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

# **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

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.

## **OPENING CEREMONIES**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Ward One City Councilor Matthew McLaughlin.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Willie Burnley, Jr.	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Charlotte Kelly	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Jake Wilson	City Councilor At Large	Present	
Beatriz Gomez Mouakad	Ward Five City Councilor	Present	
Judy Pineda Neufeld	Ward Seven City Councilor	Present	
Kristen Strezo	City Councilor at Large	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One City Councilor	Present	
Jefferson Thomas ("J.T.") Scott	Ward Two City Councilor	Present	
Ben Ewen-Campen	Ward Three City Councilor	Present	
Jesse Clingan	Ward Four City Councilor	Present	
Lance L. Davis	Ward Six City Councilor	Present	

1. Roll Call 213941 (ID:28940) Call of the Roll.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

2. Remembrances

Remembrances.

213942 (ID:28941)

Councilor Kelly offered a moment of silence for 3 neighbors who passed away in May due to substance abuse and chronic housing instability.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

3. Minutes 213943 (ID:28942)

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, May 12, 2022 and Special Meeting, May 19, 2022.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

## **CITATIONS**

4. Citation 213944 (ID:28906)

By City Councilor Ewen-Campen

Recognizing Judy Walter for her nine years of dedicated service as a Library Trustee.

Councilor Ewen-Campen posthumously commended Judy Walter, who passed away in March of this year, for her service to the city as a Library Trustee. Tributes were given by her colleagues, Library Director Cathy Piantigini and Kate Van Sleet.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

# ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

5. Order 213945 (ID:28915)

By City Councilor Pineda Neufeld

That the Director of Health and Human Services share with this Council, a report summarizing the themes shared at the recent COVID-19 listening sessions with residents.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

**FOLLOWUP:** Public Health and Public Safety Committee

6. Order 213946 (ID:28928) By City Councilor McLaughlin

That the Director of Engineering update the Ward 1 City Councilor on the planned repaying of Pennsylvania Avenue.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

7. Ordinance 213947 (ID:28926)

By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Gomez Mouakad, Kelly, Wilson, Scott, Clingan, Pineda Neufeld, Strezo, Davis, McLaughlin, Burnley, Jr. Proposing an amendment to the Surveillance Oversight Ordinance (Chapter 10,

Article III, Sec 10.63) to remove the exemption for body-worn cameras.

Councilor Ewen-Campen noted that body worn cameras were exempted from this ordinance since the issue was being discussed in collective bargaining. Now that those negotiations have been completed, this change is being sought.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Legislative Matters Committee

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

## 8. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

A. Committee Report 213948 (ID:28922) Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters, meeting on June 1, 2022.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld presented the Committee Report, saying that the bulk of the appointments were for positions on the Council on Aging. In addition, there was one promotion in the Police Department, one appointment to the Fair Housing Commission, and one appointment to the Commission of Energy Use and Climate Change.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

B. Mayor's Request 213817 (ID:28774) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Janine Lotti to the Fair Housing Commission, as the Somerville Housing Authority representative.

RESULT: APPROVED

C. Mayor's Request 213858 (ID:28846) Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Kevin Shackelford to the position of Police Lieutenant.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

D. Mayor's Request 213859 (ID:28820) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Eri Furusawa to the Commission on Energy Use and Climate Change.

RESULT: APPROVED

E. Mayor's Request 213860 (ID:28802) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Ronit Prawer to the Council on Aging.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

F. Mayor's Request 213861 (ID:28803) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Maclise Jean to the Council on Aging.

**RESULT:** APPROVED

G. Mayor's Request 213862 (ID:28804) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Marian Bremer to the Council on Aging.

RESULT: APPROVED

H. Mayor's Request 213864 (ID:28806)

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Daisy Monsalve to the Council on Aging.

**RESULT: APPROVED** 

I. Mayor's Request 213865 (ID:28807) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Giusippina Mingace to the Council on Aging.

**RESULT: APPROVED** 

J. Mayor's Request 213866 (ID:28808) Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Edna Murray to the Council on Aging.

**RESULT: APPROVED** 

#### LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

A. Committee Report 213949 (ID:28923) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on June 7, 2022.

Councilor Davis presented the Committee Report. Much of the meeting was taken up by two items, 1) a proposed ordinance securing the rights of individuals seeking gender-affirming care, and 2) the Guardian Indoor Active Shooter Detection System. Councilor Davis moved to replace item #213869 in the Committee Report with item #213981 from this meeting. Councilor Davis moved to substitute, in item #213830, the version of the Ordinance in the Committee Report with the version marked "6-9-22 CLEAN". Councilor Davis then moved to amend item #213830 with the administration's changes.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

B. Ordinance 213830 (ID:28812) By City Councilor Burnley, Jr., Kelly

Proposing an Ordinance securing the rights of individuals seeking genderaffirming care.

**RESULT:** ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]

Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda **AYES:** 

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

C. Officer's

Assistant City Solicitor submitting amendments to Sections 11-125 and 11-164 Communication of the Code of Ordinances.

213869 (ID:28822)

**RESULT:** PLACED ON FILE D. Ordinance 213888 (ID:28852)

By City Councilor Davis

Amending Section 2-310 of the Code of Ordinances to eliminate the general residency requirement for city employees.

RESULT: ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

# **COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

10. Mayor's Request 213950 (ID:28902) Requesting approval to add a fourth precinct to each of the seven wards and revise polling places accordingly.

Election Commissioner Salerno commented that the Council had already accepted the additional precincts mandated by the state and said that he's now seeking Council approval for the 7 additional precinct and 4 sub-precinct locations. This will necessitate the moving of some existing polling locations. Councilor Wilson expressed disappointment with the delay by the Secretary of Commonwealth's Office. Councilor McLaughlin moved to approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

11. Mayor's Request 213951 (ID:28924) Requesting the rescission of \$30,000,000 of authorized but un-issued Green Line Extension borrowings.

Councilor Wilson moved to refer the item to the Finance Committee.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

12. Mayor's Request 213952 (ID:28908) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$10,000,000 to implement the Clarendon Hill Development Program within the Clarendon Hill DIF Development District.

Director Proakis gave a presentation, saying that upon completion of this project, there will be 591 units of available housing. The project will include some high-rise buildings and 215 units of public housing will be replaced on a one for one basis. Additionally, 80 new, in perpetuity, affordable units will be included in the total. Councilor Kelly asked what the paydown of the project is, what the average CPA contribution to projects is, and whether there are similar projects that used CPA funding. Director Proakis stated that the CPA allows funds to be used for affordable housing and the CPC has been regularly putting \$1.5 million into the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Councilor Scott indicated his support for the CPC recommendation.

The Council recessed at 7:46 PM to address some technical problems with the online audio and returned at 7:59 PM.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld, noting that the project includes 296 permanent affordable housing units, moved to approve agenda items #12 and #13.

Councilor Wilson commented about the conflict between affordable housing and labor and expressed his frustration that union labor is not being used to build all of the project. Councilor Burnley interjected that the CPA fund currently stands at \$3.2 million. President McLaughlin commented and said the decision to build this project was made several years ago and it should go forward, however, he pointed out that this is the privatization of affordable housing and cities are at the mercy of developers in order to get these projects built. The prevailing wage is not being paid off the project's site but is being paid on-site. President McLaughlin noted that he previously had suggested building more market rate housing, which is being done now, and that he advocated for 20% affordable housing on the market rate portion of the project.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan,

Davis

**ABSENT:** Strezo

13. Mayor's Request 213953 (ID:28907) Requesting an appropriation and authorization to borrow \$4,000,000 for financing a portion of the Clarendon Hill Redevelopment Project, including construction of affordable housing, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee.

See #212952.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan,

Davis

**ABSENT:** Strezo

14. Mayor's Request 213954 (ID:28927) Requesting approval to appropriate and transfer \$1,545,805 in unallocated COVID-19 monies from the COVID-19 Stabilization Fund to the Somerville High School Construction Fund for construction costs, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by a like amount.

Director Raiche gave presentation on the project and noted some of the problems encountered that led to delays and cost overruns, e.g., the discovery of asbestos on the site, COVID-19, and the school's auditorium wall. The field completion date went from the summer of 2021 to the summer of 2023 and the project cost has risen by \$27,876,529.

Director Bean presented a financial plan to address the increased cost, saying that it's a grey area but the city's bond counsel thinks that the city can increase the debt exclusion. Councilor Scott asked what would happen if it turned out that the city can't do that and Director Bean replied that the state could hold up the tax bills from being sent out.

Councilor Davis asked about HP parking, saying that he thinks there are 12-18 total spaces. He went on to point out that the city spent a great deal of money to remove the asbestos and there still there is no place to park - so he's voting no on this item until there is a plan for parking. Councilor Wilson moved to approve the item.

RESULT: APPROVED. [9 TO 2]

**AYES:** Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda Neufeld, Strezo,

McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan

**NAYS:** Burnley, Jr., Davis

15. Mayor's Request 213955 (ID:28918) Requesting the appropriation of \$1,360,904 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") Account to the Facility Construction and Renovation Stabilization Fund.

Councilor Wilson moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Finance Committee.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

Mayor's 16. Request 213956 (ID:28917)

Requesting the appropriation of \$139,096 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") Account to the Central Hill PARC Account to cover a grant deficit.

Councilor Wilson moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Finance Committee.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

17. Mayor's Request 213957 (ID:28925) Requesting approval of a transfer of \$368,123 in the Department of Public Works from the Sanitation Account to the Snow Account for winter-related invoices.

Councilor Wilson moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Finance Committee.

**RESULT:** REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

18. Mayor's Request 213958 (ID:28682) Requesting acceptance of, and approval to expend, a \$250,000 grant with no new match required, from MA Department of Housing and Community Development (ARPA) to the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development for the Clarendon Hill redevelopment project.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

#### COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

19. Officer's 213959 (ID:28892)

Assistant City Solicitor requesting approval to retain KP Law as outside Communication counsel to advise and represent the City of Somerville, the Director of the American Rescue Plan Act and their designee(s), in all aspects of the American Rescue Plan Act.

> **RESULT:** REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

20. License/Permit Renewing Drainlayer's License, BSI Engineering Inc.

213960 (ID:28910)

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

21. License/Permit

Renewing Drainlayer's License, Ferrante Construction.

213961 (ID:28911)

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

22. 213962

(ID:28931)

License/Permit Renewing Drainlayer's License Meninno Construction Corp.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

23. License/Permit 213963 (ID:28912)

Renewing Extended Operating Hours License, Sam's Falafel and Shawarma, 215 Highland Ave.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] RESULT:

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

24.

License/Permit Renewing Garage License, FRIT, 485 Foley Street.

213964 (ID:28913)

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. **RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

25.

License/Permit Renewing Lodging House License, Alpha Tau Omega, 134 Professors Row.

213965 (ID:28932)

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

26. License/Permit 213966

Public Event License, Family Fun Day, Trum Field and Franey Rd, June 25, 10AM-9PM (raindate June 26).

(ID:28933)

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

27. License/Permit 213967 (ID:28934)

Public Event License, St Benedict's Parish: A Mile with Jesus, Sylvester Baxter Park and surrounding area, July 10, 10:30AM-12:30PM.

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

28. 213968 (ID:28936)

License/Permit Public Event License, FRIT Friday Night Music Series, Baxter Park, July 15 & 19, Aug 12 & 26, Sept 9 & 23, 5PM-8:30PM (raindates Sept 30, Oct 7, Oct 14).

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

29. 213969 (ID:28938)

License/Permit Public Event License, NICE Vendor Market, Statue Park, July 29 & 30, 10AM-12AM (raindate July 31).

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] **RESULT:** 

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

30. 213970

(ID:28939)

License/Permit Public Event License, Dimick St BP, from Buckingham St to Marion St, Aug 20, 10AM-11PM (raindate Aug 21).

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

## SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

31. Order By City Councilor McLaughlin

213971 (ID:28944)

That the Director of Engineering update the Ward 1 Councilor on the planned repaying of Mt. Pleasant and Perkins Streets.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

AYES: Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

32. Order 213972

(ID:28945)

By City Councilor McLaughlin, Kelly

That the Director of Mobility update this Council on the effectiveness and possible expansion of motion detector streetlights to manage traffic flows.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

**FOLLOWUP:** Traffic and Parking Committee

33. Order 213973 (ID:28946)

By City Councilor McLaughlin, Kelly

That the Commissioner of Public Works, the Director of Inspectional Services, and the Environmental Health Coordinator address rodent issues and overgrowth in the public access alleyway between Mt. Vernon and Mt. Pleasant Streets and devise a long-term solution to the problem.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

**FOLLOWUP:** Rodent Issues Special Committee

34. Order 213974 (ID:28947) By City Councilor McLaughlin

That the Director of Engineering address water drainage issues on the even side of Pinckney Street, near 48 Pinckney Street.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

35. Order 213975 (ID:28955)

By City Councilor McLaughlin

That the Director of Parking explore using regional residential parking permits to reduce parking congestion on streets close to public transit.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

**FOLLOWUP:** Traffic and Parking Committee

36. Resolution 213976 (ID:28948)

By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Gomez Mouakad, Kelly, Wilson, Scott, Clingan, Pineda Neufeld, Strezo, Davis, Burnley, Jr. That the Administration consider investing a minimum of \$220,000 in the Office of Housing Stability Tenant Organizing grant in FY 2023, to provide funding to increase to a minimum of three bilingual tenant organizers.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

37. Order 213977 (ID:28943) By City Councilor Strezo, Pineda Neufeld

That the Director of Health and Human Services and the City Solicitor report to this Council on steps that may be taken to address the reports of spiked drinks in the region, including whether the city can require restaurants and bars to post warning signage, encourage vigilance, and detail the criminal consequences for tampering with another patron's beverage.

Councilor Strezo spoke about the increase of this happening in the Boston area. In December 2021, the Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission put out an advisory on this matter and Councilor Strezo would like the Council to eventually pass an ordinance to address this problem. She stated that she is not victim blaming but exploring the issue from every angle. Councilor Kelly would like to investigate the metrics of the problem.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

**FOLLOWUP:** Public Health and Public Safety Committee

38. Order 213978 (ID:28954) By City Councilor Clingan

That the Director of Parking submit a monthly statement of fees collected for handicap parking violations, to the Chair of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities.

See #213979.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

39. Resolution 213979 (ID:28953)

By City Councilor Clingan, Scott
That the Chair of the Commission for Persons with Disabilities provide this
Council with an update on the status of the Commission's fund.

Councilor Clingan spoke about what he thought the fund was for, adding that it's his belief that the Commission on Persons with Disabilities (CPD) should have control of the fund. CPD Chair Bonnie Denis stated that she received an email from the ADA coordinator saying that the City Council was requesting a budget for the department and asked about scholarships. Chair Denis then said that the actual request was from the state, not the City Council. She said that the goal posts are constantly moving. Councilor Scott said he can't speak to grants for scholarships, but he noted that there was a verbal opinion from the state saying that the standard processes of the city be followed, so the City Council could pass a resolution empowering the CPD to disburse their funds without Council approval being required each time. Finance Director Ed Bean explained that the intent of the statute is not to have the mayor or City Council control the CPD funds, and he agrees that City Council could empower the CPD. Intergovernmental Affairs Director Aneesh Sahni said the administration has no objection. Councilor Clingan asked Director Bean if this would be like a bank account for the commission and Mr. Bean replied that the revolving account has already been set up and municipal finance laws do apply because the state views the funds as taxpayer money. Councilor Scott asked Director Bean to provide a list of revolving accounts and their ledgers. Chair Denis stated that she would be happy to work directly with Director Bean and she noted that the fund in question is a "special" fund and is handled differently than other revolving funds. She commented that other cities don't have this much trouble when it comes to dealing with these funds, adding that training was promised on how to account for the funds, but that hasn't happened yet. She would like to have documentation of what the process looks like and said that the CPD liaison isn't providing clear information. Director Bean said it is a special account, and as such, interest accrues to it.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

40. Mayor's Request 213980 (ID:28959) Requesting approval of an amendment to Ordinances 2-322 and 2-323 to update categories and associated salaries for non-union positions.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

**FOLLOWUP:** Finance Committee

41. Officer's

Acting City Solicitor submitting amendments to the Code of Ordinances, Communication Sections 11-125 and 11-164 regarding Water and Sewer Rate Setting.

213981 (ID:28949)

**RESULT:** ORDINANCE ORDAINED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen, Clingan,

Davis

**ABSENT:** Strezo

42. 213982 (ID:28956)

License/Permit Public Event License, Arts Council Nepal Festival, Union Sq Plaza and city lot, June 25, 2:30PM-10PM (raindate June 26).

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

43. 213983 (ID:28957)

License/Permit Public Event License, Arts Council Fourth of July Celebration, Trum Field and Broadway from Cedar St to Medford St, June 30, 1PM-11PM (raindate July 1).

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS] **RESULT:** 

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

44.

License/Permit Renewing Taxi Medallion License, LTK, Med #66.

213984 (ID:28958)

Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

## LATE ITEMS

45. Mayor's Request 213582 (ID:28539) Requesting an amendment to the Somerville High School Construction appropriation to a new amount of \$284,659,233 and increasing the amount of bonds, fund transfers, and other available funds of the city authorized to meet said appropriation.

Councilor Wilson moved to discharge items #213582, #213623, #213624 and #213625 from the Finance Committee. Councilor Wilson moved to approve items #213582, #213623, #213624 and #213625. Councilor Davis will vote no due to the lack of a parking plan. Councilor Scott noted that one of these items is an appropriation of \$9 million from the facility construction and renovation fund, effectively wiping it out. Director Bean said that \$4.3 million in free cash is going to the facility construction and renovation fund and that \$15 million from free cash will be allocated to various stabilization funds by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Councilor Davis asked if the city is planning to get into the schools to make the needed repairs and Director Raiche explained that long-term planning is happening, but not to the exclusion of the short-term needs. The DPW will handle the smaller jobs and Capital Projects will take care of the larger ones. The supply chain is still slow, so some needed materials might not be readily available. Councilor Burnley moved the questions. President McLaughlin commented that many councilors weren't aware of the conditions at the Winter Hill Community School (WHCS) and Councilor Clingan asked Director Raiche if there's a punch list for the WHCS. Director Raiche acknowledged that all the schools need work, but the WHCS has the highest repair/upgrade dollar value and said that there is an acute focus on the items brought to light 2 weeks ago.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [10 TO 1]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan

**NAYS:** Davis

46. Mayor's Request 213623 (ID:28618) Requesting the appropriation and transfer of \$10,827,440.61 from various available proceeds to the Somerville High School Construction Project thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by a like amount.

See #213582.

RESULT: APPROVED. [9 TO 2]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Clingan

NAYS: Scott, Davis

47. Mayor's Request 213624 (ID:28621) Requesting approval to appropriate and transfer \$8,964,735 from the Facility Construction Stabilization Fund to the Somerville High School Construction fund to pay costs of the construction of Somerville High School, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by a like amount.

See #213582.

RESULT: APPROVED. [8 TO 3]

**AYES:** Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda Neufeld, Strezo,

McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Clingan

**NAYS:** Burnley, Jr., Scott, Davis

48. Mayor's Request 213625 (ID:28624) Requesting the appropriation of \$7,080,519 from the Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the Somerville High School Construction Fund in order to pay costs of the construction of Somerville High School, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by a like amount.

See #213582.

**RESULT:** APPROVED. [8 TO 3]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda Neufeld,

Strezo, McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Clingan

**NAYS:** Kelly, Scott, Davis

49. Resolution 213985 (ID:28960)

By City Councilor Scott

Authorizing the Somerville Commission for Persons With Disabilities to disburse at their discretion, and according to the procedures they deem fit, any funds allocated to the account established for the purpose of satisfying MGL Chapter 40 Section 22G, without further approval of the City Council.

See #213979.

RESULT: APPROVED. [UNANIMOUS]

**AYES:** Burnley, Jr., Kelly, Wilson, Gomez Mouakad, Pineda

Neufeld, Strezo, McLaughlin, Scott, Ewen-Campen,

Clingan, Davis

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was Adjourned at 11:15 PM.