



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council City Council Organizational Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

5:00 PM

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

Present	City Councilor At Large Wilfred N. Mbah City Councilor At Large Kristen Strezo Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin Ward Two City Councilor Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott Ward Three City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen Ward Four City Councilor Jesse Clingan Ward Five City Councilor Naima Sait Ward Six City Councilor Lance L. Davis Ward Seven City Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld
Absent	City Councilor At Large Willie Burnley Jr. City Councilor At Large Jake Wilson

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 PM by Ward Six City Councilor Lance Davis.

- 1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # [24-0001](#))

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

2. CERTIFICATION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

- 2.1. Officer's Election Commissioner submitting the results of the City Election held on
Communication November 7, 2023.
(ID # [24-0002](#))

The certified November 7, 2023 election results were read by City Clerk Kimberly Wells. The elected individuals who were present were then sworn in as City Councilors.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

3. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

- 3.1. Election Election of a President for 2024.
(ID # [24-0003](#))

MOTION: That Councilor Ewen-Campen be elected President of this

Council.

Councilor Ewen-Campen was nominated by Councilor Clingan, the nomination was seconded by Councilor Pineda Neufeld. There being no further nominations, Councilor Scott moved to close nominations, the motion was seconded by Councilor McLaughlin and approved. Councilor Ewen-Campen was unanimously elected as President of the City Council for 2024. City Clerk Kimberly Wells administered the oath of office to Councilor Ewen-Campen, who then assumed the chair.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

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

ABSENT: City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., and City Councilor At Large Wilson

3.2. Election
(ID # [24-0004](#))

Election of a Vice President for 2024.

MOTION: That Councilor Pineda Neufeld be elected Vice President of this Council.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld was nominated by Councilor McLaughlin, the nomination was seconded by Councilor Davis. There being no further nominations, Councilor Scott moved to close nominations, the motion was seconded by Councilor McLaughlin and approved. Councilor Pineda Neufeld was unanimously elected as Vice President of the City Council for 2024. City Clerk Kimberly Wells administered the oath of office to Councilor Pineda Neufeld.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

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

ABSENT: City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., and City Councilor At Large Wilson

4. RECESS FOR THE ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE

The meeting recessed at 5:22 PM for the organizational meeting of the School Committee and reconvened at 5:37 PM.

5. ADDRESSES OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

The addresses of the City Council President, the School Committee Chair and the Mayor were delivered at the conclusion of the meeting at Somerville High School.

6. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 6.1. Order By Councilor McLaughlin
(ID # [24-0005](#)) That this City Council adopts for 2024 the Rules of the City Council as approved on February 10, 2022.

The Council voted to adopt the Rules of the City Council, as approved on February 10, 2022.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 6.2. Order By Councilor Wilson
(ID # [24-0006](#)) That the bonds of the City Treasurer and Tax Collector be hereby accepted and approved.

The City Treasurer's bonds were accepted and approved.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 6.3. Order By Councilor Scott
(ID # [24-0007](#)) That the City Treasurer is hereby authorized to appoint Deputy Tax Collectors.

The City Treasurer was authorized by the City Council to appoints Deputy Tax Collectors.

RESULT: APPROVED

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1. Election Drawing of seats.
(ID # [24-0008](#))

Councilors Mbah and Sait conducted the drawing of seats for 2024. The seat assignments are:

1. Councilor McLaughlin
2. Councilor Davis
3. Councilor Wilson
4. Councilor Sait
5. Councilor Scott
6. Councilor Mbah
7. Councilor Burnley, Jr.

8. Councilor Clingan
9. Councilor Strezo
10. Councilor Pineda Neufeld
11. Councilor Ewen-Campen
RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 10.1. Communication By Councilor Ewen-Campen
(ID # [24-0009](#)) In his capacity as President, conveying this Council's Standing and Special Committee assignments and Commission appointments for 2024.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 5:40 PM.