

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

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

April 22, 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/1136885541805016335>.

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call            Call of the Roll.  
(ID # 24632)
  
2. Remembrances    Remembrances.  
(ID # 24633)
  
3. Minutes            Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, March  
(ID # 24634)        25, 2021.

**CITATIONS**

4. Citation            By City Councilor Clingan and the Mayor  
(ID # 24618)        Commending the Elizabeth Peabody House on the  
                              auspicious occasion of its 125th anniversary of support  
                              to the families of our community.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

5. Grant of            Submitted by Comcast to install 80 feet of conduit in  
Location            Broadway, from Utility Pole 220/1 to a point of pickup  
(ID # 24694)        at the rear of 1244 Broadway.
  
6. Grant of            Submitted by Verizon to install 100 feet of conduit in  
Location            Broadway, from Manhole 44/65 to an existing handhole  
(ID # 24689)        near 16 Broadway.

7. Grant of Location (ID # 24690) Submitted by Verizon to install 85 feet of conduit in Pennsylvania Ave, from Manhole 117 to an existing handhole near the intersection of Pennsylvania Ave and Vermont Ave.
8. Grant of Location (ID # 24693) Submitted by Verizon to install 80 feet of conduit in Broadway, from Manhole 44/87 to an existing handhole near the intersection of Broadway and Temple St.
9. Grant of Location (ID # 24691) Submitted by Verizon to install 45 feet of conduit in Broadway, from Manhole 307 to an existing handhole near the intersection of Broadway and Rush St.
10. Grant of Location (ID # 24692) Submitted by Verizon to install 40 feet of conduit in Broadway, from Manhole 315 to an existing handhole near the intersection of Broadway and Kenneson Road.

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

11. Resolution (ID # 24616) By City Councilor Strezo Supporting the I AM bill (H.2354 & S.1445), to increase access to disposable menstrual products in prisons, homeless shelters and public schools.
12. Order (ID # 24597) By City Councilor Strezo That the Directors of Engineering and Public Works discuss with the Housing and Community Development Committee, painting bright colors or stripes on the new slanted sidewalks along Medford Street, from Lowell Street to Pearl Street, to make them more visible.
13. Communication (ID # 24617) By City Councilor Strezo Reporting on a recent meeting of the Children's Cabinet.
14. Order (ID # 24612) By City Councilor Davis That the Director of Health and Human Services update the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, in writing and in person, on what steps have been taken and are planned to provide services to our neighbors experiencing homelessness, mental illness, and addiction.
15. Ordinance (ID # 24620) By City Councilor Niedergang Submitting a revised Leaf Blower Ordinance regulating the use of leaf blowers.

16. Order (ID # 24621) By City Councilor Niedergang  
That the Directors of SPCD and Communications work with the Police, the Bicycle Advisory Committee and the Pedestrian Transit Advisory Committee to implement a “Stop on the Line Every Time” traffic safety public education and enforcement campaign.
17. Order (ID # 24622) By City Councilor Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD work with the Police Department, especially the Traffic Division, to train all Officers on Vision Zero.
18. Order (ID # 24623) By City Councilor Niedergang  
That the Chief of Police report to this Council on steps taken to train and incentivize Detail Officers to enforce traffic laws when they observe motorists driving unsafely.
19. Resolution (ID # 24624) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Administration advise this Council on a plan to improve the consistency of staffing attendance for especially dangerous Traffic Management Plans, including the current Belmont Street traffic detour.
20. Order (ID # 24625) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Commissioner of Public Works advise employees not to staple signs onto trees.
21. Order (ID # 24626) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Directors of SPCD and Health and Human Services discuss options for the Somerville Homeless Coalition and other community based organizations who need public spaces for engagement centers to meet unsheltered people in a safe and private environment.
22. Order (ID # 24627) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Directors of Health and Human Services and Infrastructure and Asset Management advise this Council whether gender neutral bathrooms are available in all public K-8 schools, as requested by middle schoolers.
23. Order (ID # 24628) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of Personnel discuss city-wide training plans to promote skills and professional development for all employees.
24. Order (ID # 24631) By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Director of Water and Sewer discuss with the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works the notification process regarding non-emergency work.

- 25. Order (ID # 24630) By City Councilor Clingan  
Commissioner of Public Works repair the street lights at 31-33 Bailey Road.
  
- 26. Order (ID # 24629) By City Councilor Clingan, Ewen-Campen  
That the Directors of Inspectional Services and Public Works address with Boston Carting, any lack of adherence to their contract regarding the upkeep, safety standards, and practices of their fleet.
  
- 27. Order (ID # 24637) By City Councilor Rossetti  
That the City Clerk invite the proprietor(s) of Boston Carting to meet with this Council and the Commissioner of Public Works to discuss recent concerns about vehicle maintenance and direct city communication.
  
- 28. Order (ID # 24639) By City Councilor Rossetti  
That the Commissioner of Public Works discuss with this Council the current city contract for trash and recycling disposal services.
  
- 29. Order (ID # 24638) By City Councilor Rossetti  
That the Chief Fire Engineer discuss the current apparatus maintenance status with this Council.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

30. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24605) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on April 13, 2021.
  
- B. Order 204274 By City Councilor Heuston  
That the Director of Water and Sewer appear before this Board's Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters in six weeks to present a plan for vendor contracts, constituent communications and the day to day operation of the department.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- C. Mayor's Request 204900 Requesting the re-appointment of Ron Bonney as Superintendent of Fleet Management.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
  
- D. Mayor's Request 207400 Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Ron Bonney as Superintendent of Fleet Management.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File

- E. Mayor's Request 209496 Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Ron Bonney as Superintendent of Fleet Management.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- F. Mayor's Request 209499 Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Candace Cooper as Director of Personnel.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- G. Mayor's Request 209508 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Fred Massaro as Director of Capital Projects.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- H. Mayor's Request 209513 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Rich Raiche as Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- I. Mayor's Request 209514 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jessica Fosbrook as City Engineer.  
RECOMMENDED: Placed on File
- J. Mayor's Request 211210 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Colleen Moran to the Municipal Job Creation and Retention Board of Trustees.  
RECOMMENDED: Not Approved.
- K. Mayor's Request 211294 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Fred Massaro as Director of Capital Projects.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- L. Mayor's Request 211295 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Rich Raiche as Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- M. Mayor's Request 211301 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Chad Whiting as Director of Water and Sewer.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- N. Order 211456 By City Councilor Rossetti That the attached March 12, 2021 vacancy list be referred the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters for discussion.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- O. Mayor's Request 211482 Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Brian Postlewaite as City Engineer.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- P. Order 211582 By City Councilor Scott, Rossetti, Mbah, Ballantyne That the Acting Director of Personnel discuss with the Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee such topics as the external investigations process, increasing diverse staff hiring, and the nearly 100 current job vacancies (including over 40 union positions).  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

31. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24609) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on April 20, 2021.
  
- B. Order 208010 By City Councilor Scott That the Director of Engineering and appropriate staff report on the date and method of implementation of the residential exemption for sewer and water charges. RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- C. Officer's Communication 208586 Director of Water and Sewer submitting a communication re: the exemption of water and sewer charges for owner-occupied homes. RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- D. Mayor's Request 211576 Requesting approval to extend contracts for Tim Zanelli Excavation LLC through 8/1/2021 for emergency and on-call repair of the water & sewer distribution systems. RECOMMENDED: Approved

32. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24607) Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, meeting on April 14, 2021.
  
- B. Mayor's Request 210787 Requesting approval of the Winter Hill Urban Renewal Plan. RECOMMENDED: Approved
  
- C. Order 211228 By City Councilor Clingan That the Director of SPCD discuss with this Council's Committee on Housing and Community Development how the 100 Homes program works for property upkeep and maintenance. RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- D. Order 211245 By City Councilor Strezo That this Council's Committee on Housing and Community Development discuss with the Director of Economic Development and the Chair of the Licensing Commission the creation of a public education campaign focusing on copycat restaurants and their impact on the community. RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
  
- E. Order (ID # 24699) By City Councilor Strezo That the Director of SPCD work with the Somerville Community Corp to update this Council quarterly on property upkeep and maintenance for the 100 homes program.

33. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24606) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on April 13, 2021.

34. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24608) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on April 15, 2021.

35. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 24604) Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, meeting on April 12, 2021.
- B. Order 207502 By City Councilor Hirsch, Niedergang, Clingan, McLaughlin, Davis  
That the Director of SPCD discuss the plans and process to advocate for Somerville transit priorities as part of the MBTA Better Bus Project, including advocacy for a North/South bus route and reduced fares for income-eligible riders, and against fare hikes.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- C. Public Communication 208110 6 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Public Communication 208227 3 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Public Communication 208313 3 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- F. Public Communication 208448 2 residents submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- G. Public Communication 209045 Rachel Turek submitting comments re: #204323, a proposal for Powderhouse Blvd. safe bicycling.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- H. Order 210900 By City Councilor Davis, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Strezo, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Mbah, White Jr.  
That the Director of SPCD update the Ward 6 Councilor on previously discussed plans to reconfigure the Powder House Traffic Circle.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- I. Order 211426 By City Councilor Niedergang, Scott  
That the Director of SPCD discuss with this Council the changes that are being considered, or could be considered, in MBTA bus routes to better serve bus riders following the opening of 5 new Green Line stations this year.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

**COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

36. Mayor's Request (ID # 24619) Requesting the appropriation of \$2,718,676.20 from the Receipts Reserved-Sale of Real Estate Account to Debt Service, to pay principal and interest due on land acquisition bond anticipation notes for Union Square DIF properties.
37. Mayor's Request (ID # 24614) Requesting the appropriation of \$233,614 from the Salary Contingency Account to the Police Personal Services Account, to fund a new collective bargaining agreement with the Somerville Police Employees Association.
38. Mayor's Request (ID # 24602) Requesting the appropriation of \$200,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund in order to implement interim traffic and pedestrian safety improvements at Powderhouse Circle.
39. Mayor's Request (ID # 24599) Requesting approval of a time-only extension for Designlab for construction administration at the West Branch Library until 6/30/21.
40. Mayor's Request (ID # 24600) Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension for Design Technique for construction administration at the West Branch Library through 6/30/21.
41. Mayor's Request (ID # 24640) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Connor Colbert to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
42. Mayor's Request (ID # 24641) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Nicholas Halloran to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
43. Mayor's Request (ID # 24642) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Daniel Higgins to the position of Reserve Firefighter.



- 44. Mayor's Request (ID # 24643) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jason Kenney to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
- 45. Mayor's Request (ID # 24644) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Sean Marquis to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
- 46. Mayor's Request (ID # 24645) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Daniel O'Donnell to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
- 47. Mayor's Request (ID # 24646) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Jeffrey Querusio to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
- 48. Mayor's Request (ID # 24647) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Patrick Soares to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
- 49. Mayor's Request (ID # 24648) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Matthew Sullivan to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
- 50. Mayor's Request (ID # 24649) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Brittany Taylor to the position of Reserve Firefighter.
- 51. Mayor's Request (ID # 24588) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Megan Kearns to the Conservation Commission.
- 52. Mayor's Request (ID # 24589) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Holly Simione to the Commission for Person with Disabilities.
- 53. Mayor's Request (ID # 24613) Requesting to discuss with this Council siting a Fire Station in the Assembly Square neighborhood.

**COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

- 54. Officer's Communication (ID # 24492) Director of Parks and Recreation responding to #211451 re: re-opening basketball hoops at parks and playgrounds.
- 55. Officer's Communication (ID # 24494) Director of Parks and Recreation responding to #211452 re: re-opening parks and playgrounds.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 56. License/Permit (ID # 24695) Public Event License, Davis Sq Farmers Market, Day St-Herbert St Parking Lot, Wednesdays May 19- Nov 24, 8am-7pm.

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- 57. License/Permit (ID # 24653) New Drainlayer's License, Feeney Brothers Excavation LLC.
  - 58. License/Permit (ID # 24650) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Atlantic Excavation and Utility.
  - 59. License/Permit (ID # 24651) Renewing Drainlayer's License, EB Rotondi and Sons.
  - 60. License/Permit (ID # 24652) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Environic Solutions.
  - 61. License/Permit (ID # 24654) Renewing Drainlayer's License, NCCL Enterprises.
  - 62. License/Permit (ID # 24656) Renewing Flammables License, Aris Auto, 3 Craigie St.
  - 63. License/Permit (ID # 24657) Renewing Flammables License, Hillside Auto Repair, 583 Broadway.
  - 64. License/Permit (ID # 24659) Renewing Flammables License, Boston Closet, 229 Lowell St.
  - 65. License/Permit (ID # 24660) Renewing Flammables License, Simon's Auto Service, 166 Boston Ave.
  - 66. License/Permit (ID # 24658) Renewing Flammables License, Cumberland Farms, 701 Somerville Ave.
  - 67. License/Permit (ID # 24661) Renewing Flammables License, Broadway Sunoco, 258 Broadway.
  - 68. License/Permit (ID # 24663) Renewing Garage License, Federal Realty Investment Trust, 355 Artisan Way.
  - 69. License/Permit (ID # 24664) Renewing Garage License, Federal Realty Investment Trust, 445 Artisan Way.
  - 70. License/Permit (ID # 24665) Renewing Garage License, Federal Realty Investment Trust, 479 Canal St.
  - 71. License/Permit (ID # 24666) Renewing Garage License, Federal Realty Investment Trust, 333 Great River Rd.
  - 72. License/Permit (ID # 24667) Renewing Garage License, Broadway Sunoco, 258 Broadway.

- 73. License/Permit (ID # 24668) Renewing Garage License, Auto Plus, 229 Lowell St.
- 74. License/Permit (ID # 24669) Renewing Garage License, Car Zone LLC, 486 Columbia St.
- 75. License/Permit (ID # 24670) Renewing Garage License, Boston Sand and Gravel, 492 Rutherford Ave.
- 76. License/Permit (ID # 24671) Renewing Garage License, Good Gas Somerville, 343 Medford St.
- 77. License/Permit (ID # 24672) Renewing Garage License, William Doucette Auto Sales, 325 Alewife Brook Pkwy.
- 78. License/Permit (ID # 24673) Renewing Garage License, DW Propco JK LLC, 0 Dawes Street.
- 79. License/Permit (ID # 24674) Renewing Garage License, Simon's Auto Service, 166 Boston Ave.
- 80. License/Permit (ID # 24675) Renewing Garage License, Four Wheels Auto, 83 Albion St.
- 81. License/Permit (ID # 24676) Renewing Garage License, Master Used Cars, 121 Prospect St.
- 82. License/Permit (ID # 24677) Renewing Garage License, Aris Auto, 3 Craigie St.
- 83. License/Permit (ID # 24696) Renewing Garage License, Real Auto Shop, 463 McGrath Hwy.
- 84. License/Permit (ID # 24662) New Garage License, Greentown Labs Inc, 444 Somerville Avenue, 4 autos inside, 0 outside for maintaining or operating a tow vehicle only, operating Mon-Sun: 7am-8pm.
- 85. License/Permit (ID # 24688) Sign/Awning Permit. Suitcase the Studio, 153 Washington St, 2 flat signs.
- 86. License/Permit (ID # 24655) Renewing Extended Operating Hours License, Domino's Pizza, 201 Elm St.
- 87. License/Permit (ID # 24678) Renewing Outdoor Parking License, Simon's Auto Service, 166 Boston Ave.

- 88. License/Permit (ID # 24686) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Yolande Trans, Med #15.
- 89. License/Permit (ID # 24681) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Ormond Transportation, Med #49,50,89.
- 90. License/Permit (ID # 24685) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Silcor Transportation, Med #51,77,93.
- 91. License/Permit (ID # 24679) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, God's Blessing Cab, Med #60.
- 92. License/Permit (ID # 24687) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, DLCS Transportation, Med #62.
- 93. License/Permit (ID # 24684) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Somerville Transportation, Med #69,71.
- 94. License/Permit (ID # 24683) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Eastern Transportation, Med #73,87.
- 95. License/Permit (ID # 24682) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, Alewife Transportation, Med #80.
- 96. License/Permit (ID # 24680) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, WWJJK Inc, Med #90.
- 97. Public Communication (ID # 24635) Dana Friesen submitting comments re: police funding.

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

- 98. Resolution (ID # 24700) By City Councilor Clingan That representatives of Boston Carting appear before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to address concerns raised in an attached anonymous letter dated April 15, 2021.
- 99. License/Permit (ID # 24705) Public Event License, Union Sq Farmers Market, Somerville Ave from Carlton St to Hawkins St, Saturdays May 15-Nov 20, 6:45am-2pm.
- 100. License/Permit (ID # 24704) Renewing Taxi Medallion License, 32 Summer St Corp, Med #29.

101. Public Vickie Choitz and Tom Bent submitting comments re:  
Communication #211210, appointing Colleen Moran to the Municipal  
(ID # 24703) Job Creation and Retention Board of Trustees.

**LATE ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**