

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ZONING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT
JOINT MEETING WITH PROGRAMS AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 2004

Zoning & Planning Committee members present: Ald. Yates (Chairman), Ald. Lappin, Baker, Hess-Mahan, Johnson, Sangiolo, and Danberg; absent: Ald. Lennon

Programs & Services Committee members present: Ald. Johnson (Chairman), Ald. Hess-Mahan, Baker, Parker, Fischman, Sangiolo, and Coletti; absent: Ald. Merrill

City staff: Michael Kruse, Director of Planning and Development; Steve Gartrell, Associate Director of Planning and Development for Housing and Community Development; Associate City Solicitor

REFERRED TO ZONING & PLANNING & PROGRAMS & SERVICES COMMITTEES

#265-04 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting Home Rule legislation to amend the statutes that govern the Newton Community Development Authority (NCDA) and the Newton Housing Authority (NHA) relative to the NCDA acquiring affordable housing and to update the enabling acts in order to have them more accurately reflect the current operations of the NCDA and the NHA.

ACTION: ZONING & PLANNING APPROVED AS AMENDED 6-0 (LAPPIN NOT VOTING)
 PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED AS AMENDED 7-0

NOTE: Mr. Kruse and Ms. Smalley went through the detailed item and explained the differences between the current legislation and that proposed. Currently the Newton Community Development Authority (NCDA) is able to only take property from the city. The NCDA needs more flexibility to participate in various new programs. This key change is embodied in section 7(o). Other changes clarify the actual roles that the Newton Housing Authority (NHA) and NCDA have been carrying out in the administration of Community Development Block Grants, the HOME program, etc., and in use of the ten-percent ordinance funds, and the implementation of the First Time Home Buyers Program.

Alderman Yates pointed out several changes that need to be made to reflect updating: “secretary of communities and development is now the “director of housing and community development.” The “department of community affairs” is now the “department of housing and community development.” The “city auditor” is now the “city comptroller.” These technical changes were moved by Alderman Baker and accepted 6-0 by Zoning and Planning Committee 6-0 (Alderman Lappin had left to attend the meeting of Public Facilities).

Alderman Parker objected to adding upper moderate income to section 7(o), which had been moved by Aldermen Baker. It nonetheless passed 6-0 in Zoning and Planning Committee.

ZONING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT
WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 2004
Page 2

Alderman Yates said that the standby economic development powers of section 7(1) belonged with the Economic Development Commission. Members of Zoning and Planning agreed, and voted 6-0 to eliminate that section, and re-letter subsequent sections.

The committee then voted 6-0 to approve the item as amended.

N.B. The revised draft is under separate cover from Associate City Solicitor Gayle Smalley.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Yates, Chairman
Zoning and Planning Committee