

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2013

Present: Ald. Crossley (Acting Chairman), Lennon, Albright, Danberg, Laredo and Lappin

Absent: Ald. Gentile and Salvucci

Also present: Ald. Blazar, Fischman, Hess-Mahan, Linsky, Rice, and Yates

City staff: Lou Taverna (City Engineer), David Turocy (Commissioner of Public Works), David Olson (Clerk of the Board/City Clerk), Robert Rooney (Chief Operating Officer), Sandra Guryan (Deputy Superintendent/Chief Administrative Officer of Schools), Carol Chafetz (Director of Operations and Environmental Affairs; School Department), and Jonathan Yeo (School Committee Member)

#71-13 COMCAST petitioning for a grant of location to install 70' ± of 3" conduit in NEWTONVILLE AVENUE from 122' westerly of the intersection of Bowers Street and Newtonville Avenue in a westerly direction to 458-462 Newtonville Avenue. (Ward 2) [02/12/13 @ 11:31 AM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 5-0 (Lennon not voting)**

NOTE: Comcast Representative Manuel Furtado presented the petition for the installation of 70' of conduit in Newtonville Avenue to service 458-462 Newtonville Avenue. Comcast previously received a grant of location to install 240' of conduit in Newtonville Avenue to the same address on September 12, 2012. Since that time, 458-462 Newtonville Avenue has been sold and the new property owner will no longer allow Comcast to enter through the side of the building. Therefore, Comcast is seeking a new grant of location to extend the conduit 50' ± along the curb opposite the building and 20' ± across the street to the front of 458-462 Newtonville Avenue. The Comcast service will be provided underground.

The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the petition. Ald. Albright moved approval of the petition, which carried unanimously.

#70-13 NSTAR ELECTRIC petitioning for a grant of location to install a new pole (100/8) in COLUMBUS STREET on the northeasterly side opposite Standish Street. (Ward 6) [02/04/13 @ 1:00 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 5-0 (Lennon not voting)**

NOTE: NStar Permit Representative Maureen Carroll presented the petition for a grant of location to install a new pole on Columbus Street to provide underground service to 56 Columbus Street. 56 Columbus Street currently gets its electrical feed from a utility pole located in the rear of the church at 1135 Walnut Street. NStar has investigated all options to provide electrical service with the owners of 56 Columbus Street and this is the most viable option. The Department of Public Works reviewed the petition and recommended approval.

The public hearing was opened and William and Alix Aguilera, 56 Columbus Street spoke in favor of the petition. The pole that currently feeds their house is over 50 years old, in

poor condition and in the midst of several large trees. In addition, that pole provides service to 56 Columbus Street, 60 Columbus Street, and 1135 Walnut Street. The church previously owned 56 Columbus Street and still owns 60 Columbus Street. By placing a pole in front of their house, they can remove their service from the pole in the rear of the church property. The Aguilera's would also like to put their phone and cable wires underground and a new pole would allow them to do it.

Committee members asked if it would be possible to provide service to 56 Columbus Street from the existing pole in the rear of the church or another pole on Columbus Street. It is not possible to trench from the pole in the rear of church property, as there are existing trees that block access. There is not enough room for new equipment to serve 56 Columbus Street on the existing poles on Columbus Street. The public hearing was closed and there were no further questions from Committee members. With that, Ald. Danberg moved approval, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#104-13 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) from Free Cash to the Public Works Snow/Ice Removal Account. [02/25/13 @ 6:32 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 5-0 (Lennon not voting)**

NOTE: Public Works Commissioner Dave Turocy presented the request to appropriate \$250,000 from Free Cash to the Department of Public Works' Snow and Ice Accounts. The Public Works Department has spent \$3.2 million on snow and ice control. The Department began with \$1 million in its snow and ice budget and another \$2.1 million was transferred from the snow and ice, the inclement weather reserve accounts, and salary savings. The attached breakdown dated March 4, 2013 provides details on how the funds were expended.

The additional \$250,000 would make the snow and ice budget whole and leave \$150,000 for additional snow and ice operations. The salt inventory is fine and there are no large expenses expected that would be coming from the snow and ice accounts. The Commissioner added that the forecast is calling for snow in the next few days and if the City has to plow, the requested funds would likely be amended at the Finance Committee meeting.

At the February 20, 2013 Public Facilities Committee meeting, there was discussion regarding the use of brine to treat streets before a storm to discourage icing. The Town of Lexington is treating its roadways with brine this winter and Commissioner Turocy will be getting a report on the success of the brine. The Commissioner is already looking at using brine next winter and will keep the Committee up to date on the use of brine. With that, Ald. Lappin moved approval, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND PROG & SERV COMMITTEES

#231-12 RECODIFICATION COMMITTEE recommending that **Sec. 11-11. Permit to cart trash and/or recyclable materials.** be deleted as G.L.c.111 §31A authorizes the Health Department to require registration. for "garbage," which is addressed in Sec. 11-5.

PROG & SERV APPROVED 5-0 (Ald. Baker not voting) on 02/06/13

ACTION: **APPROVED 5-0 (Lennon not voting)**

NOTE: Ald. Lappin and City Clerk/Clerk of the Board presented the request to amend the ordinances to make them consistent with Massachusetts General Law by making two changes to Chapter 11 Section 11. The first change is to delete the heading “Permit to cart trash and/or recyclable materials” and replace it with “Registration for transporting garbage through Newton.” The second change is to delete the following text in the first paragraph: “trash and/or recyclable materials” and replace it with “garbage.”

The Committee understood the need for the changes. Ald. Laredo moved approval which carried by a vote of five in favor and none opposed.

#11-13 **ALD. YATES** requesting that His Honor the Mayor apply to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for designation as a Green Power Partner in addition to its designation by the Massachusetts Office of Energy Resource as a Green Power Community. [12/14/12 @ 3:03 PM]

ACTION: **HELD 5-0 (Lennon not voting)**

NOTE: Ald. Yates docketed the request after noticing a sign from the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) designating the Town of Wellesley as a Green Power Partner. The City of Newton has already been designated a “Green Community” by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and it would seem that the City has already met the EPA requirements for designation as a Green Power Partner.

Chief Operating Officer Robert Rooney has investigated the EPA program and it does not have any grants associated with the designation but there does not appear to be any downside to the designation. He added that the Administration is happy to submit an application and will pull together the required information and submit it before the end of the fiscal year. It was pointed out that most of the data has already been compiled, the annual reporting requirement is easily met, and the designation could lead to grant opportunities in the future. The Committee held the item for an update once the application is filed with the EPA.

REFERRED TO PROG. AND SERVICES AND PUB. FACILITIES COMMITTEES

#99-13 **SUPERINTENDENT FLEISCHMAN** requesting the vote of the Board of Aldermen to complement the vote of the School Committee to authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) the Statement of Interest that will be submitted to the MSBA no later than April 10, 2013 for the consideration in Fiscal Year 2013 for the Cabot Elementary School. [02/26/13 @ 2:03 PM]

PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED 5-0 (Baker not voting)

ACTION: **APPROVED 6-0**

NOTE: The Committee met jointly with the Programs and Services Committee to discuss the above item. The School Department’s Deputy Superintendent Sandy Guryan provided the Committees with background information on the item. Submittal of a Statement of Interest is the first step in the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) process for funding consideration for a school building project. For Fiscal Year 2013, the MSBA has asked that

school districts submit a new Statement of Interest (SOI) for their next highest priority school facility, which in Newton's case is the Cabot Elementary School. The SOI should only be submitted if the community expects to fund the project within the next two years.

The School Department's Director of Operations and Environmental Affairs Carol Chafetz worked with the Public Buildings Department and School Department to create the new SOI for Cabot Elementary School. The School Committee approved the submittal of the SOI to the MSBA on February 25, 2013. The MSBA also requires that the Board of Aldermen also authorize the Superintendent of Schools to submit the SOI. The MSBA provides specific language to be used for the authorization, which is attached. The filing deadline for Fiscal Year 2013 SOI submittals to the MSBA is April 10, 2013.

Representatives of the MSBA have visited the Cabot Elementary School and indicated that there are a number of needs at the school that need to be addressed in the near future. With the submittal of the SOI, the City will be prepared to move forward if the debt exclusion override for the school is approved.

There was a question regarding whether the stone Humpty Dumpty on the front of the school would be preserved, if the school were replaced. Sandy Guryan stated that historical or significant items are retained for display or incorporated into the new building. It was suggested that there be some consideration given to preserving the original school if the school is to be largely rebuilt. The feasibility study for Cabot Elementary School will look at all of the options.

With that, Ald. Albright moved approval in the Public Facilities Committee, which carried unanimously. Ald. Linsky moved approval in the Programs & Services Committee, which carried by a vote of five in favor and none opposed.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERV. AND PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEES

#315-12 ALD. FULLER, RICE AND GENTILE of the Angier School Building Committee providing updates and discussion on the Angier School Building project as it develops through the site plan approval process. [10-02-12 @ 3:37PM]

ACTION: **HELD 6-0**

NOTE: There have been no new developments related to the Angier School Building Project in the last two weeks; therefore, there was no update. The Angier School Building Committee will be meeting on Thursday, March 7, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Crossley, Acting Chairman

Public Works Department
 FY13 Snow and Ice Projected Spending Through Thursday March 4, 2013

	A	B	C=A+B	D	E=C-D	
0140110	DESCRIPTION	ORIGINAL FY13 APPROPRIATION	TRANSFERS AND BOARD ORDERS	REVISED APPROPRIATION	EXPENDED, ENCUMBERED AND TO BE PROCESSED	AVAILABLE
511001	SALARY WAGES	\$0	\$10,700	\$10,700	10,632	\$68
511002	FULL TIME WAGES/HOURLY	\$0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0
513001	REGULAR OVERTIME	197,800	\$356,000	\$553,800	541,266	\$12,534
513001A	REGULAR OVERTIME - BUILDINGS/SCHOOLS	30,000	\$22,000	\$52,000	51,607	\$393
513004	WORK BY OTHER DEPARTMENTS - OVERTIME	1,000	\$8,000	\$9,000	8,194	\$806
514311	DRIVING BONUS/STAND-BY SNOW PAY	30,000	\$39,000	\$69,000	68,963	\$37
514318	SNOW WATCH PAY	20,000	\$0	\$20,000	14,479	\$5,521
514321	PROMPTNESS PAY STIPEND	1,200	\$0	\$1,200	1,122	\$78
5273	RENTAL: VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT	200,000	\$400,000	\$600,000	1,556,969	(\$956,969)
5273A	RENTAL: VEHICLE & EQUIPMENT BUILDINGS/SCHOOLS	100,000	\$0	\$100,000	368,925	(\$268,925)
5386	WEATHER FORECAST SERVICE	1,655	\$0	\$1,655	1,655	\$0
5480	GASOLINE	34,425	\$0	\$34,425	8,935	\$25,490
5481	DIESEL FUEL	63,930	\$0	\$63,930	11,633	\$52,297
5484	VEHICLE REPAIR PARTS	75,000	\$0	\$75,000	85,823	(\$10,823)
5532	SAND AND SALT	239,990	(\$25,000)	\$214,990	498,343	(\$283,353)
5712	MEALS	0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0
5783	PRIVATE PROPERTY DAMAGE	5,000	\$0	\$5,000	0	\$5,000
57MEDA	MEDICARE PAYROLL TAX	0	\$0	\$0	7,574	(\$7,574)
TOTALS		\$1,000,000	\$810,700	\$1,810,700	\$3,236,120	(\$1,425,420)

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

(DATE)

RESOLUTION TO THE NEWTON SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS AUTHORIZING THE SUPERINTENDENT TO
SUBMIT TO THE MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL BUILDING AUTHORITY A STATEMENT OF INTEREST FOR FY13
FOR THE CABOT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BY APRIL 10, 2013

BE IT RESOLVED : that the Board of Aldermen of Newton, MA having convened in an open meeting on ____DATE_____ in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest that will be submitted to the MSBA by no later than April 10, 2013 for consideration in FY2013 for the Cabot Elementary School, located at 229 Cabot Street, Newtonville, MA 02460 which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which Newton, MA may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future:

Priority #2, Elimination of existing severe overcrowding; the school has a significantly low net square footage per pupil of classroom and core program space when compared to MSBA guidelines;

Priority #4, Prevention of severe overcrowding expected to result from increased enrollments; five-year projections forecast growing enrollments at Cabot and across the district;

Priority #5, Replacement, renovation or modernization of school facility systems, such as roofs, windows, boilers, heating and ventilation systems to increase energy conservation and decrease energy related costs to a school facility; constructed in 1929, a majority of the building's systems are original, energy inefficient and not up to current code;

Priority #7, Replacement of or addition to obsolete buildings in order to provide for a full range of programs consistent with state and approved local requirements ; the majority of the building's net area is devoted to core classrooms leaving insufficient space for special programs which are a part of the district's educational program;

and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, that Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the City/Town/Regional School District to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

(VOTES)

(SGD) DAVID A. OLSON, City Clerk

