

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, APRIL 11, 2005

7:45 p.m.
Room 222
City Hall

NEW BUSINESS:

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

#125-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting acceptance of and authorization to expend the sum of \$60,000, received as a grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety (from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts) for the purchase of approximately 25 new portable radios for the Fire Department.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#126-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$160,000 be appropriated from Parking Meter Receipts for the purpose of purchasing a bucket truck for the Fire Department Wires Division.

PS&T APPROVED 6-0 (Harney not voting) on 4/6/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#127-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$48,330 be appropriated from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of purchasing replacement defibrillators, batteries and other defibrillator parts for the Fire, Police and Parks/Recreation departments as well as in city-owned buildings.

PS&T APPROVED 6-0 (Harney not voting) on 4/6/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#128-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$72,000 be appropriated from the Lottery Receipts Reserved fund in order to provide supplemental funding for the Education Incentive and Shift Differential accounts within the Police Department FY05 budget.

PS&T APPROVED 6-0 (Harney not voting) on 4/6/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#129-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$20,817.65 be transferred within the FY05 Police Department operating budget in order to provide funds for replacement of front-line cruiser #504 (which was recently totaled in an accident).

PS&T APPROVED 6-0 (Harney not voting) on 4/6/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #130-05 COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS requesting authorization to enter into an Intercommunity Agreement with the Town of Needham to use a Trommel Screen (to be used to process approximately 13,000 cubic yards of compost to be used for resale in the coming year).
PUB. FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0 (Mansfield not voting) on 4/6/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #109-04(2) COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS requesting that the City's Inter-Municipal Agreement with Wellesley Municipal Light Plant (approved as a one-year agreement expiring on 2/16/05) be extended through June 30, 2005. (NOTE: The FY06 will provide for the transfer of this function to the Fire Department Wires Division)
PUB. FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0 (Mansfield not voting) on 4/6/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #131-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$50,000
(514-99(2)) be appropriated from funds held by the City from Bradford Development, Inc. under the terms of Special Permit #514-99(2) (granted July 18, 2000) for the purpose of designing and purchasing a sedimentation basin at the Hampton Place condominiums on Florence Street.
PUB. FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0 (Mansfield not voting) on 4/6/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #132-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$158,000 be appropriated from Water Surplus for the purpose of supplementing the Water and Sewer Division overtime accounts for FY05.
PUB. FACILITIES APPROVED 8-0 ON 4/6/05
- #123-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$6,089 be transferred within the FY05 Comptroller's department operating budget for the purpose of fully funding the annual financial audit.
- #124-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$1,200 be transferred within the FY05 City Clerk department operating budget in order to cover overtime costs incurred during the annual dog license renewal process.

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

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #133-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$650,000 be appropriated from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of accepting and reconstructing the following three streets: COUNTRYSIDE ROAD; PATTEN CIRCLE; and MOSLEY ROAD.
PUB. FACILITIES APPROVED 8-0 ON 4/6/05

PUBLIC HEARING TO BE ASSIGNED

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #134-05 CITIZEN'S PETITION, Newton North Ballot Committee of the Newton Taxpayers Assoc., Samuel Robbins, 300 Prince Street, W. Newton submitting a petition pursuant to Section 10-2 of the City Charter, which contains approximately 73 signatures validated by the Newton Election Commission requesting the Board of Aldermen to hold a Public Hearing which seeks the passage of the following measure:
"The total cost of renovating and expanding Newton North High School shall be limited to \$65 million including reimbursements. Cost increases due to inflation, as reported by the Consumer Price Index of the U.S. Department of Labor, will be allowed."

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

ITEM RECOMMITTED TO FINANCE BY FULL BOARD ON 2/22/05:

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMM PRES & FINANCE COMMITTEE

- #32-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$1,000,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund to create ten units of low-income housing at 52-54 Wyman Street, Waban.
CMTE ON COMM PRES APPROVED 7-0 ON 1/25/05
FINANCE APPROVED 6-0 (Gentile not voting) on 2/14/05

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

- #130-04(2) COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$50,000 that was appropriated through Board Order #130-04, pertaining to the Houghton Garden Fence Project, be converted to a grant (with no repayment).
CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 7-0 (Parker not voting) on 3/29/05

REFERRED CMTE. ON COMM. PRESERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

- #111-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$30,700 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the Flowed Meadow Improvement Project, Phase 3 (Planning and Design).
CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 7-0 (Parker not voting) ON 3/29/05

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

- #112-05 ALD. LAPPIN requesting discussion of policy guidelines/conditions for the approval of CPA projects involving matching grants in the event that the grants are not obtained.
CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. NAN 8-0 ON 3/29/05

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #105-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$20,000 be appropriated from the Cable Franchise Administrative Overhead Account for the purpose of supplementing the Law Department part-time salary account to employ Attorney Catherine Farrell on a part-time basis for the remainder of this fiscal year.
PROG. & SERV. APPROVED 6-0 (Merrill, Baker not voting) ON 4/6/05

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #106-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$100,000 be appropriated from the Cable Franchise Administrative Overhead Account for the purpose of supplementing the Law Department Legal Assistance Account.
PROG. & SERV. APPROVED 6-0 (Merrill, Baker not voting) ON 4/6/05

- #64-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$122,224 for the purpose of paying retroactive overtime payments owed to Police Department staff as calculated under the rules of the FLSA. These rules differ in certain key aspects from the City of Newton's overtime policies. In some cases, they require the City to pay more than it would otherwise under the overtime provisions of our collective bargaining agreements and, in other cases, less. The funding source for this appropriation will be \$95,065 from Water Surplus and \$27,159 from Salary Reserve.
NOTE: Letter dated 4/6/05 submitted from Mayor requesting that this appropriation be reduced; new appropriation total is \$71,135.

*****ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:****REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #108-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$506,000 be appropriated from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding commissioning of the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) systems at Newton South High School.
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 3-2 (Lappin, Gerst opposed)
ON 3/23/05

PUBLIC HEARING TO BE ASSIGNED:**REFERRED TO FINANCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES**

- #110-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR submitting the FY06-FY10 Capital Improvement Program pursuant to section 5-3 of the Newton City Charter which requires Board of Aldermen approval of a plan to finance \$192,250,399 of new local projects over the next several years:

SUMMARY

PUBLIC WORKS (City-Funded)	\$ 11,390,000
PUBLIC WORKS (Grant/Fee Funded)	\$ 55,345,000
PUBLIC SAFETY.	\$ 4,460,289
PUBLIC BUILDINGS	\$ 3,903,500
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT	\$107,065,000
PARKS AND RECREATION	\$ 7,736,410
OTHER	\$ 2,350,200
TOTAL	\$192,250,399

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 CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

- #392-04(3) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR proposing a draft ordinance to create the structure under which the Angino Farm Property will operate.
CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. HELD 8-0; REFERRED TO
SUBCOMMITTEE ON 3/1/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #38-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization of debt issuance in the amount of \$12,930,095, through a zero interest loan program sponsored by the MWRA to fund rehabilitation of the City's water mains.
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 5-0 ON 3/23/05

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
- #37-05 ALD. PARKER AND COMPTROLLER requesting review and discussion of the June 30, 2004 independent auditor Management Letter recommendations.
- #518-03 ALD. STEWART recommending the creation of a task force to study and report to the Mayor, Board of Aldermen and School Committee on the policies and criteria that should be used in imposing fees for various kinds of city services.

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #503-03 ALD. PARKER AND STEWART requesting discussion of the possibility of including drug re-importation from Canada in City of Newton health plans, as pioneered by the City of Springfield, MA.

REFERRED TO PUB. FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #202-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$273,050 from the Capital Stabilization fund for the purpose of replacing windows at the Pierce Elementary School.
PUB FAC HELD 7-0 (Salvucci not voting) ON 4/7/04
FINANCE HELD ON 4/12/04

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

- #369-03 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting a presentation of the findings and results of the *Newton North Feasibility Study* to the Board of Aldermen in a public forum to allow a greater number of the public to hear the presentation and offer public comment.

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #548-03 ALD. GENTILE, SALVUCCI AND LENNON requesting discussion and possible City acceptance of Chapter 137 of the Acts of 2003, an Act relative to public employees serving in the armed forces. If accepted, city employees who have been granted a military leave of absence as members of the armed forces called to service after September 11, 2001 will be entitled to receive pay at regular base salary and will not lose any seniority or any accrued vacation leave, sick leave, personal leave, compensation time or earned overtime.
PROG. & SERV. HELD 5-0 ON 3/17/04

- #128-98 ALD. PARKER, SANGIOLO, MERRILL, MANSFIELD requesting an adjustment to the water and sewer rate structure to allow rate relief for low-volume water and sewer users.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #432-02 ALD. PARKER, JOHNSON, LINSKY, LIPSITT, LAPPIN, BAKER requesting ordinance change and home rule legislation to implement a policy of indexing automobile excise tax to emissions and/or fuel economy, so low-pollution vehicles have lower taxes than those that pollute more.

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.
- #429-02 ALD. PARKER requesting progress report from Treasurer/Collector on addressing Management Letter audit issues.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND 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.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #135-01 ALD. M. LIPOF offering a resolution urging His Honor the Mayor to hire an independent auditor to oversee and report monthly through the Mayor to the Board of Aldermen for the duration of the construction and renovations to the high schools.

REFERRED TO PUB. SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #250-03 ALD. JOHNSON, SAMUELSON AND SANGIOLO requesting amendments to Chapter 19 Sections 8 and 9 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Newton to increase the fines for traffic and parking violations.
PS&T HELD ON 4/7/04
- #33-01 ALD. YATES proposing an ordinance to establish a special assessment policy for the substantial rehabilitation of owner-occupied residential properties listed in the State Register of Historic Places (Sec. 5J. of MGL Chapter 59).

#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, which funds will 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. (ITEM HELD IN COMMITTEE AT 6/19/00 FULL BOARD)

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chair