



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

### Meeting Minutes Dispositions

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**Wednesday, October 30, 2024**

**6:00 PM**

**Virtual**

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The meeting took place remotely via Zoom and was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Clingan and adjourned at 8:05 PM on a roll call vote of 3 in favor (Councilors Strezo, McLaughlin and Clingan), none against and none absent.

Others present:

Nick Antanavica – Director of Inspectional Services, Kimberly Hutter – Legislative Liaison, Peter Forcellese – Legislative Clerk.

#### Roll Call

**Present:** Ward Four City Councilor Jesse Clingan, Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin and City Councilor At Large Kristen Strezo

1. Approval of the Minutes of the Public Utilities and Public Works Committee Meeting of March 18, 2024. [24-0403](#)

Accepted

**Aye:** Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin and City Councilor At Large Strezo

#### Public Hearing

2. 76 registered voters submitting a petition for a public hearing on the Somerville Internet Task Force 2019 Report and a Feasibility Study on Municipal Broadband, pursuant to Section 8 of the City Charter. [24-1088](#)

Recommended to be marked work completed

#### Grant of Location

3. Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install a new hip guy and anchor at Utility Pole 291/11 in Prospect Street. [24-1240](#)

Recommended to be withdrawn

#### Traffic and Parking

4. That the Director of Parking install a NO THROUGH STREET sign on Alston Street by the Cross Street intersection. [24-1421](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin  
Recommended to be marked work completed

5. That the Director of Parking enforce parking permit laws on Alston Street. [24-1426](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin  
Recommended to be marked work completed

Mobility

6. That the Director of Mobility prioritize Alston Street for a potential Neighborways project. [24-1425](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin  
Recommended to be marked work completed

7. That the Director of Mobility place a sided bump on Alston Street. [24-1424](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin  
Recommended to be marked work completed

ISD

8. That the Director of Inspectional Services inspect any exterior finishing down to the wood to ensure there is no asbestos shingling present before granting building permits. [24-1203](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Clingan  
Recommended to be marked work completed

9. That the Director of Inspectional Services inspect open space parcels along McGrath Highway, behind Alston Street and Chester Avenue for rodent activity and bait accordingly. [24-1419](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin  
Recommended to be marked work completed

10. That the Director of Inspectional Services address graffiti on Alston Street and ensure the property owners are maintaining their properties. [24-1423](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin  
Recommended to be marked work completed

11. That the Director of Inspectional Services and the Commissioner of Public Works appear before this Council to discuss the problems of local restaurants complying with the requirements of proper waste handling and contracting for city waste collection. [24-1272](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Mbah

Recommended to be marked work completed

Tree Warden

12. That the Tree Warden inspect the trees behind Chester Avenue and address falling limbs. [24-1422](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin

Recommended to be marked work completed

DPW

13. That the Commissioner of Public Works clean the open space parcels along McGrath Highway, behind Alston Street and Chester Avenue of trash and debris. [24-1420](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin

Recommended to be marked work completed

14. That the Commissioner of Public Works create a process for residents to report downed and dangling utility lines. [24-1202](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Clingan and Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

15. That the Commissioner of Public Works install big belly trash barrels at the intersection of Meacham and Moreland Streets. [24-0977](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Clingan

Recommended to be marked work completed

16. That the Commissioner of Public Works re-install the bench, previously donated and installed in honor of longstanding Brown School principal Marilyn Haggerty, on the Brown School grounds. [24-0039](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

Assessor

17. That the Chief Assessor determine the ownership of open space parcels along [24-1418](#)

McGrath Highway, behind Alston Street and Chester Avenue to determining who is responsible for maintenance.

**Sponsors:** Councilor McLaughlin

Recommended to be marked work completed

Comms

18. That the Director of Communications discuss the communication plan to address move-in/move-out related discarded furniture, including items left on sidewalks blocking pedestrian pathways and restricting public way accessibility. [24-1268](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo

Recommended to be marked work completed

Administration

19. That the Administration allocate additional resources to proactively clean up used needles and other potentially hazardous items in Seven Hills Park and other areas. [24-1205](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Davis

Recommended to be marked work completed

20. That the Administration update this Council on plans for the Cummings School building and Founders Memorial Skating Rink this fiscal year. [24-1306](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Wilson and Councilor Scott

Kept in committee

Director of Emergency Management

21. That the Director of Emergency Management discuss the city's emergency response plan for freight train routes and action plans in the event of a derailment or chemical spill. [24-1182](#)

**Sponsors:** Councilor Strezo

Kept in committee

Referenced Documents:

- PUPW - 2024-10-30 OEM Memo (with 24-1182)
- PUPW - 2024-10-30 Memo Bench at Brown School (with 24-0039)
- PUPW - 2024-10-30 Eversource Withdrawal Letter (with 24-1240)
- PUPW - 2024-10-30 Plan Taking 1954 Shawmut St (with 24-1418)
- PUPW - 2024-10-30 Relevant Assessors map 0 Alston (with 24-1418)
- PUPW - 2024-10-30 Taking book8352 page93 1954 Shawmut St (with 24-1418)

