Protection and License Committee

Chairman Infurna, Boisselle, McAteer-Margolis, Brodeur, Forbes
Attending: Mortimer, Seaboyer, Tramontozzi, Wright
In attendance: Fire Chief John O'Brien, Mayor Dolan

Protection and License called to order by Chairman Infurna at 7:30 p.m. Alderman McAteer-Margolis motions to open Public Participation, 2nd by Alderman Boisselle. All in favor.

David Morris, 20 Keniston Road, says he has been a resident for 45 years. When he tried to get information about the recycling program and the revenue received, the director seemed astonished that he wanted the information. He had to get it from Mr. Beshara. For additional information he had to go to the City Solicitor who was also astonished. He says he got what he was looking for which is what the City gets for glass, paper and other materials. The City has to pay for the trucks, men, and benefits. There is a net cost to recycling and he asks if it would be better to do it from another source. He asks how much the trash and recycling programs cost the City.

Alderman McAteer-Margolis motions to close Public Participation, 2nd by Alderman Boisselle. All in favor.

Order No. 09-038, Application for a Common Victualler License to Gina Cristallini d/b/a The Fairgrounds located at One Hurd Street, Melrose, MA

Alderman Brodeur moves to recommend, 2nd by Alderman Boisselle.

On discussion Alderman Forbes asks Ms. Cristallini for a brief overview of her business. She says she opened for business on August 8th. Her goal is to have a circus theme atmosphere and to serve packaged snacks, fried dough, cotton candy, and candy apples. It would be nice to have seating to do birthday parties.

Alderman Wright says it's a great location and driving past it has caused a good amount of curiosity; he says it looks very exciting to children and people with a sweet tooth. He thinks it's a great addition to the neighborhood.

Alderman McAteer-Margolis says she would like to clarify the types of food being served and asks if there will be prepared food in addition to packaged snacks. Ms. Cristallini says yes. Alderman McAteer-Margolis asks if there will be seating for 100 people. Ms. Cristallini says she is looking for seating for 10 to 12 people.

Alderman Seaboyer says there is only temporary certification for the fire alarm system. Ms. Cristallini says there is an issue with the landlord and the building next door. The landlord has submitted something to Captain Collina, and the certificate allows her to remain open month-to-month.

Fire Chief John O'Brien says the commercial building is attached to an apartment building which is not up to code with the fire alarm. The temporary permit has been issued to keep Ms. Cristallini in business. The concern is more about the apartment

building.

Alderman Forbes asks if both hot and cold food will be served. Ms. Cristallini says yes.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Order No. 09-026, REAPPOINTMENT Of: Leo V. Colborne, 149 Boardman Ave., Melrose, MA To: Liquor Licensing Board Expiration: first Monday in June, 2014

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

Mayor Dolan says Leo Colborne is one of the unsung community heroes whom has donated a tremendous amount of time without a lot of fanfare for over 35 years. He has managed the Liquor Commission which has primarily dealt with restaurants and with one-day liquor license. He has done this on his own time without pay for 30 years and he has agreed to stay on board. Mayor Dolan says Mr. Colborne knows the laws and he is grateful to him for agreeing to stay on.

Alderman McAteer-Margolis thanks Mr. Colborne for his service and says things may be more challenging after November if the ballot questions pass.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Order No. 09-025, APPOINTMENT Of: Jil Wonoski, 10 Lynn Fells Parkway, Melrose To: Liquor Licensing Board Expiration: first Monday in June, 2011

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

Mayor Dolan says he is pleased to present this appointment to the Board of Aldermen. The Liquor Commission is comprised of one Republican, one Democrat and one Independent. Jil is the Republican and Mr. Colborne is the Independent. When discussing the organization of this Commission, Jil's name came up. The Commission needs people who have good judgment, are of good character, and are able to make good decisions. They must also understand the business districts of the community and their effects on their neighbors. In his experience as Mayor he has found that Jil understands the strengths of the community and understands what it takes to keep the City vibrant and special.

Alderman Wright says he and Jil have had the opportunity to interact on a neighborhood issue. They didn't always agree but he found that she listens to the other side. He will support her appointment.

Alderman Brodeur says her qualifications are exemplary for this position.

Alderman Seaboyer says he is happy to see that she stepped forward for this position and asks what she sees with the ballot questions. Ms. Wonoski says the right thing must be done for the community as a whole and she wants to build a better Melrose.

Alderman McAteer-Margolis says she is happy that Ms. Wonoski has that vision and a good idea about what the business community is like.

Alderman Forbes thinks there are a lot of questions regarding the ballot questions and asks Ms. Wonoski to share her vision about the difference between a package store and a specialty store. She says a specialty store adds value to the community and sells high-end cheeses and fine products in addition to wine and beer. She says there is a huge difference between the two.

Alderman Wright says the Liquor Licensing Commission doesn't set policy but enforces regulations and laws. He says the Commission doesn't have free reign to do what it wants. The strength of the Commission will be the ability to enforce those regulations and laws.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Order No. 09-024, APPOINTMENT Of: Joseph P. Nevin, Jr., 415 East Foster St. Melrose, MA To: Liquor Licensing Board Expiration: first Monday in June, 2009

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

Mayor Dolan says the Democratic nominee to the Commission is Joe Nevin, who flew up from Philadelphia today. He specializes in design and construction of malls and retail stores. He was instrumental in the design of the Middle School and has provided a great amount of insight and guidance for the downtown area and other business districts like Wyoming and Franklin Square. He believes in Joe's character and judgment as the City looks to changing its liquor laws.

Alderman McAteer-Margolis thanks Mr. Nevin and says she is pleased that he is familiar with the laws he will be enforcing and how businesses have to comply.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Order No. 09-030, TRANSFER Amount: $2,224.28 From: A/C #017522-549100 - Temporary Debt Interest To: A/C #019302-530401 -Dept. Equipment, Fire Office Equipment as set forth herein

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

On discussion Alderman Seaboyer asks Chief O'Brien if he is buying an office chair. Chief O'Brien says he is purchasing several chairs. He says this line-item was deleted a few years ago and the chairs he bought have worn out. They're used 24/7 by the shift commanders, and he wants to buy good ones.

Chairman Infurna asks Chief O'Brien to send a letter correcting the number of chairs being purchased.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Alderman Brodeur motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman Boisselle. All in favor. Protection and License adjourns at 8:04 p.m.

Health, Education and Welfare Committee

Chairman McAteer-Margolis, Forbes, Boisselle, Brodeur, Infurna
Attending: Mortimer, Seaboyer, Tramontozzi, Wright
In attendance: Health Director Ruth Clay; Library Director Dennis Kelley

Health, Education and Welfare called to order by Chairman McAteer-Margolis at 8:25 p.m.

Order No. 09-028, TRANSFER Amount: $4,846.00 From: A/C #015431-511000 - Veterans, Salaries To: A/C #015111-511000 - Health, Salaries These funds will be used to increase the hours of the Canine Control Officer.

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

Ms. Clay says the Canine Control Officer position is currently 25 hours per week: 20 hours per week are funded in the budget and 5 hours are per week are paid from the revolving fund. She would like to increase the hours to 30, with 25 being funded in the budget and 5 hours from the revolving fund. The officer has kept track of her hours and she averages 29.5 per week.

Alderman Wright asks if the Canine Officer's duties are restricted to dogs. Ms. Clay says dealing with dogs is the primary function; the title was recently changed due to people's expectation that "Animal Control" included wild animals. Alderman Wright asks if people are on their own if they see a coyote on their property. Ms. Clay says no, that there are agencies that may be called, but the City can't go on private property. Alderman Wright asks what would happen if a coyote was found in Gooch Park. Ms. Clay says the City would handle that by hiring outside professionals.

Alderman Forbes asks if benefits are included with the position. Ms. Clay says yes; they have been included at 25 hours per week.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Alderman Brodeur motions to take Orders 09-031 and 09-032 concurrently.

Order No. 09-031, APPROPRIATION Amount: $30,000.00 From: A/C #29032-590000, Fines Account To: A/C #016112-534200, Books & Periodicals as set forth herein.

Order No. 09-032, APPROPRIATION Amount: $33,000.00 From: Trustees of Melrose Public Library $20,000; Florence Connor Library Trust Fund $13,000; To: A/C #016112-534200, Books & Periodicals $28,000; A/C #016112-534100, A/V Materials $ 5,000; as set forth herein.

Alderman Boisselle moves to recommend, 2nd by Brodeur.

On discussion Mr. Kelley says these amounts are needed to meet the requirements of the Board of Library Commissioners and to receive certification.

Alderman Brodeur asks Mr. Kelley to pass along the Board's thanks to the Board of Trustees for expanding the hours of the Library and thanks to his staff, especially in the Children's Library.

Alderman Seaboyer asks what the balance is in the Fines account; Mr. Kelley says after this appropriation it will be under $3,000.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

Alderman Brodeur motions to adjourn, 2nd by Alderman Boisselle. All in favor. Health, Education and Welfare adjourns at 8:30 p.m.

Public Works Committee

Chairman Forbes, Infurna, Boisselle, Brodeur, McAteer-Margolis
Attending: Mortimer, Seaboyer, Tramontozzi, Wright
In attendance: City Engineer Bob Beshara

Public Works called to order by Chairman Forbes at 8:32 p.m. Order No. 09-010, Be it Ordered by the Melrose Board of Aldermen that the Public Works Department and the City Recycling Coordinator investigate the possibility of making larger recycling barrels available to the public at cost or for no cost in an effort to promote recycling and reduce the cost of trash removal. (AL-1, AL-2)

As one of the makers of the order, Alderman Brodeur says Recycle Bank is a business and is somewhat opposite of a Pay-to-Throw program in that it offers incentives to people to participate in recycling. The idea to look into this venue germinated during debates by Alderman McAteer-Margolis.

Alderman Brodeur motions to suspend the rules to have Mr. Anthony Casali address the committee, 2nd by Alderman McAteer-Margolis. All in favor.

Mr. Casali says RecycleBank has been in business for 15 years and serves multiple communities in New England including Everett and Revere, Massachusetts. It is the opposite of Pay-to-Throw because instead of taxing people, the program is incentive based. It works by having households place all recyclable materials into one cart for curbside pick up. It records each household's activity via a chip in the cart which identifies the household, not the name of the property owner, and converts the activity into reward points. Households redeem the points at hundreds of national and local businesses. Everett started at 83 pounds of recyclables per household per year and is now over 850 pounds. Ultimately 40% of municipal waste should be recyclables; Melrose is at about 15%.

Alderman Seaboyer asks Mr. Casali if pick up is weekly or monthly. Mr. Casali says service would stay the same as it is now. Alderman Seaboyer asks if the containers are purchased by the City. Mr. Casali says there are several vendors the City could deal with; RecycleBank would deliver the containers with the chip installed and would also

retrofit the trucks. Alderman Seaboyer asks the size of the residences that could be served. Mr. Casali says up to a 9 unit building. There have been some issues with condominiums in that the residents are unable to get the containers up to their units.

Alderman Brodeur says the City would still provide curbside pick up.

Alderman Seaboyer asks if the City would still provide the overhead to run the actual pick up; Mr. Casali says yes. Alderman Seaboyer asks if the household would get the money and not the City. Mr. Casali says the City gets the materials value; rewarding residents is what RecycleBank does.

Alderman Tramontozzi asks if in order for this program to work households have to have 96 gallon containers; Mr. Casali says yes. Alderman Tramontozzi asks if the containers are purchased by the City on behalf of the home owner. Mr. Casali yes; RecycleBank maintains them but the City pays for them. Alderman Tramontozzi asks if in order to be effective the program must be city-wide; Mr. Casali says yes. Alderman Tramontozzi says a 96 gallon container is quite heavy. The way the system works now, small bins are lifted manually into the trucks. He asks if the existing trucks could be retrofitted. Mr. Casali says yes; RecycleBank can retrofit the trucks including a scale system. There would be no more manual lifting and it would take less time. There is also a contamination switch to communicate to the owner that the contents have been contaminated. Alderman Tramontozzi asks if everything is computerized. Mr. Casali says yes; there is very little maintenance on the containers. Alderman Tramontozzi asks who pays for the maintenance. Mr. Casali says RecycleBank does. Alderman Tramontozzi asks how RecycleBank stays in business. Mr. Casali says the diversion. Alderman Tramontozzi asks what the split is. Mr. Casali says it is 50/50 and RecycleBank also gets paid every time a person clicks on a reward participant on the website. Alderman Tramontozzi asks how many points are earned. Mr. Casali says 2.5 points are awarded per pound of recyclables up to a maximum of 450 points per month. Alderman Tramontozzi asks if the reward points can be used at stores; Mr. Casali says yes.

Chairman Forbes says he is concerned about the size of the containers and asks if they have wheels. Mr. Casali says yes; about 115 elderly residents out of 1,000 went from using a 96 gallon container to a 64 gallon container. Chairman Forbes asks if the 450 point figure has a monetary value. Mr. Casali says he can't be specific because there is a different value for each reward but there are grocery stores and pharmacies that offer $15 off a $50 purchase. The rewards may be used weekly or they may be saved up.

Alderman McAteer-Margolis says she is excited about the rewards but is more excited that the program encourages people to recycle. She thinks the Aldermen have an obligation to compare the City's cost to recycle and the revenue it generates with RecycleBank's program. She would ask Mr. Beshara for that information in an easy to read format. Alderman McAteer-Margolis asks if Mr. Stubbs could come forward and asks if the Recycling Committee has seen the RecycleBank program and if the members support it. Mr. Stubbs says he is a little more familiar with it than the other members. He has written an article about it. Single stream recycling has expanded coast to coast. He says this program throws Pay-to-Throw on its head; he thought Pay-to-Throw had potential to cut costs but RecycleBank stands to save substantially more. There are a number of national supporters as well as local businesses. He says he endorses this

program over Pay-to-Throw. Alderman McAteer-Margolis asks if he thinks the Recycling Committee could get behind this and help to educate the citizens; Mr. Stubbs says yes. Alderman McAteer-Margolis asks if there is information on Everett's website; Mr. Casali says yes.

Alderman Boisselle asks about contamination and the automated system. Mr. Casali says most of the time the contamination is garbage. There are cameras on the truck that detect it. The contamination level is now 4.5%. Alderman Boisselle says Melrose uses a multi stream recycling system now. He asks if the contents of a truck using a single stream system are brought to an independent group to break out the materials. Mr. Casali says the contents are brought to a facility with an automated system.

Alderman Mortimer asks if the radio frequency identification system includes a receiver at the City Yard; Mr. Casali says yes. Alderman Mortimer asks how many square feet the receiver would take up; Mr. Casali says it's the size of his laptop computer.

Alderman Wright asks about the companies that participate in the rewards program, particularly green companies vs. not green companies and large businesses vs. small, local companies. Mr. Casali says RecycleBank pushes small local businesses more than national companies. Alderman Wright asks how it's determined. Mr. Casali says he hasn't seen any local businesses that RecycleBank doesn't do business with. Alderman Wright says he wants to make sure local businesses aren't left out.

Alderman Seaboyer asks how long it would take the City to recoup the cost to purchase the carts and the revenue being cut in half. Mr. Casali says he has most of the figures for the City and if he could get the paper numbers he could create a spreadsheet; the City should be able to recoup its costs in three years.

Alderman Brodeur says the City needs to run the numbers and see the overall fiscal picture. Recyclables are commodities. He can say with 100% confidence that tipping fees will never go down. The tonnage number has to go down and he thinks the rewards program will move that number down. He suggests the order be placed on file and he will commit to filing a more appropriate order with Alderman McAteer-Margolis at the next full board meeting to run the numbers and see if it's possible to maintain the very good recycling service that City has now.

Chairman Forbes asks if RecycleBank has a contract with Revere and Everett; Mr. Casali says yes. Chairman Forbes says the City is just turning the corner with its recycling program and asks Mr. Casali if he thinks Melrose will still make money if it goes with RecycleBank. Mr. Casali says he believes so.

Alderman Brodeur motions to place the order on file, 2nd by Alderman McAteer-Margolis. All in favor.

Order No. 09-034, APPROPRIATION Amount: $54,700.00 From: A/C #84052-590000 - Capital Stabilization Fund, Transfer Out To: A/C #019313-551002 - Capital Outlay, PW Vehicles & Equipment This money will be used to pay a portion of the cost of the new sidewalk plow.

City Engineer Bob Beshara says part of the plow will be paid for from the Child Safety

Grant the City has received and the other part will be paid by this appropriation. He says Mayor Dolan is looking to improve clearing sidewalks at the schools, particularly at the Early Childhood Center, and this will allow DPW to do that.

Alderman Infurna asks if the sidewalk plow will be used at other schools as well. Mr. Beshara says it will be used in the neighborhood at the ECC. Alderman Infurna asks if it will fit most of the sidewalks in the area. Mr. Beshara says yes; the sidewalks in that area are wider than in other areas of the City. Alderman Infurna asks if a new sidewalk plowing plan has been created; Mr. Beshara says yes.

Alderman Boisselle asks how much grant money will be put into purchasing the snow plow. Mr. Beshara says roughly $50,000.

Alderman Seaboyer asks if the plow will be purchased and not leased; Mr. Beshara says yes. Alderman Seaboyer asks about a warranty; Mr. Beshara says there is a three-year warranty. Alderman Seaboyer asks if he will require additional personnel in DPW. Mr. Beshara says no.

Chairman Forbes asks if the snow plow will be purchased right away; Mr. Beshara says he believes it will be as soon as the grant funds are distributed.

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

Order No. 09-035, APPROPRIATION Amount: $733.25 From: A/C #29062-590000, Parking Receipts To: A/C #014222-527310, Train Station Maintenance This transfer is necessary to pay for repair of the machine at the West Wyoming Avenue station and for paper roll supplies.

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

On discussion Alderman Infurna says she recalls approving funds for repairs not long ago and asks if these machines are beginning to operate in the red. Mr. Beshara says he spoke to Police Chief Lyle and the machines can be updated to take credit cards; the ones currently in use only take quarters and are expensive to maintain. Alderman Infurna asks if vandalism is a contributing factor or if they are just breaking down. Mr. Beshara says there is no vandalism involved.

Alderman McAteer-Margolis asks the age of the machines. Mr. Beshara says they're about eight years old. They use old technology and they're no longer manufactured.

On the motion to recommend, All in favor.

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

Public Works Committee adjourns at 10:10 p.m.

Maribeth Harrington
Clerk of Committees