



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

November 16, 2021
REPORT OF THE CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS
AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Mary Jo Rossetti	Chair	Absent	
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Vice Chair	Present	
Wilfred N. Mbah	City Councilor at Large	Absent	
Jesse Clingan	Ward Four City Councilor	Present	
Kristen Strezo	City Councilor at Large	Present	

Others present: Kim Wells - City Clerk, Deputy Chief Chris Major - SFD, Chief Charles Femino - SPD, Deputy Chief James Stanford - SPD, Sarah Lewis - Director of Planning, Lauren Racaniello - Director of Legislative Affairs, Hannah Carrillo - Legislative Liaison, Peter Forcellese - Legislative Clerk.

The meeting took place virtually via GoToWebinar and was called to order at 6:03 PM by Chair Scott and adjourned at 7:36 PM on a roll call vote of 3 in favor (Councilors Clingan, Strezo, and Scott), 0 against and 2 absent (Councilors Mbah and Rossetti).

Councilor Scott assumed the Chair in Councilor Rossetti's absence.

Approval of the September 28, 2021 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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Approval of the October 19, 2021 Minutes

RESULT:	ACCEPTED
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Boards and Commissions

212633: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jacques Thomas, Jr. to the position of Licensing Commission member.

City Clerk Wells introduced candidate Jacques Thomas, Jr. to the committee. Mr. Thomas was born and raised in the city and is raising his family here. He wants to serve to repay the city for what it has

provided to his family in terms of accessibility to services. Chair Scott spoke highly of this candidate. Councilor Strezo asked what first steps he would like to take as part of the Licensing Commission and he responded that he would like to ask questions that actually matter to Somerville and would also like to streamline some processes to make the Commission more efficient.

Chair Scott moved for approval. The Chair Scott informed the candidate that the appointment would not become official until it is confirmed by the City Council.

RESULT:	APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Scott, Clingan, Strezo
ABSENT:	Rossetti, Mbah

212631: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Cheri Ruane to the position of Full Member of the Urban Design Commission.

Director Lewis introduced candidate Cheri Ruane, a registered Landscape Architect, to the committee. Ms. Ruane gave a summary of her professional background, noting that she has been involved with the designs of some of the city's parks. She has lived in the city for 20 years. Councilor Strezo asked Ms. Ruane what brought her back to public service and she replied that her children are older now, affording her the time to serve. Councilor Clingan noted the importance of the position and said he looks forward to her confirmation. Chair Scott moved for approval. The Chair Scott informed the candidate that the appointment would not become official until it is confirmed by the City Council.

RESULT:	APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Scott, Clingan, Strezo
ABSENT:	Rossetti, Mbah

212632: Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Timothy Houde to the position of Alternate Member of the Urban Design Commission.

Director Lewis introduced candidate Timothy Houde to the committee. Mr. Houde spoke about his background in mixed use projects. Councilor Clingan spoke highly of Mr. Houde's attention to detail.

Chair Scott moved for approval. The Chair Scott informed the candidate that the appointment would not become official until it is confirmed by the City Council.

RESULT:	APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Scott, Clingan, Strezo
ABSENT:	Rossetti, Mbah

Public Safety Promotions

212526: Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Eli D. Kim to the position of Police Sergeant.

Chief Femino introduced candidate Eli Kim and noted that he has been serving as Acting Sergeant. Chief Femino characterized him as a natural leader. Mr. Kim thanked the committee for this opportunity. Councilor Clingan stated that he has no problem supporting this candidate. Chair Scott asked the candidate what he sees as important aspects of the sergeant's position.

Chair Scott asked if the Executive Session notification was received and understood, and the candidate said that it was and that he was prepared to go into Executive Session.

Chair Scott moved to enter into Executive Session to review protected personnel information or to discuss matters related to individual candidates pursuant to MGL c30A s21(a)(1). The motion was laid on the table until the remaining candidates were interviewed. After the last candidate was interviewed, the Committee voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session for the above stated reason at 6:59 PM and returned to the regular meeting at 7:28 PM. Chair Scott announced that no votes were taken in Executive Session other than the vote to return to the regular meeting.

Chair Scott moved for approval.

RESULT:	APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Scott, Clingan, Strezo
ABSENT:	Rossetti, Mbah

212629: Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Daniel Costa to the position of Fire Lieutenant.

Deputy Chief Major introduced the candidate, Daniel Costa to the Committee. Acting Lieutenant Costa thanked the committee for the opportunity and gave a brief summary of his time with the Fire Department. Councilor Strezo asked the candidate what makes it special to serve Somerville. Acting Lieutenant Costa replied that there's always a lot going on in the city, making for a busy department.

Chair Scott asked if the Executive Session notification was received and understood, and the candidate said that it was and that he was prepared to go into Executive Session.

Chair Scott moved to enter into Executive Session to review protected personnel information or to discuss matters related to individual candidates pursuant to MGL c30A s21(a)(1). The motion was laid on the table until the remaining candidates were interviewed. After the last candidate was interviewed, the Committee voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session for the above stated reason at 6:59 PM and returned to the regular meeting at 7:28 PM. Chair Scott announced that no votes were taken in Executive Session other than the vote to return to the regular meeting.

Chair moved for approval.

RESULT:	APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Scott, Clingan, Strezo
ABSENT:	Rossetti, Mbah

212630: Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Joseph G. Papetti to the position of Fire Lieutenant.

Deputy Chief Major introduced the candidate, Joseph Papetti to the Committee. Acting Lieutenant Papetti thanked the committee for the opportunity and gave a brief summary of his time with the Fire Department. Councilor Strezo asked the candidate what makes it special to serve Somerville. Acting Lieutenant Papetti replied that it's the diversity of the city that makes it exciting to serve here. Chair Scott asked the candidate to speak about his quick rise within the Fire Department and Acting Lieutenant Papetti replied that he studied for the exams and sought out information from other fire fighters.

Chair Scott asked if the Executive Session notification was received and understood, and the candidate said that it was and that he was prepared to go into Executive Session.

Chair Scott moved to enter into Executive Session to review protected personnel information or to discuss matters related to individual candidates pursuant to MGL c30A s21(a)(1). The motion was laid on the table until the remaining candidates were interviewed. After the last candidate was interviewed, the Committee voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session for the above stated reason at 6:59 PM and returned to the regular meeting at 7:28 PM. Chair Scott announced that no votes were taken in Executive Session other than the vote to return to the regular meeting.

Chair Scott moved for approval.

RESULT:	APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]
AYES:	Scott, Clingan, Strezo
ABSENT:	Rossetti, Mbah