

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, JULY 19, 2004

7:00 p.m. – NOTE EARLY START

Room 222

City Hall

NEW BUSINESS:

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

#318-04 COMPTROLLER requesting that the Board of Aldermen appoint a qualified public accounting firm to complete the City's 6/30/04 financial audit at a fixed fee price per the City's 2003 RFP.

#319-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$55,000 be appropriated from the Municipal Liability Self-Insurance Fund for the purpose of settling a claim against the City by Phyllis (a School Department employee) and Jack Monderer as a result of an injury sustained at the Newton South High School Auditorium.

******ITEM NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:***

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

#320-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization for the issuance of 20-year bonds in the amount of \$10,250,000 for design fees, legal fees, and project management costs associated with constructing a new Newton North High School.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

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.

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

- #397-03 KPMG AND COMPTROLLER submitting status report on completion of the financial audit for the City's fiscal year ending 6/30/03.

- #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 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 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