

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2010

Present: Ald. Gentile (Chairman), Linsky, Salvucci, Rice, Danberg, Fuller, and Freedman

Absent: Ald. Ciccone

Also present: Ald. Albright

City staff present: Danielle Bailey (CDBG Planner), Thomas Daley (Commissioner of Public Works), Alice Ingerson (Community Preservation Planner), Nancy Grissom (Chair of Community Preservation Committee), David Olson (City Clerk/Clerk of the Board), Robert Rooney (Chief Operating Officer), Arthur Cabral (Interim Commissioner of Public Buildings), Joshua Morse (Facilities and Operations Supervisor; Public Buildings Department), and David Tannozzini (Energy Engineer; Public Buildings Department)

#368-08 ALD. LINSKY requesting approval of the Board of Aldermen of the design for improvements affecting the area where Walnut Street, Lowell Avenue and Watertown Street intersect including a traffic island, curb extensions and the dead ending of Lowell Avenue. [10/14/08 @ 12:53 PM]

A) Board of Aldermen approved curb extensions and traffic island @ the intersection of Walnut Street & Lowell Avenue on 11/16/09

B) On 11/18/09 the Public Facilities Committee approved a request for trial of one- way on Lowell Avenue from Walnut Street to Watertown Street. On 12/07/09 the Board of Aldermen denied the request for a trial.

B) Public Facilities Committee Approved 5-1 Closure Of Lowell Avenue @ Watertown Street (Lennon opposed) on 02/03/10.

Board of Aldermen referred (B) to Finance Committee on 02/16/10.

ACTION: APPROVED 6-1 (Gentile opposed)

NOTE: Commissioner of Public Works Tom Daley reviewed the Public Works Department's portion of the funding for the traffic improvements. The majority of the project is being funded through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds. The improvements are related to improvements to Lowell Park. In order to make the park user-friendly, the Newtonville Advisory Committee, Community Development Planner and the Traffic Engineer felt that traffic improvements were necessary. The Public Works Department is contributing \$30,000 from their operating budget. A memo from the Community Development Planner Danielle Bailey and the Associate City Engineer Clint Schuckel provided a memo, which was attached to the agenda that gave a history of the project. The memo also contained estimated costs of the traffic improvements around Lowell Park.

Danielle Bailey provided a draft master plan of the project with an estimated cost breakout. The Community Development Program currently has \$135,000 in the budget. Once the traffic improvements are determined, the program is ready to start drawing down on those funds. The CDBG budget for the traffic improvements is \$75,000, which leaves \$60,000 for park improvements for this phase of the park improvements. Ald. Gentile asked the Commissioner if he is comfortable that the funds allocated from CDBG were enough to complete

all of the traffic improvements. The Commissioner is comfortable as the estimates for the improvements are recent.

Committee members asked how the additional funds needed to complete the plan for the park would be raised. Ms. Bailey responded that the park project has already been approved for an additional \$92,000 in the next round of CDBG funding. The master plan for the park cannot be completed until there is a resolution to the traffic improvements, as the improvements determine the access points to the park. The irrigation for the site is the community's responsibility and will not be funded by the City. Ald. Danberg inquired if there would be irrigation in the park. Ms. Bailey responded that there might be a fountain installed and a small amount of irrigation for planting areas. Ald. Danberg suggested that a spigot be installed to provide a water source for the park, if the irrigation is not installed.

As there were several neighbors present for the discussion, the Chairman asked that a proponent and opponent speak on the project. Giles Taylor, Chair of the Newtonville Advisory Committee, spoke in favor of the project. People have put a significant amount of work into planning the park and traffic improvements. The traffic improvements and park are tied together, as more people will utilize the park if there are improvements to pedestrian safety surrounding the park. The Advisory Committee has worked closely with Ald. Linsky, the Traffic Engineer and the City's Planning Department to come up with the master plan for the park and traffic improvements.

Larry Cedrone, 106 Walnut Street, raised his concern about the drainage problems that exist in the area of the park. The Commissioner responded that the project addresses the drainage problems. John Cedrone, 331 Newtonville Avenue, voiced his opposition to the project. He believes that the closure of Lowell Avenue creates an inequity in terms of property assessments. The homes on the effected portion of Lowell Avenue will be assessed higher and the homes on Watertown Street across from the park will receive a lower assessment. He is also not sure that the traffic improvements have created safer intersections in the area around the park.

Ald. Salvucci voiced his support of the project. He used to see conflicts between vehicles exiting Lowell Avenue onto Watertown Street and vehicles using Watertown Street every day. The closure of Lowell Avenue has created a safer intersection at Crafts and Watertown Streets and Lowell Avenue. Ald. Linsky stated that he is pleased that the trial data on the intersections has indicated that the area is safer due to the traffic improvements.

Ald. Linsky expects that there will be additional discussion on the item when it reaches the floor of the Board of Aldermen and moved approval of the item, which carried by a vote of six in favor and one opposed. Although Ald. Gentile is aware that a tremendous amount of work has gone into this project, he voted against the item. He stated that he receives the most complaints from residents regarding the increase in traffic around the City. He believes that the project generates an increase in traffic on Walnut and Watertown Streets; therefore, he cannot support the project.

#81-08(3) PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSIONER, in accordance with Ordinance Sec.26-49, **Street Betterments**, paragraph (a)(1) requesting approval of the following list of betterment assessments for the completed project for Bencliffe Circle: [02/11/10 @ 10:18 AM]

<u>PROPERTY OWNER</u>	<u>LOCATION/SBL</u>	<u>BK/PG</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1. Gabriel G. Setian	5 Bencliffe Circle 41028 0020	28195/532	\$5,951.18
2. Raymond E. Desautels, Jr. & Lisa L. Desautels	11 Bencliffe Circle 42028 0021	1331/34	\$11,067.91
3. Alan M. Katz	19 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0022	1003/114	\$9,948.68
4. George & Evaggelia Chakalis	25-27 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0023	838/127	\$13,056.40
5. Grace J. Vigorito	33 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0024	1193/162	\$10,260.82
6. Dmitriy Lyubarskiy	39 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0025	1168/47	\$9,948.68
7. Dina Goldin	45 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0026	1129/162	\$9,948.68
8. Peter Fong	51 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0027	1225/38	\$10,903.76
9. Claire R. Gerstein & Estate of Esther R. Gerstein T/C	57 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0028	1264/200	\$9,948.68
10. Eugene E. Wong & Holly Soto Wong	63 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0029	1261/116	\$9,948.68
11. Abram Blekhmann & Marika Blekhmann	62 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0030	1208/176	\$9,948.68
12. Cynthia Fong	56 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0031	1016/70	\$9,292.07
13. Marcia E. Mann	40 Bencliffe Circle, Unit 1 48028 0032	30/70	\$13,521.50
14. Alexander & Yuliya Shulman	40 Bencliffe Circle, Unit 2 48028 0032A	72/167	\$13,521.50
15. John Giannaros & Panagiota Giannaros	24 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0033	1295/37	\$16,481.24
16. Scott A. Lewis & Janelle R. Winston	12 Bencliffe Circle 48028 0034	1311/118	\$11,062.93
17. John W. Pine & Deborah A. Pine	25-27 Chaske Avenue 48028 0035	24453/8	\$5,951.18

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: The Board of Aldermen approved a petition to reconstruct and accept Bencliffe Circle as a public way. The street acceptance was done through the ordinance allowing private way abutters to pay 100% of the cost to layout and grade a private way to City standards in order to be accepted as a public way. The reconstruction project included installation of sidewalks and curbing, as required to meet City standards. The above item is a request for approval of the betterments, which will be assessed to the property owners to pay for the completed reconstruction of Bencliffe Circle. The betterment process allows property owners the option of paying their portion of the cost of the project up front or over 20 years at 8% interest. Ald. Salvucci moved approval of the item, which carried unanimously.

#242-09(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) from Receipts Reserved received from Panera LLC towards the installation of a pedestrian-activated signal at Centre and Pelham Streets in Newton Center in accordance with Condition #8 in Special Permit Board Order #242-09. [12/15/09 @ 5: 06 PM]

ACTION: **HELD 7-0**

NOTE: Commissioner of Public Works Daley explained that the item is a request to appropriate money given to the City as part of a special permit condition. The petitioner has given the City \$25,000 for a pedestrian-activated signal to be located at Centre and Pelham Streets in Newton Centre. The Committee had many questions about the cost of the signal. There was concern that \$25,000 was not enough to purchase the signal. The Committee asked the Commissioner to clarify the type of signal to be installed and the cost. The Committee held the item until the information on the signal becomes available.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#53-10 ALD. FULLER, SCHNIFFER, CROSSLEY & BAKER requesting a Resolution to His Honor the Mayor requesting the implementation of new parking meter payment methods and/or parking meter systems to eliminate the sole use of coins. [02/09/10 @ 12:43 PM]

(A) Resolution to His Honor the Mayor requesting that the pay station for the Cypress Street Municipal Lot be installed within 120 days – PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0 ON 03/03/10

(B) Resolution to His Honor the Mayor requesting the implementation of new parking meter payment methods and/or parking meter systems to eliminate the sole use of coins – PUBLIC FACILITIES HELD 7-0 ON 03/03/10

ACTION: **(A) APPROVED 7-0**

NOTE: The Chairman explained that the item was split into two parts. Public Facilities Committee held Part B for further discussion and analysis. The Public Facilities Committee approved Part A, which is a request for a resolution to His Honor the Mayor asking that he direct the Traffic Engineer to install the pay station in the Cypress Street Municipal Lot within 120 days. The funding for the pay station was approved by the Board of Aldermen on April 18, 2006 and still has not been installed. The Public Facilities Committee wanted to make it clear that the pay station is a priority. Ald. Linsky and Fuller both expressed their support of the resolution and that the possibility of alternative payment methods for parking meters is being explored. Ald. Danberg moved approval of the resolution, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO CMTE ON COMMUNITY PRES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#40-10 THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$37,045, including \$500 for City of Newton legal costs, be appropriated from the FY10 historic resources and general reserves of the Community Preservation Fund to be expended under the direction and control of the Newton Free Library, for the purpose of preserving and providing improved public access to certain archival materials held by the Library, City Clerk, and Jackson Homestead/Newton History Museum. [01/25/10 @ 2:22 PM]

CCP APPROVED AS AMENDED SUBJECT TO SECOND CALL @ \$36,545 5-0-2 Harney & Yates abstaining on 2-18-10

ACTION: **APPROVED 7-0 AS AMENDED @ \$36,545**

NOTE: Nancy Grissom, Chair of the Community Preservation Committee, provided the Committee with background on the request for Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds to preserve and/or restore archival materials that are accessed frequently by the City and residents. The materials are held by the History Museum, the Newton Free Library, and the City Clerk's Office. The Law Department has decided that it will no longer be requesting legal fees for CPA projects; therefore, the request for \$500 for legal fees was withdrawn. A list of documents and a project budget were contained in the funding recommendation that was attached to the agenda. The intent of the project is to digitize the documents and provide access to the digitized copy on-line. The Community Preservation Committee unanimously approved the project and noted that it would like to see a survey of all archival material held by the City and a plan with a prioritization of the preservation of the material.

City Clerk David Olson stated that the project is a collaborative effort between the three entities. The project includes only a small sub-set of materials held by the Library, City Clerk, and Jackson Homestead/Newton History Museum. All of the digitized materials will reside on the city servers with links on each department's website. Ryan Hanson, Assistant Librarian, will oversee the project, as there needs to be one contact person. Mr. Hanson has experience with this type of project and is qualified to oversee it. The City Clerk will work closely with Mr. Hanson throughout the project.

The Request for Proposals (RFP) is complete and ready to be sent out as soon as the project is approved. The City Clerk anticipates completion of the project in 2010. Ald. Danberg inquired if the two abstentions in the Committee on Community Preservation were a result of questions regarding whether digitization was an appropriate use of CPA funds. A memo received from the Law Department was attached to the agenda stating that it is an appropriate use. The Committee requested that the Clerk report the bid results to the Committee. Ald. Salvucci moved approval of the amended amount of \$36,545, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO CMTE ON COMM PRES, PUB. FAC, AND FIN COMMITTEES

#41-10 THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$569,000, including \$1,000 for City of Newton legal costs, be appropriated from the FY10 historic resources, open space, and general reserves of the Community Preservation Fund to be expended under the direction and control of the Public Buildings Department for the purpose of rehabilitating the interior of the barn at Angino Farm. [01/25/10 @ 2:22 PM]
CCP APPROVED AS AMENDED @ \$568,000 7-0 on 2-18-10
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED AS AMENDED @ \$568,000 5-0-1
(Salvucci abstaining) ON 03/03/10

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0 AS AMENDED @ \$568,000

NOTE: Nancy Grissom, Chair of the Community Preservation Committee, reviewed the proposed project for the barn at Angino Farm. The Law Department has decided that it will no longer be requesting legal fees for CPA projects; therefore, the request for \$1,00 for legal fees was withdrawn. The requested funds will be used to complete the second phase of a project to rehabilitate the barn at Angino Farm. Phase I was the restoration of the exterior of the barn, which has been completed and was paid for through fundraising efforts. The exterior rehabilitation cost was approximately \$230,000. The request for Community Preservation Act funds is to address Phase II of the project for the interior rehabilitation of the barn. The project includes classroom space, accessible bathrooms, a demonstration kitchen, washing station

accessibility improvements and utilities. The improvements will allow the barn to be a more functional space. It is expected that the project would be completed by the end of 2011. The Community Preservation Committee, the Committee on Community Preservation, and the Public Facilities Committee have all voted to recommend approval of the funds for the project.

Some of the programs and classes offered by the Newton Community Farm are held at people's home, which creates access issues. The project will allow the programs and classes to be held at the farm and access to all individuals. The farm is utilized by over 1,500 people a year. The rehabilitated barn will allow the farm to offer additional educational programs. There is farm stand that operates at the farm and is open five days a week. The Newton Community Farm, Inc. financial statements were provided to the Committee and are attached to the report. The farm is financially healthy and should be sustainable for at least the next ten to 15 years.

Several Committee members felt that the farm is a great example of a community-supported program. Ald. Danberg moved approval of the item, which carried unanimously.

#69-10 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to accept and expend a grant of ninety-six thousand five hundred forty-six dollars and fifty cents (\$96,546.50) from the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust for the purpose of purchasing eleven solar trash compactors and install two solar energy systems at the Oak Hill and Bigelow Middle Schools. [02/23/10 @ 7:22 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 7-0**

NOTE: David Tannozzini, Energy Engineer, presented the request to accept a grant from the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust for the purchase of eleven solar trash compactors and funds to install two solar energy systems at two middle schools. Mr. Tannozzini previously provided a substantial amount of back up, which was attached to the agenda.

There were questions regarding the maintenance costs of the trash compactors. Mr. Tannozzini did not have information pertaining to maintenance costs but informed the Committee that there was a one-year warranty on the barrels. He also stated that the Commissioner of Parks and Recreation is very pleased with the performance of the trash compactors. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the collection of trash from the city's containers. Ald. Danberg stated that she is aware of a trash barrel that was replaced with a solar trash compactor in Newton Centre. The previous barrel was constantly overflowing onto the street and it was necessary to collect the trash from the barrel every day. The new compactor trash barrel does not overflow and it is only necessary to collect the trash twice a week.

Ald. Fuller requested the maintenance and life-cycle costs for the trash compactors. Committee members also asked for information on where the trash compactors would be located. Ald. Freedman suggested that it may be more appropriate to locate the new barrels in village centers to reduce the risk that the barrels would be vandalized.

Mr. Tannozzini agreed to provide all of the requested information before the Board of Aldermen takes action on the item. Ald. Rice moved approval of the item, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#72-10 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend one hundred eleven thousand five hundred twenty-four dollars (\$111,524) from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing the Public Buildings Department budget for contractual maintenance of City buildings.

[02/23/10 @ 7:21 PM]

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0 (Danberg not voting) ON 03/03/10

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Commissioner of Public Buildings Arthur Cabral stated that the request for funds is to supplement the contractual maintenance accounts in the Public Buildings Department’s budget. The requested funds should provide enough money to pay invoices until the end of the fiscal year. Commissioner Cabral provided a breakdown of the contractual maintenance expenditures for city buildings to date and the estimated expenditure amounts until the end of the fiscal year, which was attached to the agenda. Commissioner Cabral also provided the attached graphs that include a comparison of the department’s budget for contracted maintenance of public buildings in 1979 and 2010 and a comparison of an HVAC Technician’s hourly prevailing wage from 1979 to 2010.

The Committee reviewed the provided information. There was concern that the FY’10 budget did not come close to accurately reflecting the amount needed for contractual maintenance. The Committee requested that the Commissioner provide a realistic estimate of the appropriate amount to budget for contractual maintenance during budget discussions. Commissioner Cabral agreed to provide the information and also stated that he has had initial conversations with the Executive Office regarding the budget and believes that there will be more money budgeted towards contractual maintenance.

There was some question as to whether or not it would be cost beneficial to hire additional crafts people to address the maintenance. The crafts people could handle some of the work but it is hard to match private pay, therefore, it is difficult to keep personnel. Ald. Fuller moved approval of the item as it is apparent that the Public Buildings Department needs the funds for contractual maintenance. The Committee voted in favor of the motion by a vote of seven in favor.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#73-10 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) from Free Cash for the purpose of paying for Licensed Site Professional (LSP) services and costs associated with the continued clean up and Department of Environmental Protection oversight at the following locations:

- Cabot Elementary School\$10,000
- Horace Mann Elementary School\$30,000
- Newton South High School\$10,000
- Elliot Street DPW Yard\$10,000

[02/23/10 @ 7:20 PM]

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0 (Danberg not voting) ON 03/03/10

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Commissioner of Public Buildings Arthur Cabral reviewed the request for funds for Licensed Site Professional services and continued environmental clean up of four sites until the end of the fiscal year. Two of the sites, Cabot Elementary School and Newton South High School are expected to be filed with the Department of Environmental Protection and closed by the end of June 2010. The Elliot Street Public Works Yard site should be completed and filed by the end of the calendar year. The Horace Mann Elementary School site will remain open at least two more years.

The Committee reviewed the backup information that was attached to the agenda. It was noted that there were several Veeter Root Replacement projects that were put on hold. The Committee asked if there was any safety concerns because these items were put on hold. Mr. Cabral responded that there is no safety concern regarding the Veeter Roots. Those replacements are proactive rather than reactive and do not need to be done immediately. With that, Ald. Fuller moved approval, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#360-09(2) PROGRAM & SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting a discussion to explore possible sources of revenue to fund an off leash dog park system in the City. [11/06/09 @ 10:44 AM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action on the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#358-09 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend fifty five thousand dollars (\$55,000) from tax revenue from the local option meals tax to restore funding to the Senior Transportation Program. [10/09/09 @ 5:25 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action on the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#130-09 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend from Cable Receipts the sum of twenty-four thousand nine hundred eighteen dollars (\$24,918) for the purpose of purchasing equipment to provide for archived web casting of the Board of Aldermen and School Committee meetings. [4/28/09 @ 6:02 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action on the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PS&T, PUBLIC FACILITIES & FINANCE COMMITTEES

#60-09 ALD. SANGIOLO, GENTILE AND HARNEY requesting the installation of traffic islands on CONCORD STREET to be funded with the Cabot, Cabot and Forbes Traffic Mitigation Fund for Lower Falls (Ward 4). [02/03/09 @ 1:01 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the other committees took a different action on the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

ITEM RECOMMITTED TO PUB. FAC. AND FINANCE COMM. ON 02-17-09**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#13-09 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend three hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$385,000) from bonded indebtedness to the Public Works Department for the purpose of replacing both the salt shed and the Quonset hut at Crafts Street. [12-30-08 @ 5:04 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee. In addition, the Committee felt that the Mayor should re-docket the item if it is still a priority.

#352-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting discussion monthly reports from the Chief Budget Officer and Comptroller on the status of the Health Insurance Trust Fund. [09-30-08 @ 1:54 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee currently receives monthly reports from the Comptroller on the Health Insurance Trust Fund. The Comptroller assured the Committee that they will continue to receive reports regardless of whether or not there is a docket item. Therefore, on a motion of no action necessary, the committee supported the motion unanimously..

#348-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting discussion on the Executive Department submission of a new 5-year forecast for FY2010 budget preparation. [09-30-08 @ 1:54 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee supported a motion of no action necessary, as the item is now outdated.

REFERRED TO POST AUDIT & OVERSIGHT AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#300-08 ALD. JOHNSON AND SWISTON requesting discussion with Mayor David Cohen and Superintendent Jeffrey Young as to the procedures that are in place to ensure accountability of their staff in respect to adherence to the authorization of purchasing and expenditures policy and procedures. [07-21-08 @ 9:03 AM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#274-08 ALD. JOHNSON AND SANGIOLO proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that he create a plan to move the Child Care Commission to a self-sustaining model for FY2010. [07-17-08 @ 9:53 AM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#273-08 ALD. JOHNSON proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that the Executive and Human Resources Departments develop a comprehensive human capital strategy for the city to include: performance management, talent development, succession planning, and compensation. [07-17-08 @ 9:53 AM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#272-08 ALD. JOHNSON proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor that he work with the Board of Aldermen, School Department, and School Committee in order to determine the most effective and efficient way to organize the Human Resources Departments. [07-17-08 @ 9:53 AM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee. Ald. Danberg was under the impression that the Executive Office has already begun to undertake a review of the organization of both Human Resources Departments.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#270-08 ALD. JOHNSON proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that he work with the Board of Aldermen, School Department, and School Committee in order to determine the most effective and efficient way to organize the Information Technology Departments. [07-17-08 @ 9:53 AM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back

before the Finance Committee. Ald. Danberg was under the impression that the Executive Office has already begun to undertake a review of the organization of both Information Technology Departments.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#258-08 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting discussion with the Executive Department regarding reorganization of senior transportation services and establishment of intra-village transportation systems. [07-08-08 @ 1:29 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#207-08 ALD. BRANDEL AND SANGIOLO proposing that the following question be put before the Newton voters:
“Shall the City of Newton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 ½ the amounts required to pay for the bond issuance in order to fund Newton North High School?” [05-21-08 @ 12:58 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., PUB.FAC. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#89-08 ALD. PARKER requesting the following:
A) review of the maintenance practices for buildings, parks and other properties owned by the City (including School Department facilities and grounds)
B) development of a comprehensive maintenance plan that includes regular schedules for preventive maintenance for each specific site or facility
C) a RESOLUTION requesting that implementation of said maintenance plan be funded using operating budget funds. [02-13-08 @ 12:07 PM]

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

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#83-07 ALD. YATES requesting that the City of Newton take all possible steps to persuade the General Court to adopt the proportion of Governors Municipal Partnership that would allow the City to reduce employee health insurance costs by joining the Group Insurance Commission. [02-27-07 @ 10:21 PM]

ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#76-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$300,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of conducting a study of the municipal buildings throughout the city. [02-27-07 @ 4:16 PM]

ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0

NOTE: The Committee voted to recommend no action necessary on the item, as it was the sentiment of the Committee that the Mayor should docket a new request that better reflects the necessary funding for the study.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#245-06 ALD. JOHNSON AND HESS-MAHAN requesting an amendment to the City Charter to require the Mayor annually to prepare and submit to the Board of Aldermen a long-term financial forecast of anticipated revenue, expenditures and the general financial condition of the City, including, but not limited to identification of any factors which will affect the financial condition of the City; projected revenue and expenditure trends; potential sources of new or expanded revenues; anticipated municipal needs likely to require major expenditures; and a strategic plan for meeting anticipated municipal needs, to include, but not be limited to, any long or short-term actions that may be taken to enhance the financial condition of the City.

ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Programs and Services Committee took a different action on the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

REFERRED TO ZONING & PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#48-06 ALD. HESS-MAHAN, BURG, JOHNSON, DANBERG, PARKER & WEISBUCH proposing that the city provide financial incentives to rent accessory apartments to low- to moderate-income households at affordable rates that can serve housing affordability goals.

ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0

NOTE: The Committee voted no action necessary on the item with the understanding that if the Zoning and Planning Committee took a different action the item, it would come back before the Finance Committee.

#29-06 ALD. JOHNSON AND PARKER requesting creation of a Citizen Financial Advisory Committee to work with city officials and staff to facilitate bench markers, strategic planning, and other initiatives to improve the financial operation of the City.

(President's Note: While not formally referred to the Long Range Planning Committee, this item might usefully be discussed there in light of prior discussions of similar issues.)

ACTION: **REFERRED TO LONG RANGE PLANNING 7-0**

NOTE: The Committee referred the item to the Long Range Planning Committee for discussion, as it relates directly to the financial initiatives that the Long Range Planning Committee is working on.

Draft Board Orders for each of the items with an action are attached. The Committee held all other items without discussion and adjourned at approximately 9:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leonard J. Gentile, Chairman