



Finance Committee Agenda

City of Newton In City Council

Monday, March 28, 2022

The Finance Committee will hold this meeting as a virtual meeting on Monday, March 28, 2022, at 7:00 pm. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81940485377> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the following Meeting ID: 819 4048 5377

Item scheduled for discussions:

#211-22 Acceptance of \$26,800 from the Mass Cultural Council

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting the authorization to accept and expend grant funds from the Mass Cultural Council in the amount of twenty-six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$26,800), the 2022 allocation to the Newton Cultural Council.

#210-22 Request for funds for an accessible swing and additional accessible GrassMats

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting the authorization to appropriate and expend the sum of one thousand five hundred thirty-seven dollars (\$1,537) from HP Parking Fines Receipts Reserved for Appropriations Fund 5500, Org 5518R114 to match PTO funds at Burr School in order to purchase an accessible swing and additional accessible GrassMats for the Burr School Playground.

#209-22 Request for funds for a new Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon

HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting the authorization to appropriate and expend the sum of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) from HP Parking Fines Receipts Reserved for Appropriations Fund 5500, Org 5518R114 for the purchase and installation of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) system to be installed at the intersection of Langley, Warren and Chase Streets.

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: fairley@newtonma.gov or (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.

- #212-22 Request to transfer \$50,000 from Human Resources Full Time Salaries**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) from Acct # 0110952-511001 Human Resources Full Time Salaries to Acct #0110952-530100 Human Resources Consultants.
- #208-22 Authorization to settle a claim**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to settle a claim regarding a broken water pipe that flooded a resident's basement in the amount of thirty-two thousand dollars (\$32,000).
- #207-22 Discussion on the City's capital and operating costs vs. revenue earned**
COUNCILORS MARKIEWICZ, OLIVER, LAREDO AND WRIGHT requesting a discussion with Assessing, the CFO, and COO regarding a comparison of the City's capital and operating costs vs. revenue earned, by zoning district type/use class. An objective of the discussion is to understand whether generally the land use provided for a given parcel or district tends to generate a surplus or deficit from operations given a conforming use of the land.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Walker Grossman, Chair



City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

RUTHANNE FULLER
MAYOR

211-22

Telephone
(617) 796-1100

Telefax
(617) 796-1113

TDD
(617) 796-1089

E-mail
rfuller@newtonma.gov

March 14, 2022

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting authorization to accept and expend grant funds from the Mass Cultural Council in the amount of \$26,800, the 2022 allocation to the Newton Cultural Council.

The Newton Cultural Council contributes to the cultural vitality of our city by funding creative, cultural and humanistic projects of Newton cultural organizations, artists, and humanists that benefit and enrich our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA. 02459

2022 MAR 14 PM 4:32

RECEIVED



NICOLE BANKS
COMMISSIONER

NEWTON PARKS, RECREATION & CULTURE DEPARTMENT

246 Dudley Road, Newton, MA 02459
Office: (617) 796-1500
TDD/TTY: (617) 796-1089
parks@newtonma.gov

March 11, 2022

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton, Ma 02459-1449

Dear Mayor Fuller:

I write to request that you submit a docket item to our Honorable City Council, requesting authorization to accept and expend grant funds from the **Mass Cultural Council (MCC)** in the amount of **\$26,800.00**. This is the annual allocation from the MCC to the **Newton Cultural Council (NCC)**, a local cultural council. The purpose of the Local Cultural Councils is to support public programs that promote access, education, diversity, and excellence in the arts, humanities, and sciences in communities across the Commonwealth. Local decision-making is an integral element of this system. LCCs have the right and responsibility to award grants that address cultural needs specific to their communities, and they can decide how to distribute funds if the state policies outlined in the program guidelines are followed. These funds are distributed by an annual grant process adjudicated by the Newton Cultural Council.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicole Banks".

Nicole Banks
Parks, Recreation & Culture Commissioner

Cc: Maureen Lemieux, CFO
Alissa O. Giuliani, City Solicitor

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chair Rebecca Walker Grossman, the authorization to accept and expend grant funds from the Mass Cultural Council in the amount of twenty-six thousand eight hundred dollars (\$26,800), the 2022 allocation to the Newton Cultural Council.

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved
DRAFT

(SGD) CAROL MOORE
City Clerk

(SGD) RUTHANNE FULLER
Mayor

Date: _____

210-22



RUTHANNE FULLER
MAYOR

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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E-mail
rfuller@newtonma.gov

March 14, 2022

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting the authorization to appropriate and expend the amount of \$1,537 from HP Parking Fines Receipts Reserved for Appropriations Fund 5500, Org 5518R114 to match PTO funds at Burr School in order to purchase an accessible swing and additional accessible GrassMats for the Burr School Playground.

Funds in this account are specifically set aside for the Commission on Disabilities to make recommendations to the Mayor for their use. A request from the Commission on Disabilities is attached.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ruthanne Fuller".

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA, 02459

2022 MAR 14 PM 4:32

RECEIVED

Newton Commission on Disability
c/o Jini Fairley
jfairley@newtonma.gov

February 8, 2022

Dear Newton COD,

I am writing on behalf of the Burr School PTO to formally request monies toward helping to achieve better accessibility for the Burr School Playground.

Earlier this year, Newton Parks installed rubber matting to help bring our playground into compliance. The picture enclosed is the state of the playground in November as currently it is covered in snow. The matting is installed to most of the playground structures as well as to one swing. Unfortunately, the swing matting is not safe for someone who requires ambulatory assistance and it was determined during a site visit by Stephanie Lapham and Jini Fairley that we need to add matting to help address the accessibility problems.

The PTO also purchased, through fundraising, new picnic tables including one accessible table, but the portion of the playground where the table is installed is not accessible, it is currently just wood chip surfacing. This was another area that was pinpointed for improvement during the site visit mentioned above and necessary for compliance.

Lastly, we currently do not have an accessible swing. Stephanie Lapham was able to provide us with the vendor that the City of Newton prefers to use to quote us on the cost of a swing, which we have attached. This does not include any installation.

This past year alone the Burr PTO has spent \$23,583 on playground improvements, to include installing the city-provided mats, replacing the timbers around the playground, the new picnic tables and work to address drainage issues.

We do currently have a Burr Student who requires the use of an ambulatory aide and who would benefit greatly from these improvements.

Costs quoted and attached:

- Swing - \$1320.00 (Please note the shipping is quite high - this was the preferred vendor however)
- 16 Mats for Swings & the accessible picnic table- \$1754 (NP&R to Install)

The total cost to make the current playground compliant is \$3074. Knowing that money is tight and that equity across the Newton schools must be considered, we are hoping you might match \$1537 to meet us halfway on the swing and the matting necessary to bring the playground as it stands to compliance.

We would be grateful for any assistance you can provide, and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Haggerty on behalf of the Burr PTO

Attachments:
Photo of playground
Photo of swing area
Newton's quote for mats
Quote for Swing

Commonwealth MAAB Approved And 521 CMR Compliant Accessibility Mats

Stephanie Lapham Newton 617-938-4674

Note we do not cut if we do not need to, giving customer as much rubber matting area as possible.

Accessibility Matting			Mats for area	Accessibility Matting			
			Mats for Area				
16 Mats			16				
			0	Accessibility Matting	16	\$79	\$1,264
			16				
	Cuts & Fits	0%	0		Shipping and Handling		\$490
Estimated Appropriate Accessible Mats			16	Accessibility Matting Total			\$1,754

210-22
Estimate

Park Street Playgrounds LLC
263 Park St
North Reading, MA 01864
978-664-0239
msalt1@verizon.net



Name/Address
Alyssa Haggerty Burr Elementary School 171 Pine St Auburndale, MA 02466

Ship To
Alyssa Haggerty Burr Elementary School 171 Pine St Auburndale, MA 02466

Date	Estimate No.	Phone	Terms	Contact	Project
12/09/21	Q677	617-921-4791		Jennifer Frankel	

Item	Description	Quantity	Cost	Total
BSIS-512 Inclusive Swing Seat	Inclusive Swing Seat with Chain and harness BSIS-512T Green with Tan brace		772.00	772.00T
surcharge	Commodity surcharge		173.00	173.00T
Shipping	Shipping and Handling		375.00	375.00
	Sales Tax		0.00%	0.00
ADDITIONAL NOTES:				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Contractor/Customer is responsible for quantity confirmation. ◆ Prices quoted are firm for 60 days and subject to review thereafter. ◆ Prices based on quantities listed. Any change to quantities may impact prices quoted. ◆ Prices are for materials only unless otherwise noted. ◆ Concrete for footings included in installation price ◆ Includes site visit and site meetings as requested by GC ◆ Prices do NOT include sales tax, or resilient surfacing unless noted. ◆ Standard manufacturer's design, colors, specifications, and construction apply. ◆ If ordered, upon receipt inspect entire delivery carefully, noting on delivery receipt ANY damage so a freight claim can be filed if damage is found after opening package(s). ◆ Prices are not using prevailing wages unless otherwise specified. ◆ If installation is quoted, it is assumed that the site has been prepared and that any grade slope in any direction does not exceed 2%. In the event that unexpected soil conditions, such as subsurface rock, are encountered during installation, additional costs to the customer will be applicable. ◆ The acceptance signature below serves as authorization to order the items quoted and indicates acceptance of the prices listed. All terms are subject to credit approval. ◆ Please allow 10-12 weeks for delivery after receipt of order and architectural approval if required. Please note that if the quote includes different manufacturers, lead times may vary. 				

If we can be of further assistance, please feel free to contact us. Thank you

Signature for acceptance

Total	\$1,320.00
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CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chair Rebecca Walker Grossman, to appropriate and expend the sum of one thousand five hundred thirty-seven dollars (\$1,537) from HP Parking Fines Receipts Reserved for Appropriations Fund 5500, Org 5518R114 to match PTO funds at Burr School in order to purchase an accessible swing and additional accessible GrassMats for the Burr School Playground be and is hereby approved as follows:

FROM: HP Parking Fines Receipts Reserved
(5518R114-590001) \$1,537.00

TO: Burr School Playground
(01C60211-585241) \$1,537.00

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved
DRAFT

(SGD) CAROL MOORE
City Clerk

(SGD) RUTHANNE FULLER
Mayor

Date: _____



RUTHANNE FULLER
MAYOR

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rfuller@newtonma.gov

March 14, 2022

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting the authorization to appropriate and expend the amount of \$18,000 from HP Parking Fines Receipts Reserved for Appropriations Fund 5500, Org 5518R114 for the purchase and installation of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beason (RRFB) system to be installed at the intersection of Langley, Warren, and Chase Streets, in order to make the CDBG-funded Access Project in that area more complete, adding more safety for pedestrians with and without disabilities to a proposed crosswalk crossing Langley.

Funds in this account are specifically set aside for the Commission on Disabilities to make recommendations to the Mayor for their use. A request from the Commission on Disabilities is attached.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA, 02459

2022 MAR 14 PM 4:32

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CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS
Commission On Disability



Ruthanne Fuller
 Mayor

Barney Heath,
 Director, Planning &
 Development

Amanda Berman
 Director, Housing &
 Community Development

Nika Sandal
 Planner
 Community Development

Members

Anne Marie Killilea, Co-Chair
 Eileen Sandberg, Co-Chair
 Jane Brown, Treasurer
 Warren Abramson
 Rob Caruso
 Lucie Chansky
 Lakshmi Kadambi, Co-Chair
 Nancy Kritzman
 Darby Leigh
 Sandra Lingley
 Barbara Lischinsky
 Girard Plante
 Matt Volpi

Jason Rosenberg
 Chairman Emeritus

Advisor

Sergeant Michael B. Wade
 Newton Police Department

Staff

Jini Fairley
 ADA/Sec 504 Coordinator
 617-796-1253

1000 Commonwealth Ave.
 Newton, MA 02459
 T 617-796-1240
 F 617-796-1254
 www.newtonma.gov

MEMO

Date: March 14, 2022

To: Mayor Fuller

From: Newton Commission On Disability

**Subject: Request to Docket Purchase and Installation of an RRFB System from
 COD Fines Account**

The Newton Commission On Disability, at their February 14, 2022 meeting passed a motion to request to expend Fines funds for the purchase and installation of an RRFB system at the intersection of Langley/Warren/Chase Streets.

With the installation of an RRFB System, the members desired to make this proposed CDBG-funded project more safe for pedestrians, especially pedestrians with disabilities, crossing Langley Road, once the CDBG funded construction is complete.

When the members of the COD voted to recommend the use of FY23 CDBG funds to construct bump-outs, new curb ramps, and crosswalks, at this intersection, as a CDBG Access project at their January meeting, there was not a sufficient dollar allocation to add this RRFB System. This CDBG-funded access project has not begun, but there is a DPW concept design and cost estimate of \$110,000, which also exceeded the dollar allocation, even without the RRFB. The city's allocation for CDBG Access Projects is 5% of CDBG funds received by the city, which is approximately \$95,000.

The estimated cost of this RRFB system ranges between \$15,000 and \$20,000.

The COD members strongly feel this is an appropriate use of the Fines funds, and respectfully requests the Mayor to docket \$18,000 to be appropriated from the COD Fines account for the purchase and installation of an RRFB system at the intersection of Langley/Warren/Chase Streets.



CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chair Rebecca Walker Grossman, to appropriate and expend the sum of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000) from HP Parking Fines Receipts Reserved for Appropriations Fund for the purchase and installation of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) system to be installed at the intersection of Langley, Warren and Chase Streets be and is hereby approved as follows:

FROM:	HP Parking Fines Receipts Reserved (5518R114-590001)	\$18,000.00
TO:	COD Flashing Beacons, Langley, Warren, Chase (01C40128-586005)	\$18,000.00

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved
DRAFT

(SGD) CAROL MOORE
City Clerk

(SGD) RUTHANNE FULLER
Mayor

Date: _____



RUTHANNE FULLER
MAYOR

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

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March 14, 2022

Honorable City Council
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Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting the authorization to transfer the amount of \$50,000 from Acct # 0110952-511001 Human Resources Full Time Salaries to Acct # 0110952-530100 Human Resources Consultants. Due to staffing shortages throughout the northeast, we continue to look for talent to fill several positions so we have unspent salary funds. Simultaneously, the Human Resources Department has utilized the services of a Benefits' Consultant to provide the in-house administration of our benefit plans.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

RECEIVED
2022 MAR 14 PM 4:45
CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA 02459

CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

DRAFT

ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chair Rebecca Walker Grossman, to transfer the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) from Acct # 0110952-511001 Human Resources Full Time Salaries to Acct #0110952-530100 Human Resources Consultants be and is hereby approved as follows:

FROM: HR Full-Time Salaries
(0110952-511001)..... \$50,000.00

TO: HR Consultants
(0110952-530100)..... \$50,000.00

Under Suspension of Rules
Readings Waived and Approved
DRAFT

(SGD) CAROL MOORE
City Clerk

(SGD) RUTHANNE FULLER
Mayor

Date: _____



City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

RUTHANNE FULLER
MAYOR

208-22

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E-mail
rfuller@newtonma.gov

March 14, 2022

Honorable City Council
Newton City Hall
1000 Commonwealth Avenue
Newton Centre, MA 02459

Councilors:

I respectfully submit a docket item to your Honorable Council requesting authorization to settle a claim regarding a broken water pipe that flooded a resident's basement in the amount of \$32,000.

The residents, through their insurance company, submitted documents in support of their claim showing that the damages to their property directly arose from the flooding of the basement. The total amount of those damages is \$42,475.61. After review of the claim, documents and case law, we believe that a settlement is in the best interest of all parties.

We negotiated with the insurer and have reached agreement to settle this claim for full and final settlement for the amount of \$32,000. Funds are available in Acct # 60A10841-572500.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

CITY CLERK
NEWTON, MA. 02459

2022 MAR 14 PM 4:32

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CITY OF NEWTON

IN CITY COUNCIL

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ORDERED:

That, in accordance with the recommendation of the Finance Committee through its Chair Rebecca Walker Grossman, the authorization to settle a claim regarding a broken water pipe that flooded a resident's basement in the amount of thirty-two thousand dollars (\$32,000).

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(SGD) CAROL MOORE
City Clerk

(SGD) RUTHANNE FULLER
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Date: _____