

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2015

Present: Ald. Gentile (Chair), Ciccone, Norton, Brousal-Glaser, Rice, Blazar and Lappin

Absent: Ald. Fuller

City staff present: Josh Morse (Commissioner of Public Buildings), Lou Taverna (City Engineer), David Wilkinson (Comptroller), and Maureen Lemieux (Chief of Staff/Chief Financial Officer)

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#286-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the design engineering and construction services for the replacement of the backstop at the Newton North High School baseball field.
[09/28/15 @ 1:43 PM]

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 8-0 on 10/07/15

ACTION: **APPROVED 7-0**

NOTE: The Committee previously discussed a request for \$33,600 to provide design services for the replacement of the backstop at Newton North High School. After some discussion, it was suggested that it might make more sense to have a contractor design and build the backstop in order to ensure one company has ownership of the project. The Administration agreed with the suggestion and filed a new item requesting the funding for design and construction of the backfield.

Commissioner of Public Buildings Josh Morse presented the request for \$350,000 for design and construction of a replacement backstop at the baseball field. The replacement consists of installing 60' poles and 60' netting behind home plate and along the first and third base lines. The specifications for the project will be complete on October 15, 2015. The Public Buildings Department would manage the project and is currently in conversations with contractors regarding the project. The plan is to schedule a mandatory pre-bid meeting right away to detail the project and send the project out to bid immediately in order to complete the project before the next baseball season. Once the project is designed, there should be opportunity for neighborhood involvement.

The new netting has a useful life of ten to twelve years but many times netting lasts much longer. Commissioner Morse will investigate the cost of a warranty for the netting and if it is worth it include it as an alternative in the bid package. The new netting would remain in place over the winters because it is less likely to be damaged, if it remains in place. The Administration expects to reuse the existing netting at a field in the City.

Ald. Norton moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#204-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer the sum of thirty-three thousand six hundred dollars (\$33,600) from Budget Reserve to a Parks and Recreation Department Public Ground Maintenance Account to fund professional landscape architecture and engineering services for the replacement of the backstop at the Newton North High School baseball field. [08/31/15 3:08 PM]

ACTION: **NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0**

NOTE: The above request for design services funding for the replacement of the backstop at the Newton North High School baseball field is no longer necessary, as the City will be using a design/build approach to the project. Ald. Lappin moved no action necessary, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#285-15 HONOR THE MAYOR proposing amendments to the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2012, Section 11-15. **White goods.** by striking the fee of eighteen dollars (\$18) and replacing it with twenty-five dollars (\$25) wherever the fee is mentioned. [09/28/15 @ 1:43 PM]

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0-1 (Lennon abstaining) on 10/07/15

ACTION: **APPROVED 7-0**

NOTE: The new contract for white goods pick up includes an increase of \$7 to cover the increase to the vendor for the disposal of white goods. The increase will bring the cost of white goods pick-up to \$25 per stop for one cathode ray tube item (TV, computer monitor, etc...) and any combination of other white goods. If there were more than one cathode ray tube (CRT) item included in a pick-up, there would be an \$18 fee for each additional CRT item. There is the option to rebid the contract; however, when the City looked at doing that in January 2015, there were no other vendors that could provide the service. Ald. Ciccone move approval, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#225-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate seven hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$725,000) from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the Dedham Street Drainage Improvement Project. [09/01/15 @ 8:46 AM]

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0 (Gentile not voting) on 10/07/15

ACTION: **APPROVED 7-0**

NOTE: City Engineer Lou Taverna presented the request for \$725,000 to fund the upgrade of the storm water system including repair of the culvert in Dedham Street in the area of Countryside Elementary School. The project would be done in two phases. The first phase would consist of replacing undersized drainpipes in Dedham Street with drainpipes that are the appropriate size. This portion of the project can be done while the Countryside School is in session, as there would be no need to close the street or disrupt traffic flow. The second phase

would be the repair of the culvert, which requires traffic detours; therefore, this portion of the project would be done over summer.

The project would be funded through bonded indebtedness and the debt service would be paid through the Storm Water Fund beginning in 2017. The Storm Water Fee is expected to generate more than the anticipated \$1 million in Fiscal Year 2016. The City has billed \$568,000 through September 2015.

This project is the top priority capital project related to the City's storm water infrastructure. With that, Ald. Lappin moved approval, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#283-15 **HIS HONOR THE MAYOR** requesting authorization to appropriate one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000) from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the installation of heat trace wiring for the City Hall roof. [09/28/15 @ 1:43 PM]

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 3-0-5 (Albright, Brousal-Glaser, Crossley, Lappin, Laredo abstaining) on 10/07/15

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Commissioner of Public Buildings Josh Morse presented the request for funds to install heat trace wiring on City Hall roof. A number of questions arose regarding this item during the Public Facilities Committee's discussion. Questions regarding whether the ice dams were the only cause of the roof leaking and whether the roof should be fully evaluated before the heat trace wiring is added were raised at the Public Facilities Committee meeting.

Commissioner Morse stated that he was on City Hall's roof last winter and saw the ice dam water running into the Law Department. He added that the roof was evaluated as part of the buildings assessment done in 2011 and it was deemed to be in good shape. The roof assessment included the entire roof, gutters, fascia, and down spouts. When the masonry along the roofline was repointed, it resolved a number of leaks. Whenever there is a problem with the roof, it is repaired. Although there have some repairs on the City Hall cupola, the Public Buildings Department is currently looking at the best way to make the cupola watertight without upsetting the historic nature of the cupola.

The heat trace wiring will not eliminate all leaks but it will drastically improve the number of leaks in the building. The heat trace wiring would be temperature activated with an override switch that would all the wiring to be activated ahead of a large storm regardless of the temperature. The heat trace wiring would be placed along the roofline and wrap down the downspouts to stop ice from forming and/or eliminate any ice that has formed. The City's roofing contractor has assured Commissioner Morse that the heat trace wiring is a good option to address ice dams.

In order to eliminate all ice dams, the City has two options that have a price of over \$1 million to implement. The first option is to insulate the 1000s of feet of steam pipes used to

provide heating to the second floor of City Hall, remove or insulate the ductwork that runs throughout the attic, and insulate the high-voltage cables that provide electricity for the outdoor lighting, computer equipment, and antennas located on the roof of City Hall. By insulating or removing this equipment in would eliminate all heat sources in the attic creating a cold attic. There would be no heat source in the attic to melt the snow on the roof. The resulting water from melting snow is what creates ice dams.

The second option is to remove 12' of slate around the entire perimeter of the roof, add a layer of Icynene to create a barrier and seal the building, and replace all of slate that was removed. This would be an expensive proposition that is estimated cost of over \$2 million. There are no plans to fund either of the two options, as there is not funding available. The heat trace wiring installation would be a less expensive option and would address a majority of the problem.

Ald. Norton moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#279-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate three hundred sixty-nine thousand twenty-three dollars and ninety-five cents (\$369,023.95) from the premiums earned on the Fiscal Year 2015 bond sales for debt excluded capital projects for the purpose of reducing the future debt to be issued on the below projects as follows:

- 1) Angier Elementary School Project: reduce the amount of financing from bonded debt by three hundred fifty-one thousand one hundred fifty-nine dollars and twenty-one cents (\$351,159.21) and increase the financing from premium earned on the sale of bonds by three hundred fifty-one thousand one hundred fifty-nine dollars and twenty-one cents (\$351,159.21).
- 2) Cabot Elementary School Project: reduce the amount of financing from bonded debt by seventeen thousand eight hundred sixty-four dollars and seventy-four cents (\$17,864.74) and increase the financing from premium earned on the sale of bonds by seventeen thousand eight hundred sixty-four dollars and seventy-four cents (\$17,864.74). [09/28/15 @ 1:43 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 7-0**

NOTE: Chief of Staff Maureen Lemieux presented the request to appropriate \$351,159.21 from Free Cash to the Angier Elementary School Project and \$17,864.74 from Free Cash to the Cabot Elementary School Project. This past January, the City sold bonds for the Angier Elementary and the Cabot Elementary School Projects and received a total of \$369,023.95 in premium revenues related to the projects from that bond sale. State statute requires any bond proceeds for a debt-excluded project must go towards that project; therefore, the \$369,023.95 in proceeds from the bond sale for the two projects will be used to reduce the bond authorizations as requested. Ms. Lemieux expects to be back with the same request for the next couple of years. Ald. Blazar moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#280-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate ninety-five thousand two hundred twenty-six dollars and thirteen cents (\$95,226.13) from the September 21, 2015 Declaration of Overlay Surplus as declared by the Chairman of the Board of Assessors to the Statutory Interest Account in order that any liabilities ordered by the Courts or the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board can be extinguished. [09/28/15 @ 1:43 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 7-0**

NOTE: Director of Assessment Administration provided the attached memo stating that the appropriation of an additional \$95,226.13 from the September 21, 2015 Declaration of Overlay Surplus is needed to provide enough funding cover the estimated statutory interest liability through June 30, 2015 for pending utility cases before the courts or Massachusetts Tax Board. The City's Financial Management Guidelines establish that the City should appropriate these funds for probable statutory interest payments on open property tax cases. If the City wins a case, the estimated liability for that case may be used for another purpose.

Ald. Lappin moved approval, which carried by a vote of seven in favor and none opposed.

#281-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate six hundred twenty-three thousand two hundred fifty-five dollars and seventy six cents (\$623,255.76) from the September 21, 2015 Declaration of Overlay Surplus as declared by the Chairman of the Board of Assessors and appropriate fifty-nine thousand ninety-nine dollars and forty-four cents (\$59,099.44) from Free Cash to the Rainy Day Stabilization Fund. [09/28/15 @ 1:43 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 7-0**

NOTE: Chief of Staff Maureen Lemieux presented the request to appropriate \$623,255.76 for the September 21, 2015 Declaration of Overlay Surplus and \$59,099.44 from Free Cash to the Rainy Day Stabilization Fund. The appropriations would bring the Rainy Day Stabilization Fund to the target level of 5% of the operating budget, which is the goal.

The 5% target number for the Rainy Day Stabilization Fund will grow each year as the operating budget increases every year. Ms. Lemieux expects that the Finance Committee will have further discussions regarding the establishment of an investment advisory group, to look at investment opportunities for Rainy Day Stabilization Fund money to grow the fund. Ald. Ciccone moved approval of the item, which carried unanimously.

#282-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate the sum of thirty-six thousand six hundred ten dollars (\$36,610) of Homeless Transportation reimbursement revenue to the Newton Public School budget, as the reimbursement funds were accounted for in the school budget but were deposited into general fund revenue. [09/28/15 @ 1:43 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED AS AMENDED 7-0 @ \$37,433**

NOTE: The City received an additional \$833 from the State as part of the Homeless Transportation reimbursement after the above request was docketed; therefore, the Administration would like to amend the docket item to reflect the supplemental reimbursement. The School Committee provided the attached memo stating that the School Committee voted to request that the Board of Aldermen appropriate \$37,433 to the School Department from the reimbursement. The Committee unanimously voted to amend the docket item to add the \$833 dollars to the requested appropriation. The total appropriation request as amended is \$37,433.

When the City received reimbursements from the State's Fiscal Year 2016 Homeless Transportation Reimbursement Fund, they were applied to the City's general fund instead of the School Department's budget. The funds should be included in the School budget as the funds are a reimbursement for transportation of homeless children to and from the last school they were enrolled when they first become homeless. The docket request is to appropriate the \$37,433 from the general fund to the School budget. A motion was made to approve the amended docket item, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO ZAP, PROG & SERV AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#397-13(3) ALD. SANGIOLO AND DANBERG requesting creation of an ordinance to protect trees deemed ~~historie~~ significant by the ~~Historical Commission and the~~ City's Tree Warden with the advice and counsel of the Urban Tree Commission.
[05-05-14 @ 4:32 PM]

ZAP VOTED NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0 on 02/19/15

PROG & SERV VOTED NO ACTION NECESSARY 3-0-1 (Kalis abstaining; Blazar and Baker not voting) on 09/09/15

ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0

NOTE: The Director of Urban Forestry Marc Welch and the Urban Tree Commission are working on developing standards to determine if a tree is significant. Once there are standards, the Docketors will refile the item. Ald. Ciccone moved no action necessary, which carried unanimously.

All other items before the Committee were held without discussion and the Committee adjourned at 7:50 PM. Draft Board Orders for the above items that are recommended for Board of Aldermen action are attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard J. Gentile, Chairman

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

2015

ORDERED:

That for the purpose of paying costs of designing and constructing a backstop at the Newton North High School baseball field, and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, there is hereby appropriated the sum of three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000), which amount shall be borrowed under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(25) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) SETTI D. WARREN
Mayor

Date _____

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

2015

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Public Facilities Committee through its Chairman Deborah J. Crossley, the following item be and is hereby voted NO ACTION NECESSARY:

#204-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer the sum of thirty-three thousand six hundred dollars (\$33,600) from Budget Reserve to a Parks and Recreation Department Public Ground Maintenance Account to fund professional landscape architecture and engineering services for the replacement of the backstop at the Newton North High School baseball field.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Item Voted NO ACTION NECESSARY

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON, City Clerk

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ORDINANCE NO.

2015

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

That the Revised Ordinances of Newton, Massachusetts, 2007, as amended, be and are hereby further amended with respect to ARTICLE 1 RECYCLING AND TRASH, as most recently amended by Ordinance A-54, dated January 20, 2015, as follows:

Delete in entirety the first and second sentence of Sec. 11-15 White Goods, and insert in its place the following language:

“White goods may be removed and disposed of by the department of public works upon application to the commissioner of public works by the owner or occupant of a building or premises who shall pay a fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per stop, which will include one cathode ray tube item (TV or computer monitor). Each additional cathode ray tube item (TV and/or computer monitor) shall be charged an additional eighteen dollar (\$18.00) fee.

Approved as to legal form and character:

DONNALYN LYNCH KAHN
City Solicitor

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Adopted

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) SETTI D. WARREN
Mayor

Date: _____

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

2015

ORDERED:

That for the purpose of funding the replacement of storm drain infrastructure and repair of the culver in Dedham Street in the area of Countryside Elementary School and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, there is hereby appropriated the sum of seven hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$725,000), which amount shall be borrowed under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) SETTI D. WARREN
Mayor

Date _____

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

2015

ORDERED:

That for the purpose of funding the installation of heat trace wiring on City Hall roof and for the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, there is hereby appropriated the sum of one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000), which amount shall be borrowed under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(34) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) SETTI D. WARREN
Mayor

Date _____

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

2015

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chairman Leonard J. Gentile, the sum of three hundred sixty-nine thousand twenty-three dollars and ninety-five cents (\$369,023.95) be and is hereby appropriated from the premiums earned on the Fiscal Year 2015 bond sales for the following debt excluded capital projects for the purpose of reducing the future debt to be issued on the below projects as follows:

- 1) Angier Elementary School Project: reduce the amount of financing from bonded debt by three hundred fifty-one thousand one hundred fifty-nine dollars and twenty-one cents (\$351,159.21) and increase the financing from premium earned on the sale of bonds by three hundred fifty-one thousand one hundred fifty-nine dollars and twenty-one cents (\$351,159.21).
- 2) Cabot Elementary School Project: reduce the amount of financing from bonded debt by seventeen thousand eight hundred sixty-four dollars and seventy-four cents (\$17,864.74) and increase the financing from premium earned on the sale of bonds by seventeen thousand eight hundred sixty-four dollars and seventy-four cents (\$17,864.74).

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Adopted

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) SETT D. WARREN
Mayor
Date _____

CITY OF NEWTON
ASSESSMENT ADMINISTRATION
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Date: October 14, 2015
To: Alderman Leonard Gentile, Chairman Finance Committee
From: Elizabeth Dromey, ^{ED} Director of Assessment Administration
Subject: Docket #280-15 Appropriation of Overlay Surplus for Statutory Interest for Potential Liabilities ordered by the Courts or the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board for Pending Cases with Verizon, Boston Gas and Eversource

The Board of Aldermen has appropriated a total of \$785,510.30 towards an estimated statutory interest liability of \$880,736.43 through June 30, 2015. An additional \$95,226.13 is needed to cover the remaining estimated interest.

Please see the attached spreadsheet.

cc: Maureen Lemieux, Chief of Staff and Chief Financial Officer
Honorable Board of Aldermen

City of Newton
Interest Estimate
for Verizon,
Boston Gas &
Eversource

Interest from 7/1/14-
6/30/2015 \$445,226.13
Interest Already Reserved
through 6/30/14 \$435,510.30

Total Interest for 3
Taxpayers Listed Above \$880,736.43

Additional Interest
Appropriated 9/16/15 \$350,000.00

Additional \$ to fund
interest through \$95,226.13
6-30-2015 on top of
\$350,000 Finance
approved on 9-16-2015

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

, 2015

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chairman Leonard J. Gentile, an appropriation of three hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$350,000) from Overlay Surplus to the Statutory Interest Account in order that any liabilities ordered by the Courts or the Massachusetts Appellate Tax Board can be extinguished be and is hereby approved as follows:

FROM:	Overlay Surplus (01-3220).....	\$59,099.44
TO:	ATB Interest (C10774-5763).....	\$59,099.44

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) SETTI D. WARREN
Mayor

Date: _____

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

2015

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chairman Leonard J. Gentile, an appropriation of six hundred twenty-three thousand two hundred fifty-five dollars and seventy six cents (\$623,255.76) from Overlay Surplus and an appropriation of fifty-nine thousand ninety-nine dollars and forty-four cents (\$59,099.44) from Free Cash to the Rainy Day Stabilization Fund be and is hereby approved as follows:

FROM:	Overlay Surplus (01-3220).....	\$623,255.76
	Free Cash (01-3498).....	\$59,099.94
TO:	Transfer to Rainy Day Stabilization Fund (0110499-5922A).....	\$682,395.70

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) SETTI D. WARREN
Mayor

Date: _____

NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Office of Business, Finance and Planning
100 Walnut Street
Newtonville, MA 02460
617-559-9025

TO: School Committee
David Fleishman, Superintendent

FROM: Sandra Guryan, Deputy Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer
Susan Dzikowski, Director of Finance

DATE: October 13, 2015

RE: Voted to Accept McKinney-Vento State Reimbursement for Homeless Students

At the October 13, 2015 School Committee meeting, the School Committee voted to approve a request of the Board of Aldermen and the Finance Committee to vote to appropriate the state reimbursement of \$37,443 for McKinney Vento Homeless Student transportation to the School Department. Current receipts are housed in general revenue account #0130101-433018. Appropriating these funds to the School Department will allow for the district to directly offset a portion of the cost of bus transportation in FY16.

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, reauthorized in December 2001 as part of the Federal No Child Left Behind Act, ensures educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness. The Massachusetts Educational Plan provides services aimed at preventing homeless children from experiencing further instability in their lives by minimizing their moves from school to school.

cc: David Wilkinson, Comptroller
Maureen Lemieux, Chief of Staff/Chief Financial Officer
David Olson, City Clerk
Shawna Sullivan
Lisa Mazzola

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

2015

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chairman Leonard J. Gentile, the sum of thirty-seven four hundred forty-three dollars (\$37,443) be and is hereby appropriated from Free Cash to be expended under direction and control of the of the Superintendent of Schools.

FROM:	Revenue - 2016	
	(0310101-433018).....	\$37,433
TO:	Homeless Student Transportation	
	(C301058-538301).....	\$37,433

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Adopted

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON
City Clerk

(SGD) SETTI D. WARREN
Mayor

Date _____

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

2015

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Zoning & Planning, the Programs & Services and the Finance Committees through their respective Chairmen Marcia T. Johnson, Amy Mah Sangiolo and Leonard J. Gentile, the following item be and is hereby voted NO

ACTION NECESSARY:

#397-13(3) ALD. SANGIOLO AND DANBERG requesting creation of an ordinance to protect trees deemed ~~historie~~ significant by the ~~Historical Commission and the~~ City's Tree Warden with the advice and counsel of the Urban Tree Commission.

Under Suspension of Rules

Readings Waived and Item Voted NO ACTION NECESSARY

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON, City Clerk