

CITY OF NEWTON  
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2002

Present: Ald. Schnipper (Chair), Gerst, Linsky, Salvucci, Stewart, Yates and Mansfield

Absent: Ald. Lipof

City Personnel: Robert Rooney (Commissioner of Public Works)

#27-02            VERIZON petitioning for a grant of location to place a new pole and its guy and anchor in the sidewalk between #31 and #35 Norwood Avenue.

**ACTION:**        **APPROVED AS AMENDED 7-0**

**NOTE:**           Gary Savignano, Manager of Rights and Ways for Verizon, presented the request to the Committee. Currently, there is a guy wire attached to a tree on Norwood Avenue to stabilize the poles on Trowbridge Street. The tree is going to be cut down; therefore, Verizon must add a pole to attach the guy wire. The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the petition.

The request is also for a hip guy and anchor. The Committee felt that an addition of a hip guy and anchor would cause a safety hazard to the pedestrians, as Norwood Avenue is heavily traveled. Mr. Savignano agreed that Verizon would not install the hip guy and anchor. He also assured the Committee that the new pole would not block any driveways. Ald. Salvucci moved approval of the pole without the hip guy and anchor, which passed unanimously.

#28-02            THE GERSSINFELD'S AND VIOLA'S requesting that Rogers Street, Newton Highlands be changed to Rogers Way as there is a duplicate street name in Newtonville.

**ACTION:**        **APPROVED SUBJECT TO SECOND CALL 7-0**

**NOTE:**           This is a request to change the name of a street to eliminate a duplicate street name. Mrs. Virginia G. Viola, 20 Rogers Street, Newton Highlands, spoke to the Committee about the many difficulties of living on a street with a duplicate name. Not only does the post office not deliver all of the mail but also emergency response vehicles often arrive at the wrong street.

The Committee would like a memo from both the Police Department and Fire Department stating that the change from street to way will be enough to solve the problem. The memos are attached to the report. The Police Department would prefer the name of the street to be changed but the next best alternative is to

change the suffix. The Fire Department felt that the change from street to way would solve the problems. Ald. Mansfield moved approval of the item subject to second call. The Committee voted to approve the item unanimously

#49-02 VERIZON requesting a grant of location to place a new pole (#276/2A) in MELROSE AVENUE to upgrade electrical service to Auburn Street.

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 7-0**

**NOTE:** Gary Savignano presented the petition to the Committee. This is a request for a new pole to provide electrical and telephone service to 319 Auburn Street. The public hearing was opened and no one spoke for or against the petition.

It is not possible to run new lines from current poles, as the electrical service to 319 Auburn Street would be inadequate. The pole will be placed on a grass plot on Melrose Avenue and the wires will no longer cross over the parking lot but run along the fence of the lot. Ald. Stewart moved approval of the item, which passed unanimously.

#51-02 KEYSPAN requesting a grant of location to install and maintain approximately 140' of 4" gas main in LORRAINE CIRCLE from the existing 8" gas main in Dorset Road, south to the end.

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 7-0**

**NOTE:** Francis O'Leary, Keyspan Permit Representative, presented the petition to the Committee. The request is for a 140' of gas main to provide heat, hot water and gas for cooking to 14 Lorraine Circle. There is currently no gas main in Lorraine Circle. Ald. Yates moved approval of the item, which passed unanimously.

#52-02 KEYSPAN requesting a grant of location to install and maintain approximately 710' of 12" gas main in JACKSON STREET from existing 12" gas main in Jackson Street at Dudley Road east to the existing 12" gas main in Jackson Street at House No. 43.

**ACTION:** **APPROVED 7-0**

**NOTE:** Francis O'Leary presented the petition to the Committee. This work is necessary to improve the system. Keyspan is replacing the 6" gas main with 12" gas main in a portion of Jackson Street, as the rest of the street contains 12" gas main.

The public hearing was opened and Mr. Gerald Majewski, 76 Jackson Street, had some questions on the project. He wanted to know how long the project would take and what the impact on gas service would be. Mr. O'Leary explained that the project will take about three weeks to complete and that there would be no interruption to service. Ald. Mansfield moved approval of the item, which was approved unanimously.

#80-02      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to accept and expend a grant of \$66,640 from the Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of establishing a municipal source reduction program in the City of Newton. This is a reimbursable grant and it requires a city match of \$25,000.

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 7-0**

**NOTE:**      See note below, as item was discussed in conjunction with #80-02(2).

**REFERRED TO PUB FAC & FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#880-02(2)      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation and expenditure of \$91,640 from Municipal Recycling Incentive Program account to fund the municipal source reduction program prior to receipt of the \$66,640 reimbursement grant from the State.

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 7-0**

**NOTE:**      Commissioner Rooney presented the item to the Committee. A Solid Waste Reduction Plan was completed by the City, which allowed the City to apply for this grant. Newton is the only municipality that received the grant. The grant is from the Department of Environmental Protection and will be used to contract a Source Reduction Coordinator for twenty months.

The grant is for \$66,640 and the city will provide \$25,000 from the Municipal Recycling Incentive Program account in matching funds. This is a reimbursable grant, which requires that \$91,640 be appropriated from the Municipal Recycling Incentive Program account. The \$66,640 will go back into the account as soon as it is reimbursed.

The Source Reduction Coordinator will work for the Public Works Department. The position will include implementing the source reduction plan, establishing goals to reduce solid wastes generated by the City including schools and raise public awareness of the importance of solid waste reduction through literature, procedure and training.

The Committee asked if there was a possibility that the position of Source Reduction Coordinator would become a permanent position. Commissioner Rooney stated that it would depend on the necessity and the savings generated by solid waste reduction. Ald. Linsky moved approval of the item, which was approved unanimously.

**REFERRED TO PUB. FAC. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES**

#81-02      HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of \$400,000 from Budget Reserve for the purpose of supplementing the snow and ice accounts in the FY02 DPW operating budget.

**ACTION:**      **APPROVED 7-0**

**NOTE:**

Commissioner Rooney presented the item to the Committee. The funds are needed to provide enough funding for the rest of the year. The request is for \$400,000, which will provide for two more storms this season. The Commissioner stated that the funds will not be used for any other purpose and will be returned if not used. Ald. Yates moved approval of the item, which was approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Sydra Schnipper, Chair