



Finance Committee Report

City of Newton In City Council

Monday, February 12, 2018

Present: Councilors Gentile (Chair), Norton, Rice, Noel, and Lappin

Absent: Councilors Ciccone, Cote, and Grossman

Also present: President Laredo

City staff present: James McGonagle (Commissioner of Public Works), Barney Heath (Director of Planning & Transportation), James Freas (Deputy Director of Planning & Development), and Sue Dzikowski (Comptroller)

#121-18 Council President's appointment to the Financial Audit Advisory Committee

JASON CHOW, 6 O'Connell Road, Oak Hill, appointed as a citizen representative on the FINANCIAL AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE for a term of office to expire on January 31, 2021. (60 days 04/06/18)

Action: Finance Approved 5-0

Note: Jason Chow joined the Committee to discuss his appointment to the Financial Audit Advisory Committee. Mr. Chow's 25 years of audit experience and familiarity working with both management and audit teams is the perfect fit for the Committee. He is a long-term resident of Newton and serves on the Newton South East Little League and the Newton Cantonese School Boards.

The Committee members thanked Mr. Chow for his willingness to volunteer his expertise and time. Councilor Lappin moved approval, which carried unanimously.

. #122-18 Council President's appointment to the Financial Audit Advisory Committee

TERRENCE FINN, 32 Lenox Street, West Newton, appointed as a citizen representative on the FINANCIAL AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE for a term of office to expire on January 31, 2021. (60 days 04/06/18)

Action: Finance Approved 5-0

Note: Terry Finn is a 35-year Newton resident and a recently retired attorney with expertise in finance. He is currently serving on the Board of the Massachusetts State Retirees Benefit Trust and is the director of a non-profit that focuses on improving technology for small, non-profits. In addition, he is the director of GeoFossil, a company developing biotechnologies to improve oil well production. Mr. Finn's experience and willingness to give back to the community make him an excellent appointment to the Financial Audit Advisory Committee.

The Committee thanked Mr. Finn for his willingness to serve and Councilor Norton moved approval, which carried by a vote of five in favor and none opposed.

#124-18 Accept Mass Department of Environmental Protection EVIP Grant

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to accept and expend twenty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$22,500) from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection’s EVIP Fleet Grant Program to be used towards the purchase of three Nissan Leafs for the City’s electric vehicle fleet.

Action: Finance Approved as Amended 5-0 @ \$27,500

Note: Commissioner of Public Works Jim McGonagle reviewed the request for the acceptance of a grant from the Department of Environmental Protection that would help fund the purchase of three Nissan Leaf electric vehicles and the installation of an electric vehicle charger at Newton South High School. The Commissioner asked the Committee to amend the item to reflect that the City actually received \$27,500 in grant funding. The City is receiving \$22,500 for the purchase of the three vehicles and \$5,000 for the electric vehicle charging station. The plan is for the City to purchase the vehicles through the State contract. The cost to the City for each vehicle is \$21,500. The Public Works Department plans to use the department’s fleet replacement account to fund the purchase. Commissioner McGonagle noted that the \$22,500 in grant funds will be paid directly to the car dealer. With that, Councilor Norton moved approval, which carried unanimously.

Referred to Public Facilities and Finance Committees

#128-18 Appropriate \$500,000 for snow and ice removal expenses

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) from Free Cash to supplement the Department of Public Works’ snow and ice operations budget.

Personnel Costs – Overtime
(0140110-513001).....\$150,000
Rental Vehicles
(0140110-5273-5273)\$350,000

Public Facilities Approved 8-0 on 02/07/18

Action: Finance Approved 5-0

Note: Commissioner McGonagle explained that this is a request for \$500,000 to supplement the Public Works snow and ice budget. This appropriation will bring the total money dedicated to snow and ice this fiscal year to just over \$4.2 million. At this point in the season, there has been a total of just over 32” of snow during 11 winter events. The cost per inch is approximately \$95,000 but that cost per inch will increase as more expenses are recognized.

The Administration expects to docket an additional request for further funding in the near future. The Committee understood the need for additional funds and Councilor Rice moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#125-18 Accept Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Grant

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to accept and expend twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Grant Program to supplement the existing \$75,000 contract for the Street Design Guide. The grant will address stormwater management issues highlighted in the City's Vulnerability Analysis and improve the final product.

Action: **Finance Approved 5-0**

Note: Director of Planning and Development Barney Heath presented the request to accept a grant of \$25,000 to supplement funding for the City to address storm water management as part of the development of the City's Street Design Guidelines. The City's Climate Vulnerability Analysis identifies storm water as Newton's largest flood risk. The Street Design Guidelines will look to provide guides to expand on options for storm water retention techniques during street reconstruction to minimize flood risk. The City Council has not had a chance to review the Climate Vulnerability Analysis but the Administration expects to present it to the City Council in the near future. With that, Councilor Norton moved approval, which carried by a vote of five in favor and none opposed.

Referred to Programs & Services and Finance Committees

#126-18 Request to increase the salary of the City Clerk/Clerk of the Council

COUNCILORS LAREDO AND KALIS requesting an increase in the salary of the City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 to match the percentage increase included in the FY 2018 budget for H-grade employees.

Programs & Services Approved 7-0 on 12/07/18

Action: **Finance Approved 5-0**

Note: Council President Laredo presented the request to increase the City Clerk/Clerk of the City Council's salary for Fiscal Year 2018. The increase would be the same percentage increase that H-grade employees received on July 1, 2017 at the start of Fiscal Year 2018. The Clerk's proposed new salary is \$131,640.57 and is retroactive to July 1, 2017. After reviewing the job responsibilities of the City Clerk/Clerk of the Council last year, the Administration felt that the Parks and Recreation Commissioner's position and the Clerk's position are equivalent in terms of responsibilities and should receive the same compensation. The proposed salary of \$131,640.57 is in line with the Commissioner of Parks and Receptions' salary.

President Laredo informed the Committee that he is docketing an item to look at and increase the Clerk's salary for Fiscal Year 2019 and expects that the Council will look at how the Clerk's salary is set during that discussion. The Finance Committee was comfortable with increasing the Clerk's salary to \$131,640.57 for Fiscal Year 2018. On a motion by Councilor Noel to approve the item, the Committee voted five in favor and none opposed to support the motion.

#119-18 Council President's appointment to the Anthony Salvucci Scholarship Fund
COUNCILOR BARBARA BROUSAL-GLASER appointed as the representative of Wards 1-4 to the ANTHONY SALVUCCI CITY COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP FUND for a term to expire on December 31, 2019. (60 days: 04/06/18)

Action: Finance Approved 5-0

Note: The Anthony J. Salvucci City Council Scholarship Fund is administered by a board of three (3) trustees, the Council President, a councilor serving Wards 1-4, and one serving Wards 5-8. The Council President recommends and the City Council appoints the other two members. The trustees are required to administer the fund and solicit contributions to the fund from past and present members of the City Council. Each year a student from each of the high schools receives the scholarship. Each recipient has demonstrated an interest in government through their participation and involvement in student affairs during their high school years.

President Laredo is recommending the appointment of Councilor Brousal-Glaser as the Wards 1- 4 representative to the Anthony Salvucci Scholarship Fund. Councilor Rice moved approval and the Committee unanimously supported the President's recommendation.

#120-18 Council President's appointment to the Anthony Salvucci Scholarship Fund
COUNCILOR R. LISLE BAKER appointed as the representative of Wards 5-8 to the ANTHONY SALVUCCI CITY COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP FUND for a term to expire on December 31, 2019. (60 days: 04/06/18)

Action: Finance Approved 5-0

Note: President Laredo is recommending Councilor Baker as the Wards 5 through 8 representative to the Anthony Salvucci Scholarship Fund. The Committee supported the recommendation and Councilor moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#123-18 President's appointment to the Emerson Community Center Board of Trustees
COUNCILOR JOHN RICE appointed as the Ward Five Council representative to the EMERSON COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES for a term of office to expire on December 31, 2019.

Action: Finance Approved 5-0

Note: President Laredo is designating Councilor John Rice as the Ward 5 Councilor on the Emerson Community Center Board of Trustees. Councilor Rice is familiar with the Emerson Community Center and is comfortable taking on the responsibility. Councilor Lappin moved approval of the appointment and the motion carried by a vote of four in favor, none opposed, and one recused (Councilor Rice).

All other items before the Committee were held without discussion and the Committee adjourned at 7:40 PM. Draft Council Orders for the above items that are recommended for City Council action are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard J. Gentile, Chair

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDERED:

That in accordance with the recommendation of the President of the Council and with the confirmation of the City Council, be it known that JASON CHOW is hereby appointed as a member of the FINANCIAL AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE for a term to expire on January 31, 2021.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDERED:

That in accordance with the recommendation of the President of the Council and with the confirmation of the City Council, be it known that TERRENCE FINN is hereby appointed as a member of the FINANCIAL AUDIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE for a term to expire on January 31, 2021.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chair Leonard J. Gentile, the authorization to expend a grant by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection in the amount of twenty seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$27,500) from the EVIP Fleet Grant Program to be used towards the purchase of three Nissan Leafs and the installation of an electric vehicle charging station be and is hereby approved.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON

City Clerk

(SGD) RUTHANNE FULLER

Mayor

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Public Facilities and the Finance Committees through their respective Chairs Deborah J. Crossley and Leonard J. Gentile, the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) to be appropriated from Free Cash, be and is hereby appropriated, granted, and expenditure authorized under the direction of the:

FROM:	Free Cash (01-3497).....	\$500,000
TO:	Personnel Costs – Overtime (0140110-513001).....	\$150,000
	Rental Vehicles (0140110-5273-5273)	\$350,000

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) RUTHANNE FULLER
Mayor

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chair Leonard J. Gentile, the authorization to expend a grant by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs in the amount of twenty five thousand dollars (\$25,000) from the Planning Assistance Grant Program to be used to supplement the existing \$75,000 contract for the Street Design Guide to address stormwater management issues highlighted in the City's climate vulnerability analysis be and is hereby approved.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) RUTHANNE FULLER
Mayor

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDINANCE NO. B-

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
OF THE CITY OF NEWTON AS FOLLOWS:

That the Revised Ordinances of Newton, Massachusetts, 2017, as most recently amended by Ordinance A-87, dated November 7, 2016, relative to **ARTICLE II. CLERK OF THE COUNCIL** are hereby further amended as follows:

In **Sec. 4-21. Salary.**

1. Delete the words "January 1, 2016" and insert in place thereof "July 1, 2017"

and

2. Delete the figure "\$127,778" and insert in place thereof "\$131,640.57"

Approved as to legal form and character:

QUIDA C.M. YOUNG

City Solicitor

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON

City Clerk

(SGD) SETTI D. WARREN

Mayor

Date: _____

#119-18
#120-18

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of President Marc Laredo, BARBARA BROUSAL-GLASER and R. LISLE BAKER are hereby appointed as the ward 1-4 and Ward 5-8 representatives, respectively, to the ANTHONY SALVUCCI CITY COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP FUND for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

#119-18
#120-18

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of President Marc Laredo, BARBARA BROUSAL-GLASER and R. LISLE BAKER are hereby appointed as the Ward 1-4 and Ward 5-8 representatives, respectively, to the ANTHONY SALVUCCI CITY COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP FUND for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

2018

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of President Marc Laredo, JOHN RICE is hereby appointed as the Ward 5 Council representative to the EMERSON COMMUNITY CENTER BOARD OF TRUSTEES for a term to expire on December 31, 2019.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk