



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 28, 2024

7:00 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

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by Ward Three City Councilor Ben Ewen-Campen.

- 1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # [24-0447](#))

Councilor Scott arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Councilor Wilson arrived at 7:21 p.m.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

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

Absent: Ward Seven City Councilor Judy Pineda Neufeld

- 1.2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # [24-0448](#))

Councilor Clingan requested a moment of silence in memory of Marjorie Loveless Fowler.

RESULT: APPROVED

- 1.3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 22, 2024.
(ID # [24-0449](#))

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

2. CITATIONS

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 3.1. Grant of Location (ID # [24-0434](#)) Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install 12 feet of conduit in Alewife Brook Parkway, from Manhole 12332 at the intersection of Alewife Brook Parkway and Broadway.

Jacqui Duffy, representing Eversource, spoke in favor of the item and explained the purpose of the request. There being no further speakers, the Public Hearing was closed.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4.1. Order (ID # [24-0417](#)) By Councilor Strezo
That the Executive Director of the Arts Council appear before the Housing and Community Development Committee to present a Porchfest safety plan that addresses pedestrian safety concerns, promotion of street closures, intersection crossing safety and the prevention of aggressive and dangerous driver behavior during the active event hours.

Councilor Strezo recalled some unsafe incidents that occurred during last year's event and spoke about the need to have a safety plan in place.

RESULT: **APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.2. Order
(ID # [24-0419](#))

By Councilor Strezo

That the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment and the Director of Health and Human Services discuss how climate change affects residents over 65 years old and how climate forward programs can address this demographic.

RESULT: **APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.3. Resolution
(ID # [24-0418](#))

By Councilor Strezo

That the Administration discuss post-pilot plan considerations of the Guaranteed Basic Income pilot program.

Councilor Strezo recalled some unsafe incidents that occurred during last year's event and spoke about the need to have a safety plan in place.

RESULT: **APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.4. Communication
(ID # [24-0420](#))

By Councilor Strezo
Conveying a report of the Children's Cabinet.

Councilor Strezo reported that the Cabinet meets monthly and that at the latest meeting, the Cabinet discussed ways to make the public aware of what it is and what it does.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.5. Resolution
(ID # [24-0428](#))

By Councilor Clingan, Councilor Scott and Councilor Burnley Jr.
That the Administration provide an update on the Braille embosser purchased in summer 2023, including its current location and the plan to put it to use.

Councilor Burnley commented that, last he heard, funding was included in the budget to make the purchase. He later heard that the city was going to lease a braille and he would like clarity on the matter. Councilor Clingan stated that the city did make the purchase a year ago.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.6. Order
(ID # [24-0429](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 City Councilor on the recent collapse of a house at 16 Bonair Street.

Councilor McLaughlin spoke briefly saying that he has some questions for the contractors involved.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.7. Order
(ID # [24-0430](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Strezo
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 City Councilor on the status of any permits issued to contractors associated with 16 Bonair Street.

RESULT: **APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.8. Order
(ID # [24-0431](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Commissioner of Public Works ensure that city trash barrels in Ward 1 are emptied on a regular basis.

Councilor McLaughlin said the trash problem is getting worse. He put in a 311 call a week ago, and the barrels were not emptied. He would like to have trash picked up twice weekly in the area.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.9. Order
(ID # [24-0432](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Commissioner of Public Works replace any defective Big Belly trash barrels in Ward 1 with standard trash barrels until they are repaired.

Councilor McLaughlin would like temporary barrels installed until the Big Belly barrels are repaired.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

4.10. Communication
(ID # [24-0433](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin

Announcing monthly Ward 1 community cleanups on the first Monday of every month, beginning at 5:30 pm at Connexion Church.

Councilor McLaughlin said that the East Somerville community has conducted organized cleanups twice yearly, however, during the COVID period these cleanups stalled. Residents have made inquiries about plans to reinstate regular cleanups, so Councilor McLaughlin is announcing a monthly program. Councilor Clingan commented that he may replicate this in his ward.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

6.A. FINANCE COMMITTEE

6.A.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on March 19, 2024.
(ID # [24-0395](#))

Councilor Wilson summarized the actions taken by the committee and said that the committee received an update on the city's financial status.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

- 6.A.2. Officer's Communication (ID # [24-0210](#)) Finance Director conveying FY 2024 Mid-Year Financial Report in accordance with Section 2-48 of the Code of Ordinances.

RESULT: **WORK COMPLETED**

6.B. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- 6.B.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0396](#)) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on March 19, 2024.

Councilor Wilson summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that a public hearing was conducted to receive public input on the FY 2025 budget priorities. A total of 37 people spoke on the matter, advocating for a variety of topics.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

- 6.B.2. Order (ID # [24-0178](#)) By Councilor Wilson That this City Council hold a public hearing in the Committee on Finance on the community's Fiscal Year 2025 budget priorities.

RESULT: **WORK COMPLETED**

6.C. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- 6.C.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0401](#)) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on March 26, 2024.

Councilor Wilson summarized the actions taken by the committee and explained that the budget priorities submitted by councilors were reviewed

and narrowed down to 10 topics.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.C.2. Resolution
(ID # [24-0459](#))

By Councilor Ewen-Campen

That this Council conveys its support for Housing Stabilization as outlined in memos and budget priorities submitted by City Councilors.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.C.3. Resolution
(ID # [24-0460](#))

By Councilor Wilson

That this Council conveys its support in the FY 2025 budget, for homeless services including all approaches listed in councilor memos, and specifically including funding for a permanent brick and mortar location.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.C.4. Resolution
(ID # [24-0461](#))

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

That all items in the Alternative Emergency Response category be submitted to the Mayor to be included in the FY 2025 budget.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.C.5. Resolution
(ID # [24-0462](#))

By Councilor Scott
That this Council conveys to the Mayor, the importance of housing affordability, including the creation of an Acquisition Fund, as a Council priority for inclusion in the FY 2025 budget.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.C.6. Resolution
(ID # [24-0463](#))

By Councilor Ewen-Campen
That this Council conveys its support for the inclusion of municipal composting in the FY 2025 budget, including all approaches listed in Councilor memos.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.C.7. Resolution
(ID # [24-0464](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Administration include rodent mitigation in the FY 2025 budget as outlined in Councilor memos and resolutions, and increase funding and staffing in the city for rodent mitigation.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.C.8. Resolution
(ID # [24-0465](#))

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

That this Council conveys its support for providing resources in the FY 2025 budget for medical debt forgiveness, municipal building decarbonization, out of school time programming, and an overdose prevention center, as outlined in Councilor memos for their FY 2025 budget priorities.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.D. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

6.D.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0397](#)) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on March 20, 2024.

Councilor Strezo summarized the actions taken by the committee and said that ADA access to playgrounds was discussed and that the Kennedy School is being considered as site for a universal playground. Other items discussed included plans for open spaces and parks, housing enforcement, and the expiration of an ARPA program that serves 900 residents with assistance in paying their water bills.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

- 6.D.2. Resolution (ID # [24-0073](#)) By Councilor Strezo
That the Administration, in conjunction with the Housing and Water and Sewer Departments, provide optional, affordable, water utility assessments in low-income housing units and in benevolent landlord and subsidized landlord housing, whereby residents would pay their own water and sewer bills.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- 6.E.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0399](#)) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on March 21, 2024.

Councilor McLaughlin summarized the actions taken by the committee and said the sole item recommended for approval was ordainment of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances to establish a Recreational Camp for Children use within the Recreational Services use category.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

- 6.E.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0037](#)) Requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances to amend Article 9: Use Provisions, and the Permitted Uses tables of all zoning districts, to establish a Recreational Camp for Children use within the Recreational Services use category.

RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

- 6.E.3. Public Communication (ID # [24-0059](#)) Gregg Donovan requesting a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district of 321 Washington Street from Fabrication (FAB) to Commercial Industry (CI).

RESULT: **NOT APPROVED**

NAY: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, and City Councilor At Large Strezo

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

RECUSED: Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

6.E.4. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0112](#))

Five residents submitting comments re: proposed Zoning Ordinance Climate & Equity Innovation Sub-Area Overlay District.

RESULT: **WORK COMPLETED**

6.E.5. Public
Communication
(ID # [23-1306](#))

Mai Lau, 635 Somerville Avenue LLC, requesting the adoption of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Map to change the zoning district of 627 Somerville Avenue from Neighborhood Residence (NR) to Mid-Rise 3 (MR3).

RESULT: **WITHDRAWN**

6.F. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

6.F.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0402](#)) Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on March 27, 2024.

Councilor Burnley summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that 3 items were recommended for approval: a new Billiards and Bowling License, a new Extended Operating Hours License, and a new Used Car Dealer Class 2 License.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.F.2. License
(ID # [24-0156](#))

New Billiards and Bowling License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, for 5 billiard tables and 8 bowling lanes.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.F.3. License
(ID # [24-0157](#))

New Extended Operating Hours License, Lucky Strike, 325 Revolution Drive, opening Monday-Sunday until 2am for in-store service only.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.F.4. License
(ID # [24-0267](#))

New Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Ravelo's Auto Sales, 61 Washington St, for 0 vehicles inside and 1 vehicles outside, Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm, Sat: 8am-2pm, Sun: closed.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.G. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

6.G.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-0398](#)) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting on March 20, 2024.

Councilor McLaughlin summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that the meeting was well attended. The homeless encampment under Rt. 93, and the April 17th eviction of the individuals living there, was discussed. The Somerville Homeless Coalition, among others, is attempting to find a place for them to be relocated to and trying to produce a permanent

plan for those folks. Additional matters discussed were violence/security measures in the encampment area, two COVID related items, and the search for a Police Chief. Councilor Wilson noted that a preliminary list of candidates for that position was received by the search committee yesterday.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.G.2. Order
(ID # [24-0149](#))

By Councilor Clingan, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Pineda Neufeld and Councilor Scott

That the Director of Health and Human services create an on-call emergency fire response unit to assist in connecting residents with available resources in the event of a displacement or loss of property due to a fire.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.G.3. Order
(ID # [24-0168](#))

By Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Mbah, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Ewen-Campen and Councilor Scott

That the Director of Health and Human Services work with the Administration to allocate funding to secure COVID-19 rapid tests to be distributed at Public Libraries.

AMENDMENT: Insert "and masks" after "rapid tests".

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.G.4. Order
(ID # [24-0172](#))

By Councilor Strezo, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Ewen-Campen and Councilor Scott

That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss the availability of free city-funded COVID tests going forward after temporary relief funds have evaporated, including any plans and/or consideration of potential sources of COVID testing supplies provided through community partners.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.G.5. Order
(ID # [24-0177](#))

By Councilor Ewen-Campen

That the Administration appear before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to update the City Council on the status of the Police Chief search.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED**6.H. PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

- 6.H.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works, meeting on
(ID # [24-0394](#)) March 18, 2024.

Councilor Clingan summarized the actions taken by the committee and said bulk of the meeting was about the repair and/or replacing of gas pipes. There is state legislation, S2103, that is moving to force utility companies to repair pipes rather than replace them. If that legislation is passed, it would give the city more tools to deal with utility companies.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

- 6.H.2. Resolution By Councilor Strezo
(ID # [24-0040](#)) That the Administration and the Director of Water and Sewer update this Council, in writing, on the plan to support residents who cannot afford the recent water bill increases.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- 6.H.3. Order By Councilor Wilson and Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0148](#)) That the Director of Engineering update this Council on the policy and plans pertaining to repairing leaking gas pipes versus replacing them, and the necessary transition away from gas infrastructure.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- 6.H.4. Order By Councilor Clingan
(ID # [24-0151](#)) That the Director of Water and Sewer address the use of threatening notifications as part of the water meter replacement project.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.I. SCHOOL BUILDING FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

- 6.I.1. Committee Report Report of the Special Committee on School Building Facilities and
(ID # [24-0400](#)) Maintenance, meeting on March 25, 2024.

Councilor Davis summarized the actions taken by the committee and reported that the status of the MSBA process discussed and that the committee will be receiving regular updates on this. Other matters discussed included the Brown School, available federal funding programs, and the Winter Hill/Edgerly School situation.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

6.I.2. Resolution
(ID # [24-0087](#))

By Councilor Ewen-Campen and Councilor Clingan
That the Administration discuss with this Council's Special Committee on School Building Facilities and Maintenance, whether the financial comparisons of various new school building scenarios have taken into consideration projected costs of creating new usages at the current Winter Hill and Brown School sites.

RESULT: **WORK COMPLETED**

6.I.3. Order
(ID # [24-0117](#))

By Councilor Strezo
That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management report on leaks at the Benjamin Brown School and any exterior envelope damages in the past six months, and actions being taken to address such leaks and damages including the recently dislodged downspout.

RESULT: **WORK COMPLETED**

6.I.4. Order
(ID # [24-0338](#))

By Councilor Sait, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Wilson, Councilor Ewen-Campen and Councilor Strezo
That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management and the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment update this Council on plans to decarbonize current school buildings and any future school buildings.

RESULT: **WORK COMPLETED**

- 6.I.5. Resolution (ID # [24-0341](#)) By Councilor Wilson, Councilor Clingan, Councilor Ewen-Campen and Councilor Burnley Jr.
That the Administration and the Director of Capital Projects, in conjunction with the Somerville Public Schools, update this Council on the scope and costs involved to renovate the basement of the Edgerly School to reunite the Winter Hill Community Innovation School community under one roof, the relevant state and federal laws triggering required compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, and the decision-making process around the timeline for proceeding with this work.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- 6.I.6. Resolution (ID # [24-0466](#)) By Councilor Davis
That the Administration provide the Special Committee on School Building Facilities and Maintenance with regular updates about the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) process for the Winter Hill and Brown Schools.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 7.1. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0416](#)) Requesting ordainment of an amendment to Article 2, Article 3, Article 4, Article 5, Article 8, and Article 10 of the Zoning Ordinances to remove conflicts with the State Building Code.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

- 7.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0414](#)) Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$76,867 grant with no new match required, from the Massachusetts Office of Elder Affairs to the Council on Aging for social, educational and physical wellness programming.

Councilor Wilson moved to waive the readings of item 7.2 and refer it to the Finance Committee.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

- 8.1. Officer's Communication (ID # [24-0415](#)) City Clerk submitting an amendment to the Rules of the City Council to accommodate remote participation and facilitate accessibility.

City Clerk Wells explained that remote meetings may become a permanent option and this amendment is intended to remove any uncertainty of a quorum being present.

RESULT: **REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION**

FOLLOWUP: Rules Special Committee

- 8.2. Officer's Communication (ID # [24-0413](#)) Planning Board conveying recommendations for items #24-0037 and #24-0059.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9. NEW BUSINESS

- 9.1. License (ID # [24-0435](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, A.P. Flowers & Son LLC.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

- 9.2. License (ID # [24-0436](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Garrett Construction Co Inc.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.3. License
(ID # [24-0437](#))

Renewing Drainlayer's License, Hydra Tech Inc.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.4. License
(ID # [24-0438](#))

Renewing Drainlayer's License, J. Marchese and Sons Inc.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.5. License
(ID # [24-0439](#))

Renewing Drainlayer's License, Tufts Construction Inc.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12

and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.6. License
(ID # [24-0440](#))

Renewing Drainlayer's License, United Civil Inc.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.7. License
(ID # [24-0442](#))

Renewing Garage License, Goodyear Auto Service Center, 1 Bow St.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.8. License
(ID # [24-0441](#))

Renewing Garage License, Sam's Gas and Service, 166 Boston Ave.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.9. License
(ID # [24-0443](#))

Renewing Taxi Medallion License, LaFoi Taxi Inc, Med. #20.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.10. License
(ID # [24-0444](#))

Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Renaissance Taxi Service LLC, Med. #50.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.11. License
(ID # [24-0445](#))

Renewing Taxi Medallion License, BAETDA Transportation Services LLC, Med. #51, 77, 93.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: APPROVED

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.12. License
(ID # [24-0446](#))

Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Bostonshuttles.com LLP, Med. #69.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.13. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0421](#))

Parent Teacher Associations submitting comments re: Edgerly School.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.14. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0422](#))

Ed Vogel submitting comments re: ShotSpotter.

President Ewen-Campen moved to waive the readings of items 9.14 through 9.19 and Place them on File.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.15. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0423](#))

Somerville Stands Together submitting comments re: CHERISH Act.

President Ewen-Campen moved to waive the readings of items 9.14 through 9.19 and Place them on File.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.16. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0424](#))

Eight residents submitting comments re: item 24-0178, for a public hearing held March 19, 2024 in a meeting of the Finance Committee of the Whole.

President Ewen-Campen moved to waive the readings of items 9.14 through 9.19 and Place them on File.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.17. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0425](#))

David Leung and Calvin Zhao submitting comments re: affordable housing.

President Ewen-Campen moved to waive the readings of items 9.14 through

9.19 and Place them on File.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.18. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0426](#))

Henry Edward Hardy submitting comments re: public housing.

President Ewen-Campen moved to waive the readings of items 9.14 through 9.19 and Place them on File.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

9.19. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0427](#))

Caren Kimball submitting comments re: item 24-0089 a resolution in support of an enduring ceasefire in Gaza.

President Ewen-Campen moved to waive the readings of items 9.14 through 9.19 and Place them on File.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

10.1. Order (ID # [24-0450](#))

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

That the Director of Parking update this Council on efforts to ticket vehicles with illegal license covers, including how many tickets have been issued for this reason in the last year.

Councilor Burnley said this was brought to his attention by a constituent and Councilor Wilson commented that he had a prior discussion about this with the Director of Parking.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.2. Order (ID # [24-0451](#))

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

That the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council on the plan to prioritize the deployment of masks and tests to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Councilor Burnley spoke about deployment of masks and COVID tests, saying that residents are concerned about their safety and the cost of obtaining these items. A shift in strategy has moved the focus less on COVID as a sole virus, and toward packaging it with the flu and RSV. He said that he is willing to hear that the administration doesn't have funds to continue to provide these items, if that's the case, but he would like efforts made to protect the most vulnerable in the city.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.3. Order
(ID # [24-0453](#))

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

That the Director of the Office of Housing Stability explain to this Council how requirements, paperwork, or means testing will change for American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded programs that transition to funding from the city.

Councilor Burnley said he's against means testing and thinks there are other ways to get funds into the hands of those who need it.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.4. Resolution
(ID # [24-0452](#))

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

That the Administration explain the process of how residents can receive free prepaid Charlie Cards, what paperwork or requirements they must fulfill before they receive this service, or how much funding was allocated to this program.

Councilor Burnley said 500 Charlie Cards were purchased by the city for low-income residents. He said that he is not in favor of onerous processes, and that 350 of the 500 cards are still available and will expire in a few months, resulting in a financial loss to the city. He pointed out that WHCIS parents are struggling to get their children to school and using the available cards might be an opportunity to assist them.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable Populations Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.5. Order
(ID # [24-0467](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Clingan
That the Director of Mobility work with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation to preserve the pedestrian footbridge on McGrath Highway as part of the grounding McGrath project.

Councilor McLaughlin said he is concerned about tearing down the pedestrian bridge and putting in flashing lights at a street crossing. He doesn't want to get in the way of the project but doesn't know why the bridge has to come down. He has expressed his feelings to MADOT. Councilor Clingan has been contacted by constituents about the bridge and suggested that if it has to be removed, wait until the end of the project, when people are comfortable crossing without it. Councilor Strezo asked if footbridge has been effective for WHIS students and if the Mobility Department might be able to get a usage count for the bridge. Councilor Burnley said that having the bridge next to a playground is important for the safety of children. President Ewen-Campen commented that the next few months are critical for all parties to get on the same page.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.6. Order
(ID # [24-0468](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Mobility return the TEMPORARY PARKING sign, that serves local businesses, to the corner of Washington and Myrtle Streets.

AMENDMENT: Replace "Myrtle Street" with "Florence Street".

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.7. Order
(ID # [24-0469](#))

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson
That the Director of Inspectional Services update the Ward 1 Councilor on enforcement of the Dark Skies Ordinance.

Councilor Clingan explained that two of the heads on the Puma building cast bright light along Puritan Road. Councilor McLaughlin explained that the ordinance seeks to get rid of excessive light pollution and noted that Assembly Square is exempt from the dark sky ordinance.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.8. Order
(ID # [24-0470](#))

By Councilor Wilson and Councilor Clingan
That the Director of Mobility update this Council on plans to address increased cut-through commuter traffic on Temple Street and Fellsway West on weekday mornings, including any plans to prohibit right turns onto Temple Street and Fellsway West from 7 AM to 9 AM on weekdays.

Councilor Wilson said these roadways are often clogged and getting worse and he wants to make sure these streets don't bear the brunt of traffic from state highways. Councilor Clingan commented that speeding and traffic is at an all-time high on Fellsway West and affecting the safety of residents.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.9. Order
(ID # [24-0471](#))

By Councilor Wilson, Councilor Scott, Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Mbah

That the Director of Racial and Social Justice update this Council on the promised road map from the consultant for implementing the recommendations in the report on Police Staffing and Operations delivered in November.

Councilor Wilson said these roadways are often clogged and getting worse and he wants to make sure these streets don't bear the brunt of traffic from state highways. Councilor Clingan commented that speeding and traffic is at an all-time high on Fellsway West and affecting the safety of residents.

RESULT: **APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.10. Order
(ID # [24-0472](#))

By Councilor Wilson and Councilor Scott

That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Council on the condition of Conway Field and the displacement of infill that is occurring there during extreme rainfall events, as well as the schedule for regular grooming and maintenance of the City's artificial turf athletic fields.

Councilor Wilson commented that he is seeing displacement of the infill at Conway Park and he is curious about maintenance and other care processes for the park.

RESULT: **APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

FOLLOWUP: Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.11. Mayor's
Communication
(ID # [24-0455](#))

Conveying an update on Police and Fire hiring.

Councilor McLaughlin moved to table this item until the next City Council meeting due to the lack of notice provided by the Administration on the item. Also, the Firefighters union hasn't had time to meet with labor counsel. Councilor McLaughlin explained that the Administration's plan might involve civil service bypasses, and at this point, he doesn't even know what questions to ask. Councilor Clingan commented that lead times have been requested repeatedly and Councilor Scott commented that an item

preventing lateral transfers saw no action for 1 year. President Ewen-Campen explained that the Mayor is going to use lateral transfers and he agrees with not knowing what questions to ask. He also noted that there is no vote of the City Council involved for this item. The item was Laid on the Table.

RESULT: **LAID ON THE TABLE**

10.12. Public Event
(ID # [24-0473](#))

Tufts University Engineers Without Borders applying for a Public Event License for Engineers Without Borders 6K on April 7 from 9:30 AM to 3:00 PM (raindate April 14).

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the readings of items 9.1 through 9.12 and 10.12 and approve them this evening.

RESULT: **APPROVED**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.13. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0454](#))

Daniela Gontownik submitting comments re: item 24-0089 a resolution in support of an enduring ceasefire in Gaza.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.14. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0456](#))

Pedestrian and Transit Advisory Committee submitting comments re: FY 2025 budget.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE**

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.15. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0457](#))

Green & Open Somerville and Earthwise Aware submitting comments re: invasive plant species.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

FOLLOWUP: Open Space, Environment and Energy Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

10.16. Public
Communication
(ID # [24-0458](#))

RESPOND submitting comments re: item 23-0075, an Ordinance establishing Paid Leave for Survivors.

RESULT: **PLACED ON FILE AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION**

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

AYE: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin, Ward Six City Councilor Davis, City Councilor At Large Wilson, Ward Five City Councilor Sait, Ward Two City Councilor Scott, City Councilor At Large Mbah, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr., Ward Four City Councilor Clingan, City Councilor At Large Strezo, and Ward Three City Councilor Ewen-Campen

ABSENT: Ward Seven City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 8:22 PM on a roll call vote of 10 in favor (McLaughlin, Davis, Wilson, Sait, Scott, Mbah, Burnley, Clingan, Strezo, Ewen-Campen), 0 opposed and 1 absent (Pineda Neufeld).