

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2007

Present: Ald. Schnipper (Chairman), Weisbuch, Albright, Salvucci, Gentile, Yates and Lappin

Absent: Ald. Mansfield

City personnel: A. Nicholas Parnell (Commissioner of Public Buildings) and Shawna Sullivan (Committee Clerk)

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor

#265-07 DEDE VITTORI, 28 Cottonwood Road, Newton Centre, appointed as a member of the SOLID WASTE COMMISSION for a term expiring September 1, 2010 (60-days 11-3-07). [08-13-07 @ 9:14 AM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 6-0 (Weisbuch not voting)**

NOTE: Ms. Vittori joined the Committee for discussion of her appointment to the Solid Waste Commission. The Chair directed the Committee to Ms. Vittori's resume, which was attached to the agenda. Ms. Vittori was a member of the previous Solid Waste Commission during the 1990s. She has been working with the current Commission and has been very helpful. Ms. Vittori has had a longstanding interest in environmental affairs. She now has the time to again work on environmental issues and would like to become a formal member of the Solid Waste Commission. She began going to Solid Waste Commission meetings in May and was very impressed with the discussions. Ald. Schnipper, who is the Chair of the Solid Waste Commission, stated that Ms. Vittori has already provided valuable input into discussions. She would like to see the City further commit to recycling and sees the new trash contract as an opportunity to get people excited about recycling.

Ald. Lappin received a flyer regarding limiting the amount of trash and charging for anything over a certain amount. Ms. Vittori is aware of a group of residents who are giving their input on how to structure the next solid waste contract. Some Committee members asked if the Commission is looking at charging for trash removal. The proposal from the Solid Waste Commission should be coming to the Board in October. The Chair felt that the Committee should wait to see the recommendation of Solid Waste before discussing the possibility of charges. There is more than one option in terms of waste disposal and it will depend on which option the City chooses.

The Committee thanked Ms. Vittori for her willingness to serve the City. Ald. Salvucci moved approval of the appointment, which carried unanimously.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#273-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation of \$35,000 from the Capital Stabilization Fund for removal of the structures located at 20 Rogers Street and preparation of the property for recreational use. [8-28-07 @4:53 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 6-0 (Weisbuch not voting)**

NOTE: Commissioner Parnell presented the item to the Committee. The \$35,000 will pay for the demolition of the brick house and garage including removal of the foundations. The funds will also cover the re-grade and fill of the site from the sidewalk to the back of the property. The Public Buildings Department will recycle all salvageable materials, such as the bricks and possibly the slate tiles on the roof. The Commissioner has spoken with demolition companies regarding the cost and he is comfortable with the \$35,000 estimate. The Commissioner hopes to have the structures down by the end of the fall.

The Committee had no questions regarding the request for funds but felt that the item should include an emergency preamble to allow the Commissioner access to the funds as soon as possible. Ald. Salvucci moved approval of the item with an emergency preamble, which carried unanimously.

Public Hearing

#250-07 KEYSPAN ENERGY DELIVERY petitioning for a grant of location to install and maintain 150' ± of 4" gas main in RUANE ROAD from the existing 4" gas main in Ruane Road @ House # 93 westerly to the rear of 170 Temple Street. [07-24-07 10:14 AM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 6-0 (Weisbuch not voting)**

NOTE: Francis O'Leary, Keyspan Permit Representative, presented the petition to the Committee. The installation of a gas main is necessary to provide gas for heat, hot water and cooking fuel to 170 Temple Street. There is no gas main on Temple Street, therefore; Keyspan will extend the main on Ruane Road and provide gas through the rear of 170 Temple Street. The customer at 170 Temple Street will pay the entire cost of the project. The Department of Public Works has no issues with the petition. The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the petition. Ald. Salvucci moved approval, which carried by a vote of six in favor, with no one opposed and Ald. Weisbuch not voting.

Public Hearing

#251-07 KEYSPAN ENERGY DELIVERY petitioning for a grant of location to install and maintain 54' ± of 6", 10", & 12" gas main in COMMONWEALTH AVENUE from the existing 6" gas main in Commonwealth Avenue south to the proposed district regulator and from the existing 10" gas main in Commonwealth Avenue at Oakland Avenue south to the proposed district regulator. [07-24-07 10:15 AM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 6-0 (Weisbuch not voting)**

NOTE: Francis O'Leary, Keyspan Permit Representative, presented the petition to the Committee. The installation of gas main and district regulators will improve service. Data

collected by Keyspan shows a drop in pressure in the area during peak times. The regulator will regulate the pressure. Keyspan will pay the entire cost of the project. The Department of Public Works has no issues with the petition but would like Keyspan to coordinate with them on the project as that section of Commonwealth Avenue is scheduled to be micro-surfaced. Mr. O'Leary had no problem with coordinating the work. The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the petition. Ald. Lappin moved approval, which carried unanimously.

#252-07 SHARON BARON, 20 Lorna Road, petitioning for a main drain to be constructed in LORNA ROAD from the existing manhole in front of 28 Lorna Road 145' + westerly to a proposed manhole at 20 Lorna Road.

Petitioner To Pay Entire Cost [07-19-07 @ 2:46 PM]

ACTION: APPROVED 7-0

NOTE: Steve Baron, the homeowner, and Bob Doolittle, the Project Manager for the construction company handling the project were present for the discussion. Mr. Doolittle gave a synopsis of the project. The on-site drainage system is not sufficient and the petitioner has tried several different types of onsite remediation to no avail. The project engineer has suggested an extension of the main drain to make it possible for the petitioner to hook-up to the city drainage system through a house connection.

Ald. Salvucci asked why the petitioner is paying for the main drain extension. It was explained that there is a lengthy wait for city funds to pay for this type of project. The petitioner is willing to pay for the extension, as he needs to resolve the flooding issues on his property as soon as possible. The Committee questioned why the city was allowing the petitioner to hook up to the city's drainage system, as it requires new construction to retain all water on site. Ald. Lappin pointed out that the city would like to charge people for tying into the drainage system illegally. Mr. Baron explained that he has taken every measure possible to retain the water on site; however, there are no other alternatives left and the Engineering Division is supportive of allowing him to connect with the drainage system. Ald. Schnipper will docket an item to discuss the city's policy in allowing residents to connect to the drainage system.

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

Chairman's Note: The Committee met jointly with the Programs & Services Committee on the following items:

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]

ACTION: HELD 7-0

NOTE: Please see the Programs and Services Committee report of September 5, 2007 for the report on this item.

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., PUB.FAC. 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).

ACTION: **HELD 7-0**

NOTE: Please see the Programs and Services Committee report of September 5, 2007 for the report on this item.

Respectfully submitted,

Sydra Schnipper, Chairman