

City of Somerville, Massachusetts

City Council

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 13, 2022

7:00 PM

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.

1. OPENING CEREMONIES

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

1.1. Roll Call (ID # **22-1710**)

Call of the Roll.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

1.2. Remembrances (ID # **22-1711**)

Remembrances.

Councilor Ewen-Campen and the entire Council requested a moment of silence for former Alderman and State Senator Sal Albano.

Councilor Clingan requested a moment of silence for Henry Augustin.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld and the entire Council requested a moment of silence for Salvatore Casparriello.

RESULT: APPROVED

1.3. Minutes (ID # 22-1712)

Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, September 8, 2022.

RESULT: APPROVED

2. CITATIONS

3. PUBLIC HEARINGS

3.1. Grant of Location (ID # 22-1646)

Comcast applying for a Grant of Location to install 35 feet of conduit in Hawthorne Street, from Utility Pole 391/3 to a point of pickup at 26 Hawthorne Street.

Dave Flewelling, representing Comcast, explained the reason for the request. There being no further comment, the public hearing was closed.

RESULT: APPROVED

3.2. Grant of Location (ID # 22-1647)

Cambridge Network Solutions applying for a Grant of Location to install a total of 994 feet of conduit as follows: Starting from Manhole 0515-3107, 267 feet to a point of pickup at Buena Vista parking lot. From said manhole, 727 feet connecting three new handholes along Winter Street, College Avenue, and Winslow Avenue.

Jeff Harrington, representing Cambridge Network Solutions, explained the reason for the request. There being no further comment, the public hearing was closed. Councilor Davis verified that the paving work will not be damaged.

RESULT: APPROVED

4. ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

4.1. Order (ID # **22-1683**)

By Councilor Strezo, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Scott and Councilor Wilson

That the Director of Housing discuss how anticipated increases in utility, heating and water bills will affect affordable housing tenants.

Councilor Strezo gave the projected increased cost for these items and Councilor Scott commented that water and sewer bills have long been a concern of this and previous City Councils and he asked that when this item is discussed in committee, representatives from the city's Water and Sewer Department be present as well as anyone who liaisons with the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>
FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

4.2. Order (ID # <u>22-1684</u>)

By Councilor Strezo, Councilor Clingan and Councilor Wilson That the Director of Mobility establish a neighborhood traffic plan for the area surrounding the Healey School, including Edgar Avenue, to mitigate speeding.

Councilor Wilson commented that this area has a great amount of cut through traffic and is too busy an area for crossing guards to handle without assistance. Councilor Clingan commented that the children need to be protected.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

4.3. Order (ID # **22-1685**)

By Councilor Strezo, Councilor Clingan and Councilor McLaughlin That the Commissioner of Public Works take steps to permanently fix or replace the leaning light posts on the pedestrian boardwalk connecting Ten Hills to Assembly Row.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>

4.4. Order (ID # **22-1686**)

By Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Scott, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Wilson

That this Council work with the Administration to update the Demolition Review Ordinance and administrative process to ensure that all current inhabitants are notified, in their native language, of any proposals to demolish the building in which they reside.

Councilor. Ewen-Campen commented that some of the residents had not been contacted about the development and were not aware of last week's demolition meeting. He would like to make some changes to the ordinance to rectify this.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

4.5. Resolution (ID # 22-1687)

By Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Scott, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Wilson

That the Administration update this Council on plans to establish a Community Engagement Center.

Discussed with item 22-1739.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

4.6. Order (ID # **22-1688**)

By Councilor Clingan

That the Director of Engineering develop safety protocols and notification requirements for any projects, planned or emergency, taking place within a determined radius of a school.

Councilor Clingan spoke about the dangers presented at construction sites and wants to tighten up the safety protocols for those in proximity of schools.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>
FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

4.7. Order By Councilor Clingan

(ID # 22-1689)

That the Director of Engineering develop a plan to redesign the intersection of Broadway and Main Street.

Councilor Clingan stated that traffic enters this intersection from multiple directions and a redesigned patters is long overdue.

APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION **RESULT:**

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

4.8. Order By Councilor Clingan

(ID # **22-1690**)

That the Director of Engineering repave Thurston Street and add speed humps.

RESULT: APPROVED

4.9. Order

By Councilor Clingan, Councilor Wilson and Councilor McLaughlin (ID # **22-1691**) That the Director of Water and Sewer appear before this Council to address

the issue of constituents reporting unusually high water bill spikes.

Councilor Clingan reported that several constituents have seen increases of about \$1,000 in their water bills and he would like the matter looked into to determine if this is an anomaly or the result of some other factor.

APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION **RESULT:**

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

4.10. Order

By Councilor Wilson and Councilor Clingan

(ID # **22-1692**)

That the Director of Water and Sewer report to this Council, the account, purchase and usage information requested within.

Discussed with item 22-1691.

APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION **RESULT:**

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

4.11. Order

By Councilor Wilson

(ID # **22-1705**)

That the Director of the Office of Sustainability and Environment update this Council on the status of household hazardous waste collection.

Councilor Gomez Mouakad commented that the DPW handles hazardous waste collections and Councilor Wilson said that he was informed that the lack of collection is due to a contract issue between the city and one of its vendors. Councilor Scott suggested that the DPW come up with an interim solution so that hazardous waste doesn't end up being dumped in the sewer.

APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION **RESULT:**

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

6.A. CHARTER REVIEW SPECIAL COMMITTEE

6.A.1. Withdrawn

Withdrawn.

(ID # <u>22-1699</u>)

RESULT: WITHDRAWN

6.B. CONFIRMATION OF APPOINTMENTS AND PERSONNEL MATTERS COMMITTEE

6.B.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel (ID # 22-1682) Matters, meeting on October 6, 2022.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld reviewed the actions taken by the committee and reported that there was 1 police promotion and 3 fire fighter appointments recommended for approval. The Committee also discussed the recruitment process for Boards and Commissions. Councilor Pineda Neufeld introduced Officer Mackenzie Richardson who was then sworn in as a Police Sergeant.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>

6.B.2. Resolution

By Councilor Kelly

(ID # 22-0674) That the Administration present an update on the Board and Commission

recruitment process, as detailed within.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.B.3. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1257**)

Requesting confirmation of the promotion of Mackenzie Richardson to the position of Police Sergeant.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.B.4. Mayor's Request (ID # 22-1581)

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Mark Atwater to the position of Firefighter.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.B.5. Mayor's Request (ID # <u>22-1582</u>)

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Zachary Avery to the position of Firefighter.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.B.6. Mayor's Request (ID # 22-1584)

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Joseph Nutile to the position of Firefighter.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.C. HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

6.C.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Housing and Community Development, (ID # 22-1696) meeting on September 29, 2022.

Councilor Strezo reported that the committee discussed the crossing guard situation and housing instability. Councilor Burnley asked about the legality of non-disclosure agreements in leases and Councilor Ewen-Campen stated that the Law Department will provide an opinion on the matter. Councilor Kelly would like to have regular updates on the number of evictions taking place and Councilor Pineda Neufeld commented that the data is contained in the meeting minutes. Councilor Kelly said that this is a crisis that needs to be addressed.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>

6.C.2. Order

By Councilor Kelly

(ID # <u>22-1516</u>)

That the Director of the Office of Housing Stability discuss the response to the ending of the eviction moratorium, and any current unmet needs of residents who are experiencing housing instability.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.D. LAND USE COMMITTEE

6.D.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Land Use, meeting on October 6, 2022. (ID # 22-1697)

Councilor Ewen-Campen reported that the committee met in Joint Session with the Planning Board. There was an item to treat zoning for animal services the same as services for people and there was also a request by a property owner to rezone his property to allow for a veterinary clinic to operate there. In referencing other matters before the committee, Councilor Ewen-Campen commented that there seems to be a disconnect between some state regulations with respect to the city's ordinances.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.E. PUBLIC UTILITIES AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

6.E.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Public Utilities and Public Works, meeting on (ID # 22-1698) October 11, 2022.

Councilor Clingan reported that written responses to several items were provided by department heads and are included in the meeting minutes. The committee had a lengthy discussion about the recent sink hole on Medford Street and additional details are available in the meeting minutes.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.E.2. Order By Councilor Clingan

(ID # <u>22-0360</u>) That the Commissioner of Public Works discuss with this Council the current city contract for trash and recycling disposal services.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.3. Resolution By Councilor Clingan

(ID # <u>22-0364</u>) That representatives of Boston Carting appear before the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety to address concerns raised in the attached anonymous letter dated April 15, 2021.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.4. Order By Councilor Clingan and Councilor Strezo

(ID # <u>22-0934</u>) That the Commissioner of Public Works make rain barrels available, at no cost, to any properties within the city's flood zones.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.5. Order By Councilor Clingan

(ID # <u>22-0936</u>) That the Director of Engineering explain the timeline for the installation of the proposed Gilman Square water retention tank, as it relates to the overall

flood water management plan.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.6. Order By Councilor Clingan

(ID # <u>22-0960</u>) That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the uneven road pavement on Sycamore Street, between Medford Street and Evergreen Avenue.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.7. Order By Councilor Scott

(ID # <u>22-1117</u>) That the Commissioner of Public Works provide this Council with the plan for maintaining new tree wells along Somerville Avenue and other locations.

6.E.8. Order

By Councilor Scott and Councilor Kelly

(ID # **22-1118**)

An order that the Commissioner of Public Works add stone or concrete landscape features to prevent vehicles from driving over the planted bump-out features on Beacon Street.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.9. Order

By Councilor Strezo

(ID # **22-1213**)

An order that the Commissioner of Public Works immediately replace the three outdoor picnic tables on the plaza outside the Somerville Media Center due to their unsafe condition.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.10. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # <u>22-1220</u>)

An order that the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management update the Ward 1 City Councilor on plans to renovate Tufts Street.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.11. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # <u>22-1360</u>)

An order that the Director of Veterans' Services update this Council on the status of the veterans' memorials previously removed due to construction of the new high school.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.12. Order

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # **22-1374**)

An order that the Commissioner of Public Works expedite the fixing of the elevator in the Armory.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.13. Order

2-1572) Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # <u>22-1572</u>)

That the Commissioner of Public Works take the necessary steps to remove the cable tied around the telephone pole at Lexington Avenue and Cedar Street.

By Councilor Strezo, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly and

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.E.14. Order

(ID # <u>22-1594</u>)

By Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Clingan and Councilor Wilson That the Director of Water and Sewer update this Council on the cause of the sinkhole near 370 Medford Street and what is being done to address this problem.

6.F. RODENT ISSUES SPECIAL COMMITTEE

6.F.1. Committee Report Report of the Special Committee on Rodent Issues, meeting on September (ID # 22-1693) 28, 2022.

Councilor Kelly spoke about the presentation that was made at the meeting regarding the rat problems and actions being taken by the city. Councilor Scott stated that none of the SMART boxes were deployed in Ward 2, and that his constituents will be expressing their concerns at the upcoming Ward 2 Fall Community Meeting on October 24.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>

6.F.2. Order (ID # **22-1197**)

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor 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: WORK COMPLETED

6.F.3. Order (ID # **22-1410**)

By Councilor Strezo, Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Kelly and Councilor Wilson

That the Director of Health and Human Services increase rat control efforts from Wigglesworth Street to Dana Street.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.F.4. Order (ID # 22-1411)

By Councilor Strezo, Councilor Clingan, Councilor Kelly and Councilor Wilson

That the Director of Health and Human Services immediately increase rat control measures in the areas of Fellsway West to Temple Street and Broadway to Jaques Street.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.F.5. Order

By Councilor Kelly

(ID # <u>22-1515</u>)

That the Director of Inspectional Services and the Environmental Health Coordinator update this Council on the SMART box program and other recent rodent control measures.

6.F.6. Order

By Councilor Strezo and Councilor Ewen-Campen

(ID # 22-1521)

That the Director of Inspectional Services increase measures to control the rat population from Vinal Avenue to Walnut Street and from Highland Avenue to Summer Street.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

- 6.G. SCHOOL BUILDING FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
- 6.G.1. Committee Report Report of the Special Committee on School Building Facilities and (ID # 22-1695) Maintenance, meeting on September 28, 2022.

Councilor Gomez Mouakad said that the city is looking at the overall systems of school buildings and discussed a feasibility study completed in 2021 for the Brown School. She spoke about the 1895 building and was told that it would impact where the veterans memorial will be placed. Other item discussed related to wi-fi, façades and Winter Hill School repairs. Councilor Clingan said that the School Department has its own IT staff and the school buildings fall under the city side and he wondered there wasn't just one IT department to ensure that everyone is on the same system.

RESULT: APPROVED

6.G.2. Order (ID # <u>22-1122</u>)

By Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly and Councilor Clingan That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management report on all major repairs and work orders for the Winter Hill Community School and the Brown School over the past five years.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.G.3. Order (ID # **22-1416**)

By Councilor Gomez Mouakad

That the Commissioner of Public Works report on all major repairs made to school buildings during the summer.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.G.4. Order (ID # **22-1564**)

By Councilor Strezo

That the Chief Information Officer update this Council on the work to fix the WiFi signals and cell phone reception at the Winter Hill School.

6.G.5. Order

(ID # 22-1590)

By Councilor Gomez Mouakad and Councilor Pineda Neufeld

That the Commissioner of Public Works report on the power outage at the West Somerville Public School on September 7, 2022 and the measures being taken for temporary and permanent repairs.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.H. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE

6.H.1. Committee Report Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, meeting on September 26, (ID # 22-1643) 2022.

Councilor Gomez Mouakad reported on the bike parking plan, the Highland Avenue redesign (currently stalled), the local preference parking option, the quick build for Broadway, the bike path extension, 20 MPH restrictions, and speed humps.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>

6.H.2. Order By Councilor Wilson

(ID # <u>22-0091</u>) That the Director of Mobility update this Council on efforts to establish a 20 MPH speed limit for all neighborhood residential streets.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.H.3. Order By Councilor Gomez Mouakad

(ID # 22-0190) That the Administration provide a report for all departments using city vehicles for non-emergency services, detailing the measures taken to ensure that staff follow traffic regulations, including the hands free while driving

law, and maintain maximum traffic safety while driving.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.H.4. Order By Councilor Wilson and Councilor Clingan

(ID # <u>22-0827</u>) That the Director of Parking instruct Parking Control Officers to enforce the

ban on license plate covers, in accordance with MGL c.90, §6.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.H.5. Order By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # <u>22-1199</u>) That the Director of Parking explore using regional residential parking permits to reduce parking congestion on streets close to public transit.

6.H.6. Order

By Councilor Ewen-Campen

(ID # **22-1413**)

That the Director of Parking consider a "local preference" parking permit policy for the post-reconstruction resident parking spaces on Highland Avenue.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.H.7. Order

By Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Wilson and Councilor Kelly

(ID # 22-1454)

That the Director of Mobility provide this Council with a timeline for a final

Bicycle Network Vision Plan.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.H.8. Order

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # **22-1455**)

That the Director of Mobility report on the feasibility of installing quick-build protected bike lanes on Broadway, and ways that the City plans

to enhance safety for cyclists.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

6.H.9. Order

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # **22-1471**)

That the Mobility Department work to clearly mark all speed bumps in the

city.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

7. COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

7.1. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1676**)

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Adeleine Mannion to the Somerville Housing Authority Board of Commissioners.

RESULT:

REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters

Committee

7.2. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1639**)

Requesting approval of the termination of the London Street easement.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

7.3. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1637**)

Requesting the appropriation of \$60,155 from the CPA Undesignated Fund Balance for restoration of 181 Broadway.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.4. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1563**)

Requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$24,000 to the Law Department Salaries Account to fund an anticipated deficit.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.5. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1665**)

Requesting authorization to borrow \$1,477,738 in a bond, and to appropriate the same amount for participation in the FY23 MWRA Lead Line Replacement Program.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.6. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1664**)

Requesting authorization to borrow \$1,730,000 in a bond, and to appropriate the same amount for the annual recurring FY23 Sewer System Evaluation and Infiltration/Inflow Assessment.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.7. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1662**)

Requesting authorization to borrow \$4,390,000 in a bond, and to appropriate the same amount for the recurring FY23 Sewer Improvements program.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

7.8. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1663**)

Requesting authorization to borrow \$7,110,000 in a bond, and to appropriate the same amount for the recurring FY23 Water Main Rehabilitation program.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.9. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1671**)

Requesting approval to create the Immigrant Legal Services Stabilization Fund.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.10. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1557**)

Requesting approval to create the BikeShare Stabilization Fund and accept a payment to the Fund of \$75,000 from developer contributions to sponsor new Bike Share Stations.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.11. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1674**)

Requesting approval to establish a Consolidated Gift Account to accept donations for the Vietnam Moving Wall event on Veterans Day Weekend.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.12. Mayor's Request (ID # 22-1559)

Requesting approval to appropriate \$75,000 from the Bike Share Stabilization Fund for installation and startup costs of a BlueBike station at the 100 Chestnut Development site.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

7.13. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1672**)

Requesting approval to appropriate \$60,000 from the Immigrant Legal Services Stabilization Fund to fund legal services for immigrants seeking permanent residency.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.14. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1678**)

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$121,500 from the Salary Contingency, Salaries Account to the DPW Highway, Other Lump Sum Benefits account to fund an agreement with the Somerville Municipal Employees Association.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.15. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1670**)

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$60,000 from the SomerViva Professional & Technical Services Account to the Immigrant Legal Services Stabilization Fund to provide funding for immigrant legal defense services.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.16. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1679**)

Requesting approval of a transfer of \$15,000 from the Salary Contingency, Salaries Account to the Law Department Judgments & Settlements Account to fund an Agreement with the Somerville Municipal Employees Association.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.17. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1667**)

Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$200,000 grant with no new match required, from the City of Boston Office of Emergency Management to the Police Department for First Responder portable radios.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

7.18. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1538**)

Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$16,900 grant with no new match required, from Mass Cultural Council to the Arts Council for unrestricted operating support.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.19. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1673**)

Requesting approval to accept and expend a \$1,000 donation from Iron Workers Local 7 Union to fund the Vietnam Moving Wall event November 10-14.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.20. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1666**)

Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$255,097.62 using available funds in various Department of Public Works Accounts.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.21. Mayor's Request (ID # <u>22-1677</u>)

Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$62,020 using available funds in the Department of Public Works Grounds Account for tree services.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.22. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1629**)

Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$13,770.21 using available funds in the Parking Department's Credit Card Convenience Account for May 2022 credit card fees.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

7.23. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1669**)

Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$5,418.98 using available funds in the Parking Department Professional Services Account for Ticket/Permit Processing Vendor, Conduent State & Local Solutions.

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

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee

7.24. Mayor's Request (ID # 22-1633)

Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$950 using available funds in the City Clerk's Books & Bookbinding Account for Municode renewal fee.

RESULT: APPROVED

7.25. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1652**)

Requesting approval to pay prior year invoices totaling \$365 using available funds in the IAM-Engineering Repairs & Maintenance-Highway Account for off-contract line painting and pavement markings.

RESULT: APPROVED

7.26. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1641**)

Requesting approval of a time-only contract extension with Over, Under Incorporated for Art Farm Design Services.

Councilor Scott noted that this is a time only extension for a contract that began in 2015.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

8.1. Officer's Communication (ID # 22-1645)

Planning Board proposing an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances Section 15.1.3, Neighborhood Meeting.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Land Use Committee

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

9.1. License (ID # **22-1648**)

New Outdoor Goods License, Clover Food Lab, 330 Foley Street, 1 A-Frame.

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

RESULT: APPROVED

9.2.	License (ID # <u>22-1661</u>)	New Sign/Awning License, Cohn Legal PLLC, 697 Broadway, 1 wall sign.
		Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. RESULT: APPROVED
9.3.	License (ID # <u>22-1713</u>)	Renewing Taxi Medallion License, God's Blessing Cab, Med #60.
		Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. RESULT: APPROVED
9.4.	Public Event (ID # <u>22-1707</u>)	Devan Calabrez applying for a Public Event License for Short Animated Film Series on October 15, October 29, and November 12 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm (raindates October 16, October 30 and November 13).
		Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
		RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>
9.5.	Public Event (ID # <u>22-1649</u>)	Samuel Feller applying for a Public Event License for Bond St BP: Chili Cook-off on October 22 from 10am to 5pm (raindate November 5).
		Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. RESULT: APPROVED
9.6.	Public Event (ID # <u>22-1650</u>)	Elizabeth Peabody House applying for a Public Event License for Fall Festival on October 22 from 12pm to 8pm (raindate October 29).
		Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item.
		RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>
9.7.	Public Event (ID # <u>22-1706</u>)	Konstancja Myszkowska applying for a Public Event License for School Street BP on October 22 from 12pm to 8pm (raindate October 23).
		Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. RESULT: APPROVED
9.8.	Public Event (ID # <u>22-1709</u>)	Tareq Rantisi applying for a Public Event License for World Music Concert Series on October 22 from 12:30pm to 4:30pm (raindate October 23 and November 5).
		Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. RESULT: APPROVED

9.9. Public Event Commission for Women applying for a Public Event License for Domestic (ID # **22-1708**) Violence Vigil on October 26 from 4:30pm to 7pm. Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. **RESULT: APPROVED** 9.10. Public Event Jesse Greenstein applying for a Public Event License for Burnham St BP on (ID # **22-1654**) October 29 from 12pm to 8:30pm (raindate October 30). Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. **RESULT: APPROVED** 9.11. Public Event East Somerville Main Streets applying for a Public Event License for Halloween BP and Pet Parade on October 29 from 2pm to 7pm (raindate (ID # **22-1655**) October 30). Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. **RESULT: APPROVED** 9.12. Public Event Kelsey Coffin applying for a Public Event License for Partridge Ave Halloween BP on October 29 from 4pm to 10pm (raindate if October 30). (ID # **22-1656**) Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. **RESULT:** APPROVED 9.13. Public Event Kim Durniak applying for a Public Event License for Norwood Ave Neighborhood BP on October 30 from 2pm to 7pm (raindate November 6). (ID # 22-1657) Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. **RESULT: APPROVED** 9.14. Public Event Ani Ajemian applying for a Public Event License for Halloween on Heath (ID # **22-1658**) on October 30 from 3pm to 8pm. Councilor Burnley moved to waive the reading and approve the item. **RESULT: APPROVED**

9.15. Public Event (ID # **22-1659**)

Kelsey Kent applying for a Public Event License for Lexington Ave Halloween on October 31 from 4pm to 8pm (raindate November 1).

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

RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>

9.16. Public Event (ID # **22-1660**)

Julia Gibney applying for a Public Event License for Indiana Ave Halloween BP on October 31 from 4pm to 10pm (raindate November 1).

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

RESULT: APPROVED

9.17. Public Communication (ID # 22-1630)

Andrew Puglia submitting comments re: on-street parking restrictions on Professor's Row and upper-Packard Avenue.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

10. SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

10.1. Order

By Councilor Gomez Mouakad

(ID # <u>22-1715</u>)

That the Director of Infrastructure and Asset Management and the Commissioner of Public Works provide an update on preventive maintenance plans for all school buildings.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION
FOLLOWUP: School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special
Committee

10.2. Order (ID # **22-1716**)

By Councilor Gomez Mouakad

That the Commissioner of Public Works and the Chief Information Officer provide an update on ongoing issues with Wi-Fi services for all schools.

Councilor Gomez Mouakad noted that the high school is also having wi-fi issues.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION
FOLLOWUP: School Building Facilities and Maintenance Special
Committee

10.3. Order (ID # **22-1717**)

By Councilor Gomez Mouakad

That the Director of the SomerViva Office of Immigrant Affairs provide an update on the proposed 5-year language plan and how this plan will be implemented in the next five years.

Councilor Gomez Mouakad expressed concern about evictions for non-English speakers and noted the importance of making information available in multiple languages, adding that she doesn't think this can wait for 5 years. Councilor Scott asked that translators be available when this item comes before the Equity Committee for discussion.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION
FOLLOWUP: Equity, Gender, Seniors, Families and Vulnerable
Populations Committee

10.4. Order (ID # **22-1722**)

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson

That the Director of Engineering update this Council on plans to renovate Tufts Street.

Councilor McLaughlin stated that there is an east/west divide in the city with respect to the resources being made available to East Somerville. He spoke about waiting years to get some basic resources to make navigating the streets in East Somerville safer. Councilor Scott added that he has similar experiences in his ward.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.5. Order (ID # **22-1723**)

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson

That the Director of Mobility update this Council on plans to place a stop light near the new East Somerville Green Line station.

Councilor McLaughlin said that he has been promised a stop light there for years, with no action being taken.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.6. Order (ID # 22-1724)

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson

That the Director of Parking place a STOP sign on Tufts Street's intersection with Washington Street and ensure its visibility to vehicle operators.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.7. Order (ID # **22-1725**)

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson

That the Commissioner of Public Works address the malfunctioning streetlight on the corner of Knowlton and Morton Streets.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.8. Order (ID # **22-1726**)

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson

That the Commissioner of Public Works address the inconsistently lit streetlights on East Broadway.

RESULT: APPROVED

10.9. Order (ID # **22-1727**)

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson

That the Commissioner of Public Works address the leaning electrical pole at Tufts and Knowlton Streets.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>

10.10. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson

(ID # **22-1728**)

That the Director of Engineering repaint the crosswalk at Tufts and Washington Streets.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.11. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Wilson

(ID # <u>22-1729</u>)

That the Director of Engineering ensure that the bus lane on Washington Street, before the train bridge, is visible.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.12. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # <u>22-1730</u>)

That the Director of Mobility and the Chief of Police work with city and state officials to implement short-term pedestrian safety measures at the listed I-93 intersections.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.13. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # <u>22-1732</u>)

That the Director of Mobility prioritize a stop light on Grand Union Blvd. and Artisan Way.

Councilor McLaughlin said that he has been promised a stop light at this location for years, with no action being taken.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.14. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # **22-1733**)

That the Director of Mobility update this Council on plans to place a ramp on Walnut Street, by Leather's Park, as part of the Neighborways program.

Councilor McLaughlin said this has a simple fix and just needs a curb cut or an ADA ramp, yet nothing has been done.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

10.15. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # <u>22-1734</u>)

That the Director of Engineering renovate Alston Street to address broken sidewalks and the lack of trees.

RESULT: APPROVED

10.16. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Kelly

(ID # **22-1735**)

That the Director of Parking consider using metered parking spots by restaurants at Assembly Row for food delivery vehicles.

RESULT: APPROVED

10.17. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # **22-1736**)

That the Director of Parking remove the NO LEFT TURN sign at Pearl and Mt. Vernon Streets as it confuses drivers and leads to traffic congestion.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED</u>

10.18. Order

By Councilor McLaughlin and Councilor Kelly

(ID # **22-1737**)

That the Commissioner of Public Works update the Ward 1 City Councilor regarding plans to find a location for excessive snow other than 90 Washington Street.

Councilor McLaughlin said that city plans to keep dumping snow at this location and has no plan for using other areas. Councilor Wilson noted that this site is going to be developed and the city is potentially contaminating it by dumping snow (along with what is collected with it) there.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

10.19. Order (ID # **22-1738**)

By Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Clingan, Councilor Davis, Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Gomez Mouakad, Councilor Kelly, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Scott, Councilor Strezo and Councilor Wilson

That the Election Commissioner identify locations outside of the City Council Chamber to conduct early voting for future elections.

Councilor McLaughlin noted that some Councilors have voiced experiencing a lack of respect by the administration and he said that this is just one example. The Chamber and Committee Room are under the domain of the City Council and although he believes in inter-departmental cooperation, he noted that the administration would not allow Council members to use another office space for an executive session meeting. Councilor Gomez Mouakad urged members to advocate for getting the 1895 building renovation underway. Councilor Scott related that he has repeatedly been told that he could not use the Committee Room for Council business.

RESULT: APPROVED

10.20. Order (ID # **22-1739**)

By Councilor McLaughlin

That the Director of Housing and the Director of Health and Human Services update this Council regarding repeated requests to provide shelter to homeless residents.

Councilor McLaughlin noted that this is a recurring problem that has had a lack of response and that people need a place to go. Councilor Burnley said it's time to provide shelter to the homeless, but he has been told that this is not on track, so he would like to use ARPA funds to address the problem.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

10.21. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1714**)

Requesting ordainment of an amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Section 2-221, to extend the exclusive period for Group A and Group B Priority Marijuana License applicants.

Councilor Scott related that this ground-breaking legislation is about to expire.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

10.22. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1718**)

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Zac Zaremba to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

10.23. Mayor's Request (ID # 22-1719)

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Brian Cook to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

10.24. Mayor's Request (ID # **22-1720**)

Requesting confirmation of the appointment of Sisia Daglian to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld moved to waive the reading and refer the item to the Committee on Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters.

RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION

FOLLOWUP: Confirmation of Appointments and Personnel Matters Committee

10.25. License (ID # **22-1745**)

New Drainlayer's License, Raffaele Construction Corp.

RESULT: APPROVED

10.26. Public Event (ID # **22-1731**)

Arts Council applying for a Public Event License for SomerStreets: Monster Mash on October 30 from 12pm to 8pm (raindate November 6).

RESULT: APPROVED

11. LATE ITEMS

Order (ID # **22-1757**)

By Councilor Burnley Jr., Councilor Kelly and Councilor Davis That the ARPA Specialist update this Council on the City's plans to use ARPA funding to address chronic homelessness.

Discussed with item 22-1739.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

Order

By Councilor Scott

(ID # **22-1768**)

That the City Solicitor update this Council on the 8/25/22 Civil Service Commission decision Lima, Henry v. City of Somerville, and its impact on the appointments approved by the City Council on 10/13/22, as well as future firefighter appointments.

RESULT: APPROVED

Order

By Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Wilson

(ID # **22-1758**)

That the Director of Economic Development, Director of Mobility, and Director of Parking explore North-South microtransit routes and report to this Council regarding feasibility and cost.

Councilor Burnley spoke about possibly running a pilot program that aligns with the city's climate goals and lack of parking. Councilor Kelly said that she spoke to hundreds of people who told her how difficult it is to walk to and from Market Basket via Walnut Street and she thinks that this would allow residents to get to the services they need. She also noted that these routes do exist in the city now, but are operated by the private sector, therefore not available to the public. Councilor Burnley modeled his plan on the one used in Cambridge, with some changes. Councilor Gomez Mouakad would like to tie this into the school routes.

RESULT: APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION

FOLLOWUP: Traffic and Parking Committee

Order

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # <u>22-1759</u>)

That the Budget Director update this Council on the status of the at least \$200,000 in unallocated funding that this Council resolved be allocated to unarmed, alternative emergency response.

Councilor Burnley stated that when the Council speaks on an issue, the Administration has the responsibility to inform the Council why it may choose not to support the item. Councilor Wilson said that the Public Health and Public Safety committee will be having a discussion with local and national individuals on alternative emergency response methods.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

Order

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # <u>22-1760</u>)

That the Director of Food Access & Healthy Communities provide this Council with a report on the Taxi to Health program.

Councilor Burnley said that the information would be useful in helping to build a better infrastructure in the city.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

Order

By Councilor Burnley Jr.

(ID # <u>22-1761</u>)

That the Chief of Police work with the Office of Housing Stability to submit a written report answering the questions contained within.

Councilor Burnley said that this has been used nationally to harm people involved in domestic violence situations and Councilor Strezo reported that the nuisance law is not enforceable in Somerville, however, Councilor Burnley feels that it would be worth it to look at the law on the books.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>

FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

Resolution (ID # **22-1762**)

By Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Scott That the Administration update this Council on actions taken related to the possible relocation of the Somerville Media Center and Massachusetts Alliance for Portuguese Speakers from the city-owned property at 90 Union Square.

Councilor McLaughlin commented that there are plans for this building that many may not be aware of and he is bringing attention to this in an attempt to be able to protect SCAT and MAPS from losing their spaces in the building. Councilor Clingan reported that city plans to put bids out for the roof repairs and Councilor McLaughlin stated that repairs will be made, but not to the benefit of the people currently there. Councilor Scott said the condition of the building is disgraceful and he would like to have a discussion on this before the full Council.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>
FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

Resolution

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # **22-1763**)

That the Administration update this Council on developments related to the Request for Proposals for the disposition of the property located at 90 Union Square.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>
FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

Order

By Councilor McLaughlin

(ID # <u>22-1764</u>)

That the Commissioner of Public Works clean Chuckie Harris Park.

RESULT: APPROVED

Order

By Councilor Scott

(ID # **22-1765**)

That Outside Counsel Timothy Zessin update this Council on the 10/6/22 Civil Service Commission decision Kiely, Michael v. City of Somerville, and the impact on the confirmations process.

RESULT: LAID ON THE TABLE

Communication (ID # **22-1766**)

By Councilor Pineda Neufeld

Conveying an update on the MBTA Bus Network Redesign project.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld reported that representatives of the MBTA met with residents of Clarendon Hill Towers last week. The re-design update will be out next month and another meeting with the MBTA is scheduled for November 2. The MBTA made a commitment to expand bus service by 25% over the next 5 years. Councilor Burnley said that if the MBTA plans on eliminating some bus routes, the community needs to be ready to oppose that.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

Order

By Councilor Pineda Neufeld

(ID # **22-1767**)

That the Director of Health and Human Services report to this Council on COVID and flu vaccination clinics and strategies to increase opportunities for residents to access vaccines.

Councilor Pineda Neufeld would like to get an update on the availability of vaccine clinics.

RESULT: <u>APPROVED AND SENT FOR DISCUSSION</u>
FOLLOWUP: Public Health and Public Safety Committee

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 9:37 PM.