

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2005

7:00 p.m. – NOTE EARLY START

Aldermanic Chamber

City Hall

CHAIRMAN’S NOTE: The Committee will meet together with the Public Facilities Committee in order to hold the annual Water/Sewer Rates Public Hearing in the Aldermanic Chamber. Upon completion of said hearing, the Finance Committee will move to room 222 in order to complete review of its business for this final meeting of FY05:

NEW BUSINESS:

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

PUBLIC HEARING ASSIGNED FOR 6/13/05 @ 7:00 P.M.:

REFERRED TO FINANCE AND PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEES

#110-05(4) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR submitting proposed Water/Sewer rate adjustments for FY06 for Board of Aldermen approval. Said rates to be implemented on July 1, 2005.

******FIRST CALL ITEMS (See attached report from Comptroller)***

#177-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$90,000 be appropriated from Salary Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the FY05 General Fund Health Insurance budget for several municipal departments.

#178-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$9,000 be transferred from the Newton Public Library Regional Services salary account to its purchase of books account. The salary account appropriation was based upon an estimate that was higher than the actual need for expenditures, therefore, the Library Director is recommending that these funds be transferred in order to purchase additional books for the library collection.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #181-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$90,000 be appropriated from the Lottery Receipts fund for the purpose of funding several environmental clean-up and compliance projects:

A) Cabot School Environmental Compliance.....\$11,575
B) Elliot St. Garage Envir. Compliance.....\$25,450
C) Horace Mann School Envir. Compliance.....\$43,275
D) NSHS Football Stadium.....\$ 9,700
TOTAL.....\$90,000

PUB. FAC. APPROVED 6-0 (Mansfield not voting) ON 6/8/05

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

- #184-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$3,500 be transferred from the FY05 CPA Consultant Expenses account unobligated balance to the Summer Intern Personal Services account.

CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 7-0 ON 5/17/05

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

- #185-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$2,900 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the pension costs as part of the FY06 CPA Administrative Budget.

CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 6-0-1 (Linsky abstaining) on 5/17/05

- #206-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$2,500 be appropriated from the Inland Waterways Fund for the purpose of allowing the Parks and Recreation Department to procure the services of a consultant who will prepare a Notice of Intent (as required by the Conservation Commission) for improvements and maintenance of the Crystal Lake swimming area.

- #208-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization for the expenditure of \$10,000 from the Law Department's Judgments and Settlements account as full and final settlement of a civil claim filed against the City as a result of a collision between a City snow plow and a private vehicle.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #211-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the following actions be taken in order to provide ample funding for gasoline usage for the remainder of FY05 for the Police Department:

a) appropriate the sum of \$12,800 from Lottery Receipts
b) transfer \$13,863 from the Police Radio account

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

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #212-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$39,500 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of making emergency repairs to the chiller at the Main Library.

NOTE: In accordance with Sec. 2-9 of the City Charter, the Mayor has declared this to be an emergency measure, necessary to protect the health and safety of the people and property of the City of Newton.

PUB. FAC. APPROVED 6-0 (Mansfield not voting) on 6/8/05

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #180-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$24,462 be appropriated from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of funding the replacement of the boiler at the Elliot Street DPW Operations Center building.

PUB. FAC. Approved 6-0 (Mansfield not voting) ON 6/8/05

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #210-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$31,540 from Lottery Receipts for the purpose of funding tree emergency response costs by contractors working for the Parks and Recreation Department. Most of these costs were incurred as a result of the spring Nor'easter at the end of May. This request also includes additional funds in the amount of \$5,200 for the remainder of this fiscal year in case there are more high wind storms during the month of June.

PROG. & SERV. APPROVED 7-0 ON 6/8/05

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

- #182-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$122,475 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding Gath Pool Accessibility Enhancements.

CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 7-0 ON 5/17/05

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

- #183-05 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$40,650 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding the City Hall and War Memorial Historic Landscape Design project.

CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 5-0-2 (Lennon, Linsky abstaining) on 5/17/05

- #179-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$178,958 be appropriated from Salary Reserve and that the sum of \$10,000 be appropriated from Sewer Surplus in order to fund the cost items set forth in the labor contract agreed upon with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, City Hall Associates, Local 3092.
- #205-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$147,879 be appropriated from Salary Reserve in order to fund the salary and benefit costs for Hay group and other non-union employees.

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

- #207-05 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to expend the sum of \$6,010.44 from Lottery Receipts in order that the Fire Department may pay an invoice from a prior fiscal year from the Triumvirate Company for disposal of hazardous materials.
- #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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

*****ITEMS 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

- #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**
NOTE: Please refer to Mayor's Letter dated June 10, 2005, which suggests that this item be amended

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

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 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."

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.

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 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

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, 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