

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2012, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

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

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
William M. Roche	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Absent	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Absent	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Ward 4 Alderman	Present	

1. #192628 Call of the Roll.
Roll Call

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

2. #192629 Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, February 9, 2012.
Minutes

RESULT: APPROVED

CITATIONS

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. #192630 Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to install 24 feet of conduit
Grant of Location from a manhole to private property at 48 Highland Avenue.

RESULT: APPROVED

Ald. Roche recused.

4. #192631 Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to install 11 feet of conduit
Grant of Location from a pole to private property at 6 Beacon St.

RESULT: APPROVED

Ald. Roche recused.

5. #192632 Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to relocate a pole on Grove
Grant of Location Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

Ald. Roche recused.

6. #192633 Grant of Location submitted by NStar Electric to install two poles and
Grant of Location remove one pole on Lowell Street.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

Ald. Roche recused.

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee
Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

7. #192634 By Ald. O'Donovan, Desmond
Order That the Director of Traffic and Parking explain the increase of large truck
traffic entering Magoun Square from the Medford and Route 93 areas.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

8. #192635 By Ald. Gewirtz
Order That the Chief Fire Engineer determine the cause of the recent fire at the
MBTA shaft site, and, with the Director of SPCD, report whether this should
have any bearing on recently approved plans for development at the site.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

9. #192636 By Ald. Gewirtz
Resolution That this Board requests that the Administration provide information about
plans to support local grocery stores in our economic centers.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

10. #192637
Order
By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Environmental Programs Manager report on the compact fluorescent light bulb program and advise if the city could feasibly implement something similar, and how the city could address the CFL disposal issues.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Environment and Energy Special Committee

11. #192638
Order
By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Director of Communications place a reminder on the city cable wheel about trash pickup regulations.

RESULT: APPROVED

12. #192639
Order
By Ald. Gewirtz, Connolly
That the Chief of Police and the Director of Traffic and Parking create a traffic management plan for Kidder Avenue to slow traffic.

RESULT: APPROVED

13. #192640
Order
By Ald. Gewirtz
That the Commissioner of Public Works place a trash barrel at the corner of Willow and Morrison Avenues.

RESULT: APPROVED

14. #192641
Resolution
By Ald. Gewirtz, Connolly, Lafuente, Heuston, Roche, Desmond, White Jr., Sullivan
That this Board requests that the Administration provide a timeline for repairs to the West Branch Library and that the Commissioner of Public Works provide an update on repairs to interior walls that are peeling.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

15. #192642
Resolution
By Ald. Roche, Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Gewirtz, O'Donovan, Heuston, Lafuente
That this Board requests that the Administration analyze improvements needed at the East Branch Library and provide this Board with a schedule for completion.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

16. #192643
Resolution

By Ald. Connolly, Desmond, Sullivan, White Jr., Gewirtz, Roche, O'Donovan, Heuston, Lafuente
That this Board requests that the Administration conduct a thorough review of the Public Library, including long-range planning to maintain the highest level of community services, and report back to this Board prior to the FY13 budget review.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

17. #192644
Order

By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works and the City Engineer inspect catch basins and roadway depressions on Adrian Street and take action to restore structural integrity and address problems of overflow.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

18. #192645
Order

By Ald. Heuston
That the Commissioner of Public Works repave Adrian Street as part of the Spring 2012 paving program, and provide the Committee on Public Utilities and Works with the streets to be repaved in 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

19. #192646
Resolution

By Ald. Roche
That this Board requests that the Administration budget funds for the meetings of certain boards and commissions to be recorded and broadcast via the city's cable station.

RESULT: APPROVED

20. #192647
Order

By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Commissioner of Public Works adjust the blinking traffic sign at the corner of Thurston Street and Evergreen Avenue so it blinks during school hours only.

RESULT: APPROVED

21. #192648 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install signs on Medford Street, at the corners of Thurston and Sycamore Streets, to slow down traffic.

RESULT: APPROVED

22. #192649 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a NO U TURN sign on the westbound side of Broadway at School Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

23. #192650 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the sinkhole and cracks on the mats at Grimmons Park.

RESULT: APPROVED

24. #192651 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of SPCD dispatch the Neighborhood Inspection Team to 35-37 Jackson Road for possible building violations, health violations, illegal activity and disturbances.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

25. #192652 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of SPCD dispatch the Neighborhood Inspection Team to 3-5 Walter Terrace for possible building violations, health violations, illegal activity, and disturbances.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

26. #192653 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install NO PARKING signs and a traffic mirror on Main Street, at the corner of Fremont Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

27. #192654 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a NO PARKING sign in front of 12 Maple Avenue and paint the curb yellow from driveway to driveway.

RESULT: APPROVED

28. #192655 Order By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a DEAD END sign at the corner of Ash Avenue and E. Albion Street.

RESULT: APPROVED

29. #192656 Resolution By Ald. Sullivan, and the Entire Board
That this Board offers its support of the 5th Annual White Ribbon Day campaign, advocating against domestic violence.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

30. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

- A. #192657 Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments, meeting on
Committee Report March 7, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #192623 Requesting the appointment of John O'Connor to the Fire Dept. Reserve List.
Mayor's Request

RESULT: APPROVED

31. ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY SPECIAL COMMITTEE

- A. #192658 Report of the Committee on Environment and Energy, meeting on March 8,
Committee Report 2012.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

32. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. #192659 Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on March 6, 2012.
Committee Report

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #192347 Requesting acceptance of Section 20 of M.G.L. Chapter 32B allowing the
Mayor's Request City to establish a Trust Fund for Other Post Employment Benefit Liabilities
(OPEB).

RESULT: APPROVED

33. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. #192660 Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on March 7,
Committee Report 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #192579 New Hawker Peddler License, The Tear Drop Inc., Flowers, Fruit and
License/Permit Vegetables Vendor.

RESULT: APPROVED AS AMENDED

AMENDMENT: That the license is valid for 90 days only, and that novelty items are included among the wares to be peddled.

34. PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

- A. #192661 Report of the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works, meeting on
Committee Report February 29, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #190062 By Ald. Sullivan, White Jr., Desmond, Connolly
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works Direct the Appropriate Utility to
Remove the Double Pole at 29 Delaware Street and Check the Utility Lines
for Safety as They Appear to be Touching the House.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- C. #191674 Order By Ald. Connolly, O'Donovan, Trane
That the City Clerk request that representatives of NStar Gas and Electric appear before this Board's Committee on Public Works and Public Utilities regarding the recent power outage in Magoun Square (June 14-15), ongoing repairs in West Somerville, and ongoing repairs and improvements citywide.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- D. #191981 Order By Ald. Sullivan
That the City Clerk contact NStar Electric to request that a representative appear before this Board to explain the process for requesting commercial service.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- E. #192309 Order By Ald. Connolly, O'Donovan
That the Commissioner of Public Works arrange for all utilities with equipment on double poles to meet with the Committee on Public Utilities and Works early in 2012.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- F. #192523 Public Communication NStar Electric responding to #192310 re: street lights, double poles, power outages, and other items.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- G. #192662 Order By Ald. Connolly
That the Commissioner of Public Works follow up on the information provided by NSTAR relative to the number of inoperable lights remaining to be repaired and follow up on a bi-weekly schedule on NSTAR's progress, in anticipation of completing the repairs within 60 days.

RESULT: APPROVED

35. VETERANS AND PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

- A. #192663 Report of the Committee on Veterans and Public Services, meeting on Committee Report February 29, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

- B. #192664 Resolution By Ald. Roche
That this Board requests that the Administration consider asking former Veterans Services Directors Frank Senesi and Walter Pero to be co-Chairs of the Memorial Day Committee.

RESULT: APPROVED

- C. #192665 Resolution By Ald. Connolly
That this Board requests that the Administration submit a request to purchase the appropriate equipment for dedications and ceremonies.

RESULT: APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

36. #192666 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$375,000 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Acct. to the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

37. #192667 Mayor's Request Requesting the appropriation of \$375,000 from the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund to reconstruct roads and sidewalks.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

38. #192668 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$75,000 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund for the purchase of Christmas and other seasonal decorations.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

39. #192669 Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$73,200 from the Capital Projects Stabilization Fund to purchase Police vehicles.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

40. #192670 Mayor's Request Requesting authorization to increase the Council on Aging's Revolving Fund Cap for FY2012 from \$90,000 to \$130,000.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

41. #192671 Mayor's Request Requesting approval to pay several prior-year invoices in the Traffic and Parking Dept. totalling \$1,700.12.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

42. #192672 Mayor's Request Requesting the use of FY12 funds in the Personnel Dept. to pay Arbitrator Richard Higgins for Arbitration Services on an Fiscal Year 2011 invoice totaling \$600.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

43. #192673 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Peter Forcellese Jr. as City Treasurer and Collector of Taxes.

RESULT: APPROVED

44. #192674 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Edward Bean as City Auditor.

RESULT: APPROVED

45. #192675 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Angela Allen as Purchasing Agent.

RESULT: APPROVED

46. #192676 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Frank Wright as City Solicitor.

RESULT: APPROVED

47. #192677 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Sarah Kloos as Director of Personnel.

RESULT: APPROVED

48. #192678 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Robert King as City Engineer.

RESULT: APPROVED

49. #192679 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of James DiFraia as Constable, for a term to expire December 31, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

50. #192680 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Michael Browne as Constable, for a term to expire December 31, 2012.

RESULT: APPROVED

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

51. #192681 Officer's Communication City Clerk conveying a Resolution forwarded by the Chelsea City Council opposing the transportation of ethanol by rail to Revere.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

52. #192682 Officer's Communication City Clerk conveying a Determination from the Attorney General re: the Open Meeting Law and participation at committee meetings.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

53. #192683 Officer's Communication Licensing Commission responding to #192068 re: training requirements for licensees.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

54. #192684 Officer's Communication Retirement Board responding to #192304 re: an increase in the Cost of Living Adjustment base for retirees.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

55. #192685 Director of Traffic and Parking responding to various Board Orders.
Officer's
Communication

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

FOLLOWUP: Senior Services Committee
Traffic and Parking Committee

NEW BUSINESS

56. #192686 Public Event Permit, Recreation Dept. Shape Up Somerville Road Race,
License/Permit High School Concourse, Apr 15, 10-1PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

57. #192687 Public Event Permit, Independent Film Festival of Boston Display, Davis Sq.
License/Permit Statue Park, Apr 25-30, 10AM-1AM.

RESULT: APPROVED

58. #192688 Public Event Permit, Davis Sq. Farmers Market, Day and Herbert Streets
License/Permit Parking Lot, Wednesdays May 23-Nov 21.

RESULT: APPROVED

59. #192689 Public Event Permit, "The Davis Flea" Open-Air Flea Market, Buena Vista
License/Permit Parking Lot, Sundays Jun 3-Oct 28.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

60. #192690 Public Event Permit, Gobble Gobble Gobble Road Race, Davis Sq. and
License/Permit surrounding area, Nov 22.

RESULT: APPROVED

61. #192691 Sign/Awning Permit, The Painted Burro, 219 Elm St., Sign.
License/Permit

RESULT: APPROVED

62. #192692 License/Permit New Garage License, Mac's Auto Body Corp., 53 Russell St., mechanical repairs, auto body, spray painting, vehicle storage, 10 autos in, 8 out.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

63. #192693 License/Permit New Fortune Teller License, Dolly Costello dba Spiritual New Age Boutique, 153 Washington St.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

64. #192694 Mayor's Request Requesting approval of a Purchase and Sales Agreement with NStar Electric, for the purchase of NStar-owned street lights.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

65. #192695 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a donation from Christos Poutahidis in the amount of \$10,000, for youth programming.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

66. #192696 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$10,000 from D&R General Contracting, for community initiatives.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

67. #192697 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$10,000 from MetroPCS for youth programming and other community events.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

68. #192698 Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a donation of \$1,000 from Robert B. King, local McDonalds owner-operator, for youth activities and community events.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

69. #192699 Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Marguerite Barrett as Superintendent of Water Works.

RESULT: APPROVED

70. #192700 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of George Landers as Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds.

RESULT: APPROVED

71. #192701 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Steve MacEachern as Superintendent of Highways, Lines and Lights.

RESULT: APPROVED

72. #192702 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Robert McWatters as Clerk of Committees.

RESULT: APPROVED

73. #192703 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Charles Sillari as Assistant Clerk of Committees.

RESULT: APPROVED

74. #192704 Mayor's Request Requesting the re-appointment of Peter Forcellese as Assistant Clerk of Committees.

RESULT: APPROVED

75. #192705 Mayor's Request Requesting to discuss with this Board the status of Responsible Employer Ordinances in the State, in light of the UCANE v. Fall River case.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

76. #192706 Assistant City Solicitor responding to #192499 re: the rights of the city with Officer's respect to utility companies, specifically Verizon. Communication

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

LATE ITEMS

77. #192707 By Ald. Roche
Order That the City Solicitor research existing domestic violence ordinances in other communities and prepare a report for this Board's Committee on Legislative Matters.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

78. #192708 By Ald. Desmond, Lafuente
Order That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Traffic and Parking post the appropriate speed limit on Shore Drive.

RESULT: APPROVED

79. #192709 By Ald. Desmond, Lafuente
Order That the Chief of Police post a traffic detail on Shore Drive to monitor traffic during rush hours.

RESULT: APPROVED

80. #192710 By Ald. Lafuente
Resolution That this Board requests that the Traffic Commission consider restricting Shore Drive to residents only on weekdays, 7-9AM and 4-6PM.

RESULT: APPROVED

81. #192711 By Ald. Sullivan
Order That the Director of Traffic and Parking determine if the parking lot at the Shore Drive Boathouse can be used by residents for overnight parking.

RESULT: APPROVED

82. #192712 Requesting the appointment of John O'Connor to the position of Permanent Mayor's Request Firefighter.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments Committee

83. #192713 Requesting approval to amend the contract with Waste Management of MA
Mayor's Request Inc. regarding the Transfer Station.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk