



Programs & Services Committee Report

City of Newton In City Council

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

Present: Councilors Rice (Chair), Leary, Sangiolo, Kalis, Auchincloss, Baker and Schwartz

Absent: Councilor Hess-Mahan

City Staff Present: Dori Zaleznik (Chief Administrative Officer), Seth Bai (Veterans Services Officer), Lisa Dady (Director, Historic Newton), Phil McNulty (Director, Newton Free Library), Jill Grabowski (Deputy Director, Newton Free Library), Bob DeRubeis (Commissioner, Parks & Recreation), Chris Welch (Director, Urban Forestry), Carol Stapleton (Recreation Manager), Karyn Dean (Committee Clerk)

Referred to Programs & Services and Finance Committees

#112-17

Appropriate \$185,000 to supplement the Highlands Playground Project budget

HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend one hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$185,000) from Overlay Surplus for the purpose of covering construction administration and contingency costs associated with the Newton Highlands Playground renovation project. [04/10/17 @ 2:42 PM]

Finance Approved 6-0 on 4/24/17

Action: Programs & Services Approved 7-0

Note: The Chair noted that the Finance Committee approved this funding at their April 24th meeting.

Bob DeRubeis, Commissioner of Parks & Recreation explained that the Highlands Playground project costs were about \$3M with \$2.5M coming from Community Preservation funds, and \$100K from ADA funding. The requested funds will provide \$65,000 for construction administration. Weston and Sampson has had their Construction Administrator out to the site a number of times, as the contractor has had a number of questions on the project so the Commissioner felt there was great value in having that in place. The remaining funds in the request will provide a contingency fund. All of the previous Community Preservation funding for the project was allocated to construction due to the cost of the project and there was never a contingency for the project. Commissioner DeRubeis explained that there will be a funding request for the building on the site once the park is complete. All of the utilities work will be done as part of the construction project and then a pre-fab fieldhouse will be dropped onto the site.

Councilor Kalis moved approval and the Committee voted in favor unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
John R. Rice, Chair