

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23, 2003

7:45 PM
ROOM 222

APPOINTMENT BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

#135-03 DUSCHA SCOTT WEISSKOPE, 20 Bartlett Terrace, Newton Centre on March 6, 2003 as a member of the JACKSON HOMESTEAD BOARD OF TRUSTEES for a term of office to expire on 02-01-04 (60-day Board action date 05-16-03).

RE-APPOINTMENT BY HIS HONOR THE MAYOR

#102-03 DAVID J. MOFENSON, 6 Alban Road, Waban re-appointed on February 11, 2003 as an ELECTION COMMISSIONER for a term of office to expire on 04-01-07. (60-day Board action date 05-02-02)

ALD. JOHNSON, LENNON, PARKER, SANGIOLO, SAMUELSON & STEWART requesting that a joint Aldermanic and Citizens's Task Force be established to determine the best way to accommodate dogs off leash in our parks or other locations in the City.

ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

#130-02 ALD. JOHNSON requesting discussion with the Executive Department regarding the establishment of a consistent process for the submission of appointments/reappointments to Boards and Commissions to Board of Aldermen for approval.

#466-02(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting Monthly progress reports from the NNHS Renovation Task Force.

#264-02(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting adoption of an ordinance to establish the composition, terms of office, and procedures in order to implement the Aid to Elderly Taxation Fund (to which voluntary donations may be made for the purpose of defraying the real estate taxes of elderly citizens in Newton per acceptance of G.L. c. 60 §3D.)

#115-03(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting discussion with administration on procedures for funding snow and ice removal operations.

#134-03 ALD. JOHNSON requesting discussion with the School Department regarding the air quality in all of our schools.

#137-03 ALD. PARKER, PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSIONER, ALD. JOHNSON, LINSKY, LIPSITT, MANSFIELD, SAMUELSON, LIPOF, MERRILL, FISCHMAN, STEWART, SCHNIPPER, LAPPIN requesting revisions to strengthen the "Smoke-Free Newton" tobacco control ordinance.

#158-01(2) PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting ordinance to implement increase in eligibility threshold for Clause 41A Senior Citizen Tax Deferral program.

#101-03 ALD. PARKER & YATES requesting discussion with Housing Authority members regarding the Authority's policy with respect to the acceptance or rejection of affordable housing units.

REFERRED TO PUB. FACIL. & PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEES

#83-03 ALD. GENTILE, BRYSON, COLETTI AND LIPSITT requesting that the Health Commissioner conduct/oversee a testing program to evaluate the air quality at Newton North High School and, if necessary, make recommendations to ensure the safety of all students and staff in the building.

REFERRED TO FINANCE AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES

#124-02(11) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR submitting the FY04-FY08 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM, pursuant to Section 5-3 of the NEWTON CITY CHARTER, which requires Board of Aldermen approval of a plan to finance new local capital projects totaling \$160,847,242 over the next several years:

SUMMARY

PUBLIC WORKS (GRANT/FEE FUNDED)	\$ 58,022,114
PUBLIC WORKS (CITY FUNDED).....	\$5,820,000
PUBLIC SAFETY	\$3,349,000
PUBLIC BUILDINGS	\$3,941,400
PUBLIC EDUCATION	\$80,156,728
PARKS & RECREATION	\$7,479,000
OTHER	\$2,079,000
TOTAL.....	\$160,847,242

PARKS AND RECREATION APPROVED ON JANUARY 8, 2003

PUBLIC EDUCATION HELD ON JANUARY 8, 2003

#336-98 ALD. PARKER, MANSFIELD, SANGIOLO proposing an ordinance to limit light trespass across property lines.

- #294-02 ALD. JOHNSON, SANGIOLO AND PARKER requesting discussion regarding public disclosure via the internet/newspaper, etc. regarding how each member of the Board votes on docketed items.
- #466-02(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting Monthly progress reports from the NNHS Renovation Task Force.
- #22-98(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting development of a policy for preservation and replacement of trees on city-owned property. PROGRAMS & SERVICES HELD; REFERRED TO URBAN TREE COMMISSION FOR REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION
- #45-03 ALD. SANGIOLO & PARKER requesting discussion of possible amendments to the Tree Preservation Ordinance.

REFERRED TO PROG&SERV AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #221-02 ALD. COLETTI et al requesting home rule legislation or any other legal instrument that would allow the City a maximum of \$350,000 to be set aside in overlay reserve to provide tax relief for eligible senior homeowners.
- #466-02 ALD. GENTILE requesting a discussion with the Committee regarding the future of Newton North High School and the role that the Board will play in the planning process.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND LAND USE

- #267-02 ALD. BASHAM requesting creation of rules for Board of Aldermen acting as Special Permit granting authority.
(Referred to Rules Sub-Committee)
- #293-02 ALD. R. LIPOF, MANSFIELD, LAPPIN requesting amendment to Sec. 20-13(e)(5) changing prohibition of deliveries and pick-ups for commercial business purposes to 12 am to 7 am.

REFERRED TO FINANCE & PROG&SERV COMMITTEES

- #157-02 ALD. BULLWINKLE requesting approval of Home Rule Petition that would waive the annual earned income limitations under G.L. chapter 32, the public employees retirement law, as applied to retired police officer Allan L. Ciccone of 105 Fair Oaks Avenue.
- #440-01(2) PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting that any site designated as a smoke-free zone include adjacent sidewalks.

#21-02 ALD. GERST, BASHAM, PARKER seeking increased use of digital delivery systems for Board of Aldermen documents.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#477-97 ALD. SAMUELSON, LIPSITT, PARKER AND COHEN requesting that the Board of Aldermen explore the ways that the City of Newton could provide an umbrella organization that residents could join in order to obtain group health benefits (i.e. self-employed, individual insurance, etc.)

#411-99(4) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting discussion on the potential for requesting home rule legislation to allow local control of other departmental fees.

REFERRED TO PUB FAC, PROG&SERV 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.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICE AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#295-99 ALD. GENTILE, COLETTI AND SALVUCCI, requesting an ordinance that would require any proposed settlement, which would include any funds from the Liability Trust Fund, must be approved by a majority vote of the Board of Aldermen.

#211-99 ALD. GERST, LIPSITT requesting report on Student Information Management System and Newton's response options.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#96-01(2) PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting discussion of the budget deficit in the School Department.

#73-00 PRESIDENT LIPSITT transmitting the request of Parks and Recreation Commission to discuss with the MWRA the possibility of developing the Sudbury Aqueduct for the benefit of Newton residents.
(Prog.&Serv. approved Resolution on Feb. 7, 2001)

REFERRED TO RULES SUB-COMMITTEE

#230-01 ALD. PARKER requesting an amendment to the Rules and Orders of the Board re the release of confidential documents.
(Referred to Rules Sub-Committee)

REFERRED TO FINANCE AND PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEES

#420-02 ALD. PARKER, GERST, LINSKY JOHNSON, STEWART, LAPPIN, BRYSON & LENNON requesting local acceptance and ordinance to implement recent 41A revisions allowing expansion of tax deferral program.

- #421-02 ALD. PARKER, LINSKY, JOHNSON, BRYSON, LENNON & MANSFIELD requesting rules amendment to improve opportunity for public participation in deliberative process.
(Referred to Rules Sub-Committee)
- #422-02 ALD. PARKER, JOHNSON, LINSKY, STEWART, & LENNON requesting rules amendment to require that minutes be kept of Full Board meetings similar to .the Committee reports currently required by our rules.
(Referred to Rules Sub-Committee)
- #423-02 ALD. PARKER, GERST, LINSKY, & LAPPIN requesting rules amendment to clarify procedures with respect to referral of new business to Committees and placement of items on second call.
(Referred to Rules Sub-Committee)

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

- #432-02 ALD. PARKER, JOHNSON, LINSKY, LIPSITT, LAPPIN, BAKER requesting ordinance change and home rule legislation to implement a policy of indexing automobile excise tax to emissions and/or fuel economy, so low-pollution vehicles have lower taxes than those that pollute more.
- #510-00 ALD. GERST seeking a report from the departments of Public Works and Parks and Recreation on the operational status of water fountains in city parks and schoolyards.
- #346-99 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting creation of an ordinance that would prohibit dogs(leashed or unleashed) from all elementary school playgrounds.
- #113-01(2) PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting discussion with Commissioner of Parks and Recreation regarding ongoing expenditures for maintenance of public land and other items contained in the Parks and Recreation Department FY2002 Operating Budget, particularly with respect to the effectiveness of work being done that has been contracted out as of this fiscal year.
- #44-03 ALD. STEWART proposing that the Rules and Orders of the Board of Aldermen be amended to allow a public comment period before one Board of Aldermen meeting a month.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Johnson, Chairman