



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council

Regular Meeting Agenda

Thursday, July 11, 2024

7:00 PM

City Council Chamber and Remote
Participation

Published July 9, 2024, 1:30 PM, Revised Published July 11, 2024 1:00 PM.

NOTICE: Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, this meeting of the City Council may be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audiovideo 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 listen to this meeting live or to testify at any public hearing:
https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_MTeuSX2MQrGQ1WDmHIKBYg

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1. OPENING CEREMONIES

- 1.1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
(ID # [24-1049](#))
- 1.2. Remembrances Remembrances.
(ID # [24-1050](#))
- 1.3. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of May
(ID # [24-1051](#)) 30, 2024.
- 1.4. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June
(ID # [24-1052](#)) 13, 2024.
- 1.5. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June
(ID # [24-1053](#)) 20, 2024.
- 1.6. Minutes Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of June
(ID # [24-1054](#)) 25, 2024.

2. CITATIONS

- 2.1. Citation By Councilor Ewen-Campen
(ID # [24-1030](#)) Commending Gene Brune on the auspicious occasion of his 95th birthday.

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 3.1. Grant of Location Comcast applying for a Grant of Location to install 55 feet of conduit in North Street, from Utility Pole 190/4 to a point of pickup at 34 North Street.
(ID # [24-1012](#))
- 3.2. Grant of Location Eversource applying for a Grant of Location to install a total of 1,488 feet of conduit and three proposed manholes, as follows: Starting from MH25391, at the intersection of Prospect Street and Webster Avenue, to 169 Tremont Street; from proposed MH32362, located at the intersection of Tremont Street and Webster Avenue, to existing MH30846 located at the intersection of Windsor Place and Columbia Street; from MH32362 connecting conduit to existing MH13072 and existing MH4118 located at the intersection of Webster Avenue and Columbia Street.
(ID # [24-1023](#))

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

- 4.1. Order By Councilor Mbah
(ID # [24-1029](#)) That the Director of Parks and Recreation, the Director of SomerPromise and the Out of School Time Coordinator, report to the City Council on the status of children and teen participation in the summer recreation and education programs.
- 4.2. Order By Councilor Pineda Neufeld
(ID # [24-1032](#)) That the Director of Health and Human Services discuss with this Council how to serve residents through an ongoing transit equity program when the Taxi to Health program funding ends in October.
- 4.3. Resolution By Councilor Strezo
(ID # [24-1033](#)) That the Director of the Somerville Housing Authority discuss the Family Self Sufficiency Program, which assists public housing residents to reach financial goals, and how to expand its purpose, presence and usage.

- 4.4. Order (ID # [24-1034](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Economic Development discuss outdoor seating policies and fees, especially pertaining to small businesses.
- 4.5. Order (ID # [24-1035](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Director of Inspectional Services inspect the area at the intersection of Broadway and Glen Street for rodent activity.
- 4.6. Resolution (ID # [24-1036](#)) By Councilor McLaughlin
That the Somerville City Council reaffirm its opposition to lateral hires in the Fire Department.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 5.1. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0987](#)) Requesting approval of a Deed and Maintenance Agreement for Leonard Grimes Park at 31 Tufts Street.

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

6.A. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

- 6.A.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-1024](#)) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on July 2, 2024.
- 6.A.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0894](#)) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Christopher Johnson to the position of Firefighter.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.
- 6.A.3. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-0895](#)) Requesting confirmation of the promotion of James M. Donovan to the position of Deputy Police Chief.
RECOMMENDED: Recommended to be approved.

6.B. LAND USE COMMITTEE

- 6.B.1. Committee Report (ID # [24-1025](#)) Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting in Joint Session with the Planning Board on July 9, 2024.

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 7.1. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-1055](#)) Requesting approval of an exemption for Indira Evora under MGL c268A, s20(b).
- 7.2. Mayor's Request (ID # [24-1056](#)) Requesting approval of an exemption for Gabrielle Vieira under MGL c268A, s20(b).

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- 7.3. Mayor's Communication (ID # [24-1028](#)) Conveying updates to item 24-0987, Mayor requesting approval of a Deed and Maintenance Agreement for Leonard Grimes Park at 31 Tufts Street.
- 7.4. Mayor's Communication (ID # [24-1037](#)) Conveying a memorandum regarding items 24-0216 and 24-0988.
- 7.5. Mayor's Communication (ID # [24-1038](#)) Conveying a proposal to increase the Community Preservation Act surcharge.
- 8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**
- 9. NEW BUSINESS**
- 9.1. License (ID # [24-1039](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, D&R General Contracting.
- 9.2. License (ID # [24-1040](#)) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Environic Solutions Inc.
- 9.3. License (ID # [24-1043](#)) New Garage License, Building 2 Owner LLC, 808 Windsor St, 242 vehicles inside, 0 vehicles outside for storing vehicles only, 7 days a week 24 hours.
- 9.4. License (ID # [24-1041](#)) Renewing Garage License, GE Auto Repair, 631 Somerville Ave.
- 9.5. License (ID # [24-1042](#)) Renewing Livery License, Mass Cab, 45 Endicott Ave.
- 9.6. License (ID # [24-1044](#)) New Sign/Awning License, CultureHouse, 101 Franklin St, 5 signs.
- 9.7. License (ID # [24-1045](#)) New Sign/Awning License, CultureHouse, 134 Washington St, 16 signs.
- 9.8. Public Event (ID # [24-1046](#)) Somerville Public Library applying for a Public Event License for ComixCon 2024 on July 20 from 9am to 5pm (raindate July 27).
- 9.9. Public Event (ID # [24-1022](#)) Get To The Gig Boston applying for a Public Event License for NICE, a fest on July 26, July 27, July 28, and July 29 from 8am to 10pm (raindates August 3 and August 4).
- 9.10. Public Event (ID # [24-1047](#)) Somerville Public Library applying for a Public Event License for Family Movie on the Lawn: Elemental on August 14 from 6pm to 10pm.
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- 9.11. Public Event (ID # [24-1020](#)) Suzannah Blass applying for a Public Event License for Summit Avenue BP on August 24 from 11am to 7pm (raindate August 25).
- 9.12. Public Event (ID # [24-1021](#)) East Somerville Main Streets applying for a Public Event License for Summer in the Park: Back to School on August 24 from 1pm to 7pm (raindate August 25).
- 9.13. Public Event (ID # [24-1019](#)) Somerville Museum applying for a Public Event License for Spark of the Revolution on September 1 from 9am to 2pm (raindate September 8).
- 9.14. Public Event (ID # [24-1018](#)) Mathias Neuber applying for a Public Event License for Electric Avenue BP on September 7 from 11am to 6pm (raindate September 8).
- 9.15. Public Event (ID # [24-1048](#)) Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for Evolution of Hip Hop on September 7 from 2pm to 9:30pm (raindate September 14).
- 9.16. Public Event (ID # [24-1017](#)) Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for Somerville Rock and Roll Yard Sale on September 8 from 7am to 7pm (raindate September 15).
- 9.17. Public Event (ID # [24-1016](#)) Society of S.S. Cosmas & Damian of Somerville & Cambridge applying for a Public Event License for Procession for S.S. Cosmas & Damian on September 8 from 2:30pm to 6:30pm (raindate September 15).
- 9.18. Public Event (ID # [24-1014](#)) Helen Corrigan applying for a Public Event License for Irving Street BP on September 14 from 11am to 8:30pm (raindate September 15).
- 9.19. Public Event (ID # [24-1015](#)) Nancy Mader applying for a Public Event License for Robinson Street BP on September 14 from 2pm to 8pm (raindate September 15).
- 9.20. Public Event (ID # [24-1013](#)) Nelson Salazar applying for a Public Event License for Virginia Street BP on September 15 from 2:30pm to 9pm.

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

- 10.1. Communication (ID # [24-1057](#)) By Councilor Strezo
Conveying a report of the Children's Cabinet.

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- 10.2. Resolution
(ID # [24-1058](#)) By Councilor Ewen-Campen
That the Administration and this Council work with the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) to address long-standing issues with service reliability with the Union Square (D-line) branch of the Green Line.
- 10.3. Resolution
(ID # [24-1068](#)) By Councilor Burnley Jr.
In support of social cannabis consumption.
- 10.4. Resolution
(ID # [24-1069](#)) By Councilor Burnley Jr.
In support of statewide natural psychedelics therapy.
- 10.5. Resolution
(ID # [24-1070](#)) By Councilor Burnley Jr.
Recognizing July 15-21 as the Week of Visibility for Non-Monogamy.
- 10.6. License
(ID # [24-1063](#)) New Sign/Awning License, Union Square Main Streets, 1 Bow Market Way, 4 signs.
- 10.7. Public Event
(ID # [24-1071](#)) Communications and Community Engagement applying for a Public Event License for Ward 5 Slice of the City on July 22 from 4:30pm to 7:30pm.
- 10.8. Public Event
(ID # [24-1061](#)) Peter Jehlen applying for a Public Event License for OPENAIR Circus on August 2 from 4pm to 9:30pm and on August 3 and 4 from 12pm to 5:30pm.
- 10.9. Public Event
(ID # [24-1060](#)) Kimberly Ford applying for a Public Event License for Francis St BP on August 3 from 1pm to 10pm (raindate August 10).
- 10.10. Public Event
(ID # [24-1059](#)) Priscilla Ribeiro applying for a Public Event License for National Night Out on August 6 from 10am to 11pm (raindate August 7).
- 10.11. Public Event
(ID # [24-1064](#)) Somerville Education Foundation applying for a Public Event License for Somerville Food Nation Celebration on September 6 from 3pm to 10pm (raindate September 13).
- 10.12. Public Event
(ID # [24-1065](#)) Kids Like You and Me applying for a Public Event License for Somerville Underground Pop Arts and Performance Showcase on September 14 from 12pm to 6pm (raindate September 15).
- 10.13. Public Event
(ID # [24-1067](#)) Brandon Wilson applying for a Public Event License for Josephine Ave BP on September 14 from 1:30pm to 9:30pm (raindate September 15).
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- 10.14. Public Event (ID # [24-1066](#)) Nels Nelson applying for a Public Event License for Munroe St. Playtime on September 14 from 2pm to 11pm (raindate September 15).
- 10.15. Public Communication (ID # [24-1062](#)) Jarred Johnson submitting comments re: Green Line Extension.

11. ADJOURNMENT