

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

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

September 10, 2009, 7:00 PM  
Aldermanic Chambers  
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***NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Board of Aldermen'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.***

**PRESENT for all or part of the meeting:** Vice President John M. Connolly, Aldermen Bruce M. Desmond, Dennis M. Sullivan, William A. White Jr., William M. Roche, Maryann M. Heuston, Thomas F. Taylor, Sean T. O'Donovan, Rebekah L. Gewirtz

**OPENING OF THE MEETING**

- |    |           |   |                          |
|----|-----------|---|--------------------------|
| 1. | Roll Call | Call of the Roll.   | 188079<br>Placed on File |
| 2. | Minutes   | Approval of the minutes of the Special Meeting of June 29, 2009, and the Regular Meeting of July 9, 2009. | 188080<br>Approved       |

**CITATIONS**

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|----|----------|---|--------------------|
| 3. | Citation | By Ald. Gewirtz and the Entire Board, Commending John McKenzie on 28 years of stewardship to the city's senior citizens and homeless persons. | 188081<br>Approved |
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**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

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

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| 4. | Resolution | By Ald. Connolly, That this Board dedicates this meeting to the memory of the recently passed Anne Norman, a Gold Star mother of her late son Gordon, who was killed in the Vietnam War, and also the memory of the 3,000 plus individuals killed during the 9/11 terrorist attacks. | 188082<br>Approved |
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| 5.  | Order      | By Ald. Roche, That the Director of SPCD prepare a rezoning study to identify possible uses, including homes, for historic carriage houses to encourage their upkeep without negative impacts on abutters.   | 188083<br>Approved  |
| 6.  | Order      | By Ald. Sullivan and Heuston, That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the sidewalk at 40 Lincoln Pkwy.  | 188084<br>Approved  |
| 7.  | Order      | By Ald. Sullivan and Roche, That the Commissioner of Public Works remove the unused real estate newspaper box at 3 Washington St.  | 188085<br>Approved  |
| 8.  | Order      | By Ald. Sullivan and Roche, That the Director of Traffic and Parking repair the traffic signal on Washington St. at Innerbelt Rd.  | 188086<br>Approved  |
| 9.  | Resolution | By Ald. Sullivan, Roche, White and Gewirtz, That this Board requests that a Cambridge Health Alliance representative appear before this Board's Committee on Public Health and Safety to discuss the recent service reductions.  | 188087<br>Approved,<br>Ald. Heuston recused,<br>Copy to Public Health<br>& Safety |
| 10. | Order      | By Ald. Sullivan, Roche, White, Connolly, Desmond, Gewirtz, Taylor and Heuston, That the Director of Traffic and Parking and the Director of Senior Services collaborate to make resident parking stickers and visitor passes available at senior housing community rooms. | 188088<br>Approved, Copy to<br>Senior Services                                    |
| 11. | Order      | By Ald. Heuston, That the Commissioner of Public Works trim the weeds in the tree wells and sidewalk on Washington St. from Beacon St. to the Argenziano School, and on Beacon St. from Park St. to Concord Ave.   | 188089<br>Approved  |
| 12. | Order      | By Ald. Heuston and Desmond, That the City Clerk catalogue all garage and used car licenses in Ward 2 to crosscheck for multiple businesses at one location, and provide the Ward 2 Alderman with a report.  | 188090<br>Approved  |
| 13. | Order      | By Ald. Heuston, That the Director of SPCD inspect 36 Adrian St. for health and building code violations.  | 188091<br>Approved  |
| 14. | Resolution | By Ald. Heuston, That this Board requests that the Administration consider convening a task force to address problem absentee-landlord properties and the resulting undue burdens on city services.  | 188092<br>Approved  |
| 15. | Order      | By Ald. Heuston, That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the Union Square sign at the entrance to Union Sq.  | 188093<br>Approved  |

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| 16. | Order | By Ald. Connolly, That the Director of Communications report to this Board the feasibility of updating the Connect CTY process to include cell phones and text messaging.  | 188094<br>Approved   |
| 17. | Order | By Ald. Connolly and Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street lamp at Winter St. and College Ave. and near 720 Broadway.   | 188095<br>Approved   |
| 18. | Order | By Ald. Connolly and Gewirtz, That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the sidewalk at 418 Highland Ave.   | 188096<br>Approved   |
| 19. | Order | By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Commissioner of Public Works direct NStar to remove all double poles on Clyde St.  | 188097<br>Approved   |
| 20. | Order | By Ald. O'Donovan and Gewirtz, That this Board's Committee on Public Utilities and Works insist that NStar upgrade their Willow Ave. station to prevent further power outages as experienced in the Summer of 2009.            | 188098<br>Approved, Copy to<br>Public Utilities &<br>Works |
| 21. | Order | By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Director of SPCD appear before this Board to explain policies on trash violations.   | 188099<br>Approved, Copy to<br>Public Health & Safety      |
| 22. | Order | By Ald. O'Donovan, That this Board's Committee on Information Technology explore appealing trash violations online and advise the Ward 5 Alderman of the result.   | 188100<br>Approved, Copy to<br>Information Technology      |
| 23. | Order | By Ald. O'Donovan, That the Director of SPCD inspect 12 Warwick St. for safety concerns.   | 188101<br>Approved   |
| 24. | Order | By Ald. White, That the Director of Veterans Services provide this Board with a summary of the participation of eligible veterans who have taken advantage of the "Welcome Home" bonus program.                                | 188102<br>Approved, Copy to<br>Veterans Services           |
| 25. | Order | By Ald. White, That the Director of Traffic and Parking provide this Board with a percentage breakdown of employees who are residents of the City, and describe measures undertaken to insure that they remain residents.      | 188103<br>Approved, Copy to<br>Traffic & Parking           |
| 26. | Order | By Ald. White, That the Director of Health update the Committee on Public Health and Safety on vaccinations for the upcoming flu season, especially swine flu, and the policies to deal with potential outbreaks of swine flu. | 188104<br>Approved, Copy to<br>Public Health & Safety      |
| 27. | Order | By Ald. White and Pero, That the Commissioner of Public Works direct NStar to repair the street light on Evergreen Ave. between 63 Evergreen Ave. and Thurston St.   | 188105<br>Approved   |

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| 28. | Resolution | By Ald. Taylor, That this Board requests that the Traffic Commission and the Traffic and Parking Solutions Task Force consider the issue of short-term rentals/residents in permit parking districts.                    | 188106<br>Approved |
| 29. | Order      | By Ald. Taylor, That the Commissioner of Public Works evaluate the health of the trees around the perimeter of the Somerville Hospital (Highland Ave., Crocker St. and Tower St.), and remove or replace them as needed. | 188107<br>Approved |
| 30. | Order      | By Ald. Taylor, That the Director of Traffic and Parking evaluate the feasibility of making Hamlet St. One-Way from Boston St. to Highland Ave.  | 188108<br>Approved |

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

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| 31.  | Committee Report | Report of the Committee on Licenses & Permits, Sep. 9.   | 188109<br>Approved                             |
| 31A. | Flammable        | New Flammables License, Green Automotive Corp., 600 Windsor Place, 500 gallons.  | 188016<br>Approved                             |
| 31B. | Used Car         | New Used Car Dealers License Class II, Green Automotive Corp., 600 Windsor Place, 20 autos inside.   | 188017<br>Approved                             |
| 31C. | Garage           | New Garage License, Green Automotive Corp., 600 Windsor Place, Mechanical repairs, storage of registered & unregistered vehicles, vehicle towing, 50 autos inside, 40 outside. | 188018<br>Approved                             |
| 31D. | Junk Dealer      | New Junk Dealer License, Sunshine Lucy's, 93 Holland St.   | 188024<br>Approved                             |
| 31E. | Sign             | Sign/Awning Permit, Jumbo's LLC dba Eat at Jumbo's, 688 Broadway, sign & awning.   | 188025<br>Approved                             |
| 31F. | Sign             | Sign/Awning Permit, Great Thai Chef Inc., 255 Washington St., 2 signs & awnings.   | 188026<br>Approved                             |
| 31G. | Order            | By Ald. Heuston, That the City Clerk provide the Committee on Licenses & Permits with a list of all businesses with permits to operate 24 hours per day.                       | 188110<br>Approved, Copy to Licenses & Permits |
| 32.  | Committee Report | Report of the Committee on Youth Services, Sep. 10. No papers.   | 188111<br>Approved                             |

### **COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR**

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|-----|-----------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 33. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval of an amendment to the Zoning Ordinances, to rezone a portion of Broadway in Winter Hill and East Somerville.  | 188112<br>Land Use and Planning Board |
| 34. | Mayor's Request | Requesting acceptance of temporary easements for construction in the Assembly Sq. area at Middlesex Ave. and Cummings St., and at 5-7 Middlesex Ave., and a permanent easement at 5-7 Middlesex Ave. | 188113<br>Finance                     |
| 35. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval to extend a contract with Fay, Spofford and Thorndike to Nov. 14, 2012, for work in Assembly Sq.   | 188114<br>Finance                     |
| 36. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval to extend a contract with Group Benefits Strategies to Dec. 31, 2009, for group health claims review.  | 188115<br>Approved                    |
| 37. | Mayor's Request | Requesting approval to pay a \$384.30 prior year invoice for the City Clerk's Office for law books, using current year funds in the Books and Bookbinding Acct.                                      | 188116<br>Approved                    |
| 38. | Mayor's Request | Requesting acceptance of a grant of \$85,000 from Spectra Energy—Algonquin Gas Transmission LLC, for appropriation to the Algonquin Gas Loop Project Stabilization Fund.                             | 188117<br>Finance                     |
| 39. | Mayor's Request | Requesting acceptance of a grant of \$37,942 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program for the Police Dept., for technology and equipment.                                     | 188118<br>Finance                     |
| 40. | Mayor's Comm.   | Proclaiming September, 2009, as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.  | 188119<br>Placed on File              |
| 41. | Mayor's Comm.   | Proclaiming May 1 as Silver Star Banner Day, the permanent and official day to honor the wounded and ill soldiers of Somerville.   | 188120<br>Placed on File              |

### **COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

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| 42. | Public Event | Public Event Permit, Wallace St. Block Party, Sep. 12, 2-9PM (raindate Sep. 13).  | 188121<br>Approved |
| 43. | Public Event | Public Event Permit, Somerville Dog Owners Group Activity Booster, Stone Place Park, Sep. 13, 3-5PM (raindate Sep. 20). | 188122<br>Approved |

44.	Public Event	Public Event Permit, "Untitled Wichita Project" Film Shoot, Windsor St. from South St. to Water St., Sep. 21, 5AM-8PM (raindate Sep. 22).	188123 Approved
45.	Public Event	Public Event Permit, Sayonara Summer BBQ Block Party, Alpine St. from Lowell to Princeton Sts., Sep. 26, 5-9PM (raindate Sep. 27).	188124 Approved
46.	Public Event	Public Event Permit, New England Motorcycle Ride to Recovery, High School Concourse, Sep. 27, 8:30-11:30AM.	188125 Approved
47.	Public Event	Public Event Permit, Francesca Ave. Block Party, Sep. 27, 3-7PM.	188126 Approved
48.	Public Event	Public Event Permit, Redbones Octoberfest Fall Festival Block Party, Chester St. between Elm and Herbert Sts., Oct. 4, 12-6PM (raindate Oct. 18).	188127 Approved
49.	Public Event	Public Event Permit, Som. YMCA Swim Team Canning Drive, Citywide, Nov. 7, 8AM-Noon (raindate Nov. 14).	188128 Approved
50.	Garage	New Garage License, Somerville Body Works Inc., 42 Dana St., autobody work, spray painting, washing vehicles, storing registered and unregistered vehicles, 10 autos inside, 2 outside.	188129 Licenses & Permits
51.	Garage	Renewing Garage License, International Auto Repair, 508 Somerville Ave., 2 autos inside, 8 outside.	188130 Licenses & Permits
52.	Garage	Renewal of Garage License, A Plus Auto Body Inc., 295 Medford St., 20 autos inside, 11 outside.	188131 Licenses & Permits
53.	Garage	Renewal of Garage License, A Plus Auto Body Inc., 297 Medford St., 10 autos inside.	188132 Licenses & Permits
54.	Used Car	Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II, A Plus Auto Body, 297 Medford St., no autos.	188133 Licenses & Permits

**LATE ITEMS**

55.	Order	By Ald. Heuston, Taylor, White, Gewirtz and Sullivan, That the Volunteer Coordinator create a program to serve seniors who own their homes with such services as property maintenance and snow removal.	188134 Approved, Copy to Public Health & Safety and Legislative Matters
56.	Officer's Comm.	Planning Board conveying its recommendation re: #187894, a proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance to alter the uses allowed in the IA, IB and IP industrial districts, and to make associated map changes.	188135 Placed on File, Copy to Land Use

**Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk**