



CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS
CLERK OF COMMITTEES

December 15, 2011

REPORT OF THE LEGISLATIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Thomas F. Taylor	Chair	Absent	
William A. White Jr.	Vice Chair	Present	
Bruce M. Desmond	Alderman At Large	Present	
John M Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Rebekah Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Absent	
Omar Boukili	Administrative Assistant	Present	
Frank Wright	City Solicitor	Present	
George Proakis	OSPCD	Present	

190737 - Requesting approval of an amendment to the Ordinances at Chapter 12 regarding the Placement and Maintenance of News racks.:

Vice Chairman White reported that this item was withdrawn.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

190781 - Requesting an amendment to the Code of Ordinances to establish regulations for paving driveways and other impervious surfaces.:

This item will remain in committee to be discussed with the impervious surface zoning amendment.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

191050 - That the Director of SPCD inform this Board how the city can protect our residents when developers with a history of building or other code violations seek permits for new projects.:

Mr. Wright informed the members that the city would examine the histories of owners cited for violations. Alderman White suggested that Inspectional Services maintain a list of contractors who have been fined and make it available to homeowners.

Alderman Desmond's motion that the City Solicitor submit, to the Board of Aldermen, a guideline that the City could use for reporting contractor violations to the state, was approved. Additionally, the guideline should include an opinion regarding whether the City is maxed out on fines and whether the City may consider violations across projects.

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE

191671 - That the Director of SPCD (Planning) report to this Board on the feasibility of changing the zoning ordinance to allow shared-car space as a use in the RA and RB districts, as the current ordinance prohibits most residents from renting a driveway space to ZipCar.:

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

192051 - That the City Solicitor advise this Board of the legality of changing city ordinances to hold property owners accountable for continuous public health and public safety issues on their properties.:

Mr. Wright informed the members that the city already has the tools needed for enforcement.

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

192103 - Acting SPCD Director responding to #191671 re: permitting shared-car parking in RA and RB zoning districts.:

RESULT: WORK COMPLETED

192347 - Requesting acceptance of Section 20 of M.G.L. Chapter 32B allowing the City to establish a Trust Fund for Other Post Employment Benefit Liabilities (OPEB).:

RESULT: KEPT IN COMMITTEE