

Veteran Services Department

Mission

To honor and assist our veterans and their dependents in obtaining resources that will help them to lead safe and healthy lives.



The City of Newton has veterans of many ages throughout the thirteen villages. We are constantly making efforts to acknowledge our local heroes from World War II and Korea. The Veterans Services Department has seen in particular an influx of Vietnam era veterans using benefits and programs to off-set their fixed incomes. The Persian Gulf veterans as well as present day Iraq and Afghanistan veterans are encouraged to use the benefits awarded to servicemen and women returning from deployments.

#InItTogether

The Veteran's Services Department executes a prescribed comprehensive program of public assistance and services to veterans and their dependents. The Veterans' Service Officer takes applications for benefits and for financial and medical assistance to qualified veterans.

The Veterans Service Officer dispenses state-sponsored veterans' benefits and assists veterans and their dependents or survivors in obtaining federal benefits. The VSO acts as the burial agent for the City and arranges proper interment of deceased veterans in accordance to regulations. I participate actively in patriotic and veterans-related events, issues and organizations.

Fiscal Year 2021 was a challenging year in the City for the Veterans' Service Department. The honorable Mayor Fuller and I maintained our commitment to work closely with the American Legion Post 440 and the Sons of the American Legion, WAX, and the Elks to assist and organize the delivery of food to hundreds of residents.

The American Legion and the City were strong advocates and a willing body of volunteers placing flags on all of the bridge overpasses in Newton. Key changes that will be represented in the budget are the increase to the funding of all the various ceremonies that take place over the Memorial Day weekend. As the cost of much of the resources we use increases, so does the cost of proper celebrations, patriotic décor and marching bands in our annual parade.

Going forward, we will continue to find ways to best optimize the budget allocations to support appropriate and meaningful observances and remembrance services annually.

New initiatives that are being brought to action are improving access and interface of

technology with an aging veteran population. We are bringing in agencies and liaisons from the area to aid and assist in bridging the electronic technology gap between the various aging veterans population in the City.

Seth Bai

Veterans Officer

Financial and Operating Highlights

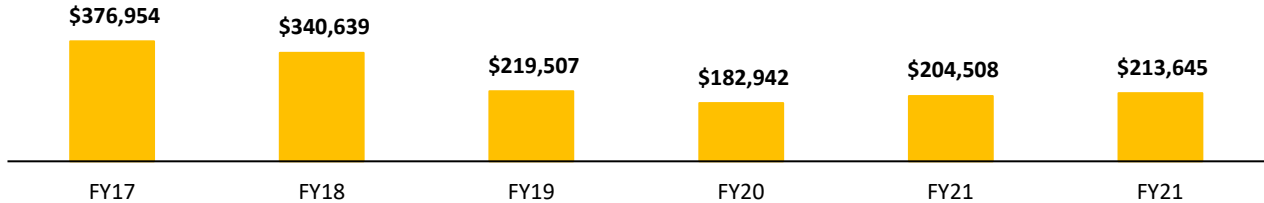
Financial Highlights

| | Actual | | | | Original | Proposed |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------------|
| | FY2017 | FY2018 | FY2019 | FY2020 | FY2021 | FY2022 |
| Expenditure by Department | | | | | | |
| Veteran Services | \$ 376,954 | \$ 340,639 | \$ 219,507 | \$ 182,942 | \$ 204,508 | \$ 213,645 |
| Total | \$ 376,954 | \$ 340,639 | \$ 219,507 | \$ 182,942 | \$ 204,508 | \$ 213,645 |
| % Incr | | -9.63% | -35.56% | -16.66% | 11.79% | 4.47% |

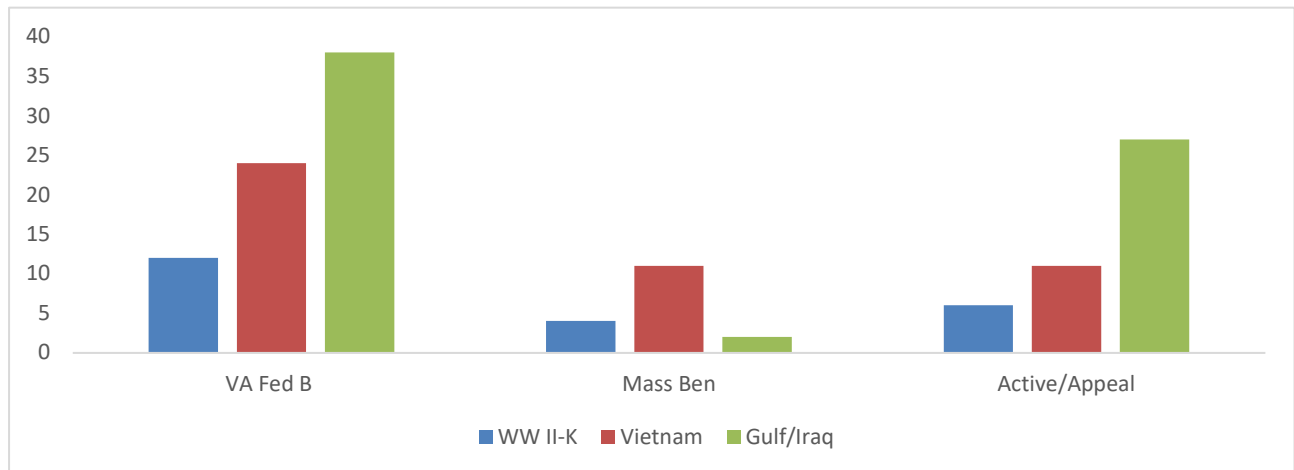
Personnel

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Full-Time | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Part-Time | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |

Total Veterans Expenditures



Operating Highlights



Veteran Services

Fiscal Year 2022 Outcomes and Strategies

Outcome 1

Provide Quality Support Services

parenthood or reentry into the workforce, Veterans' Services will work to help our veterans apply and make great use of their entitlements.

Veterans and their dependents in Newton may be qualified for either Federal VA or Massachusetts benefits, rarely both. As Baby-Boomers are retiring, the Generation –X and Millennials are in full mid-life and mid-career shifts entering academia,

The City of Newton continues to maintain a solid and strong partnership with the American Legion Post 440 and the other veteran-based tenants at the Post 440. The Newton Elks will be our next partnership to promote activities and community outreach. The city is adding coverage and presence to veteran awareness activities in order to spread patriotic themes around Flag Day, Memorial Day, the 20th anniversary of 9/11 and our Veterans Day Observance.

Outcome 2

Revitalize Existing Ceremonies, Observances and Events

There are three lots designated for the interment of Newton resident/veterans at the Newton Cemetery. The main/primary lot was erected in 1950 and is completely full. The second and third lots are still available; yet the lot themselves are absent of appropriate decorative monuments and flowering shrubs to beautify them, also the

Outcome 3

Finalize the Proper Installment of Monuments and Flag Presence at the Newton Cemetery

flag poles require work as well.

In support of the Mayor's mission to collaborate with other City departments the Veteran Services Dept. will support civic engagements across several platforms : School Department, Health and Human Services, Senior Services and the Council on Aging, Newton Fire and Police Departments , Information Technology and al other veterans' centric organizations.

Outcome 4

Participate in Newton Civic Engagement Events

FUND: 0001 - GENERAL FUND
 DEPARTMENT: 503 - VETERANS

CITY OF NEWTON BUDGET
 DEPARTMENT LEGAL LEVEL OF CONTROL

| | ACTUAL 2018 | ACTUAL 2019 | ACTUAL 2020 | ORIGINAL 2021 | RECOMMENDED 2022 | CHANGE 2021 to 2022 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| VETERANS SUMMARY | | | | | | |
| 51 - PERSONNEL SERVICES | 72,554 | 74,727 | 78,307 | 80,329 | 83,928 | 3,599 |
| 52 - EXPENSES | 242,033 | 143,697 | 103,508 | 120,150 | 128,500 | 8,350 |
| 57 - FRINGE BENEFITS | 1,052 | 1,084 | 1,127 | 4,030 | 1,217 | -2,813 |
| TOTAL DEPARTMENT | 315,639 | 219,507 | 182,942 | 204,508 | 213,645 | 9,137 |
| VETERAN SERVICES | | | | | | |
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CITY OF NEWTON BUDGET
DEPARTMENTAL DETAIL

| | ACTUAL 2018 | ACTUAL 2019 | ACTUAL 2020 | ORIGINAL 2021 | RECOMMENDED 2022 | CHANGE 2021 to 2022 |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| 503 - VETERANS | | | | | | |
| 0150343 - VETERAN SERVICES | | | | | | |
| PERSONNEL SERVICES | | | | | | |
| 511001 FULL TIME SALARIES | 72,554 | 74,727 | 77,557 | 79,579 | 83,178 | 3,599 |
| 514001 LONGEVITY | 0 | 0 | 750 | 750 | 750 | 0 |
| TOTAL PERSONNEL SERVICES | 72,554 | 74,727 | 78,307 | 80,329 | 83,928 | 3,599 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | | |
| 523000 WATER & SEWER SERVIC | 74 | 330 | 45 | 500 | 250 | -250 |
| 531900 TRAINING EXPENSES | 0 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 250 | 250 |
| 534010 TELEPHONE | 109 | 117 | 88 | 115 | 115 | 0 |
| 534100 POSTAGE | 5,079 | 5,134 | 1,007 | 7,500 | 1,500 | -6,000 |
| 534200 PRINTING | 2,773 | 2,843 | 2,049 | 3,500 | 3,000 | -500 |
| 542000 OFFICE SUPPLIES | 42 | 111 | 425 | 100 | 100 | 0 |
| 558500 COMPUTER SUPPLIES | 949 | 0 | 127 | 250 | 250 | 0 |
| 559300 AWARDS & TROPHIES | 210 | 0 | 0 | 210 | 210 | 0 |
| 559400 FLAGS & BUNTINGS | 2,443 | 2,683 | 2,779 | 4,000 | 4,000 | 0 |
| 570900 VETERAN BENEFITS-REIM | 210,697 | 111,495 | 92,282 | 100,000 | 100,000 | 0 |
| 571000 VEHICLE USE REIMBURSE | 28 | 0 | 74 | 300 | 150 | -150 |
| 571100 IN-STATE CONFERENCES | 618 | 0 | 338 | 600 | 600 | 0 |
| 571200 REFRESHMENTS/MEALS | 1,541 | 1,322 | 579 | 2,000 | 2,000 | 0 |
| 571600 SPECIAL EVENT EXPENSE | 650 | 971 | 500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 0 |
| 573000 DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS | 50 | 10 | 0 | 75 | 75 | 0 |
| 578200 MEMORIAL DAY PARADE | 16,770 | 18,655 | 3,215 | 0 | 15,000 | 15,000 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 242,033 | 143,697 | 103,508 | 120,150 | 128,500 | 8,350 |
| FRINGE BENEFITS | | | | | | |
| 57MEDA MEDICARE PAYROLL TAX | 1,052 | 1,084 | 1,127 | 1,165 | 1,217 | 52 |
| 57OPEB OPEB CONTRIBUTION | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2,865 | 0 | -2,865 |
| TOTAL FRINGE BENEFITS | 1,052 | 1,084 | 1,127 | 4,030 | 1,217 | -2,813 |
| TOTAL VETERAN SERVICES | 315,639 | 219,507 | 182,942 | 204,508 | 213,645 | 9,137 |
| TOTAL VETERANS | 315,639 | 219,507 | 182,942 | 204,508 | 213,645 | 9,137 |