

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009

7:45 PM  
Room 222

**ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#28-09      MICHAEL P. FLYNN, 23 Thelma Road, Dorchester, re-appointed to the Board of Assessors for a term expiring February 1, 2012. (60 days: 03-19-09) [01-06-09 @ 2:49 PM]

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#57-09      ALD. LINSKY AND DANBERG requesting an amendment to Chapter 19, §19-9, **Penalty for parking violations**, to impose a fine of \$100.00 per violation for vehicles parked in bus stops in accordance with Chapter 465 of the Acts of 2008 as of April 7, 2009. [02-10-09 @7:07 PM]  
**PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION APPROVED AS AMENDED 5-0 on 02-18-09**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#250-01(6)      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend fifteen thousand four hundred seventy-two dollars (\$15,472) from Receipts Reserve for the purpose of installing a pedestrian activated signal near the end of Langley Road. These funds result from a special permit (Board Order #250-01) and will revert to the petitioner if not encumbered or spent by March 16, 2009. [02-10-09 @4:41 PM]  
**PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION APPROVED AS AMENDED 5-0 to \$15,471.85 on 02-18-09**

#54-09      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend ten thousand five hundred dollars (\$10,500) from Budget Reserve to the Information Technology Department for the purpose of purchasing a software upgrade to the Pentamation software. [02-10-09 @4:42 PM]

#55-09      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting a transfer of forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) from the Retirement Board expenses to Budget Reserve. Retirement board released these funds following the completion of the office renovation. [02-10-09 @4:42 PM]

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #61-09 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend forty five thousand dollars (\$45,000) from Utilities Division's Water Surplus account for the purpose of reimbursing the Treasury Department's Treasury Expenses account for the consultant costs related to year-end reconciliation of water receivables. [02/10/09 @4:42 PM]
- #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]  
**HELD 7-0 on 12-22-08**
- #207-07(2) ALD. COLETTI proposing that the city's Financial Management Guidelines adopted under board order #207-07 be amended, effective FY10, as follows:  
(A) total resources devoted to all forms of employee compensation shall not exceed the estimated growth in total general fund revenue for the following fiscal year;  
(B) funds for salary and wage adjustments shall not exceed the difference between total estimated revenue growth and resources needed to fund growth in health/dental and life insurance benefits and growth in the actuarial required contribution for the city's retirement system for each fiscal year;  
(C) if collective bargaining contracts are not resolved at the time of budget submission, funds budgeted for such contracts shall be held in "municipal and compensation" reserve. [7-2-08 @ 12:12 PM]  
**HELD 6-0 on 02-09-09**

**ITEMS NOT SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:****ITEM RECOMMITTED TO PUB. FAC. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES 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]  
**PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 4-0-2 (Ald. Gentile and Mansfield abstaining) on 01-07-09**  
**FINANCE APPROVED 2-1-3 (Ald. Gentile opposed; Ald. Parker, Lennon and Freedman abstaining)**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #56-09 SGT. NORCROSS AND CHIEF CUMMINGS requesting that Chapter 19, §19-200, **Resident sticker and visitor permit; municipal parking lot program**, be amended by implementing a fee for a municipal lot sticker and that §19-201, **Resident sticker and visitor parking permit**, be amended by increasing the fees for a resident parking sticker and replacement sticker. [02-04-09 @4:01 PM]  
**PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 5-0 on 02-18-09**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #58-09 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to enter into a contract for solid waste and recycling collection with Waste Management, Inc. for a term of five years. [02/10/09 @4:42 PM]

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #59-09 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend eighty two thousand dollars (\$82,000) from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of entering into a contract with NORESKO to perform energy audits of the following locations: Bigelow Middle School, Brown Middle School, Oak Hill Middle School, Education Center, City Hall and Police Headquarters. {02/10/09 @4:41 PM]

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND 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]

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #469-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting to appropriate five hundred seventy five thousand dollars (\$575,000) from Free Cash to the School Department for the costs related to the conversion of the boilers at nine school buildings. The School Committee agreed to spend this amount from the school utility budget with the understanding that it would be restored once free cash became available. Including this sum, it is estimated that the school department will require a smaller supplemental appropriation to cover of heating this winter than would have been necessary without this conversion. [11-25-08 @ 4:58 PM]

**PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0 on 12-17-08**

- #354-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting monthly report on cash and receivable reconciliations by Treasurer and status of Consultant work in Treasurer's Office. [09-30-08 @ 1:54 PM]

**HELD 6-0 on 02-09-09**

- #353-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting monthly report by Executive Office before Post Audit and Oversight Committee on snow and salt expenditure from November 2008 through April 2009. [09-30-08 @ 1:54 PM]

**HELD 6-0 on 02-09-09**

- #351-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting discussion on the status of School Building Authority reimbursements to the City of \$46.6 million for the Newton North High School project. [09-30-08 @ 1:54 PM]

**HELD 7-0-1 (Ald. Lennon not voting) on 1-12-09**

#349-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting discussion on preparation and submission of a new Capital Improvement Plan by the Executive Office. [09-30-08 @ 1:54 PM]  
**HELD 6-0 on 02-09-09**

#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]  
**HELD 7-0 on 12-22-08**

**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]  
**POST AUDIT & OVERSIGHT HELD on 11-25-08**  
**HELD 8-0 on 1-12-09**

#299-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the Board of Aldermen accept the provisions of §18 of Chapter 32B of the General Laws which requires all eligible municipal retirees to enroll in Medicare, the acceptance of which will allow the City to enroll them in health insurance plans that supplement Medicare coverage for cost savings to both retirees and the City. [08-04-08 @ 12:35 PM]  
**HELD 6-0-2 (Ald. Freedman and Salvucci not voting) on 1-12-09**

#299-08(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the Board of Aldermen accept the provisions of §19 of Chapter 32B (as amended) of the General Laws to allow all subscribers for whom the City provides health insurance to transfer to the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) pursuant to Section 19(e) of Section 32B, which authorizes the City to engage in so-called coalition bargaining re the issue of the City joining the GIC. [08-04-08 @ 12:35 PM]  
**HELD 6-0-2 (Ald. Freedman and Salvucci not voting) on 1-12-09**

**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]

**REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., ZONING & PLANNING, PUB. FACIL.  
PUB. SAFETY 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]  
**PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 6-0 (Ald. Ciccone and Coletti not present and voting) on 9-3-08**

**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]

**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]

**ITEM RECOMMITTED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE on 11-3-08****REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES & FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #265-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend one hundred fifty thousand five hundred eighty seven dollars (\$150,587) from capital stabilization for the purpose of restoration of the exterior of the Jackson Homestead. [7-8-08 @ 5:17 PM]

**RECOMMITTED TO PUB FAC & FINANCE COMMITTEES ON 10-20-08**

**PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 1-0-3 (Ald. Lennon, Albright and Mansfield abstaining, Salvucci and Gentile not voting) on 10-22-08**

**FINANCE APPROVED AS AMENDED 4-2-1 @ \$122,976 (Ald. Lennon and Gentile opposed; Johnson abstaining) on 10-27-08**

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #261-08 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting discussion with the Executive Department regarding moving the Director of Arts in the Parks' salary to the Arts in the Parks revolving account. [07-08-08 @ 1:29 PM]

**PROGRAM AND SERVICES HELD 7-0 on 9-17-08 (Ald. Baker not voting)**

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #260-08 ALD. SANGIOLO proposing the establishment of a revolving account to receive contributions and rental income to go directly to fund branch libraries for each individual branch. [07-08-08 @ 1:29 PM]

**PROGRAM AND SERVICES APPROVED AS AMENDED 5-0-3 (Ald. Baker, Freedman, Hess-Mahan abstaining) on 9-3-08**

**HELD 6-0 (Ald. Johnson not voting) on 9-22-08**

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #259-08 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting discussion with the Executive Department regarding moving the salaries of the Parks & Recreation Commissioner and the Recreation Programs Director to the revolving accounts for various programs. [07-08-08 @ 1:28 PM]

**PROGRAM AND SERVICES HELD 7-0 on 9-17-08 (Ald. Baker not voting)**

**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]  
**PROGRAM & SERVICES HELD 7-0 on 01-7-09**
- #213-08 ALD. LINKSY, JOHNSON, ALBRIGHT, FREEDMAN, HARNEY, HESS-MAHAN, VANCE, MANSFIELD & PARKER requesting the evaluation of the following in conjunction with the contemplated conversion of general fund monies from operational budget uses to debt service use in regard to the Newton North High School project:
- (a) the impact on city and/or school services,
  - (b) the process by which criteria and prioritization will be established when choices need to be made between services, and
  - (c) whether additional revenue will be required in the form of debt exclusions or otherwise. [04-29-08 @ 11:26 AM]

**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]  
**PROGRAM & SERVICES HELD 7-0 (Ald. Baker not voting) on 11-5-08**

**REFERRED TO PUB. SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION & FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #174-08(2) PUBLIC SAFETY/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE proposing changes to the rate structure and/or enforcement hours for parking meters as well as installation of additional meters citywide. [06-18-08 @ 8:00 PM]  
**PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 4-0-1 (Ald. Vance abstaining) on 02-18-09**

**REFERRED TO COMMUNITY PRESERVATION & FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #147-08 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$359,400, including \$2,000 for legal costs, be appropriated from the FY'08 Community Preservation Fund's historic resources and general reserves, for a project to rehabilitate and expand storage space for the research library and archives at the Newton History Museum, to preserve the existing collections, and enhance public access to the collections. [04-01-08 @ 4:10 PM]  
**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION APPROVED 6-0 on 4-29-08**  
**(A) DESIGN FUNDS ESTIMATE \$37,500.00**  
**(B) BALANCE OF PROJECT ESTIMATE \$321,900.00**  
**Voice vote APPROVED Motion to amend docket to add referral to Public Facilities Committee on 5-19-08.**  
**FINANCE APPROVED (A) Design Funds at \$37,500 6-0 on 7-21-08**  
**FINANCE HELD (B) Balance of Project on 7-21-08**

**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]

**PROGRAMS AND SERVICES HELD 6-0 (Ald. Freedman not voting) on 4-9-08**

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

- #54-08(3) PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE offering a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that he request and receive from the State Treasurer a review of the project plans and a review of the project's finance plan and submit said reviews to the Board of Aldermen in order to preserve cost-saving options.
- PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED 4-2-1 (Ald. Baker and Hess-Mahan opposed; Merrill abstaining; Parker not voting) on 3-12-08**
- PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 5-3 (Ald.Gentile, Salvucci, Schnipper opposed) on 2-20-08**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #33-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting review of the scope of work and performance of Turner Construction and review of proposed 18-month extension of the Turner Construction contract. Included in discussion will be the process for review of future invoices of Dimeo and other vendor invoices by Turner. [01-15-08 @ 11:14]
- PUBLIC FACILITIES NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0 on 12-3-08**
- HELD 6-0 on 12-8-08**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #31-08 ALD. COLETTI proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor expressing a no confidence vote pertaining to the current status of the Newton North High School Construction Project and related Financing Plan. [01-15-08 @ 11:14 AM]

**REFERRED TO PUB. SAFETY & TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #30-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting a list of current vacancies in the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments, with specific discussion in Committee relative to Police Department vacancies. [01-15-08 @ 11:15 AM]
- PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 7-0 on 1-21-09**
- HELD 8-0 on 09-08-08**

**ITEM RECOMMITTED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE ON 6/19/08  
REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #11-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$1,200,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the installation of four modular classrooms. [01-02-08 @ 4:53 P.M.]  
**B) \$1,225,000 from bonded indebtedness**  
*NOTE: Letter received from Mayor on 1/4/08 requesting that appropriation amount be amended to \$1.3 million. Letters received 5/7 and 5/21 requesting that the funding source to capital stabilization for costs incurred for design work and the remaining \$1,225,000 from bonded indebtedness be voted no action necessary. Part A) \$75,000 from Capital Stabilization approved on 6/19/08.*
- #207-07(4) ALD. COLETTI proposing that the city's Financial Management Guidelines adopted under board order #207-07 be amended to allow the adjustment of self-funded health insurance plan rates in the event that rates and any accumulated excess resources not meet actual resource requirements. [7-2-08 @ 12:12 PM]  
**HELD 8-0 on 9-8-08**
- #207-07(3) ALD. COLETTI proposing that the sum of \$300,000 be removed from various municipal and school department budgets for FY09 and placed in a separate "employee compensation" reserve account until the Mayor and School Committee present to the Board of Aldermen performance pay plan policies. [7-2-08 @ 12:12 PM]  
**HELD 8-0 on 9-8-08**

**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]  
**PROGRAM & SERVICES HELD 6-0 ON 2-4-09**

**ITEM RECOMMITTED TO PUB. FACIL. & FINANCE COMMITTEES 3/19/07:**

**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]  
**PUB FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0-1 (Ald. Gentile abstaining) on 3-7-07**  
**FINANCE MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED TO CARRY 2-4-1 (Ald. Lennon, Salvucci, Gentile and Coletti opposed; Linsky abstaining) on 3-12-07**  
**PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED AS AMENDED 5-0 @ \$250,000 on 10-15-07**



- #453-06 LEON JR. AND MARION D. SEMONIAN, 373 Dedham Street, requesting total abatement of betterment assessment in the amount of \$2,690 (assessed for sidewalk/curbing/road improvements to Countryside Road and Patten Circle). [11-16-06@11:02 AM]

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #345-06 ALD. SCHNIPPER requesting that the contingency on smaller Public Buildings projects be increased from 5% to at least 8%.

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #267-06(3) ALD. PARKER, BURG, LINSKY, FISCHMAN, HESS-MAHAN, VANCE, HARNEY, JOHNSON, & DANBERG proposing Home Rule Legislation authorizing the City of Newton to apply the ordinance proposed in item #267-06(2) to assets held by the City's retirement system.

**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.

**PROGRAM & SERVICES HELD 8-0 on 11-5-08**

- #93-06(2) ROBERT E. & ANNE M. SULLIVAN, 391 Dedham Street, applying for abatement of a street betterment assessment in the amount of \$15, 880 levied by the Board of Aldermen in Board Order #93-06 which improved Countryside Road by the laying out, grading and acceptance of it as a public way. [07-02-07 @ 2:24 PM]

**HELD 5-0 (Ald. Johnson, Coletti and Freedman not present and voting) on 2-11-08**

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- # 35-06 ALD. JOHNSON AND HESS-MAHAN requesting discussion with the School Department and School Committee members regarding the results of the studies addressing compensation for management and executive personnel and organizational structure of central administrative salaries.

**PROGRAM & SERVICES NO ACTION NECESSARY 6-0 on 4-18-07**

**HELD 6-0 (Ald. Salvucci and Gentile not voting) on 10-27-08**

- #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.)

**ITEM RECOMMITTED ON 3-5-07 TO FINANCE COMMITTEE ONLY:  
REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #23-06 ALD PARKER AND LINSKY requesting that the City adopt §19 of MGL Chapter 32B to allow retiree coalition bargaining of health care benefits  
**PROGRAM AND SERVICES NO ACTION NECESSARY 4-0-2 (Ald. Parker and Merrill abstaining; Sangiolo not voting) on 3-8-06  
FINANCE NO ACTION NECESSARY 5-0-3 (Ald. Lennon, Linsky and Parker abstaining) on 2-12-07  
HELD 8-0 on 9-8-08**
- #209-05 ALD. STEWART requesting that the Mayor provide the Board of Aldermen with a list of all salaried City employees who receive additional compensation (other than overtime) along with an explanation of the exact reasons for said additional payments.

**REFERRED TO PROG. & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #264-03(3) ALD. JOHNSON AND BAKER requesting update on the work of the Taxation Aid Committee established by the Board of Aldermen in March 2004 in administering aid to the elderly taxation fund.  
**PROGRAM & SERVICES HELD 6-0 (Ald. Parker not voting) on 4-23-08**

**REFERRED TO ZONING & PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #168-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the Board of Aldermen establish new civil fines under Section 20-21 of the City of Newton Ordinances for the violation of various environmental provisions enforced by the Conservation Commission.  
**ZONING & PLANNING APPROVED 6-0 on 12-13-04  
HELD 7-0 on 2-14-05**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES & FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #55-02 ALD. YATES requesting that the water/sewer discount rate be made available to homeowners who receive Fuel Assistance, Supplementary Security Income, Food Stamps, Supplementary Disability Income, General Relief, Low Income Sewer and Water Assistance, School Breakfast and Lunch and other income based State and Federal programs.  
**PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0 on 6-16-04**

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

#309-01 ALD. PARKER requesting increase in the income eligibility level of the 30% water/sewer discount for low-income senior citizens.

Respect fully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chairman

## INTEROFFICE MEMO

**To:** Members of the Public Safety and Transportation Committee

**From:** Marie M. Lawlor  
Assistant City Solicitor

**Date:** February 18, 2009

**Re:** Item #57-09 Increasing fine for illegally parking in a bus stop

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Chapter 465 of the acts of 2008, signed into law by Gov. Patrick on January 7, 2009, amends the provisions of G.L. c. 90 §20A (which was accepted by the City of Newton in 1981) by setting a mandatory fine for illegally parking in a posted bus stop at \$100.00. This law will take effect on April 27, 2009. Prior to this amendment, c. 90 §20A authorized the City to set the fine within a range up to a maximum of \$25.00.

Currently, Section 19-9(4) of Newton's ordinances sets the fine for illegally parking in a bus stop at \$15.00. The law department recommends amending Section 19-9 so as to be consistent with the new state law. A draft board order is attached for discussion purposes.

09 FEB 18 PM 7:29  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA 02459

#57-09

DRAFT FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES:

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ORDINANCE NO.

February , 2009

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 Section 19-9 **Penalty for Parking Violations** as follows:

1. By adding the letter "s" to the word "offense" in the first sentence of paragraph (1) of Section 19-9, thereby making the word plural.
2. By adding, after the parenthetical "(section 19-199)" in the last sentence of paragraph (1) of Section 19-9, the following language:  
" , or for illegally parking in a bus stop (section 19-170)."
3. By deleting, after the parenthetical "(section 19-167)" in the first sentence of paragraph (4) of Section 19-9, the clause "or in a bus stop (section 19-170),"

Approved as to legal form and character:

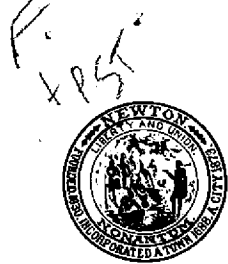
DANIEL M. FUNK  
City Solicitor

Under Suspension of Rules  
Readings Waived and Adopted

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
Approved:

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON  
City Clerk

(SGD) DAVID B. COHEN  
Mayor



David B. Cohen  
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor

#250-01(6)

Telephone  
(617) 796-1100  
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(617) 796-1113  
TDD  
(617) 796-1089  
E-mail  
dcohen@newtonma.gov

February 10, 2009

09 FEB 10 PM 4:41  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA. 02159

Honorable Board of Aldermen  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I write to request that your Honorable Board docket for consideration a request to appropriate fifteen thousand four hundred seventy-two dollars (\$15,472) from Receipts Reserved for the purpose of installing a pedestrian activated signal near the end o Langley Road and/or other pedestrian safety enhancements along Langley Road. These funds result from a condition in a special permit (Board Order #250-01) granted by your Honorable Board for the development at 287 Langley Road and will revert to the petitioner if not encumbered or spent by March 16, 2009.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

David B. Cohen  
Mayor

DBC: srb



City of Newton



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

1000 Commonwealth Avenue

Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449

David B. Cohen  
Mayor

TO: Honorable David B. Cohen, Mayor

THRU: Sanford Pooler, Chief Administrative Officer  
Susan Burstein, Chief Budget Officer

FROM: Thomas E. Daley, P.E., Commissioner *TD*

RE: Appropriation of \$15,472 toward Pedestrian-Actuated Crossing Signal on Centre Street or Pedestrian Improvements

DATE: February 9, 2009

09 FEB 10 PM 4:42  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA. 02459

Dear Mayor Cohen:

I write to ask you to authorize expenditure of \$15,472 as approved by the Board of Alderman on November 19, 2001 per Board Order #250-01 for *The Terraces* housing development at 287 Langley Road. Condition #9 of this approved special permit and site plan requires the petitioner to "*contribute \$25,000 to the City to be used for traffic improvements, studies or transportation programs associated with the traffic along the Langley Road corridor.*" A portion of the \$25,000 was appropriated to fund a study of the intersection of Daniel Street & Jackson Street. The remaining balance is \$15,472. This money has been held in the City's Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund and must be spent or encumbered against a contact by March 16, 2009 or returned to the petitioner.

I suggest using the funds for one or both of the following:

- (1) The installation of a pedestrian-activated signal to be located near the end of Langley Road (across Centre Street at Pleasant Street). Last year the Board approved an appropriation of \$100,000 to provide funding toward the installation of five pedestrian-activated signals. This location was included among these five signals. DPW recommends that the pedestrian-activated signal to be installed at Centre at Pleasant include mastarms. The inclusion of mastarms has increased the estimated cost of this pedestrian-activated signal beyond the original \$20,000 estimate to around \$30,000. In the event that the \$100,000 appropriation is inadequate to cover the costs of all 5 signals, any remaining funds could be used toward funding a future sixth signal, at a location to be determined.



(2) Pedestrian safety improvements in the Langley Road corridor.

I respectfully request appropriation of these funds before the expiration date in March. Should you have any additional questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Thank you.

cc: D. Turocy, Deputy Commissioner  
L. Taverna, City Engineer  
C. Schuckel, Traffic Engineer  
N. Wang, Asst. Traffic Engineer  
K. Griffey, Dir. Of DPW Admin.  
R. Ferrera, DPW Budget Officer  
M. Kruse, Planning Director  
D. Koses, Transportation Planner

09 FEB 10 PM 4:42  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA, 02159

#250-01(6)

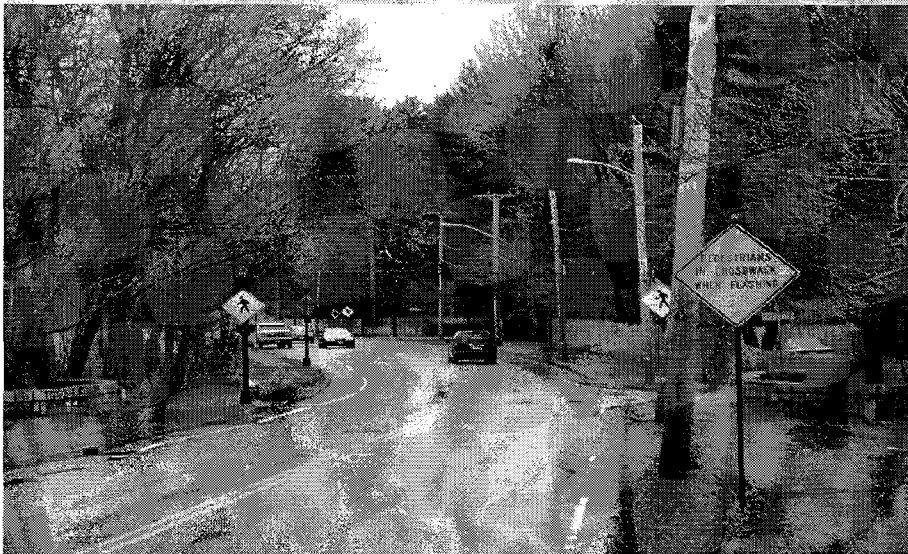
## Appropriate \$ for Pedestrian Activated Signal on Centre St near Langley Rd

# 250-01(6)

## When we last spoke...319-08

- 4-17-08 (TC29-08): Traffic Council recommends 4 locations for warning signals
- 9-3-08: Public Facilities approves \$100,000 from parking meter receipts for pedestrian activated warning signals
  - (1) Crafts Street and Linwood Avenue (post)
  - (2) Washington Street and Harvard Street (overhead)
  - (3) Waverley Avenue and Franklin Street (post)
  - (4) Waverley Avenue near Arlington Street (post)
  - (5) Centre Street near Pleasant Street (overhead)
- 2009: Newton Corner CDBG in preliminary design for Centre St at Richardson St (overhead)

## Rt.135 at Amherst Ped. crossing signal in Wellesley (posts)



## Rt.135 at Amherst Ped. crossing signal in Wellesley (posts)



#250-01(6)

Rt.135 at Amherst Ped. crossing signal in Wellesley (posts)



Rt.135 at Amherst Ped. crossing signal in Wellesley (posts)

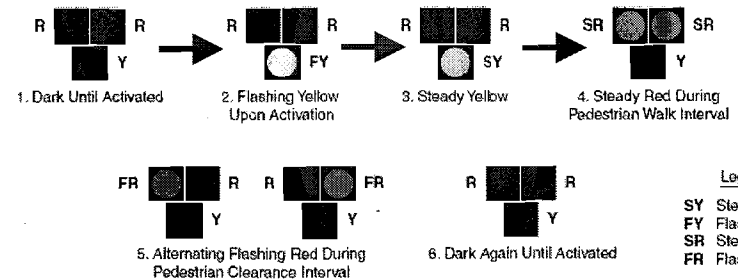


Overhead signals



## Pedestrian Hybrid Signal

Figure 4F-3. Sequence for a Pedestrian Hybrid Signal

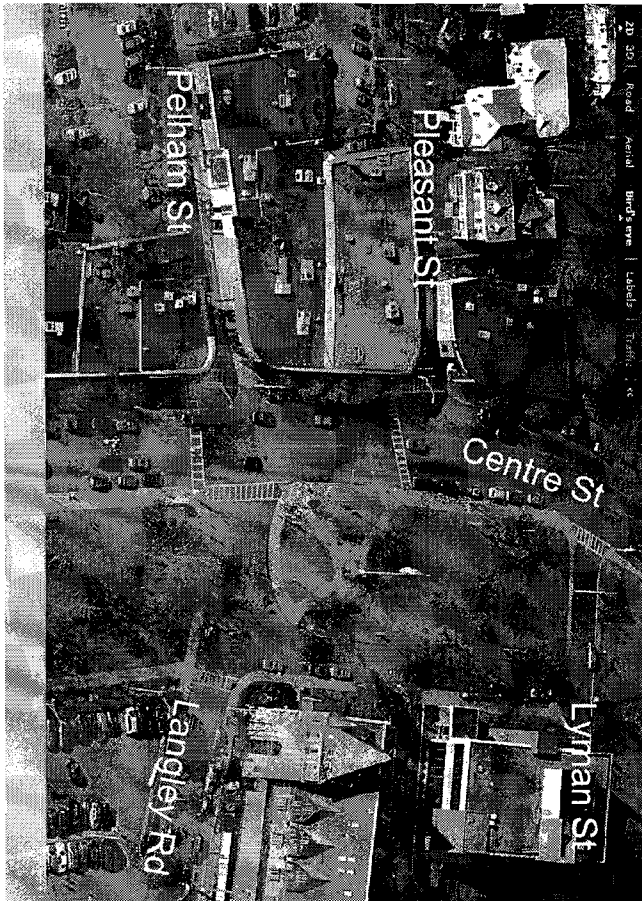


Comment period to July 31, 2008. FHWA will then issue new MUTCD, probably in 2009.

# Pedestrian Warning Signals

#250-01(6)

- Why install?
  - 10 to 15% of full signal cost
  - Studies show driver compliance
  - Future standards may allow flexibility
- Where to install? (criteria)
  - Street class: Major collector or higher
  - Two-way traffic volume: >8,000 cars/day or 500 cars/hr
  - Pedestrians: > 20 during peak hour





David B. Cohen  
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor

#54-09

Telephone  
(617) 796-1100

Telefax  
(617) 796-1113

TDD  
(617) 796-1089

E-mail  
dcohen@newtonma.gov

February 10, 2009

Honorable Board of Aldermen  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I write to request that your Honorable Board docket for consideration a request to appropriate from Budget Reserve \$10,500 to the Information Technology Department for the purpose purchasing a software upgrade to the Pentamation software. This upgrade will keep our software current and allow valuable enhancements that will improve accuracy and productivity.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

David B. Cohen  
Mayor

DBC: srb

09 FEB 10 PM 4: 42  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA. 02159





**CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Telephone (617) 796-1180  
TDD/tty # (617) 796-1089

Facsimile (617) 796-1196

David B. Cohen, Mayor

Ann L. Cornaro  
Director

Joseph P. Mulvey  
Deputy Director

February 10, 2009

Honorable David B. Cohen, Mayor  
City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Ave.  
Newton, MA 02459

09 FEB 10 PM 4:42  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA. 02159

Dear Mayor Cohen:

I respectfully request the amount of \$10,500.00 to upgrade our current SunGard Pentamation FinancePlus software. FinancePlus software is the City's primary financial package which is used for: general ledger, budget creation, accounts payable processing, purchasing, payroll and benefits. The above cost includes installation, conversion of current data, training and an updated compiler. This upgrade will enable the City to stay current with software enhancements and provide the functionality to import data batches from the City's other financial package, Munis, which will eliminate the need for manual data entry of journal entries from accounts receivable to the general ledger.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Ann L. Cornaro  
Director of Information Technology



David B. Cohen  
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor

#55-09

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(617) 796-1100

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E-mail  
dcohen@newtonma.gov

February 10, 2009

Honorable Board of Aldermen  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I write to request that your Honorable Board docket for consideration a request to transfer forty-five thousand dollars (\$45,000) from the Retirement Board expenses to Budget Reserve. The retirement board has released these funds following the completion of the office renovation on the lower level of city hall.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

David B. Cohen  
Mayor

DBC: srb

09 FEB 10 PM 4:42  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA. 02159

1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

[www.ci.newton.ma.us](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us)



DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE

NEWTON RETIREMENT BOARD  
Newton City Hall  
Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449

#55-09

-----  
Tel (617) 796-1095  
Fax (617) 796-1098  
E-mail: [kbyrne@newtonma.gov](mailto:kbyrne@newtonma.gov)

## ***Memorandum***

**DATE:** February 4, 2009  
**TO:** Mayor David B. Cohen  
**FROM:** Kelly Byrne, Director, Newton Retirement Board  
**RE:** Retirement Board Expense Fund – Office Renovation Complete

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09 FEB 10 PM 4:42  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA 02459

On behalf of the Retirement Board I wish to advise you that the Board voted on January 21, 2009 to authorize the release of the remaining \$45,000 in funds originally budgeted for office lease purposes in the Newton Retirement System's FY09 budget to the City of Newton.

Thank you.

Cc: Sandy Pooler, Chief Administrative Officer  
Susan Burstein, Chief Budget Officer





David B. Cohen  
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor

#61-09

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February 10, 2009

Honorable Board of Aldermen  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I write to request that your Honorable Board docket for consideration a request to appropriate \$45,000 from Water Surplus to Treasury expenses to reimburse the Treasurer's Department the consultant costs related to year end reconciliation of water receivables.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

David B. Cohen  
Mayor

DBC: srb

09 FEB 10 PM 4:42  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA. 02159

1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02459

[www.ci.newton.ma.us](http://www.ci.newton.ma.us)



DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE

COMPTRROLLER'S OFFICE  
CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, Massachusetts  
(617) 796-1305  
dwilkinson@newtonma.gov

February 5, 2009

TO: Mayor Cohen and Members of the Board of Aldermen  
FROM: David Wilkinson  
SUBJECT: **Group Health Self Insurance Fund**

09 FEB 20 AM 10:46  
CITY CLERK  
NEWTON, MA. 02159

Enclosed is the monthly update on the status of the City's group health self insurance program. The total fund balance was \$9.7 million at January 31, 2009, virtually unchanged from December 31, 2008.

The **Tufts Health Plan** ended the month of January with a fund balance of \$9.2 million, a \$233,072 (2.6%) improvement from December 31, however \$943,040 (9.3%) less than the fund balance at the beginning of the fiscal year. A summary of monthly claims experience for the Tufts Health Plan is presented on page 3. Monthly claims have averaged \$2.6 million thus far this fiscal year, compared to a monthly average of \$2.2 million during the first seven months of last fiscal year.

The \$9.2 million Tufts Health Plan fund balance represents approximately 3.5 months of average claims experience, which is roughly double the target claims reserve for the plan. Excess resources of approximately \$4 million are therefore available to off-set future year premium increases for both the City and participating employees and retirees.

The **Harvard-Pilgrim Health Plan** ended January with a fund balance of \$502,279, \$139,386 (21.7%) less than the plan's fund balance at the end of December. Since the start of the fiscal year the plan's fund balance has declined by \$950,731 or 65.4%. Monthly expenditures have consistently exceeded premiums charged to the City and participants. Please refer to page 5 for a month by month summary of claims experience. Monthly claims have averaged \$1.1 million compared with an average of \$862,000 for the first seven months of the prior year.

As a result of the fact that monthly expenditures are exceeding revenue generated from premiums, the plan's already small fund balance has declined to less than one half of one month's average claims experience. The target fund balance for this plan is \$1.7 to \$2.2 million.

CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
**GROUP HEALTH SELF INSURANCE FUND**  
 COMPARATIVE BALANCE SHEET

January 31, 2009

(with comparative totals for January 31, 2008)

	<u>January 31, 2009</u>	<u>January 31, 2008</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
<b>ASSETS:</b>				
Cash & temporary investments	\$ 13,472,707	\$ 14,568,004	\$ (1,095,297)	-7.5%
Health benefit deposits	356,928	353,036	3,892	1.1%
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>13,829,635</u></b>	<b><u>14,921,040</u></b>	<b><u>(1,091,405)</u></b>	<b><u>-7.3%</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; FUND BALANCES:</b>				
Warrants and accounts payable	-	-	-	
Accrued self insurance claims payable	4,164,081	4,672,016	(507,935)	-10.9%
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>4,164,081</u></b>	<b><u>4,672,016</u></b>	<b><u>(507,935)</u></b>	<b><u>-10.9%</u></b>
Fund Balance - Group Health Claims -Tufts Health Plan	9,163,275	9,682,663	(519,388)	-5.4%
Fund Balance - Group Health Claims - Harvard Health Plan	502,279	566,361	(64,082)	-11.3%
<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b><u>9,665,554</u></b>	<b><u>10,249,024</u></b>	<b><u>(583,470)</u></b>	<b><u>-5.7%</u></b>
<b>Total Liabilities &amp; Fund Balances</b>	<b><u>\$ 13,829,635</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 14,921,040</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (1,091,405)</u></b>	<b><u>-7.3%</u></b>

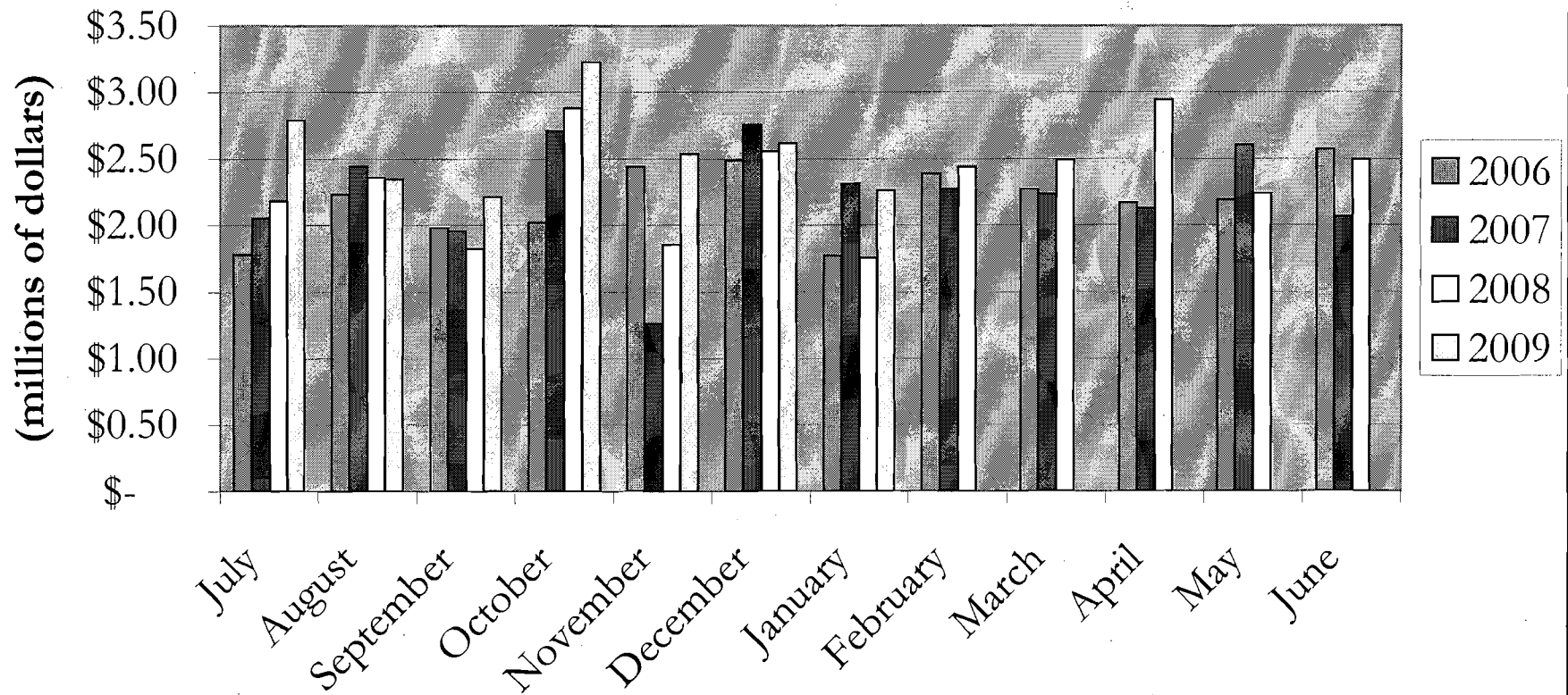
CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
GROUP HEALTH SELF-INSURANCE FUND  
TUFTS HEALTH PLAN  
COMPARATIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

July 1, 2008 - January 31, 2009

(with comparative activity for the first seven months of the prior fiscal year)

	<u>Fiscal Year 2009</u>	<u>Fiscal Year 2008</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Investment income	\$ 188,039	\$ 285,910	\$ (97,871)	-34.2%
Employee contributions	3,632,031	3,738,165	(106,134)	-2.8%
Employer contributions	14,419,718	14,522,305	(102,587)	-0.7%
Insurance recoveries	16,700	-	16,700	n/a
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b><u>18,256,488</u></b>	<b><u>18,546,380</u></b>	<b><u>(289,892)</u></b>	<b><u>-1.6%</u></b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
Administrative services	973,244	941,873	31,371	3.3%
Stop loss insurance premiums	223,402	176,072	47,330	26.9%
Health claims (paid claims)	18,002,882	15,411,402	2,591,480	16.8%
Health claims - change in IBNR estimate	-	7,221	(7,221)	n/a
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b><u>19,199,528</u></b>	<b><u>16,536,568</u></b>	<b><u>2,662,960</u></b>	<b><u>16.1%</u></b>
<b>Fund Balance - beginning of fiscal year</b>	<b><u>10,106,315</u></b>	<b><u>7,672,851</u></b>	<b><u>2,433,464</u></b>	<b><u>31.7%</u></b>
<b>Fund Balance - January 31</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,163,275</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 9,682,663</u></b>	<b><u>\$ (519,388)</u></b>	<b><u>-5.4%</u></b>

# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS TUFTS HEALTH PLAN MONTHLY CLAIMS TRENDS



CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
GROUP HEALTH SELF INSURANCE FUND  
HARVARD-PILGRIM HEALTH PLAN  
COMPARATIVE OPERATING STATEMENT

July 1, 2008 - January 31, 2009

(with comparative activity for the first seven months of the prior fiscal year)

	<b>Fiscal Year</b> <b>2009</b>	Fiscal Year 2008	\$ Change	% Change
<b>Revenue:</b>				
Investment income	\$ 7,935	\$ 30,223	(22,288)	n/a
Employee contributions	1,454,579	1,222,270	232,309	19.0%
Employer contributions	5,713,675	5,624,462	89,213	1.6%
Insurance recoveries	-	18,039	(18,039)	0.0%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>7,176,189</b>	<b>6,894,994</b>	<b>281,195</b>	<b>4.1%</b>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
Administrative services	465,192	503,381	(38,189)	-7.6%
Stop loss insurance premiums	110,601	86,503	24,098	27.9%
Health claims (paid claims)	7,551,127	6,032,984	1,518,143	25.2%
Health claims - change in IBNR estimate	-	107,543	(107,543)	n/a
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>8,126,920</b>	<b>6,730,411</b>	<b>1,396,509</b>	<b>20.7%</b>
<b>Fund Balance - beginning of fiscal year</b>	<b>1,453,010</b>	<b>401,778</b>	<b>1,051,232</b>	<b>261.6%</b>
<b>Fund Balance - January 31</b>	<b>\$ 502,279</b>	<b>\$ 566,361</b>	<b>(64,082)</b>	<b>11.3%</b>

# CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS HARVARD PILGRIM HEALTH PLAN CLAIMS TRENDS

