



OFFICIAL EARLY/ABSENTEE BALLOT
CITY ELECTION
SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025
WARD 1

Austin Bruce
Kelly J. Coan
Michael P. Saloner
BOARD OF ELECTION
COMMISSIONERS

- A. To vote, fill in the oval(s) ☐ to the right of your choice(s) like this ☒.
- B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each choice.
- C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and fill in the oval.

MAYOR

Vote for ONE

WILLIE BURNLEY, JR
81 Bartlett Street

JAKE WILSON
83 Jaques Street

DO NOT VOTE IN THIS SPACE.
USE BLANK LINE BELOW FOR WRITE-IN

WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

COUNCILOR AT LARGE

Vote for FOUR

WILL MBAH
122 North Street
Ward Seven
Candidate for Re-election

KRISTEN STREZO
333 Great River Road
Ward One
Candidate for Re-election

SCOTT ISTVAN
10 Austin Street
Ward One

JONATHAN LINK
5 Bigelow Street
Ward Three

JACK PERENICK
485 Foley Street
Ward One

HOLLY SIMIONE
14 Oakland Avenue
Ward Four

MARIANNE WALLES
46 Fremont Street
Ward Four

BEN WHEELER
16 Lee Street
Ward Four

DO NOT VOTE IN THIS SPACE.
USE BLANK LINE BELOW FOR WRITE-IN

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COUNCILOR WARD ONE

Vote for ONE

MATTHEW McLAUGHLIN
28 Mount Vernon Street
Candidate for Re-election

DO NOT VOTE IN THIS SPACE.
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WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

SCHOOL COMMITTEE WARD ONE

Vote for ONE

EMILY R. ACKMAN
23 Autumn Street
Candidate for Re-election

DO NOT VOTE IN THIS SPACE.
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WRITE-IN SPACE ONLY

QUESTION 1

Shall the City adopt Chapter 31 of the Acts of 2025 an act passed by the general court in the year 2025 entitled: An Act establishing a charter for the City of Somerville?

SUMMARY

This question proposes acceptance of a special act passed by the state legislature at the request of the city. If accepted by a majority of the voters, the special legislation would repeal the current charter and would adopt Chapter 31 of the Acts of 2025, creating a new charter for the city. The charter is the city's governing document. The current charter was first approved by the Commonwealth as a special act and was accepted by Somerville voters in 1899. It has been amended by additional special acts over time. The proposed charter establishes the city's structure, organization and operations, including the city's executive and legislative branches. The proposed charter maintains the existing form of government, retaining the executive and legislative branches and the existing composition of the city council and school committee. City councilors, school committee members and the mayor would continue to serve two-year terms. The proposed charter establishes a timeframe by which the city council must vote to confirm certain appointments of the mayor. The proposed charter requires an annual independent outside audit and authorizes the city council to expand the scope of the audit to include a particular department, division, or program. The proposed charter specifies the annual operating budget must be submitted by May 30 of each year and requires public hearings and joint meetings of the city council and the school committee. The proposed charter also authorizes the city council to secure advisory legal counsel and to employ staff. The proposed charter also provides for the review of the charter, ordinances and boards and commissions at least once every 10 years and creates committees to study and prepare recommendations regarding public financing of campaigns and ranked choice voting implementation.

YES ☐

NO ☐

QUESTION 2

Shall the term of office for the mayor of the city of Somerville be for 4 years?

YES ☐

NO ☐

QUESTION 3

THIS QUESTION IS NOT BINDING

Shall the Mayor of Somerville and all Somerville elected leaders be instructed to end all current city business and prohibit future city investments and contracts with companies as long as such companies engage in business that sustains Israel's apartheid, genocide, and illegal occupation of Palestine?

YES ☐

NO ☐