



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

January 25, 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	Present	
Rebekah L. Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
William M. Roche	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Walter F. Pero	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Absent	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Absent	
Frank Wright	City Solicitor	Present	

188396 - Requesting Approval of a Home Rule Petition to Amend the City Charter to Bring it into Conformity with Current State Law and Streamline Enactment of Administrative Matters.:

See Item 190570, below.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

190570 - City Solicitor conveying Home Rule Petition language re: #188396, a proposal to amend the City Charter.:

Solicitor Wright spoke about the areas of the charter that needed clarification and he addressed some of the concerns of the committee, e.g., residency requirements, ballots for elections, mayoral vacancies, the appointment and powers of an acting mayor.

Alderman Roche's motion **that the Board of Aldermen elect from among its members when appointing an acting mayor**, was approved.

Alderman Sullivan's motion that the City Solicitor research and provide an opinion as to what authority the Board of Aldermen has to prevent a convicted felon from holding elected office and whether this provision, if any, should be included in the city charter, was approved.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

190730 - 51 Registered Voters submitting a petition for a public hearing on KSS Realty Partners and the use of union labor at the MaxPac site.:

Solicitor Wright explained that this is a private project, and as such, the city has no authority to enforce the Responsible Employer Act. Members discussed the fact that the city has been involved in funding certain aspects of the project and stated their agreement that the public should be allowed to weigh in on the matter. Chairman Taylor scheduled the public hearing for February 17th at 6:00 PM.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE