



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

CLERK OF COMMITTEES

April 11, 2011

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
William A. White Jr.	Chair	Present	
John M Connolly	Vice Chair	Present	
Walter F. Pero	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Omar Boukili	Administrative Assistant	Present	
Kevin Kelleher	Chief Fire Engineer	Present	
Patrick Sullivan III	Deputy Fire Chief	Present	
Brian Arrigo	Somerstat	Present	

The committee requested an update from the Police Department regarding the number of complaints received about noise coming from the armory on Highland Avenue and also on what soundproofing measures have been taken by the owners of the armory.

190167 - Submitting the City's Evaluation and Strategic Plan for the Fire Dept.:

Chief Kelleher gave an overview of the Fire Department Study conducted by the Matrix Consulting Group in 2010. The consultant examined various areas of the Fire Department, including management documents, Fire Alarm staffing, vehicle maintenance, an Assistant Fire Chief position, office space, capital improvements, management analyst's position, training, performance measurement, staff meetings, policies and procedures, and made recommendations, ranked by need, where applicable. The primary findings included deficiencies in the department's current policies, planning abilities and performance measurement.

The report also highlighted the department's positive aspects, among them, the excellent level of service provided to the city, having an appropriate number of Chiefs and having extensive coverage of the city.

Since the report was presented to the city, the Fire Department has taken steps to address areas in need of improvement, such as improving the accuracy of record keeping and expanding training and will work on developing a long range plan, establishing performance tracking indicators.

Alderman Connolly requested that the Administration work with the Fire Department's Chiefs to develop specific responses to physical conditioning and training. The committee requested a report of the number of false alarms turned in from the city's fire alarm call boxes, broken down by month. The committee also requested that an update on this matter be provided by the end of this year.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE