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CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2008

7:00 PM NOTE EARLY START TIME
Room 222

ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

#314-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend from salary reserves six million one hundred twenty-seven thousand four hundred eighty-five dollars ($6,127,485), of which fifty-seven thousand six hundred fifty-two dollars ($57,652) will be appropriated for benefits, to fund the collective bargaining award from the state Joint Labor Management Committee (JLMC) between the City of Newton and the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) Local 863. [08-26-08 @ 12:30 PM]

#313-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate one hundred twenty-seven thousand two hundred fifty-five dollars ($127,255) from Wage Reserve to the payroll accounts in the Departments of Public Works ($85,853), Public Buildings ($14,599) and Parks and Recreation ($26,803) to make FY07 and FY08 retroactive salary payments and fully reflect FY09 wages pursuant to the agreement reached with the Foremen's Union, Local 2443. [08-26-08 @ 3:49 PM]

#312-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate eighty-three thousand eight hundred twenty dollars ($83,820) from Wage Reserve to the Department of Public Works payroll accounts to make FY07 and FY08 retroactive salary payments and fully reflect FY09 wages pursuant to the agreement reached with the Engineering Representatives. [08-26-08 @3:50 PM]

#247-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer sixty-four thousand four hundred seventy dollars ($64,470) from wage reserve to the salary account ($63,849) and the benefits account ($621) of the Police Department to fund the FY09 cost of the recently approved contract with the Traffic Supervisors and Parking Control Officers. [7-8-08 @5:15 PM]

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#311-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting acceptance of and authorization to expend a grant of twenty six thousand, four hundred forty dollars ($26, 440) from the Statewide Emergency Telecommunications Board to the Newton Police Dispatch Center for dispatch training, fees and overtime costs. [08-26-08 @3:49 PM]

CHAIRMAN'S NOTE: **The following item may not be voted on tonight. This may be a discussion only.**

REFERRED TO PUB. SAFETY & TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#30-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting a list of current vacancies in the Police, Fire and Public Works Departments, with specific discussion in Committee relative to Police Department vacancies. [01-15-08 @ 11:15 AM]
PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 5-0-1 (Ald. Harney abstaining, Ald. Swiston and Coletti not present and voting) on 6-18-08

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#318-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to transfer funds within the Department of Public Works for the administration of the streetlights maintenance program as follows: [08-26-08 @ 3:47 PM]

From:	0140109-5431 Parts	$24,500
To:	0140109-513001 Overtime	$19,500
To:	0140109-515401 Police Details	$ 5,000

PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 5-0 (Ald. Yates not voting) on 9-3-08

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#145-08(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend $136,456.40 received as a payment from the Town of Wellesley pursuant to the Newton/Wellesley Inter-Municipal Agreement for the Cochituate Aqueduct for maintenance and repairs of the Cochituate Aqueduct Sewer. [08-26-08 @ 3:48 PM]
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 5-0 (Ald. Yates not voting) on 9-3-08

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#317-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend twenty five thousand dollars ($25,000) from Marathon Receipts for seed money which will be used in combination with future fund raising from local community groups for the installation of playground equipment at the Lincoln-Eliot School and the Newton Highlands Playground. [08-26-08 @ 3:45 PM]
PROGRAM AND SERVICES APPROVED 7-0 (Ald. Parker not voting) on 9-3-08

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REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#316-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend from Budget Reserve forty three thousand eight hundred twenty-nine dollars and six cents ($43,829.06) for costs related to tree emergencies that occurred during the severe storms this past July and August. [08-26-08 @ 3:44 PM]
PROGRAM AND SERVICES APPROVED 7-0 (Ald. Parker not voting) on 9-3-08

#310-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization pursuant to GL chapter 30B, §12 for the Treasurer's Office to solicit bids and enter in a contract for fund management services for the Chaffin Education Fund for a term of up to five years with an option to renew for up to additional five years. [08-26-08 @3:51 PM]

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor
#244-08 ROSEMARY LARKING, 31 Edward Road, West Newton, appointed as a member of the Newton Taxation Aid Committee for a term to expire on May 1, 2010. (60 days: 08-23-08) [6-24-08 @12:58 PM]

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor
#243-08 CAROL ANN SHEA, 21 Milo Street, West Newton, appointed as a member of the Newton Taxation Aid Committee for a term to expire on May 1, 2011. (60 days: 08-23-08) [6-24-08 @12:58 PM]

Appointment by His Honor the Mayor
#242-08 MICHAEL P. FLYNN, 23 Thelma Road, Dorchester, appointed to the Board of Assessors for a term expiring February 1, 2009. (60 days: 08-22-08) [6-23-08 @ 3:09 PM]

ITEM RECOMMITTED ON 3-5-07 TO FINANCE COMMITTEE ONLY:
REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#23-06 ALD PARKER AND LINSKY requesting that the City adopt §19 of MGL Chapter 32B to allow retiree coalition bargaining of health care benefits
PROGRAM AND SERVICES NO ACTION NECESSARY 4-0-2 (Ald. Parker and Merrill abstaining; Ald. Sangiolo not voting) on 3-8-06.
FINANCE NO ACTION NECESSARY 5-0-3 (Ald. Lennon, Linsky and Parker abstaining) on 2-12-07

REFERRED TO PROG& SERV, PUB.FACILITIES & FINANCE COMMITTEES

#143-08 ALD. LINSKY requesting a resolution to recognize and adopt the establishment by the mayor of a cap to the Newton North High School project. [4-01-08 @ 5:30 PM]
PROGRAM AND SERVICES NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0 on 4-9-08
PUBLIC FACILITIES NO ACTION NECESSARY 6-0 on 9-3-08

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REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., PUB. FAC. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#55-08 ALD. SANGIOLO, HARNEY AND PARKER proposing that the Board of Aldermen request the assistance of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) and State Treasurer Tim Cahill in managing the Newton North High School construction project, including assistance with controlling project costs.
PROGRAM & SERVICES NO ACTION NECESSARY 5-0-1 (Ald. Brandel abstaining) on 7-9-08
PUBLIC FACILITIES NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0 on 7-9-08

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., PUB. FAC. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#54-08 ALD. MANSFIELD, JOHNSON, HARNEY, SANGIOLO, PARKER, SWISTON AND FREEDMAN, offering a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor that the concrete foundations for the new Newton North High School not be installed until (1) the Mayor has submitted to the Board of Aldermen and the Board has approved a financing plan for a confirmed Guaranteed Maximum Price; and (2) the Mayor has requested and received from the Massachusetts State Treasurer a review of the project's plans, including the financing plan, and said review has been submitted to the Board of Aldermen. [01-29-08 @ 7:01 PM]
PROG & SERV APPROVED 5-1-1 (Ald. Baker opposed; Ald. Hess-Mahan abstaining) on 2-6-08
PUBLIC FACILITIES NO ACTION NECESSARY 8-0 on 2-20-08

REFERRED TO PROG & SERV, PUB FAC AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#54-08(2) PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE offering a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting he provide to the Board of Aldermen at the earliest possible time the financing plan for a confirmed guaranteed maximum price in order to preserve cost-saving options.
PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED 6-1 (Ald. Merrill abstaining; Ald. Parker not voting) on 3-09-08-012-08
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 8-0 on 2-20-08

#246-08 ALD. COLETTI proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor and the School Committee to prohibit immediately the use of any city-owned vehicle for commuting purposes in excess of ten miles from the physical boundaries of Newton and to limit use of city-owned vehicles to circumstances where an emergency response is likely during non-business house and in which the necessary equipment is carried for such emergency response. [7-2-08 @ 12:12 PM]

#207-07(4) ALD. COLETTI proposing that the city's Financial Management Guidelines adopted under board order #207-07 be amended to allow the adjustment of self-funded health insurance plan rates in the event that rates and any accumulated excess resources not meet actual resource requirements. [7-2-08 @12:12 PM]

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#207-07(3) ALD. COLETTI proposing that the sum of $300,000 be removed from various municipal and school department budgets for FY09 and placed in a separate "employee compensation" reserve account until the Mayor and School Committee present to the Board of Aldermen performance pay plan policies. [7-2-08 @12:12 PM]

#207-07(2) ALD. COLETTI proposing that the city's Financial Management Guidelines adopted under board order #207-07 be amended, effective FY10, as follows:

(A) total resources devoted to all forms of employee compensation shall not exceed the estimated growth in total general fund revenue for the following fiscal year;

(B) funds for salary and wage adjustments shall not exceed the difference between total estimated revenue growth and resources needed to fund growth in health/dental and life insurance benefits and growth in the actuarial required contribution for the city's retirement system for each fiscal year;

(C) if collective bargaining contracts are not resolved at the time of budget submission, funds budgeted for such contracts shall be held in "municipal and compensation" reserve. [7-2-08 @12:12 PM]

ITEMS NOT SCHEDULED FOR DISCUSSION:

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#319-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR in accordance with the recommendation of the Traffic Council requesting authorization to appropriate and expend from Parking Meter Receipts one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000) to fund construction of up to five pedestrian-activated warning signals at (1) Crafts Street and Linwood Avenue, (2) Washington Street and Harvard Street, (3)Waverley Avenue and Franklin Street, (4) Waverley Avenue near Arlington Street, and (5) Centre Street near Pleasant Street. [08-26-08 @ 3:45 PM]
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 5-0 (Ald. Yates not voting) on 9-3-08

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#315-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting the establishment of a revolving fund to be used for receiving and expending up to $150,000 annually for the purpose of collecting fees and supporting the cost for the elementary music program. [08-26-08 @ 3:48 PM]

REFERRED TO POST AUDIT & OVERSIGHT AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#300-08 ALD. JOHNSON AND SWISTON requesting discussion with Mayor David Cohen and Superintendent Jeffrey Young as to the procedures that are in place to ensure accountability of their staff in respect to adherence to the authorization of purchasing and expenditures policy and procedures. [07-21-08 @ 9:03 AM]

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#299-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the Board of Aldermen accept the provisions of §18 of Chapter 32B of the General Laws which requires all eligible municipal retirees to enroll in Medicare, the acceptance of which will allow the City to enroll them in health insurance plans that supplement Medicare coverage for cost savings to both retirees and the City. [08-04-08 @ 12:35 PM]

#299-08(2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the Board of Aldermen accept the provisions of §19 of Chapter 32B (as amended) of the General Laws to allow all subscribers for whom the City provides health insurance to transfer to the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) pursuant to Section 19(e) of Section 32B, which authorizes the City to engage in so-called coalition bargaining re the issue of the City joining the GIC. [08-04-08 @ 12:35 PM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#274-08 ALD. JOHNSON AND SANGIOLO proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that he create a plan to move the Child Care Commission to a self-sustaining model for FY2010. [07-17-08 @ 9:53 AM]

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., ZONING & PLANNING, PUB. FACIL., PUB. SAFETY AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#273-08 ALD. JOHNSON proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that the Executive and Human Resources Departments develop a comprehensive human capital strategy for the city to include: performance management, talent development, succession planning, and compensation. [07-17-08 @ 9:53 AM]
PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 6-0 (Ald. Ciccone and Coletti not present and voting) on 9-3-08

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#272-08 ALD. JOHNSON proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor that he work with the Board of Aldermen, School Department, and School Committee in order to determine the most effective and efficient way to organize the Human Resources Departments. [07-17-08 @ 9:53 AM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#270-08 ALD. JOHNSON proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that he work with the Board of Aldermen, School Department, and School Committee in order to determine the most effective and efficient way to organize the Information Technology Departments. [07-17-08 @ 9:53 AM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#261-08 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting discussion with the Executive Department regarding moving the Director of Arts in the Parks' salary to the Arts in the Parks revolving account. [07-08-08 @ 1:29 PM]

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REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#260-08 ALD. SANGIOLO proposing the establishment of a revolving account to receive contributions and rental income to go directly to fund branch libraries for each individual branch. [07-08-08 @ 1:29 PM]
PROGRAM AND SERVICES APPROVED AS AMENDED 5-0-3 (Ald. Baker, Freedman, Hess-Mahan abstaining)

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#259-08 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting discussion with the Executive Department regarding moving the salaries of the Parks & Recreation Commissioner and the Recreation Programs Director to the revolving accounts for various programs. [07-08-08 @ 1:28 PM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#258-08 ALD. SANGIOLO requesting discussion with the Executive Department regarding reorganization of senior transportation services and establishment of intra-village transportation systems. [07-08-08 @ 1:29 PM]

#256-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting the establishment of a memorial fund entitled the *Nathan Alden Robinson Memorial Fund* with authorization to expend up to $25,000 in FY09 for a memorial. [7-8-08 @5:15 PM]

REFERRED TO COMM. ON COMM. PRES. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#230-08 THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of $6,000 (including $750 for legal costs) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund's fiscal 2008 fund balance and fiscal 2009 historic resources or general reserves, to preserve the bronze doors and other bronze elements at the main entrance to the headquarters of the Newton Fire Department in Newton Centre, using the methods described in the Committee's recommendation to the Board dated June 2008. [6-8-08 @ 12:43 PM]

REFERRED TO COMM. ON COMM. PRES. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#229-08 THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of $968,800, including $2,800 for legal expenses, be appropriated from the FY'09 Community Preservation Fund's housing and general reserves for a third round of the Newton Homebuyer Assistance Program, to help 8 or more households with incomes up to 80 percent of the area median purchase homes in Newton, and in the process to acquire deed restrictions making the homes purchased with this assistance permanently affordable to such households, and therefore qualified for inclusion in the Commonwealth's Subsidized Housing Inventory. [6-8-08 @ 1:28 PM]
COMM. ON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION APPROVED 5-0 on 6-24-08

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#213-08 ALD. LINKSY, JOHNSON, ALBRIGHT, FREEDMAN, HARNEY, HESS-MAHAN, VANCE, MANSFIELD & PARKER requesting the evaluation of the following in conjunction with the contemplated conversion of general fund monies from operational budget uses to debt service use in regard to the Newton North High School project:
(a) the impact on city and/or school services,
(b) the process by which criteria and prioritization will be established when choices need to be made between services, and
(c) whether additional revenue will be required in the form of debt exclusions or otherwise. [04-29-08 @ 11:26 AM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#207-08 ALD. BRANDEL AND SANGIOLO proposing that the following question be put before the Newton voters:
"Shall the City of Newton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition 2 ½ the amounts required to pay for the bond issuance in order to fund Newton North High School?" [05-21-08 @ 12:58 PM]

REFERRED TO PROG& SERV, PUB.FACILITIES & FINANCE COMMITTEES

#192-08 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting authorization to appropriate and expend $5,069,783 from the following sources for the purpose of installing new fields and track at Newton South High School:
(A) Capital Stabilization Fund……$1,851,783
(B) Bonded Indebtedness……$3,218,000
(C) and to establish an appropriate vehicle into which $500,000 may be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund to support the annual maintenance of these fields.[05-13-08 @ 5:02 PM]
PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED 5-0-2 (Ald. Merrill, Sangiolo abstaining) on 5-21-08
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 5-0-1 (Ald. Albright abstaining) on 5-21-08
(A) APPROVED $300,000 by Full Board on 7-14-08
(B) BALANCE HELD 6-1 (Ald. Salvucci opposed) on 6-23-08

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REFERRED TO COMMUNITY PRESERVATION & FINANCE COMMITTEES

#147-08 COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of $359,400, including $2,000 for legal costs, be appropriated from the FY'08 Community Preservation Fund's historic resources and general reserves, for a project to rehabilitate and expand storage space for the research library and archives at the Newton History Museum, to preserve the existing collections, and enhance public access to the collections. [04-01-08 @ 4:10 PM]

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION APPROVED 6-0 on 4-29-08
(A) DESIGN FUNDS ESTIMATE $37,500.00
(B) BALANCE OF PROJECT ESTIMATE $321,900.00
Voice vote APPROVED Motion to amend docket to add referral to Public Facilities Committee on 5-19-08.
FINANCE APPROVED (A) Design Funds at $37,500 6-0 on 7-21-08
FINANCE HELD (B) Balance of Project on 7-21-08

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., PUB.FAC. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#89-08 ALD. PARKER requesting the following:

A) review of the maintenance practices for buildings, parks and other properties owned by the City (including School Department facilities and grounds)
B) development of a comprehensive maintenance plan that includes regular schedules for preventive maintenance for each specific site or facility
C) a RESOLUTION requesting that implementation of said maintenance plan be funded using operating budget funds.

[02-13-08 @ 12:07 PM]

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES HELD 6-0 (Ald. Freedman not voting) on 4-9-08

REFERRED TO PUB.SAFETY & TRANS. & FINANCE COMMITTEES

#80-08 ALD. SALVUCCI & DANBERG requesting creation of a parking permit program for employees of Newton businesses to allow long-term parking in municipal parking lots. [1-23-08 @1:15 PM]

PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 5-0 (Ald. Swiston, Coletti and Ciccone not present and voting) on 6-18-08
PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 6-0 (Ald. Coletti and Harney not present and voting) on 9-3-08

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REFERRED TO PROG & SERV, PUB FAC AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#54-08(3) PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMITTEE offering a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor requesting that he request and receive from the State Treasurer a review of the project plans and a review of the project's finance plan and submit said reviews to the Board of Aldermen in order to preserve cost-saving options.
PROGRAMS & SERVICES APPROVED 4-2-1 (Ald. Baker and Hess-Mahan opposed; Ald. Merrill abstaining; Ald. Parker not voting) on 3-12-08
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 5-3 (Ald.Gentile, Salvucci, Schnipper opposed) on 2-20-08

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#34-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting that His Honor the Mayor immediately provide the latest "estimate" of the minimum price as per the Dimeo and Turner companies (for the Newton North High School Construction Project) to the Board of Aldermen with a date certain for the filing of a supplemental funding request. [01-15-08 @ 11:14AM]

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#33-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting review of the scope of work and performance of Turner Construction and review of proposed 18-month extension of the Turner Construction contract. Included in discussion will be the process for review of future invoices of Dimeo and other vendor invoices by Turner. [01-15-08 @ 11:14 7-21-08AM]
PUBLIC FACILITIES HELD 7-0 on 1-23-08

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#32-08 ALD. COLETTI requesting discussion of Architect Services Contract and additional $8 million revision to the Dorr Whittier Contract for additional services. [01-15-08 @ 11:14 a.m.]
PUBLIC FACILITIES HELD 7-0 ON 1-23-08

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#31-08 ALD. COLETTI proposing a RESOLUTION to His Honor the Mayor expressing a no confidence vote pertaining to the current status of the Newton North High School Construction Project and related Financing Plan. [01-15-08 @ 11:14 AM]

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#397-07 ALD. JOHNSON AND COLETTI requesting to increase the fee for dogs being off-leash except where dogs are legally able to be off-leash. [12-04-07 @ 12:22 AM]
PROGRAMS AND SERVICES HELD 6-0 (Ald. Parker not voting) on 1-23-08

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REFERRED TO CMTE. ON COMM. PRES. AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

#383-07 THE COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending that the sum of $498,500 be appropriated from the FY08 Community Preservation Fund's community housing and general reserves for development and associated legal costs of a community housing project proposed at 29 Coyne Road, Waban, by CAN-DO (Citizens for Affordable Housing in Newton Development Organization). [11-13-07 @ 5:09 PM]
NOTE: **This item was amended to $576,000 for a three-unit community housing project.**
CMTE.ON COMM. PRES. APPROVED 3-1-2 (Ald. Yates opposed; Ald. Ciccone and Parker abstaining) on 5-27-08
HELD 7-0 on 6-23-08 (Ald. Schnipper not present and voting)

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS AND SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#83-07 ALD. YATES requesting that the City of Newton take all possible steps to persuade the General Court to adopt the proportion of Governors Municipal Partnership that would allow the City to reduce employee health insurance costs by joining the Group Insurance Commission. [02-27-07 @ 10:21 PM]

ITEM RECOMMITTED TO PUB. FACIL. & FINANCE COMMITTEES 3/19/07:
REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#76-07 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of $300,000 from Free Cash for the purpose of conducting a study of the municipal buildings throughout the city. [02-27-07 @ 4:16 PM]
PUB FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0-1 (Ald. Gentile abstaining) on 3-7-07
FINANCE MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED TO CARRY 2-4-1 (Ald. Lennon, Salvucci, Gentile and Coletti opposed; Ald. Linsky abstaining) on 3-12-07
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED AS AMENDED 5-0 @$250,000 on 10/15/07

#453-06 LEON JR. AND MARION D. SEMONIAN, 373 Dedham Street, requesting total abatement of betterment assessment in the amount of $2,690 (assessed for sidewalk/curbing/road improvements to Countryside Road and Patten Circle). [11-16-06@11:02 AM]

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#345-06 ALD. SCHNIPPER requesting that the contingency on smaller Public Buildings projects be increased from 5% to at least 8%.

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#267-06(3) ALD. PARKER, BURG, LINSKY, FISCHMAN, HESS-MAHAN, VANCE, HARNEY, JOHNSON, & DANBERG proposing Home Rule Legislation authorizing the City of Newton to apply the ordinance proposed in item #267-06(2) to assets held by the City's retirement system.

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REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#245-06 ALD. JOHNSON AND HESS-MAHAN requesting an amendment to the City Charter to require the Mayor annually to prepare and submit to the Board of Aldermen a long-term financial forecast of anticipated revenue, expenditures and the general financial condition of the City, including, but not limited to identification of any factors which will affect the financial condition of the City; projected revenue and expenditure trends; potential sources of new or expanded revenues; anticipated municipal needs likely to require major expenditures; and a strategic plan for meeting anticipated municipal needs, to include, but not be limited to, any long or short-term actions that may be taken to enhance the financial condition of the City.
PROGRAM & SERVICES HELD 7-0 (Ald. Parker not voting) on 5-7-08

#93-06(2) ROBERT E. & ANNE M. SULLIVAN, 391 Dedham Street, applying for abatement of a street betterment assessment in the amount of $15, 880 levied by the Board of Aldermen in Board Order #93-06 which improved Countryside Road by the laying out, grading and acceptance of it as a public way. [07-02-07 @ 2:24 PM]
HELD 5-0 (Ald. Johnson, Coletti and Freedman not present and voting) on 2-11-08

REFERRED TO PROGRAMS & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

35-06 ALD. JOHNSON AND HESS-MAHAN requesting discussion with the School Department and School Committee members regarding the results of the studies addressing compensation for management and executive personnel and organizational structure of central administrative salaries.
PROGRAM & SERVICES NO ACTION NECESSARY 6-0 on 4-18-07

#29-06 ALD. JOHNSON AND PARKER requesting creation of a Citizen Financial Advisory Committee to work with city officials and staff to facilitate bench markers, strategic planning, and other initiatives to improve the financial operation of the City.
(President's Note: While not formally referred to the Long Range Planning Committee, this item might usefully be discussed there in light of prior discussions of similar issues.)

REFERRED TO PUB. SAFETY/TRANS. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#455-05 (21-05.2) HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting an appropriation in the amount of $6,000 from the Riverside Traffic Mitigation Fund for the purpose of funding the installation of a radar-controlled speed limit sign at the intersection of Concord and Grove Streets. (#65-05)
PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION HELD 6-0 (Ald. Swiston not voting) on 1-23-08

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#209-05 ALD. STEWART requesting that the Mayor provide the Board of Aldermen with a list of all salaried City employees who receive additional compensation (other than overtime) along with an explanation of the exact reasons for said additional payments.

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERVICES AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#264-03(3) ALD. JOHNSON AND BAKER requesting update on the work of the Taxation Aid Committee established by the Board of Aldermen in March 2004 in administering aid to the elderly taxation fund.
PROGRAM & SERVICES HELD 6-0 (Ald. Parker not voting) on 4-23-08

REFERRED TO ZONING & PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#168-02 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR requesting that the Board of Aldermen establish new civil fines under Section 20-21 of the City of Newton Ordinances for the violation of various environmental provisions enforced by the Conservation Commission.
ZONING & PLANNING APPROVED 6-0 on 12-13-04

REFERRED TO PUBLIC FACILITIES & FINANCE COMMITTEES

#55-02 ALD. YATES requesting that the water/sewer discount rate be made available to homeowners who receive Fuel Assistance, Supplementary Security Income, Food Stamps, Supplementary Disability Income, General Relief, Low Income Sewer and Water Assistance, School Breakfast and Lunch and other income based State and Federal programs.
PUBLIC FACILITIES APPROVED 6-0 on 6-16-04

REFERRED TO PROG. & SERV., PUB. FAC. AND FINANCE COMMITTEES

#309-01 ALD. PARKER requesting increase in the income eligibility level of the 30% water/sewer discount for low-income senior citizens.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul E. Coletti, Chairman