

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

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

May 14, 2020, 7:00 PM  
Meeting by Remote Participation  
\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. C. 30A, s. 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, as well as Mayor Curtatone's Declaration of Emergency, dated March 15, 2020, this meeting of the City Council will be conducted via remote participation. We will post an audio recording, audio-video 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.

**Copy & paste the following link into your internet browser to view this meeting live:**  
**<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/542986527483133452>.**

**OPENING CEREMONIES**

1. Roll Call            Call of the Roll.  
(ID # 23015)
  
2. Remembrances    Remembrances.  
(ID # 23016)
  
3. Minutes            Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, April  
(ID # 23017)        7, 2020.

**CITATIONS**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

4. Grant of            Submitted by Eversource to install 25 feet of conduit in  
Location            Smith Avenue from pole 525/1 to a point of pickup at 5  
(ID # 22998)        Smith Avenue.
  
5. Grant of            Submitted by Eversource to install 46 feet of conduit in  
Location            Prospect Street from pole 291/15 to a point of pickup at  
(ID # 22999)        109 Prospect Street.
  
6. Grant of            Submitted by Verizon to install 130 feet of conduit in  
Location            Broadway from existing manhole 333 to a new handhole  
(ID # 23000)        at the intersection of Broadway and Boston Avenue.

7. Grant of Location (ID # 23001) Submitted by Verizon to install 291 feet of conduit in South Street and Earle Street, from existing manhole 464 to a new manhole 44/464A, then to a point of pickup at the rear of 111 South Street.

**ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS**

8. Order (ID # 22986) By City Councilor Strezo  
That the Director of Communications create signage to post citywide reminding the public of the penalties and public health risks associated with COVID-19 for littering used masks, gloves and wipes.
9. Order (ID # 23005) By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of SPCD and a representative from the MBTA discuss with the Committee on Open Space, Energy and Environment, the plan to recapture the trees and green space lost after the decimation of the GLX forested corridor.
10. Resolution (ID # 23006) By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, and the Mayor  
Supporting Somerville restaurants by capping fees charged by third party delivery services during the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

11. Resolution 209284 By City Councilor Scott  
Supporting House Resolution 702, The People's Justice Guarantee.
12. License/Permit 209973 New Extended Hours License, Dunkin Donuts, 282 Somerville Avenue, for 24/7 operation for in-store and take-out service only.
13. Grant of Location 209992 Submitted by Eversource to install 56 feet of conduit in the intersection of Linden Avenue and Elm Street from Pole 112/6A to a point of pickup at 36 Elm Street.
14. Grant of Location 209997 Submitted by Eversource to install 70 feet of conduit in Broadway from manhole #2572 to a new handhole in front of Trum Field.
15. Grant of Location 209998 Submitted by Eversource to install 80 feet of conduit in Broadway from manhole #2569 to a new handhole at the intersection of Broadway and Dexter Street.

- 
- 16. Order 210031 By City Councilor Ballantyne, Scott, Rossetti, Davis, McLaughlin, Niedergang, White Jr., Hirsch, Clingan, Ewen-Campen, Mbah  
That the Election Commissioner discuss mailing absentee applications to registered voters for the upcoming primary and general elections.
  
  - 17. Grant of Location 210041 Submitted by Comcast to install 6 feet of conduit in the intersection of Linwood and Poplar Streets, from an existing Comcast manhole to a new manhole, then continuing with another 46 feet of conduit to a point of pickup at 135 Linwood Street.
  
  - 18. Grant of Location 210042 Submitted by Verizon to install 10 feet of conduit in Medford Street, from existing conduit near Ward Street to pole 228/8-1 near the rear of 39R Medford Street.
  
  - 19. Grant of Location 210043 Submitted by Verizon to install 10 feet of conduit in Medford Street, from Manhole #101 to existing conduit at the intersection of Medford Street and Bartlett Street.
  
  - 20. Grant of Location 210044 Submitted by Verizon to install 63 feet of conduit in Broadway, from Manhole #437 to an existing handhole near 546 Broadway.
  
  - 21. Communication 210053 By City Councilor Niedergang  
Reporting on the discussions and decisions of the Traffic Commission during the first four months of 2020.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

22. FINANCE COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23009) Report of the Committee on Finance, meeting on May 6, 2020.
  
- B. Mayor's Request 208856 Requesting the repurposing of \$200,000 in CPA funds awarded to the City's Capital Project Division for the rehabilitation of City Hall.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
  
- C. Order 209922 By City Councilor Scott  
That the Director of Finance prepare for this Council a year-to-date update on the E-911 Salaries Account.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.
  
- D. Resolution 209937 By City Councilor Mbah  
That the Administration provide financial relief to small businesses as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.

- E. Resolution 210054 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, McLaughlin, Scott, Hirsch, Niedergang, Mbah, Ballantyne  
That the Administration appropriate funds from the dedicated Union Square Community Benefits Contributions to support two outside staff positions, one for job placement/workforce development services and one for local small business services, similar to the Community Benefits Agreement recommendations and now particularly urgent due to the COVID-19 crisis.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.
- F. Mayor's Request 210068 Requesting approval of the attached Order of Taking of 31 Tufts Street.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.
- G. Mayor's Request 210070 Requesting the transfer of \$94,015 from the Parking Department Repairs to Highway Account to the IAM Engineering Division Repairs to Highway Account, to provide pavement marking services.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved.

23. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23007) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on April 30, 2020.

24. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23010) Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, meeting on May 7, 2020.
- B. Order 205833 By City Councilor Rossetti  
That the Directors of Capital Projects and Engineering work with the City Solicitor to craft a DEP-required Storm Water Ordinance as discussed at the April 16, 2015 meeting of the Legislative Matters Committee.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved as Amended.
- C. Mayor's Request 210067 Requesting approval of amendments to the Condominium/Cooperative Conversion Ordinance with the specific amended language attached.  
RECOMMENDED: Approved as Amended.

25. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23008) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on May 4, 2020.

26. PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23011) Report of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, meeting as a Committee of the Whole on May 11, 2020.
  
- B. Resolution 210001 By City Councilor McLaughlin  
That the Administration take measures to ensure that first responders and essential personnel are prioritized for COVID-19 testing for personal and public safety purposes.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.
  
- C. Resolution 210047 By City Councilor Mbah  
That the Administration update this Council on what is being done to help communities of color during this COVID-19 pandemic.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.
  
- D. Resolution 210048 By City Councilor Mbah, Ballantyne  
That the Administration update this Council on what is being done to help the homeless, who are most at risk during this COVID-19 pandemic.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.
  
- E. Order 210115 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, McLaughlin, Hirsch, Mbah, White Jr.  
That the Administration's weekly update on COVID-19 include a dedicated update from the Police Department on the implementation of the mandatory mask policy, and what steps are being taken to ensure that enforcement is fair and unbiased.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.
  
- F. Order 210124 By City Councilor Ballantyne  
That the Director of the Council on Aging provide this Council with updates and ways to help seniors living in our community.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed.

27. TRAFFIC AND PARKING COMMITTEE

- A. Committee Report (ID # 23012) Report of the Committee on Traffic and Parking, meeting on May 13, 2020.
  
- B. Order 204874 By City Councilor Hirsch, Niedergang  
That the Director of Traffic and Parking publish de-identified parking permit data in the city's open data portal so as to permit community analysis and discussion of issues related to the supply and demand of parking.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- C. Order 204965 By City Councilor Mbah, Ballantyne, Rossetti, White Jr., Hirsch  
That the Director of Traffic and Parking install a crosswalk at Woods Avenue and Route 16.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- D. Resolution 205700 By City Councilor Hirsch  
That the Administration report on the feasibility of giving parking permits to cars that are part of car-share programs and housed in Somerville for an extended period of time.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- E. Resolution 205936 By City Councilor Hirsch  
That the Administration work with this Board on a fund for traffic calming and pedestrian/transit infrastructure pilot projects through such sources as demand pricing for meters in business districts and the creation of incentives for residents to forgo residential permits so as to create more business permits.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- F. Order 206778 By City Councilor Ewen-Campen  
That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Engineering work with the Ward 3 Alderman to use \$75,000 contributed by the 125 Lowell developers, to enhance traffic calming in the vicinity.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- G. Order 207660 By City Councilor Clingan  
That the Commissioner of Public Works clean or replace the right turn signal at the corner of Broadway, turning onto Temple Street, as it is not visible during the day.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- H. Resolution 208334 By City Councilor Scott  
That the Vision Zero Task Force provide the City Council with an update on its activities.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- I. Order 209372 By City Councilor McLaughlin, Ewen-Campen, Scott, Clingan, Ballantyne, Davis, Niedergang, Rossetti, Hirsch, Mbah  
That the Director of SPCD prepare a plan for congestion pricing tolls to address traffic and air pollution.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- J. Resolution 209644 By City Councilor Rossetti, Davis, Ballantyne, Ewen-Campen, Niedergang, Hirsch, White Jr., Scott  
That the Administration update this Council by February 25, 2020 of any negotiated relief related to the recently-announced GLX delayed timeline and resultant impact to the city's residents and businesses.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

- K. Order 209657 By City Councilor Niedergang  
That this Council's Committee on Traffic and Parking provide feedback on SomerVision 2040's chapter on Mobility.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- L. Officer's Communication 209774 Director of SomerStat responding to #204874 re: publishing de-identified parking permit data.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- M. Mayor's Communication 209787 Responding to #209644 re: GLX mitigation requests.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- N. Order 209806 By City Councilor Niedergang  
That the Director of SPCD inform this Council about who is planning the traffic management for the GLX stations at Lowell Street and at Ball Square, and the timeline for any infrastructure and streetscape work that may be necessary.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed
- O. Order 210051 By City Councilor Niedergang, Ballantyne  
That the Director of Mobility update this Council on that Division's work over the past few months and plans for the rest of the spring and summer.  
RECOMMENDED: Work Completed

#### **COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

28. Mayor's Request (ID # 22944) Requesting approval to appropriate \$76,000 from the Wynn/Encore Small business Assistance Stabilization fund to pay for technical assistance for small businesses impacted by COVID-19.
29. Mayor's Request (ID # 22399) Requesting approval to create the Alpine Street Stabilization fund and accept a payment to the Fund of \$10,000 from 2-13 Alpine St. LLC for Open Space improvements.
30. Mayor's Request (ID # 23013) Requesting confirmation of the re-appointment of Joseph P. Lynch, Jr., to the Licensing Commission.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

31. Officer's Communication (ID # 23018) Assistant City Solicitor submitting amendments to the ordinances in Chapter 11, Articles VI-Engineering and VII-Sewers, pursuant to the Legislative Matters Committee's recommendations on 5/7/20.

32. Officer's Communication (ID # 22985) City Clerk informing this Council that Councilor at Large Kristen E. Strezo was administered the oath of office on May 4, replacing former Councilor at Large Stephanie Hirsch, who resigned on April 30.
33. Officer's Communication (ID # 23004) Director of the Council on Aging submitting a response to #210124 with an update on assistance to senior residents in this time of COVID-19.

**NEW BUSINESS**

34. License/Permit (ID # 22990) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Milltown Plumbing and Heating.
35. License/Permit (ID # 22988) Renewing Drainlayer's License, Borges Sewer and Drain.
36. License/Permit (ID # 22989) Renewing Drainlayer's License, LVMJ Corporation.
37. License/Permit (ID # 22995) Renewing Flammables License, Broadway Sunoco, 258 Broadway.
38. License/Permit (ID # 22993) Renewing Garage License, Broadway Sunoco, 258 Broadway.
39. License/Permit (ID # 22991) Renewing Garage License, Boston Sand and Gravel, 492 Rutherford Ave.
40. License/Permit (ID # 22992) Renewing Garage License, M. Korson and Company, 91 Washington St.
41. License/Permit (ID # 22994) Renewing Garage License, BBC Auto Repair, 42 Joy St.
42. License/Permit (ID # 22996) Renewing Garage License, Partners HealthCare System, 399 Revolution Dr.
43. License/Permit (ID # 23002) Renewing Extended Operating Hours License, Domino's Pizza, 201 Elm St.
44. License/Permit (ID # 22997) Renewing Livery License, Mass Cab, 45 Endicott Ave.
45. License/Permit (ID # 22987) Renewing Billiards and Bowling License, Flatbread Company at Sacco's Bowl Haven, 45 Day St.



46. Public Chamber of Commerce submitting comments re:  
Communication #204278, the Demolition Review ordinance.  
(ID # 23014)

**SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS**

47. Order By City Councilor Rossetti, Niedergang  
(ID # 23020) That the Director of Inspectional Services explain why  
Stop Work Orders are not accompanied by a fine.
48. Communication By City Councilor McLaughlin  
(ID # 23023) In his capacity as President, conveying information  
regarding appointments.
49. Communication By City Councilor McLaughlin  
(ID # 23022) In his capacity as President, conveying information  
regarding the reopening of schools.
50. Communication By City Councilor McLaughlin  
(ID # 23021) In his capacity as President, conveying an update on the  
School Committee's negotiations with Somerville  
Teachers Association Unit C Paraprofessionals.
51. Mayor's Request Submitting amendments to the Condominium /  
(ID # 23019) Cooperative Conversion Ordinance as approved by the  
Legislative Matters Committee on 5/7/20.
52. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to create the Union Square  
(ID # 23003) Community Benefits Stabilization Fund and accept a  
payment to the Fund of \$214,000 from the US2 Master  
Developer escrow account for Covid-19 pandemic-  
related economic relief efforts.
53. Mayor's Request Requesting acceptance of a \$325,000 grant with no new  
(ID # 22891) match required, from the MBTA for public safety  
emergency first responder costs.

**LATE ITEMS**

**ADJOURNMENT**