

Protection and License Committee

Chairman Conn, Tramontozzi,
Seaboyer, Buonopane
Absent: Forbes
Attending: Boisselle, Mortimer
In attendance: Police Chief Rick
Morrissey

Protection and License called to order by Chairman Conn at 7:34 p.m. Alderman Tramontozzi motions to open Public Participation, 2nd by Alderman Buonopane. All in favor. No one comes forward. Alderman Buonopane motions to close Public Participation, 2nd by Alderman Tramontozzi. All in favor.

Order No. 07-154, TRANSFER Amount: \$27,900.00 From: Police, Salaries & Wages - A/C #012112-511000 To: Various Police Accounts as set forth herein Said transfer is needed to pay various bills and support expenses related to new academy students.

Chairman Conn says there is a letter from the auditor stating the funds are available for transfer and that Chief Morrissey is here to speak on it. Alderman Buonopane motions to suspend the rules, 2nd by Alderman Tramontozzi. All in favor.

Chief Morrissey says the general explanation for the order is that it is an in-house transfer within his budget to realign it to actual accounts that are running low. The transfer is from Salary and Wages. Alderman Tramontozzi asks if there is an excess in salary funds or accounts used for overtime or if there are officers currently not employed. Chief Morrissey says the salary figures are level-funded. He did not want to put three men in the academy at the beginning of the year and so staggered them to see where the finances stood. The department had a retirement this year and there were funds to make a promotion but he withheld on that until he could send the three men to the academy.

Alderman Buonopane says he is looking at the funds for motor vehicle repair and he knows the state of the cruisers. He asks how much money and how long it will take to get a new vehicle outfitted and on the road. Chief Morrissey says it will cost \$15,000 to equip it. Alderman Buonopane says he still has to be sure the fleet will last until the new vehicle is ready, and asks if \$10,000 for motor vehicle repair is enough. Chief Morrissey says it will cover the costs for the next few months.

Alderman Buonopane moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Tramontozzi. All in favor.

Order No. 07-156, Be it ordained by the Melrose Board of Aldermen that any retired Melrose Police Officer who has been appointed as a Special Police Officer pursuant to Chapter 467 of the Acts of 2004 is eligible for continued appointment as a Special Police Officer until such time as he or she attains the age of seventy; provided that said individual complies with all of the requirements of the aforementioned statute. (AL-2, A-7)

Chairman Conn asks for the committee's indulgence and says the order attempts to accomplish allowing special retired police officers the opportunity to continue to do detail work if so desired. Chief Morrissey says one or two Melrose officers over the age of 65 and under the age of 70 are interested in continuing to do detail work. He does not

know of any other department that has done this. He sees no major obstacle as long as they fit the same requirements as regular officers. Chairman Conn says the reading of the statute is that the Police Chief has complete discretion as to whom is hired. Chief Morrissey says his concern is that a person is agile and fit. Officers are always at risk and require heightened awareness. He reviews his officers every year to be comfortable with who the City employs.

Alderman Tramontozzi asks if there is a mandatory cut-off age for police officers. Chief Morrissey says it is age 65. Alderman Tramontozzi asks if it applies to all cities and towns. Chief Morrissey says yes. Alderman Tramontozzi says this would regulate retired police officers who retired due to age but could be qualified to do detail work. It would not allow them to become full-time duty officers. Chief Morrissey says returning to full-time duty is not allowed and as special retired officers they are only able to work a certain number of hours per year. There are conditions that once the threshold is met, they cannot work any more hours that year. Alderman Tramontozzi says that this would change the age limit from 65 to 70 for this purpose only. Chief Morrissey says yes. Alderman Tramontozzi says if he understands the statute, it is the chief's discretion as to fitness and qualification of the officers. Chief Morrissey says he may also send the candidate to any doctor to determine fitness. Alderman Tramontozzi says that is only to be sure that no one is hurt doing detail work. He asks the chief if there is the need for extra detail. Chief Morrissey says in his 26 years on the police force, the last 2-3 years have been unique in that situations entail a lot of detail work. There are multiple projects that require hiring 20-30 officers per day. The department could use every person available. Alderman Tramontozzi says he has to go outside of Melrose if there are not enough of his own officers available; Chief Morrissey says yes. Alderman Tramontozzi asks how many retired police officers are doing detail work. Chief Morrissey says that there are roughly five retired officers between the ages of 55 and 65 doing detail, and of them, only one or two that would be interested in this bill.

Alderman Buonopane asks what the age cut-off is for Special Police Officers. Chief Morrissey says this would make it age 70. Alderman Buonopane asks about special police that work the polls. Chief Morrissey says that is a different position. Alderman Buonopane asks if the position under discussion have power to do other duties. Chief Morrissey says they would have the power of arrest, but it is not his intention to supplant Melrose Police Officers. He only wants this position on detail work. Alderman Buonopane to Alderman Tramontozzi says that a work site was shut down earlier in the year because detail was not available.

Alderman Seaboyer says the City has mutual aid agreements with other communities and asks if this will only affect Melrose. Chief Morrissey says he believes he wants to keep this only for Melrose. He will allow retired police officers to work for Melrose but not outside. Mutual aid is for regular police officers. He would not take external retired police officers.

As the maker of the order, Chairman Conn says he filed this because he has seen many other police officers from other districts doing detail in Melrose, and he thinks it is important to have retired Melrose police officers on the work site. They are more familiar with the community, the police chief, and the other police officers.

Alderman Buonopane moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Seaboyer. All in favor.

Order No. 07-108, Licenses renewed by the City Clerk for the year commencing January 1, 2007. Chairman Conn says there is a list of a multitude of licenses renewed.

Alderman Tramontozzi moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Seaboyer. All in favor.

Order No. 07-109, Licenses not renewed by the City Clerk for the year commencing January 1, 2007. Chairman Conn says the information inside the order indicates that there are four establishments that have not been approved, and suggests retaining this in committee.

Alderman Tramontozzi motions to place the order on hold, 2nd by Alderman Seaboyer. All in favor.

Alderman Buonopane motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman Seaboyer. All in favor.

Protection and License adjourns at 8:00 p.m.

Health, Education and Welfare

Chairman Seaboyer, Tramontozzi,
Buonopane, Conn
Absent: Forbes
Attending: Boisselle, Mortimer

Health, Education and Welfare called to order by Chairman Seaboyer at 8:01 p.m.
Order No. 07-155, GRANT Amount: \$760.00 From: Mass. Association of Health Boards
To: Fund #2588 – Tobacco Grant as set forth herein. Chairman Seaboyer says there is a memo from Health Director Ruth Clay stating that this is money from Mass Health and the Health Department has received this grant in the past. It is used to conduct compliance checks on the establishments in the City that sell cigarette products. The grant is paid to the City of Melrose.

Alderman Tramontozzi moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Conn.

On discussion Alderman Buonopane says the compliance checks were made and that four fines were issued. Three fines were issued to first time offenders and it was the fifth offense for the fourth establishment; however, the last previous violation occurred more than 36 months ago.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Alderman Tramontozzi motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman Conn. All in favor.

Health, Education and Welfare adjourns at 8:04 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Chairman Buonopane, Seaboyer,
Conn, Tramontozzi
Absent: Forbes
Attending: Boisselle, Mortimer

Public Works called to order by Chairman Buonopane at 8:05 p.m. Order No. 07-152, APPROPRIATION Amount: \$1,060.00 From: A/C #29062-590000 – Parking Receipts To: A/C #014222-527310 Train Station Maintenance This transfer is necessary to upgrade the Multi-Space Meter for new Daylight Savings dates.

Alderman Conn asks if the committee knows what this order means – if it is updating a computer system. Chairman Buonopane says he has no idea and says it may be moved forward to the full board without recommendation. Alderman Conn says it could be kept in committee and if the information is received prior to the full board meeting it could be taken from committee. It is beyond the Aldermen's charge to vote for things not understood.

Alderman Conn motions to place the matter on hold, 2nd by Alderman Tramontozzi. All in favor.

Alderman Tramontozzi motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman Conn. All in favor.

Public Works adjourns at 8:07 p.m.

Maribeth Harrington
Clerk of Committees