



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

May 16, 2011

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
William A. White Jr.	Chair	Present	
John M Connolly	Vice Chair	Present	
Walter F. Pero	Ward Four Alderman	Absent	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
William M. Roche	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Dave Shapiro	Asst. City Solicitor	Present	
Eddie Nuzzo	Supt., ISD	Present	
Ellen Schneider	OSPCD	Present	

190956 - That the Director of SPCD and the Director of Health update this Board on the public awareness campaign to address rodent control, and describe specific problem areas and plans to address rodent control in those areas.:

The city will begin to place door hanger notices in areas experiencing chronic rodent problems in an effort to re-educate residents about the proper storage of refuse and other rodent control measures. The new rodent control policy calls for the source of a rodent infestation to be identified followed by notification, via door knockers, to homes within a 150 foot radius of the source. Additionally, the city would send a letter to the owner of the property where an infestation exists. If the owner does not respond to the notification within 7 days, the city may proceed with court action, (criminal process, civil injunction and/or receivership). There was a discussion regarding the city's authority to enter upon private property and Mr. Shapiro explained that in the absence of an emergency, the city would have to seek permission from the courts

Residents stated that the problems are the result of improperly stored trash and the city's lack of enforcement of same. The committee requested that Inspectional Services develop a protocol to policing the new policy.

The committee will meet on June 7, 2011 at 6:00 PM to discuss the Rodent Control Ordinance.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

190058 - That the Director of SPCD Provide This Board with the Latest Revision to the City's Rodent Control Policies before the Next Meeting of the Committee on Public Health and Public Safety, and appear with Appropriate Designees at Said Meeting.:

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE