

CITY OF NEWTON

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 2007

NOTE EARLY START TIME

7:00 pm

Room 209

Chairman's Note: There will be a joint meeting of the Programs and Services, Public Facilities, and Finance Committees for an update on the Newton North High School project at 7:00 pm in Room 209. Regular Committee meeting to follow in Room 222.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#223-07 MURIEL ESDALE, 125 Woodchester Drive, Chestnut Hill, re-appointed as a Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission for a term to expire August 1, 2010 (60 days 9-7-07). [06-29-07 @ 3:05 PM]

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#224-07 THOMAS ELKIND, 29 Wamesit Road, Waban, re-appointed as a member of the Newton Commonwealth Golf Course Foundation for a term to expire July 30, 2010 (60 days 9-7-07). [06-29-07 @ 3:04 PM]

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#225-07 MARIANNE FERGUSON, 999 Washington Street, Newton, re-appointed as a Commissioner of the Human Rights Commission for a term to expire on August 1, 2010 (60 days 9-7-07). [06-29-07 @ 4:13 PM]

#226-07 PRESIDENT BAKER, ALD. SANGIOLO, JOHNSON AND COLETTI recommending an amendment to Sec. 4-21 of the City of Newton Revised Ordinances of 2001 to adjust the salary schedule for the City Clerk/Clerk of the Board pursuant to Sec. 2-8(c) of the City Charter. [07-02-07 @ 11:51 AM]

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

- #229-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$300,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the purpose of purchasing outstanding items for the Newton South High School. (Note: After Free Cash for FY08 has been certified, the Mayor will request that these funds be returned to the Capital Stabilization Fund using available Free Cash funds) [06-29-07 @ 4:38 PM]
- #242-03 ALD. JOHNSON, SAMUELSON AND SANGIOLO requesting a discussion to determine times and places where dogs may be off leash on public grounds excluding schoolyards.
- #346-99 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting creation of an ordinance that would prohibit dogs (leashed or unleashed) from all elementary school playgrounds.
- #422-06 ALD. HESS-MAHAN requesting creation of an ordinance prohibiting the use of portable gasoline-powered leaf blowers within the City limits.
- #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.

ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

#109-06 ALD. PARKER proposing charter amendments to improve the operation and accountability of City government.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & 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]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & 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 @ 10:21PM]

#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 @ 10:21pm]

#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]

REFERRED TO PROGAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#36-07 ALD. JOHNSON, LINSKY, VANCE, SANGIOLO, HESS-MAHAN, ALBRIGHT, FISCHMAN, MANSFIELD, LIPOF, LAPPIN, BURG, PARKER, & DANBERG proposing the use of general overrides and/or debt exclusions of Proposition 2 ½ limits in addition to other revenue enhancing or cost saving measures as proposed by the *Blue Ribbon Commission* to close the gap between revenue and expenses and enhance the City's ability to invest in annual capital maintenance requirements.
[02-13-07 @ 8:57 am]

- #242-05 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting the Executive Department and IT Departments post all city board and commission meeting agendas and minutes on to the City Website

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

- #357-06 ALD. COLETTI, PARKER, ALBRIGHT, LINSKY, JOHNSON, MANSFIELD, SANGIOLO, & HARNEY requesting discussion with School Building Assistance Bureau representatives regarding factors affecting state reimbursement for Newton school projects, including Newton North High School
Public Facilities NAN 7-0 (Weisbuch not voting)

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

- #379-06 ALD. BAKER, SCHNIPPER, HESS-MAHAN & VANCE requesting a report from the Executive Department and City Comptroller on state reimbursement and loan subsidies available for Newton School projects, including Newton North High School, as well as how best to ask for further clarification, as desired, from staff of the Massachusetts School Building Authority as to such issues as timing, amount and conditions of such funding.
Public Facilities NAN 7-0 (Weisbuch not voting)

**REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & 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.
- #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 & 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 & 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 (these funds will supplement the requested CPA funds for this project under item #276-06).

REFERRED TO FINANCE AND PROGRAMS & 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.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #460-06 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$210,000 from bonded indebtedness for the purpose of purchasing heavy equipment and heavy duty trucks for the Parks and Recreation Department. [11-28-06@4:29 PM]

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Johnson, Chair

NEWTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT
EDUCATION CENTER
100 WALNUT STREET
NEWTON, MA 02460

#229-07

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor David B. Cohen
Board of Aldermen

FROM: Jeffrey M. Young, Superintendent

DATE: July 6, 2007

RE: Newton South High School Projects

The School Department and School Committee have identified \$300,000 worth of projects for immediate action at Newton South High School. These items directly affect the safety and functionality of the building for students and staff. The costs of these items are still estimates; if some cost less than the indicated amount, we would intend to add additional small projects.

Based on the Mayor's indication that \$300,000 would be available to address these pressing needs at Newton South, the School Committee voted on June 25, 2007 to pursue this course of action. The Committee and I will be pleased to answer any questions you may have and thank you in advance for your support of this timely request.

Orchestra Pit Filler	\$16,000
Phones in Math, Science and Lab Theater	\$30,000
Tech Ed Equipment and Electrical Upgrades	\$105,000
LCD Projectors – Auditorium and Lecture Hall	\$40,000
Mirrors in Dance Studio	\$25,000
Theatre Rigging	\$9,000
Outside Track Repair	\$15,000
Ceramic Room Air Purifiers	\$25,000
Painting	\$35,000
TOTAL	\$300,000

JY:mm

cc: School Committee
Sandy Pooler, Chief Administrative Officer
A. Nicholas Parnell, Commissioner, Public Buildings