

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the City Council

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

March 11, 2021, 7:00 PM
Meeting by Remote Participation

NOTICE

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the City Council will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

Register at the following website to view this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8574449483556572175>.

OPENING CEREMONIES

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # 24319)

2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # 24320)

3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,
(ID # 24321) February 11, 2021.

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

4. Grant of Submitted by Eversource to relocate Utility pole 291/3 in
Location Prospect Street 30 feet southwest, closer to the Prospect
(ID # 24303) Street bridge.

5. Grant of Submitted by Eversource to relocate Utility pole 61/1 in
Location Allen Street 20 feet south, to the southern edge of
(ID # 24304) Charlestown Street.

6. Grant of Submitted by TC Systems to install 465 feet of conduit
Location in Grand Union Boulevard from a FRIT Manhole located
(ID # 24305) at the intersection of Foley Street and Grand Union
 Boulevard to a proposed Handhole near the intersection
 of Canal Street and Grand Union Boulevard.

7. Grant of Location (ID # 24306) Submitted by TC Systems to install 480 feet of conduit in Foley Street and Great River Road from a FRIT Manhole across from 460 Foley Street to a proposed Handhole at the rear of 449 Canal Street.

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

8. Order (ID # 24302) By City Councilor Strezo
That the City's Chief Assessor provide a list of all non-profits that have Community Benefit Agreements and/or Payment in Lieu of Taxes agreements, including their property sizes.
9. Resolution (ID # 24317) By City Councilor Clingan
Supporting the enactment of Payment In Lieu of Taxes Legislation (HD3207 and SD2129).
10. Order (ID # 24313) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Mayor, Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management, Commissioner of Public Works, and Director of Health and Human Services respond to the attached questions regarding ventilation and school-building readiness from public school parents.
11. Order (ID # 24314) By City Councilor Niedergang
That the Mayor, Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management, and Commissioner of Public Works respond to the attached questions regarding the management and oversight of school buildings that have been raised by public school parents.
12. Order (ID # 24315) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Clingan
That the Chief of Police inform this Council in writing how a resident may seek to expunge or seal a police report or record made by the Police Department.
13. Order (ID # 24316) By City Councilor Mbah
That the Director of Engineering install a crosswalk at Woods Avenue and Route 16.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

14. Communication 211354 By City Councilor Mbah
Updating this Council on the Racial and Social Justice Director hiring process.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

15. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24299) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on March 2, 2021.

- B. Mayor's Request 210572 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jamey Thompson to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- C. Mayor's Request 210574 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Kelsey Malloy-Ripley to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- D. Mayor's Request 210575 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Kevin Henriquez to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- E. Mayor's Request 210579 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of William Wood to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- F. Mayor's Request 211029 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Callen Scott to the Urban Forestry Committee.
RECOMMENDED: Withdrawn

16. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24301) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on March 9, 2021.

- B. Mayor's Request 211011 Requesting acceptance of a \$25,495.51 grant with no new match required, from the Department of Transportation Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to the Fire Department for the purchase of thermal imaging cameras.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- C. Resolution 211255 By City Councilor Niedergang, Mbah, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Ewen-Campen, White Jr. That the Mayor dedicate resources as a supplementary FY21 budget request and in the FY22 budget to create a Department of Transportation with at least three new, additional full-time staff including a senior position empowered to coordinate this work across departments - a Chief of Streets.
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- D. Mayor's Request 211365 Requesting an appropriation of \$2,200,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Water and Sewer Stabilization Fund.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- E. Officer's Communication 211368 City Solicitor requesting approval to retain the pro bono services of Todd & Weld as outside counsel to advise the city with respect to the establishment of safe consumption sites.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- F. Mayor's Request 211374 Requesting a transfer of \$50,000 from the SPCD Planning and Zoning Personal Services Account to the SPCD Mobility Ordinary Maintenance Account for a mid-year professional services request.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- G. Mayor's Request 211375 Requesting to establish a Senior Planner position in the SPCD Mobility Division at an annual salary of \$88,434 (NU7) and transfer \$10,237 from the SPCD Economic Development Personal Services Account to the SPCD Mobility Personal Services Account to fund this position from May 15 to June 30, 2021.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- H. Mayor's Request 211376 Requesting to establish a Senior Planner position in the SPCD Mobility Division at an annual salary of \$88,434 (NU7) and transfer \$10,237 from the SPCD Housing Personal Services Account to the SPCD Mobility Personal Services Account to fund this position from May 15 to June 30, 2021.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- I. Mayor's Request 211377 Requesting to establish an Outreach Coordinator position in the SPCD Mobility Division at an annual salary of \$62,424 (NU11) and transfer \$7,266 from the SPCD Planning and Zoning Personal Services Account to the SPCD Mobility Personal Services Account to fund this position from May 15 to June 30, 2021.
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- J. Officer's Communication 211379 Director of SPCD submitting information regarding mid-year transfers to establish new positions and new projects in the Mobility Division.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File

17. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24300) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on March 2, 2021.

18. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24298) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on March 1, 2021.

- B. Order 209798 By City Councilor Hirsch, McLaughlin
That the Director of Health and Human Services appear before this Council with an update on measures to reduce the spread of the coronavirus and to support anyone who may become infected.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- C. Resolution 209930 By City Councilor Mbah
That this Council urges Governor Baker to enact a single-payer health insurance system during this pandemic to reduce the bureaucracy for Covid-19 testing and treatment, and to make such testing and treatment free to those without health insurance.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- D. Resolution 209934 By City Councilor Mbah
That the Administration update this Council on the City's disaster preparedness assessment for emergencies during this pandemic and how this reduces our first responders' workforce.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- E. Resolution 209940 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Scott
That this Council collaborate with the Administration to create a one-page coronavirus information sheet that can be physically delivered to every resident and small business owner, containing public health information, emergency resources, and instructions on where to get more information.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- F. Resolution 209977 By City Councilor Hirsch, Ballantyne, Davis, Mbah
That the Administration update this Council on planning underway to provide housing for people who are likely to be exposed to the Covid-19 virus and need isolation, or are recovering from the virus and don't need a hospital setting.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- G. Resolution 209979 By City Councilor Hirsch, Ballantyne, Davis, Mbah
That the Administration update this Council on any efforts to ensure that city trash and recycling contractors are protected from coronavirus exposure and supported if exposed.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- H. Order 209999 By City Councilor Mbah, Niedergang, Ballantyne, Clingan
That the Chief of Police and the Chief Fire Engineer appear before this Council's Committee on Public Health and Public Safety with an update on their plans to keep first responders safe during the COVID-19 pandemic.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.

- I. Order 210112 By City Councilor Clingan
That the Director of Health and Human Services collaborate with the appropriate state agencies for the support, specialized services, medical supplies and personal protective equipment necessary for residents with complex medical needs to stay in their homes during this COVID-19 crisis.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- J. Resolution 210126 By City Councilor Mbah, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Niedergang
That the Mayor consider increasing the minimum age for mandatory wearing of face masks to children over 5 years of age.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- K. Order 210134 By City Councilor Strezo, Ballantyne
That the Director of Communications create signage to post citywide reminding the public of the penalties and public health risks associated with COVID-19 for littering used masks, gloves and wipes.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- L. Resolution 210460 By City Councilor Davis, Ballantyne, Rossetti, Scott
That the Administration and the Traffic Commission cease all dedicated Tufts shuttle stops and remove all associated signage in Ward 6, particularly in Davis Square, without delay.
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File.
- M. Resolution (ID # 24288) By City Councilor Rossetti
That the Administration explain, before this Council's next meeting, how transportation will be provided to all Public School students relocated to different buildings.

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

19. Mayor's Request (ID # 24295) Requesting the re-appropriation of \$87,114 in CPA funding from the Somerville Museum's Collection Care Project to its Elevator ADA Accessibility Project.
20. Mayor's Request (ID # 24231) Requesting approval to pay a Fiscal Year 2019 prior year invoice totaling \$188 using available funds in the Treasury Department Ordinary Maintenance Account for a September 25, 2018 invoice for laser jet printer servicing.
21. Mayor's Request (ID # 24120) Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$74,400 from the MA Office of Public Safety for Police Department staffing.

22. Mayor's Request (ID # 24077) Requesting acceptance of a \$18,816.47 grant with no new match required from the Boston Mayor's Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for the Critical Infrastructure Monitoring System camera network upgrades.
23. Mayor's Request (ID # 24252) Requesting acceptance of a \$7,680 grant with no new match required, from the MA Executive Office of Public Safety to the Fire Department to provide fire safety education to school students.
24. Mayor's Request (ID # 24253) Requesting acceptance of a \$3,019 grant with no new match required from the MA Executive Office of Public Safety to the Fire Department for senior fire prevention and safety.
25. Mayor's Request (ID # 24292) Requesting approval to extend the contract for John Risko through 3/31/2022 and add \$12,500 for lead abatement inspection services.
26. Mayor's Request (ID # 24293) Requesting approval to extend the contract for the development of the Butterfly Pollinator Garden at the Morse Kelley Playground for an additional three years.
27. Mayor's Request (ID # 24291) Requesting approval of a time only contract extension for Symmes Maini and McKee Associates for an additional three years for the Central Hill Design and Construction Administration.
28. Mayor's Request (ID # 24273) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Kimberly Sheridan to the Commission for Women.
29. Mayor's Request (ID # 24274) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Arlen Weiner to the Commission for Women.
30. Mayor's Request (ID # 24289) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Murphy Langevin to the Urban Forestry Committee.
31. Mayor's Request (ID # 24294) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Rose White to the Community Preservation Act Committee.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

32. Officer's Communication (ID # 24297) City Solicitor requesting to retain outside counsel to determine how best to pursue the prompt access of Covid19 vaccinations to disadvantaged residents.

- 33. Officer's Communication (ID # 24290) City Solicitor responding to #211232 with an amendment to Ordinances 10-1 and 10-1.1, to eliminate specified levels of patrol and superior officers in the Police Department.
- 34. Officer's Communication (ID # 24296) City Clerk requesting approval to release twelve sets of Executive Session minutes as described within.

NEW BUSINESS

- 35. License/Permit (ID # 24312) Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Mystic Auto Sales, 712 Mystic Ave.
- 36. License/Permit (ID # 24307) Small Wireless Facility License, Verizon attaching small wireless facilities on an existing pole at 2 Belmont Street.
- 37. License/Permit (ID # 24308) Small Wireless Facility License, Verizon attaching small wireless facilities on an existing pole at 15 Ivaloo Street.
- 38. License/Permit (ID # 24309) Small Wireless Facility License, Verizon attaching small wireless facilities on an existing pole at 40 Marion Street.
- 39. License/Permit (ID # 24310) Small Wireless Facility License, Verizon attaching small wireless facilities on an existing pole at 42 Bow Street.
- 40. License/Permit (ID # 24311) Small Wireless Facility License, Verizon attaching small wireless facilities on an existing pole at 53 Concord Avenue.
- 41. Public Communication (ID # 24323) Matthew Shannon submitting a petition to revoke the Junk Dealer License held by Tosh Enterprises LLC.

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 42. Order (ID # 24324) By City Councilor Niedergang That the Director of SPCD discuss with this Council the changes that are being considered, or could be considered, in MBTA bus routes to better serve bus riders following the opening of 5 new Green Line stations this year.

43. Order (ID # 24326) By City Councilor Scott
That the Director of Personnel provide this Council with a list of current full-time vacancies broken down by union and non-union positions, and that the Administration address this Council as to the reason for the high number of vacancies.
44. Order (ID # 24327) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the Chief of Police appear before this Council's Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to discuss the policy on drug possession arrests for the past 5 years.
45. Resolution (ID # 24328) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the Mayor allocate funding for two dual diagnosis and social work clinical outreach positions in the Community Outreach Help and Recovery Department in the FY22 budget.
46. Order (ID # 24329) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of the Community Outreach Help and Recovery Department be fully integrated into Police leadership decisions to ensure a behavioral health perspective is considered in all policy decisions.
47. Order (ID # 24330) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the Commissioner of Public Works remove the graffiti on Maine Avenue along I-93, and repair any damaged fencing that separates the neighborhood from the highway.
48. Order (ID # 24331) By City Councilor McLaughlin
That the City Solicitor and the Director of SPCD perform a nexus study to determine the viability of a home rule petition requiring developers who receive special permits to make contributions to mitigate pollution.
49. Ordinance (ID # 24332) By City Councilor McLaughlin
Requesting amendments to the Zoning Ordinance as contained within.
50. Order (ID # 24333) By City Councilor Strezo
That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Communications discuss with this Council's Committee on Housing and Community Development creating and marketing an app that promotes and incentivizes frequenting Somerville's small businesses.
51. License/Permit (ID # 24335) New Drainlayer's License, M. DiStasio Excavation Contractors.

52. Public Tufts responding to #211341 and #211342 re: student
Communication housing.
(ID # 24334)

LATE ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT