



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council Licenses and Permits Committee

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 21, 2026

6:00 PM

This meeting was held via Zoom and was called to order by Chair Hardt at 6:01 p.m. and adjourned at 6:39 p.m. on a roll call vote of 3 in favor (Councilors Davis, Wheeler, Hardt), 0 opposed.

Others present: Michael Potere – Assistant City Clerk

Roll Call

Present: Ward Six City Councilor Lance L. Davis, City Councilor At Large Ben Wheeler and Ward Seven City Councilor Emily Hardt

1. Committee Minutes
(ID # [25-1862](#))

Approval of the Minutes of the Licenses and Permits Committee Meeting of December 10, 2025.

RESULT: **ACCEPTED**

AYE: Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wheeler and Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt

2. Public Hearing

- 2.1. License
(ID # [25-1702](#))

New Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Union Square Auto Sales, 39 Webster Avenue, 20 vehicles outside, Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm, Sat: 8am-2pm, Sun: closed.

Chair Hardt opened the public hearing at 6:03 p.m.

Attorney Adam Dash, representing the applicant, stated that this location was previously a used car dealership, and that this application is for the new owner of that location, who intends to operate the business under the same floor plan and model, with only the name of the business changing. Attorney Dash stated that the applicant owns and operates another used car dealership in Somerville, and Chair Hardt asked the applicant, Chris Svigo, if they have had any issues with that business, and the applicant stated they have not.

Councilor Davis asked for the name of the applicant's other business, who replied that it is Assembly Square Auto Sales on Mystic Avenue.

There being no other speakers, Chair Hardt closed the public hearing at 6:11 p.m.

RESULT: **RECOMMENDED TO BE APPROVED**

AYE: Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wheeler and Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt

3. Grant of Location (ID # [25-1754](#)) Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install a total of 38 feet of conduit in Warwick Street, from Utility Pole 357/3 to a point of pickup at 16 Warwick Street.

Chair Hardt stated that this application was kept in Committee due to concerns raised by an abutter to the proposed location, specifically that the location appeared to have existing conduit and that they did not understand why an additional unit is necessary. Chair Hardt sponsored Hannah Cooper, representing Eversource, to speak, who stated that there are two risers on that pole, one that is the primary line for the transformer, and a second that is there as a backup in case anything should happen to the primary unit, and that therefore both of these risers are currently in use, justifying this application. Councilor Davis noted that the pole being discussed is located at 17 Warwick Street, and that a view of the pole from August of 2024 does not appear to include any transformers, and Eversource Representative Cooper replied that the diagram in the submitted plans is the most accurate representation of the proposed construction. Councilor Davis asked for clarification that all the equipment on the pole is necessary, which Eversource Representative Cooper confirmed, and added that this application is for an underground conduit, which will begin on the pole as stated and run across the street.

Councilor Davis stated that, based on the image from 2024, the pole itself seems to have significant clutter, and Eversource Representative Cooper replied that some of that clutter may have been installed by another company. Councilor Davis recommended that the approval of this application be conditioned on the applicant also cleaning up the other wires on the pole during construction. Councilor Wheeler suggested that a condition be added that the applicant clean up the rest of the equipment on the pole, and Eversource Representative Cooper replied that this request could be raised with their engineering department. Councilor Wheeler stated that an additional conversation with the abutter could be had before this is recommended for approval, and Chair Hardt added that this construction is not planned until April 2026, so a delay would not adversely impact the applicant, which Eversource Representative Cooper confirmed. Councilor Davis stated that this application could be returned to the full City Council without a recommendation and could be further discussed during the City Council meeting.

RESULT: **RECOMMENDED TO BE DISCHARGED WITH NO RECOMMENDATION**

AYE: Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wheeler and Ward Seven City Councilor Hardt