

Protection and License Committee

Chairman Infurna, Forbes, Brodeur,
Seaboyer, Medeiros
Attending: Mortimer, Boisselle
In attendance: Fire Chief John O'Brien

The Protection and License Committee is called to order by Chairman Infurna at 7:31 p.m.

Alderman Forbes motions to open Public Participation, 2nd by Alderman Medeiros. All in favor. No one comes forward. Alderman Forbes motions to close Public Participation, 2nd by Alderman Medeiros. All in favor.

Order No. 10-09, TRANSFER Amount: \$2,874.48 From: A/C #012212-560200 - Fire, Education Reimbursement To: A/C #019302-527614 - Department Equipment, Computer Lease

Alderman Medeiros motions to suspend the rules to hear from Fire Chief John O'Brien, 2nd by Alderman Forbes. All in favor.

Alderman Medeiros moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Seaboyer.

Alderman Seaboyer asks Chief O'Brien how many units he is leasing. Chief O'Brien says 8; it's a lease/purchase program for three years. He'll own them for \$1 at the end of the lease. Alderman Seaboyer asks if all 8 are for the Fire Department. Chief O'Brien says yes; one each at Engine 2 and 3, and five at Headquarters. It will allow everyone in the Department to have an email address.

Alderman Forbes asks Chief O'Brien if he foresees having computers in his vehicle and the Captain's vehicle. Chief O'Brien says he can see that because they could store a lot of data. He'd like to see them installed in the engines but the response is only 8-9 blocks.

Alderman Medeiros asks if the engines have GPS systems installed and if there are any problems with the firefighters getting lost. Chief O'Brien says there are no GPS systems. The firefighters are proud that they know the City inside and out. Alderman Medeiros says this is a good time to mention that people should have clear house numbers located on their property.

President Boisselle asks what will be done with the old computers. Chief O'Brien says the IT Department will refresh and clean them and place one in the kitchen area, two in Fire Alarm, and one in each of the other two stations.

Alderman Mortimer asks what applications are used for day-to-day activities. Chief O'Brien says they're used for communication within the City and IMC software is used for dispatch, inspections, tracking manpower, logging calls and runs, tracking hours on trucks and fire reports. Alderman Mortimer asks if there are any online courses available. Chief O'Brien says the department has taken online incident command courses already.

Alderman Forbes says an ordinance change will be before the Board of Aldermen soon

regarding vacant buildings and asks if the Fire Department is currently notified about vacant buildings. Chief O'Brien says there's a difference between vacant and abandoned. A building really isn't vacant if a person just moved out. Abandoned is different. It's marked with a big red X. His department doesn't track empty houses. If there's an X it means there's no interior operations. If it's marked with a square, there are some interior operations.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Order No. 10-13, Class II Motor Vehicle License Application for a Class II Motor Vehicle License to Christopher Curley d/b/a Oceanside Auto Sales, 182 Tremont St., Melrose, MA

Alderman Forbes moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Seaboyer.

Mr. Curley says he is a 10-year resident of Melrose. He previously had a dealership in Melrose for 5-6 years but closed it when he bought a bigger business in Canton. With the economy the way it is he decided to come back to Melrose.

Alderman Forbes asks if there won't be any cars on the lot. Mr. Curley says no; 99% of the business is wholesale. Alderman Forbes asks if there are no outside sales at all. Mr. Curley says no; he'll probably never be in the building.

Alderman Medeiros asks if there will be no repairs done. Mr. Curley says no. He used to keep ten cars on the property. If he decides to do that he'll come back.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Alderman Brodeur motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman Forbes. All in favor.

The Protection and License Committee adjourns at 7:47 p.m.

Health, Education and Welfare Committee Chairman Medeiros, Brodeur, Seaboyer,
Forbes, Infurna
Attending: Mortimer, Boisselle

The Health, Education and Welfare Committee is called to order by Chairman Medeiros at 7:47 p.m.

Order No. 10-10, APPOINTMENT Of: Paul Boutchia, 166 Derby Rd., Melrose To: Historical Commission said term to expire on the first Monday in October, 2009

Alderman Infurna moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Seaboyer.

Alderman Infurna says Mr. Boutchia attended the full board meeting on Monday and introduced himself. The Aldermen have his resume before them and it looks like he's a good candidate.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Alderman Forbes motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman Infurna. All in favor.

The Health, Education and Welfare Committee adjourns at 7:49 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Chairman Seaboyer, Infurna, Brodeur,
Forbes, Medeiros
Attending: Mortimer, Boisselle
In attendance: City Engineer Bob Beshara,
Recycling Coordinator Mary Beth Calnan

The Public Works Committee is called to order by Chairman Seaboyer at 7:50 p.m.

Order No. 09-044, Requesting that the Public Works Director appear before the Public Works Committee in order to discuss work on Ruggles Street, Howard Street and Clifford Street. (AL-2, AL-4, A-2)

Alderman Medeiros motions to suspend the rules to hear from Mr. Beshara, 2nd by Alderman Forbes. All in favor.

Alderman Medeiros says most of the work in most areas is completed and asks for a brief update. Mr. Beshara says there are punch list items that need completing including some sidewalk issues and the removal of a dead tree. Final paving will be done in August. The entrance to the Hoover School on Ruggles Street will be done in the first two weeks of August. Alderman Medeiros ask if the work will be done by the start of school. Mr. Beshara says yes. Alderman Medeiros asks what will be done if there is damage to the new sidewalks. Mr. Beshara says they will be repaired by the contractor.

Alderman Forbes asks if the project is on budget and on target. Mr. Beshara says after change orders, it is coming in below the original cost.

Alderman Medeiros motions to place the matter on file, 2nd by Alderman Infurna. All in favor.

Order No. 09-114, Requesting that the administration meet with representatives of Recyclebank regarding the city's recycling program and report back to the Board about the feasibility of implementing their program. (AL-1)

Mr. Beshara says Mary Beth Calnan has taken over the whole recycling program and has done a great job. She has been working with the schools and is a great asset to Public Works.

Ms. Calnan says she met with the representative from Recyclebank at the end of March, and it was determined that the program is not a good fit for Melrose both financially and operationally. Mr. Beshara says they wouldn't give the City a proposal. Ms. Calnan says that because Melrose's recycling program is so good, Recyclebank wouldn't make a profit. Everyone looks at Everett; they got a lot of service for free. The carts are very expensive and have a 10-year lifespan. The contract is for seven years. If the carts

broke, Melrose would be on its own.

Alderman Brodeur says the representative said he was not well received by Melrose. Mr. Beshara says that's not the case. Melrose was well represented, listened and asked questions. He was very surprised he didn't receive a proposal. Ms. Calnan says when there was no formal proposal offered she called the representative twice. He essentially said that Recyclebank wouldn't make a profit because Melrose's recycling rate is so high. Alderman Brodeur says given that both the recycling and the tipping contracts are near their end, he'd like to see single stream bids included in the next round. People seem to place a great deal of value on convenience – single stream would be easier. There is no more free ride from the DEP. Mr. Beshara says that's true – the DEP is going after everybody – cities, schools, hospitals. Melrose has done very well. Alderman Brodeur says the basic premise of Recyclebank is incentive to get people to increase recycling. Mr. Beshara says the Mayor briefly mentioned having the City provide incentives to residents. Alderman Brodeur says now is the time to think about changes in contracts. For a \$200 trash fee the City picks up everything. The City needs to save money and the cost of getting rid of trash will only go up.

Alderman Medeiros says she went on the ride along in Everett with Recyclebank. It seems like it was a great program for Everett but it doesn't seem like it would make sense in Melrose. Everett has many multi-family rentals where a lot of things are thrown away. Ms. Calnan says Melrose has a good curbside recycling rate in addition to the City Yard recycling program. Alderman Medeiros says the aldermen were told that because Melrose is dual stream it's in a better position for recyclables with the paper rate decreasing. Ms. Calnan says it's based on the market rate.

Alderman Forbes asks Mr. Beshara when the City would be able to take control of the waste management facility on Route 99. Mr. Beshara says there is a 10-year option on the contract. Alderman Forbes asks the process of recycling cardboard. Ms. Calnan says the state has a waste ban on cardboard.

Alderman Brodeur asks when paper becomes cardboard. Ms. Calnan says when it's corrugated. It can't go into the trash and it has to be flattened and taken to the City Yard or broken down to fit into the truck. Also, when cardboard gets wet it gets heavy; the City wants a light load.

Alderman Infurna motions to take Order No. 09-250 concurrently, 2nd by Alderman Forbes. All in favor.

Order No. 09-250, Requesting that the Recycling Coordinator appear before the Board of Aldermen to clarify the city's solid waste and recycling regulations and policies. (AL-1)

Mr. Beshara says Melrose has a good recycling rate and a very good rate for tipping. The City is in a good position with the current contracts. He is looking at other opportunities including a consortium with Wakefield and Stoneham.

Alderman Mortimer says he heard that plastic may be separated from the commingles. Ms. Calnan says the company that takes the plastic sells #1 and #2 plastics. Not all plastics are recycled into something but they want people to get into the habit of recycling. Alderman Mortimer asks about #1 and #2 plastic bags. Ms. Calnan says they

can't be included with the others. Grocery bags may be recycled at the grocery store. Recycling companies don't like bags because they get caught in the conveyor machines.

Alderman Medeiros asks about pizza boxes. Ms. Calnan says if there's no grease, it has to be turned inside out and put with newspaper. If there is a grease mark it has to be cut out. Alderman Medeiros asks about batteries. Ms. Calnan says that alkaline batteries may be thrown in the trash – all others have to be brought to the City Yard. Alderman Medeiros asks about clothing. Ms. Calnan says there are Planet Aid and Goodwill boxes at the City Yard. Even clothes with holes or stains are accepted because they're made into rags. Alderman Medeiros asks about the City picking up a household worth of trash. Ms. Calnan says the City is no longer doing clean outs. She went to the realtors with the specifications that sellers should either spread it out a number of weeks or rent a dumpster. People cleaning out basements or attics should also ration it out weekly.

Alderman Infurna says she thought a resident could call in advance to have clean outs picked up. Ms. Calnan says in the past Public Works asked to be notified and sent a separate truck. Hopefully people will put out trash a little at a time over several weeks. She is trying to work with real estate brokers to suggest to buyers and sellers to get a dumpster.

Alderman Infurna says it was good to get the mailing with the recycling changes. She forwarded it via email as well. She thanks Ms. Calnan saying it was very informative.

Alderman Infurna motions to place the orders on file, 2nd by Alderman Brodeur. All in favor.

Alderman Brodeur motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman Infurna. All in favor.

The Public Works Committee adjourns at 8:44 p.m.

Maribeth Harrington
Clerk of Committees