

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the Board of Aldermen

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

February 28, 2008, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

OPENING OF THE MEETING

1. Roll Call Call of the Roll.
2. Minutes Approval of the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 24, 2008.

CITATIONS

3. Citation By Ald. Heuston and the Entire Board, Commending Tom Buckley, who is retiring after 37 years of dedicated service to the residents of the city as Sewer Foreman.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS
AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

4. Order By Ald. Pero, That the Chief of Police order a directed patrol of Sewall St. in response to recent vehicle break-ins.
5. Resolution By Ald. Pero, That this Board requests that the Commission on Traffic and Parking adopt parking restrictions on Fellsway West similar to those at the lot at the intersection of Broadway and McGrath Hwy.
6. Order By Ald. Pero, That the Director of SPCD inspect 53 Heath St. for building and/or health code violations.
7. Order By Ald. Pero and Roche, That the Director of the Arts Council contact DCR to facilitate painting the Foss Park pool mural to match the other three sides of the pool area.
8. Resolution By Ald. Sullivan, Roche, Heuston, White, Desmond and Connolly, That this Board requests that MA Highway resurface Washington St. from Charlestown to McGrath Hwy.

9. Resolution By Ald. Sullivan, Roche, White, Desmond and Connolly, That this Board requests that MA Highway repair the fence and install sound proof barriers along I-93 at New Hampshire Ave.
10. Resolution By Ald. Connolly, That this Board advises the Chairman and members of the Licensing Commission that Lynn and Revere are rolling back the closing hours for bars and alcohol serving establishments to 1 AM (from 2 AM).
11. Order By Ald. Connolly and Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the pothole on Villa Ave. opposite the telephone pole on the right side of the roadway.
12. Resolution By Ald. Gewirtz, That this Board requests that the Administration and Board of Library Trustees work with this Board to initiate a program modeled on Belmont's One Book One Belmont program that supports reading a common book as a way to bring the community together.
13. Order By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Finance Committee hold at least 3 budget hearings (in east, central, and west Somerville), starting in April of each year, prior to the budget submittal in June, to ensure all residents the opportunity to weigh in on their budget priorities before the budget is introduced.
14. Order By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Chief of Police and the City Solicitor inform this Board of the process to create a "bike parts pool" for abandoned bikes and parts that is accessible to the public, the time for the city to take actual ownership of these items, and the process for making them available to the public after ownership by the city is determined.
15. Order By Ald. Gewirtz, That Rule #3 of the Rules of this Board be changed as follows: That any item submitted after midnight of the previous day before a regularly scheduled Board meeting for inclusion on the Board's agenda, either by Aldermen or the Administration, be printed as part of an addendum agenda available to the public the evening of the meeting, and that any item submitted by an Alderman or the Administration directly prior to the meeting (after 6 PM the day of the meeting), or during the meeting, require a 2/3 majority of the Board voting in favor of admitting the item before it is accepted and admitted to the agenda.
16. Order By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Director of SPCD and the Chief Assessor report to the Committee on Housing and Community Development, any new information relating to the sub-prime mortgage crisis and the specific steps Somerville is taking to protect citizens from foreclosures.

17. Order By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Director of Traffic and Parking contact the Ward 5 Alderman to schedule a meeting with residents to discuss traffic and parking concerns in Magoun Sq., particularly on Medford St.
18. Order By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Director of SPCD contact the Ward 5 Alderman to schedule a community meeting on the redevelopment of Albion Park.
19. Order By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Chief of Police contact the Ward 5 Alderman to schedule a community meeting to discuss issues in and around Albion Park.
20. Order By Ald. O'Donovan and Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works submit to this Board a report of needed and completed repairs at the Brown School.
21. Resolution By Ald. Trane, That this Board requests that the Administration form a committee to name a poet laureate, in keeping with the City's efforts to support the arts.
22. Order By Ald. Trane, That the Chief of Police increase patrols around Clarendon Hill Towers and Foodmaster Super Market to deter loitering and other activities.
23. Order By Ald. Trane, That the Director of SPCD work with the business community in Teele Sq. to find funding mechanisms for storefront improvements.
24. Order By Ald. White, That the Director of Finance explain the history of #178688, a transfer of \$232,658 to the Public Works Rubbish Removal Account approved on 5/12/05.
25. Order By Ald. White, That the Director of Finance and the Commissioner of Public Works provide this Board with the amounts expended for the Rubbish Removal and Professional and Technical Services Accounts under sanitation, for fiscal years 2003 through 2007.
26. Order By Ald. White, Sullivan and O'Donovan, That representatives of Capital Project Management and the City Solicitor's Office update this Board on the Trum Field House project and efforts to recoup the additional costs.
27. Order By Ald. Taylor, That the Chief of Police order a directed patrol of Atherton and Beech Sts. by the Roundhouse, for vandalism and illegal trash dumping from 5 to 10 PM.
28. Order By Ald. Taylor, That the Commissioner of Public Works contact the MBTA to request that the tracks and surrounding area behind Montrose St. be cleared of debris.

- 29. Order By Ald. Taylor, That the Director of Traffic and Parking evaluate the intersection of Prescott, Summer and Quincy Sts. for pedestrian and vehicular safety and make recommendations for improvement.
- 30. Order By Ald. Taylor, That the City Solicitor draft a Home Rule Petition to allow volunteer community members to enforce handicap parking regulations.
- 31. Order By Ald. Taylor and Roche, That the Chief of Police contact the State Police to jointly evaluate the intersection of McGrath Hwy. and Medford St., from 7:30 - 9:00 AM and 2:00 - 3:30 PM, for traffic violations that are placing the city's students in jeopardy.
- 32. Comm. By President Sullivan, Creating a Special Committee on Parks and Open Space.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 33. Citation By Ald. Taylor and the Entire Board, Congratulating John McEachern on the auspicious occasion of his 93 birthday.
- 34. Order By Ald. Gewirtz, That the Committee on Rules consider a change to Rule 3 of the Rules of the Board of Aldermen governing late items, as described within.
- 35. Citation By Ald. O'Donovan and the Entire Board, Congratulating Constance Lauro on the auspicious occasion of her 100th birthday.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

- 36. Committee Report of the Committee on Public Health & Safety, Feb. Report 20.
- 37. Committee Report of the Committee on Land Use, Feb. 21. Report
- 38. Committee Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters, Feb. 26. Report

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

- 39. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation and issuance of a bond of \$545,800 for the demolition of the severely damaged Southeast Wing of the East Somerville Community School.

40. Mayor's Request Requesting a transfer of \$33,863. from Salary Contingency Acct. to the Police Salaries to fund 3½ new civilian positions as part of Police Dept. Reorganization Plan.
41. Mayor's Request Requesting an appropriation of \$4,125 from Free Cash to the Police Special Items Rental-Buildings Acct. to lease the Mudflat Pottery School as the site of the East Somerville Police Sub-station, at a rent of \$1,375 per month.
42. Mayor's Request Requesting the use of available funds of \$1,443 in the Auditing Salaries Acct. to fund a new salary rate for the vacant position of Payroll Coordinator, effective March 18.
43. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to expend a \$21,000 grant from the MA Office of Public Safety for the Police's Click it or Ticket and You Drink and Drive You Lose programs. (This grant was approved as #184867 on 2/14, for \$19,000, but the State's formal award was for \$21,000.)
44. Mayor's Request Requesting approval to expend a grant of unknown value consisting of six 19 inch flat screen monitors from the Clearwater FL Police Dept., awarded to the Police Dept.
45. Mayor's Request Requesting the adoption of proposed amendments to MGL Ch. 48, Sections 59b, 59c and 59d, to enable the City to establish a reserve Fire Force.
46. Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Tom Gilbert to the Commissions for Persons with Disabilities.
47. Mayor's Request Requesting the appointment of Robin Pfetsch to the Municipal Athletics Facilities Commission.

COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

48. Officer's Comm. Chief of Police responding to various Board Orders.
49. Officer's Comm. Chief Fire Engineer responding to various Board Orders.
50. Officer's Comm. Director of SPCD responding to various Board Orders.

NEW BUSINESS

51. Public Occ Public Occupancy Permit, Somerville Community Corp. Save Our Homes Walk, High School to East Som. Community School and back, April 27, 2-4PM.

52. Public Occ Public Occupancy Permit, On The Hill Tavern Road Race, Trum Field to Highland Ave., June 8, 11:30AM.
53. Public Occ Public Occupancy Permit, Somerville Road Runners Summer Steamer Road Race, Broadway, July 13, 10AM.
54. Public Occ Public Occupancy Permit, Somerville Road Runners Gobble Gobble Road Race, Davis Sq., Nov. 27, 9AM.
55. Drainlayer Renewal of Drain Layer's License, James W. Flett Co.
56. Drainlayer Renewal of Drain Layer's License, Donohoe Excavating Inc.
57. Drainlayer Renewal of Drain Layer's License, Robell Inc.
58. Sign New Sign/Awning Permit, Artifaktori LLC, 22A College Ave., Sign.
59. Junk Dealer New Junk Dealer License, Artifaktori LLC, 22A College Ave.
60. Garage New Garage License, John's Auto Sales Inc., 50 Tufts St., 100 autos inside.
61. Garage Renewal of Garage License (2007), Autosal, 444R Somerville Ave., 15 autos inside.
62. Garage Renewal of Garage License, Autosal, 444R Somerville Ave., 15 autos inside.
63. Garage Renewal of Garage License, Reilly's Garage, 61-63 Washington St., 2 autos inside, 6 outside.
64. Garage Renewal of Garage License, Doucette Auto Service, 325 Alewife Brook Pkwy., 2 autos inside, 6 outside.
65. Garage Renewal Garage License, John's Auto Sales, 161 Broadway, 65 autos inside, 4 outside.
66. Outdoor Seating New Outdoor Seating License, Mystic Cleaners dba Mystic Tailors & Cleaners, 282 Broadway, Sign on sidewalk.
67. Outdoor Seating Renewal of Outdoor Seating License, FCMC Corp. dba Blue Shirt Café, 424 Highland Ave., 4 tables & 10 chairs.
68. Outdoor Seating Renewal of Outdoor Seating License, LDDJ Inc. dba Dave's Fresh Pasta, 81 Holland St., 5 tables & 10 chairs and one Sandwich Board.

69. Outdoor Parking Renewal of Outdoor Parking License, Urban Equity Development Co., 7-9 and 11-13 Herbert St., 20 autos.
70. Outdoor Parking Renewal of Outdoor Parking License, Urban Equity Development Co., 55-59 and 108-112 Dover St., 70 autos.

LATE ITEMS