

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

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

September 10, 2020, 7:00 PM  
Meeting by Remote Participation  
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**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/4202659306137515277>.

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call            Call of the Roll.  
(ID # 23461)
  
2. Remembrances    Remembrances.  
(ID # 23462)
  
3. Minutes            Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting, June  
(ID # 23463)        30, 2020, and the Regular Meeting, July 14, 2020.

**CITATIONS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

4. Grant of            Submitted by Eversource to install 26 feet of conduit in  
Location            Indiana Avenue, from manhole 4712 to a point of pickup  
(ID # 23435)        at 26-28 Indiana Avenue.

**ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS**

5. Order                By City Councilor Strezo, Clingan  
(ID # 23441)        That the Chief of Police increase traffic monitoring of  
                              the Ward 4 bus lanes on Broadway for the next 6 weeks,  
                              especially at high traffic times, to educate the public on  
                              the purpose and use of these lanes.

6. Order (ID # 23455) By City Councilor Strezo, Niedergang, Ballantyne  
That the Director of Personnel provide a written demographic breakdown of employees in the E-911, Fire Alarm, and Constituent Services Departments. (2nd request)
7. Order (ID # 23450) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Finance update the City Council at its September 10, 2020 meeting regarding the municipal financial trends and overview of the city's finances.
8. Order (ID # 23465) By City Councilor Rossetti  
That the appointments of Clerks of Committees Rose Durham, Peter Forcellese, and Kim Wells (#s 207414, 207415, 209505, 209506, 209507) be discharged from the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters and approved.
9. Resolution (ID # 23456) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Administration and this Council create safe guidelines for this year's Halloween so kids can have a safe and spooky holiday.
10. Order (ID # 23457) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Parking work with the Ward 3 City Councilor, Riverside Community Care, and residents on mitigating the parking and traffic issues associated with the new Riverside facility at 117 Summer Street.
11. Order (ID # 23459) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the City Solicitor draft an ordinance to require municipal licensing of rental car businesses, to address the issue of these businesses illegally parking their rental fleet on residential streets.
12. Order (ID # 23460) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Director of Inspectional Services ensure the fencing around the former gas station at 73 Summer Street is secure, and take enforcement actions if it is not.
13. Resolution (ID # 23458) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
Congratulating the Administration on a very successful rehabilitation and re-opening of Prospect Hill Park, and requesting a reduction in the excessively bright lighting from the new lamp posts.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 14. Resolution 209284 By City Councilor Scott, Ballantyne, Clingan, Davis, Strezo  
Supporting House Resolution 702, The People's Justice Guarantee.
  
- 15. Communication 210468 By City Councilor Strezo  
Reporting on the Affordable Housing Trust Fund meeting of August 13, 2020.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

16. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23433) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on September 8, 2020.
  
- B. Order 209753 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Communications and the Director of Finance discuss all telecom contracts, their renewal, and how they affect the city budget, PEG, and the Somerville Media Center.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- C. Order 209805 By City Councilor Niedergang, Scott, Ballantyne  
That the Administration present to this Council a more-detailed estimate of the cost of remediating Conway Field down to 36" rather than 18", with a timeline for the additional digging and any other relevant information.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- D. Order 209814 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Finance and the Director of Parks and Recreation advise this Council on the disposition of funds for the boat house.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- E. Order 209815 By City Councilor Scott  
That the Director of SPCD provide a comprehensive description of DIF funds and uses on projects in Assembly Square and independently by FRIT.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- F. Order 209816 By City Councilor White Jr.  
That the Director of SPCD provide this Council with the terms of the recent approval of the State's I-Cubed bonds at Assembly Square to FRIT, including any changes from what the Board of Aldermen approved.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- G. Order 210220 By City Councilor Ballantyne, Strezo  
That the Director of Finance and the Budget Director provide funding equity for girls in the FY21 budget with respect to Parks and Recreation Department sports and activities as well as High School varsity sports and activities.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- H. Order 210252 By City Councilor Ballantyne, McLaughlin  
That the Director of Finance submit to this Council by June 17, 2020, an updated FY21 Capital Projects Plan, taking into account the Administration's freeze on all capital projects during the COVID-19 health emergency.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- I. Order 210253 By City Councilor Ballantyne, Scott, McLaughlin  
That the Director of Finance submit to this Council, a list of all anticipated new and renewal contracts to be signed in July 2020.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- J. Order 210292 By City Councilor Niedergang  
That the Chief of Police or the Director of Personnel report to this Council, no later than June 18, the number and rank of all sworn officers and civilian employees (including job titles) in the Police Department, yearly from 1987 to 2020.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- K. Order 210293 By City Councilor Niedergang, Ballantyne  
That the Chief of Police verify whether the Marshall Project website's report that the Police Department received 26 5.56 millimeter rifles worth \$4,257 from the federal government is accurate, whether those rifles are currently in the Department's possession, and what their purpose and potential use is.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- L. Order 210305 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Finance and Director of Budgeting update and submit the 10-year budget forecast in preparation for the FY21 budget review.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- M. Order 210332 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Ballantyne, Clingan, Rossetti, Scott, Strezo, Davis, Niedergang, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.  
That the City Solicitor explain in writing prior to July 1, how Chapter 589 of the Acts of 1987, "An Act Relative to Dispute Resolution" may provide this Council with the ability to modify or reject components of collective bargaining agreements that reached an impasse and entered arbitration.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- N. Order 210342 By City Councilor White Jr.  
That the Director of Finance address the Finance Committee on the status of the Central Hill bond appropriation, and whether it should be reduced by \$206,000 as a result of applying CPA funds to the project.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- O. Resolution 210358 By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, Mbah, White Jr.  
That the Mayor move the Rodent Home Assistance Program from the Department of Inspectional Services to the Department of Health and Human Services to streamline rodent assistance for neighbors.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- P. Mayor's Request 210441 Requesting approval to appropriate \$170,000 from the Union Sq Community Benefits Stabilization Fund to fund a Main Streets Small Business Liaison and job placement and career navigation services for residents.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- Q. Order 210458 By City Councilor Ballantyne, Strezo, Niedergang  
That the Director of Finance and the Director of the Arts Council discuss with this Council's Finance Committee several suggestions for assistance proposed by a group of Somerville arts and cultural organizations.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

17. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23431) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on September 1, 2020.
- B. Officer's Communication 200688 Planning Director submitting the Housing Needs Assessment required by Zoning Ordinance 13.8 as a pre-requisite to the completion of any amendments to the Inclusionary Zoning requirements.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File

18. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23432) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on September 3, 2020.
- B. Order 210437 By City Councilor McLaughlin, Clingan, Davis, Ewen-Campen, Niedergang, Scott, White Jr., Rossetti, Ballantyne, Strezo, Mbah  
That the City Solicitor appear before this Council's Committee on Legislative Matters with draft language to repeal Ordinance 9-120, the so-called Anti-Gang Loitering Ordinance.

RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.

- C. Order (ID # 23443) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the City Solicitor prepare a Home Rule Petition to repeal Chapter 327 of the Acts of 2004, which follows up on the so-called anti-gang loitering ordinance.

19. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23434) Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on September 9, 2020.

20. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23430) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole, on August 31, 2020.

**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

21. Mayor's Request (ID # 23449) Requesting the appropriation of \$240,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the FY21 Tree planting program.
22. Mayor's Request (ID # 23445) Requesting a transfer of \$13,228 from the Fire Department Ordinary Maintenance Account to the Fire Alarm Ordinary Maintenance Account to fund a technical service agreement for a 911 line into Fire Alarm.
23. Mayor's Request (ID # 23374) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$3,402.65 using available funds in the DPW Lights and Lines budget.
24. Mayor's Request (ID # 23353) Requesting acceptance of a \$298,280 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Mental Health to the Police Department, for Crisis Intervention Team training.
25. Mayor's Request (ID # 23438) Requesting acceptance of a \$99,605 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Energy Resources Green Communities program to the Office of Sustainability & Environment for energy efficiency projects.
26. Mayor's Request (ID # 23355) Requesting acceptance of a \$25,602 grant that requires a match, from the Metro Mayors Shannon Initiative to the Police Department for youth violence prevention.

27. Mayor's Request (ID # 23439) Requesting acceptance of a \$2,250 grant with no new match required, from the MA Cultural Council to the Arts Council for operational and programming support.
28. Mayor's Request (ID # 23118) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Giovanna Lorenzet Marin to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
29. Mayor's Request (ID # 23119) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jamey Thompson to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
30. Mayor's Request (ID # 23120) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jose DaCosta to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
31. Mayor's Request (ID # 23121) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Kelsey Malloy-Ripley to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
32. Mayor's Request (ID # 23122) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Kevin Henriquez to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
33. Mayor's Request (ID # 23123) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Kyle Lentini to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
34. Mayor's Request (ID # 23124) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Matthew Fairchild to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
35. Mayor's Request (ID # 23125) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Richard Lavey III to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
36. Mayor's Request (ID # 23126) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of William Wood to the position of Reserve Police Officer.
37. Mayor's Communication (ID # 23447) Conveying the executed Memorandum of Agreement with DCR for the Dilboy Complex.

**COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

38. Officer's Communication (ID # 23444) Assistant City Solicitor submitting an Ordinance to repeal Ordinance 9-120, the "Criminal Street Gang Activity as Public Nuisance" ordinance.
39. Officer's Communication (ID # 23464) City Solicitor responding to #210332 re: this Council's ability to modify or reject components of collective bargaining agreements that have reached an impasse and entered arbitration (pursuant to Ch. 589, Acts of 1987).

40. Officer's Communication (ID # 23448) Arts Council Director responding to #210458 re: support for arts and cultural organizations.

**NEW BUSINESS**

41. License/Permit (ID # 23437) Small Wireless Facility License, Extenet Systems attaching small wireless facilities on an existing pole at 76 Jaques Street.
42. License/Permit (ID # 23436) New Garage License, Arco Tire Auto Service Repair LLC, 18 Clarendon Avenue, 3 autos inside, 3 outside, for mechanical repair only.

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

43. Resolution (ID # 23470) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Mayor update this Council, in Executive Session, on alleged suspicious activity in the DPW Fleet yard in March of 2020.
44. Order (ID # 23471) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Commissioner of Public Works submit a recycling plan for all buildings that do not receive city solid waste collection services, pursuant to Ordinance 11-40.
45. Order (ID # 23472) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of Inspectional Services update this Council on the implementation of the Short-Term Rental Ordinance.
46. Order (ID # 23473) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of Inspectional Services update this Council on the implementation of the Vacant Properties Ordinance.
47. Order (ID # 23474) By City Councilor McLaughlin That the Director of SPCD install curb cuts on the ends of Edward Leathers Park to enable bike and ADA accessibility.
48. Order (ID # 23475) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Finance and the City Assessor consider a property tax abatement for landlords who lease to artists and arts and cultural organizations, tying the property tax reductions to rental relief for those tenants.



49. Order (ID # 23476) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Finance share financial updates for YTD revenues and expenditures for all Covid-related line items.
50. Order (ID # 23468) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Constituent Services and the Chief of Police discuss tracking bicycle crashes and how 311 and 911 staff are trained to handle such calls.
51. Order (ID # 23469) By City Councilor White Jr.  
That the City Solicitor work with the Director of Inspectional Services with regard to violations of the Building Code and the Zoning Ordinance to ensure compliance with a recent court decision (Michael J Moroney Trustee v Planning Board of Haverhill et al).
52. Order (ID # 23477) By City Councilor Clingan, Niedergang, White Jr.  
That the Director of Inspectional Services appear before the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works to discuss ensuring that all conditions of a special permit are met prior to the final signoff by the building permit and the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.
53. Order (ID # 23478) By City Councilor Clingan, Niedergang, White Jr.  
That the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works hold a public hearing on developers' compliance with the conditions of special permits and the Inspectional Services Department's enforcement of those conditions.
54. Mayor's Request (ID # 23426) Submitted by Acting Mayor McLaughlin, requesting approval of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to the standards of Subsection 9.2.4.d for Cannabis Retail Sales uses.
55. Mayor's Request (ID # 23442) Requesting acceptance of a \$111,500 grant with no new match required, from MADot to the SPCD Mobility Division for Mystic Avenue Shared Streets improvements.
56. Mayor's Request (ID # 23451) Requesting approval of a time-only extension for the FY17 Morse Kelley Playground CPA Grant for an additional 3 years.
57. Mayor's Request (ID # 23452) Requesting approval of a time-only extension for the FY17 Healey Schoolyard Design CPA contract for an additional 3 years.

- 58. Mayor's Request (ID # 23453) Requesting approval of a time-only extension for the FY17 CPA grant contract for the Henry Hansen Park Design for an additional 3 years.
- 59. Mayor's Request (ID # 23454) Requesting approval for a time-only extension of the FY17 Milk Row Cemetery Open Space Master Plan CPA contract through October 2021.
- 60. License/Permit (ID # 23480) Public Event License, Oak St Block Party to design and paint a Black Lives Matter banner between Prospect and Bolton Sts, Sept. 27, 1pm-5pm.
- 61. License/Permit (ID # 23481) Renewing Garage License, Automotive Transport Service, 40 Joy St.

**LATE ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**