#### CITY OF NEWTON

#### IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

#### PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2011

#### 7:45 PM Aldermanic Chamber/Room 222

#### ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

Public Hearing assigned for September 21, 2011:

#220-11 <u>DEBORAH FOGEL</u> et al. filing with the City Clerk on July 26, 2011 a
Group Petition with 52 qualified voter signatures, pursuant to Sec. 10-2 of
the City Charter, requesting the Board of Aldermen hold a public hearing
"to allow regulated but unsupervised swimming at Cronin's Cove on
Crystal Lake."

NB: Board action shall be taken not later than three months from the date the petition was filed with the City Clerk [October 23, 2011].

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

#273-08 <u>ALD. JOHNSON</u> proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that the Executive and Human Resources Departments develop a comprehensive human capital strategy for the city to include: performance management, talent development, succession planning, and compensation. [07/17/08 @ 9:53 AM]

#### FINANCE VOTED NO ACTION NECESSARY ON 3/8/10

- #355-10 PRESIDENT LENNON and ALD. LAPPIN requesting a change to the rules of the Board of Aldermen to eliminate the Real Property & Reuse Committee. Issues regarding reuse of public buildings to be referred to the Public Facilities Committee and issues regarding reuse of City owned land would be referred to the Land Use Committee. Effective date of this change will be January 1, 2012. [11/26/2010 @ 11:59 AM]

  REPORTED BACK TO PROG/SERV FROM RULES ON 6/8/2011
- #356-10 PRESIDENT LENNON and ALD. LAPPIN requesting a change to the rules of the Board of Aldermen to eliminate the Post-Audit Committee. All post audit/follow-up items will be discussed in the substantive committee that originally heard the item. Effective date of this change will be January 1, 2012.[11/26/2010 @ 11:59 AM]

The location of this meeting is handicap accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons requiring assistance. If you have a special accommodation need, contact the Newton ADA Coordinator Trisha Guditz at 617-796-1156 or tguditz@newtonma.gov or via TDD/TTY at (617) 796-1089 at least two days in advance of the meeting.

#### REPORTED BACK TO PROG/SERV FROM RULES ON 6/8/2011

- #357-10

  PRESIDENT LENNON and ALD. LAPPIN requesting a change to the rules of the Board of Aldermen to eliminate the Committee on Community Preservation. All Community Preservation items will be referred to the Finance Committee. Effective date of this change will be January 1, 2012. [11/26/2010 @ 11:59 AM]

  REPORTED BACK TO PROG/SERV FROM RULES ON 6/8/2011
- #357-10(2) ALD. YATES proposing a change in the proposed rule to eliminate the Committee on Community Preservation: community preservation items relating to housing and recreation shall be referred to the Programs and Services Committee; items relating to historic preservation and open space shall be referred to the Zoning and Planning Committee; all items shall then be referred to the Finance Committee. [12/6/2010 @ 10:57PM] REPORTED BACK TO PROG/SERV FROM RULES ON 6/8/2011

#### ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

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

#268-11 <u>HIS HONOR THE MAYOR</u> requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$470,292 from FY12 Free Cash for the purpose of funding additional appropriations in the School Department. The amount reflects an increase in the Medicaid Direct Services reimbursements. [09/12/11 @4:39 PM]

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

- #269-11 <u>HIS HONOR THE MAYOR</u> requesting authorization to appropriate and expend \$200,000 for the purpose of funding additional appropriations in the School Department. This amount reflects an increase in the State Chapter 70 Education Funding. [09/12/11 @4:39 PM]
- #205-11 <u>ALD. SANGIOLO, GENTILE, HARNEY, LINSKY</u> requesting a discussion with the School Committee regarding a proposal to enter into contractual relationships with the Newton Schools Foundation to sell naming rights on behalf of the Newton Public Schools. [06/22/2011 @ 8:32AM]

#### REFERRED TO PROG & SERV AND PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEES

- #245-10 <u>ALD. SCHNIPPER</u> requesting discussion with National Grid regarding the possible damage to trees as a result of gas leaks. [09/01/10 4:00 PM]
- #373-10 <u>ALD. GENTILE, HARNEY, SANGIOLO</u> requesting amendment to §20-13, *Noise Control*, of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances to prohibit

Page 3

outdoor athletic events from starting before 7 AM and increase the maximum fine to \$300. [12-10-10 @ 12:53 PM]

- #367-10 <u>HIS HONOR THE MAYOR</u> requesting authorization to appropriate an amount not to exceed five million dollars (\$5,000,000) from bonded indebtedness for the following:

  (B2) \$4,001,625 for renovations to the core of F.A. Day Middle School and sprinkler systems
- #207-08(2) PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting discussion with the Executive Department and various City Department heads regarding use of debt exclusions to address city needs. [03-14-11 @ 10:26AM]
- #95-09(2) PROGRAMS & SERVICE COMMITTEE requesting establishment of an Advisory Committee to review processes of the Board of Aldermen and report recommended efficiency improvements to the Board of Aldermen. Members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Programs & Services Committee and the President of the Board. [11/16/09 @ 3:59 PM]
- #52-07

  ALD. PARKER, SANGIOLO, MANSFIELD, HARNEY, DANBERG, VANCE, LINSKY, HESS-MAHAN, BURG, ALBRIGHT & JOHNSON requesting an ordinance amendment to create a health care advisory committee whose function would be to recommend measures to control the rate of increase of health insurance costs, as recommended by the Newton Finance & Management Working Group in 2005 and the Blue Ribbon Commission on the Municipal Budget in 2007.

  [02/09/07 @ 12:36 PM]
- #114-11(2) <u>ALD. HESS-MAHAN & ALD. SALVUCCI</u> requesting a discussion on the definition of "tot lot" in the ordinance and whether there are other play areas/structures which should be protected from the presence of dogs.

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

#130-11 PAUL COLETTI, ALD. SANGIOLO, DANBERG, & JOHNSON requesting Home Rule Legislation to create a Capital Preservation Fund for the City of Newton modeled on the Community Preservation Fund to address the capital needs of the City. [04/11/11 @9:42 PM]

#### REFERRED TO PROG & SERV. AND PUB. FACIL. COMMITTEES

#99-11 ALD. ALBRIGHT, JOHNSON, and DANBERG requesting that the Department of Public Works coordinate data on the impact of the snow removal ordinance from the Department of Public Works, Parks and Recreation Department, Executive Office, and Senior Services into a

Page 4

monthly report for the winters 2012 and 2013, which will be sent to the Public Facilities Committee of the Board of Aldermen that includes the following data: (1) the number of people requesting exemptions; (2) the number of exemptions awarded; (3) the number of warning letters sent; (4) the ability of the City to maintain the same standard regarding treating the surface to preserve safe passage; and (5) cost of the implementation of the program.

#### REFERRED TO FINANCE AND PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEES

#245-06

ALD. JOHNSON AND HESS-MAHAN requesting an amendment to the City Charter to require the Mayor annually to prepare and submit to the Board of Aldermen a long-term financial forecast of anticipated revenue, expenditures and the general financial condition of the City, including, but not limited to identification of any factors which will affect the financial condition of the City; projected revenue and expenditure trends; potential sources of new or expanded revenues; anticipated municipal needs likely to require major expenditures; and a strategic plan for meeting anticipated municipal needs, to include, but not be limited to, any long or short-term actions that may be taken to enhance the financial condition of the City.

FINANCE VOTED NO ACTION NECESSARY ON 3/8/10

# REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#422-06(2) <u>ALD. HESS-MAHAN</u> requesting that a task force be established to meet and prepare a report and recommendations regarding the regulation of noise, air pollution and best practices with respect to the operation of power equipment used in landscaping, property and yard maintenance, including, without limitation, leaf blowers. [01/27/09 @ 3:47 PM]

REFERRED TO FINANCE 02/23/2011

#306-08 <u>ALD. BAKER, DANBERG, MANSFIELD & PARKER</u> requesting discussion of how swimming at Crystal Lake might be lawfully and safely extended beyond mid-August. [08/26/08 @ 5:03 PM]

#### REFERRED TO LAND USE AND PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEES

#474-08(2) <u>ALD. HESS-MAHAN & VANCE</u> proposing that Article X of the Rules & Orders of the Board of Aldermen be amended to conform with a proposed amendment to Chapter 30 re transfer of the special permit granting authority to the Zoning Board of Appeals and/or the Planning & Development Board for projects that are not classified as Major Projects pursuant to Article X.

REFERRED TO RULES SUBCOMMITTEE

#287-07(2) <u>ALD. PARKER</u> requesting a discussion with Parks and Recreation Department in regards to an appropriate marker or plaque to honor and recognize Olympic figure skater and Newton resident Tenley Albright and

Page 5

her skating exhibition at the Crystal Lake upon her return from the 1956 Olympic Games where she won a gold medal. [09/20/07 @ 1:22 PM]

#370-06 <u>ALD. SANGIOLO, PARKER, MANSFIELD</u> requesting home rule legislation to allow advisory questions to be asked in a Newton special election.

#298-09

ALD. MANSFIELD proposing Home Rule Legislation to amend Article
2, Section 2-1(c) Composition; Eligibility; Election and Term of the
Newton Charter to establish four-year terms for Aldermen-at-Large with
the provision for one Aldermen-at-Large to be elected from each ward at
each biennial municipal election. [09-29-09 @ 6:45 PM]

## REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#270-08

ALD. JOHNSON proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that he work with the Board of Aldermen, School Department, and School Committee in order to determine the most effective and efficient way to organize the Information Technology Departments.

[07/17/08 @ 9:53 AM]

FINANCE VOTED NO ACTION NECESSARY ON 3/8/10

#### REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., PUB.FAC. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#89-08 <u>ALD. PARKER</u> requesting the following:

- A) review of the maintenance practices for buildings, parks and other properties owned by the City (including School Department facilities and grounds)
- B) development of a comprehensive maintenance plan that includes regular schedules for preventive maintenance for each specific site or facility
- C) a RESOLUTION requesting that implementation of said maintenance plan be funded using operating budget funds. [02/13/08 @ 12:07 PM]

# FINANCE VOTED NO ACTION NECESSARY ON 3/8/10 PUBLIC FACILITIES NO ACTION NECESSARY ON 11/3/10

#329-05(3) <u>ALD. YATES</u> requesting a discussion relative to amending the noise control ordinance to (A) prohibit the cumulative noise level from multiple pieces of equipment operating simultaneously on the same site to exceed the maximum noise levels allowed when measured at the nearest lot line and (B) to eliminate various exemptions in residential districts.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Sangiolo, Chairman

City of Newton



Setti D. Warren Mayor

# **ELECTION COMMISSION**

1000 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE NEWTON CENTRE 02459-1449

Craig A.J. Manseau Executive Secretary

Kenneth R. Hartford, Chair Fay G. Cohen, Richard A. Lipof, John P. McDermott

## <u>MEMORANDUM</u>

TO:

David Olson, City Clerk

FROM:

Craig A.J. Manseau, Executive Secretary

DATE:

July 26, 2011

SUBJECT:

**Group Petition** 

In accordance to Newton Charter, Sec. 10-2, a group petition must be signed by at least fifty voters. The citizen petition you presented to the Election Commission office on Tuesday, July 26, 2011 has fifty-two (52) qualified voter signatures.

Should you have any questions or require any additional information concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me.

NEWTON, MA. 02159

11 JU 26 P 6 24

Dear Board of Aldermen.

We the undersigned request that you hold a hearing, in accordance with Article 10 of Newton's city charter, to review the following proposal to allow regulated but unsupervised swimming at Cronin's Cove on Crystal Lake.

Currently, many people, including a large number of non-Newton residents, swamin that part of the lake despite the posted "no swimming" notices.

As the only sanction is arrest for criminal trespass, which the police have no wisher to impose, all the police officers do instead is urge people to come out of the lake and often. As soon as the patrol car leaves, the offenders reenter the lake.

The city's position is that there is no need to allow swimming fom Cronin's Cove as there is a public swimming facility on the other side of the lake. However, there are several reasons why this facility does not work for all those who like to swim in Crystal Lake:

- 1. The season (June to mid-August) is much shorter than the number of days people can actually enjoy swimming.
- 2. Some people like to swim all the way across the lake for exercise.
- 3. Some people like to swim early in the morning, when the public swimming area is not open.

We see no reason why people should not be able to swim in Crystal Lake from Cronin's Cove at their own risk. However, from what I understand, the city feels that it would still be liable for damages in case of an accident even if swim-at-your-own-risk notices were posted. We therefore propose the following:

- 1. All those wishing to swim at their own risk from Cronin's Cove would be required to register at City Hall and sign a waiver absolving the city of any legal responsibility in case of accident.
- 2. Swimmers would pay a registration fee of, say \$25, for an annual permit, in the form of a wristband with a brightly colored plastic disc bearing their name.
- 3. Anyone swimming in that part of the lake would be required to hold up the disc to a police officer on request.
- 4. Anyone swimming without a disc would be subject to removal from the lake and a fine of \$100.

It would be up to the city to decide whether non-Newton residents could buy permits, and if so, whether they would have to pay more.

**Address** Name Signature 51 Lake Avenue Newton 02459 Deborah Fogel 16 Chapin Road 02459 Gare Willyman Done 29 Coyne Road 82468 J Bohan Lena 21 Winchester Road 02458 Kathryn Common Jacquer Mest 187 Linwood Ave -Pleased consider this being a swim - at-your 187 Linwood Ave Joel Katz CA. 024118 Jimmy Beckland 65 Gray CHI REOZY 160 STAHTOGATUE BORGIA SHIVE MAKE MAURICIO KORBMAN 14 GARLAND Alex Lobodar-Griffa 52 Spiers RJ. 02459 fa Justin Veikhin Junter Wr. Boston College clark 22 Blake St Neulan MA I due Arre AROND 30 Kirksoull Pd MI Hancak Au rames Coll 27 Homer st Mike Corry 46 Apr C Crescent St Iglentin Komarovskiy 36 Navgell Rd Nun 74 Pelham Goldmakher TO Pelhan St 68 Hartford St Thoras Bellen 24 Cheven Rd Vill Amoriono 65 Kirkstall Rd. Newtonostka amazickleum Jamara Khigman 65 KINK Stall Rd Newton 08460 Chener Knyman Taxara Khaman 65 KNK STAN QL Menton 02460 Takara 18 Quina, Rd Menter 02467 Claero Claire Bookin 33 Margaret Rd Newton Stephen Rubel Milera Rubel 33 Margaret Rd Newson 27 Chapin Rd Newton Serene Victor trene GAIL POGEL 51 LAKE AVE 54 Bullad H Nevter Joffrey Remz Forman Foreda 72 Haner Meur Julie Katzo 10 chapned, Newton Bari accompani

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To: Chairman Ald. Sangiolo and Aldermen Subcommittee on Programs and Services

From: Friends of Cronin's Cove

Topic: Why you should oppose "Free Swimming at Cronin's Cove"

Date: September 13, 2011

Swimming at Crystal Lake is permitted in a supervised safe and healthy place: the bathhouse. We recognize that those who want free swimming feel constrained by the short season and limited hours at the bathhouse, but we believe these issues should be addressed to the Parks and Recreation Committee. We strongly oppose free swimming at Cronin's Cove.

- **1. Safety of swimmers an issue:** With free swimming, expect 150-200 people a day, especially young people who tend to horse around at the park, on the roadways, in the water and even in the center of the lake. Before the police patrols, 100-150 people took over the park at Cronin's Cove every day. With free swimming, more are sure to come. Even with swim tags, the sight of swimmers will entice non-tagged and underage folks to swim. Swapping, lending or counterfeiting tags can be expected. Signing a release statement will not protect the city. The volume of swimmers and horseplay will increase the risk of accidental drowning.
- **2. Public Order will be disrupted:** Before the police patrolled regularly, the park at Cronin's Cove was filled with sunbathers and swimmers overwhelming that space. The crowd was consistently noisy day and night. Many used lewd language and some engaged in indecent illegal behavior. They usurped the public space, used public roadways for various games, and a public park for changing clothes under skimpy towels and even exhibited public nudity. Public urination and defecation and numerous instances of nudity occurred on Laurel St. Excess uncollected trash, litter, increased traffic and illegal parking all occurred. Such uncivil public behavior can only be prevented by police presence 24/7.
- **3. Crowd control will be paramount:** Keeping 150-200 people under control will be an issue and will require 24/7 police presence, incurring *great cost to the city*.
- **4. Multiple-Use Highjacked:** Before the police started patrols in July. Cronin's Cove was highjacked by swimmers: noise (often raucous), increased trash and increased traffic. The volume of sunbathers and swimmers precluded non-swimmers from enjoying the lake. Boaters could not access the docks as swimmers occupied them; fishermen could not cast with so many around (of course the fish fled from the noise); those wishing to sit in the sun and read or contemplate the beauty of the lake could find no place and certainly no quiet. Fish nests at the shoreline were destroyed. With free swimming, no one else will have a chance to enjoy the park.
- 5. **Abutters abuse will increase:** Before the police patrols began, abutters were subjected to noise from mid morning to the wee hours, multiple trespass on private property (using private docks, appropriating front lawns for ball games), rudeness, lewd comments. With free swimming permitted and larger crowds, abutters and neighbors will be even more vulnerable.
- 6. **Community support against free swimming:** Friends of Crystal Lake (FOCL) members as well as a unanimous FOCL Board of Directors are against free swimming at either cove.

7. **Positive effect of police patrols:** Since police began regular presence from 10 am to 2 am starting in early July, the number of unauthorized swimmers has greatly diminished; the park area is clean, fishermen and boaters have returned as have those who wish to sit quietly at the lake side, the abutters can sleep at night and the uncivil behavior of the scofflaw swimmers has gone. With the passage of an ordinance to lessen unauthorized swimming from a criminal to a *civil finable offense*, and education from the police and the city, Cronin's Cove will not require a 24/7 police presence. With free swimming, crowd control and keeping the public order will require police presence 24/7, an expense the city can ill afford.

\_\_\_\_\_\_

#### Friends of Cronin's Cove

Mary Costanza,
Sonya Kurweil
Ray Kurzweil
David Putnam
Yvonne Putnam
Diana Reisen
Ralph Talbot
George Annas
Mary Annas,
Nancy Veeder
Ken Arndt
Anne Arndt
Marian Glasgow
Arthur Glasgow
Robert Muller

Schuyler Larrabee

#### Rebecca Smith

From: "Rebecca Smith" <rsmith@newtonma.gov>

To: RSMITH@NEWTONMA.GOV
Date sent: Tue, 13 Sep 2011 10:39:46 -0400
Subject: (Fwd) opposition to petition

Priority: **normal** 

----- Forwarded message follows ------

To: <a href="mailto:rsmith@newtonma.gov">rsmith@newtonma.gov</a>
Subject: opposition to petition

From

Date 1 10:38:10 -0400 (EDT)

Hi Rebecca--

My name is Mary Annas and i live at 57 Lake Ave. in Newton Center. I am writing in opposition to the petition to allow "regulated" but "unsupervised" swimming at Cronin's cove in Crystal Lake. While I have learned to live with the increase in traffic and noise and discarded garbage during the summer at Cronin's cove, i have not adjusted to the unsupervised swimming by persons and their dogs during this time. I realize this is a public beach, and like the general idea of everyone being welcome to use it, but also know that unsupervised swimming is a drowning waiting to happen. We have had accidental and intentional drownings at crystal lake in the past, and do not think the city should be risking the liability, either legal or ethical of condoning this swimming. If we did not have supervised swimming on the other side of the lake, this petition might sound (with the specification of what "regulated" means) more reasonable, as it is the petition sounds unreasonable and dangerous. Thank you--Mary Annas

----- End of forwarded message ------