

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2006

7:45 p.m.
Room 222
City Hall

NEW BUSINESS:

******ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:***

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#115-06 WILLIAM CHENARD, 7 Stillman Circle, Natick, reappointed on February 3, 2006 to the Newton Board of Assessors; said term to expire on February 1, 2009.
(60-day Board action date: 4-22-06)

#116-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$10,000 be appropriated from the Cable Franchise Administrative Overhead Account for the purpose of procuring the consulting service of Doug Ferguson to work with City departments in understanding wireless technology and the improvements it provides.

NOTE: The Committee will have an introduction to the following item (for informational purposes only) this evening.

#117-06 ALD. PARKER, COMPTROLLER AND ROB GIFFORD requesting that Medicare Part D reimbursements received by the City be set aside in a fund to pay for post-retirement health benefits.

******ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:***

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#118-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$195,738 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding current and future snow/ice and tree emergency expenses in the Parks and Recreation Department.

REFERRED TO PROG & SERV, ZONING & PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#119-06 ALD. SALVUCCI requesting revocation of the Community Preservation Act (accepted by the Board of Aldermen as item #64-01(2) on 7/9/01 and approved by public vote at the 11/6/01 election) by vote by the Board of Aldermen and referral to the voters of Newton, pursuant to GL chapter 44B, Sec.16.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

******ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:***

REFERRED TO PUB. SAFETY/TRANS. PROG.& SERVICES & FINANCE

#273-04(2) ALD. GENTILE requesting home rule legislation to reclassify the two "dedicated fire apparatus mechanic" positions from Group 1 to Group 2 in the State Retirement System.

PS&T DENIED 5-1-1 (Lennon opposed; Samuelson abstaining) on 2/8/06

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#94-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$280,000 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the FY06 School Department budget . The School Department will use these funds to supplement its various energy accounts.

PROG. & SERV. APPROVED 5-0-1 (Sangiolo abstaining) on 2/22/06

******ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:***

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

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.

#92-06 ALD. HESS-MAHAN AND VANCE proposing that the FY07 interest rate for real estate tax deferrals under Clause 41A be determined and set, at an interest rate lower than 8%, as authorized by Chapter 136 of the Acts of 2005; and requesting enactment of an ordinance to reflect such interest rate.

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

#161-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR proposing an ordinance amendment for the preservation of city-owned properties subject to funding under the Community Preservation Act.

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

#467-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$23,633 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the design and study of the *Williams School Outdoor Intergenerational Community Classroom*.

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

#96-06 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$753,700 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the *Stearns and Pellegrini Parks Phase I Improvements* recreation project.

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

#97-06 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$43,600 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the historic restoration of clapboards on the 248 *Elliot Street* community housing and historic preservation project.

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

#98-06 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$208,250 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the continuation of the *Newton Homebuyer Assistance Program* to provide assistance to low/moderate income home purchasers.

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

#458-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$55,675 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of studying and planning the restoration of the Crafts Street Stable Exterior Building Historic Preservation Study.
CMTE.COMM.PRES. APPROVED AS AMENDED @ \$65,675 4-0-3 (Linsky, Lappin, Parker abstaining) on 1/24/06

REFERRED TO FINANCE AND CMTE. ON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION

#426-05 ALD. BAKER et als proposing acquisition by the City of Newton or related agencies of all or partial interests in appropriate properties in Newton using Community Preservation or other funds to preserve or enhance such properties for various public purposes.

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.

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.

- #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 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 FINANCE COMMITTEE BY FULL BOARD ON 1/18/05:

- #134-04(2) TRAFFIC COUNCIL requesting public input regarding the following proposed changes to Washington Street between the Wellesley town line and Route 128: re-stripe Washington Street for four 12'-wide travel lanes and a parking lane on the south side between Concord Street and the ramps to/from Route 128; "No Parking" on the northerly side; "No Parking" on the southerly side from the Wellesley town line to Concord Street; add two to four 15-minute metered parking spaces in front of the Lower Falls Post Office; add 2-hour meters for the remainder of the southerly side to a point near #2278 Washington Street (Ward 4)
- #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 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

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

#206-00(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to expend \$35,000 from Hebrew College pursuant to provisions of Special Permit #66-98(3) and a Traffic Mitigation Agreement between the City and Hebrew College, to be used toward the cost of traffic improvements, studies or transportation programs selected by the City for the purpose of mitigating potential impacts of the Hebrew College project on Herrick and Langley Roads or improving traffic and flow in the Herrick Road area. Note: #206-00, approved 6/5/00, authorized acceptance of these funds; #206-00(3), approved 6/19/00, requested implementation of accounting measures to track future expenditures; #206-00(2), the actual expenditure, was held in Committee on 6/19/00 to allow Board review of proposed mitigation measures and costs on a case-by-case basis.

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 FINANCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES

#428-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR submitting the FY07-FY11 Capital Improvement Program pursuant to section 5-3 of the Newton City Charter which requires Board of Aldermen approval of a plan to finance \$179,120,279 of new local projects over the next several years:

SUMMARY

PUBLIC WORKS (City-Funded)	\$ 12,544,000
PUBLIC WORKS (Grant/Fee Funded)	\$ 53,255,000
PUBLIC SAFETY.	\$ 3,910,289
PUBLIC BUILDINGS	\$ 5,420,420
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	\$ 92,415,000
PARKS AND RECREATION	\$ 8,807,410
OTHER	\$ 2,768,160
TOTAL	\$179,120,279

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chairman