

CITY OF NEWTON
IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN
PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20, 2001

Present: Ald. Schnipper, Gerst, Salvucci, Yates and Mansfield

Absent: Ald. Antonellis and M. Lipof

Also Present: Ald. Coletti and Lipsitt

City Officials Present: John Dahglian (Engineering Department), Jim Marini (Superintendent of High Schools), Lara Kritzer (Historic Commission) and Nick Parnell (Commissioner of Public Works)

#194-01 HERRICK HILL, LLC, 150 Pleasant Valley Road, Westwood, MA 02090 requesting a common sewer to be constructed in HERRICK ROAD from existing end manhole 540'± to 128 Herrick Road, Newton Centre to cover a new home.

NOTE: PETITIONER TO PAY ENTIRE COST

ACTION: APPROVED 4-0-1 (ALD. MANSFIELD ABSTAINING)

NOTE: John Dahglian presented the plan for this project to the Committee. He explained that there would not be any assessments for this project as the petitioner will pay the entire cost.

There was some discussion regarding adding drainage and sidewalks to Herrick Road during this project. The petitioner, Mr. Kevin Murray, explained that the road is owned by Andover Newton Theological School and will be reconstructed in September of this year. He also stated that there would be sufficient drainage for each of the lots to be developed. It was determined that the Board of Aldermen could not condition the item, as the petitioner did not own the road. Ald. Salvucci moved approval of the item, which passed with a vote of four in favor and one abstaining.

#211-01 LASELL COLLEGE, 1844 Commonwealth Avenue, Auburndale requesting a common sewer be constructed in MYRTLE AVENUE from Seminary Avenue westerly about 210±' to 40 Myrtle Avenue.

NOTE: PETITIONER TO PAY ENTIRE COST

ACTION: HELD 4-0-1 (ALD. MANSFIELD ABSTAINING)

NOTE: This item was held because the petitioner was unavailable to join the Committee for discussion of this item.

80-01 ALD. LIPSITT requesting discussion of planning and decision-making process for renovations and decoration of City Hall and War Memorial buildings.

ACTION: **HELD 5-0**

NOTE: Nick Parnell, Lara Kritzer and President Lipsitt joined The Committee for discussion of this item. President Lipsitt docketed the item with a hope of establishing an ordinance or guidelines regarding renovations to city owned buildings. In the past, there have been renovations to City Hall, which have diminished the historic character of the building. Currently there is no policy for renovations to any city owned buildings many of, which are historic.

Lara Kritzer explained that in 1997 a draft preservation plan for city owned property. Lara Kritzer provided the Committee with a draft ordinance, a chart of city owned property with the levels of historic significance and draft guidelines from that plan (attached).

The Committee supported some type of oversight for proposed renovations. However, several Committee members felt that it would not be good to have a cumbersome process, which the Public Buildings Department would have to go through before renovating or repairing a building. Several of the buildings that appear on the list of historically significant buildings are school buildings, which often need immediate repair or maintenance. Mr. Parnell felt that an ordinance would be restrictive and would rather see a policy put in place.

It was requested that President Lipsitt form an Ad Hoc Committee to develop a policy on renovations and designs. The membership should include design experts, members of the Historic Commission and Aldermen. The item was held for further discussion and review.

#268-00(6) PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE requesting the Commissioner of Public Buildings present to the Board of Aldermen and Public Facilities Committee all site plans and other architectural drawings related to the construction and renovation proposed at Newton North High School and Newton South High School for the duration of the projects.

ACTION: **HELD 5-0**

NOTE: Dick Ampster, Project Manager, Owen Deenhouwer (DRA), Jim Marini and Nick Parnell presented the plans for the new building at Newton South High School. Mr. Deenhouwer reviewed each plan for the building and gave a brief overview. He also stated that the new building will meet all ADA requirements.

The Committee asked what kind of roof is planned for the building. The roof is flat, counter-flashed with minimal parapets, which is very rigid and wears wells. There were some questions regarding drainage within the building. Hamway Engineering will handle the sewer/drainage. There will be floor drains in all the restroom facilities.

There was some discussion regarding the HVAC system. The architects and the project manager have been to several sites where HVAC systems are being installed to find the best and quietest HVAC system possible. Each of the rooms will contain operable windows. Ald. Gerst would like the connecting door between classrooms be soundproofed so there is as little distraction as possible to classes in process.

Ald. Schnipper questioned the sight lines for the proposed classroom. She suggested setting up a model classroom to see if all students would be able to see the board and teacher. The architect explained that there will be a model classroom setup in the near future.

The Committee held the item, as there will be several more reviews regarding this project by the Committee.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES THE MAYOR

#233 -01 HIS HONOR requesting authorization to expend \$400,000 from various gifts for the purpose of funding design and construction of the Balsamo Millennium Park adjacent to City Hall.

ACTION: **HELD 5-0**

NOTE: This item was held at the request of the Mayor.

All other items were held without discussion.

Respectfully submitted,

Sydra Schnipper, Chair