



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

March 25, 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	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	

Others present: Frank Wright, Jason Grossfield, Omar Boukili

Approval of the Minutes of December 03, 2013

Approval of the Minutes of February 11, 2014

Approval of the Minutes of March 04, 2014

Approval of the Minutes of December 10, 2013

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.:

Mr. Grossman and Mr. Wright reviewed the proposals with the committee and noted the changes that were made. Ald. White questioned why the Administration added provisions that were not included in his original proposal. Ald. Connolly requested that a list of no bid contracts awarded in 2012 be provided

- Several issues were discussed, among them:
- The impact on city employees and those applying for city positions
- Exemptions for condo associations and owner occupied 1-2-3 family hom
- The effect on property improvement
- Practicality of enforcement and the use of affidavits discussed
- The 4-year look back period
- Sale of city property
- Civil service process
- Possible separate ordinance to apply to individuals applying for city jobs
- Union contributions
- Bid vs. no bid contracts

- Applicability to construction contractors
- Attribution rules
- Potential conflicts of interest
- Political problems of recommending a person for city employment
- Penalties for non disclosure
- Contribution refunds
- Prohibitions from applying for certain contracts and zoning relief

The following motions were made:

- By Ald. White: To amend (ii) to read “seeking approval for a special permit with site plan review or approval of a planned unit development” Motion approved
- To amend the financial assistance threshold to \$50,000. Motion approved
- By Ald. McLaughlin: to remove (v)
- By Ald. Gewirtz: to remove (b)
- By Ald. Gewirtz: to strike “political action committee” and “special interest group” from (h)

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 item 194968, above.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE