



Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

#115-23
Telephone
(617) 796-1100
Fax
(617) 796-1113
TDD/TTY
(617) 796-1089
Email
rfuller@newtonma.gov

March 27, 2023

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton, MA 02459

To the Honorable City Councilors:

I am pleased to reappoint James Harper of 59 Westminster Road, Newton Centre 02459 as a member of the Farm Commission. His term of office shall expire on March 31, 2026 and his appointment is subject to your confirmation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Warmly,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

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2023 MAR 27 PM 2:52
CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA, 02459

Application Form

Profile

James (Jim) _____ J _____ Harper _____
 First Name Middle Initial Last Name

_____ _____
 Email Address

59 Westminster Rd. _____
 Home Address Suite or Apt

NEWTON CENTRE _____ MA _____ 02459 _____
 City State Postal Code

What Ward do you live in?

Ward 7

_____ _____
 Primary Phone Alternate Phone

N/A -- Retired _____ CPA _____
 Employer Job Title

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Farm Commission: Submitted

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.


Why are you interested in serving on a board or commission?

I wish to continue to serve on the Farm Commission, as I have been interested in the Angino Farm since it was acquired by the City.

[Jim Harper Resume Jun 18 1 .docx](#)

Upload a Resume

JAMES J. HARPER, CPA
59 Westminster Road, Newton, MA 02459



PROFILE

Retired tax professional with additional expertise in financial reporting and control. Tax experience encompassed a range of industries and work with the IRS at the agent, Appeals and National Office levels. Reputation for high integrity, insight and creativity in managing the tax and accounting functions.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RETIRED

2014 to Present

IRON MOUNTAIN INCORPORATED, Boston, MA

2005 to 2014

\$3 billion storage and information management services company with more than 1,000 facilities in 36 countries.

Tax Director

Responsible for domestic corporate tax planning, accounting, return compliance and tax audits and appeals.

- Favorably concluded two IRS audits resulting in release of substantial reserves.
- Oversaw tax integration of several acquisitions and a major disposition.
- Assisted with preparation for Iron Mountain to become a Real Estate Investment Trust

SELF-EMPLOYED CORPORATE TAX CONSULTANT

2000 to 2005

Following KeySpan Energy's acquisition of Eastern Enterprises, assisted KeySpan with tax and accounting transition issues, including work on golden parachutes, tax planning for dispositions, pre-merger tax compliance, tax basis studies and merger accounting. Assisted Iron Mountain with corporate tax planning, accounting and return compliance.

EASTERN ENTERPRISES, Weston, MA

1975 to 2000

\$1 billion diversified holding company with both regulated and non-regulated operations, the latter of which over time included inland marine transportation, coal mining, oil and gas, distribution of water pipe and the manufacture and service of ultrapure water equipment. Acquired by Keyspan Energy in November 2000, creating the largest gas utility in the Northeast.

Vice President and Controller (1987 to 2000)

Responsible for corporate tax planning, accounting, return compliance, and IRS audits and appeals. Chief Accounting Officer responsible for 10-K and 10-Q filings. Also responsible for MIS operations supporting headquarters staff of 45.

- Reached favorable RAR settlement, including research credit for internal use software and current deductions for cyclical maintenance and reengineering, despite widely publicized IRS opposition to these items.
- Structured the operations of Ionpure, which manufactured and serviced ultrapure water equipment from 1989 until its sale in 1993. This \$50 million division operated internationally
- through seven subsidiaries in Europe and through agents in other countries.

JAMES J. HARPER, CPA

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- **EASTERN ENTERPRISES** (continued)
- Oversaw tax compliance in more than 30 states.
- Coordinated successful industry response to IRS proposal to capitalize gas utility deregulation costs.
- Created tax-free structures at the corporate level for three recent acquisitions, including Essex County Gas in 1998, Colonial Gas in 1999, and Energy North in 2000. Conducted tax due diligence for these companies and two other potential targets.
- Managed integration into KeySpan, identifying synergy costs, completing acquisition accounting and ensuring tax compliance.
- Structured sales of subsidiaries in 1993 and 1995 to maximize tax benefits.
- Converted legacy mainframe ledger and payables systems to PC-based systems in early 1990s.
- Managed implementation of optical storage system for accounting records.

Assistant Vice President, Taxes (1981 to 1987)

Responsible for tax planning and accounting, return compliance and audits.

- Lowered tax rate through elections to capitalize coal operations repairs, which in turn generated additional investment credit and percentage depletion.
- Structured sale of coal operations to create large artificial tax loss.

Tax Manager (1975 to 1981)

Responsible for tax planning and accounting, return compliance and audits.

- Created in-house tax return system used by company for ten years.
- Created automated system for tax compliance for oil and gas operations.

ARTHUR ANDERSEN & CO., Boston, MA**1972 to 1975****Tax Senior**

Responsible for domestic and international research, planning and compliance for a client base consisting of utility, manufacturing and individual clients.

US PEACE CORPS, Philippines**1968 to 1970**

Worked in the development and planning office of a small city in Southern Luzon.

EDUCATION**MS, Taxation, Bentley College, Waltham, MA, 1978****MBA, Harvard Business School, Cambridge, MA, 1972****BA, History, Economics and Government, magna cum laude, phi beta kappa, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT, 1967****PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Past Chair of Federal Tax Committee, New England Chapter of Tax Executives Institute

Past Chair of Tax Committee, American Gas Association