



City Council Reports Docket

January 21: Programs & Services, Public
Facilities and Public Safety & Transportation
January 26: Zoning & Planning and Finance
January 27: Land Use

Page 20
7:45 PM, Hybrid
To be reported on
Monday, February 2, 2026

The City Council will hold this meeting as a hybrid meeting in the City Hall Chambers
Monday, February 2, 2026, at 7:45 PM. To view this meeting on Zoom use this link

<https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/83256128227>

at the above date and time:

One tap mobile

US: +13092053325, 832 5612 8227

Land line

+1 309 205 3325 US

Webinar ID: 832 5612 8227

You may also:

1. Watch a live broadcast of the meeting on NewTV's government channel (Comcast 9, RCN 13, 614(HD), Verizon 33).
2. View a live stream on NewTV's Youtube channel at:
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQvNeCJkA3PftuLLvfAh3cQ>

City of Newton

In City Council Items to be Acted Upon

Referred to Land Use Committee

01/27/2026

Present: Councilors Kelley (Chair), Leary, Block, Farrell, Golden, Irish, Lucas, and Roche; also present: Councilor Wright

#15-26 Request to exceed FAR and to extend a nonconforming front setback at 355 Walnut Street

YEVGENYA ZISLIS petition for SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL, to construct a mudroom and entry landing, extending the nonconforming front setback and FAR at 355 Walnut Street, Ward 2, Newton, on land known as Section 24 Block 11 Lot 01, containing approximately 7,238 sq. ft. of land in a

district zoned Multi Residence 1. Ref: Sec. 7.3.3, 3.2.3, 7.8.2.C.2, 3.2.11, and 7.8.2.C.2 of Chapter 30 of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

Land Use Held 7-0 (Councilor Golden Not Voting) on 01/06/2026

Land Use Approved 8-0

#58-26 Request for a Special Permit to waive 38 parking stalls at 1135 Walnut Street

THE PARISH OF SAINT PAUL petition for SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL, to waive 38 parking stalls at 1135 Walnut Street, Ward 6, Newton, on land known as Section 52 Block 08 Lot 11, containing approximately 16,695 sq. ft. of land in a district zoned Multi Residence 1. Ref: Sec. 7.3.3, 5.1.4, 6.3.12.B.1, and 5.1.13 of Chapter 30 of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

Land Use Approved the Withdrawal without Prejudice 8-0

Referred to Zoning & Planning Committee

01/26/2026

Present: Baker (Chair), Wright, Oliver, Albright, Dahmubed, Getz, Gordon, and Kalis

#20-26 Request for discussion and possible amendments to enhance the preservation of existing homes

COUNCILORS BAKER, WRIGHT, OLIVER, MALAKIE, FARRELL, GETZ, and KALIS requesting a discussion and possible amendments to Chapter 30 Zoning or other City Ordinances to enhance the preservation of existing homes over their replacement by larger and more expensive structures.

Zoning & Planning Held 8-0

#35-26 Requesting a discussion on VCOD and Accessibility of the Auburndale and West Newton Commuter Rail Stations

COUNCILORS BLOCK, MALAKIE, and FARRELL requesting a discussion to consider whether the VCOD districts in Auburndale and West Newton should be suspended or changed in some other way until such time as work has begun making the Auburndale and West Newton commuter rail stations accessible for people with disabilities.

Zoning & Planning No Action Necessary 7-1 (Councilor Oliver Opposed)

#42-26 Ordinance change in Chapter 30 to allow raised beds in the front and rear setback under certain conditions

COUNCILORS ALBRIGHT, KELLEY, and DAHMUBED requesting a discussion and amendments to Chapter 30, Zoning to exempt raised beds 4- feet or less from the definition of a structure and allow them to be placed within the setback.

Zoning & Planning Held 8-0

Referred to Zoning & Planning and Finance Committee

#60-26 CPC recommendation to appropriate \$600,000 in CPA Historic Resource funding

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending the appropriation of six hundred thousand dollars (\$600,000) in Community Preservation Act Historic Resource funding with five hundred five thousand nine hundred thirty-nine dollars and thirty-five cents (\$505,939.35) from Acct# 58R10498-57900B, Historic Resource Reserve Funds, and ninety-four thousand sixty dollars and sixty-five cents (\$94,060.65) from Acct# 5800-3599, Unrestricted Prior Year Reserves, to the control of the Planning & Development Department for a grant to the Suzuki School for their elevator project.

Zoning & Planning Approved 8-0 on 01/26/2026

Finance Approved 7-0 (Councilor Micley Not Voting) on 01/26/2026

Referred to Programs & Services Committee

01/21/2026

Present: Krintzman (Chair), Malakie (Vice Chair), Bixby, Oliver, Baker, Farrell, Charm, and Micley

#26-26 Requesting discussion and possible amendments on notification process for Tree Permit applications

COUNCILORS MALAKIE, WRIGHT, BLOCK, FARRELL, LUCAS, OLIVER, LEARY AND GETZ requesting revision and amendments to Chapter 21 Article 3 Trees to apply abutter notification requirements to all permits and require notifications use a template provided by the Tree Warden that includes an explanation of the Tree Save Area and the right of abutters to have their trees protected.

Programs & Services Held 8-0

#29-26 Requesting discussion and possible ordinance to incorporate tree preservation into design process

COUNCILORS MALAKIE, WRIGHT, BLOCK, FARRELL, LUCAS, OLIVER, LEARY, GETZ, and GREENBERG requesting discussion of procedural changes and possible ordinance to ensure consideration of tree preservation before the design and permitting process, to promote low-impact development and climate resilience.

Programs & Services Held 8-0

Referred to Public Safety & Transportation Committee

01/21/2026

Present: Councilors Lucas (Chair), Greenberg, Wright, Block, Irish, Roche, Golden and Silber; also present: Councilors Kelley and Dahmubed

- #10-26** **Appeal of Traffic Council Decision TC59-25**
COUNCILORS LOBOVITS AND LUCAS appealing the trial of Traffic Council petition TC59-25 on November 20, 2025, on the request of a trial to extend the trial of the Langley Road (Triangle) Municipal Parking Lot in Newton Centre, previously part of item #TC8-25, including the existing Newton Centre Plaza located within a portion of the two westernmost rows of parking, to be reevaluated by October 31, 2026. (Ward 6)
Public Safety & Transportation Amended Traffic Council Decision from October 31, 2026 to May 31, 2026 6-2 (Councilors Greenberg, Roche Opposed)
- #11-26** **Appeal of Traffic Council Decision TC58-25**
COUNCILORS MALAKIE, LOBOVITS AND LUCAS appealing the trial of Traffic Council petition TC58-25 on November 20, 2025, on the request of a trial to eliminate the left turn prohibition from Beacon Street eastbound into the Langley Road municipal parking lot (per TPR-87: Left turns prohibited. Beacon Street, eastbound, into Newton Centre municipal parking area). (Ward 6)
Public Safety & Transportation Repealed the Traffic Council Decision 8-0
- #14-26** **Appeal of Traffic Council Decision TC43-25**
HOLLI VARA, 45 Bristol Road, West Newton, MA 02465 appealing the approval of Traffic Council petition TC43-25 on November 20, 2025, on the request to create a “no parking” zone any day, any time restriction on the west side of Bristol Road, between the last driveway and Commonwealth Avenue. (Ward 3)
Public Safety & Transportation Repealed the Traffic Council Decision 8-0
- #17-26** **Providing the Annual Report of the work of Traffic Council for 2025**
DAVID KOSES, TRAFFIC COUNCIL CHAIR providing the Annual Report of the work of the Traffic Council for 2025.
Public Safety & Transportation No Action Necessary 8-0
- #51-26** **Class 2 Auto Dealer License**
OLD TIME GARAGE
1960 Washington Street
Newton, MA 02462
Public Safety & Transportation Approved 8-0
- #52-26** **Class 2 Auto Dealer License**
AUCTION DIRECT PREOWNED, INC
1545 Washington Street
West Newton, MA 02465
Public Safety & Transportation Approved 8-0

#53-26 Class 2 Auto Dealer License
 STAN'S AUTOMOTIVE INC. D/B/A NEWTON AUTOMOTIVE and SALES
 249 Centre Street
 Newton Corner, MA 02458
Public Safety & Transportation Approved 8-0

Referred to Public Facilities Committee

01/21/2026

Present: Councilors Kalis (Chair), Albright, Dahmubed, Getz, Gordon, Grossman, and Kelley;
 absent: Councilor Leary

#12-26 Eversource petition for a grant of location on Rumford Avenue
 EVERSOURCE ENERGY petitioning for a grant of location to install one new jointly owned pole 866/6A on the south side of Rumford Avenue, approximately 450 feet west of Lexington Street.
<https://newtonma.portal.opengov.com/records/904688>
Public Facilities Held 7-0-1 (Councilor Gordon Abstained) on 01/07/2026
Public Facilities Approved 6-0 (Councilor Kelley Not Voting)

#30-26 Appointment of Alejandro Valcarce as Commissioner of Public Buildings
 HIS HONOR THE MAYOR appointing Alejandro Valcarce as the City's Commissioner of the Public Buildings Department pursuant to Section 3-3 of the City Charter.
Public Facilities Approved 7-0

#33-26 Requesting discussion regarding Day Street, Fuller Street, and Commonwealth Avenue intersection redesign
 COUNCILORS BLOCK, KRINTZMAN, FARRELL, and WRIGHT requesting a discussion to consider the road and "bump out" redesign recently constructed at the intersection of Day Street, Fuller Street, and Commonwealth Avenue, and whether an alternative design would improve safety for pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers.
Public Facilities Held 6-0 (Councilor Kelley Not Voting)

#34-26 Request for review and clarification of public way improvements requiring City Council approval
 COUNCILORS BLOCK, MALAKIE, and FARRELL requesting to review Sec. 26-51 "Public Way Improvements Constituting Specific Repairs" and consider defining with greater clarity what is meant by "major construction work" and/or whether this section should apply to "all construction work" requiring City Council approval, and whether abutters should be notified of any construction work done under this section.
Public Facilities Held 5-1 (Councilor Kalis Opposed) (Councilor Kelley Not Voting)

Referred to Finance Committee

01/26/2026

Present: Grossman (Chair), Bixby, Greenberg, Charm, Krintzman, Malakie, and Silber;
absent: Councilor Micley

Referred to Zoning & Planning and Finance Committee

#60-26

CPC recommendation to appropriate \$600,000 in CPA Historic Resource funding

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Finance Approved 7-0 on 01/26/2026

Zoning & Planning Approved 8-0 on 01/26/2026