



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

November 14, 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	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Absent	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Michael Cabral	Deputy Police Chief	Present	
Frank Wright	City Solicitor	Present	
Michael Glavin	Exec. Director, OSPCD	Present	

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

This item is no longer relevant since an ordinance regulating mobile food trucks has been passed.

RESULT:

PLACED ON FILE

193082 - That the Director of SPCD contact the appropriate state agency to request that train operators utilize the train's horn only when necessary, especially in the areas of Cobble Hill, Tufts Street, 240 Pearl Street, and Montrose Street at School Street.:

Mr. Glavin reported on his meetings with MBTA officials and informed the committee that additional information would be provided at the next committee meeting.

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

193341 - That this Board requests that the Administration submit a list of proposed pre-approved locations for vendor operations to this Board for approval.:

This item is no longer relevant since an ordinance regulating mobile food trucks has been passed.

RESULT:**PLACED ON FILE**

193397 - Assistant City Solicitor responding to #192528 re: the Mobile Food Vendor Ordinance.:

This item is no longer relevant since an ordinance regulating mobile food trucks has been passed.

RESULT:**PLACED ON FILE**

193400 - Dalel Company dba Dunkin Donuts responding to #192966 re: recycling at 282 Somerville Ave., 14 McGrath Hwy., and 90 Washington St.:

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED**

193556 - McDonald's responding to #192966 re: recycling at 243 Elm St. and 14 McGrath Hwy.:

RESULT:**WORK COMPLETED**

193631 - Requesting the amendment of Ordinance Section 15 re: Ethics.:

Solicitor Wright reviewed the additions to the ordinance and said that they are in line with state law. The committee discussed the ability of non-profits to solicit funds from the city, beneficial interests, the impact to individuals seeking to run for local office, grant conflicts, required disclosures, annual audits, the city's authority to audit grantees and the city's obligation to report accounting problems.

The committee requested that a reasonableness standard be included in the ordinance and Alderman Connolly proposed that an emphasis on electronic book keeping be included as a recommendation, not as a requirement.

RESULT:**APPROVED AS AMENDED**

193831 - That Ordinance 8-67 (Gold, silver and metal objects) be amended by reducing the time for Junk Dealers to hold gold, silver or metal from 45 days to 30 days before reselling it.:

Chief Cabral stated that the 30 day time period is acceptable to the Police Department and told the members that he would research what items are being pawned by junk dealers.

Following a discussion of the logistics of enforcing a 45 day rule, the importance of protecting consumers and the feasibility of creating an ordinance specifically regulating pawn brokers, the committee approved the following changes to Sec. 8-67 of the City Ordinances:

- Replace the word “antiques” with the word “items”
- Replace the number “45” with the number “30”

Alderman Connolly’s motion that the Chief of Police report to the Committee on Legislative Matters regarding the number of junk dealers and pawn brokers operating in the city, was approved.

RESULT:

APPROVED AS AMENDED