

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

LONG RANGE PLANNING COMMITTEE AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2008

7:45 pm
Room 222

At this meeting, the committee will discuss and establish its priorities for the 2008-2009 term. It will consider the following possible ideas for discussion and further development to the point they become appropriate to docket or recommend:

1. Financial/Strategic Planning initiatives, including
 - a. Development of strategic plan for City services for the next five years
 - b. More effective integration of the five-year budget forecast with the budget and strategic plan
 - c. Development of a plan for long term accounting for and possible initiatives to enable funding of post-retirement health benefits for City and Newton Public Schools employees
 - d. Conduct internal evaluation of City operations using controls similar to some other communities.
 - e. Process for further pursuit of Blue Ribbon Commission recommendations and Comprehensive Plan goals
2. Aldermanic support initiatives, including
 - a. Review roles and responsibilities of assistant clerks and support staff toward greater responsibility for research, analysis, as well as important clerical assistance.
 - b. Developing ad hoc or standing Volunteer citizens' commissions with specialized skills and expertise to advise and assist Board in developing and dealing with various docket items where such expertise would be helpful.
 - c. Continuing education and professional development opportunities for members of the Board.

3. Board of Aldermen management initiatives, including
 - a. Possible further re-organization/delegation of responsibilities of committees
 - b. Coordination of complementary activities of the Long Range Planning and Post Audit committees
4. Aldermanic communications, including
 - a. Efforts to increase and improve communications by Board with the public

Respectfully submitted,

Alderman Ted Hess-Mahan, Chairman