



**CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS  
CLERK OF COMMITTEES**

May 10, 2011

**REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE**

<b>Attendee Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Arrived</b>
Thomas F. Taylor	Chair	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Vice Chair	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Absent	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Omar Boukili	Administrative Assistant	Present	
Frank Wright	City Solicitor	Present	

**190686 - That the City Solicitor draft an ordinance requiring properties of a certain use and size, to obtain a permit before using an amplified sound system, and be soundproofed.:**

The committee discussed ways to control the volume from loud speakers, especially in houses being used as churches. There was a dialogue about possibly limiting the restrictions to buildings of a certain size or in certain zoning districts. Mr. Wright informed the committee that provisions already exist in the city's noise ordinance and stated that it really a matter of enforcement. The current ordinance does not, however, hav a mechanism in place to require or obtain a permit for the use of loud speakers.

**RESULT:        KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

**190781 - Requesting an amendment to the Code of Ordinances to establish regulations for paving driveways and other impervious surfaces.:**

Mr. Boukili assured the committee that appropriate recognition would be afforded to members of the public who were instrumental with putting this item forward. A joint meeting of the Land Use, Legislative Matters and Parks and Open Space Committees will be scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss this item further.

**RESULT:        KEPT IN COMMITTEE**

**191068 - That the City Solicitor, the Chief of Police and the Director of SPCD (ISD) draft amendments to the noise ordinance to deal with organizations using enhanced sound systems in RA and RB districts and report back to the Committee on Legislative Matters at its April 26th meeting.:**

See item 190686, above.

<b>RESULT:        KEPT IN COMMITTEE</b>
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