



L'shannah Tovah!

NEWS, NOTES & REMINDERS – SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

NEWS & NOTES

- **Full Council Meeting** – In observance of Rosh Hashanah our full Council meeting will be held on ***Tuesday, October 4th at 7:45p.m.** in the Chamber.
- **Zoning Redesign Kickoff Meeting** - *All Councilors are invited to attend* – The City of Newton is embarking on project to rewrite and redesign its current Zoning Ordinance. Newton's current zoning was last changed in 1987 and needs to be redesigned to reflect current best practices and to better protect the characteristics of this City that make it a great place to live. The goal is to create an easily understood ordinance that preserves what is best about Newton and is, at the same time, forward thinking. The kickoff meeting will be held on **Wednesday October 5th from 6:00p.m. to 7:30p.m.** at the Second Church, 60 Highland Street in West Newton. The kickoff will include a discussion of the goals and scope of the project including Newton's pattern book and how you can get involved. www.newtonma.gov/zoningredesign.
- **Public Facilities Committee** – The committee meeting will be meeting on **Wednesday, October 5th at *7:45p.m.** in Room 204. The committee will be discussing the following items: *The committee will meet jointly with Public Safety and Transportation to discuss the following item - #335-16 Request for Ordinance amendments to require removal of snow from sidewalks; #315-16 Verizon petition for grant of location at Blake Street; #316-16 National Grid petition for grant of location in Ruane Road; #330-16 Petition for Grant of Location gas main in Levbert Road; #331-16 Petition for Grant of Location to install conduit in Stein Circle and; #257-16 Delegation of quinquennial perambulation to the City Engineer and GIS Administrator.*
- **Public Safety and Transportation Committee** – The committee meeting will be meeting on **Wednesday, October 5th at *7:45p.m.** in Room 205. The committee will be discussing the following items: *The committee will meet jointly with Public Facilities to discuss the following item – #335-16 Request for Ordinance amendments to require removal of snow from sidewalks; #329-16 Request amendment to Sec. 19-175. Angle parking and; #414-13(4) Revise Ordinance to raise the age limit for retired police officers to work details*
- **Programs and Services Committee** – The committee meeting scheduled for **Wednesday, October 5th** has been *cancelled*.

An Invitation from Mayor Warren

- **Economic Growth for All Presentation** – *All Councilors are invited to attend* – Please join Boston College President Father William Leahy and me as we announce an exciting partnership between the City of Newton and Boston College to address income inequality in Newton. Also in attendance will be Boston College Provost David Quigley, Boston College faculty and staff, and local partner organizations. We are launching Economic Growth for All – a research-based policy framework that seeks to sustainably increase economic mobility for Newton residents of all backgrounds for generations to come. The event will take place on **Thursday October 6th from 12:00p.m. to 1:00p.m.** in the Murray Function Room, Yawkey Center located on lower campus. **Please RSVP by Monday at noon here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3XPN92Q>.** If you have any questions, please contact Stephanie Foner from my staff at sfoner@newtonma.gov.
- **Land Use Committee** – The committee meeting will be meeting on ***Thursday, October 6th at 7:00p.m.** in the Chamber. The committee will be discussing the following items: *Request for a Consistency Ruling relative to 360 Ward Street for modifications to the garage; #180-16 Special Permit Petition to rezone the Orr block to Mixed Use 4 and; #179-16 Special Permit Petition for Orr Building at Walnut Street and Washington Street.*

An Invitation from Health & Human Services

- **No Regrets: Newton and the Opioid Epidemic** – *All Councilors are invited to attend* – Please join us for an important video and discussion of opioid abuse and learn how to prevent addiction, support people in your life who are struggling, and get help for you or a loved one. The event will feature ‘If Only,’ a short film produced by James Wahlberg and an interactive panel discussion. As you know, as a country we are suffering from a devastating opioid issue with record numbers of people dying from unintentional overdoses and many people suffering from the pull of addiction that wreaks havoc on not only their lives but the lives of those who love them. Undoubtedly you have people in your immediate community who are struggling with this issue, whether they are coming forward about it or not. The City has developed an active, multi-disciplinary task-force to work on this issue called Newton PATH. We are working on prevention strategies, support for families, and increased access for long-term, effective treatment. More information can be found at www.newtonma.gov/NewtonPath. We hope you will consider discussing this issue with your constituents in whatever way you think is best. The discussion will be held on **Thursday, October 6th from 7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m.** at Newton North High School. Our special guests on this evening include District Attorney Marian Ryan, Mayor Warren, Rep. Kay Khan and Newton PATH. For more information please log onto www.newtonma.gov/NewtonPath or call 617-796-1420. This event is for teens and adults.
- **Open House for Safe Routes to School** – The Safe Routes to School Task Force is a group of PTO volunteers who are working to support safe and active transportation options in each of our schools. We are planning a special Open House at the Waban Library Center on **Friday October 7th from 9:30a.m. to 10:30a.m.** for current and potential representatives. We are working to have a representative from every school. At the Open House they will have a chance to learn more about SRTS and to ask questions of volunteers and city officials. The focus will be on the important elements of the program

including fun ways to promote walking and biking, bike & pedestrian safety training, crossing guards, school buses, addressing safety concerns in the school neighborhood and the importance of active transportation for learning and health. This is an opportunity to show your support for an active transportation and improving safety around our schools and in our neighborhoods and meet some of your constituents who are working to make it possible. Please let us know if you are available to attend. Thank you! Theresa Fitzpatrick tabilel@yahoo.com and Alicia Bowman alicia.bowman@comcast.net.

REMINDERS & WORKING GROUP UPDATES

- **Capital and Communication Discussion with the School Committee and Department**
– *All Councilors are invited to attend.* We are currently working with the SC/SD to determine a date to hold this joint discussion. Once we have the new date we will send out notification. If you have suggestions regarding the agenda below, please do not hesitate to contact me.
 - **Enrollment Update, both S/T and L/T** – This helps set the table for the conversation on facilities, as enrollment issues are one of the 2 key drivers of our facilities plan;
 - **Short-Term Facilities Needs** - This will address any short-term issues, such as modulars or other “small” projects that may be needed. We may also touch on the Student Assignment working group and key priorities (for example, the north side in general and Franklin specifically);
 - **Update of Long-Term Facilities Plan** – We will update our plan from last Fall, and it will tie to both enrollment issues and quality-of-facilities issues. We may also touch on the work of the Student Assignment Working Group;
 - **Communication** – We have discussed communication between the SC/SD, the administration and the Council in the past. However, in light of recent issues, the need for early and widespread communications and an understanding of the processes and timing necessary for project approval/completion requires revisiting current procedures.

