

Programs & Services and

Finance Committees Agenda

City of Newton

In City Council

Joint Budget Meeting

Wednesday, May 6, 2020

7:00 PM

The Programs and Services and Finance Committees will hold this meeting as a virtual meeting on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 at 7:00 pm. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86814394716</u> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the following Meeting ID: 868-1439-4716

<u>CHAIRS' NOTE</u>: Please have your School Department Budget and CIP books at the meeting.

SCHOOL ENROLLMENT DISCUSSION, SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET, & CIP DISCUSSION INCLUDING UPDATES ON ALL CURRENT AND PLANNED SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Referred to Finance and Appropriate Committees

#8-20Submittal of the FY 2021 to FY 2025 Capital Improvement Plan (#8-20)HER HONOR THE MAYORsubmitting the Fiscal Years 2021 to 2025 CapitalImprovement Plan pursuant to section 5-3 of the Newton City Charter.

Referred to Finance and Appropriate Committees

#8-20(2) Submittal of the FY 2021 Municipal/School Operating Budget
 HER HONOR THE MAYOR submitting in accordance with Section 5-1 of the City of
 Newton Charter the FY21 Municipal/School Operating Budget, passage of which
 shall be concurrent with the FY21-FY25 Capital Improvement Program (#8-20).
 EFFECTIVE DATE OF SUBMISSION 05/11/20; LAST DATE TO PASS THE BUDGET
 06/25/2020

The location of this meeting is accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact the city of Newton's ADA Coordinator, Jini Fairley, at least two business days in advance of the meeting: <u>jfairley@newtonma.gov</u> or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.

The following item is only referred to the Programs & Services Committee

#246-20 Resolution to the State Legislature in support of mail in voting

COUNCILORS DANBERG, BOWMAN, NOEL, HUMPHREY, CROSSLEY, DOWNS, WRIGHT, GREENBERG, NORTON, GROSSMAN, ALBRIGHT, LEARY, RYAN, MALAKIE, KRINTZMAN, KELLEY, MARKIEWICZ, LIPOF, AUCHINCLOSS, LAREDO, GENTILE AND GREENBERG requesting that the Newton City Council approve and send a Resolution to the Secretary of the Commonwealth and State Legislators requesting that the Legislature quickly approve all mail in voting for the 2020 elections and that the Secretary of the Commonwealth develop plans to implement it in Massachusetts.

All other items before the Committees will be held without discussion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Josh Krintzman, Chair Programs & Services Committee

Rebecca Walker Grossman, Chair Finance Committee

#???-2 0	Resolution to the State Legislature in support of mail in voting Councilors Danberg, Bowman, Noel, Humphrey, Crossley, Downs, Wright, Greenberg, Norton, Grossman, Albright, Leary, Ryan, Malakie, Krintzman, Kelley, Markiewicz, Lipof, Auchincloss, Laredo, Gentile and Greenberg requesting that the Newton City Council approve and send a Resolution to the Secretary of the Commonwealth and State Legislators requesting that the Legislature quickly approve all mail in voting for the 2020 elections and that the Secretary of the Commonwealth develop plans to implement it in Massachusetts
Res	in support of mail-in voting for the 2020 Elections
Whereas:	On Tuesday, April 7, 2020, Wisconsin held its primary election with in-person voting, despite being under a shelter-in-place order since March 25th 2020; and
Whereas:	Concerns about the outbreak of the coronavirus for the Wisconsin primary contributed to a shortage of poll workers, leading to the National Guard dispersing over 2,000 troops to serve in their stead; and
Whereas:	Due to the lack of poll workers, the City of Milwaukee opened only five of their 180 polling locations where the average wait time to vote was an hour and half to two hours; and
Whereas:	Having voters and poll workers at polling stations for hours is dangerous and runs counter to social distancing and best practices aimed at limiting the spread of COVID-19; and
Whereas:	The states of Oregon, Washington, and Colorado conduct their elections completely by mail; and
Whereas:	The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which dictates the City of Newton's election policies and procedures, has already begun implementing voting reform measures such as early voting for certain elections; and
Whereas:	The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which does not currently allow for no- excuse absentee voting, has accepted recommendations to classify absence at your polling location as a precautionary measure in response to COVID-19 as an allowed qualification for a mail-in ballot; and
Whereas:	The City of Newton has at least two elections slated for the fall of 2020: the state primary election on September 1st & the state/presidential election on November 3rd; and

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- Whereas: The City of Newton and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts can further our commitment to the health and safety of residents by taking all of the necessary and thoughtful steps now as it relates to our upcoming elections; and
- Whereas: To prevent the continued spread and/or recurrence of COVID-19, the City of Newton and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts should plan for the implementation and management of an emergency all vote-by-mail election.

Therefore be it Resolved:

That the Newton City Council urges the Secretary of the Commonwealth and the State Legislature to authorize vote by mail elections for the state primary election on September 1st & the state/presidential election on November 3rd and to develop plans and regulations for vote by mail elections which can be implemented by Election officials in Massachusetts Cities and Towns; and

The Newton City Council also urges legislators to properly fund whatever plans the State Legislature and Secretary of the Commonwealth implement to deal with elections during the COVID-19 pandemic; and

Be It Further Resolved:

That the City Clerk of Newton hereby is requested to forward copies of this resolution to the members of the elected Newton delegation in the House and Senate as well as the Secretary of the Commonwealth on behalf of the entire City Council.