

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA
MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2001

7:45 p.m.

FOLLOWING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Room 222

City Hall

NEW BUSINESS:

- # 81-01 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to accept and expend a grant of \$108,661 from the Executive Office of Public Safety, Firefighter Safety Equipment Program which will allow the Fire Department to purchase two new thermal imaging cameras and monitoring equipment, three new pieces of auto extraction equipment, and other safety equipment.
- # 82-01 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$8,243.31 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of paying a claim for damage to a private vehicle caused by a collision with a City of Newton Police cruiser.
- # 83-01 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$31,400 from Free Cash for the purpose of replacing photocopy machines in five departments.
- # 83-01(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to accept and expend a gift of half the cost of a new photocopier, up to a value of \$3,500, to replace the photocopier in the Senior Center.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED:

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES & FINANCE COMMITTEES

- # 74-01 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$55,000 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the Law Department's Legal Assistance account, which principal use has been for labor counsel.

ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS&SERVICES, ZAP & FINANCE COMMITTEES

- # 64-01 ALD. PARKER, M. LIPOF, YATES, TATTENBAUM, SANGIOLO, BAKER, MANSFIELD, JOHNSON & SAMUELSON requesting discussion of possible implementation of the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act in Newton.

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- # 55-01 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$14,600 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of adding an Assistant Executive Secretary position in the Election Commission department.

PROG. & SERV. HELD ON 3/7/01

REFERRED TO ZONING & PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- # 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 (§5J.of MGL Chapter 59).

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

- #268-00(B) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$89,220,407 for the purpose of funding the construction and renovation of Newton North and South High Schools, which source of funding will be the issuance of long term debt. **(Public Hearing held 1/10/01.)**

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

- #268-00(3) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$175,000 to lease four modular classrooms for Newton South High School.

- #158-00 ALD. COLETTI requesting review and discussion of the fifteen items identified in the Powers & Sullivan management letter of December, 1999, including actions taken thus far and the city's status as it prepares for the next financial audit.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #295-99 ALD. GENTILE, COLETTI AND SALVUCCI, requesting an ordinance that would require any proposed settlement, which would include any funds from the Liability Trust Fund, must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Aldermen.

PROG. & SERV. APPROVED 4-0 ON 2/23/00

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #478-99 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$5,400,000, which funding will be long term debt as authorized by MGL Chapter 44, Section 8(7)(a), for the purpose of replacing water meters throughout the City.
PUBFAC HELD ON 1/5/00
- # 89-99 ALD. CICCONE AND ANTONELLIS recommending that there be a requirement that all H-grade employees hired in the future who will earn an annual salary in excess of \$60,000 reside in Newton.
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#350-98 ALD. CICCONE requesting discussion regarding the demand for (vs. the current number of) Constables in Newton, and the possibility of creating an ordinance which would require Police background checks on each Constable candidate prior to his/her appointment/reappointment.
NOTE: #350-98(2) RESOL. TO MAYOR REQUESTING POLICY FOR APPOINTMENTS APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON 9/28/98 AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN ON 10/5/98
- #120-98 ALD. PARKER AND COMPTROLLER recommending the appointment of a special subcommittee of the Board to work with the Comptroller in developing a summary level financial report for public information.
- #362-93(C) FINANCE COMMITTEE proposing that a fee for non compliance be set in order to assist the Fire Department in enforcement of MGL Ch.148, Section 56.
- #295-96 ALD. COLETTI requesting that the Comptroller of Accounts and the Director of Personnel implement a Weekly Payroll Time Sheet to monitor attendance for all salaried City of Newton employees.
- #296-96 ALD. COLETTI requesting that the Mayor and Board of Aldermen create a policy which defines the circumstances regarding the earning and use of Compensatory Time by all H-Grade employees.
- #297-96 ALD. COLETTI seeking adoption of a new Ordinance which would require public disclosure of all outside employment and consulting work conducted by City of Newton employees earning above a certain level of compensation for serving as a Department Head or Assistant Department Head.

#174-99 ALD. CICCONE requesting that Board of Aldermen staff members be removed from their current “H-grade” status and that all future salary adjustments be governed by City Ordinance, in the same manner as the Board of Aldermen sets the salary for the City Clerk.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#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

#476-97 ALD. SAMUELSON, LIPSITT, PARKER & COHEN requesting that the Board of Aldermen consider options that could be provided to City of Newton employees to provide additional family members, blood relatives, etc. with health benefits.

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#477-97 ALD. SAMUELSON, LIPSITT, PARKER AND COHEN requesting that the Board of Aldermen explore the ways that the City of Newton could provide an umbrella organization that residents could join in order to obtain group health benefits (i.e. self-employed, individual insurance, etc.).

ITEM RECOMMITTED BY FULL BOARD ON 4/5/99:

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#20-96 ALD. CICCONE requesting discussion with the Director of Utilities regarding the re-implementation of the use of sprinkler/garden meters to measure outside water use for all residences city-wide.

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#132-98 COMPTROLLER recommending that the Board of Aldermen conduct a review of existing state and federal grant programs and how the City and School Department integrate grant programs into ongoing service activities.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#237-97A2 COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC WORKS informing the Board of Aldermen that a plan is being drafted for passive recreational use of 2.5 acres of land at the Rumford Avenue landfill site. Plan is being drafted in accordance with the request of the Bd of Aldermen upon its approval (on 8/11/97) of increase in bond authorization (\$350,000) for the capping of Rumford Avenue landfill.

PUBLIC FACILITIES NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0 12/8/99

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chairman