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September 23, 2009

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

The Committee on Information Technology held a meeting on September 23, 2009, with Chairman Bruce Desmond presiding and Committee Member Alderman William Roche also present and voting. Also present were Administrative Assistant Matt Dias, Director of Information Technology Karthik Viswanathan and City Solicitor John Gannon.

The committee discussed the possibility of expanding the on-line appeals process for non-criminal parking tickets to include trash violations. Mr. Gannon explained that no provision for on-line appeals was provided in the original Home Rule Petition that created the hearing officer position in the city, therefore, in order to expand the process to include trash violations, the original Home Rule Petition would have to be amended to grant that authority to the hearing officer. Once that authority is granted and the hearing officer denies an on-line appeal, the second appeal would then be through the District Court.

Chairman Desmond's motion **that the Director of Information Technology and the City Solicitor perform a review of all of the city's on-line appeal processes to ensure that once an appeal is denied by the designated hearing officer, that the city isn't culpable for any further appeal and that it is clearly stated that once an online appeal is denied, the only recourse the person has is to appeal to the Somerville District Court**, was approved.

No Papers were acted on.

Alderman Bruce M. Desmond, Chairman
Committee on Information Technology