

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

SPECIAL JOINT MTG. WITH PROG. & SERVICES AND PUB. FACILITIES

MONDAY, MAY 22, 2006

7:00 P.M. – NOTE EARLY START TIME

Room 222

City Hall

CHAIRMAN'S NOTE: *The joint Committee review of item #230-06 will begin at approximately 8:45 p.m., after the Finance Committee has reviewed all other items scheduled for discussion this evening:*

NEW BUSINESS:

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

- #228-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting acceptance of and authorization to expend the following grant funds received by the Police Department:
- A) \$12,000, received as a Homeland Security Local Preparedness Equipment Grant, to be used to purchase equipment for first responders, and
 - B) \$16,000, received from Massachusetts Department of Public Health, to be used to implement the Enhanced Medical Dispatch (EMD) system in the Dispatch Center

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

- #230-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization for the issuance of long-term debt in the amount of \$3,648,750 for the purpose of completing the design phase of the Newton North High School Project.

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION ON 6/12/06:

REFERRED TO ZONING & PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #229-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$48,987 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the Inspectional Services salary accounts for the remainder of FY06.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #231-06 (198-04) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$15,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of making repairs to fire station poles.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #232-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$149,050 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of providing funding for ongoing environmental remediation projects at various sites across the city and for purchasing monitoring equipment for municipal fuel tanks.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #233-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$262,500 from a combination of Free Cash (\$157,500), Capital Stabilization Water and Sewer account (\$15,247), Water Surplus (\$44,877) and Sewer Surplus (\$44,876) for the purpose of replacing two 10,000 gallon underground gasoline and diesel fuel tanks at the Elliot Street DPW yard.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #234-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$150,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing the energy accounts in the FY06 School Department operating budget.

PUBLIC HEARING ASSIGNED FOR 6/12/06 @7:00 P.M.:

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #165-06(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR submitting recommended FY2007 Water and Sewer Rates for implementation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

REFERRED TO CMTE. ON COMMUNITY PRESERV. AND FINANCE

- #188-06 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$92,080 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the *Upper falls & Newton Highlands Playground Strategic Design* recreation project.

CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 8-0 ON 4/25/06

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

- #142-06 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$33,400 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of funding the *Albemarle Park Central Corridor Design* open space and recreation project in Newtonville.

CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 8-0 ON 4/25/06

- REFERRED TO CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**
#143-06 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$25,100 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of funding the *Cheesecake Brook Greenway Design* open space project in Newtonville
CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 8-0 ON 4/25/06

*****ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED ON 6/12/06:**

- 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. ON COMM.PRES. APPROVED AS AMENDED @ \$65,675 4-0-3 (Linsky, Lappin, Parker abstaining) on 1/24/06

- #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 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
PROG. & SERV. NO ACTION NECESSARY 4-0-2 (Parker, Merrill abstaining; Sangiolo not voting) on 3/8/06.

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

- 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.)

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

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 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)

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

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

#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. & 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.

#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 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 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 PROG & SERV, ZAP 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.

PROG. & SERV. HELD 5-0 (Sangiolo not voting) ON 3/22/06 FOR 4/19/06 PUBLIC MEETING

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