



## Public Facilities Committee Agenda

### City of Newton In City Council

Wednesday, June 5, 2024

The Public Facilities Committee will hold this meeting as a hybrid meeting on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 7:00 PM in Room 204. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/82863734525> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the following Meeting ID: 828 6373 4525

#### Item Scheduled for Discussion:

#### *Public Hearing*

#250-24

#### **National Grid petition for a Grant of Location in Richardson Street**

NATIONAL GRID petition for a grant of location to install and maintain approximately 480 feet of 12- inch Coated Steel, main across the Centre St. bridge in Newton, MA over 1-90 (also known as Washington St.). National Grid has MA DOT, and MWRA, permits for the bridge. National Grid is requesting Grant of Location for Proposed new main tie-in to existing Regulator Station at 32 Richardson Street, Newton approximately 20' X 10' X 5'D and to tie-in to existing 12" Bare Steel Main at 371 Washington Street, Newton approximately 10' X 6' X 5'D (Ward 1)

[Richardson Street Back-up](#)

#### *Public Hearing*

#251-24

#### **Eversource petition for Grant of Location in Jackson Road**

EVERSOURCE ENERGY petition for a grant of location to relocate poll 227/12 approximately 5 feet north of its current location on Jackson Road. The City of Newton Engineering Department noted that this is an after the fact filing. (Ward 1)

[Jackson Road Back-up](#)

#### **Referred to Public Facilities and Finance Committees**

#224-24

#### **Transfer \$125,000 to the Library Building Maintenance- Electricity**

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer the sum of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) from Acct # 0160110-511001 Newton Free Library - Full Time Salaries to Acct # 0160112-521000 Library Building Maintenance - Electricity.

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The location of this meeting is accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: [jfairley@newtonma.gov](mailto:jfairley@newtonma.gov) or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.

- #214-24 Discussion on the Transportation Network Improvement Plan**  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS requesting to provide an update on the  
Transportation Network Improvement Plan

**Referred to Public Facilities and Finance Committees**

- #243-24 Appropriate \$3.2 million for Water Main Improvements in FY25**  
HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend three-  
million two-hundred thousand dollars (\$3,200,000) and authorize a general obligation  
borrowing of an equal amount for the Water Main Improvements in FY25 and  
authorization to apply any premium received upon the sale of the bonds or notes, less  
the cost of preparing, issuing, and marketing them, and any accrued interest received  
upon the delivery of the bonds or notes to the costs of the project and to reduce the  
amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by like amount.

**Referred to Public Facilities and Finance Committees**

- #235-24 Appropriation of \$2,888,274.38 for Transportation Network Improvement Program**  
HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend the sum  
of two million eight hundred eighty-eight thousand two hundred seventy-four dollars  
and thirty-eight cents (\$2,888,274.38) from June 30, 2023, Certified Free Cash to Acct  
#01C40112-553100 Accelerated Roads Program- Paving Supplies to support the City's  
Transportation Network Improvement Program

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Albright, Chair



Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor

**224-24**  
Telephone  
(617) 796-1100  
Fax  
(617) 796-1113  
TDD/TTY  
(617) 796-1089  
Email  
rfuller@newtonma.gov

April 29, 2024

Honorable City Council  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting authorization to transfer the sum of \$125,000 from Acct # 0160110-511001 Newton Free Library – Full Time Salaries to Acct # 0160112-521000 Library Building Maintenance – Electricity.

Throughout the course of Fiscal Year 2024, the Newton Free Library had several vacant positions which have generated a substantial amount of savings from attrition. These funds will supplement the FY25 Library Electricity budget. We anticipate this to be the last summer season, where we will be dependent on the old HVAC system, which uses an unusual amount of electricity. When the new system is installed for the summer of 2025, the FY26 utility costs for the library will stabilize.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor



Jill Mercurio  
Library Director



Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor

April 29, 2024

Ruthanne Fuller, Mayor  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Re: Library Utilities Docket Item

Dear Mayor Fuller:

The Newton Free Library Department requests \$100,000 for electric and gas utilities.

The Library's HVAC system, the original system for the 33 year old building, has reached its end-of-life capabilities and its operational costs have increased well above previous levels included in the budget. We are incredibly grateful for the City's support in approving the replacement of this system and work on this project should begin in the coming months. Proper climate conditions are important for staff and public comfort in a public library as well as for maintaining book conditions.

This funding will allow us to pay the necessary higher utility bills until the system is replaced and running at its anticipated efficiency near the end of FY2025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jill Mercurio", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jill Mercurio  
Library Director



Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor

**243-24**

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(617) 796-1100  
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rfuller@newtonma.gov

May 28, 2024

Honorable City Council  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting authorization to appropriate and expend three-million two-hundred thousand dollars (\$3,200,000) and authorize a general obligation borrowing of an equal amount for water main improvements in FY2025. This proposed borrowing will allow Public Works to implement a portion of the water main improvements as part of the 10 year - \$40 million Capital Improvement Plan.

Further, I request that your Honorable Council authorize any premium received upon the sale of the bonds or notes, less the cost of preparing, issuing and marketing them, and any accrued interest received upon the delivery of the bonds or notes be applied to the costs of the project being financed by the bonds or notes and to reduce the amount authorized to be borrowed for the project by a like amount.

In the Capital Improvement Plan, the City expects to borrow up to \$5,283,700 annually from City debt and MWRA loans to upgrade our water system, which will ensure the delivery of superior water quality. Combining the \$3.2 million in bonding with the MWRA annual loan of \$2,083,700 results in full funding of \$5,283,700 of water main improvements.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor

City of Newton



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459-1449Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor

Date: February 12, 2024

To: Jonathan Yeo, Chief Operating Officer  
Maureen Lemieux, Chief Financial Officer

From: James McGonagle, Commissioner

Subject: Request for Water Bond Borrowing Authorization,  
\$3,200,000 for Water System Improvements FY 2025

I respectfully request authorization to borrow up to \$3,200,000 for water main improvements in FY 2025. This proposed borrowing will allow Public Works to implement a portion of the water main improvements as part of the 10 year - \$40 million Capital Improvement Plan.

In the Capital Improvement Plan, the City is committing to borrow up to \$5,283,700 annually from City debt and MWRA loans to upgrade our water system, which will improve fire flows, and ensure the delivery of superior water quality. MWRA awards an annual loan of \$2,083,700 for water main improvements. MWRA water loans have been used for the water main replacements in Ward Street.

Water main rehabilitation projects for FY 2025 include the following:

Upham Street (Mague Place to Cherry Street) 900 lf  
 Taft Avenue (Hazelhurst Avenue to Harding Street) 1,163 lf  
 Rossmere Street (Watertown Street to Lowell Avenue) 560 lf  
 Washington Park (north side) (Walnut Street to Harvard Street) 1,550 lf  
 Crescent Square (Thornton Street to Waban Street) 300 lf  
 Commonwealth Avenue (carriage lane) (Higgins Street to Melrose Street) 275 lf  
 Bothfield Road (Ellison Road to Manemet Road) 725 lf  
 Hale Street (Eliot Street to Pennsylvania Avenue) 800 lf  
 Woodcliff Road (Centre Street to Dedham Street) 4,000 lf  
 Brookline Street (Vine Street to Pond Brook Road) 1,175 lf  
 Washington Street (Greenough Street to Auburn Street) 900 lf  
 Walker Street (Washington St to Watertown St) 1360 lf  
 Mechanic Street (Elliot St to Greenway) 760 lf

Please docket this request with the City Clerk's office for consideration by the Honorable City Council.

cc: Shawna Sullivan, Deputy Commissioner  
 Louis M. Taverna, P.E., City Engineer  
 Tom Fitzgerald, Director of Utilities  
 Doug Valocin, Deputy Director of Utilities  
 Coleman Flaherty, DPW Budget Director  
 Stephen Curley, Comptroller  
 Ron Mendes, Treasurer





Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor

**235-24**

Telephone  
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(617) 796-1089  
Email

[rfuller@newtonma.gov](mailto:rfuller@newtonma.gov)

May 16, 2024

Honorable City Council  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$2,888,274.38 from June 30, 2023 Certified Free Cash to support the City's Transportation and Paving Improvement Program. All funds should be transferred to Acct # 01C40112-553100 Accelerated Roads Program - Paving Supplies.

The use of these funds, combined with funding in the FY2025 Public Works operating budget, FY25 Chapter 90 funds, and the proceeds of Docket Item # 216-24 (transferring FY24 DPW savings from attrition and other savings to the roads program) will allow us to improve the city's roadways, sidewalks, and ramps.

Under the leadership of DPW Commissioner Jim McGonagle and Deputy Commissioner Shawna Sullivan, our paving condition index has improved as we pave miles and miles of roads each year, but we have a lot of work still in front of us. This work makes our streets safer and smoother for those walking, riding, or rolling.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor