

CITY OF NEWTON

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT  
NON-BUDGET ITEMS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2008

Present: Ald. Johnson (Chairman), Freedman, Baker, Brandel, Hess-Mahan, Merrill, Parker, Sangiolo

Others Present: Nancy Perlow (Director, Newton Library), Ryan Hanson (Assistant Director, Newton Library)

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

#162-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation of twenty nine thousand dollars (\$29,000) from Budget Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the Newton Library Overtime accounts.  
[4-15-08 @6:35 PM]

**FINANCE APPROVED 4-0 ON 4-28-08**

**APPROVED 6-0-1 (Ald. Brandel abstaining; Ald. Parker not voting)**

**NOTE:** Nancy Perlow, Director of the Library, explained that they were budgeted \$81,000 for overtime for Sunday openings for the whole year, with the agreement that they could come back for more money if so needed. There were vacancies in coverage and some people took comp time instead of getting paid time and half for Sundays. This year they had fewer vacancies than usual. Ald. Merrill moved approval and the committee voted in favor 6-0-1.

#111-08(2) ALD. JOHNSON and PARKER requesting regularly scheduled updates and discussion each month in regard to the offering of a RESOLUTION to the Mayor, President of the Board of Aldermen, and Chair of the School Committee that they, during the budget development and review process, identify short term tactics to improve the City's operational efficiency and effectiveness. In addition, they establish a citizen advisory group to assist in planning for additional tactics and strategies to improve the City's operational efficiency and effectiveness in future fiscal years, and report progress to the Board of Aldermen, School Committee and the public before any vote is taken by the citizens of Newton for any operational override. [04-01-08 @ 11:22 AM]

**ACTION:** **HELD 7-0 (Ald. Parker not voting)**

**NOTE:** Ald. Baker reported that the President of the Board, the Mayor, and the School Committee chair were still in the process of talking to the final candidates for the

advisory group. They all hoped to have the group assembled next week and were planning on having more than 10, but less than 20 members. The Committee voted to hold this item.

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE 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.

**ACTION:** **HELD 7-0 (Ald. Parker not voting)**

**NOTE:** Ald. Johnson explained that after this item was discussed in the last meeting, there was some confusion about what was to be done in splitting this item into two additional docket items. Ald. Baker said it was his understanding that 2 items were voted out to be docketed. Ald. Johnson said that rather than move forward with something that might have been confusing, she felt it was better to have a continued discussion at the next meeting to clarify things further. Ald. Baker agreed to hold the item for further clarification of the new docket items. The Committee voted in favor of holding the item.

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

#86-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$2,300,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the construction of a new synthetic turf recreation complex at Newton South High School. [03-13-07 @ 7:04 PM]

**FINANCE VOTED NO ACTION NECESSARY ON 10-22-07**

**PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED**

**APPROVED 2/2 PLAN 3-0-3 (Ald. Sangiolo, Hess-Mahan, Brandel abstaining; Ald. Johnson, Merrill not voting)**

**NOTE:** Please refer to the Public Facilities Committee Report of 5-7-08 for the notes on this item. It has since been determined that this item had been voted No Action Necessary in November of 2007 by all three committees and the full Board, therefore, the vote noted here is not valid. A new item has been docketed and will be discussed at a joint Public Facilities/Programs & Services Meeting on May 21, 2008.

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES, PUBLIC FACILITIES,  
AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#276-06(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$1,800,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of funding the construction of a new synthetic turf recreation complex at Newton South High School.

**FINANCE VOTED NO ACTION NECESSARY ON 10-22-07**

**PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED**

**APPROVED 2/2 PLAN 3-0-3 (Ald. Sangiolo, Hess-Mahan, Brandel  
abstaining; Ald. Johnson, Merrill not voting)**

**NOTE:** Please refer to the Public Facilities Committee Report of 5-7-08 for the notes on this item. It has since been determined that this item had been voted No Action Necessary in November of 2007 by all three committees and the full Board, therefore, the vote noted here is not valid. A new item has been docketed and will be discussed at a joint Public Facilities/Programs & Services Meeting on May 21, 2008.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Johnson, Chairman