ID:17195) | By Ald. Heuston, Rossetti
That the Administration consider adding a position to oversee street reconstruction and utility work, and provide this Board with a list of duties of said position. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED |
| E. | Resolution
204491
(ID:17196) | By Ald. White Jr.
That the Administration consider increasing permit fees to cover the cost of a new position to oversee street reconstruction and utility work. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
| F. | Order
204492
(ID:17197) | By Ald. Niedergang
That the City Solicitor draft a revised version of Ordinance 6-3(b)(3), Smoking in Parks, to extend the smoking prohibition to 50 feet. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee |

41. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

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| A. | Committee
Report
204493
(ID:17193) | Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on October 25, 2017.

Alderman Sullivan reported on the items discussed at the meeting. The main item was Eversource's application to install 2,006 feet of conduit underneath Mystic Avenue as part of the Mystic-Woburn reliability project. The second item was a show cause hearing for American Auto Gallery, 682 Mystic Avenue. The Committee voted to revoke the license based on police reports of poor customer service and the vacating of the premises. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED |
| B. | Grant of
Location
204246
(ID:17017) | Submitted by Eversource to install 2,006 feet of ductile steel pipe and conduit beneath Mystic Avenue, from Middlesex Avenue southeasterly to Alfred Lombardi Way. |
| | | RESULT: APPROVED |
| C. | Officer's
Communication
204028
(ID:16824) | Police Detective reporting on an incident in support of possible revocation of the Used Car Dealer License issued to American Auto Gallery, 682 Mystic Ave. |
| | | RESULT: WORK COMPLETED |
| D. | Mayor's
Communication
204285
(ID:17005) | Conveying a Host Community Agreement with Eversource. |
| | | RESULT: WORK COMPLETED |

- E. Order 204494 (ID:17253) By Ald. Connolly That the Used Car Dealer Class 2 license issued to FMS Auto Sales LLC, 682 Mystic Avenue, be revoked immediately.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES: Connolly, Rossetti, Sullivan, White Jr., McLaughlin, McWatters, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
ABSENT: Heuston, Lafuente

42. PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 204495 (ID:17192) Report of the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works, meeting on October 24, 2017.

Alderman McWatters reported on the items discussed at the meeting. The members questioned MA DOT about why the Beacon Street trees were cut down. The Committee was told that initially 17 trees were to be removed in May. One tree was removed in October and one in November due to unforeseen circumstances. MA DOT said they would inquire of the contractor, Newport Construction, why they removed those trees. There was an obvious breakdown in communication with the contractor.
RESULT: APPROVED

- B. Officer's Communication 203413 (ID:16073) DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 4/27/17.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. Officer's Communication 203813 (ID:16281) DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 5/25/17.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. Officer's Communication 204188 (ID:16652) DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 7/13/17.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. Officer's Communication 204288 (ID:16952) DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 8/24/17.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- F. Officer's Communication 204335 (ID:17050) DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 9/28/17.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- G. Public Communication 204423 (ID:17148) Chris Dwan submitting comments re: the October 6 Beacon Street tree removal.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- H. Officer's Communication 204445 (ID:17074) City Engineer submitting responding to #203496 re: Pitman Street pavement.
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| RESULT: | WORK COMPLETED |
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COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

43. Mayor's Request 204496 (ID:17238) Requesting that this Board convene in Executive Session to discuss the hiring and retention of school nurses.

The Board recessed for the Executive Session at 8:30 PM, and reconvened at 9:30 PM. No votes were taken in Executive Session.

RESULT:	APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Connolly, Rossetti, Sullivan, White Jr., McLaughlin, Houston, McWatters, Lafuente, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne

44. Mayor's Request 204497 (ID:17078) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$2,000,000 in a bond to repair and improve the Buena Vista Garage.

Alderman Ballantyne requested to waive the readings of items 44 through 48 and refer them to the Finance Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT:	REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP:	Finance Committee

45. Mayor's Request 204498 (ID:17180) Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$32,499.79 using available funds in various accounts in the Department of Public Works for services provided.

RESULT:	REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP:	Finance Committee

46. Mayor's Request 204499 (ID:17179) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$4,000 using available funds in the Police Department Professional and Technical Services Account for Middle School Survey-Consultation.

RESULT:	REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP:	Finance Committee

47. Mayor's Request 204500 (ID:17178) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$1,267.17 using available funds in the Police Department Animal Control Professional and Technical Services Account for veterinary services.

RESULT:	REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP:	Finance Committee

48. Mayor's Request 204501 (ID:17072) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$977.05 using available funds in the Law Department's Legal Services Account for court reporting services.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

49. Mayor's Communication 204502 (ID:17233) Conveying the City's Amazon HQ2 Proposal. Alderman Ballantye requested to waive the reading of item 49 and place it on file. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

50. Officer's Communication 204503 (ID:17182) Chief Assessor requesting to appear at this Board's meeting on November 9, 2017, for the Classification Public Hearing and determining and adopting the tax levy percentages for FY18.

RESULT: APPROVED

51. Officer's Communication 204504 (ID:17177) Director of Personnel submitting an update on permanently filling the Fire Chief Engineer position.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

52. Officer's Communication 204505 (ID:17183) Council on Aging Director responding to #204302 re: disposing of large items at 240 Pearl Street. Alderman Ballantye requested to waive the readings of items 52 and 53 and place them on file. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

53. Officer's Communication 204506 (ID:17169) DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 10/12/17.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE
FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee
 Open Space, Environment and Energy Special Committee

NEW BUSINESS

54. License/Permit 204507 (ID:17239) Public Event Permit, Bond St Block Party Chili Cookoff, Nov 5, Noon-4:30PM (raindate Nov 19).

Alderman Sullivan requested to waive the readings of items 54 through 57. Approve 54 and 55 and send 56 and 57 to Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.
RESULT: APPROVED

55.	License/Permit 204508 (ID:17240)	Public Event Permit, Boston International Kids Film Festival tables, Statue Park, Nov 5, Noon-5:30PM.	RESULT: APPROVED
56.	License/Permit 204509 (ID:17241)	Public Event Permit, Boston Meditation table, Statue Park, Nov 10, 17, 24 and Dec 3, 12:30-7PM.	RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee
57.	License/Permit 204510 (ID:17242)	New Extended Operating Hours License, Pepi's Pizzeria, 516B Medford St, opening 7 days/wk until 2AM for dine-in, take-out, and delivery service.	RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee
58.	Public Communication 204511 (ID:17232)	Tufts University submitting its Fall 2017 University Accountability report. Alderman Niedergang requested to waive the readings of items 58 and 59 and refer them to the Housing and Community Development Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.	RESULT: PLACED ON FILE FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee
59.	Public Communication 204512 (ID:17235)	Harvard University submitting its Fall 2017 University Accountability report.	RESULT: PLACED ON FILE FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee
60.	Public Communication 204513 (ID:17236)	Hanna Bao submitting comments re: the proposed zoning overhaul. Alderman Ballantyne requested to waive the reading of item 60 and place it on file. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.	RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

61.	Order 204514 (ID:17243)	By Ald. Niedergang, McWatters That the Superintendent of Inspectional Services inspect 31 Porter Street for rodent activity and instruct the owner to clean up the property and, if appropriate, address the problem.	RESULT: APPROVED FOLLOWUP: Rodent Issues Special Committee
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| 62. | Resolution
204515
(ID:17245) | <p>By Ald. White Jr., Rossetti, Heuston, Davis, McWatters, Ballantyne, Connolly, Sullivan</p> <p>Declaring that the FAA and Massport, by increasing traffic on Logan Airport Runway 33L, are neglecting the health, welfare, and quality of life of Somerville's residents, and urging the Administration to determine the city's legal options for recourse.</p> |
| | | <p>Alderman White reported that Massport seems bent on running business as usual with respect to runway usage. As of the end of September, departures from Runway 33L were equivalent to the entire preceding year. The City's remedy is to seek legal counsel in hopes that Massport can be ordered to undertake studies regarding air traffic. Alderman White asked and received the Board's authorization to draft with the City Clerk a letter stating such to the FAA and Massport.</p> <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee</p> |
| 63. | Mayor's
Request
204516
(ID:17248) | <p>Requesting approval of an Ordinance for the Somerville Municipal Job Creation and Retention Trust Fund.</p> |
| | | <p>Alderman Rossetti requested to waive the reading of item 63 and refer it to the Legislative Matters Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee</p> |
| 64. | Mayor's
Request
204517
(ID:17252) | <p>Requesting approval of the proposed Union Square District Improvement Financing (DIF) Development Program.</p> |
| | | <p>Alderman Ballantyne requested to waive the readings of items 64 through 67 and refer them to the Finance Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee</p> |
| 65. | Mayor's
Request
204518
(ID:17247) | <p>Requesting a transfer of \$32,500 from the Salary Contingency Account to the Health & Human Services Personal Services Salaries Account to fund an Environmental Health Liaison.</p> |
| | | <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee</p> |
| 66. | Mayor's
Request
204519
(ID:17246) | <p>Requesting acceptance of a \$186,976 grant with no new match required, from State 911 to the Police Department for training and EMT service.</p> |
| | | <p>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</p> <p>FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee</p> |

67. Mayor's Request 204520 (ID:17249) Requesting acceptance of a \$75,000 donation from Tufts University, with no match required, pursuant to its Partnership Agreement with the City.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

68. Mayor's Request 204521 (ID:17234) Requesting the appointment of Francis J. Golden as Chief Assessor and Chairman of the Board of Assessors.

Alderman McWatters requested to waive the reading of item 68 and refer it to the Confirmation of Appointments Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

69. Officer's Communication 204522 (ID:17254) Director of Planning responding to #204300 re: email communications for items before the Planning and Zoning Boards.

Alderman Ballantyne requested to waive the readings of items 69 and 70 and place them on file. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

70. Officer's Communication 204523 (ID:17244) DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 10/26/17.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

LATE ITEMS

71. Public Communication 204524 (ID:17256) 18 registered voters submitting a proposed amendment to Zoning Ordinance Article 15 to update the housing linkage fee.

Also referred to the Planning Board.

Bill Cavalini spoke on behalf of the Housing Linkage Fee Proposal. The need for affordable housing far exceeds what linkage dollars can respond to. If the Somerville market can absorb a raise in the Housing Linkage Fee to \$10.00 per square foot for all projects over 30,000 square feet, then the City should raise the fee. The Sustainable Neighborhoods Working Group recommended an increase in Linkage Fees.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>72. Public Communication 204525 (ID:17257)</p> | <p>18 registered voters submitting a proposed amendment to Zoning Ordinance Article 15 to update the housing linkage fee and create a jobs creation and retention linkage fee.</p> |
| <p>Also referred to the Planning Board.
Lori Goldman spoke on behalf of the Jobs Linkage Fee Proposal. She said that establishing the Municipal Jobs Creation and Retention Trust Fund and a Jobs Linkage Fee at the reasonable amount of \$2.46 per square foot of commercial development, with full payment upon the issuance of building permits, will help residents, especially those most vulnerable to displacement, with job training, and will make the local workforce more attractive to developers.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee</p> | |
| <p>73. Officer's Communication 204526 (ID:17255)</p> | <p>City Solicitor requesting to appear before this Board with an update on two pending lawsuits.</p> |
| <p>Frank Wright, City Solicitor reported to the Board on two court cases that were just dismissed. First was the matter of Lopez vs. the City and Eastern Bus, and second was the matter of Mondol vs. the City et al. In both cases, the city was exonerated in total.
RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</p> | |
| <p>74. Resolution 204527 (ID:17264)</p> | <p>By Ald. Rossetti
Requesting that Eversource meet with this city's Administration to discuss creating a city-wide Host Community Agreement.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee</p> | |
| <p>75. Resolution 204528 (ID:17263)</p> | <p>By Ald. Davis
Requesting the Administration to compile contact information for all utilities, for reporting such issues as low hanging wires and gas leaks, and make it easily accessible on the city's website.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee</p> | |
| <p>76. Order 204529 (ID:17265)</p> | <p>By Ald. Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD provide the High School Traffic Study to this Board and post it on the city's website as soon as it is complete.</p> |
| <p>RESULT: APPROVED</p> | |

77. Mayor's Request 204439 (ID:17070) Requesting the appropriation of \$500,000 from the CPA Fund's Open Space Reserve and Undesignated Fund Balance Accounts for the acquisition of 5 Palmer Ave.
- Discharged from the Committee on Finance.
- Economic Development Director Tom Galigani answered a concern from President White regarding contaminated soil at this property. The source was 50 Tufts Street, a Dry Cleaner, and the extent of contamination was still being investigated. The owner understands their responsibility for the long-term clean-up. There are currently no concerns for neighbors with deep ground water contamination, including 5 Palmer Avenue. Before the closing on the property, the city will receive a Permanent Solution Statement. No plans are set as far as this becoming an Open Space.
- RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]**
- AYES:** Connolly, Rossetti, Sullivan, White Jr., McLaughlin, Houston, McWatters, Lafuente, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne
-
78. Order 204530 (ID:17250) By Ald. Ballantyne, Rossetti That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a SLOW sign on Russell Road at its intersection with Ware Street.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
-
79. Order 204531 (ID:17251) By Ald. Ballantyne, Davis That the Director of Engineering ensure that Eversource is providing project updates to residents on Powder House Blvd. for a year-long project, and is providing a few days' notice if private property needs to be accessed.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
-
80. Order 204532 (ID:17258) By Ald. White Jr. That the City Solicitor determine whether the City may issue a parking citation to vehicles parked on private property in violation of zoning provisions that prohibit such parking.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
- FOLLOWUP:** Legislative Matters Committee
-
81. Resolution 204533 (ID:17259) By Ald. McLaughlin That the Administration request that the developers of the long-vacant Cobble Hill Plaza update this Board on their plans.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
- FOLLOWUP:** Housing and Community Development Committee

82. Order 204534 (ID:17260) By Ald. McLaughlin
That the Director of Traffic and Parking and the Director of Veterans and Public Services relocate the veteran street corner dedication sign on Gilman Street to a more suitable location.

RESULT: APPROVED

83. Order 204535 (ID:17261) By Ald. McLaughlin
That the city arborist trim the tree at 8 Ellsworth Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

84. Resolution 204536 (ID:17262) By Ald. Sullivan, McLaughlin, Connolly, Rossetti, White Jr.
Requesting that the MBTA install a bus shelter under the Washington Street overpass to service the bus routes on that roadway.

RESULT: APPROVED

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 10:45 PM.