

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2003

Room 222

**7:45 P.M.**

**ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#268-03(2) JEFFREY SACKS, 45 Old Colony Road, Chestnut Hill, re-appointed as a member of the NEWTON HOUSING AUTHORITY for a term of office expiring February 16, 2008 (60-day Board action date 11/01/03).

Re-appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#269-03(2) CAROLYN DARACK, 1672 Beacon Street, Waban, re-appointed as a member of the ADVISORY COUNCIL OF HEALTH for a term of office expiring February 1, 2008 (60 days 11/01/03).

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#410-03 KATHERINE DONOVAN, 46 Oakland Avenue, Auburndale, appointed as a member of the NEWTON CHILDCARE COMMISSION for a term of office expiring January 1, 2005. (60-day 12/6/03)

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

#137-03(3) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting revisions to the "Smoke-Free Newton" ordinance to prohibit smoking in private clubs".

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

#425-03 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting acceptance of and authorization to expend the sum of \$175,751.50, received from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health as the Enhanced School Health Services Grant. As in the past, these funds will be used to supplement school nurse staffing.

#409-03 ALD. JOHNSON, CICCONE, & LINSKY requesting resolution to Mass. Turnpike Authority to install sound barrier between Lowell Avenue & Mount Vernon Street on Austin Street as soon as possible.

**ITEMS NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:**

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

#426-03 DAVID DONAHUE, GINNY GARDNER, ROBERT ANTONELLIS  
requesting His Honor the Mayor, appropriate 1.2 million dollars from free cash to the School Department for the purpose of eliminating all user fees, i.e. sports, bus, parking.

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

#113-01(9A) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to expend \$80,085 from the High School Debt Reserve fund for the purpose of funding the first year debt service costs of the \$5.7 million permanent bonds issued for the high school renovation projects.

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

#113-01(9B) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to expend the sum of \$193,206 from the High School Debt Reserve fund for the purpose of funding the first year debt service costs of the two year Bond Anticipation Note (BAN) issued for the high school renovation projects.

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

#113-01(9C) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to expend the sum of \$23,700 from the High School Debt Reserve fund for the purpose of funding the legal costs associated with the ten year bond issuance for the high school renovation projects. These costs were over and above the funds previously appropriated in the Treasurer/Collector's budget for debt issuance costs.

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

#113-01(9D) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$2,289,771.35 from FY04 estimated revenue (\$1,926,544 School Building Assistance Program funds and \$363,227.35 from recent sale of BANs) for the purpose of adding funds to the High School Debt Reserve in the Capital Stabilization Fund.

# 93-01(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authority to file Home Rule Legislation that would authorize the City of Newton to grant to the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority certain permanent easements in Edmands Park and Bulloughs Pond Park for the purpose of MWRA's construction and maintenance activities on the Weston Aqueduct, and upon enactment by the Legislature, authority to negotiate with and grant such permanent easements to the MWRA.

#275-03 ALD. LIPSITT transmitting request of Jean and Michael Morrisey requesting the Newton Board of Aldermen to file for a home rule petition for Safe Placement for Newborns and Infants," also known as a Baby Safe Haven law.

#367-03 ALD. MANSFIELD requesting consideration of ordinance(s) to allow enforcement of Parks & Recreation Commission regulations regarding swimming and boating at Crystal Lake.

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

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

#311-03 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR recommending the creation of a revolving fund with an expenditure limit of up to sixty-five thousand dollars (\$65,000). Said fund will be established in accordance with MGL Ch.44, Sec.53 ½. This fund will receive student parking fees and expenditures will pay the wages of campus aides and administrative salaries for the parking program.

#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.

#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.)

**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.

**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 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.
- #241-03 ALD. BAKER, JOHNSON, & COLETTI requesting discussion of City's delay in renewal of, and possible modifications in, the longstanding arrangement whereby the Newton Commonwealth Foundation, whose volunteer members have been appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by the Board of Aldermen, oversees the operation of the Newton Commonwealth Golf Course, including, if necessary, ordinance or other measures to insure continued successful Foundation stewardship of the Course on behalf of the citizens of Newton.
- #45-03 ALD. SANGIOLO & PARKER requesting discussion of possible amendments to the Tree Preservation Ordinance.
- #115-03(2) PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting discussion with administration on procedures for funding snow and ice removal operations.
- #158-01(2) PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting ordinance to implement increase in eligibility threshold for Clause 41A Senior Citizen Tax Deferral program.

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

#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 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.

#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 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.
- #174-03 ALD. JOHNSON, LENNON, PARKER, SANGIOLO, SAMUELSON & STEWART requesting that a joint Aldermanic and Citizen's Task Force be established to determine the best way to accommodate dogs off leash in our parks or other locations in the City.
- #190-03 PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE requesting discussion with Human Services regarding the implementation of the Senior Volunteer program.
- #191-03 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting a discussion with the Information Technology and Clerk of the Board Departments re increasing efforts to source reduce the amount of paper to be duplicated and to disseminate more information via the internet.
- #274-03 ALD. JOHNSON requesting discussion with School Committee regarding implementation of transportation fees in FY04.

**REFER TO PROG&SERV, PUBLIC FACILITIES & FINANCE COMMITTEES**

- #369-03 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting a presentation of the findings and results of the *Newton North Feasibility Study* to the Board of Aldermen in a public forum to allow a greater number of the public to hear the presentation and offer public comment.
- #230-01 ALD. PARKER requesting an amendment to the Rules and Orders of the Board re the release of confidential documents.  
**REFERRED TO PROG/SERV BY RULES SUB-COMM.ON 10/24/03**

- #421-02      ALD. PARKER, LINSKY, JOHNSON, BRYSON, LENNON & MANSFIELD requesting rules amendment to improve opportunity for public participation in deliberative process.  
**RULES SUB-COMM. APPROVED 3-0 ON 10/24/03.**
- #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.  
**RULES SUB-COMM. APPROVED 3-0 ON 10/24/03**
- #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.  
**RULES SUB-COMMITTEE VOTED NAN 3-0 ON 10/24/02**
- #189-03(2)    BOARD OF ALDERMEN proposing amendments to the Rules of the Board of Aldermen by consolidating Real Property Reuse into another Committee.  
**RULES SUB-COMMITTEE APPROVED 2-0-1 (Parker) ON 10/24/03**
- #189-03(3)    BOARD OF ALDERMEN proposing amendments to the Rules of the Board of Aldermen by assigning one day for monthly meetings of the Real Property Reuse Committee, Post Audit & Oversight Committee and Committee on Community Preservation.  
**RULES SUB-COMMITTEE APPROVED 2-0-1 (Parker) ON 10/24/03**
- #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.  
**RULES SUB-COMMITTEE HELD 2-1 (Lipsitt) on 10/24/03**

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Johnson, Chair