



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

May 30, 2012

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Rebekah Gewirtz	Chair	Present	
John M Connolly	Vice Chair	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Absent	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Absent	
Omar Boukili	Administrative Assistant	Present	
Dave Shapiro	Asst. City Solicitor	Present	
Stephanie Hirsch	Mayor's Advisor for Children & Youth	Present	

192528 - That the City Solicitor immediately draft a City Ordinance for the licensing of food trucks.:

Mr. Shapiro explained that under the city's current ordinance, if a food vendor has a state license, that vendor is only required to register with the City Clerk in order to operate as a hawker or peddler in Somerville. If a vendor does not have a state license, that vendor would have to apply for a hawker/peddler license with the City Clerk. All food vendors will be subject to this proposed ordinance upon its passage. At the present time, food trucks are regulated by the state and Somerville has no local oversight, however, the city's Inspectional Services Department can enforce state health code regulations. Mr. Shapiro will research and provide information regarding CORI checks and who regulates push cart vendors. This ordinance would cover push cart vendors. The Administration would like the Board of Aldermen to consider late hours for food vendors after restaurants in the city's squares close for the evening.

The committee reviewed the proposal, made changes and suggestions and approved the ordinance with minor changes. A final version of the proposed ordinance will be presented to the Board of Aldermen at its next regular meeting.

Alderman Connolly's motion that the Administration submit a list of proposed pre-approved locations for vendor operations to the Board of Alderman for approval, was approved.

RESULT:

APPROVED AS AMENDED

192930 - Requesting the classification of the Mayor's Advisor for Children and Youth as a Special Municipal Employee, and the approval of an exemption under Section 20(d) of G. L. c. 268A for Stephanie Hirsch.:

Ms. Hirsch and Mr. Boukili spoke about this item and explained that the Special Municipal Employee designation is needed due to a change in the title of Ms. Hirsch's position with the city, specifically from Trust Administrator to Mayor's Advisor for Children and Youth. Since the new title is not referenced in the current city budget (FY-12), the item will remain in committee until the next regular Board of Aldermen's meeting, at which time it will be discharge from committee for action by the BOA, after information regarding its funding is obtained from the Finance Director.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

193048 - Assistant City Solicitor submitting a proposed BOA rule relative to the Open Meeting Law.:

Mr. Shapiro informed the members that the proposed new rule has been approved by the Attorney General's Legal Department. The committee approved the new rule and recommends that the Rules of the Board of Aldermen be amended to reflect its inclusion.

RESULT:

APPROVED