



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS CLERK OF COMMITTEES

July 10, 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	Absent	
Thomas F. Taylor	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
William M. Roche	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Sean T. O'Donovan	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Robert C. Trane	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Absent	
Omar Boukili	Administrative Assistant	Present	
Dave Shapiro	Asst. City Solicitor	Present	
Stephen Mackey	Exec. Director, Chamber of Commerce	Present	

- Public Hearing: regarding the licensing of mobile food vendors

Several members of the public spoke on this subject and offered their views about municipal restrictions of food trucks, creating a task force to research the best practices for implementation next year, ensuring the economic vitality of Davis and Union Squares, beginning with a pilot program, having a fair process relative to locations, the effects on “brick and mortar” businesses and the need for regulation. The record will be left open until the close of business on July 17, 2012 to receive written comments. The public hearing was closed.

Aspects of the proposed ordinance was discussed, among them, the need for background checks, hours of operation, cleanliness, definitions, regulation of state licensed food vendors, meals and other taxes, license fees, the effect of the ordinance on existing mobile food vendors operating in the city, hours of operation, funding needed to support the initiative and nutritional grading.

The Law Department was asked to examine the possibility of charging real estate taxes for the locations being utilized and to research what other permits might be required.

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

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE

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

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.:

RESULT:

KEPT IN COMMITTEE