

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

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

February 25, 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/5990338772693004299>.

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call            Call of the Roll.  
(ID # 24264)
  
2. Remembrances    Remembrances.  
(ID # 24265)
  
3. Minutes            Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting,  
(ID # 24266)        January 28, 2021.

**CITATIONS**

4. Citation            By City Councilor McLaughlin and the Mayor  
(ID # 24271)        Commending Marvin Spitzer on the auspicious occasion  
                            of his 100th birthday.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

5. Grant of            Submitted by RCN to install 100 feet of conduit in  
Location            Whipple Street, connecting existing Utility pole 447/4 to  
(ID # 24261)        an existing Manhole 24005 near 24 Whipple Street.
  
6. Grant of            Submitted by RCN to install 55 feet of conduit in Willow  
Location            Avenue, connecting existing Utility pole 198-11 to an  
(ID # 24262)        existing Manhole 11104 near 109 Willow Avenue.

7. Grant of Location (ID # 24260) Submitted by Extenet to install 38 feet of conduit in Broadway from Manhole 7502 near Kenneson Road to a proposed handhole, then continuing 2 feet to a small wireless facility at 274 Broadway.
8. Grant of Location (ID # 24263) Submitted by Extenet to install 34 feet of conduit in Broadway from Manhole 1902 near Langmaid Ave to a proposed handhole, then continuing 2 feet to a small wireless facility near 321 Broadway.

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

9. Order (ID # 24229) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Health and Human Services, Shape up Somerville, and the Somerville Food Security Coalition update and prepare recommendations for this Council regarding access to food resources for anyone who needs help.
10. Order (ID # 24230) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management discuss with this Council a maintenance plan for the city's school buildings, in light of the attached communication.
11. Order (ID # 24228) By City Councilor Ballantyne That Director of Mobility and the Chief Fire Engineer discuss the potential impacts to the Teele Square Firehouse from the proposed Holland Street/Teele Square infrastructure and repaving work.
12. Order (ID # 24235) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss with this Council the reason for the increases of Covid cases at Tufts, where 300 persons were isolated and quarantined last week, and explain to this Council whether those numbers are included in Somerville's counts.
13. Resolution (ID # 24236) By City Councilor Ballantyne That Tufts update this Council on its student housing plans for the University district.
14. Resolution (ID # 24237) By City Councilor Ballantyne That Tufts reconfirm that it is not expanding beds in any of its buildings outside of the University district.
15. Resolution (ID # 24259) By City Councilor Strezo, Ballantyne Calling for a better future for Somerville's female workforce in 2021 and beyond.

16. Order (ID # 24227) By City Councilor Strezo, Davis  
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the pedestrian crossing signals at the intersection of Bristol Road, Broadway and Willow Avenue.
17. Order (ID # 24232) By City Councilor Strezo  
That this Council's Committee on Housing and Community Development review the findings of the Condo Conversion Annual Report.
18. Order (ID # 24238) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Committee on Housing and Community Development convene housing advocates and staff to address racial disparities in home mortgages, including programs like Boston's One+ program to increase assistance for first-time and low-income home buyers.
19. Order (ID # 24239) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD provide regular 6-month updates to this Council on new affordable third units in Neighborhood Residence districts, including the number of inquiries, the number being constructed, and any issues or themes emerging.
20. Order (ID # 24240) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Committee on Land Use revisit whether to remove parking minimums outside of Transit Areas.
21. Order (ID # 24241) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Committee on Land Use consider regulating the height of rooftop mechanicals on commercial buildings that abut Neighborhood Residence and Urban Residence districts.
22. Communication (ID # 24242) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Davis, Scott, Mbah  
Updating this Council on preparations for the first community meeting regarding Civilian Oversight on March 24, 2021.
23. Resolution (ID # 24254) By City Councilor White Jr.  
Urging the State Legislature to adopt the Public Lands Preservation Act (SD146, HD271).
24. Order (ID # 24255) By City Councilor White Jr., Rossetti  
That the Rules Committee work with the City Solicitor to establish firm procedures regarding executive sessions to ensure compliance with the Open Meeting Law.

- 25. Order (ID # 24257) By City Councilor Mbah  
That the Director of Health and Human Services create a vaccination site, once more vaccines become available, given the number of vulnerable populations.
- 26. Communication (ID # 24256) By City Councilor Mbah  
Updating this Council on the Racial and Social Justice Director hiring process.
- 27. Order (ID # 24258) By City Councilor Niedergang, McLaughlin  
That the Mayor, the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management and the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council on Public School reopening plans.
- 28. Communication (ID # 24243) By City Councilor Rossetti  
Report of the High School Building Committee Meeting on February 22, 2021.
- 29. Order (ID # 24270) By City Councilor Rossetti  
In her capacity as the Chair of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, calling on this Council to meet in executive session as necessary to address the adoption of the Committee's Report of 2/2/21 (Agenda #31), or strategy with respect to potential litigation therefrom.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- 30. Communication 211247 By City Councilor Strezo  
Reporting on the Childrens' Cabinet.

**31. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE**

- A. Committee Report 211263 Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on February 2, 2021.
- B. Mayor's Request 210571 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Giovanna Lorenzet Marin to the position of Reserve Police Officer. RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- C. Mayor's Request 210573 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jose DaCosta to the position of Reserve Police Officer. RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- D. Mayor's Request 210577 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Matthew Fairchild to the position of Reserve Police Officer. RECOMMENDED: Not Approved.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

32. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report of the Committee on Confirmation of  
Report Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on  
(ID # 24244) February 16, 2021.

33. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report of the Committee on Confirmation of  
Report Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on  
(ID # 24248) February 18, 2021.
- B. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Michael  
211284 Anzalone as Deputy Fire Chief.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- C. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Steven J.  
211313 Mauras to the position of District Fire Chief.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- D. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Patrick J.  
211314 Halloran to the position of Fire Captain.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- E. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Derek J.  
211315 Nolan to the position of Fire Captain.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- F. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the appointment of James M.  
211316 Piwinski to the position of Fire Lieutenant.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- G. Mayor's Request Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Paul A.  
211317 Moreira to the position of Fire Lieutenant.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

34. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on  
Report February 23, 2021.  
(ID # 24249)
- B. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to appropriate \$1,909,945 from the  
211270 Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Facility  
Construction and Renovation Stabilization Fund  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- C. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to appropriate \$1,843,117 from the  
211271 Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Rainy  
Day Stabilization Fund to replenish reserves used to  
create the Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved

- D. Mayor's Request 211272 Requesting approval to appropriate \$1,500,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Street Reconstruction and Resurfacing Stabilization Fund to replenish reserves used to create the Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- E. Mayor's Request 211273 Requesting approval to appropriate \$1,000,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Capital Stabilization Fund to replenish reserves used to create the Small Business Emergency Relief Fund.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- F. Mayor's Request 211308 Requesting the appropriation of \$55,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance to the SPCD Economic Development Professional & Technical Services Account, to conduct a District Improvement Financing analysis for the Boynton Yards, Clarendon Hill, and Union Square redevelopment projects.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved
- G. Mayor's Request 211309 Requesting the use of \$27,211 in available funds in the Library Salaries Account to establish the position of Manager of Branch Services.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved

35. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24245) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on February 16, 2021.

36. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24247) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on February 18, 2021.
- B. Mayor's Request 209592 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology General Use Policy.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- C. Order 211178 By City Councilor Ballantyne, Strezio That the City Solicitor draft a home rule petition to change all pronouns in the City Charter and the City Ordinances to gender-neutral.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Mayor's Request 211277 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Use Policy.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved with Conditions.
- E. Mayor's Request 211278 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Pole Cameras.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

- F. Mayor's Request 211279 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Homeland Security Cameras.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- G. Mayor's Request 211280 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for GLX Cameras.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- H. Mayor's Request 211281 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Covert Device Cameras.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- I. Mayor's Request 211282 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for GPS and Monitor.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- J. Mayor's Request 211283 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for Thermal Imaging Cameras.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- K. Mayor's Request 211310 Requesting approval of the Surveillance Technology Impact Report for GreyKey.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- L. Mayor's Request 211312 Requesting an amendment to the Surveillance Technology Ordinance to permit the Fire Department to use surveillance technology in exigent circumstances.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

37. OPEN SPACE, ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24246) Report of the Committee on Open Space, Environment and Energy, meeting on February 17, 2021.
- B. Order 207167 By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of SPCD share biannual CIP progress reports for all new open space and parks projects.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Order 207373 By City Councilor Mbah That the Director of Sustainability and Environment develop an electric vehicle charging infrastructure program.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Order 208042 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Clingan That the Director of Sustainability and Environment inform this Council about New York City's "Climate Mobilization Act," which includes dramatic emission reductions for tall buildings, and explain which aspects could be adapted here.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- E. Order 208232 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Parks and Recreation and the Commissioner of Public Works explore starting a monthly volunteer trash pickup day for the Dilboy DCR and Alewife Brook areas.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- F. Order 209444 By City Councilor Ballantyne, Scott  
That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Finance advise this Council, in writing, why, with an appropriation of \$9.3 million, the grass field at Lincoln Park was incorrectly installed the first time.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- G. Order 209612 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Parks and Recreation work with the Superintendent of Schools to develop a policy for "utilizing artificial turf in the heat" similar to the policy used by Burlington, MA.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- H. Order 209613 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Sustainability and Environment, the Director of SPCD, The Director of Communications, and the Commissioner of Public Works develop a plan for a "Resiliency Hub" when extreme weather events occur.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- I. Resolution 209614 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change discuss its 2020 plan with this Council's Committee on Open Space, Energy and Environment.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- J. Officer's Communication 209775 Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry responding to #207167 re: updated Capital Investment Plan progress reports for parks and open space projects.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- K. Officer's Communication 209781 Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management responding to #s 209656, 209641, 209546, 209348 & 209174 re: flooding in various locations.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- L. Officer's Communication 209840 Director of Public Space and Urban Forestry responding to #209444 re: the field at Lincoln Park.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- M. Order 211242 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Sustainability and Environment provide this Council with updates to the Climate Forward Plan.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed



**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

- 38. Mayor's Request (ID # 24234) Requesting the adoption of an Order of Taking for 9-11 Aldersey Street for historic, open space, and affordable housing purposes.
- 39. Mayor's Request (ID # 24251) Requesting an appropriation of \$2,200,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Water and Sewer Stabilization Fund.
- 40. Mayor's Request (ID # 24128) Requesting acceptance of a \$5,000 grant with no new match required, from the Mount Auburn Hospital to the Council on Aging for the implementation of the Ageless Grace Exercise Program.

**COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

- 41. Officer's Communication (ID # 24272) City Clerk conveying a request to release the minutes of this Council's Jan. 14, 2021 Executive Session re: #211181, a request of the Mayor to appear in Executive Session to discuss public safety and security matters. Note that this Council may enter into Executive Session to consider this request.
- 42. Officer's Communication (ID # 24233) City Solicitor requesting approval to retain the pro bono services of Todd & Weld as outside counsel to advise the city with respect to the establishment of safe consumption sites.
- 43. Officer's Communication (ID # 24250) Assistant City Solicitor responding to #211197 re: a Home Rule Petition to create a gender-neutral City Charter.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

- 44. Order (ID # 24277) By City Councilor Strezo, Niedergang That the Director of Health and Human Services and the Director of the Human Rights Commission advise the Committee on Housing and Community Development how the City may address reported cases of suspected hate speech on public and private property.
- 45. Order (ID # 24278) By City Councilor Ballantyne That the Director of Health and Human Services use the attached tool to help small businesses and schools adapt to the evolving science around Covid-19 by sharing current data, identifying risks, and defining contingencies.

46. Mayor's Request (ID # 24267) Requesting approval of the attached 2021 Local Election Calendar.
47. Mayor's Request (ID # 24275) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$3,450,397 in a bond for the cost of acquiring the property at 9-11 Aldersey Street.
48. Mayor's Request (ID # 24280) Requesting a transfer of \$50,000 from the SPCD Planning and Zoning Personal Services Account to the SPCD Mobility Ordinary Maintenance Account for a mid-year professional services request.
49. Mayor's Request (ID # 24281) Requesting to establish a Senior Planner position in the SPCD Mobility Division at an annual salary of \$88,434 (NU7) and transfer \$10,237 from the SPCD Economic Development Personal Services Account to the SPCD Mobility Personal Services Account to fund this position from May 15 to June 30, 2021.
50. Mayor's Request (ID # 24283) Requesting to establish a Senior Planner position in the SPCD Mobility Division at an annual salary of \$88,434 (NU7) and transfer \$10,237 from the SPCD Housing Personal Services Account to the SPCD Mobility Personal Services Account to fund this position from May 15 to June 30, 2021.
51. Mayor's Request (ID # 24284) Requesting to establish an Outreach Coordinator position in the SPCD Mobility Division at an annual salary of \$62,424 (NU11) and transfer \$7,266 from the SPCD Planning and Zoning Personal Services Account to the SPCD Mobility Personal Services Account to fund this position from May 15 to June 30, 2021.
52. Mayor's Request (ID # 24268) Requesting acceptance of a \$45,200 grant with no new match required, from the Mass Cultural Council to the Arts Council for support of the Local Cultural Council re-grant program.
53. Officer's Communication (ID # 24282) Director of SPCD submitting information regarding mid-year transfers to establish new positions and new projects in the Mobility Division.
54. Public Communication (ID # 24276) Tufts submitting comments responding to Agenda #12 re: campus Covid rates.

**LATE ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**