Programs & Services Committee Report

City of Newton
In City Council

Thursday, April 18, 2024

Present: Councilors Humphrey (Vice Chair), Oliver, Micley, Malakie, Lobovits, Baker, and Farrell

Absent: Councilor Krintzman

Also Present: Councilors Albright, and Bixby

City Staff: Carol Moore, City Clerk/Clerk of the Council; Cassidy Flynn, Deputy City Clerk; Joe Mulvey, Chief Information Officer; Jill Mercurio, Library Director; Lisa Dady, Historic Newton Director; Perry Rosenfield, FP&A Manager; Connor Roach, Senior Financial Analyst; Nicole Banks, Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Culture; Marc Welch, Deputy Commissioner of Parks, Recreation and Culture; Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer; and Jaclyn Norton, Committee Clerk

For more information regarding this meeting, a video recording can be found at the following link: Programs and Services Committee - April 18, 2024 (youtube.com)

Referred to Programs & Services and Finance Committees

#193-24 **Requesting authorization to transfer $100,000 for library computers and technology**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer the sum of $100,000 from Account # 0160110-511001 Main Library, Full Time Salaries to a Library Project Account for the purpose of replacing aging computers and technology at the Newton Free Library.

Action: **Programs & Services Approved 7-0**

Note: Jill Mercurio, Library Director, described that modern libraries run on technology and that replacing computers for the library has not been part of the budget in recent years. Most of the current fleet is over 6 years old and is at the end of life for software updates and security patches. The money for this request is due to natural attrition within the department. A Councilor asked for specifics on this replacement. Director Mercurio noted that this would help replace the 40-50 computers that need replacement due to failing parts and nearing the end of life for software updates. There was also a question on if these computers could be given to students or seniors. Director Mercurio responded that the aging condition of these computers would create a burden on the recipient.

Committee members voted 7-0 on a motion to approve from Councilor Oliver.

The meeting adjourned at 10:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bill Humphrey, Vice Chair