



# City of Somerville, Massachusetts

## Legislative Matters Committee

### Regular Meeting Agenda

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Tuesday, April 15, 2025

6:00 PM

Virtual

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[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_\\_OGRdxRFTymymGkB2MBGnQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN__OGRdxRFTymymGkB2MBGnQ)

(Posted online: 4/9/25 at 2:30 PM) Original

(Posted online: 4/11/25 at 1:00 PM) Revised

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025, this meeting of a City Council Committee will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of these proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting on the City of Somerville website and local cable access government channels.

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#### Roll Call

1. Committee Minutes (ID # [25-0661](#)) **Agenda Ready:** Approval of the Minutes of the Legislative Matters Committee Meeting of April 1, 2025.

#### Tree Ordinance

2. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-0566](#)) **Referred for Recommendation:** Requesting ordainment of an amendment to Chapter 12, Article VI of the Code of Ordinances to modify the Tree Preservation Ordinance.
3. Public Communication (ID # [25-0077](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** Chris Dwan submitting comments re: Urban Forestry Committee recommendations.

4. Order (ID # [25-0066](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Scott and Councilor Sait  
That this Council discuss proposed amendments to the Tree Preservation Ordinance, as outlined in item #24-0493.

#### Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change

5. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-0257](#)) **Referred for Recommendation:** Requesting ordainment of an amendment to Sections 2-304 through 2-310 of the Code of Ordinances to update the Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change.

#### Surveillance Technology Impact Report

6. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-0452](#)) **Referred for Recommendation:** Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Hudl Focus cameras.
7. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-0752](#)) **Referred for Recommendation:** Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Hudl Focus cameras.

#### Short Term Rental Community Impact Legislation

8. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-0484](#)) **Referred for Recommendation:** Requesting the acceptance of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 64G, Section 3D(b), to authorize the city to impose the community impact allowed under Chapter 3D(a) of G.L. c. 64G, on each transfer of occupancy of a short-term rental unit in a two- or three-family dwelling, that includes the operator's primary residence.
9. Mayor's Request (ID # [25-0483](#)) **Referred for Recommendation:** Requesting the acceptance of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 64G, Section 3D(a), to authorize the city to impose a community impact fee of 3% of the total amount of rent upon each transfer of occupancy of "Professionally-managed units".

#### To be discharged without recommendation for the purpose of reassigning to other committees

10. Order (ID # [24-1686](#)) **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Scott  
That the City Solicitor confirm whether an LGBTQ Legal Services Stabilization Fund can be created to pay fees associated with gendered document changes and potential court sealing of records associated with such documents.

11. Communication  
(ID # [25-0270](#))      **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Burnley Jr.  
Conveying the cost of changes to identity documents, in support of item #24-1686.
  
12. Public  
Communication  
(ID # [25-0336](#))      **Sent for Discussion:** Massachusetts Transgender  
Political Coalition submitting comments re: item  
#24-1686, creation of an LGBTQ Legal Services  
Stabilization Fund.
  
13. Order  
(ID # [25-0379](#))      **Sent for Discussion:** By Councilor Scott, Councilor  
Mbah, Councilor Wilson and Councilor Sait  
That the Director of Inspectional Services enforce  
Section 11-111 of the Code of Ordinances - Registration  
and maintenance of vacant property, in light of the recent  
collapse of 316 Somerville Avenue.