

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

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

September 23, 2014, 7:00 PM  
Aldermanic Chambers  
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**OPENING OF THE MEETING**

1. Roll Call          Call of the Roll.  
(ID # 10285)
  
2. Minutes          Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, August  
(ID # 10284)      28, 2014.

**CITATIONS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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

3. Communication By Ald. Rossetti  
(ID # 10264)      Conveying the recommendations of the Somerville  
Fields Task Force.
  
4. Order              By Ald. Rossetti, Heuston, Connolly, Sullivan, White Jr.  
(ID # 10265)      That the Water Superintendent report to this Board on  
participation in the newly enacted Water Infrastructure  
legislation signed by the Governor on August 6, 2014.
  
5. Order              By Ald. McLaughlin  
(ID # 10266)      That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the property at  
the corner of Broadway and McGrath Highway  
(formerly a gas station), and issue fines where  
appropriate.
  
6. Order              By Ald. McLaughlin  
(ID # 10267)      That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the  
missing stairs in the back emergency exit of 165  
Broadway.
  
7. Order              By Ald. McLaughlin  
(ID # 10268)      That the Commissioner of Public Works trim the  
overgrowth from the street poles along Pearl and  
Wigglesworth Streets.

8. Order (ID # 10269) By Ald. Gewirtz  
That the Director of Traffic and Parking and the Commissioner of Public Works respond, in writing, to #197635, a request for College Avenue to have two lanes of traffic headed into Davis Square on weekday mornings.
9. Order (ID # 10270) By Ald. Gewirtz  
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the broken street lights in Davis Square.
10. Order (ID # 10271) By Ald. Gewirtz  
That the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board any legal action with respect to the broken solar trash barrels in Davis Square and elsewhere.
11. Order (ID # 10272) By Ald. Niedergang, McWatters  
That the Commissioner of Public Works install trash cans along Highland Avenue at bus stops where there are not currently trash cans.
12. Order (ID # 10273) By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD (Transportation and Infrastructure) prioritize the replacement of two dead trees on Medford Street in and one on Highland Avenue.
13. Order (ID # 10274) By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD (Transportation and Infrastructure) plant trees at the following locations: 40-60 Pearson Avenue, 37-57 Pearson Avenue, and 3-9 Highland Road.
14. Order (ID # 10275) By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Commissioner of Public Works notify immediate abutters in advance when a tree of a certain minimum size is cut down near their residence.
15. Order (ID # 10276) By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Commissioner of Public Works inform this Board of any public process that must be followed to cut down a tree of significant size.
16. Order (ID # 10277) By Ald. Niedergang, Heuston  
That the Director of SPCD and the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board on the development, staffing and cost of a program to maintain street trees and keep tree wells clean and weed-free, and/or a program to assist and inspire residents to do so.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

17. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10280) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on September 22, 2014.
  
- B. Mayor's Request 197414 Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$2,000,000 in a bond for a feasibility study and schematic design for the renovation and/or construction of the High School.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved

18. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10278) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on September 17, 2014.
  
- B. Order 195679 By Ald. White Jr.  
That the Director of SPCD meet with this Board's Committee on Housing and Community Development to discuss #195571, a proposed \$500,000 bond to fund a major plan change to the existing Assembly Square Urban Renewal Plan.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
  
- C. Order 195248 By Ald. Lafuente  
That the Director of SPCD appear before this Board to provide an update on the status of the Union Square renewal plan and any transactions that have taken place.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- D. Order 195906 By Ald. White Jr.  
That the Director of SPCD appear at this Board's next meeting on December 12 to explain the Redevelopment Authority's procedure for designating a developer and taking property for the Revitalization Plan for Union Square, and provide the members of this Board with written information about the Plan's costs and funding sources by December 10.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- E. Order 197363 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (Parks and Infrastructure) examine the parking lot of the old American Legion Post on Tufts and Glen Streets as a possible location for a park, with a theme of veteran's service.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- F. Order 197247 By Ald. Heuston  
That the Director of SPCD provide funding to address problems at the Milk Row Cemetery, including cleaning, repairs, resetting fallen obelisks and other cosmetic repairs and maintenance.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- G. Resolution 197477 By Ald. Rossetti, Heuston, McLaughlin, McWatters, Lafuente, Sullivan, Connolly, White Jr.  
That the Administration explain its reasoning for not allowing residents to deny tree planting on or nearby their property.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

19. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10283) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on September 16, 2014.
- B. Order 193206 By Ald. Sullivan, White Jr., Lafuente  
That the City Solicitor review Boston's and other municipalities' ordinances to eliminate public nuisances caused by problem properties, and appear before the Committee on Legislative Matters to discuss adopting it here.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 194062 By Ald. Lafuente, White Jr., Sullivan, Trane, Heuston, Desmond  
That the City Solicitor examine the proposed ordinances of Quincy, Boston and Woburn regarding absentee landlords and appear before this Board's Committee on Legislative Matters to discuss the implementation of a similar ordinance.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 195725 By Ald. Gewirtz  
That the City Solicitor provide this Board's Committee on Legislative Matters with input on restricting formula businesses in Somerville by requiring specific review and oversight before they may enter central business districts.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Order 195825 By Ald. Sullivan  
That the City Solicitor and the Director of SPCD (ISD) update this Board on measures requiring property owners to maintain their property so it doesn't negatively impact their neighbors.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- F. Order 196362 By Ald. Niedergang, White Jr., Lafuente, McWatters, Ballantyne, Rossetti, Sullivan  
That the City Solicitor appear before this Board to describe the process for responding to requests for public records, including fees and redactions, and how this comports with the requirements of state law, the Secretary of State's Public Records Division, and the practices of other communities.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- G. Order 196644 By Ald. White Jr.  
That the City Solicitor provide the Committee on Legislative Matters with an analysis of the Law Department's support to charge for review and redaction of requested information.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- H. Order 196645 By Ald. White Jr.  
That the City Solicitor provide the Committee on Legislative Matters with the good faith estimate of number of hours and the hourly rates charged for every information request this year, to date.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- I. Officer's Communication 196856 Assistant City Solicitor responding to #195725 re: restricting formula businesses.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- J. Officer's Communication 197062 City Solicitor responding to #196645 re: public records requests year to date.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

20. PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10281) Report of the Committee on Public Works and Public Utilities, meeting on September 18, 2014.
- B. Order 196450 By Ald. McWatters  
That the Commissioner of Public Works contact the appropriate utility to ascertain why the double pole at 42 Columbus Avenue hasn't been removed during the past 3 years.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 197228 By Ald. Heuston  
That the Commissioner of Public Works inspect the double poles at 13 and 23 Dane Avenue regarding an oil-like odor and have said poles removed and replaced if necessary.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- D. Order 197504 By Ald. McWatters  
That the Commissioner of Public Works direct the appropriate utility company to remove the double pole at 7 Belmont Place.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

21. RODENT ISSUES SPECIAL COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10282) Report of the Special Committee on Rodent Issues, meeting on September 17, 2014.
- B. Order 196852 By Ald. McWatters  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the dumpsters and area around the Highland Creole Cuisine restaurant, 2 Highland Avenue, for signs of rodent activity, and take appropriate actions.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 196876 By Ald. Heuston  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the Park Avenue/Laurel Street area for rodents and communicate with residents and the Ward 2 Alderman on actions taken.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 196877 By Ald. Heuston  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the Bowdoin Street area, including Lincoln Park and Washington Street, for rodents and communicate to residents and the Ward 2 Alderman on actions taken.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Order 197005 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of Health and the Director of SPCD (ISD) direct the building manager at Bryant Manor to inform the residents not to throw food out their windows to feed the birds, as they are inadvertently feeding the rats as well.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- F. Order 197006 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait George Street and inspect the area for rodent related problems.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- G. Order 197007 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait the corner of Cross Street East and Pennsylvania Avenue for rodents and install signage prohibiting the feeding of animals at the intersection.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- H. Order 197008 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait Myrtle Street for rodents.

- RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- I. Order 197009 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) investigate reports of rodents on Gilman Terrace, Pickney Street, Pearl Street, Mt. Vernon Street, Indiana Avenue, Pennsylvania Avenue and George Street.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- J. Order 197010 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) investigate the rat burrows along the Starbucks in Assembly Square.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- K. Order 197011 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) report on the compliance of construction workers along Broadway, and elsewhere in East Somerville, regarding required rodent baiting.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- L. Order 197104 By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait Wilton Street and inspect the area for rodent related problems.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- M. Order 197141 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait Sunnyside Avenue for rodents.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- N. Order 197142 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait the Alston Street area for rodents.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- O. Order 197143 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait Pennsylvania Avenue for rodents.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- P. Order 197232 By Ald. Heuston  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) direct the owner of the vacant lot adjacent to 12 Beacon Place to clear it of overgrowth and debris, bait it for rodents, and address rodent burrows.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- Q. Order 197263 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Commissioner of Public Works clean the area along the billboard near 3 Chester Avenue, and that the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait it for rodents.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- R. Officer's Communication 197354 DPW Commissioner responding to various Board Orders submitted 6/26/14.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed,

- S. Order 197376 By Ald. Gewirtz, Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait the area around 80 and 82 Morrison Avenue for rodents.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- T. Order 197449 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect 14 Otis Street and 27 Pinckney Street for rodents and bait the area.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- U. Order 197459 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect 20 Mt. Vernon Street for rodent activity and issue fines accordingly.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- V. Order 197460 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait the area around 55 Bonair Street for rodents.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- W. Order 197461 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) bait Otis Street, by the Edgerly School.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- X. Order 197462 By Ald. McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) inspect the area around 50 Oliver Street for signs of rodent activity and bait the area.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- Y. Order 197500 By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) monitor the 23-25 Highland Road area for continued rodent activity.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

**22. YOUTH SERVICES COMMITTEE**

- A. Committee Report (ID # 10279) Report of the Committee on Youth Services, meeting on September 23, 2014.

**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

23. Mayor's Request (ID # 10186) Requesting acceptance of a gift of up to \$2,435.71 from the Boston 4 Celebrations Foundation to reimburse the Police Department for assistance to the Foundation.
24. Mayor's Communication (ID # 10286) Conveying the veto of #197438, the so-called "Pay to Play" Ordinance.



**COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 25. License/Permit (ID # 10294) Public Event Permit, Berkeley Street Block Party, Oct 5, 1-5:30PM.
- 26. License/Permit (ID # 10293) Public Event Permit, Wolf Blitzer Band Concert, Perry Park, Oct 18, 2-9:30PM (raindate Oct 19).
- 27. License/Permit (ID # 10290) Sign/Awning Permit, Metro PCS, 328 Broadway, one sign.
- 28. License/Permit (ID # 10291) Sign/Awning Permit, Bibim, 243 Elm St., one sign and two awnings.
- 29. Public Communication (ID # 10289) NStar Electric responding to #197625 re: planning for the redevelopment of Union Square.

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

- 30. Order (ID # 10296) By Ald. McWatters  
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the broken sidewalk panel in front of 7 Belmont Place.
- 31. Order (ID # 10297) By Ald. White Jr.  
That the City Auditor advise this Board of the status of the Gosder Cherilus Foundation check to refund the money used by the City to pay for the equipment for the Somerville Youth Football program.
- 32. Order (ID # 10299) By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the burned out bulb in the 3rd light pole west of Cedar Street on the Community Path.
- 33. Order (ID # 10300) By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Commissioner of Public Works patch the rough spots on the Community Path surface between Willow Avenue and Cedar Street.
- 34. Order (ID # 10301) By Ald. Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD inform this Board about the requirements to enter the application pool for an affordable housing rental or homeownership unit, and explain the regulations that allow non-residents to apply.

35. Resolution (ID # 10309) By Ald. Heuston  
That the Administration increase the inventory of temporary speed bumps and promote their use in areas where cut through traffic is temporarily increased.
36. Order (ID # 10310) By Ald. Heuston  
That the Director of SPCD (ISD) contact the Academy of Arts and Sciences on Beacon Street to regularly maintain their property.
37. Order (ID # 10311) By Ald. Heuston  
That the Director of Traffic and Parking place a solar powered speed board on Hammond Street to monitor speeding cut through traffic.
38. Order (ID # 10312) By Ald. Heuston  
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a temporary speed bump on Hammond Street.
39. Communication (ID # 10313) By Ald. White Jr.  
Acting as President, Appointing Ald. Mary Jo Rossetti to the School Building Committee for the High School.
40. Mayor's Request (ID # 10298) Requesting approval to change six voting locations, for Ward 1 Precincts 2 and 3, Ward 3 Precinct 2, Ward 4 Precinct 2, Ward 6 Precinct 2, and Ward 7 Precinct 2.
41. Mayor's Request (ID # 10292) Requesting acceptance of a \$50,000 grant from the Office of Justice Assistance for the Police Dept.'s Mental Health Collaboration planning program.
42. Mayor's Request (ID # 10262) Requesting the acceptance of an Emergency Management Performance Grant of \$44,435 from the MA Emergency Management Agency for Fire Dept. emergency operations.
43. Mayor's Request (ID # 10263) Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$11,975 from the Mass Cultural Council, for the Arts Council's ArtsUnion Union Square programming.
44. Mayor's Request (ID # 10245) Requesting the acceptance of a \$10,000 donation from the estate of Mary Fontaine to the Council on Aging, for activities and social programs.
45. Mayor's Request (ID # 10304) Requesting the confirmation of the appointment of Captain Stephen Carrabino to the position of Deputy Chief of Police.

46. Mayor's Request (ID # 10303) Requesting the appointment of Captain Paul Trant to the position of Deputy Chief of Police.
  
47. Officer's Communication (ID # 10287) Chief Fire Engineer responding to #197483 re: 29 Dickinson St.

**LATE ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**