



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

Rodent Issues Special Committee

Meeting Minutes Dispositions

Monday, January 30, 2023

6:30 PM

Virtual

This meeting was held via GoToWebinar and was called to order by Chair Kelly at 6:31 pm and adjourned at 7:40 pm. The motion to adjourn was approved by a roll call vote of all in favor (Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Wilson, Chair Kelly), none opposed, and none absent.

Others present: Colin Zeigler – ISD, Nicholas Antanavica – ISD, Stephanie Widzowski – Clerk of Committees.

Roll Call

Present: City Councilor At Large Charlotte Kelly, City Councilor At Large Jake Wilson and Matthew McLaughlin

1. Approval of the Rodent Issues Special Committee Minutes of September 28, 2022. [22-1694](#)

Accepted

Aye: City Councilor At Large Kelly, City Councilor At Large Wilson and Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin

2. That the Director of Health and Human Services, the Director of Inspectional Services and the Environmental Health Coordinator update this Council on current rodent mitigation plans. [22-0296](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Kelly, Councilor Clingan, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Pineda Neufeld

Recommended to be marked work completed

3. That the Director of Inspectional Services and the Environmental Health Coordinator update this Council on the SMART box program and other rodent control measures. [23-0131](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Kelly

Recommended to be marked work completed

4. That the Director of Inspectional Services consider a financial relief program for low income residents who are paying out of pocket for increased rodent expenses, including car and home repairs. [22-0346](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Strezo, Councilor Scott and Councilor Kelly

Recommended to be marked work completed

5. That the Environmental Health Coordinator and the Director of Inspectional Services discuss resident reports of cars damaged by rats over the past five years. [23-0063](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Strezo, Councilor Kelly, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Scott and Councilor Clingan

Recommended to be marked work completed

6. That the Environmental Health Coordinator update this Council on any past pilots and any future plans for use of rodent hormonal birth control. [23-0069](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Wilson and Councilor Kelly

Recommended to be marked work completed

7. That the Executive Director of the Office of Strategic Planning and Community Development and the Environmental Health Coordinator discuss the feasibility of including neighborhood-specific rat control funding in Community Benefits Agreements. [23-0062](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Strezo, Councilor Pineda Neufeld, Councilor Kelly, Councilor Wilson and Councilor Gomez Mouakad

Recommended to be marked work completed

8. That the Director of Inspectional Services bait the sewers along Pennsylvania Avenue and adjacent streets and develop a plan to address rodent issues, in anticipation of planned water pipeline renovation. [22-2037](#)

Sponsors: Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Strezo, Councilor Kelly and Councilor Burnley Jr.

Recommended to be marked work completed

9. That the Director of Inspectional Services inspect Chuckie Harris Park, the General Insulation building and 161 Broadway for signs of rodent issues and food waste. [22-2036](#)

Sponsors: Councilor McLaughlin, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Strezo, Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Kelly

Recommended to be marked work completed

10. That the Commissioner of Public Works update this Council on the replacement of trash bins due to rodent activity. [22-0297](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Kelly

Recommended to be marked work completed

Referenced Documents:

Rodent Committee - 2023-1-30 Presentation (with 22-0296)