

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2007

8:15 p.m. – NOTE LATE START TIME

Room 222

City Hall

NEW BUSINESS:

******items to be discussed:***

#305-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$15,000 from Free Cash to the Purchasing Department in order to provide funding to purchase a replacement van for the Newton Free Library. [10-09-07 @ 6:03 PM]

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#307-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$1,600,000 from bonded indebtedness to fund the first half of the window and door replacement project at Brown Middle School. [10-12-07 @ 3:06 PM]

PUB. FACILITIES APPROVED 4-0-3 (Ald. Yates, Mansfield and Lappin abstaining) ON 10/17/07

REFERRED TO CMTE. ON COMM. PRESERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

#308-07 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE requesting that its spending authority for fiscal 2008 be increased by \$422,974 over its originally approved budget. Funds to come from property tax surcharge; state matching funds; and investment income. [09-26-07 @ 1:01 PM]

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

******items to be discussed:***

#207-07 ALD. COLETTI (FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR) submitting City of Newton Financial Policies draft, prepared by the Comptroller, for review and adoption by the Board of Aldermen. [06-12-07 @ 5:50 PM]

#208-07 ALD. COLETTI respectfully requesting that Mayor Cohen initiate a Tax Payment agreement with the Woodland T. Station developer prior to issuance of an occupancy permit for that project. [06-12-07 @ 5:50 PM]

REFERRED TO CMTE. ON COMM. PRESERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

#276-06 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$2,253,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the *Newton South High School Synthetic Turf* recreation project.

CMTE. ON COMM. PRESERVATION NAN 5-0 ON 6/26/07

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

#276-06(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$1,800,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the construction of a new synthetic turf recreation complex at Newton South High School (these funds will supplement the requested CPA funds for this project under item #276-06).

PROG. AND SERV. REFERRED TO 2008-2009 BOARD ON 10/17/07

PUBLIC FACILITIES TO MEET

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#86-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$2,300,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the construction of a new synthetic turf recreation complex at Newton South High School.

[03-13-07 @ 7:04 PM]

PROG. AND SERV. REFERRED TO 2008-2009 BOARD ON 10/17/07

******items not yet scheduled for discussion:***

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#291-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to enter into a multi-year contract for collection of municipal solid waste. [09-25-07 @ 3:57 PM]

#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.

#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%.
- #91-06 COMPTROLLER providing interim reports on the financial condition of various City funds and account groups.

**ITEM RECOMMITTED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES & 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]
**PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0-1 (Ald. Gentile abstaining)
on 3/7/07**
FINANCE MOTION TO APPROVE FAILS TO CARRY 2-4-1 (Ald. Lennon, Salvucci, Gentile and Coletti opposed; Ald. Linsky abstaining) on 3-12-07

REFERRED TO FINANCE AND PROGRAMS & SERVICES 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.

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
**Programs & Services voted NO ACTION NECESSARY 4-0-2
(Parker, 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

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.

REFERRED TO PUB. SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #455-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of
(21-05.2) \$6,000 from the Riverside Traffic Mitigation Fund for the purpose of
funding the installation of a radar-controlled speed limit sign at the
intersection of Concord and Grove Streets. (#65-05)

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 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

- #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.)

REFERRED TO ZONING & PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #364-04 ALD. SANGIOLO & HARNEY requesting a RESOLUTION to His
Honor the Mayor to ask that the City acquire, whether by eminent domain
or by purchase, the two parking lots associated with the St. Bernard's
property for the purpose of providing commuter parking.

**ZONING & PLANNING APPROVED AS AMENDED 8-0 ON
9/13/04**

- #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 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.

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.
PROG. & SERV. HELD 5-0 (Sangiolo not voting) ON 3/2/06

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #160-05 ALD. HARNEY, SANGIOLO, PARKER AND HESS-MAHAN requesting an independent audit and possible appointment of an independent commission to investigate the Newton South construction project.
PF AND FINCOM HELD IN COMMITTEE ON FLOOR OF THE BOARD ON 11/21/05

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

- #453-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$150,000 be appropriated from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding a space needs study for the elementary schools throughout the City.
PROG. & SERV. APPROVED 4-0-1 (Sangiolo abstaining; Baker not voting) ON 3/22/06

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chairman