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January 20, 2009

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEES ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS  
AND FINANCE, MEETING IN JOINT SESSION**

The Committees on Legislative Matters and Finance convened in Joint Session on January 20, 2009, with Chairmen Thomas Taylor and Maryann Heuston presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Walter Pero, Robert Trane and William White also present and voting. Also present were Mayor Joseph Curtatone, Administrative Assistant Jessie Baker, Police Chief Anthony Holloway, DPW Commissioner Stan Koty, George Landers from Inspectional Services, Solicitor John Gannon, Assistant Solicitor David Shapiro, James Kotzuba from Traffic and Parking and Stephen Mackey from the Chamber of Commerce.

**186446: amendments regarding snow removal**

Chairman Heuston spoke on the matter and stated that the city can require property owners to remove snow, slush and/or ice from their property and she inquired about the city's tracking capabilities for repeat violators. Mr. Landers informed the members that a photo is taken, and kept on file, of the area in question and that a copy of the ticket is sent to the violator. Mr. Landers further stated that the Board of Health is responsible for tracking consecutive violations and Mayor Curtatone explained that the city would be able to track violations, in real time, once new software is installed.

Chairman Heuston believes that the city should implement progressive fines to ensure that businesses clear the sidewalks around their establishments of snow, slush and/or ice. Mr. Shapiro explained that the fine structure for commercial property is different from that of residential property. The city proposes that property owners clear a path at least 42" wide, however Chairman Heuston noted that since some sidewalks are less than 42" wide, the language be crafted to accommodate those narrower walkways. On the recommendation of Mr. Landers, the reference to sawdust will be removed from the ordinance.

Chairman Heuston's motion **that the City Solicitor draft new language for the snow removal ordinance specifying that central business districts and squares clear paths of 42" and that residential properties maintain a clear path**, was approved by a vote of 3 in favor to 2 against, (Aldermen Taylor and White opposed).

Chairman Heuston informed the members that some private contractors are dumping snow from private ways into public ways and Mr. Koty replied that any contractor found to be doing this who refuses to remove said snow from the public way would be fined \$300.

Chairman Heuston's motion **that Section 12-8 (c) of the Code of Ordinances be amended to allow the City to impose a \$300 fine upon any contractor found to be dumping snow on public ways and then refusing to remove it**, was approved

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

**186446:** Ordinance - By Ald. Heuston, That the following amendments to Sections 12-8 and 12-9, regarding snow removal, and 1-11(b), regarding dog violations (3-38), be enacted.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Should be approved as amended (new copy attached)

**VOTE:** 3 in favor and 2 against

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Thomas F. Taylor, Chairman  
Committee on Legislative Matters

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Alderman Maryann Heuston, Chairman  
Committee on Finance

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Report of the Committees on Legislative  
Matters and Finance, meeting in Joint  
Session, January 20, 2009

In Board of Aldermen

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Clerk