Good evening, folks. My name is GARY MELLO. I live on Franklin

I'd like to talk about four agenda items tonight.

First, Policy Orders 14+15 address the effects of large scale developments on the city as a whole. I hope that these orders do not result in contrarian factions within the Council. That great jigsaw puzzle that is our City has to solved as a whole, not just one corner at a time.

I've been hoping for an opportunity to commend and thank Councilor Carlone for having his 'Councilor's Aide' present at Mondays' sessions, and in full uniform to boot. It's a simple expression of courtesy and respect that might help to dispel the notion any notion that the aides are simply plum jobs for pals.

Councilors, your aides are paid more than Somerville's elected Aldermen. They should behind you every meeting.

This dovetails directly to the Mayor's Policy Order #7. I hope that the order will analyze how councilors, including the sponsor, funnel donated campaign money to their aides I ask that we consider the behavior

I'm truncating the speech I originally planned for the benefit of us all.

~~what I'm omitting was~~ I'm omitting the nice things I wanted to say about Councilor Kelly

an elected councilor who cannot attend a candidates' forum but nonetheles dispatches the city paid aide to distribute campaign materials on site Please be forthcoming about the direct link from campaign worker, paid or not to the city payroll. Councilor Kelley doesn't participate in the racket for all the right reasons and he gets re-elected. Let's put an end to this patronage position..

Shifting gears, please consider Manager's Agenda item #13 which asks to borrow eleven million dollars for the ongoing construction of the Putnam Av.

Bad Idea. Borrowing more money is not the way to go. Last year we were told of about a $140 million dollar free cash surplus. Due to constraints municipalities have to abide by, that lump of money lost market value and purchasing power in the best year in history to have extra money. Yeah, yeah, There's that AAA bond rating!! The city of Boston has a triple A bond rating. Still impressed? We can, and should pay for these projects as we go.

Finally, as the Putnam School progresses, I ask that the finished building be rededicated as the Charles L Stead Senior neighborhood school. It's a well deserved recognition.