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February 4, 2009

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON LICENSES AND PERMITS

The Committee on Licenses and Permits convened on February 4, 2009, with Chairman Bruce Desmond presiding and Committee Member Alderman Maryann Heuston also present and voting. Also present were George Landers from ISD and Assistant City Solicitor Frank Wright.

The committee discussed the issue of extended hours for business. Chairman Desmond asked if the Committee on Licenses and Permits and the Board of Aldermen retain the right to grant and/or revoke licenses, including hours of operation. Mr. Wright informed the members that the Committee does retain the legal authority to grant and/or revoke licenses and to impose penalties.

Chairman Desmond would like the City Solicitor and the City Clerk to notify any business operating without the written consent of the Board of Aldermen, past midnight and before 5:00 AM, that it is in violation of a city ordinance and subject to section 1-11 of the Somerville Code of Ordinances, as amended. To that end, the current ordinance was reviewed by the committee and new language was considered. Mr. Wright will review the proposed changes, make revisions and present any changes in the language to the committee. Alderman Heuston stated that the Police Chief should receive any new language in the ordinance, as well.

No papers were acted on.

Alderman Bruce M. Desmond, Chairman
Committee on Licenses and Permits