



**City Council Actions**  
**In City Council**  
**Monday, February 2nd, 2026**

**Present:** Councilors Albright, Baker, Bixby, Block, Charm, Farrell, Getz, Gordon, Greenberg, Grossman, Irish, Kalis, Kelley, Krintzman, Leary, Lucas, Malakie, Micley, Oliver, Roche, Silber, Wright

**Absent:** Councilors Dahmubed, Golden

**Clerk's Note: The full Council meeting can be viewed on the following link:**

**<https://www.youtube.com/live/kV64bcb6cZk?si=vmjzd7HIW0ekdH6V>**

**The City Council discussed the following items on Second Call:**

**Referred to Public Safety & Transportation Committee**

**#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)**

**Clerk's Note:** Councilor Albright put this item on Second Call so that City Council may have more time to consider public support of the trial. The item was subsequently chartered by Councilor Albright.

**The City Council voted without discussion 22 Yeas, 0 Nays, 2 Absent (Councilors Dahmubed, Golden) to Accept the Committee Recommendations on the following:**

### **Referred to Land Use Committee**

- #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**

- #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)**

### **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 Public Safety & Transportation Committee**

- #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**

- #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**

**Referred to Finance Committee**

- 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.  
**Finance Approved 7-0 on 01/26/2026**  
**Zoning & Planning Approved 8-0 on 01/26/2026**

**Motion to suspend the Rules to accept late-filed items:**

**Referred to Finance Committee**

**#73-26 CPC recommendation to appropriate \$34,626 for bike parking at parks and high schools**

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending the appropriation of thirty-four thousand six hundred twenty-six dollars (\$34,626) in Community Preservation Act funding from Acct# 5800-3599, CPA Unrestricted Fund Balance, for the installation of bike parking at various park locations citywide and at both high schools.

**Public Hearings were assigned to the following items:**

**Referred to Land Use Committee**

***Public Hearing 02-10-26***

**#69-26 Request to allow a home business in a detached accessory building and to allow the business to exceed 30% of the ground floor area**

BENJAMIN GRACE petition for SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL, to construct a two-story detached accessory building with an office for a home business on the first story and an ADU, a home business that exceeds 30% of the ground floor area of the dwelling, and more than two parking stalls within the side setback at 224 Melrose Street, Ward 4, Newton, on land known as Section 41 Block 17 Lot 25, containing approximately 15,750 sq. ft. of land in a district zoned Single Residence 3. Ref: Sec. 7.3.3, 6.7.3.B.1.k.iv,

6.7.3.B.1.b, 5.1.7.A and 5.1.13 of Chapter 30 of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

***Public Hearing 02-10-26***

**#70-26 Request for a special permit to allow for shared parking at 148 California Street**

KF REALITY TRUST petition for SPECIAL PERMIT/SITE PLAN APPROVAL, to allow for a one-third reduction in parking of 260 stalls, resulting in an on-site requirement of 519 stalls, allowing for more flexibility for future tenanting of the commercial spaces at 148 California Street, Ward 1, Newton, on land known as Section 11 Block 12 Lot 11, containing approximately 231,486 sq. ft. of land in a district zoned Manufacturing . Ref: Sec. 7.3.3, 5.1.4.A and 5.1.4.C, of Chapter 30 of the City of Newton Rev Zoning Ord, 2017.

***Public Hearing 02-10-26***

**#71-26 Request to Rezone 148 California Street to Business Use 2**

KF REALITY TRUST petition to rezone 148 California Street, Ward 1, Newton, on land known as Section 11 Block 12 Lot 11, from MANUFACTURING to BUSINESS USE 2.