

CITY MANAGER'S AGENDA

1. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to the appointment of the following persons as members of the Mid Cambridge Neighborhood Conservation District Commission:
Nancy Goodwin - reappointment - 3-year term
Lestra Litchfield - reappointment - 2-year term
Tony Hsiao - reappointment - 2-year term
Carole Perrault - reappointment - 1-year term
Sue-Ellen Myers - alternate - 3-year term
Monika Zofia Pauli - alternate - 2-year term
Siobhan McMahon - alternate - 1-year term
2. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 08-142, regarding a report on the installation of a bus shelter at 2518 Massachusetts Avenue for the #77 bus.
3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 08-100, regarding a report on possible changes to regulations and operating procedures for traffic and motor vehicle use that could increase efficiency and fuel conservation.
4. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 08-146, regarding a report on the rationale for developing and implementing new parking sticker placement requirements.
5. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Number 08-147, regarding a report on the number of spaces in city-owned lots and garages that are designated for car sharing programs.

ON THE TABLE

1. Opposition to the closing of the Oliver Farnum Senior Health Center. [Placed on Table on motion of Councillor Maher on Order Number Fourteen of Nov 3, 2008.]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

2. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Co-Chair of the Ordinance Committee, for a meeting held on Nov 18, 2004 for the purpose of considering proposed amendments to Chapter 2.74 of the Cambridge Municipal Code, the Police Review and Advisory Board Ordinance. The question comes on passing to be ordained on or after Feb 14, 2005. [Four sections of the proposed amendment were passed to be ordained as amended. Ordinance #1284. The remaining proposed amendments to chapter 2.74 remain on Unfinished Business.]
3. Transmitting communication from Robert W. Healy, City Manager, relative to Awaiting Report Item Numbers 06-87, 07-83 and 07-138, regarding the status of putting the City's self-evaluation on the website. [Charter Right exercised by Councillor Kelley on City Manager Agenda Item Number Sixteen of Dec 10, 2007. Dec 17, 2007 - Referred to 2008-2009 City Council as Unfinished Business on motion of Councillor Kelley.]

RESOLUTIONS

1. Congratulations to Christopher Azevedo on being inducted to the Boston University Baseball Hall of Fame. Councillor Toomey

2. Thanks to all the firefighters and emergency personnel who responded to the Lexington Avenue fire. Councillor Maher, Councillor Decker, Councillor Davis, Councillor Toomey
3. Resolution on the death of Julia J. (Thompson) Driscoll. Councillor Maher
4. Resolution on the death of Jordan Gebre-Medhin. Councillor Reeves
5. Resolution on the death of Margaret "Daisy" Oakley. Councillor Reeves
6. Retirement of Marva Wooden from the Cambridge Hospital. Mayor Simmons
7. Retirement of Estelle Lindover from the Cambridge Hospital. Mayor Simmons
8. Congratulations to Elyse Cherry on the occasion of receiving the "Women of Justice" Award. Councillor Davis
9. Congratulations to Gloria Mejia on the occasion of receiving the 2008 "Community Health Worker" Award. Councillor Davis
10. Resolution on the death of John R. Moot. Councillor Maher, Councillor Davis, Vice Mayor Murphy
11. Congratulations to the Tar Heel Smithfield Packing workers who chose union representation with the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. Councillor Decker
12. Resolution on the death of Gabriel D. Paiva. Councillor Toomey
13. Best wishes to Garrett Simonsen as he leaves the Department of Public Health for a new position in Derry, New Hampshire. Mayor Simmons
14. Happy 60th Birthday wishes to Robert Bacon. Mayor Simmons
15. Congratulations to Billy Baker on his efforts to quit smoking. Councillor Decker
16. Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary wishes to Leroy and Myrtle Cragwell. Councillor Reeves

ORDERS

1. That the City Manager is requested to discuss with relevant City departments the creation of a Walden Street Cattle Pass observation point using the public arts funds previously dedicated to the site. Councillor Decker
2. That the Transportation, Traffic and Parking Committee be and hereby is requested to hold a meeting in January to try to determine whether the City should ask the State to eliminate or change the project planned at the junction of Massachusetts Avenue and Cedar Street. Councillor Kelley and Councillor Decker **Failed 2-7 (Councillors Decker and Kelley voted YES)**
3. That the City Manager is requested to confer with public safety officials and city communications staff to determine what additional public outreach could be done to help minimize the possibility of house fires and to implement any relevant programs as quickly as possible. Councillor Kelley and Councillor Seidel
4. That the City Manager is requested to give a full report to the City Council by no later than Jan 19, 2009 on the security cameras that may be or have been installed in

- Cambridge by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Councillor Seidel
5. That the City Council go on record encouraging Cambridge grocery stores to generously donate food to the local food pantries. Councillor Davis
 6. That the City Manager is requested to organize a meeting as soon as reasonably possible with relevant City staff, Harvard Square entities and the MBTA to review the upcoming elevator project to help ensure that the project will not result in the damage occurring at Old South Church. Councillor Kelley
 7. That the City Manager is requested to urge the MBTA to immediately address service needs on the 47 bus route so that people are not left waiting at the bus stops. Councillor Davis
 8. That the City Manager is requested to develop a comment on behalf of Cambridge regarding the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's draft CO₂ Budget Trading Program Emission Control Plan for Mirant Kendall, LLC. Councillor Davis
 9. That the City Council go on record supporting the adoption of the Emission Performance Label. Councillor Davis
 10. That the City Manager is requested to direct the Community Development Department to communicate with and update residents of East Cambridge on plans to ensure a supermarket remains within a reasonable distance of the neighborhood. Councillor Seidel
 11. That the City Manager is requested to provide the City Council with a status update on Policy Order Number 7 which was adopted on May 19, 2008 regarding the drafting of an ordinance which would require motorists to use a "hands free" device when using a cell phone while driving in Cambridge. Councillor Seidel
 12. That the City Manager is requested to obtain a report from the Fire Department on whether or not the fire hydrants closest to 72-74 Lexington Avenue were functioning properly, and whether or not there was a need to connect to hydrants further from the fire location because of low water pressure, hydrant malfunction. or any other issue. Councillor Decker
 13. That the City Manager is requested to urge the Police Department, in their process of hiring a contractor for the cleaning of the new Police Department offices, to hire a contractor who best exemplifies Cambridge's responsible employer values and practice. Councillor Decker
 14. That the City Manager is requested to direct the City Solicitor to report to the Ordinance Committee on the effects that adoption of proposed amendment to the Memorial Drive Overlay District would have on any existing special permit. Vice Mayor Murphy
 15. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to provide the Ordinance Committee with a list of the properties that would be affected by the proposed amendment to the Memorial Drive Overlay District. Vice Mayor Murphy
 16. That the City Manager is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to provide the Ordinance Committee with a long-term

- planning assessment of the area included in the Memorial Drive Overlay District and how the existing zoning dovetails with the long-term plans. Councillor Seidel
17. Formal evaluation process for the City Manager. Councillor Maher and Vice Mayor Murphy
 18. That the Co-Chairs of the Government Operations and Rules Committee meet with the City Manager to discuss the terms of a contract prior to January 7, 2009. Councillor Toomey

COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor David Maher and Vice Mayor Brian Murphy, Co-Chairs of the Ordinance Committee, for a hearing held on Nov 19, 2008 on a petition to amend the Zoning Ordinances in Section 20.80, Memorial Drive Overlay District.
2. A communication was received from D. Margaret Drury, City Clerk, transmitting a report from Councillor David Maher and Vice Mayor Brian Murphy, Co-Chairs of the Government Operations and Rules Committee, for a meeting held on Dec 10, 2008 to discuss the process to be used by the City Council to evaluate the City Manager.

HEARING SCHEDULE

Mon, Dec 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Dec 16

3:00pm The Neighborhood and Long Term Planning Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss planning along Massachusetts Avenue, between Harvard and Porter Squares and the impacts of possible development along this corridor. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Dec 22

5:15pm Special Presentation to thank all involved in the disaster relief effort for victims of the Prince Street fire. (Sullivan Chamber)

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Jan 5

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Jan 6

4:30pm The Ordinance Committee will conduct a public hearing. Topic to be announced. (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, Jan 7

5:30pm The Government Operations and Rules Committee will conduct a public meeting to hear from the public regarding the evaluation of the City Manager. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Jan 12

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Jan 13

5:00pm The Health and Environment Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss opportunities to grow fresh fruits and vegetables in Cambridge. (Sullivan Chamber)

Wed, Jan 14

6:00pm Human Services Committee (Broad Institute, 7 Cambridge Center)

Thurs, Jan 22

5:00pm The Civic Unity Committee will conduct a public hearing to discuss the Homeland Security grant for

December 15, 2008 Cambridge City Council meeting

installation of surveillance cameras and an opportunity to have a community discussion with the city officials who have allowed for the installation of the cameras. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Jan 26

5:30pm Roundtable Meeting on emergency preparedness. No public comment. No votes will be taken. Meeting not be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Feb 3

5:00pm The Health and Environment Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss the distribution of fresh fruits and vegetables. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Feb 23

5:30pm Roundtable Meeting with NSTAR. No public comment. No votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

Tues, Feb 24

5:00pm The Health and Environment Committee will conduct a public meeting to discuss outdoor lighting. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 2

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 9

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 16

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 23

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Mar 30

5:30pm Roundtable Meeting with School Committee. No public comment. No votes will be taken. Meeting will not be televised. (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 6

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 13

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, Apr 27

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 4

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 11

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, May 18

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 1

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 8

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 15

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 22

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

Mon, June 29

5:30pm City Council Meeting (Sullivan Chamber)

TEXT OF ORDERS

O-1 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: In the mid-19th century several regional highways intersected at Porter Square. This transit system was used, in part, for the transport and trade of cattle until as recently as 1920; and

WHEREAS: The only physical remnant of the Porter Square area cattle market is the Walden Street Cattle Pass, a brick tunnel beneath the Walden Street bridge; and

WHEREAS: The Walden Street Cattle Pass is listed on the National Register of Historic Places; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to discuss with relevant City departments the creation of a Walden Street Cattle Pass observation point using the public arts funds previously dedicated to the site; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on the status of establishing this Walden Street Cattle Pass observation point.

O-2 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: The upcoming work at the junction of Massachusetts Avenue and Cedar Street will remove three mature trees; and

WHEREAS: Trees all over the City are valuable resources and mature trees along Massachusetts Avenue are very rare and add great value to the streetscape; and

WHEREAS: This roadwork is part of a larger state-funded project and is aimed at making the intersection safer and more intuitive for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians; and

WHEREAS: It is not clear that the state's plan will result in notable improvements in safety at this intersection; and

WHEREAS: Given the current fiscal constraints faced by all parts of government; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the Transportation, Traffic and Parking Committee be and hereby is requested to hold a meeting on this issue in January to try to determine whether the City should ask the State to eliminate or change this project.

O-3 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

COUNCILLOR SEIDEL

WHEREAS: There have been two major house fires in Cambridge in the past few weeks; and

WHEREAS: While the cause of these fires is not yet public knowledge, house fires are often started as a result of human error, such as smoking in bed, candles used near dry plant materials such as holiday wreaths or frayed wiring and extension cords; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with public safety officials and city communications staff to determine what additional public outreach could be done to help minimize the possibility of house fires and to implement any relevant programs as quickly as possible.

O-4 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR SEIDEL

WHEREAS: Citizens have expressed concerns over the reported installation of security cameras in Cambridge by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security; and

WHEREAS: The City Council is scheduled to hold a Roundtable on emergency preparedness on Jan 26, 2009; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to give a full report to the City Council by no later than Jan 19, 2009 on the security cameras that may be or have been installed in Cambridge by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

O-5 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

WHEREAS: During this holiday season, more than ever there is a need for contributions to food pantries in Cambridge; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record encouraging Cambridge grocery stores to generously donate food to the local food pantries.

O-6 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR KELLEY

WHEREAS: Recent MBTA elevator work appears to have resulted in structural damage to Boston's historic Old South Church; and

WHEREAS: Old South Church cannot function as it has previously as a result of this damage, with various items such as the Church organ no longer being useable; and

WHEREAS: It is not clear how or when the MBTA will fix the damage it allegedly caused, nor is it clear where the MBTA would find the necessary funds to do such repairs; and

WHEREAS: The MBTA is going to start a similar project in Harvard Square in the near future; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to organize a meeting as soon as reasonably possible with relevant City staff, Harvard Square entities and the MBTA to review the upcoming elevator project to help ensure that the project will not result in the damage occurring at Old South Church; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to inform the City Council of the time, date and location of this meeting when it is scheduled.

O-7 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

WHEREAS: On numerous occasions the 47 bus has passed people waiting at bus stops because the bus is too full; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to urge the MBTA to immediately address service needs on the 47 bus route so that people are not left waiting at the bus stops.

O-8 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

WHEREAS: The public has until Dec 18, 2008 to comment on the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's draft CO₂ Budget Trading Program Emission Control Plan for Mirant Kendall, LLC; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to develop a comment on behalf of Cambridge.

O-9 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR DAVIS

WHEREAS: The state Energy and Environmental Affairs Department is proposing that starting with model year 2010 vehicles, and Emission Performance Label will be affixed to the driver's side window so consumers will have information they can use to choose the most environmentally friendly vehicle; and

WHEREAS: The label will score each vehicle's smog and global warming emissions with the smog score based on the smog-forming emissions from the vehicle's operation, and the global warming score based on the emission of carbon dioxide and other pollutants from the vehicle's operation and fuel production; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council go on record supporting the adoption of the Emission Performance Label; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Clerk be and hereby is requested to forward a copy of this resolution to Laurie Burt, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection, on behalf of the entire City Council.

O-10 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR SEIDEL

WHEREAS: The supermarket in Twin Cities Plaza in East Cambridge is physically located in Somerville but serves the East Cambridge community as one of their primary food shopping locations; and

WHEREAS: The City of Somerville has discussed a possible rezoning of this site that might bring about a different use on the site; and

WHEREAS: The loss of a supermarket on that site would have a detrimental impact on the whole of the East Cambridge neighborhood; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Community Development Department to be in communication with the City of Somerville about any plans they might have to rezone that site; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the Community Development Department to communicate with and update residents of East Cambridge on plans to ensure a supermarket remains within a reasonable distance of the neighborhood.

O-11 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR SEIDEL

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to provide the City Council with a status update on Policy Order Number 7 which was adopted on May 19, 2008 (see attached) regarding the drafting of an ordinance which would require motorists to use a "hands free" device when using a cell phone while driving in Cambridge.

O-12 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR DECKER

WHEREAS: There have been reports that there was a fire hydrant malfunction resulting in low water pressure and a delay in combating the Dec 9th Lexington Avenue fire; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to obtain a report from the Fire Department on whether or

not the fire hydrants closest to 72-74 Lexington Avenue were functioning properly, and whether or not there was a need to connect to hydrants further from the fire location because of low water pressure, hydrant malfunction. or any other issue; and be it further

ORDERED: That the report answer the question of if indeed there was a hydrant malfunction, how do we know that this malfunction will not happen again, and what is being done to ensure that other city hydrants are functioning properly; and be it further

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to report back to the City Council on the matter.

O-13 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR DECKER

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to urge the Police Department, in their process of hiring a contractor for the cleaning of the new Police Department offices, to hire a contractor who best exemplifies Cambridge's responsible employer values and practice.

O-14 Dec 15, 2008

VICE MAYOR MURPHY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to direct the City Solicitor to report to the Ordinance Committee on the effects that adoption of proposed amendment to the Memorial Drive Overlay District would have on any existing special permit.

O-15 Dec 15, 2008

VICE MAYOR MURPHY

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to provide the Ordinance Committee with a list of the properties that would be affected by the proposed amendment to the Memorial Drive Overlay District.

O-16 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR SEIDEL

ORDERED: That the City Manager be and hereby is requested to confer with the Assistant City Manager for Community Development to provide the Ordinance Committee with a long-term planning assessment of the area included in the Memorial Drive Overlay District and how the existing zoning dovetails with the long-term plans.

O-17 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR MAHER

VICE MAYOR MURPHY

WHEREAS: The City Manager's contract expires on Aug 31, 2009; and

WHEREAS: Pursuant to the contract, the City Council has to take action by Feb 28, 2009; and

WHEREAS: The Government Operations Committees over the past three review cycles has established a formal evaluation process; now therefore be it

ORDERED: That the City Council establish the following format and schedule:

* Members of the City Council shall schedule individual meetings with the City Manager to provide him with feedback as to his performance. Individual meetings shall be completed by Dec 31, 2008. An evaluation form shall be supplied to each member for the member to use or not use in the meeting as he or she chooses. The form may be

filled out and given to the City Manager, filled out and used by the member as an aid to the discussion but not given to the City Manager, left blank and used as a guide for discussion. or not used at all.

*The Government Operations Committee shall schedule a public hearing to receive public testimony relative to the City Manager's performance and evaluation on Jan 7, 2009 at 5:30pm in the Sullivan Chamber.

*At the City Council meeting held on Jan 12, 2009 the City Council shall consider the matter and take whatever action it deems appropriate.

O-18 Dec 15, 2008

COUNCILLOR TOOMEY

ORDERED: That the Co-Chairs of the Government Operations and Rules Committee meet with the City Manager to discuss the terms of a contract prior to Jan 7, 2009.