

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

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

March 22, 2018, 7:00 PM  
Aldermanic Chambers, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue  
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*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 7:00 PM by Ward Seven Alderman Katjana Ballantyne

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Stephanie Hirsch	Alderman At Large	Present	
Wilfred N. Mbah	Alderman At Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Ben Ewen-Campen	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
Jesse Clingan	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                      Call of the Roll.  
205339  
(ID:18136)                      **RESULT:            PLACED ON FILE**
  
2. Minutes                        Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, February 22, 2018.  
205340  
(ID:18137)                      **RESULT:            APPROVED**
  
3. Minutes                        Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Sessions, January 30, 2018,  
205341                              February 8, 2018, and February 27, 2018 (2 sessions).  
(ID:18141)                      **RESULT:            LAID ON THE TABLE**

**CITATIONS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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

4. Resolution 205342 (ID:18095) By Ald. Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr., McLaughlin Celebrating the life, and condemning the killing, of Marielle Franco, a community organizer, human rights activist, and city councilor from the favelas of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, who was the victim of an apparent targeted killing on March 14 at the age of 38.

Alderman Ewen-Campen spoke about the life of Rio de Janeiro City Councilor Marielle Franco and honored her fight for human rights. He introduced Dr. Natalisa Tracy from the Brazilian Worker's Center and Regina Bertaldo, who each spoke about the life and fight of Marielle Franco and the situation in Brazil.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

5. Order 205343 (ID:18096) By Ald. Ewen-Campen, Scott That the Director of SPCD contact local mortgage lenders to determine how the proposed "Tenants Right to Purchase" policy might affect the ability of home-buyers to secure financing, and report back to this Board in writing.

Alderman Ewen-Campen requested information about how mortgage financing might be affected by the "Tenants Right to Purchase" policy.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**FOLLOWUP:** Legislative Matters Committee

6. Order 205344 (ID:18097) By Ald. Ewen-Campen That the Director of SPCD contact several Title Insurance brokers and ascertain their views on whether the proposed "Tenants Right to Purchase" policy would affect their ability to provide title insurance, and report back to this Board in writing.

Alderman Ewen-Campen requested information about how title insurance might be affected by the "Tenants Right to Purchase" policy.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**FOLLOWUP:** Legislative Matters Committee

7. Order 205345 (ID:18098) By Ald. Ewen-Campen That the Commissioner of Public Works fill the potholes at 65-71 Bow Street.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

8. Resolution 205346 (ID:18100) By Ald. Mbah That the Administration examine collaborating with other cities and towns to build a more uniform website, while providing each with the ability to maintain its own content.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

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| <p>9. Order<br/>205347<br/>(ID:18099)</p>  | <p>By Ald. Mbah, Ballantyne<br/>That the Commissioner of Public Works fill the potholes on Woods Avenue.</p>   |
| <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p>   |  |
| <p>10. Resolution<br/>205348<br/>(ID:18113)</p>  | <p>By Ald. Niedergang, McLaughlin, and the Entire Board<br/>In support of MA House Bill 615 and the Bridge the Gap to Affordable Senior Healthcare campaign.</p>   |
| <p>Alderman Niedergang stated the importance of this Bill to expand access to the Medicare Savings Program, making low-income seniors eligible for more, better, and cheaper medical care, using state dollars to leverage federal funds in a 1-to-7 ratio. He sponsored Mass Senior Action members John Ratliff and John Robinson, who spoke on the particulars of the legislation.</p> |  |
| <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p>   |  |
| <p>11. Order<br/>205349<br/>(ID:18119)</p>   | <p>By Ald. Niedergang, White Jr.<br/>That the Chief of Police provide annual reports for 2015, 2016 and 2017 to this Board as required in the Trust Act (Ord 2-6).</p>   |
| <p><b>RESULT: WITHDRAWN</b></p>  |  |
| <p>12. Order<br/>205350<br/>(ID:18114)</p>   | <p>By Ald. Niedergang, Ewen-Campen<br/>That the Director of Traffic and Parking increase enforcement for vehicles parking too close to corners on Porter Street at the intersections of Mountain Avenue, Porter Avenue, Francis Street, Crown Avenue and Brastow Avenue.</p> |
| <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p>   |  |
| <p>13. Order<br/>205351<br/>(ID:18115)</p>   | <p>By Ald. Niedergang<br/>That the City Engineer insure that the Cedar Street contractor re-stripe the faded crosswalk on Sartwell Avenue at Cedar Street as soon as possible.</p>   |
| <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p>   |  |
| <p>14. Order<br/>205352<br/>(ID:18116)</p>   | <p>By Ald. Niedergang<br/>That the Director of SPCD report to the Ward 5 Alderman and this Board on the plans for closure of the Ball Square bridge and Broadway for GLX construction activity.</p>  |
| <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b><br/><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Traffic and Parking Committee</p>  |  |
| <p>15. Order<br/>205353<br/>(ID:18117)</p>   | <p>By Ald. Niedergang<br/>That this Board discharge from the Legislative Matters Committee #204620, amending the penalties for rodent control violations (Ords 1-11(b) and 11-38).</p>   |
| <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p>   |  |

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16. Order 205354 (ID:18118) By Ald. Niedergang  
That this Board discharge from the Legislative Matters Committee #204621, amending the penalties for certain trash violations (Ord 9-55).
- RESULT: APPROVED**
17. Resolution 205355 (ID:18125) By Ald. Hirsch, Ballantyne  
Reaffirming support for the City and School District to consider joining Brockton’s lawsuit against the State, which calls for a revised district funding formula to provide greater resources for communities to meet the needs of children.
- Alderman Hirsch reported that right now the State's education funding formula penalize communities for serving children in general and in particular for serving children who are high need or low income, ELL and Special Education. It increases income inequality, and she urged the city to support Brockton's lawsuit against the formula.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
18. Order 205356 (ID:18120) By Ald. Hirsch, McLaughlin  
That the Superintendent of Inspectional Services establish a system of ongoing rodent population monitoring at several hot-spots in high-impact neighborhoods, to determine and regularly report on the effectiveness of interventions.
- Alderman Hirsch would like the city to monitor the effectiveness of its various rodent control measures.
- RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Rodent Issues Special Committee
19. Order 205357 (ID:18121) By Ald. Hirsch, Niedergang, Ewen-Campen, and the Entire Board  
That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Superintendent of Inspectional Services convene a public community meeting to debrief with residents on the condition of sidewalks this winter with regard to mobility concerns.
- Alderman Hirsch said she would like the Department of Public Works to convene a meeting with residents to discuss the status of the sidewalks through the winter. Alderman Niedergang commented that the sidewalks are in better shape than in years past, but there is still a long way to go.
- RESULT: APPROVED**

20. Order 205358 (ID:18122) By Ald. Hirsch, Clingan, Davis  
That the Director of Health and Human Services share a draft plan, organizational chart and budget for the formation of an Out-of-School-Time Division, to coordinate across city departments and nonprofit and volunteer-run organizations.
- Alderman Hirsch is hoping to have a plan for this new Division available in advance of the budget deliberations.
- RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Youth Services Committee
21. Order 205359 (ID:18123) By Ald. Hirsch  
That the Director of SPCD share a report on the CDBG program as it relates to inter-division cooperation and the city's larger Health and Human Service goals.
- RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Youth Services Committee
22. Resolution 205360 (ID:18124) By Ald. Hirsch  
That the Administration share plans for this summer's youth jobs program, including the cost to nonprofits for hiring youths and any opportunity to create stipend work for younger teens in local nonprofits.
- Alderman Hirsch would like to see if a subsidy could be available for the city's nonprofits to hire youths in the summer, and if a stipend could be available for summer work for children aged 12 to 15.
- RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Youth Services Committee
23. Order 205361 (ID:18126) By Ald. Hirsch, Davis, Mbah, Ewen-Campen, Clingan  
That the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Superintendent of Schools share their policies and procedures for allocating indoor spaces and outdoor spaces, in particular for local or youth-serving organizations.
- Alderman Hirsch requested the Superintendent of Schools and the Director of Parks and Recreation share their plans for the upcoming sports season with Conway Park now being taken offline.
- RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Youth Services Committee
24. Order 205362 (ID:18127) By Ald. Clingan  
That the Director of Engineering report to this Board the reason for the delay in repaving Broadway on Winter Hill.
- RESULT: APPROVED**

25. Order 205363 (ID:18128) By Ald. Clingan That the Superintendent of Inspectional Services place fresh rat traps by the Healy School near Meacham Street.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

26. Order 205364 (ID:18129) By Ald. Clingan That the Commissioner of Public Works install a sign on the outside of the Healy schoolyard fence, on the Meacham Street side, instructing people not to feed birds as this attracts rodents.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

27. Resolution 205365 (ID:18130) By Ald. Scott, Ewen-Campen, Niedergang, Davis, Mbah, Clingan That the Administration amend its appointment and hiring practices with regard to public safety positions in accordance with MGL c151B, to allow this Board to review applicants responsibly for confirmation; specifically, that candidates be presented for preliminary approval by this Board prior to being directed for medical review or physical assessment.

Ald. McLaughlin recused.

Alderman Scott would like the Administration's hiring process reformed so the Board could review appointees responsibly for confirmation, giving the Board access to background materials prior to their medical reviews or physical assessments for public safety positions.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

28. Resolution 205366 (ID:18131) By Ald. Scott, McLaughlin, Davis, Mbah, Clingan, Ewen-Campen, Ballantyne, Niedergang That the Administration refrain from appointing any further candidates to the position of Reserve Firefighter and seek to discontinue use of the Fire Reserve List at the earliest possible opportunity.

Alderman Scott would like to see the Fire Reserve list discontinued. Currently, Somerville is confirming candidates now that took the Civil Service test in 2014 instead of from the current Civil Service list. Members expressed their concerns regarding the current use of the Fire Reserve list, and Alderman McLaughlin discussed possible discrimination against returning veterans.

**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**

**FOLLOWUP:** Public Health and Public Safety Committee

29. Order 205367 (ID:18135) By Ald. Scott That the Commissioner of Public Works inform this Board of the policy for using standard Russell trucks for collecting recycling bins, and consider requiring that recycling collection trucks be labeled explicitly.

Alderman Scott mentioned that it is confusing to see Russell's trash trucks collecting recycling materials.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

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| 30. | Order<br>205368<br>(ID:18132) | By Ald. Scott<br>That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a DO NOT ENTER EXCEPT ABUTTERS AND BICYCLES 7–9AM AND 4–6PM sign at the intersection of Durham and Beacon Streets.  |
|     |                               | <b>RESULT:           APPROVED</b>   |
| 31. | Order<br>205369<br>(ID:18133) | By Ald. Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen<br>That the Director of SPCD share with this Board the exact open space inventory, and clarify why there is a discrepancy between SomerVision’s Open Space Plan and the State inventory of the city's open space. |
|     |                               | <b>RESULT:           APPROVED</b><br><b>FOLLOWUP:    Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee</b>   |
| 32. | Order<br>205370<br>(ID:18134) | By Ald. Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen<br>That the Director of SPCD specify what projects increased the 17 acres of open space in the SomerVision Progress Report.   |
|     |                               | <b>RESULT:           APPROVED</b><br><b>FOLLOWUP:    Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee</b>   |

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

33. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

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| A. | Committee<br>Report<br>205371<br>(ID:18107) | Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on March 21, 2018.   |
|    |   | Alderman Scott reported on the items discussed at the meeting. There were 9 appointees to the Police Department to confirm. He said an impasse was reached. The Committee had previously requested access to their non-medical application materials, including background checks for appointees to public safety positions. The City Solicitor advised the Personnel Director not to release these materials to the Committee, which prevented the Committee from executing its confirmatory function. The Committee voted 4-1 to keep #202247, requesting the appointment of Steven Scrugli, in Committee, pending further review. The Committee asked that the City Solicitor advise this Board whether the sequence of the appointment process could be adjusted so the Committee could have the chance to review candidates' relevant background information. The Committee also considered the promotion of Chris Ward to the position of Police Captain, interviewed him in open session, and moved approval.<br><b>RESULT:           APPROVED</b> |
| B. | Mayor's<br>Request<br>205307<br>(ID:18069)  | Requesting the appointment of Chris Ward to the position of Police Captain.   |
|    |   | <b>RESULT:           APPROVED</b>   |

- C. Order 205372 (ID:18177) By Ald. Davis  
That the City Solicitor advise this Board as to whether the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters may review, in executive session, the minutes of a prior executive session.

**RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

- D. Order 205373 (ID:18178) By Ald. Davis  
That the City Solicitor advise this Board whether the sequence of appointments can be adjusted so the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments may review relevant information regarding candidates, including without limitation non-medical background checks.

**RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

34. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 205374 (ID:18105) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on March 20, 2018.

Alderman White reported on the items discussed at the meeting. The main topic was the Mayor's mid-year request for 19 new positions. The Administration provided the Committee with an updated list of critical positions. The SMEA President expressed concern that none of the positions were union positions. The Committee Report was severed in order to consider #205159 separately. The rest of the Report was Approved as submitted. Ald. Rossetti was recused from discussion of the severed portion of the Report. With respect to #205159, a motion was made to amend the Report in order to approve #205159. The motion was Approved:

**RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED. [6 TO 4]**  
**AYES:** Hirsch, Mbah, Ewen-Campen, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne  
**NAYS:** White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Clingan  
**ABSENT:** Rossetti  
**AMENDED:** The Report was Amended in order to approve #205159.

- B. Mayor's Request 205014 (ID:17732) Requesting approval of a mid-year staffing request to fund construction oversight, management and associated issues.

**RESULT: PLACED ON FILE**



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| C. Mayor's Request 205156 (ID:17905)   | Requesting a transfer of \$16,250 from the Salary Contingency Account to the Health & Human Services Personal Services Salaries Account to fund an Environmental Health Liaison.                        |
| <b>RESULT: NOT APPROVED</b>  |   |
| D. Mayor's Request 205157 (ID:17906)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$16,250 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Engineering Division Salaries Account to fund a Construction Liaison and Compliance Manager.                 |
| This item was replaced by #215416, which was Approved.<br><b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b>  |   |
| E. Mayor's Request 205158 (ID:17907)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$20,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Engineering Division Salaries Account to fund a Construction Project Manager.                                |
| This item was replaced by #215417, which was Approved.<br><b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b>  |   |
| F. Mayor's Request 205159 (ID:17908)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$16,250 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Communications Department Salaries Account to fund a Construction Information Officer.                       |
| Alderman Niedergang asked that this be severed because he wanted the Board to think again about this position. This was one of the six critical positions that the Administration put forward. This was the only one not approved. Prior to the roll call vote the Board Members expressed their opinions on the position of their votes.<br><b>RESULT: APPROVED. [6 TO 4]</b><br><b>AYES:</b> Hirsch, Mbah, Ewen-Campen, Niedergang, Davis, Ballantyne<br><b>NAYS:</b> White Jr., McLaughlin, Scott, Clingan<br><b>ABSENT:</b> Rossetti |   |
| G. Mayor's Request 205161 (ID:17910)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$21,250 from Unreserved Fund Balance to the Capital Projects Department Salaries Account to fund a Project Manager.  |
| <b>RESULT: NOT APPROVED</b>  |   |
| H. Mayor's Request 205162 (ID:17911)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$18,750 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to SPCD's Transportation & Infrastructure Division Salaries Account to fund a Streetscape and Public Space Planner. |
| This item was replaced by #215418, which was Approved.<br><b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b>  |   |

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| I. Mayor's Request 205163 (ID:17912)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$21,250 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Engineering Department Salaries Account to fund a Project Manager.  |
| <p>This item was replaced by #215419, which was Approved.<br/> <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b></p> |  |
| J. Mayor's Request 205164 (ID:17913)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$20,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Engineering Department Salaries Account to fund a Junior Project Manager.   |
| <p><b>RESULT: NOT APPROVED</b></p>   |  |
| K. Mayor's Request 205165 (ID:17914)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$21,250 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to SPCD's Transportation & Infrastructure Division Salaries Account to fund a Senior Urban Forestry & Landscape Planner.     |
| <p><b>RESULT: NOT APPROVED</b></p>   |  |
| L. Mayor's Request 205167 (ID:17916)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$21,250 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Inspectional Services Department Salaries Account to fund a Senior Zoning Review Planner.                             |
| <p><b>RESULT: NOT APPROVED</b></p>   |  |
| M. Mayor's Request 205168 (ID:17917)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$27,500 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Capital Projects Department Salaries Account to fund a Capital Projects Assistant Director.                           |
| <p><b>RESULT: NOT APPROVED</b></p>   |  |
| N. Mayor's Request 205169 (ID:17918)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$7,200 from Water Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to the Water Enterprise Fund Salaries Account to fund a Director of Finance & Administration.                               |
| <p>This item was replaced by #215414, which was Approved.<br/> <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b></p> |  |
| O. Mayor's Request 205170 (ID:17919)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$15,300 from Sewer Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to the Sewer Enterprise Fund Salaries Account to fund a Director of Finance & Administration.                              |
| <p>This item was replaced by #215415, which was Approved.<br/> <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b></p> |  |
| P. Mayor's Request 205172 (ID:17921)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$20,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the SPCD Office of Housing Stability Salaries Account to fund a Deputy Director of Housing Stability/Program Development. |
| <p><b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b></p>   |  |

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| Q. | Mayor's Request<br>205173<br>(ID:17922)      | Requesting the appropriation of \$15,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the SPCD Office of Housing Stability Salaries Account to fund a Housing Counselor/Case Manager. | <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b> |
| R. | Mayor's Request<br>205174<br>(ID:17923)      | Requesting the appropriation of \$15,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the SPCD Office of Housing Stability Salaries Account to fund a Housing Counselor/Case Manager. | <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b> |
| S. | Mayor's Request<br>205175<br>(ID:17924)      | Requesting the appropriation of \$12,500 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the SPCD Office of Housing Stability Salaries Account to fund a Housing Intake Specialist.      | <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b> |
| T. | Public Communication<br>205258<br>(ID:18001) | SMEA President submitting comments re: the Mayor's mid-year requests for new non-union positions.  | <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b> |
| U. | Mayor's Request<br>205301<br>(ID:18027)      | Requesting approval of a Time Only extension of the Weston & Sampson Lincoln Park construction contract, to December 31, 2018.   | <b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>       |

**35. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

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|----|--|--|---|
| A. | Committee Report<br>205375<br>(ID:18103) | Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on March 14, 2018. | <p>Alderman Ewen-Campen reported on the items discussed at the meeting. The Committee discussed #205334, an order to investigate the condition of affordable housing units in the City, to determine whether there is an affordable housing crisis that constitutes a public emergency. SPCD Director Michael Glavin cautioned the Committee on using the term "public emergency" because it could cause confusion. The Committee will schedule a public hearing on the issue. The Committee also discussed the Chief Assessor's report on properties bought and sold in the last 5 years. Alderman Hirsch said she's organizing a "housing hackathon," a one-day event in June for data-savvy people to tackle data-related housing issues. Mr. Glavin also described the MA Work Force Housing Initiative and how the City could encourage developers take advantage of it. The Committee urged the Zoning Board of Appeals, the Planning Board and the Historic Preservation Commission to send abutter notices to tenants as well as property owners. Finally, the Committee discussed what is being done to support minority-owned businesses in the City, and Economic Development Director Tom Galigani presented information on the subject.</p> <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p> |
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- B. Order 204854 (ID:17617) By Ald. Ewen-Campen That the Chief Assessor report to this Board, the number of properties (residential and commercial) that have been bought and sold within a 1-year period, and the extent of improvements that were made during that period, for the past five years.

**RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**

- C. Order 204976 (ID:17755) By Ald. Ewen-Campen That the Director of SPCD provide this Board with a detailed description of the MA Workforce Housing Initiative and explain how the city can encourage developers to take advantage of it.

**RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**

- D. Order 205376 (ID:18162) By Ald. Ewen-Campen That the City Solicitor prepare an opinion on whether the city may prioritize minority owned businesses in city contracts.

**RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Housing and Community Development Committee

- E. Order 205377 (ID:18163) By Ald. Ewen-Campen That the City Solicitor prepare an opinion on whether liquor licenses may be granted preferentially to woman and minority owned businesses.

**RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Housing and Community Development Committee

36. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report 205378 (ID:18104) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on March 15, 2018.

Alderman Niedergang reported on the item discussed at the meeting, which was the proposed Home Rule Petition authorizing the City to impose a real estate transfer fee (#204954) The Committee discussed whether the buyer or the seller pays the fee, and considered a range of exemptions. A motion to exempt all seniors failed, but a motion to exempt vulnerable seniors, as defined by the City, passed. A motion to exempt property owners who received the City's Residential Exemption for the last 20 years passed, as did another motion allowing the city to establish further exemptions from such fee should it choose to do so.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

37. NOT USED

**38. RODENT ISSUES SPECIAL COMMITTEE**

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| <p>A. Committee Report<br/>205379<br/>(ID:18102)</p>   | <p>Report of the Special Committee on Rodent Issues, meeting on March 14, 2018.</p> |
| <p>Alderman McLaughlin reported on the items discussed at the meeting. The Committee discussed sterilization and other methods to control the rodent population. The Committee also discussed employing feral cats, and falcons, to address the problem. Two residents from MacArthur Street spoke about a nearby apartment building that didn't have enough trash bins, and suggested there should be higher fines or perhaps multiple trash pick ups.</p> <p><b>RESULT:           APPROVED</b></p> |   |

**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

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| <p>39. Mayor's Request<br/>205380<br/>(ID:18042)</p>   | <p>Requesting authorization to borrow \$6,000,000 in a bond, and appropriate the same amount for the acquisition of affordable housing through the 100 Homes project, with debt payments to be funded through CPA revenue.</p> |
| <p>Alderman White requested to waive the readings of items 39 through 41 and refer them to the Finance Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p><b>RESULT:           REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</b></p> <p><b>FOLLOWUP:      Finance Committee</b></p>   |  |
| <p>40. Mayor's Request<br/>205381<br/>(ID:18094)</p>   | <p>Requesting approval to appropriate \$49,495 from the Traffic Safety Stabilization Fund for the Somerville High School Phase II parking study.</p>   |
| <p><b>RESULT:           REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</b></p> <p><b>FOLLOWUP:      Finance Committee</b></p>   |  |
| <p>41. Mayor's Request<br/>205382<br/>(ID:18089)</p>   | <p>Requesting approval to lease a space at 337 Somerville Ave (aka Bow Market) for the Arts Council's Nibble program.</p>  |
| <p><b>RESULT:           REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</b></p> <p><b>FOLLOWUP:      Finance Committee</b></p>   |  |
| <p>42. Mayor's Request<br/>205383<br/>(ID:18101)</p>   | <p>Requesting the appointment of Gerald McCue to the Somerville Retirement Board.</p>  |
| <p>Alderman Scot requested to waive the reading of item 42 and refer it to the Confirmation of Appointments Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p><b>RESULT:           REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</b></p> <p><b>FOLLOWUP:      Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee</b></p> |  |

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| 43. Mayor's Request<br>205384<br>(ID:18138)       | Requesting that the President of this Board appoint a member to the Community Cabinet.              | Alderman Scott requested to waive the readings of items 43 through 44 and place them on file. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.<br><b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b>  |
| 44. Mayor's Request<br>205385<br>(ID:18139)       | Requesting that the President of this Board appoint a member to the Dedications Steering Committee. | <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b>   |
| 45. Mayor's Communication<br>205386<br>(ID:18140) | Conveying information about the Tufts Partnership Agreement process.                                | Alderman Ballantyne requested to waive the reading of item 45 and refer it to the Housing and Community Development Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.<br><b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b><br><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Housing and Community Development Committee |

**COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

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| 46. Officer's Communication<br>205387<br>(ID:18143) | Outside Counsel Darren Klein responding on behalf of this Board to #205259, an Open Meeting Law complaint submitted by Michael Kiely.   | <b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b>   |
| 47. Officer's Communication<br>205388<br>(ID:18112) | City Solicitor requesting approval to retain as outside counsel KP Law, with Darren Klein, Esq., as the attorney of record, to represent the City in matters related to Michael Kiely, including Civil Service Commission No. 1-18-018, and Open Meeting Law complaints related to that case or the decision not to confirm his promotion to Police Lieutenant. | President Ballantyne stated that she had discussed Michael Kiely's second complaint (see #205402) with Attorney Klein, who advised her that Mr. Kiely was not factually accurate when he alleged that the Board had no reason to move into Executive Session on February 27, 2018. The Board approved retaining KP Law to address on the Board's behalf this and related matters that may arise.<br><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b> |

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| 48. Officer's Communication<br>205389<br>(ID:18090) | Assistant City Solicitor responding to #204975 re: requiring landlords to distribute voter registration forms to all new tenants. | <p>The Board discussed the best way to take up consideration of the proposal that landlords be required to distribute voter registration information to tenants, and determined that the Committee on Housing and Community Development could craft a draft ordinance sooner than the Committee on Legislative Matters.</p> <p><b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b></p> <p><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Housing and Community Development Committee</p> |
| 49. Officer's Communication<br>205390<br>(ID:18142) | City Clerk requesting approval to release 7 sets of Executive Session minutes as described within.                                | <p>Alderman Niedergang asked if these were the only outstanding Executive Session minutes. City Clerk John Long responded that these are not the only minutes that are currently sealed. Alderman Niedergang requested a list of Executive Sessions, going back 5 years, and the Clerk agreed to provide it.</p> <p><b>RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE</b></p>   |
| 50. Officer's Communication<br>205391<br>(ID:18111) | Planning Board submitting recommendations re: #204570, a zoning amendment to re-zone 3-5 Summer Street to NB.                     | <p><b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b></p> <p><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Land Use Committee</p>  |
| 51. Officer's Communication<br>205392<br>(ID:18108) | Director of Parks and Recreation requesting to update this Board on the Fields Master Plan.                                       | <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p> <p><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee</p>  |

**NEW BUSINESS**

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| 52. License/Permit<br>205393<br>(ID:18145) | Public Event License, Connexion Church Community Easter Egg Hunt, Chuckie Harris Park, Mar 31, Noon-4PM.                | <p>Alderman Rossetti requested to waive the readings of items 52 through 58 and approve them. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.</p> <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p> |
| 53. License/Permit<br>205394<br>(ID:18146) | Public Event License, Greek Orthodox Church Holy Friday Procession, 29 Central St and area streets, Apr 6, 8:30-9:30PM. | <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p>   |
| 54. License/Permit<br>205395<br>(ID:18153) | Public Event License, Mayor's Spring Cleanup, citywide with bbq at Blessings of the Bay Boathouse, Apr 21, 8AM-3PM.     | <p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b></p>   |

55.	License/Permit 205396 (ID:18147)	Public Event License, Arts Council Porchfest, citywide, May 12, 11AM-7PM (raindate May 13).	<b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>
56.	License/Permit 205397 (ID:18148)	Public Event License, Wallace St Block Party, Jun 2, 1-9:30PM (raindate Jun 3).	<b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>
57.	License/Permit 205398 (ID:18149)	Public Event License, Arts Council Big Gay Dance Party, Union Sq Plaza, Jun 2, 2-9:30PM.	<b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>
58.	License/Permit 205399 (ID:18150)	Public Event License, Arts Council Fixer Fair, Union Sq Plaza, Jun 10, 11AM-4PM.	<b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>
59.	License/Permit 205400 (ID:18151)	Public Event License, Taste of Somerville, Powderhouse Park, Jun 13, 7AM-Midnight (raindates Jun 20,27).  Alderman Rossetti requested to waive the reading of item 59 and refer it to Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.	<b>RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION</b> <b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Licenses and Permits Committee
60.	License/Permit 205401 (ID:18152)	Public Event License, Arts Council Joe's Jazz and Blues Festival, Union Sq Plaza, Jun 16, 10AM-7PM (raindate Jun 17).  Alderman Rossetti requested to waive the reading of item 60 and approve it. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.	<b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>
61.	Public Communication 205402 (ID:18144)	Michael Kiely submitting a second Open Meeting Law complaint against this Board.  President Ballantyne stated that she had discussed this matter with Attorney Klein, who advised her that Mr. Kiely was not factually accurate when he alleged that the Board had no reason to move into Executive Session on February 27, 2018. On her motion, the Board approved directing him to respond to this new complaint on behalf of the Board. (See #205426.)	<b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b>
62.	Public Communication 205403 (ID:18091)	Harvard University submitting its Spring 2018 University Accountability report.	<b>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</b> <b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Housing and Community Development Committee



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| 63. | Public Communication<br>205404<br>(ID:18154) | Jacob Kramer submitting comments re: #204954, the proposed Transfer Fee Home Rule Petition, and #205118, the proposed Tenant's Right to Purchase Home Rule Petition. | <b>RESULT:</b> PLACED ON FILE<br><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Legislative Matters Committee               |
| 64. | Public Communication<br>205405<br>(ID:18155) | Ronald Cavallo submitting comments re: #205118, the proposed Tenant's Right to Purchase Home Rule Petition.  | <b>RESULT:</b> PLACED ON FILE<br><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Legislative Matters Committee               |
| 65. | Public Communication<br>205406<br>(ID:18156) | Chris Dwan submitting comments re: the removal of trees from Beacon St.  | <b>RESULT:</b> PLACED ON FILE<br><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Public Utilities and Public Works Committee |
| 66. | Public Communication<br>205407<br>(ID:18157) | Clarendon Residents United submitting comments re: #205250, a proposed Clarendon Hill Public Housing Home Rule Petition.   | <b>RESULT:</b> PLACED ON FILE<br><b>FOLLOWUP:</b> Legislative Matters Committee               |

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

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| 67. | Resolution<br>205408<br>(ID:18160) | By Ald. McLaughlin, and the Entire Board<br>Requesting that Somerville's Congressional Delegation oppose House Bill 4242 and Senate Bill 2193, which cause irreparable damage to the Veterans Administration healthcare system. | Alderman McLaughlin stated that these two Bills would privatize the Veterans Administration. 80% of veterans are opposed to these Bills.<br><b>RESULT:</b> APPROVED |
| 68. | Order<br>205409<br>(ID:18158)      | By Ald. McLaughlin<br>That the Director of Traffic and Parking repair the leaning street sign on the median of Broadway, by George Street.  | <b>RESULT:</b> APPROVED   |
| 69. | Order<br>205410<br>(ID:18159)      | By Ald. McLaughlin<br>That the Director of Traffic and Parking repair the Lincoln Street sign.  | <b>RESULT:</b> APPROVED   |

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| 70. Order<br>205411<br>(ID:18161)   | By Ald. McLaughlin<br>That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the raised sidewalk at 95 Flint Street and 195 Walnut Street.  |
| <b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>   |   |
| 71. Order<br>205412<br>(ID:18174)   | By Ald. Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen, Clingan<br>That the Director of SPCD suggest strategies to mitigate ground floor commercial retail space vacancies.                                    |
| <b>RESULT: APPROVED</b><br><b>FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee</b> |   |
| 72. Resolution<br>205413<br>(ID:18175)  | By Ald. Mbah<br>That the Administration consider partnering with MIT to provide advice on renewable energy sources.   |
| <b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>   |   |
| 73. Mayor's Request<br>205414<br>(ID:18165)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$4,985 from Water Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to the Water Enterprise Fund Salaries Account to fund a Director of Finance & Administration.      |
| For discussion of this item, see #205169.<br><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>                    |   |
| 74. Mayor's Request<br>205415<br>(ID:18166)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$10,592 from Sewer Enterprise Fund Retained Earnings to the Sewer Enterprise Fund Salaries Account to fund a Director of Finance & Administration.     |
| For discussion of this item, see #205170.<br><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>                    |   |
| 75. Mayor's Request<br>205416<br>(ID:18167)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$11,250 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Engineering Division Salaries Account to fund a Construction Liaison and Compliance Manager. |
| For discussion of this item, see #205157.<br><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>                    |   |
| 76. Mayor's Request<br>205417<br>(ID:18168)   | Requesting the appropriation of \$13,846 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Engineering Division Salaries Account to fund a Construction Project Manager.                |
| For discussion of this item, see #205158.<br><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b>                    |   |

77. Mayor's Request 205418 (ID:18169) Requesting the appropriation of \$12,980 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to SPCD's Transportation & Infrastructure Division Salaries Account to fund a Streetscape and Public Space Planner.

For discussion of this item, see #205162.  
**RESULT: APPROVED**

78. Mayor's Request 205419 (ID:18170) Requesting the appropriation of \$14,711 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Engineering Department Salaries Account to fund a Project Manager.

For discussion of this item, see #205163.  
**RESULT: APPROVED**

79. Officer's Communication 205420 (ID:18180) Assistant City Solicitor submitting an updated Condominium/Cooperative Conversion Ordinance.

**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Legislative Matters Committee

80. Officer's Communication 205421 (ID:18093) Assistant City Solicitor submitting proposed amendments to Ordinances 11-31 and 11-40 re: household trash and rubbish collection and mandatory recycling.

**RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Legislative Matters Committee

81. License/Permit 205422 (ID:18181) New Drainlayer's License, Hope Trucking and Demolition.

Alderman Rossetti requested to waive the readings of items 81 through 82 and approve them. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.  
**RESULT: APPROVED**

82. License/Permit 205423 (ID:18182) New Drainlayer's License, LVMJ Corporation.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**LATE ITEMS**

83. Order 205424 (ID:18190) By Ald. Niedergang That this Board discharge from the Legislative Matters Committee #203839, amending ordinances to strengthen certain rodent eradication efforts.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

84. Order 205425 (ID:18191) By Ald. Niedergang That this Board discharge from the Legislative Matters Committee #204975, seeking an opinion on whether this Board can require landlords to distribute voter registration forms to all new tenants.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

85. Order 205426 (ID:18187) By Ald. Ballantyne  
That this Board authorizes Outside Counsel Darren Klein, Esq., Attorney of Record for KP Law, to respond to Michael Kiely's Open Meeting Law Complaint filed against this Board on March 16, 2018.
- President Ballantyne stated that she had discussed Michael Kiely's complaint (see #205402) with Attorney Klein, who advised her that Mr. Kiely was not factually accurate when he alleged that the Board had no reason to move into Executive Session on February 27, 2018. On her motion, the Board approved directing him to respond to this new complaint on behalf of the Board.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
86. Order 205427 (ID:18184) By Ald. White Jr., and the Entire Board  
That the Director of Sustainability and the Environment and other appropriate city staff report to this Board on the hazardous waste that was recently found in soil tests at Conway Park.
- RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee
87. Resolution 205428 (ID:18185) By Ald. Davis, Hirsch  
That the Administration update this Board on any plans to revise the Snow Emergency policy to prohibit parking in school lots, so the School Department can make independent decisions regarding school closings and delays.
- RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Housing and Community Development Committee
88. Resolution 205429 (ID:18186) By Ald. Davis  
That the Administration advise this Board on what information sources are available and what sources are used to assess weather conditions in making both snow emergency and school cancellation decisions, in light of the attached email citing the forecasts of MEMA.
- RESULT: APPROVED**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Housing and Community Development Committee
89. Resolution 205430 (ID:18189) By Ald. Ballantyne  
That the Administration work with the Ward 7 Alderman to craft a "Conditions of Award" letter for the Clarendon Hill Redevelopment Project.
- RESULT: APPROVED**

90. Order 203839 (ID:16550) By Ald. McLaughlin, Rossetti, Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr. That the City Solicitor draft an amendment to Ordinance 11-38(d)(2) to strengthen the language regarding rodent eradication prior to developments being constructed.
- Discharged from the Committee on Legislative Matters per #205424.  
**RESULT: REFERRED FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Rodent Issues Special Committee
91. Ordinance 204620 (ID:17372) By Ald. Niedergang That Ordinance Section 1 -11 Penalties and Violations be amended for Rodent Control (11-38) from tiered fines of \$50/\$100/\$300 to \$100/\$300/\$500.
- Discharged from the Committee on Legislative Matters per #205353.  
**RESULT: REFERRED FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Rodent Issues Special Committee
92. Ordinance 204621 (ID:17374) By Ald. Niedergang That Ordinance Section 1 -11 Penalties and Violations be amended for Trash Outside of Places of Business (9-55) from tiered fines of \$50/\$100/\$300 to \$100/\$300/\$500.
- Discharged from the Committee on Legislative Matters per #205354.  
**RESULT: REFERRED FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Rodent Issues Special Committee
93. Order 204975 (ID:17753) By Ald. Ewen-Campen That the City Solicitor provide an opinion on whether this Board can require landlords to distribute voter registration forms to all new tenants.
- Discharged from the Committee on Legislative Matters per #205425.  
**RESULT: REFERRED FOR DISCUSSION**  
**FOLLOWUP:** Housing and Community Development Committee

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was Adjourned at 10:35 PM.