



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## City Council

### Meeting Minutes

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Thursday, May 28, 2026

7:00 PM

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*NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the City Council'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.*

#### 1. OPENING CEREMONIES

Councilor Sait arrived at 7:12 PM.

**Present:** Ward Three City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen  
City Councilor At Large Jon Link  
Ward Two City Councilor Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott  
Ward Four City Councilor Jesse Clingan  
City Councilor At Large Kristen Strezo  
Ward Five City Councilor Naima Sait  
City Councilor At Large Ben Wheeler  
Ward Seven City Councilor Emily Hardt  
Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin  
City Councilor At Large Wilfred N. Mbah  
Ward Six City Councilor Lance L. Davis

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 PM by Ward Six City Councilor Lance L. Davis.  
The City Council entered recess at 7:53 PM and returned at 8:04 PM.

1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.  
(ID # [26-0932](#))

**RESULT:** PLACED ON FILE

1.2. Remembrances Remembrances.  
(ID # [26-0933](#))

Councilor Mbah requested a moment of silence in memory of Patricia C. "Husselbee" Silva.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

1.3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 23, 2026.  
(ID # [26-0934](#))

**RESULT:** APPROVED

1.4. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May 11, 2026.  
(ID # [26-0935](#))

**RESULT: APPROVED**

## 2. CITATIONS

- 2.1. Citation (ID # [26-0923](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Ewen-Campen  
Commending Jerry Cajuste and Medno Dawson for outstanding dedication, professionalism, and service as crossing guards in one of the busiest and most heavily trafficked neighborhoods.
- Councilor McLaughlin reported that the citation was presented yesterday at a ceremony. Councilor Wheeler commented that there are openings for crossing guards.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

## 3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

## 4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4.1. Ordinance (ID # [26-0919](#)) By Councilor Ewen-Campen  
Proposing an amendment to Section 2-6 of the Code of Ordinances, the Welcoming Communities Ordinance.
- Councilor Ewen-Campen explained that this is a clean, revised version of the item before the Legislative Matters Committee. These amendments make it clear that the City will not cooperate with any federal government over-reach efforts.

**RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED**

**AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

- 4.2. Resolution (ID # [26-0921](#)) By Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Davis, Councilor Clingan, Councilor Hardt, Councilor Link, Councilor Mbah, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Sait, Councilor Scott, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Wheeler  
In support of voluntary recognition for Somerville Workers United.
- Councilor Ewen-Campen noted the City Council's long tradition of supporting unions and said that the City has 200 employees who are not unionized. Somerville Workers United (SWU) requested the Council's support as the recently announced layoffs have brought a sense of urgency to this matter. Councilor Ewen-Campen sponsored Luis Quizhpe, Benjamin

Wyner, Kate Bossingham.

Mr. Quizhpe, from Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development (OSPCD), told the councilors that he has been laid off just shy of his four-year anniversary of working for the City and said that recognizing and respecting the collective bargaining process is critical. Mr. Wyner, from OSPCD, spoke about ensuring that their work is sustainable. He spoke about the loss of 13 staff positions and 16 vacant positions, departments being understaffed and the effect it has on staff. Ms. Bossingham, from the Office of Sustainability and Environment, spoke about her work for the federal government and the inequities she saw there. When she began working for the City, she noticed that things weren't right with regard to how employees were treated. She stated that Mayor Wilson has pledged support for organized labor, yet neither he, nor his staff, has responded to two inquiries regarding meetings to voluntarily recognize SWU. Two days after emailing all staff that layoffs were finalized, a member of the mayor's staff responded to SWU's emails, agreeing to a meeting. Ms. Bossingham told the councilors that she expected better in this city.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

4.3. Order  
(ID # [26-0917](#))

By Councilor Mbah and Councilor Hardt

That the Director of Mobility, the Director of Engineering, the Director of Parking and the Chief of Police appear before the Traffic and Parking Committee to review traffic flows and enforcement practices around schools citywide during drop-of and pick-up, as detailed within.

Councilor Mbah commented about the lack of observance to posted traffic signs at schools saying that safety in those areas needs to be reassessed. Councilor Hardt motioned to make an amendment to include construction impacts as part of the review of safety measures.

The amended item reads:

That the Director of Mobility, the Director of Engineering, the Director of Parking and the Chief of Police appear before the Traffic and Parking Committee to review traffic flows and enforcement practices “**and construction impacts**” around schools citywide during drop-off and pickup, as detailed within. The amended motion was approved through unanimous consent.

**RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

**FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee**4.4. Resolution  
(ID # [26-0916](#))

By Councilor Mbah

That the Administration share all the positions that were cut from the Fiscal Year 2027 budget, and their departments, and explain how they align with the Mayor's equity agenda.

Councilor Mbah noted his concerns about the announced layoffs and the effect that they might have on the City's stated equity goals.

**RESULT: APPROVED**4.5. Resolution  
(ID # [26-0918](#))

By Councilor Mbah

That the Administration appear before the City Council to present its organizational restructuring.

Councilor Mbah commented that a presentation on organizational restructuring would provide transparency and an understanding of how restructuring decisions were made.

**RESULT: APPROVED**4.6. Resolution  
(ID # [26-0931](#))

By Councilor Hardt and Councilor Link

Requesting Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessible pedestrian crossing infrastructure at the intersection of Route 16 and Woods Avenue.

Councilor Hardt spoke about the dangers experienced at this location and asked that the City work with its state delegation to remedy the problems. Councilor Mbah noted that, ultimately, this is a state item.

**RESULT: APPROVED****5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**5.1. Mayor's  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0742](#))

Proclaiming May 2026 to be Jewish American Heritage Month.

Mayor Wilson spoke of the contributions of the Jewish community in Somerville. The proclamation will be shared with a community group that was not able to be present this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED****6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**6.A. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- 6.A.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on May 26, 2026.  
(ID # [26-0930](#))

Councilor Wheeler summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that the committee recommended for approval payment of a prior year invoice for the Police Department, acceptance and expenditure for the Fire Department, a transfer request in the CPA accounts, the establishment of an Arts Council Furniture Account, a time only contract extension for improvements at Junction Park, an amendment to the Assembly Square District Improvement Financing District Map and Program, a contract renewal with Waste Management, an appropriation from the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Stabilization fund, approximately \$8 million to pay down various existing bond obligations and \$1.2 million for new fire equipment.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 6.A.2. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$6,660 using  
(ID # [26-0707](#)) available funds in the Police Department Maintenance Software Account for fingerprinting machine software.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 6.A.3. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to accept and expend an \$11,000 grant and a \$4,200  
(ID # [26-0732](#)) grant with no new match required, from the Department of Fire Services to the Fire Department for fire safety education and supplies for school children and senior citizens.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 6.A.4. Mayor's Request Requesting approval of a transfer of \$4,000 from the Community  
(ID # [26-0733](#)) Preservation Act (CPA) Undesignated Fund Balance to the CPA Historic Preservation Reserve.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 6.A.5. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to establish an Arts Council Furniture Account and to  
(ID # [26-0738](#)) use \$2,000 in available funds from the Arts Council Professional & Technical Services Account to purchase new desks and chairs for staff.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 6.A.6. Mayor's Request Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension until 5/22/2027 for  
(ID # [26-0740](#)) the contract with UELContractors Inc. for the completion of improvements at Junction Park.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 6.A.7. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0745](#)) Requesting approval of an amendment to the Assembly Square District Improvement Financing District Map and Program to include the Assembly Square Fire Station, 45 Middlesex Avenue, and improvements to the intersection of Middlesex Avenue and Mystic Avenue.
- RESULT:** **APPROVED**
- AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis
- 6.A.8. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0763](#)) Requesting approval to enter into a 60-month contract renewal term with Waste Management of Massachusetts Inc. for solid waste disposal.
- RESULT:** **APPROVED**
- 6.A.9. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0803](#)) Requesting approval to appropriate \$182,469 from the Opioid Recovery and Remediation Stabilization fund for the Healthcare for the Homeless program.
- RESULT:** **APPROVED**
- AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis
- 6.A.10. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0807](#)) Requesting approval to appropriate \$999,000 from the Facility Construction and Renovation Stabilization Fund to the Building Improvements Bond Fund to pay down building renovation expenses.
- RESULT:** **APPROVED**
- AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

6.A.11. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0808](#))

Requesting approval to appropriate \$2,381,625 from the Street Reconstruction and Resurfacing Stabilization Fund to the Somerville Avenue Streetscape Bond Fund to pay down capital expenses.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

6.A.12. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0810](#))

Requesting approval to appropriate \$320,000 from the Street Reconstruction and Resurfacing Stabilization Fund to the Union Square Streetscape and Plaza Bond Fund to pay down streetscape improvement expenses.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

6.A.13. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0818](#))

Requesting approval to appropriate \$3,940,905 from the Street Reconstruction and Resurfacing Stabilization Fund to the Street Resurfacing Bond Fund to pay down street reconstruction and resurfacing expenses.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

6.A.14. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0819](#))

Requesting approval to appropriate \$545,985 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to Fire Pumper Bond Fund 51855 for the purposes of funding a new fire pumper.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

**AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

- 6.A.15. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0820](#)) Requesting approval to appropriate \$532,449 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to the Fire Pumper Bond Fund 5187 for the purpose of funding a new fire pumper.

**RESULT:** **APPROVED**

**AYE:** Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen, City Councilor At Large Link, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, City Councilor At Large Wheeler, Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, City Councilor At Large Mbah, and Ward Six City Councilor Davis

## 6.B. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- 6.B.1. Committee Report (ID # [26-0929](#)) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on May 21, 2026.

Councilor Ewen-Campen summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that four amendments related to backyard cottages were discussed: 1) to decrease the allowable size of backyard cottages; 2) to make legally make them an accessory to one of the other units; 3) to require public hearings and Zoning Board approval for a lot split; and 4) to apply the city's 20% inclusionary rule for any lot split that creates more than 5 units.

**RESULT:** **APPROVED**

## 6.C. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- 6.C.1. Committee Report (ID # [26-0927](#)) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on May 19, 2026.

Councilor Scott summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that the committee had requested some minor changes to the Welcoming Communities Ordinance that was before it, (item# 26-0522). Those changes are reflected in the new item submitted to the City Council this evening, (item #26-0919). The original item (item #26-0522) will

remain in committee to be marked “work completed” at a future meeting, while the new item (item #26-0919) will be voted on by the Council this evening.

Councilor Scott also commented on an amendment to create a rental registry and said that the administration is not prepared to move forward, nor discuss this matter at the present time.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

6.C.2. Order  
(ID # [26-0883](#))

By Councilor Davis, Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Scott

That the City Council Legislative and Policy Analyst and the City Attorney remove the remaining uses of “without limitation” in the proposed amendment to Section 2-6 of the Code of Ordinances document to remain consistent.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

6.C.3. Order  
(ID # [26-0884](#))

By Councilor Davis, Councilor Mbah, Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Scott

That the City Council Legislative and Policy Analyst and the City Attorney include “religious expression” after “assembly” in (13) (B) (I) of the proposed amendment to Section 2-6 of the Code of Ordinances and resubmit to the Council.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

6.D. SCHOOL BUILDING FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

6.D.1. Committee Report (ID # [26-0928](#)) Report of the Committee on School Building Facilities and Maintenance, meeting on May 21, 2026.

Councilor Link summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that the committee discussed practical solutions to clearing snow from schoolyards without damaging play surfaces. The indoor air quality condition at the Kennedy School, specifically regarding mold, was discussed and a process was put in place to deal with any mold issues that arise. The committee received an update on the Winter Hill School and boring should begin next week and will be conducted during daytime hours. Lastly, the committee discussed safety updates at the Argenziano School.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 6.D.2. Resolution (ID # [26-0492](#)) By Councilor Davis  
That the Commissioner of Public Works discuss with this Council, practical solutions to clearing snow from schoolyards without damaging play surfaces to allow students to access outdoor play areas.  
**RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE**
- 6.D.3. Resolution (ID # [26-0709](#)) By Councilor Davis  
That the Administration report to the School Committee and this Council, on indoor air quality conditions at the Kennedy School, specifically regarding mold and humidity levels, and outline steps being taken to address them.  
**RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**
- 6.E. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE
- 6.E.1. Committee Report (ID # [26-0926](#)) Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, meeting on May 18, 2026.  
Councilor Sait summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that the committee discussed the installation of dedicated bicycle YIELD signals to operate during the walk cycle at several intersections throughout the city, intersection improvements at Webster Avenue and Prospect Street, the 2026 Safe Streets Ordinance Annual Report, opportunities for improved pedestrian safety at the intersection of Broadway and Main Street, construction related parking in the area of Oak Street and Bolton Street and parking issues on Oak, Houghton, Bolton, and Prospect Streets.  
**RESULT: APPROVED**
- 6.E.2. Resolution (ID # [26-0121](#)) By Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Director of Mobility pilot the installation of dedicated bicycle YIELD signals to operate during the walk cycle at several intersections throughout the city, including Washington Street and Somerville Avenue, and Prospect Street and Somerville Avenue.  
**RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**
- 6.E.3. Order (ID # [26-0123](#)) By Councilor Ewen-Campen and Councilor Scott  
That the Director of Mobility update this Council on the intersection improvements at Webster Avenue and Prospect Street.  
**RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**

- 6.E.4. Mayor's Communication (ID # [26-0303](#)) Conveying the 2026 Safe Streets Ordinance Annual Report.  
**RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**
- 6.E.5. Resolution (ID # [26-0363](#)) By Councilor Clingan That Director of Mobility evaluate opportunities for improved pedestrian safety at the intersection of Broadway and Main Street.  
**RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**
- 6.E.6. Order (ID # [26-0373](#)) By Councilor Wheeler That this Council review construction-related parking in the area of Oak Street and Bolton Street.  
**RESULT: APPROVED**
- 6.E.7. Public Communication (ID # [26-0634](#)) 64 residents submitting comments re: parking on Oak, Houghton, Bolton, and Prospect Streets.  
**RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**
- 7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**
- 7.1. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0882](#)) Requesting ordainment of an amendment to Chapter 7 and Section 1-11(b) of the Code of Ordinances to require property owners provide a notice of building sale to tenants.  
**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Legislative Matters Committee
- 7.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0922](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$1,624,494 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Department of Public Works Snow Removal Account to reduce a year-end deficit.  
Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.  
**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee
- 7.3. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0920](#)) Requesting the appropriation of \$250,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Unemployment Compensation Account to remediate a year-end deficit.  
Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and

refer them to the  
Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** **REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

7.4. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0893](#))

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$455,000 from the Department of Public Works Highway Wages Account to the Snow Removal Account to cover expenses from the Fiscal Year 2026 winter weather season.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the  
Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** **REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

7.5. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0903](#))

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$400,000 from the Department of Public Works Sanitation Rubbish Removal Account to the Snow Removal Account to cover expenses from the Fiscal Year 2026 winter weather season.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the  
Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** **REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

7.6. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0898](#))

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$300,000 from the Department of Public Works Custodial Salaries Account to the Snow Removal Account to cover expenses from the Fiscal Year 2026 winter weather season.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the  
Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** **REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

7.7. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0899](#))

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$300,000 from the Department of Public Works Sanitation Recycling Account to the Snow Removal Account to cover expenses from the Fiscal Year 2026 winter weather season.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the  
Finance Committee.

**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

- 7.8. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0897](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$150,000 from the Department of Public Works Grounds Wages Account to the Snow Removal Account to cover expenses from the Fiscal Year 2026 winter weather season.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

- 7.9. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0874](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$127,358 from various Office of Housing Stability Ordinary Maintenance Accounts to the Housing Assistance Stabilization Fund for housing assistance programs.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

- 7.10. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0885](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$125,000 from the Department of Public Works Administration Salaries Account to the Snow Removal Account to cover expenses from the Fiscal Year 2026 winter weather season.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

- 7.11. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0896](#)) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$110,000 from the Department of Public Works Buildings Wages Account to the Snow Removal Account to cover expenses from the Fiscal Year 2026 winter weather season.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee7.12. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0872](#))

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$100,000 from the Public Space and Urban Forestry Capital Account to the Street Tree Stabilization Fund for additional Fiscal Year 2027 tree planting and maintenance.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

7.13. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0881](#))

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$4,966.16 from various Council on Aging Ordinary Maintenance Accounts and the Health and Human Services Salaries Account to various Council on Aging Personal Services Account to cover an expected year-end deficit.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

7.14. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0871](#))

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$2,500 from the Planning, Preservation and Zoning Salaries Account to the Public Space and Urban Forestry Salaries Account to cover a year-end budget deficit.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

7.15. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0875](#))

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$2,403.70 from the Planning, Preservation and Zoning Salaries Account to the Department of Public Works Highway Overtime Account for the Davis Square Activation project.

Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

- 7.16. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0869](#)) Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension until 9/5/2028 for the contract with Stantec Consulting Services Inc. for the Mystic River Outfall Sewer Separation design project.
- Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee
- 7.17. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0853](#)) Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension until 12/31/2028 for the contract with Symmes Maini & McKee for Owners Project Manager Services for Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) Capital Projects.
- Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee
- 7.18. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0879](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$500,000 grant with no new match required, from the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to the Mobility Division for the Western Pearl Street construction project.
- Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee
- 7.19. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0744](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$222,502 grant that requires a match, from the Boston Region Metropolitan Planning Organization to the Mobility Division for Blue Bikes State of Good Repair project.
- Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

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- 7.20. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0876](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$58,642 grant that requires a match, from Metro North Regional Employment Board to the Health and Human Services Department for the YouthWorks Summer Program.
- Councilor Wheeler moved to waive the readings of items 7.2 to 7.20 and refer them to the Finance Committee.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee
- 7.21. Mayor's Request (ID # [26-0870](#)) Requesting approval of the 2026-2027 Housing and Urban Development One Year Action Plan for the Community Development Block Grant, Home Investment Partnership, and Emergency Solutions Grant Programs.
- RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Housing, Community Development and Equity Committee
- 7.22. Mayor's Communication (ID # [26-0880](#)) Conveying the appointment of Steven Tolman to the Wage Theft Advisory Committee.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**
- 7.23. Mayor's Communication (ID # [26-0866](#)) Proclaiming May 2026 to be Older Americans Month.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Housing, Community Development and Equity Committee
- 8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**
- 8.1. Officer's Communication (ID # [26-0873](#)) Condominium Review Board conveying the Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report, pursuant to Section 7-70 of the Code of Ordinances.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Housing, Community Development and Equity Committee
- 8.2. Officer's Communication (ID # [26-0925](#)) Fleet Manager conveying an annual report, pursuant to Section 12-122(e) of the Code of Ordinances.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**
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- 8.3. Officer's  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0924](#))
- City Clerk conveying Block Party Licenses issued.

**RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**

**9. NEW BUSINESS**

- 9.1. License  
(ID # [26-0886](#))
- Renewing Drainlayer's License, Albanese Brothers Inc.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 9.2. License  
(ID # [26-0887](#))
- Renewing Flammables License, Boston Closet Company, 229 Lowell Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 9.3. License  
(ID # [26-0888](#))
- Renewing Flammables License, Building 2 Owner LLC, 808 Windsor Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 9.4. License  
(ID # [26-0889](#))
- Renewing Flammables License, DW Propco JK, LLC, 0 Dawes Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

- 9.5. License  
(ID # [26-0890](#))
- Renewing Flammables License, DW Propco EF LLC, 250 Water Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and

approve them  
this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.6. License  
(ID # [26-0891](#))

Renewing Flammables License, Silicon PropCo 2021, LLC, 101 South Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.7. License  
(ID # [26-0892](#))

Renewing Flammables License, U-Haul of Boston, 151 Linwood Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.8. License  
(ID # [26-0894](#))

New Extended Operating Hours License, Ever Fitness, 14 McGrath Highway, opening 24/7 for in-store.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.9. License  
(ID # [26-0895](#))

Renewing Garage License, 101 South Street Owner LLC, 101 South Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.10. License  
(ID # [26-0900](#))

Renewing Garage License, Automotive Transport Services Inc, 40 Joy Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

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**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.11. License  
(ID # [26-0901](#))

Renewing Garage License, D.M. Auto Body, Inc, 48 Joy Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.12. License  
(ID # [26-0902](#))

Renewing Garage License, DW Propco JK, LLC, 0 Dawes Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.13. License  
(ID # [26-0904](#))

Renewing Garage License, Valvoline Instant Oil Change AB0001, 182 Washington Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.14. License  
(ID # [26-0905](#))

Renewing Outdoor Parking License, John's Auto Sales, 216 McGrath Highway.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

9.15. License  
(ID # [26-0906](#))

New Second Hand Dealer License, Mile Bee Ventures LLC, 21 Cherry Street.

Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

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- 9.16. License  
(ID # [26-0907](#))
- Transferring Taxi Medallion License, from BAETDA Transportation to Skyline Taxi for Medallion #93.
- Councilor Hardt moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.16 and approve them this evening.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
- 9.17. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0908](#))
- 11 individuals, including nine residents submitting comments re: item #26-0257, requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 2 and 9 Union Square, 286, 290, and 298 Somerville Avenue from Commercial Core 5 (CC5) to Mid-Rise 6 (MR6).
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Land Use Committee
- 9.18. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0909](#))
- 27 residents submitting comments re: items #26-0330, #26-0329, #26-0328, and #26-0329, Zoning Text Amendments related to backyard cottages and affordable dwelling units.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Land Use Committee
- 9.19. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0910](#))
- Diane Covino submitting comments re: item #26-0750, a Grant of Location to install 10 feet of conduit next to 135 Hudson Street.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Licenses and Permits Committee
- 9.20. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0911](#))
- Jonah Abrams submitting comments re: Davis Square.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**
- 9.21. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0912](#))
- Courtney Foster and Molly Fraust-Wylie submitting comments re: police presence in schools.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**
- 9.22. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0913](#))
- Blair Read submitting comments re: item #26-0287, a Zoning Text Amendment to amend sections 3.1.8c, 3.1.9c, 3.1.10c, 3.1.13k, 3.1.13l, 3.2.12l. and 3.2.12m.
- RESULT: PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**
-

**FOLLOWUP:** Land Use Committee

- 9.23. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0914](#))

Christopher Rosol submitting comments re: off leash dogs.

**RESULT:** **PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Public Health and Public Safety Committee

**10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

- 10.1. Communication  
(ID # [26-0937](#))

By Councilor Wheeler

In his capacity as Chair of the Finance Committee, conveying information on the FY 2027 Public Hearing on the Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget, on Wednesday, June 10.

Councilor Wheeler said that this public hearing will be held online at 6:00 PM on June 10. He invited the public to attend this hearing to provide input on the Fiscal Year 2027 budget. Questions may also be submitted by sending them to [publiccomments@somervillema.gov](mailto:publiccomments@somervillema.gov) [<mailto:publiccomments@somervillema.gov>](mailto:publiccomments@somervillema.gov). The link for the public hearing may be found at [<https://somervillema.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>](https://somervillema.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx).

**RESULT:** **PLACED ON FILE**

- 10.2. Mayor's Request  
(ID # [26-0915](#))

Requesting the appropriation of \$15,015 from the Salary Contingency Account to the Police Department Personal Services Salary Account to fund a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Somerville Police Superior Officers Association.

Assistant City Solicitor/Labor Counsel Matthew Sirigu spoke on the matter and explained that this is an immediate need to cover the 3% Cost of Living Adjustment for the remaining four weeks of Fiscal Year 2026. He also commented on a grant acceptance request for a body worn camera program and an additional appropriation request for body worn camera program expenses. Councilor Scott commented that a factual misstatement was made and President Davis reminded him that as this was a late item, no discussion is allowed this evening. The item was tabled.

**RESULT:** **LAID ON THE TABLE**

- 10.3. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [26-0938](#))

Maninder Singh submitting comments re: water and sewer rates.

**RESULT:** **PLACED ON FILE**

**11. LATE ITEMS**

11.1. Resolution  
(ID # [26-0944](#))

By Councilor Scott

That the Chief of Police provide documentation in writing regarding the circumstances surrounding cyclist traffic enforcement in Union Square on the morning of May 28.

Councilor Scott explained that this is a matter which "could not have been reasonably anticipated", as it pertains to police activity this morning in Union Square. He read the full text of the order into the record. President Davis tabled the item due to a lack of time sensitivity.

**RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE**

11.2. Resolution  
(ID # [26-0945](#))

By Councilor Scott

That this City Council extends its gratitude to Legislative Liaison Yasmine Raddassi.

Councilor Scott asked that the City Council recognize and thank Legislative Liaison Yasmine Raddassi for her exemplary service as she leaves her position.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

11.3. Resolution  
(ID # [26-0946](#))

By Councilor Mbah

That this City Council congratulates Ward 1 Councilor Matt McLaughlin on his graduation from Harvard University.

Councilor Mbah congratulated Councilor McLaughlin on his graduation from Harvard University.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:57 PM.