

CITY OF NEWTON  
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA  
MONDAY, MAY 14, 2001

**7:00 P.M. – NOTE EARLY START**

Room 222  
City Hall

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- #164-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$15,000 from Sewer Surplus for the purpose of paying a settlement of the claim of Peter and Susan Brown v. City of Newton for damage to their basement on June 17, 1998 as a result of a failure at the Quinobequin pumping station.
- #139-00(3)      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the original request to accept and expend an Enhanced School Health Services grant be amended from \$305,889 to \$317,889. This grant has been awarded to the Health Department by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

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

- #170-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$26,939 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of funding a mosquito control program to combat West Nile Virus.
- #163-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR recommending that the sum of \$63,960 be appropriated from Salary Reserve and that expenditure of said funds be authorized in order to fund the cost items set forth in the labor contract agreed upon with the Newton Police Superior Officers Association. This appropriation will also fund a salary adjustment for the Chief of Police.

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

- #171-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$35,000 from Additional Lottery Receipts for the purpose of repairing a drain pipe at the Gath Pool to prevent further leaks.
- #165-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$7,917 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the FY01 Treasurer/Collector department budget. This sum will cover changes due to salary overlap and parking ticket vendor contract issues.

- #166-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$9,568 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of fully funding the FY01 full-time salary account for the Jackson Homestead.
- #167-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$1,820 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the Veterans' Benefits line item in the FY01 Veterans Department operating budget.
- #168-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting acceptance of MGL Chapter 40 §22F which allows department heads to "fix reasonable charges to be paid for any services rendered or work performed by the city."
- #169-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting amendments to Chapter 17 to increase Electrical fees and Gas and plumbing fees; to increase fees for certain license applications and permits to be filed with the health department; and to reflect Zoning Board of Appeals application fees.

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #172-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that an appropriation in the amount of \$96,926 from the Parking Meter Special Revenue Fund for the purpose of fully funding the street light maintenance account for FY01.

**REFERRED TO PS&T AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #173-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that Chapter 19 Section 191 be amended to provide for doubling (to 50¢ per hour) the parking meter fee for short-term (1-hour meters) on-street parking.

**PUBLIC HEARING TO BE ASSIGNED FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 6, 2001:**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #113-01(3)      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR recommending that the Revised Ordinances of Newton, 1995, as amended, be further amended in order to implement new water and sewer rates for FY02.

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

- #158-01      ALD. GERST seeking Home Rule Legislation for the purpose of raising qualifying income level for the Newton 41A (Senior Citizen real estate tax deferral) program.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**  
**ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:**

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

- #144-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$425,900 from Free Cash for the purpose of supplementing the overtime account in the Fire Department.  
**PS&T APPROVED ON 4/18/01**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #109-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the sum of \$1,235,000 be appropriated and expended from the Water Surplus Fund for the purpose of completing repairs to the WABAN HILL RESERVOIR. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$2,185,200. The remaining costs will be met with the approximately \$1 million of capital improvement funds allocated in the FY01 Water operating budget.  
**PUBFAC APPROVED 4-0 AS AMENDED ON 4/18/01**

**BUDGET REVIEW:**

- 8:00    INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**  
**8:15    ASSESSING**  
**8:45    COMPTROLLER/RETIREMENT BOARD**

**REFERRED TO FINANCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES**

- #113-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR, in accordance with Section 5-1 of the Newton City Charter, submitting the FY2002 Municipal/School Operating Budget, including Water/Sewer for a total of \$232,421,103.  
**EFFECTIVE DATE OF SUBMISSION: APRIL 17, 2001**  
**LAST DAY TO PASS BUDGET: JUNE 1, 2001**
- #139-01      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation from Overlay Surplus in the amount of \$350,000 for the purpose of funding the triennial revaluation costs in the Assessing Department.

**ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

**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.

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

- # 96-01 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$879,190 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the FY01 School Department operating budget.  
**PROG. & SERV. APPROVED 8-0 ON 3-21-01**

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

- # 96-01(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting discussion of the budget deficit in the School Department.

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

- #96-01(3) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE proposing a RESOLUTION to the Mayor and School Administration requesting that the hiring freeze not cause the elimination of any program that was voted on as part of the FY01 budget.  
**Prog&Serv Approved 6-0-1 (Baker & Parker Abstaining) on 3/21/01; Held in Committee and referred to Finance by Full Board on 4/2/01.**

**REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- # 97-01 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$49,612 from Free Cash for the purpose of funding the environmental compliance projects as follows:

| <b>PROJECT</b>                           | <b>COST</b>      |
|--|------------------|
| Municipal UST Leak Detection System..... | \$ 33,075        |
| Municipal UST Testing and Repairs.....   | \$ 16,537        |
| <b>TOTAL.....</b>                        | <b>\$ 49,612</b> |

**PUBFAC HELD 7-0 ON 3-21-01**

**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).
- #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.
- #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 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**

**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 FINANCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES**

- #118-00(5) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR submitting the FY02-FY06 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, pursuant to Section 5-3 of the NEWTON CITY CHARTER, which requires Board of Aldermen approval of a plan to finance new local capital projects totaling **\$173,907,870** over the next several years:

| SUMMARY                         |                      |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| PUBLIC WORKS (GRANT/FEE FUNDED) | \$ 46,394,228        |
| PUBLIC WORKS (CITY FUNDED)      | \$ 2,710,000         |
| PUBLIC SAFETY                   | \$ 2,911,000         |
| PUBLIC BUILDINGS                | \$ 2,351,575         |
| PUBLIC EDUCATION                | \$111,782,167        |
| PARKS & RECREATION              | \$ 2,215,000         |
| OTHER                           | \$ 5,543,900         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                    | <b>\$173,907,870</b> |

**ITEM HELD IN COMMITTEE AT 6/19/00 FULL BOARD:**

#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.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chairman