

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2008

Present: Ald. Coletti (Chair), Lennon, Salvucci, Gentile, Schnipper and Freedman

Absent: Ald. Johnson and Parker

City Staff: Daniel Funk (City Solicitor), Mayor David Cohen, Ouida Young (Associate City Solicitor) Sandy Pooler (Chief Admin. Officer), Susan Burstein (Chief Budget Officer), David Wilkinson (Comptroller) and James Reardon (Acting Treasurer/Collector)

***Note: The Committee voted 6-0 in a roll call to enter Executive Session to discuss matters related to legal proceedings contained in the following docket item; the Committee again voted 6-0 in a roll call to go out of Executive Session.***

#347-08      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) from the Newton North High School Project funds for the purpose of settling a bid protest for plumbing work on Newton North High School. [09-30-08 @ 4:16 PM]

**ACTION:      APPROVED 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

**NOTE:**      Ald. Salvucci made the motion for approval.

**FOUR FIRST CALL ITEMS (ATTACHED REPORT FROM COMPTROLLER):**

#344-08      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend fifteen thousand one hundred dollars (\$15,100) from Budget Reserve to the Comptroller's Office Expense Account to meet the contractual cost for auditing services from Sullivan, Rogers & Company for FY09. [09-30-08 @4:16 PM]

**ACTION:      APPROVED 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

#345-08      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) from General Revenue to the Information Technology Department to purchase and equip a back-up server for the City's financial systems. [09-30-08 @ 4:15 PM]

**ACTION:      APPROVED 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

#346-08      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000) from General Revenue to Budget Reserve until it becomes clear that there will be no reduction by the State in local aid in the current budget. [09-30-08 @ 4:50 PM]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 5-1 (Ald. Gentile abstaining, Ald. Parker and Johnson not voting)**

#256-08      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting the establishment of a memorial fund entitled the *Nathan Alden Robinson Memorial Fund* with authorization to expend up to \$25,000 in FY09 for a memorial. [7-8-08 @ 5:15 PM]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

**NOTE:** The above listed items were contained in the attached First Call Items Report, prepared by the Comptroller. The Committee, after reviewing said report, along with all submitted backup information, voted, without debate, to approve all of these items 6-0.

#247-08(2)      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer thirty four thousand four hundred thirty-five dollars (\$34,435) from estimated revenue FY09 to Police Department Salaries to fund the recently approved contract with the Traffic Supervisors and Parking Control Officers. [09-19-08 @ 4:40 PM]

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

**NOTE:**      Sandy Pooler, Chief Admin. Officer once again joined the committee for discussion on this item.

This appropriation is additional monies to fund the contract with the Traffic Supervisor and Parking Control Officers. The committee discussed the hours and pays that the Traffic Supervisors and Parking Control Officers have agreed to and their agreement to extend their hours of enforcement to 6 pm.

A copy of the adopted contract between the Traffic Supervisors and Parking Control Officers is attached to this report regarding their pay and information.

Ald. Schnipper made a motion for approval.

***Chairman's Note:*** *Ald. Coletti stated the Committee this evening had an initial discussion on the following six items. All of these items will be discussed in Finance Committee over the next five to six months. There is no report at this time, an overview will be provided at a later date .*

#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]

**ACTION:**      **HELD 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

#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:** **HELD 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

#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]

**ACTION:** **HELD 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

#350-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting discussion on status of \$5.2 million in additional School Building Authority reimbursements with focus on the classification hearing and setting of the tax rate. [09-30-08 @ 1:54 PM]

**ACTION:** **HELD 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

#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]

**ACTION:** **HELD 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

#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:** **HELD 6-0 (Ald. Johnson and Parker not voting)**

At approximately, 10:40 pm Ald. Salvucci moved for adjournment, which was approved 6-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chairman