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October 17, 2006

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

The Committee on Legislative Matters convened on October 17, 2006 with Chairman Thomas Taylor presiding and Committee Members Aldermen Maryann Heuston, Sean O'Donovan, William Roche and Robert Trane also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen Bruce Desmond, Walter Pero, and William White as well as Personnel Director Richard Tranfaglia, City Solicitor John Gannon, Asst. Solicitor Robert Collins, Finance Director Ed Bean, Michael Lambert from the Mayor's Office, Jesse Burke from Somerstat and the following members of the Municipal Compensation Advisory Board: Sandra McGoldrick, Gerard McCue and Sheila Tracy. Also present were interested members of the public.

The committee received and reviewed some of the information that was requested at the October 10th meeting. Mr. Gannon presented a history and an explanation of why the salaries of certain positions are governed by ordinance and Ms. McGoldrick spoke about the need for an evaluation system to round out the classification study and said that the salary ranges should be reviewed at least every 2 years to keep them in line.

Alderman O'Donovan noted that Medford City Councilors receive a \$500 tax-free stipend per month, in addition to their salary, prompting Ms. McGoldrick to add that perhaps the advisory board should follow up and add that stipend to the base salary of the councilors. In addition, Ms. McGoldrick explained that the questionnaire that was sent to the municipalities in the study did not ask how much time was spent doing the a particular job, rather the size of city was used as the comparison factor.

Mr. Gannon informed the members that wage increases for the mayor, school committee and/or the Board of Aldermen cannot take effect in same calendar year as they are voted on. Additionally, no wage increase for those positions can be voted on during the time from the municipal election and the time a new board is sworn in.

Mr. Lambert informed the members that the committee would be voting on the recommendation, i.e, to accept it or to send it back to the mayor with resolutions. The administration will then return an ordinance with the necessary appropriation requests.

It is expected that this matter could continue into December in order to accomplish the remaining steps needed for passage, as follows:

- from Leg Matters to BOA for approval
- returned to mayor for appropriation requests

- from Mayor to BOA for approval
- from BOA to possible Joint Leg Matters and Finance committee meeting
- from committee to BOA for approval
- from BOA to mayor for signature.

Alderman Pero's motion, through the Chair, *that the City Clerk clarify whether or not an ordinance can be voted on the same night it is submitted* was passed.

Alderman White's motion, through the chair, *that a summary of union increases for the last 10 years be provided to the committee* was passed.

Chairman Taylor asked all committee members to review the information on this matter and to present any resolutions at the next meeting, scheduled for October 25th at 7:30 PM, as a COMMITTEE of the WHOLE.

Alderman O'Donovan made a motion to accept the study, as is. After further discussion, Alderman O'Donovan withdrew the motion.

Alderman Roche's resolution *that the Director of Operations be moved from a managerial position to an executive position grade level 2* was passed. (Alderman Heuston recused herself from the discussion and vote on this resolution)

Alderman Roche's resolution *that the Director of Arts Council be moved from a managerial position to a professional level 1 position* was passed.

Alderman Roche's resolution *that the Director of Youth programs be move from a professional level 1 position to a managerial position* was passed.

There was a brief discussion regarding the qualifications for the position of Traffic and Parking Director. The position was placed in the managerial group based on the way the city is currently staffing the position i.e., the person does not have an engineering degree. Should the position be filled in the future by someone with an engineering degree, the position may have to be reclassified.

Alderman Desmond's resolution, through the chair, *that the Director of Traffic and Parking be moved from a managerial position to an executive position grade level 2* was passed.

The committee took action on the following item:

181973: Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of a license agreement with CEMUSA Boston LLC to install bus shelters.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be approved

VOTE: Unanimous, 5 - 0 in favor

Alderman Thomas F. Taylor, Chairman
Committee on Legislative Matters

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Legislative Matters,
October 17, 2006

In Board of Aldermen

Clerk