

Public Service Committee

Chairman Conn, McAteer-Margolis,
Mortimer, Tramontozzi
Absent: Wright
Attending: Infurna, Medeiros,
Seaboyer, Boisselle

Public Service Committee called to order by Chairman Conn at 8:13 p.m.

Order No. 09-197, REAPPOINTMENT OF: Robert W. Christiansen, 51 Melrose St.
TO: Park Commission Expiration: first Monday in May, 2012

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

Order No. 09-198, REAPPOINTMENT OF: John McLaughlin, 41 North Ave.
TO: Park Commission Expiration: first Monday in May, 2013

Alderman Mortimer moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman McAteer-Margolis. All in favor.

Order No. 09-199, REAPPOINTMENT OF: John Mercer, Jr., 62 East St.
TO: Park Commission Expiration: first Monday in May, 2010

Alderman Mortimer moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman McAteer-Margolis. All in favor.

Alderman Mortimer motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman McAteer-Margolis. All in favor.

Public Service adjourns at 8:16 p.m.

Legal and Legislative Matters

Vice-Chairman Conn, McAteer-Margolis, Mortimer, Tramontozzi
Absent: Wright
Attending: Infurna, Medeiros,
Seaboyer, Boisselle

Legal and Legislative Matters called to order by Vice-Chairman Conn at 8:17 p.m.

Order No. 09-204, Acceptance of utility easements for the Ward 2 Drainage Project from: David and Ann Forest, 58 Lovell Road; Steven and Kelly Ash, 59 Lovell Road; Constantino and Cynthia Testa, 60 Pearl St.; as set forth in documents herein.

Alderman McAteer-Margolis moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Mortimer.

On discussion Alderman McAteer-Margolis thanks the residents for working with the Public Works Department and granting these easements.

Alderman Brodeur asks if there is any monetary compensation. Vice-Chairman Conn says he believes there was no compensation in any way. Alderman Brodeur asks if there are any other easements.

Alderman Mortimer motions to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Scenna, 2nd by Alderman McAteer-Margolis.

Mr. Scenna says these are the only new easements; the rest of the work is being done on existing easements. There may be one more required but the property is under transfer of ownership.

Vice-Chairman Conn asks if the property will be restored. Mr. Scenna says there are restoration agreements; each easement is individual.

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

Vice-Chairman Conn says orders 09-176 and 09-177 have been recommended from the committee of original reference.

Order No. 09-176, Order No. 09-176, Amending City of Melrose Administrative Code, Part II. Administrative Organization Sections 6.03, 8.01 and 8.02 as set forth herein. The purpose of these changes is to transfer the function of the Fire Alarm Maintenance Lineman from Inspectional Services to the Fire Department.

Order No. 09-177, Order No. 09-177, Amend Melrose Revised Ordinances, Chapter 24, Sections 24-34, 24-13, 24-20, 24-28 and 182-19; and add new Section 24-14.1 as set forth herein. The purpose of these changes is to transfer the function of the Fire Alarm Maintenance Lineman from Inspectional Services to the Fire Department.

Alderman Mortimer motions to join the two orders, 2nd by Alderman Tramontozzi. All in favor.

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

Alderman Infurna says there was a request to have the City Solicitor look into Order No. 09-176. So moved by Alderman Mortimer, 2nd by Alderman McAteer-Margolis. All in favor.

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

Legal and Legislative Matters adjourns at 8:24 p.m.

Finance Committee

Chairman McAteer-Margolis,
Tramontozzi, Conn, Mortimer
Absent: Wright
Attending: Infurna, Medeiros,
Seaboyer, Boisselle

Finance Committee called to order by Chairman McAteer-Margolis at 8:25 p.m.

Order No. 09-124, Fees and charges which may be set by local authority pursuant to MGL Chapter 262, Sec. 34

Alderman Conn asks what exactly the committee is reviewing. Chairman McAteer-Margolis says the Common Victualler Licenses passed and the dog license fee was defeated, leaving the birth, death, and marriage certificates, the request by mail, marriage intentions, amendments, and the street list book. Alderman Conn says the City Solicitor rendered an opinion against in-City/out-of-City differences in fees; he asks if the increase in fees for birth certificates will increase revenue by \$3,132.00. Chairman McAteer-Margolis says yes. Alderman Conn asks if marriage certificates will increase revenue by \$879.00; Chairman McAteer-Margolis says yes. Alderman Conn asks if that amount includes the requested increase of \$2.00 by mail; Chairman McAteer-Margolis says no. Alderman Conn says he doesn't think increasing the request by mail by \$2.00 is consistent with the City Solicitor's opinion. He asks if increasing the fee of the street list book would raise an additional \$90 in revenue; Chairman McAteer-Margolis says yes. Alderman Conn says he thinks the books are only valuable to political candidates.

Alderman Brodeur says the death certificate fee is the one to be least complained about since the family usually needs them immediately. He understands the sentiment behind the request to increase these fees but Melrose is still pretty much out in front of other communities. Boston only charges a \$3 additional fee by mail and Melrose is already charging \$5.00. He says he isn't sure they're worth increasing right now.

Chairman McAteer-Margolis says she wants to note that increasing the amendments by \$10 would increase revenue by an estimated \$450.00.

Alderman Medeiros says a fee is a fee for service and it should only cost what that service costs. She would like to see the cost increase to provide this service.

Alderman Infurna says she would like to thank the City Clerk for revising this, but \$19 is a silly number. All of these fees are more than many of the communities surveyed. She is concerned with the proposed increase for request by mail. She will not support this at the full board.

President Boisselle says that any future request to increase fees by any department has to be analyzed like this.

Alderman Seaboyer says fees that were split between in and out-of town are now \$1.00. He says the aldermen are picking on this office and he doesn't think it's fair.

Alderman Brodeur says they are not picking on anyone. This has been going on for so long because no one wanted to vote. He doesn't support it because it puts Melrose dramatically out of line with the surrounding communities.

Alderman Medeiros says President Boisselle is correct – all requests should be scrutinized at the same level. The aldermen should know what these services cost. The City shouldn't undercharge just like it shouldn't overcharge.

Alderman Conn says he hopes nobody thinks this is the first time the aldermen have been bogged down in minutia. If this passes, it will raise an additional \$19,000.00. The difference between this order and increasing water and sewer fees is that water and sewer fees are broad-based and potentially harm everyone. These fees are in the

category of somewhat minor. This particular order is not of particular significance.

Alderman Conn motions to amend the proposed increases to delete the differential between mailed and unmailed requests and have a unitary increase of \$1.00, 2nd by Alderman Tramontozzi. Motion carries.

Alderman Conn says in view of the City Solicitor's opinion, he moves to amend the Amendment fee to \$5.00 not \$10.00, 2nd by Alderman Tramontozzi. Motion carries.

Alderman Tramontozzi moves to send the matter as amended to the full board without recommendation. Motion fails for lack of a second.

Alderman Conn moves to recommend as amended, 2nd by Alderman Tramontozzi. All in favor.

Order No. 09-201, TRANSFER Amount: \$1,200.00 From: A/C #015412-522602 - Gas Heat, Senior Center To: A/C #015412-527700 - Council on Aging, Building Repairs These funds will be used for miscellaneous repairs to the Milano Senior Center

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

Order No. 09-171, TRANSFER Amount: \$67,500.00 From: A/C #019111-511010 - Contributory Retirement, Salaries To: A/C #014752-524000 - PW, Care of Trees, Hired Equipment - \$48,000.00 To: A/C #015432-544000 - Veteran's Benefits 19,500.00

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

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

Finance Committee adjourns at 8:50 p.m.

Maribeth Harrington
Clerk of Committees