CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

May 10, 2011

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
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 6th 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.

RESULT:	**KEPT IN COMMITTEE**