



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 19, 2012

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
William A. White Jr.	Chair	Present	
William M. Roche	Vice Chair	Absent	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Ward 4 Alderman	Present	
Thomas Pasquarello	Chief of Police	Present	
Kevin Kelleher	Chief Fire Engineer	Present	
Eddie Nuzzo	Supt., ISD	Present	

190308 - That the Director of Traffic and Parking replace or secure the traffic signs at 204 Cedar Street that face traffic exiting from Clyde Street as they pose a potential safety hazard to pedestrians.:

Traffic and Parking Director Matt Dias submitted a communication stating that the Traffic and Parking Department would immediately remove, straighten and reattach said signs to prevent and avoid any potential safety hazards.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

191021 - That the Director of SPCD initiate a full NIT evaluation at 47 Harrison Street and report the findings to this Board's Committee on Public Health and Public Safety.:

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

192046 - That the Director of SPCD dispatch the Neighborhood Inspection Team to 113-115 Hillsdale Road to examine the property for code violations.:

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

192057 - That the Director of Health appear before the Public Health and Safety Committee to provide an update on the proposed Municipal Domestic Violence Policy.:

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

192278 - That the City Clerk send a communication to Senator Patricia Jehlen and Representative Timothy Toomey, inquiring as to the status of the sound barrier along Route 93 and the Nunnery Grounds area.:

The City Clerk sent a communication to Senator Jehlen and Representative Toomey on November 30, 2011. Representative Toomey acknowledged receipt of the communication but has provided no information on the situation. There has been no response from Senator Jehlen.

(Amendment to report made at the 3/22/12 BOA Meeting:) Chairman White directed the Clerk of Committees to contact Representative Toomey and Senator Jehlen to ascertain a convenient time for them to meet with the committee to discuss this matter.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

192439 - That the Chief of Police provide the Committee on Public Health and Safety with an analysis of crimes and arrests in 2011 compared with 2006 through 2010.:

Chief Pasquarello provided an analysis of the city's crime data. In 2011, there was 1 homicide, 30 rapes, 91 robberies, 413 burglaries, 68 commercial burglaries, 2000 larcenies, 768 non-motor vehicle larcenies and 935 arrests. Vehicle thefts and property crimes were at a 6-year low. Chairman White requested that a clearance rate for all crimes, arrests and convictions be provided to the committee. Additionally, Chief Pasquarello was asked to provide the committee with a breakdown of the types of arrest and charges brought during 2011. Alderman Lafuente would also like some information as to why crime is high in Ward 4.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

192465 - That the Director of SPCD (ISD) and the City Solicitor direct the owner of 34 Glenwood Road to take appropriate measures to rectify any conditions that might pose a safety hazard to the surrounding neighborhood.:

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

192582 - That the Committee on Public Health and Safety investigate the circumstances surrounding the February 6 fire at 35R and 37R Jaques St.:

It has been determined that the fire was started by someone discarding a lit cigarette between the properties.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

192635 - That the Chief Fire Engineer determine the cause of the recent fire at the MBTA shaft site, and, with the Director of SPCD, report whether this should have any bearing on recently approved plans for development at the site.:

Chief Kellerher reported that the fire was not as the shaft. It was actually a small trash fire on Cameron Avenue. There is no impact to the plans for development.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

192651 - That the Director of SPCD dispatch the Neighborhood Inspection Team to 35-37 Jackson Road for possible building violations, health violations, illegal activity and disturbances.:

Mr. Nuzzo reported that the owner of the property recently paid over \$1,800 in fines and has cleaned the apartments, however many of the property's tenants are disturbing neighbors by their boisterous drinking on the porch. Chief Pasquarello will determine if any citations have been issued for noise/nuisance at the property. Chairman White requested that Chief Pasquarello provide the committee with the number of tickets issued for violations of the city's noise ordinance during the last year.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

192652 - That the Director of SPCD dispatch the Neighborhood Inspection Team to 3-5 Walter Terrace for possible building violations, health violations, illegal activity, and disturbances.:

Mr. Nuzzo reported that he has visited this property 3 times and believes that the occupants in one of the apartments may be involved in gang activities. The owner of the property has not been cooperative with the city. A neighbor provided the committee with a history of police calls and incident records regarding this property, noting that on one occasion, 150 people were dispersed from a party there. Chairman White requested that Chief Pasquarello investigate why the Police Department has not been more pro-active in dealing with this situation. Chairman White also requested that a comprehensive review of the problems at this address be performed and that a specific plan of action be prepared and presented to the committee in 2 weeks.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

192681 - City Clerk conveying a Resolution forwarded by the Chelsea City Council opposing the transportation of ethanol by rail to Revere.:

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE