

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

7:45 pm - Room 222

8:00 pm - Aldermanic Chamber

Joint Meeting/Public Meeting

***Chairman's Note:** The Programs and Services Committee will be meeting jointly with the Public Facilities Committee for discussion of items #86-07 and #276-06(2). There will be a Public Meeting for these items beginning at 8pm.*

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#249-07 KATHERINE HOWARD, 84 Fenwick Road, Newton re-appointed as a member of the URBAN TREE COMMISSION with a term to expire July 30, 2010 (60 days 10/12/07). [08-07-10 @3:26PM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICE AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#271-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation of \$20,669 from FY'08 Budget Reserve to fund payments to the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project (EMMCP) for mosquito larva control in catch basins to control the spread of West Nile Virus. [8-28-07 @4:13 PM]

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, 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.

ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

- #227-07(3) PRESIDENT BAKER, ALD. SANGIOLO, JOHNSON AND COLETTI requesting consideration of an appropriate compensation schedule for the Clerk of the Board/City Clerk in light of any changed conditions since the compensation was last set in 2006. [08-06-07 @ 3:04PM]
- #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]
- #263-07 ALD. LINSKY, JOHNSON, ALBRIGHT, GENTILE, SANGIOLO, DANBERG, BURG, HESS-MAHAN, HARNEY, PARKER, WEISBUCH AND SAMUELSON, along with the recommendation from the smoke-free zone subcommittee of the Newton North High School Liaison Committee, Newton North High School Principal Jennifer Price, Chairman, requesting amendment of Newton ordinances to include, effective January 1, 2008, creation of a no-smoking zone on public properties extending from a set radius from the Newton North High School site boundaries for the purpose of assisting the cessation of smoking among Newton North High School students and staff as well as the protection of public health. [08-24-07 @ 9:38AM]
- #214-04(2) ELECTION SECRETARY submitting for a re-vote previously submitted Home Rule Legislation approved by the Board of Aldermen on March 21, 2005 relative to setting the date for preliminary elections. [08-24-07 @ 2:40 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.
HELD 5-0 (Ald. Baker, Lipof, Sangiolo not voting)
- #346-99 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting creation of an ordinance that would prohibit dogs (leashed or unleashed) from all elementary school playgrounds.
HELD 5-0 (Ald. Baker, Lipof, Sangiolo not voting)
- #422-06 ALD. HESS-MAHAN requesting creation of an ordinance prohibiting the use of portable gasoline-powered leaf blowers within the City limits.
HELD 4-0 (Ald. Baker, Lipof, Sangiolo, Coletti not voting)

#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.
HELD 4-0 (Ald. Baker, Lipof, Sangiolo, Coletti not voting)

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

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 PROG&SERVICES & POST AUDIT & OVERSIGHT

- #371-06 ALD. COLETTI respectfully docketing under section 2-11 of the Newton City Charter an investigation of the facts surrounding the failure to properly certify the proper number of citizen signatures relative to the site plan referendum question.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#67-07 ALD. WEISBUCH requesting a RESOLUTION asking His Honor the Mayor to fund the INTERFACE SYSTEM, which coordinates mental health services among school age children. [2/26/07@ 3:28 PM]

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.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Johnson, Chairman