

Protection and License Committee

Chairman Infurna, Medeiros, Boisselle
Absent: Forbes, Brodeur, Seaboyer
Attending: Conn, Mortimer, Wright
In attendance: Police Chief Mike Lyle

Protection and License Committee called to order by Chairman Infurna at 7:34 p.m. Alderman Medeiros motions to open Public Participation, 2nd by President Boisselle. All in favor. No one comes forward. Alderman Medeiros motions to close Public Participation, 2nd by President Boisselle. All in favor.

Order No. 10-52, Amending Melrose Revised Ordinances, Chapter 127, Hawkers, Peddlers and Transient Vendors by adding thereto Article III – Door to Door Solicitors and Canvassers, Section 127-13. Certificate required

Alderman Medeiros motions to suspend the rules to hear from Chief Lyle, 2nd by President Boisselle. All in favor.

Alderman Medeiros moves to recommend, 2nd by President Boisselle.

The police department created this ordinance to strengthen interaction with door-to-door solicitors and to control the people coming into our community. It has been reviewed by the City Solicitor.

Alderman Medeiros says this requires people to register with the police department 7 days prior to going door-to-door. She asks if they would undergo a criminal background check. Chief Lyle yes, and the department would issue an identification certificate. Alderman Medeiros asks if the \$25 application fee would cover the cost. Chief Lyle says he intends to request the Board of Aldermen to increase the fee to \$50.00. Alderman Medeiros asks if the fee would apply to all canvassers and solicitors such as Melrose youth groups. Chief Lyle says the Girl Scouts of America inform the police department when they're going to sell cookies. He is concerned about folks coming from other states selling gift cards and vacuum cleaners. Just an hour ago four individuals came to the police station. They all said they had never been arrested; two of them had. Alderman Medeiros asks if this ordinance would apply to nonprofit organizations as well. Chief Lyle says yes. Alderman Medeiros says she supports the idea of registration but she doesn't know how well it would play with the Girls Scouts of America or athletic associations. She asks about the driver's license requirement. Chief Lyle says someone is driving them into the community.

President Boisselle asks how the logistics of the photo id and certificates will be handled. Chief Lyle says it can be easily handled electronically. President Boisselle asks if the increase to \$50 per applicant will cover the cost. Chief Lyle says yes. President Boisselle asks if each individual will be required to wear an id tag. Chief Lyle says they will wear lanyards with the id around their necks so people will know they've been checked by the police department. President Boisselle asks how long it will take to implement this. Chief Lyle says it could start immediately.

Alderman Conn asks if he has given any thought to exempting non-profits; Chief Lyle says he will consider it. Alderman Conn says he would consider waiving the fee as well. He asks if the application forms are public record. Chief Lyle says yes, for a minimum of

three years. Alderman Conn asks how many applications he expects to process. Chief Lyle says at least 100 per year.

Alderman Medeiros motions to amend Section C (2) from \$25 to \$50, 2nd by President Boisselle. All in favor.

Alderman Medeiros motions to amend Section C (2) by adding a new sentence: "This fee may be waived for nonprofit organizations within the City of Melrose at the discretion of the Chief of Police.", 2nd by President Boisselle.

On discussion, Chief Lyle says he may not want to waive the fee for all nonprofits.

Alderman Wright says he recommend that amendment go to the City Solicitor for review and approval.

Chief Lyle says the only thing being waived for nonprofits is the fee, not the other requirements in the ordinance.

On the amendment, all in favor.

Alderman Medeiros says she is still concerned about the requirement for a driver's license. It may cause a problem for kids or someone without a license.

On the order as amended, all in favor.

Order No. 10-53, DONATION: ACCEPTANCE OF A DONATION Item: One (1) 1996 Nissan Pathfinder From: G and T Auto Body, 182 Tremont St., Melrose, MA

Alderman Medeiros moves to recommend, 2nd by President Boisselle. All in favor.

Alderman Medeiros motions to adjourn, 2nd by President Boisselle. All in favor.

Protection and License Committee adjourns at 7:56 p.m.

There are no orders in the Health, Education and Welfare or Public Works Committees to be acted on.

Maribeth Harrington
Clerk of Committees