

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2004

7:45 p.m.
Room 222
City Hall

NEW BUSINESS:

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

- #360-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$27,500 from the Workers' Compensation School Lump Sum Account for the purpose of settling a claim by Frederick Grosse, a former school custodian.
- #340-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend Two Thousand Forty-five Dollars (\$2,045) from fees paid by cable TV franchisees for the purpose of paying the costs of sending the City Telecommunications Specialist to the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors conference in San Francisco in September.
- #361-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$9,725 be transferred within the FY05 Elections Department operating budget in order to allow the Department to hire a temporary worker prior to and during upcoming elections. The department is currently understaffed due to two position vacancies.
- #341-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend Eleven Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-eight Dollars (\$11,428) from the cable franchise fee account for the purpose of purchasing a trailer with a spool mechanism for use by the Wires Divisions of Fire Department to pull fiber optic cable throughout the city to complete a city-owned fiber network.
- #250-01(4) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) from the traffic mitigation funds provided by The Terraces (special permit #250-01) to fund a traffic study in the Jackson and Daniel Streets area in Newton Centre.

#362-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$7,806 from the Parking Meter Receipts Reserved Fund for the purpose of paying a prior year bill to Greenman-Pederson, Inc. for traffic signal installation that was completed in West Newton Square.

#363-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$20,000 from the Parking Meter Receipts Reserved Fund for the purpose of installing parking meters in various locations throughout the City, as part of the City's ongoing meter installation/replacement program.

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#339-04 PROCTOR HOUGHTON re-appointed as a TRUSTEE of the HORACE COUSENS INDUSTRIAL FUND for a term to expire on June 1, 2007 (60-day Board action 10-8-04).

*****ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION ON 9/27/04:**

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

#320-04(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE proposing a resolution to His Honor the Mayor, the Superintendent of Schools and the Designer Selection Committee requesting an analysis of reusing all or part of the space at the existing Newton North High School by the City or through leasing to a private establishment.

PROG. & SERV. APPROVED 5-2 (Baker and Fischman opposed) ON 7/21/04

PUB FAC APPROVED 4-3 (Lappin, Salvucci, Schnipper opposed) on 9/8/04

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

#320-04(3) PRESIDENT BAKER AND ALD. SANGIOLO requesting discussion of elements of a resolution to help shape the scope of work for initial design services for the construction of a new Newton North High School, including, in addition to the program of educational elements, consideration of the experience of similar projects elsewhere, including problems and successes; long term operating costs; design team engineering experience and expertise; neighborhood input; adaptive reuse, if any, of the existing facilities; and how, in light of these and other relevant factors, the designers would propose to respond to the challenge of a new high school building.

PUB FAC APPROVED 7-0 ON 9/8/04

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

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON COMM. PRESERVATION AND FINANCE

- #365-04 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of \$575,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund for purposes of funding an historic renovation and the creation of three units of community housing within a mixed-income development totaling five units located at 248 Elliot Street.

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.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

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

- #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 PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #258-02 PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE requesting discussion of feasibility and appropriateness of more progressive water/sewer rates.
PUB FAC NO ACTION NECESSARY 3-2-1 (Mansfield, Stewart opposed; Albright abstaining) on 6/7/04

*****ITEM SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION ON 9/27/04:**

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.
PROG.& SERV. APPROVED 6-0-1 AS AMENDED @ \$3.8 Million (Sangiolo abstaining) on 7/21/04
PUB.FAC. APPROVED AS AMENDED 6-0 @ \$3.8 Million on 7/21/04

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

- #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

- #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 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 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 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 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.

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

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.

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 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

- #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.
- #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)
- #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).

#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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chair