



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

May 27, 2014

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rebekah L. Gewirtz	Chair	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Vice Chair	Present	
John M. Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One Alderman	Absent	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	

Others present: Alderman Ballantyne, Frank Wright, David Shapiro, Jason Grossfield, Omar Boukili

Approval of the Minutes of April 29, 2014

RESULT:

APPROVED

194968 - Requesting approval of the attached Ordinance Regulating Campaign Contributions from Those Seeking Contracts, Zoning Relief, the Purchase of City Property, or Financial Assistance from the City.:

See 195024

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

195024 - Requesting, with the sponsorship of Ald. Desmond, Bastardi, Sullivan, O'Keefe and Trane, approval of an Ordinance regulating "pay-to-play" public contracting and campaign contributions for municipal elected office.:

See 194968

The committee discussed areas of concern regarding this item, including the need for such a proposal, the reasons that it was brought forth, potential legal challenges, its impact on the competitive bidding process, applying a monetary threshold, offenses, violations and penalties. The look back period was reduced from 4 years to 1 year.

The committee will meet in July 1, 2014 as a Committee of the Whole along with the School Committee to continue action on this item.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

195725 - That the City Solicitor provide this Board's Committee on Legislative Matters with input on restricting formula businesses in Somerville by requiring specific review and oversight before they may enter central business districts.:

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

196780 - That the City Solicitor advise this Board of the city's ability to control the dissemination of advertisements from "Globe Direct", and inquire why individual requests to stop unsolicited deliveries are not followed.:

Mr. Shapiro discussed the differences of protection regarding commercial speech vs. political speech. The committee discussed the delivery of handbills, citations, fines and enforcement issues. Chairman Gewirtz requested that the Administration contact Globe Direct to discuss this matter.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

196856 - Assistant City Solicitor responding to #195725 re: restricting formula businesses.:

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE