



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

Legislative Matters Committee

Meeting Minutes Dispositions

Tuesday, March 28, 2023

6:00 PM

Virtual

This meeting was held via GoToWebinar and was called to order by Chair Davis at 6:04 pm and adjourned at 8:25 pm with a roll call vote of 4 in favor (Councilor Scott, Councilor Burnley, Councilor Kelly, and Chair Davis), none opposed, and 1 absent (Councilor McLaughlin).

Technical difficulties with the meeting software caused Councilor McLaughlin to join late.

Others present: Neha Singh – Mayor’s Office, Brendan Salisbury – City Clerk’s Office, Catherine Lester Salchert – Law Office, Ellen Shachter – OSPCD, Stephanie Widzowski – Clerk of Committees.

Roll Call

Present: Chairperson Lance L. Davis, Vice Chair Charlotte Kelly, Willie Burnley Jr., Matthew McLaughlin and Jefferson Thomas (J.T.) Scott

Approval of the Minutes of the Legislative Matters Committee Meeting of March 14, 2023. [23-0445](#)

Accepted

Aye: Chairperson Davis, Vice Chair Kelly, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and Ward Two City Councilor Scott

Absent: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin

Proposing Amendments to the Neighborhood Council Designation Ordinance (Chapter 7, Article IX) to encourage the formation of such neighborhood councils. [22-1293](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Ewen-Campen, Councilor Clingan, Councilor Wilson, Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Kelly

Recommended to be approved as amended

Aye: Chairperson Davis, Vice Chair Kelly, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and Ward Two City Councilor Scott

Absent: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin

Requesting the acceptance of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 138, Section 33B, to confirm the authorization of licensees under section twelve to sell alcoholic beverages between the hours of 10:00 AM and [23-0323](#)

12:00 noon on Sundays, the last Monday in May and on Christmas day or on the day following when said day occurs on Sunday.

Recommended to be approved

Aye: Chairperson Davis, Vice Chair Kelly, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and Ward Two City Councilor Scott

Absent: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin

Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition authorizing the City of Somerville to impose a real estate transfer fee.

[23-0454](#)

Recommended to be approved as amended

Aye: Chairperson Davis, Vice Chair Kelly, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and Ward Two City Councilor Scott

Absent: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin

Requesting approval of a Home Rule Petition authorizing the City of Somerville to enact Right to Purchase legislation.

[23-0455](#)

Recommended to be approved

Aye: Chairperson Davis, Vice Chair Kelly, City Councilor At Large Burnley Jr. and Ward Two City Councilor Scott

Absent: Ward One City Councilor McLaughlin

Amending Sections 7-41, 7-43, 7-44, and 7-47 of the Code of Ordinances, related to Fair Housing.

[22-1994](#)

Sponsors: Councilor Burnley Jr. and Councilor Scott

Kept in committee