

CITY OF NEWTON

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

JOINT FINANCE, PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2012

**7:45 PM
ALDERMANIC CHAMBER**

AGENDA

REFERRED TO FINANCE COMMITTEE

#323-12 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting local acceptance of the following sections of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59 related to tax exemptions:

- The provisions of Chapter 59 section 5 added by Chapter 181 of the Acts of 1995, which authorizes an annual increase in the amount of the exemption granted to senior citizens, surviving spouses and surviving minors under General Laws Chapter 49, Section 5, Clause 17D by up to 100% of the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, and to fix that annual increase at 100% of the CPI: to be effective for exemptions granted any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2013.
- Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 17E, which authorizes an annual increase in the asset (the whole estate) limit for exemptions granted to senior citizens, surviving spouses, and surviving minors by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for exemptions granted any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2013.
- Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41D, which authorizes an annual increase in the income (gross receipts) and asset (whole estate) limits for exemptions granted to senior citizens by the percentage increase in the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Price Index for the previous year as determined by the Commissioner of Revenue, to be effective for exemptions granted any fiscal year beginning on or after July 1, 2013.
- Chapter 59, Section 5N to establish a Veteran's Tax Work-Off Program that will authorize a qualifying veteran or a proxy, if the qualifying veteran is

physically unable to perform the work, to work-off up to the maximum reduction of the real property⁷ tax bill based on 125 volunteer service hours in a given tax year. .

- Chapter 59, Section 5K, (Senior Tax Work-Off Program) and the amendment to Section 27-20 of the Revised Ordinances of the City of Newton 2012 to allow the maximum reduction to be based on 125 hours of service, rather than \$1,000, as well as discussion of adopting a provision to allow a proxy to perform the work on behalf of a qualifying senior who is physically unable to perform the volunteer service.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#324-12 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting the following:

- (1) To present the following levy limit override and debt exclusion ballot questions to the voters in accordance with the procedure prescribed by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 21C(g) and (k):
 - Shall the City of Newton be allowed to assess an additional \$8,400,000 in real estate and personal property taxes for the purpose of funding municipal and school operating and capital expenses to support increased student enrollment, fund street and sidewalk paving, fund public safety personnel, address the condition and capacity of Zervas Elementary School, fund the relocation of the fire Department Wires Division, and fund the replacement of Fire Headquarters and Fire Station 3 in Newton Centre for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013?
Yes _____ No _____
 - Shall the City of Newton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to renovate or replace the A.E. Angier Elementary School?
Yes _____ No _____
 - Shall the City of Newton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 1/2, so called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to renovate or replace the Cabot Elementary School?
Yes _____ No _____
- (2) A request to call a special election to present the levy limit override and debt exclusion ballot questions to the voters and set a date of March 12 2013, for such special election.

- (3) A Request to appropriate from Budget Reserve the sum of eighty-five thousand dollars (\$85,000) for the purpose of funding the costs of a special election to present the levy limit override and debt exclusion ballot questions to the voters.

The location of this meeting is handicap accessible, and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons requiring assistance. If you have a special accommodation need, please contact the Newton ADA Coordinator Trisha Guditz, 617-796-1156, via email at TGuditz@newtonma.gov or via TDD/TTY at (617) 796-1089 at least two days in advance of the meeting date.