

**City of Somerville, Massachusetts**  
**Matters of Business of the City Council**

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

May 27, 2021, 7:00 PM  
Meeting by Remote Participation  
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**NOTICE**

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the City Council 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.

**Register at the following website to view this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing:**  
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/1399415933965723152>.

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call            Call of the Roll.  
(ID # 24873)
  
2. Remembrances    Remembrances.  
(ID # 24874)
  
3. Minutes            Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, April  
(ID # 24875)        22, 2021.

**CITATIONS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

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

4. Resolution            By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
(ID # 24851)            Calling on the federal government to cancel student debt.
  
5. Resolution            By City Councilor Strezo, Clingan  
(ID # 24852)            That the Director of the Housing Authority make sure all  
                                 exterior locks on residential buildings are functional, and  
                                 replace any that are not within 30 days.
  
6. Resolution            By City Councilor Strezo, Clingan  
(ID # 24853)            That the Director of the Housing Authority make sure all  
                                 resident building intercom systems are connected to the  
                                 assigned apartment and working properly, and replace  
                                 any that are not within 60 days.

7. Order (ID # 24861) By City Councilor Clingan, Strezo  
That the Chief of Police assign a nightly detail to patrol the Mystic Housing Development until the end of Labor Day weekend.
8. Order (ID # 24862) By City Councilor Clingan, Strezo  
That the Chief of Police request an update from the Housing Authority on the 2020-discussed reforms such as marked vehicles, uniformed officers, body cameras, and updated policies and procedures for officer accountability and discipline.
9. Order (ID # 24863) By City Councilor Clingan, Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD draft a zoning amendment enabling owners of homes in historic districts to add up to 4 additional units to discourage the demolition of historic homes and to create additional affordable housing.
10. Resolution (ID # 24854) By City Councilor Clingan  
Endorsing the attached letter from the Wage Theft Advisory Committee, and directing the City Clerk to forward it to the named parties and the federal delegation.
11. Resolution (ID # 24859) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Administration provide the Wage Theft Advisory Committee with all current city vendor contracts, city licensed businesses, and issued permits.
12. Resolution (ID # 24860) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Administration provide to the Wage Theft Advisory Committee a flow chart detailing the process and steps for issuing licenses and permits, and the departments responsible.
13. Order (ID # 24855) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street lights between 9 and 39 Bailey Road.
14. Order (ID # 24856) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street lights on the corner of Puritan and Ten Hills Roads.
15. Order (ID # 24857) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Director of Parking replace the faded STOP sign on Lee Street at Medford Street.

16. Order By City Councilor Clingan  
(ID # 24858) That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the sidewalk panels with the massive dog imprints on Richdale Avenue at Thurston Street.
17. Communication By City Councilor Rossetti  
(ID # 24840) Report of the High School Building Committee meetings of April 26 and May 17, 2021.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

18. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report  
(ID # 24866) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on May 18, 2021.
- B. Mayor's Request 208284 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Nicholas Antanavica to the position of Director of Inspectional Services.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- C. Mayor's Request 209512 Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Nick Antanavica as Director of Inspectional Services.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- D. Mayor's Request 211296 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Nick Antanavica as Director of Inspectional Services.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- E. Mayor's Request 211904 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Erin Geno to the Planning Board.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- F. Mayor's Request 211905 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Deborah Howitt-Easton as an Alternate Member of the Planning Board.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- G. Order  
(ID # 24831) By City Councilor Mbah  
That the Director of SPCD re-evaluate SomerVision post-pandemic, and ways to mitigate the impact from the pandemic.

19. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report  
(ID # 24867) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on May 20, 2021.
- B. Mayor's Request 211741 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Daniel O'Donnell to the position of Reserve Firefighter.

- RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- C. Mayor's Request 211742 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jeffrey Querusio to the position of Reserve Firefighter.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- D. Mayor's Request 211743 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Patrick Soares to the position of Reserve Firefighter.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- E. Mayor's Request 211744 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Matthew Sullivan to the position of Reserve Firefighter.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- F. Mayor's Request 211745 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Brittany Taylor to the position of Reserve Firefighter.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- G. Mayor's Request 211907 Requesting that this Council confirm the appointment to the Urban Design Commission of the same members previously appointed to the Interim Urban Design Commission, pursuant to Zoning Ordinance 15.4.7.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- H. Mayor's Request 211908 Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Frank Valdez to the Urban Design Commission.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

20. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24872) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on May 25, 2021.
- B. Mayor's Request 211466 Requesting the appropriation of \$1,005,971.23 from the CPA Community Housing Reserve Fund to the Somerville Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the FY21 Community Housing Allocation.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- C. Mayor's Request 211469 Requesting to rescind the approval and appropriation of \$87,114 for the Somerville Museum Collection Care project, to be re-appropriated.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- D. Mayor's Request 211472 Requesting the appropriation of \$50,000 from the CPA FY21 Fund for the Open Space Acquisition and Improvements Stabilization Fund.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- E. Mayor's Request 211566 Requesting the appropriation of \$50,000 from the CPA FY21 Open Space/Recreational Land Reserve Budget for the Open Space Acquisition and Improvements Stabilization Fund.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- F. Officer's Communication 211618 Director of Water and Sewer submitting the FY22 water and sewer rate proposal.

RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- G. Mayor's Request 211842 Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$2,520,000 in a bond for building improvements.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- H. Officer's Communication 211858 Water and Sewer Director of Administration conveying testimony received relative to the proposed FY22 water and sewer rates.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- I. Mayor's Request 211898 Requesting an appropriation of \$630,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to ADA Improvements Fund 5148 for ADA building accessibility improvements.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- J. Resolution (ID # 24906) By City Councilor White Jr. That the Administration submit to the City Council an appropriation of \$1,000,000 from the Water and Sewer Stabilization Fund to the upcoming FY22 budget to reduce the increase in the water rate from 7% to 6%.
- K. Order (ID # 24907) By City Councilor White Jr. That the Director of Water and Sewer provide this Council with all documents, emails and correspondence regarding the overflow from the EPA and MWRA.

21. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24869) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on May 19, 2021.
- B. Resolution 204462 By City Councilor Davis, Ballantyne, and the Entire Board That the Administration advise this Board on enforcing city ordinances, and develop a better response to repeat violations, including whether eyewitness reports or submitted evidence can be the basis for a citation.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Resolution 205183 By City Councilor Rossetti, McLaughlin, Ballantyne That the Administration reassess the city's agreement with Globe Direct regarding stopping deliveries upon request.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 205286 By City Councilor Hirsch, and the Entire Board That the Director of SPCD share what role the city has, or could have with additional staff, in assisting residents with condo association dilemmas, tenant organizing, or ensuring that inclusionary unit owners or tenants have equal voice in building decisions.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- E. Order 209361 By City Councilor Ballantyne, McLaughlin  
That the Director of SPCD discuss the impact on small businesses city-wide since the expansion and growth of Assembly Square and the opening of the Encore Casino.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

22. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24868) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on May 18, 2021.
- B. Order 211136 By City Councilor Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD discuss with the Land Use Committee whether tattoo parlors should need a Special Permit to operate on Pedestrian Streets and in other areas.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Resolution 211448 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Davis  
That the Administration convene a working group of members of the public and Planning staff to prepare recommendations for a zoning amendment Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Mayor's Request 211611 Requesting approval of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance Body Art Services use standards and Table 9.1.1 Permitted Uses.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved as Amended

23. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24870) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on May 20, 2021.
- B. Order 209061 By City Councilor Niedergang, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Hirsch  
That the City Solicitor and the Director of Sustainability and the Environment draft with the Ward 5 Councilor an ordinance to ban or regulate the use of gas-powered leaf blowers.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Mayor's Request 211901 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for an OSPCD Drone.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved as Amended.
- D. Mayor's Request 211902 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Coord App License Plate Collection.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- E. Ordinance (ID # 24836) By City Councilor Niedergang That this Council approve an amendment to the Demolition Review Ordinance to extend the maximum demolition delay period that the Historic Preservation Commission can impose on buildings of historical value from 12 months to 18 months, as recommended by the Committee on Legislative Matters on 5/20/21.

24. LICENSES AND PERMITS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24871) Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits, meeting on May 24, 2021.
- B. Grant of Location 208979 Submitted by Eversource to install 7 feet of conduit in Willow Ave from Pole 198/22 to a point of pickup at 201 Willow Ave.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- C. Public Communication 211425 Matthew Shannon submitting a petition to revoke the Junk Dealer License held by Tosh Enterprises LLC.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- D. License/Permit 211921 Renewing Junk Dealer's License, Tosh Enterprises, 260 Elm St.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved as Amended.

25. RODENT ISSUES SPECIAL COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24865) Report of the Special Committee on Rodent Issues, meeting on May 17, 2021.
- B. Order 209824 By City Councilor Rossetti That the Director of Communications utilize the CTY system, in April, to send out a high-alert to remind residents not to put out water or food for birds, as a method to help combat the rodent issue.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 210381 By City Councilor Strezo That the Director of Inspectional Services communicate with the community via mail, email and/or other means, its 2020 plan for combating rat infestations, including monthly updates during peak infestation periods and quarterly updates otherwise.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

26. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24864) Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, meeting on May 17, 2021.

- B. Resolution 203004 By City Councilor White Jr., McWatters, Sullivan, Connolly, Rossetti  
That the Mayor work with the State Delegation on an agreement with the State to permit City crossing guards at the crosswalks at Highland Avenue and McGrath Highway, and to permit the Police Department to enforce traffic laws there.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

27. Mayor's Request (ID # 24848) Requesting adoption of the attached Rental Registration and Energy Disclosure Ordinance.
28. Mayor's Request (ID # 24850) Requesting adoption of an amendment to Ordinance 12-14 to grant licensing authority to the Licensing Commission for restaurants' outdoor seating on the public way.
29. Mayor's Request (ID # 24824) Requesting adoption of MGL c48, s59A, authorizing the Fire Department to Provide Mutual Aid.
30. Mayor's Request (ID # 24839) Requesting the appropriation of \$3,245,814 to specified accounts from the Salary and Wage Stabilization Fund to fund the retro FY16-20 salaries and benefits pursuant to the contract with the Somerville Police Employees Association.
31. Mayor's Request (ID # 24838) Requesting the appropriation of \$1,026,224 to specified accounts from the Salary Contingency Salaries Account to fund retro FY21 salaries and benefits pursuant to the contract with the Somerville Police Employees Association.
32. Mayor's Request (ID # 24842) Requesting the appropriation of \$21,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance (Free Cash) to the Health Insurance Opt-Out Budget, in order to correct a year end deficit.
33. Mayor's Request (ID # 24887) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$75,000 in the Law Department, from the Judgments/Settlements Account to the Legal Services Account, to fund anticipated outside legal counsel invoices.
34. Mayor's Request (ID # 24477) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$5,612 from the Police Overtime Account to the Grant Match Account to cover the Metro Mayors Shannon Grant match requirement.



35. Mayor's Request (ID # 24841) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$3,530 within the Veterans Services Department from the Professional and Technical Services Account to the Personal Services Account, to correct a year end deficit.
36. Mayor's Request (ID # 24837) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$3,000 in Constituent Services, from the Overtime Account to the Professional and Technical Service Account, to cover year-end invoices for 311 vendor support services.
37. Mayor's Request (ID # 24723) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$3,295.25 using available funds in the Constituent Services Overtime Account for payment of 311 vendor support services.
38. Mayor's Request (ID # 24724) Requesting approval to pay a prior year invoice totaling \$68.37 using available funds in the Constituent Services Printing and Stationary Account for department printing services.
39. Mayor's Request (ID # 24814) Requesting acceptance of a \$40,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Public Health to the Police Department for the State Opioid Response Program.
40. Mayor's Request (ID # 24476) Requesting acceptance of a \$25,602 grant that requires a match, from the Metro Mayors Shannon Initiative to the Police Department for youth violence prevention.
41. Mayor's Request (ID # 24844) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Timothy Bakey to the position of Fire Captain.
42. Mayor's Request (ID # 24845) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Barry Hamilton to the position of Fire Lieutenant.
43. Mayor's Request (ID # 24846) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Andrew Guralnick to the position of Fire Lieutenant.
44. Mayor's Request (ID # 24847) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Brendan Noonan to the position of Fire Lieutenant.
45. Mayor's Request (ID # 24712) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Christina Morone to the Commission for Women.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

46. Officer's Communication (ID # 24877) Assistant City Solicitor submitting an Ordinance to establish a PILOT Advisory Task Force.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 47. License/Permit (ID # 24895) Public Event License, Edward Jones 529 day, 628 Somerville Ave, May 28, 8am-6pm.
- 48. License/Permit (ID # 24889) Public Event License, East Somerville Main Streets Carnival, Broadway westbound between Michigan Ave and Illinois Ave, June 4-6, 10am-8pm (raindates June 11-13).
- 49. License/Permit (ID # 24890) Public Event License, Pack 3 Somerville Blue and Gold Awards, Trum Field, June 5, 6pm-8pm (raindate June 6).
- 50. License/Permit (ID # 24885) Public Event License, Anikaya/Akhra Inc performing The Cage solo dance, Perry Park, June 12, 4pm-8:30pm.
- 51. License/Permit (ID # 24891) Public Event License, Carol Sabin's birthday surprise, Henderson Street, June 19, 9am-9pm.
- 52. License/Permit (ID # 24888) Public Event License, Midsummer Block Party, Summit Ave from Vinal Ave to 15 Summit Ave, June 26, 10am-10pm (raindates June 27 & July 3).
- 53. License/Permit (ID # 24892) Public Event License, Jean Appolon Expressions performing Traka dance, Seven Hills Park, June 26, 2pm-9pm (raindate June 27).
- 54. License/Permit (ID # 24886) Public Event License, OpenAir Circus Classes, Perry Park, July 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29 Aug 3-5, 10-12, 4pm-8pm.
- 55. License/Permit (ID # 24833) Renewing Drainlayer's License, BSI Engineering Inc.
- 56. License/Permit (ID # 24834) Renewing Drainlayer's License, LVMJ Corporation.
- 57. License/Permit (ID # 24878) Renewing Drainlayer's License, JET Holding Corp.
- 58. License/Permit (ID # 24884) Renewing Flammables License, Valvoline Instant Oil Change, 182 Washington St.
- 59. License/Permit (ID # 24883) Renewing Garage License, Valvoline Instant Oil Change, 182 Washington St.

- 60. License/Permit (ID # 24835) Renewing Garage License, Mass Inspection, 712 Mystic Ave.
- 61. License/Permit (ID # 24882) Renewing Garage License, GE Auto Repair, 631 Somerville Ave.
- 62. License/Permit (ID # 24832) Renewing Used Car Dealer Class 2 License, Top Speed Vehicles, 631 Somerville Ave.
- 63. Public Communication (ID # 24876) Moshe Safdie proposing a zoning amendment to extend the Small Business Overlay to his property at 92 Properzi Way.
- 64. Public Communication (ID # 24879) MBTA submitting comments re: #211462 and #211463, tree plantings along the GLX Extension.
- 65. Public Communication (ID # 24880) Tufts submitting comments re: #211918, supporting Tufts Dining workers.

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

- 66. Resolution (ID # 24881) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Administration update the Committee on Housing and Community Development in writing on the work of the committee that was established pursuant to the Surrounding Community Agreement with Encore Casino.
- 67. Communication (ID # 24893) By City Councilor White Jr.  
Reporting on the Charter Review Committee meeting of May 20, 2021.
- 68. Order (ID # 24894) By City Councilor White Jr.  
That the Director of SPCD consider with the Affordable Housing Trust Fund the advisability of combining anticipated affordable housing linkage payments for commercial development and seeking an affordable housing developer to leverage additional funding to maximize the number of affordable units that can be built.
- 69. Resolution (ID # 24905) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Administration urgently address the insufficient number of crossing guards and present to this Council their plan to ensure student safety in the absence of guards at multiple large intersections.

70. Mayor's Request (ID # 24899) Requesting acceptance of a \$30,850,472 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 grant from the U.S. Treasury.
71. Mayor's Request (ID # 24903) Requesting acceptance of a \$250,000 grant with no new match required, from the MA Department of Public Health to the Health and Human Services Department in FY22 and FY23 for youth prevention services.
72. Officer's Communication (ID # 24900) City Solicitor requesting approval to amend the scope of services in its contract with Seyfarth Shaw LLP to incorporate wage and hour and other pay-related compliance matters.
73. Officer's Communication (ID # 24896) Memorialization Committee conveying the naming of the new High School sports field after Philip Reavis Sr.
74. Officer's Communication (ID # 24897) Memorialization Committee conveying the naming of the High School's Center for Career and Technical Education wing after Leo G. DeSimone Jr.
75. Officer's Communication (ID # 24898) Memorialization Committee conveying the naming of the new High School Library/Media Center after David Wendell Jones Sr. and Margaret J. Jones.
76. License/Permit (ID # 24908) New Drainlayer's License, A.A. Will Corporation.

**LATE ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**