

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, MAY 9, 2005

7:00 P.M. – NOTE EARLY START

Room 222

City Hall

DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REVIEW:

7:00 p.m. – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

7:30 p.m. – COMPTROLLER/RETIREMENT BOARD

8:00 p.m. – ASSESSING

8:30 p.m. – TREASURER/COLLECTOR/PARKING CLERK

NEW BUSINESS:

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

#155-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$3,160 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of making repairs to Fire Ladder 2.

#156-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$230,101.64 be appropriated (from a combination of Lottery Receipts, Capital Stabilization and E-rate Reimbursement funds) for the purpose of paying the final installment of a three-year lease of computers for the School Department.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#157-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of
(202-04) \$560,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of replacing windows at the Pierce Elementary School.

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0-1 (Mansfield abstaining) on 5/4/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#158-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$149,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of repairing the roof at the Countryside Elementary School.

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0 ON 5/4/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #159-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$405,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of replacing boilers at various school buildings.
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 4-1-2 (Mansfield opposed; Yates, Albright abstaining) on 5/4/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #159-05(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$30,000 (from a combination of the Capital Stabilization Fund Bonded Indebtedness and General Purposes funds) for the purpose of procuring architectural design services for the installation of boilers at various school buildings.
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 7-0 ON 5/4/05

******ITEMS NOT TO BE DISCUSSED:***

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

- #154-05 STEPHEN BUCHBINDER, 182 Cotton Street, Newton, lifetime appointment as a Trustee of the Chaffin Educational Fund, filling the vacancy created by Marie Hermann's resignation.

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.

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

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

REFERRED TO FINANCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES

- #110-05(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, in accordance with Section 5-1 of the City of Newton Charter, submitting the FY06 Municipal/School Operating Budget totaling \$276,658,206, passage of which shall be concurrent with the FY06-FY10 Capital Improvement Program (docket item #110-05).
EFFECTIVE DATE OF SUBMISSION: 4/19/05

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.
PUBLIC FACILITIES NAN 7-0 ON 5/4/05

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

- #135-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$131,035 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the Washington Park Historic Lighting Project.
CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 7-0 (Linsky not voting) ON 4/26/05

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

- #143-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$15,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the Engineering and Restoration Design for Preservation of the Newton War Memorial Monumental Entrance Staircase.
CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 8-0 ON 4/26/05

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

- #144-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$15,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for the purpose of funding the Engineering and Restoration Design for Preservation of the Newton Civil War Monument at the Newton Cemetery.
CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 8-0 ON 4/26/05

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

******ITEMS NOT TO BE DISCUSSED:*****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 ASSIGNED FOR SPECIAL JOINT MEETING 5/5/05:**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."

PUBLIC HEARING ASSIGNED FOR 5/23/05 @ 7:00 P.M.:**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 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 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 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 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.

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.
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0 on 6/16/04

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
- #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)

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chair