

CITY OF NEWTON

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2008

**7:00 PM – PLEASE NOTE EARLY START TIME
ROOM 222**

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

#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]

#329-05 ALD. JOHNSON & ALD. ALBRIGHT requesting that the **Noise Ordinance** be revised and updated to better reflect the noise problem being faced by the City.
PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED AS AMENDED 4-1-3
(Merrill opposed; Baker, Brandel, Sangiolo abstaining) on 3/19/08
RECOMMITTED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES ON 05-05-08

#422-06 ALD. HESS-MAHAN requesting creation of an ordinance prohibiting the use of portable gasoline-powered leaf blowers within the City limits.
PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED AS AMENDED 4-2-2
(Brandel, Sangiolo opposed; Baker, Merrill abstaining) on 3/19/08
RECOMMITTED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES ON 4-22-08

REFERRED TO PROG.& SERVICES, PUB. FAC. & FINANCE COMMITTEES

#55-08 ALD. SANGIOLO, HARNEY AND PARKER proposing that the Board of Aldermen request the assistance of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) and State Treasurer Tim Cahill in managing the Newton North High School construction project, including assistance with controlling project costs. [01-22-08 @ 11:05 PM]
PUBLIC FACILITIES HELD ON 2-20-08
HELD ON 2-20-08

ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#223-08 KATHLEEN HEITMAN, 751 Saw Mill Brook Parkway, Ward 8, as a member of the NEWTON PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION for a term to expire on June 30, 2011 (60 days: 08-18-08) [06-09-08 @ 2:06 PM]

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#205-08 BARBARA SMILEY, 1073 Walnut Street, Newton Highlands, appointed as a member of the URBAN TREE COMMISSION for a term to expire on May 30, 2011 (60 days: 08-02-08). [5-27-08 @ 12:50 PM]

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#173-08 BARBARA LIETZKE, 68 Highland Avenue, Newtonville, appointed as a member of the NEWTON FREE LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEE to replace Sandra Butzel for a term to expire June 30, 2010 (60 days: 07-04-08). [4-11-08 @ 9:41 AM]

#224-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting to submit Home Rule Legislation to establish a permanent fund for the maintenance of artificial turf fields at Newton South High School. [06-10-08 @ 5:12 PM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#207-08 ALD. BRANDEL AND SANGIOLO proposing that the following question be put before the Newton voters:
“Shall the City of Newton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 ½ the amounts required to pay for the bond issuance in order to fund Newton North High School?” [05-21-08 @ 12:58 PM]

#206-08 ALD. YATES proposing a RESOLUTION requesting the Library to leave the book collections in the branch libraries after they are closed to allow neighborhood based efforts to continue library service, in some form, to begin with a critical mass of books. [05-22-08 @ 10:43 PM]

#154-08 ALD. JOHNSON requesting to establish a definition and appropriate usage of the Committee of the Whole of the Board of Aldermen as are all committees of the Board. [4-10-08 @9:09 AM]

#153-08 ALD. JOHNSON requesting to establish a definition and appropriate usage of the Long Range Planning Committee of the Board of Aldermen as are all committees of the Board. [4-10-08 @9:09AM]

#130-08 ALD JOHNSON, SANGIOLO AND BRANDEL requesting establishment of a new Rule of Board of Aldermen requiring that referral

of any and all new business, communications, petitions and orders docketed before the Board of Aldermen be restricted to one or more of the standing committees of the Board of Aldermen: Land Use, Programs and Services, Public Safety and Transportation, Zoning and Planning, Finance, Real Property Reuse, Post Audit and Oversight, Public Facilities and Committee on Community Preservation. [03-24-08 @ 9:11 AM]

#129-08 ALD. JOHNSON, SANGIOLO AND BRANDEL requesting establishment of a new Rule of Board of Aldermen stating that any new item submitted but not yet approved or accepted by the Full Board of Aldermen is prohibited from any formal or informal discussion by any formal, informal or special committee of the Board.
[03-24-08 @ 9:11 AM]

#128-08 ALD. YATES requesting a RESOLUTION to congratulate Newton resident, Harvard Law Professor Mary Anne Glendon on her appointment as US Ambassador to the Vatican. [03-03-08 @ 11:01 PM]

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

#89-08 ALD. PARKER 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]

#7-08 ALD. ALBRIGHT requesting to create a task force whose members will be jointly appointed by the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen to investigate the creation of a Commission on Public Art. The job of the Commission would be to raise funds, solicit commissions, and select public art for villages and/or parks. [12-18-07 @ 12:48 PM]
HELD 4/23/08

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#397-07 ALD. JOHNSON AND COLETTI requesting to increase the fee for dogs being off-leash except where dogs are legally able to be off-leash.
[12-04-07 @ 12:22 AM]
HELD 1/23/08

- #287-07(2) ALD. PARKER 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 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]

REFERRED TO LAND USE & PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEES

- #274-07 ALD. SANGIOLO proposing that Article X of the Rules & Orders of the Board relative to Special Permit and Site Plan Approval Petitions be amended to require the applicant to post on the subject property a notice that would include but not be limited to identifying the subject matter and the date and time of the public hearing.
LAND USE APPROVED 7-0 on 2-12-08

- #262-07 ALD. VANCE AND HESS-MAHAN seeking approval by the Board of Aldermen of a home rule petition to the General Court that would authorize an amendment to the charter of the City of Newton that would change the length of terms of the members of the Board of Aldermen to three years and would provide for electing one-third of the aldermen, one from each ward, every year. [08-22-07 @ 3:53 PM]

- #130-07 ALD. LENNON proposing amendments to Section 20-56, **Musical performers; regulations; license.**

- #114-07 ALD. LINSKY requesting to evaluate whether the present location of the Johnny Kelley statue represents the best possible location for achieving the established purpose when it was erected. [04-10-07 @ 7:39 PM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #83-07 ALD. YATES requesting that the City of Newton take all possible steps to persuade the General Court to adopt the proportion of Governors \ Municipal Partnership that would allow the City to reduce employee health insurance costs by joining the Group Insurance Commission. [02-27-07 @ 10:21 PM]

- #82-07 ALD. YATES requesting that the City of Newton take all possible steps to persuade the General Court to allow the cities and towns to tax all telecommunications facilities in the City (which would yield at least \$1.6 million per year for Newton). [02-27-07 @ 10:21 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]

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

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#267-06(3) ALD. PARKER, BURG, LINSKY, FISCHMAN, HESS-MAHAN, VANCE, HARNEY, JOHNSON, & DANBERG proposing Home Rule Legislation authorizing the City of Newton to apply the ordinance proposed in item #267-06(2) to assets held by the City's retirement system.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#264-03(3) ALD. JOHNSON AND BAKER requesting update on the work of the Taxation Aid Committee established by the Board of Aldermen in March 2004 in administering aid to the elderly taxation fund.

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.
HELD 4/23/08

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

#309-01 ALD. PARKER requesting increase in the income eligibility level of the 30% water/sewer discount for low-income senior citizens.

#346-99 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting creation of an ordinance that would prohibit dogs (leashed or unleashed) from all elementary school playgrounds.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia Johnson, Chairman