

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT

MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2015

Present: Ald. Johnson (Chairman), Sangiolo, Kalis, Leary, Danberg and Yates

Absent: Ald. Hess-Mahan and Baker

Also Present: Dori Zaleznik (Chief Administrative Officer), Aaron Goldman (Performance Manager), James Freas (Acting Director, Planning Dept.), Eve Tapper (Acting Associate Director, Planning Dept.), John Lojek (Commissioner, Inspectional Services), Norine Siltan (Executive Asst., Planning Dept.), Rob Symanski (Financial Analyst), Jack Cowell (Financial Analyst), Alice Ingerson (CPA Program Manager), Karyn Dean (Committee Clerk)

#96-15 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting Board of Aldermen authorization, pursuant to the 2013 Revised Citizen Participation Plan, to submit to the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) the FY2016-2020 Consolidated Plan and the FY2016 Annual Action Plan for the city of Newton Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Emergency Solution Grant (ESG) funds and the WestMetro HOME Consortium. These Plans must be submitted to HUD by May 15, 2015. [04/13/15 @ 3:03PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 4-0-1 (Ald. Sangiolo abstaining; Ald. Yates not voting)**

NOTE: At the April 13th Zoning & Planning Committee meeting, Eve Tapper, Acting Associate Director of the Planning Department, explained that the Consolidated Plan has been in development for a long time and must be submitted to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by May 15, 2015. The Board of Aldermen must vote to submit the document in order for the City to be eligible to receive grant funding. If it is not submitted by the deadline, the City will forfeit the almost \$3M in grants.

The Consolidated Plan is a 5-year plan which is a guide to how the money will be spent. The Annual Action plan for FY16 is a specific plan for how the money will be spent in the fiscal year. The Citizen Participation Plan was revamped and the rules were changed in 2013 to allow the Board to review and authorize submittal of the Plans to HUD. This docket item was submitted to allow that approval and go to the Full Board on May 4th.

There was some concern and some were offended by a particular sentence in the Consolidated Plan “Due to political pressures in the City, larger-scale housing projects that could create a significant number of affordable housing units without the need for large public subsidies face long approval processes. These barriers, including coordinated neighborhood opposition, make such projects cost-prohibitive for a developer to attempt.” Ms. Tapper said they reviewed and amended the language.

The updated version of the Plan can be found at
<http://www.newtonma.gov/civicax/filebank/documents/65816>

The Committee voted to approve with Ald. Sangiolo abstaining.

#426-13 ALD. HESS-MAHAN requesting periodic updates on development of the Consolidated Plan for the City of Newton Housing and Community Development Program and the WestMetro Home Consortium. [12/06/13 @ 9:51 AM]

ACTION: **NO ACTION NECESSARY 5-0 (Ald. Sangiolo not voting)**

NOTE: This item is no longer needed as the Consolidated Plan will be submitted under its own docket item going forward.

The Committee voted No Action Necessary.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marcia T. Johnson, Chairman