

CITY OF NEWTON  
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA  
MONDAY, MAY 10, 2004

**7:00 p.m. – NOTE EARLY START**

Room 222  
City Hall

***FY05 BUDGET REVIEW:***

7:00 p.m. – PURCHASING

7:30 p.m. – HUMAN RESOURCES/BENEFITS

8:00 p.m. – COMPTROLLER/RETIREMENT BOARD

8:30 p.m. – ASSESSING

9:00 p.m. – TREASURER/COLLECTOR/PARKING CLERK

**NEW BUSINESS:**

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

#233-04      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$451,202, received as FEMA reimbursement funds by DPW for snow and ice removal costs, be transferred from the federal reimbursement fund to the General Fund, which will become part of the City's Free Cash for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2004.

#234-04      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$179,800, received as reimbursement funds from the federal government for the purchase of electronic voting machines, be transferred from the federal reimbursement fund into the Capital Stabilization Fund for future capital expenditures.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

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

**REFERRED TO FINANCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES**

#209-04      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, in accordance with Section 5-1 of the City of Newton Charter, submitting the FY05 Municipal/School Operating Budget totaling \$266,992,346, passage of which shall be concurrent with the FY05-FY09 Capital Improvement Program, submitted in November, 2003. EFFECTIVE DATE OF SUBMISSION 4/20/04.

- #429-02 ALD. PARKER requesting progress report from Treasurer/Collector on addressing Management Letter audit issues.
- #239-02 ALD. LENNON requesting a discussion with appropriate personnel regarding the process for appealing parking tickets.
- #69-03 VINCENT FILIPPONE requesting that there be a requirement that all parking ticket appeal hearings be tape-recorded.

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

- #222-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$1,160 be transferred from the Community Preservation Committee expense account to the CPC personal services account for the purpose of allowing the Committee to hire a Master's level student to assist the CPC during the summer months (while the Preservation Planner is on maternity leave).  
**CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 6-0 ON 4/27/04**

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

- #223-04 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$65,968 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding costs for installing a drilled well and pump irrigation system at West Newton Common.

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

- #224-04 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$68,270 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding a portion of the costs for creating an outdoor classroom at Cabot School.

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

- #133-04 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$375,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund as a grant for the purpose of creating the Municipal Employee Homebuyer Assistance Program (MEHAP) to provide downpayment assistance for City of Newton employees with household incomes at or below 100% of the area median and to permanently convert existing market rate units to affordable units in perpetuity through permanent deed restrictions.  
**CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. NO ACTION NECESSARY 6-0 ON 4/24/04**

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

- #133-04(2) COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$500,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation fund for purposes of funding costs for the Newton Homebuyer Assistance Program.  
**CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 6-0 ON 4/27/04**

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

- #225-04 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$25,000 be transferred from the City Hall Balustrade Replacement account to the City Hall Lighting Improvement account in order to accommodate bids that vary from the original budgeted amounts.  
**CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 5-0 (Sangiolo not voting) ON 4/27/04**

***PUBLIC HEARING ASSIGNED FOR 7:00 P.M. ON 5/17/04:***

**REFERRED TO FINANCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES**

- #549-03 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR submitting the FY05-FY09 Capital Improvement Program pursuant to section 5-3 of the Newton City Charter which requires Board of Aldermen approval of a plan to finance \$170,899,860 of new local projects over the next several years:

SUMMARY

PUBLIC WORKS (City-Funded).....	\$ 8,075,000
PUBLIC WORKS (Grant/Fee Funded).....	\$ 54,256,057
PUBLIC SAFETY.....	\$ 4,611,000
PUBLIC BUILDINGS.....	\$ 4,555,750
SCHOOL DEPARTMENT.....	\$ 89,293,029
PARKS AND RECREATION.....	\$ 8,143,500
OTHER.....	\$ 1,965,524
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$170,899,860</b>

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

**REFERRED TO PUB. FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #202-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$150,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of replacing windows at the Pierce Elementary School.  
**PUB FAC HELD 7-0 (Salvucci not voting) ON 4/7/04**

**REFERRED TO PUB. FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #201-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$50,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund Bonded account for the purpose of remodeling portions of the Newton Senior Center.

**REFERRED TO PUB. FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #203-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$135,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding the following Public Buildings Department projects:
- Boiler Repl.; Pub. Bldgs. Dept.....\$35,000
  - Replacement of Utility Van.....\$25,000
  - UST and Veeter Root Sys. Repair/Repl.....\$75,000

**REFERRED TO PS&T, PUB. FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #203-04(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$65,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding the following Public Buildings Department projects:
- Police Dispatch Ctr. Improvements.....\$65,000

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC 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.

**REFERRED TO PUB.SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #250-03(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR proposing Ordinance amendment to allow for increases in fines for violations of parking ordinances, in accordance with the recommendations of the Public Safety/Transportation Committee and the Police Chief.
- PS&T APPROVED AS AMENDED ON 4/7/04 (SEE REPORT)**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #161-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR proposing Ordinance amendment to provide for new water and sewer rates structure for condominium units and apartments to be billed on par with single family homes.
- #397-03 KPMG AND COMPTRROLLER submitting status report on completion of the financial audit for the City's fiscal year ending 6/30/03.

**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**

- #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).

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #128-04 ALD. SALVUCCI proposing revocation of the Community Preservation Act to be effective after the completion of the five-year term, as provided in MGL Ch. 44B, Sec.16.  
**PROG. & SERV. NAN ON 4/7/04 (SEE REPORT)**

**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 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.
- #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 PUB. FAC., PROG&SERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #94-03(4) ALD. PARKER requesting His Honor the Mayor submit Home Rule Legislation to create a separate rate structure for water and sewer rates for condominiums and apartments.

#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 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 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 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 PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#519-03 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting a discussion and possible ordinance amendment to Sec. 29-36 "Rates, schedule" and 29-80 "Sewer use charge" of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances, 2001 regarding water and sewer rates for condominiums.

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#94-03(3) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR proposing Sec. 29-36(a) and Sec. 29-80(b) of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Newton, 2001 be amended to include language and a definition for single meter/multi-residence water and sewer rates.

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#258-02 PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE requesting discussion of feasibility and appropriateness of more progressive water/sewer rates.

#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 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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chair