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January 15, 2009

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE**  
**ON LICENSES AND PERMITS**

The Committee on Licenses and Permits convened on January 15, 2009, with Chairman Bruce Desmond presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Robert Trane and Maryann Heuston also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen John Connolly and Rebekah Gewirtz, City Clerk John Long, Police Chief Anthony Holloway, Captain John O'Connor, George Landers from ISD, Ray Zonghetti from the Chamber of Commerce,

A Public Hearing was held to discuss the city's policies for extending the hours of operation for common victuallers past the midnight hour. Chairman Desmond gave an overview of the Board of Aldermen's authority to govern business' hours of operation between midnight and 5:00 AM and told the members that he would like the committee to design a new policy with the help of the Police Department.

Alderman Gewirtz stated that she is in favor of businesses being open until 2:00 AM, if they apply on a case by case basis, so that food might be available when the bars close and noted that her constituents are overwhelmingly in favor, as well.

Alderman Heuston stated that she is in favor of extended hours on a case by case basis, thereby giving the Board of Aldermen an opportunity to monitor businesses for compliance. She also stated that all common victualler licenses should have the hours of operation visible on the license. Alderman Heuston said that she believes that Somerville residents would benefit from extended hours and she is confident the Board of Aldermen will ensure that every safeguard is met. She also stated that the Central Business District should have more openness to extended hours.

Alderman Connolly said that the quality of life of Somerville's residents is the biggest concern, noting that there must be a strict policy and enforcement in place and that the cost to the city must be considered. Alderman Connolly stated that he does not want Davis Square to become a late night destination for people from other cities. Alderman Connolly asked Captain O'Connor to provide the committee with the costs associated with extended business hours.

Chief Holloway addressed the members about noise complaints and quality of life issues that might arise and how the Police Department might be impacted. Mr. Landers discussed the requirements for obtaining a common victualler's license and explained that that license is only applicable to "eat in" establishments.

Mr. Zonghetti spoke about the importance of enforcement and feels that the granting of extended hours should be based on past performance of the business.

Brendan Kearney, Carrie Darcy, (from East Somerville Main Streets) spoke in favor of extended hours

Jim Campano and Brian Brady spoke against extended hours.

Public Hearing closed.

Alderman Trane's motion that petitioners for extended hours bear the expense of notifying neighbors and that licenses be displayed in the establishment, was approved.

Alderman Heuston's motion that the Chief of Police provide the Committee on Licenses and Permits with a list of establishments that have had late night complaints lodged against them, was approved.

Alderman Heuston's motion that the Director of Strategic Planning and Community Development notify Royal White Laundry that they are in violation of their hours of operation, was approved.

Alderman Heuston's motion that the Clerk of Committees notify the owner/operator of Royal White Laundry to appear before the Committee on Licenses and Permits for a public hearing concerning their hours of operations, was approved.

Alderman Heuston's motion that the Director of Strategic Planning and Community Development visit The Red House in Union Square to determine if this establishment is in violation of their permitted hours of operation, and if so, to notify the Clerk of Committees so that the owner/operator may be notified to appear before the committee, was approved.

Chairman Desmond's motion that the City Clerk be involved in the policy structure for extended hours, was approved.

Alderman Heuston's motion that the Chief of Police and the Director of Strategic Planning and Community Development notify the owner/operator of Burger King on Somerville Avenue that they are in violation of their permitted hours of operation, was approved.

Alderman Heuston's motion that the Clerk of Committees notify the owner/operator of Burger King on Somerville Avenue to appear before the Committee on Licenses and Permits for a public hearing concerning their hours of operations, was approved.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following 16 items:

**186643:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Foreign Auto Wholesalers LLC, 80 Pearl St., 2 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186644:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Broadway Auto Sales dba Sooren Inc., 525 Broadway., 11 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186645:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Benny's Autos Sales, 508 Somerville Ave., 2 autos inside, 8 outside.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186646:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Unlimited Auto Body Inc., 471 Somerville Ave., 10 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186647:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - D.M. Auto Body Inc., 48 Joy St. 13 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186648:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Prestige Auto Imports Inc. dba Webster Auto Sales, 61 Prospect St., 22 autos outside.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186649:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class III - T.C. Auto Exchange, 176-178 Tremont St.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186650:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class III - Joseph Talewsky & Son Inc., 512 Columbia St.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186651:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class III - Joseph Talewsky & Son Inc., 517 Columbia St.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186672:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Leins Auto Repair Inc., 65½ Bow St., 17 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186673:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Motorcycles and More LLC, 107 Bailey Rd., No autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186674:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Auto Gallery Group Inc. dba American Auto Gallery, 682 Mystic Ave., 20 autos outside & 2 inside.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186676:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Neeka Inc. dba Manny's Auto Center, 463 McGrath Hwy., 30 autos outside.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186677:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class III - Ed's Used Autos Parts, 516-518 Columbia St.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186741:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Souza Bros. Foreign Car Service Inc., 35-37 Prospect St., 21 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**186742:** Renewal of Used Car Dealers License Class II - Master Used Cars LLC, 121 Prospect St., 46 autos.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved

**VOTE:** Unanimous, 3 - 0 in favor

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Report of the Committee on Licenses and Permits,  
January 15, 2009

In Board of Aldermen

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Clerk