

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, JUNE 14, 2004

7:45 p.m.
Room 222
City Hall

NEW BUSINESS:

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

- #277-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$564,977 be appropriated from cable franchise payments made by Comcast for the purpose of completing the City fiber network.
- #278-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$126,389 be appropriated from the Municipal Liability Self-Insurance Fund for the purpose of settling the City's liability under state and federal laws for waste disposal at the Beede Waste Oil site in Plaistow, New Hampshire.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #281-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$110,000 be expended from Water Surplus for the purpose of funding overtime expenses in the Water Division of DPW and to fund the final phase of Police Detail charges for reservoir security for the remainder of this fiscal year. *NOTE: request received by City Clerk on 6/10 seeking to amend this item to \$145,000 to cover the costs for overtime and police details related to the 6/5 Dedham Street water main break.*
PUBFAC TO MEET 6/16

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #282-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$290,000 be appropriated from the Environmental Solid Waste Fund (a.k.a. the Sale of Recyclables fund) for the purpose of supplementing the FY04 refuse collection budget in the Department of Public Works.
PUBFAC TO MEET 6/16

REFERRED TO ZONING & PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #280-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$23,500 be transferred from the Inspectional Services Salary account to various Inspectional Services Capital accounts for the purpose of allowing the department to purchase and install a new filing system and to allow the Public Buildings Department to construct a conference room near the front of the ISD office.

- #276-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$19,569 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding payments to the East Middlesex Mosquito Control District to conduct mosquito larva control in catch basins in order to control the spread of West Nile Virus.
- #195-04(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that Board Order #195-04 be
(209-04) reduced by the sum of \$28,000, leaving the sum of \$32,000 appropriated to the Parks and Recreation Dept. for tree pruning and planting. The \$28,000 will be deposited into Free Cash and used to offset the elimination of Parks and Recreation field use fees, as requested by the Board of Aldermen during FY05 Budget deliberations.
- #207-04(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that Board Order #207-04 be
(209-04) reduced by the sum of \$10,000, leaving the sum of \$90,000 appropriated for DPW sidewalk betterment projects. The \$10,000 will be deposited into Free Cash and used to offset the elimination of Parks and Recreation field use fees, as requested by the Board of Aldermen during FY05 Budget deliberations.
- #279-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$36 from Salary Reserve for the purpose of adjusting the salary budgets of the Veterans Services/Sealer of Weights and Measures Departments.

PUBLIC HEARING ASSIGNED FOR JUNE 23, 2004 @ 7:00 p.m.:

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #209-04(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR proposing that new water and sewer rates be implemented for Fiscal Year 2005.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

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

PS&T APPROVED 5-0 (Gentile not voting) on 5/19/04

PUB FAC APPROVED 5-0 ON 5/19/04

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

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.
A) **PF APPROVED CONDO WATER AND SEWER RATES 8-0 ON 4/7/04**
B) **PF MOTION TO APPROVE APARTMENT WATER AND SEWER RATES FAILED TO CARRY 3-4-1 (Mansfield, Schnipper, Salvucci, Lappin opposed; Yates abstaining) on 4/7/04**
- #397-03 KPMG AND COMPTROLLER submitting status report on completion of the financial audit for the City's fiscal year ending 6/30/03.

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

- #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 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.

REFERRED TO FINANCE AND PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEES

- #158-01(3) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting Home Rule Legislation to increase the eligibility threshold for Clause 41A Senior Citizen Tax Deferral program to \$60,000 per year.
PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED 5-0-1 (Parker abstaining) on 6/9/04

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

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

REFERRED TO PUB. FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #202-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$273,050 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
FINANCE HELD ON 4/12/04

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.
PS&T HELD ON 4/7/04

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

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.

- #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 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)
- #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

- #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