



Public Facilities Committee

7:00 PM, Hybrid
To be reported on
Wednesday, August 12, 2026

The Public Facilities Committee will hold this meeting as a hybrid meeting on Wednesday, July 22, 2026, at 7:00 PM that the public may access in-person or virtually via Zoom. To view this meeting using Zoom use this link: <https://newtonma-gov.zoom.us/j/82832380441> or call 1-646-558-8656 and use the following Meeting ID: 828 3238 0441.

City of Newton Public Facilities Committee

The location of this meeting is accessible, and reasonable accommodation will be provided to persons with disabilities who require assistance. If you need a reasonable accommodation, please [email the City of Newton's ADA Coordinator](#) at least two business days in advance of the meeting or call at (617) 796-1253. The city's TTY/TDD direct line is: 617-796-1089. For the Telecommunications Relay Service (TRS), please dial 711.

Items Scheduled for Discussion

Referred to Public Facilities & Finance Committees

#221-26 CPC recommendation to appropriate \$232,000 for the cupolas and windows at City Hall

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE recommending the appropriation of two hundred thirty-two thousand dollars (\$232,000) in Community Preservation Act funding from Unrestricted prior Year Reserves (Acct# 5800-3599) to the Planning & Development Department for a grant to the Public Buildings Departments for the cupolas and windows at City Hall.

222-26 [Public Hearing 07-22-2026](#)

Eversource petition for a grant of location on Prescott Street

EVERSOURCE ENERGY petitioning for a grant of location to install and maintain approximately 60 feet of underground conduit southerly from utility pole 69/4, approximately 60 feet north of Prescott Street, and install and maintain an additional 450 feet of underground conduit and one new manhole (MH 32916) easterly from the intersection of Prescott Street and Central Avenue, terminating the conduit at 75 Prescott Street.

<https://newtonma.portal.opengov.com/records/931092>

218-26 **Requesting a discussion of the “two-foot rule” which allows street openings for utility work without a grant of location**

COUNCILOR LEARY requesting a discussion with the Public Works and Law Departments regarding the origin and legal basis for the “two-foot rule” which allows National Grid to open streets to install new gas pipes without a new grant of location (GOL). The discussion should include reference to State Law requiring City Council approval for gas pipe street openings, National Grid's statement at the December 4, 2024 Public Facilities meeting that it may open streets without a GOL because of the two-foot rule, and exploration of legal pathways to enable Newton to exercise more control over gas pipe installations. This could include the elimination of the "two-foot rule" as well as recommendations of additional actions that the City could take. (180 Days: 01/09/2027)