

SENATE No. 2676

Senate, November 26, 2018 -- Substituted by amendment (Senator Jehlen) as a new draft for Senate, No. 2664

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act amending the charter of the city of Somerville.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of title 1 of the charter of the city of Somerville, which is on file
2 in the office of the archivist of the commonwealth, as provided in section 12 of chapter 43B of
3 the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out the words “board of aldermen” and
4 inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

5 SECTION 2. Section 6 of title 2 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the
6 words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

7 SECTION 3. Section 7 of said title 2 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the
8 words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
9 instance, the following words:- city council.

10 SECTION 4. Said section 7 of said title 2 of said charter is hereby further amended by
11 striking out the words “alderman-at-large”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof,
12 in each instance, the following words:- councilor-at-large.

13 SECTION 5. Said section 7 of said title 2 of said charter is hereby further amended by
14 striking out the words “office of alderman”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof,
15 in each instance, the following words:- office of councilor.

16 SECTION 6. Section 8 of said title 2 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the
17 words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

18 SECTION 7. Section 10 of title 3 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the
19 title and inserting in place thereof the following title:- Sec. 10. – City Council—Composition;
20 election; terms.

21 SECTION 8. Said section 10 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
22 striking out the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof,
23 in each instance, the following words:- city council.

24 SECTION 9. Said section 10 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
25 striking out the word “aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- councilors.

26 SECTION 10. Said section 10 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
27 striking out the word “alderman” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- councilor.

28 SECTION 11. Said section 10 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
29 striking out the word “board” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- council.

30 SECTION 12. Section 11 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
31 the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
32 instance, the following words:- city council.

33 SECTION 13. Said section 11 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
34 striking out the word “board” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- council.

35 SECTION 14. The title of section 12 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby amended by
36 striking out the word “aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- councilors.

37 SECTION 15. Said section 12 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
38 striking out the words “aldermen-elect” and inserting in place thereof the following words:-
39 councilors-elect.

40 SECTION 16. Said section 12 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
41 striking out the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:-
42 city council.

43 SECTION 17. Said section 12 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
44 striking out the words “alderman-elect” and inserting in place thereof the following words:-
45 councilor-elect.

46 SECTION 18. Section 13 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
47 the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
48 instance, the following words:- city council.

49 SECTION 19. Said section 13 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
50 striking out the word “board”, each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each
51 instance, the following word:- council.

52 SECTION 20. Section 15 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
53 the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

54 SECTION 21. Said section 15 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
55 striking out the word “board” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- council.

56 SECTION 22. Section 16 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
57 the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
58 instance, the following words:- city council.

59 SECTION 23. Said section 16 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by
60 striking out the word “board” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- council.

61 SECTION 24. Said title 3 of said charter is hereby further amended by striking out
62 section 17 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

63 Sec.17. – Powers and duties of city council.

64 (a) The city council shall, except as otherwise provided in this charter, have and exercise
65 the powers and duties set forth in this section.

66 (b) The city council shall have all the powers, authorities and duties of towns, boards of
67 aldermen, city councils and common councils of cities under the General Laws; provided,
68 however, that all appointments required by law to be made by the mayor and aldermen shall be
69 made by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the city council.

70 (c) The city council shall have all the powers, authorities and duties now held by the city
71 of Somerville, the city council, the common council, the board of aldermen or the board of
72 mayor and aldermen of Somerville, by special laws.

73 (d) Subject to the veto power of the mayor, as provided in this charter, the city council
74 shall have the power, without appeal from its decision, to lay out, locate anew, alter, widen and

75 discontinue public ways and streets and to order specific repairs or a change of grade therein; to
76 order the construction of sidewalks and of sewers and to take real estate therefore. Any such
77 taking shall be made under chapter 79 of the General Laws, and any person injured in the
78 person’s real estate by acts done by the council hereunder may recover damages under said
79 chapter 79. No public way or street shall be laid out, located anew, changed as to grade or
80 otherwise, widened or discontinued, until a public hearing has been held after notice given in
81 accordance with the General Laws relating to public ways. Said hearing may be adjourned from
82 time to time.

83 (e) The city council shall have the power to make ordinances and to affix penalties for the
84 violation thereof. The penalty for the violation of any ordinance, rule or regulation adopted or
85 issued in pursuance thereof shall be a fine of not more than \$300 for each offense; provided,
86 however, that when a higher penalty is permitted by the General Laws, such higher penalty shall
87 be the maximum for each offense.

88 SECTION 25. Section 18 of said title 3 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
89 the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
90 instance, the following words:- city council.

91 SECTION 26. Section 21 of title 4 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the
92 words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
93 instance, the following words:- city council.

94 SECTION 27. Section 23 of said title 4 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
95 the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following
96 words:- city council.

97 SECTION 28. Said section 23 of said title 4 of said charter is hereby further amended by
98 striking out the word “board”, each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each
99 instance, the following word:- council.

100 SECTION 29. Section 24 of said title 4 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
101 the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
102 instance, the following words:- city council.

103 SECTION 30. Said section 24 of said title 4 of said charter is hereby further amended by
104 striking out the word “board”, each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each
105 instance, the following word:- council.

106 SECTION 31. Section 25 of said title 4 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
107 the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

108 SECTION 32. Section 27 of said title 4 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
109 the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
110 instance, the following words:- city council.

111 SECTION 33. Said section 27 of said title 4 of said charter is hereby further amended by
112 striking out the word “board”, each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each
113 instance, the following word:- council.

114 SECTION 34. Section 28 of title 5 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the
115 words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
116 instance, the following words:- city council.

117 SECTION 35. Section 31 of title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the
118 words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
119 instance, the following words:- city council.

120 SECTION 36. Section 36 of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
121 the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
122 instance, the following words:- city council.

123 SECTION 37. Section 38 of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
124 the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

125 SECTION 38. Section 39 of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
126 the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

127 SECTION 39. Section 40A of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking
128 out the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city
129 council.

130 SECTION 40. Section 40B of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking
131 out the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city
132 council.

133 SECTION 41. Section 40C of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking
134 out the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
135 instance, the following words:- city council.

136 SECTION 42. Section 40D of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking
137 out the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city
138 council.

139 SECTION 43. Section 42 of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
140 the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

141 SECTION 44. Section 45 of said title 6 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
142 the word “aldermen”, each time it appears, and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the
143 following words:- councilors.

144 SECTION 45. Section 46 of title 7 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out the
145 words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.

146 SECTION 46. Section 46D of said title 7 of said charter is hereby amended by striking
147 out the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
148 instance, the following words:- city council.

149 SECTION 47. The title of section 47 of said title 7 of said charter is hereby amended by
150 striking out the word “aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following word:- councilors.

151 SECTION 48. Said section 47 of said title 7 of said charter is hereby further amended by
152 striking out the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:-
153 city council.

154 SECTION 49. Section 48 of said title 7 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
155 the words “board of aldermen”, each time they appear, and inserting in place thereof, in each
156 instance, the following words:- city council.

157 SECTION 50. Section 50 of said title 7 of said charter is hereby amended by striking out
158 the words “board of aldermen” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- city council.”