

HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

JULY 12, 2016

A meeting of the Human Affairs Committee was held Tuesday, July 12, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire, Chairman, presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman June M. Caron, Vice Chair
Alderman Tom Lopez
Alderman Don LeBrun

Members Not in Attendance: Alderwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja

Also in Attendance: Deputy Chief Kerrigan, Nashua Fire Rescue

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-16-043

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderwoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Ken Siegel
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Tom Lopez

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$63,648 FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY INTO FIRE GRANT ACTIVITY “FY2015 ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT”

MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARON TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE OF R-16-043

ON THE QUESTION

Deputy Chief Kerrigan

We wrote a grant for our extrication equipment that's carried on our ladder trucks. The way the city is set up we have ladder companies that cover the city. We have 32 square miles to cover and the highway. We have a set of extrication equipment on each ladder truck which is strategically placed in our city. This past year when we got our new ladder truck, we replaced one set with that new ladder truck. The two other ladders still have two 20-year old sets at around \$35,000 per setup. Those are the tools that we use to cut cars open at car accidents and such. They were definitely coming up to be replaced anyways. We wrote a grant, and we were successful. There is a small match of ten percent, around \$7,000 that will be coming out of our fiscal year budget so we have that squared away.

Alderman LeBrun

The way this is written, I'm really not sure exactly what we're doing here. Can you explain to me the assistance to firefighters grant?

Deputy Chief Kerrigan

Since 911, the federal government has appropriate money at the federal level that gets distributed. This particular grant is called an AFG grant, which is the assistance to firefighters grant. It's only open to fire departments. It has a system that you have to write into and then it gets graded whether you get it or not. It's a game of chance just like any other grant. It is specific to fire department equipment only. It has to have something to do with federal disasters or anything that's going to help at any scene that we would normally do. It's got to be relative equipment to what we use which is what we did. We followed it to the T and we were successful.

Alderman LeBrun

It's similar to what the police department does in order to get rescue equipment through the federal government?

Deputy Chief Kerrigan

Ya, it's very specific on what you can write for. You couldn't write for a stream roller for the streets. It has to be fire department. Again, it's only open for fire departments.

Alderman Lopez

Can you use it for an upgraded fire truck? I don't think this would be enough to get a whole one.

Deputy Chief Kerrigan

You could write for a truck. The more you get into different things that you are looking for, you have to see what the parameters are. It's very difficult to get a whole fire truck.

Alderman Lopez

More strings are attached to the fire truck?

Deputy Chief Kerrigan

There's different requirements. We probably wouldn't meet the requirements. A lot of the poorer cities that have block grants, it would be a type of grant like that, usually are more eligible for a complete fire truck.

Alderman Lopez

I was just thinking about we have concerns about the equipment replacement fund. This might have been another avenue.

Deputy Chief Kerrigan

Last year we wrote for two things last year. We were able to get new Scott Air Packs which is almost \$500,000 off the same AFG grant from last year, and we got our new training building which was another \$500,000.

Alderman Lopez

So it is much bigger.

Deputy Chief Kerrigan

The money is there, but it's the piece of equipment that you are writing for. It's very tricky to follow the requirements that are required for that piece of equipment. But, we've been very lucky and it's been good for us. We've saved some of the capital money that we were able to use other places.

Chairman Wilshire

I don't think it's just luck. It's hard work.

MOTION CARRIED

R-16-046

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderswoman Mary Ann Melizzi-Golja
Alderman June M. Caron

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF AN ADDITIONAL \$39,862 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION INTO GRANT ACTIVITY "TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM (TAP) GRANT" AND TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF MATCHING FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$7,972.40

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN LEBRUN TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE
MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

GENERAL DISCUSSION – None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN CARON TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Alderman Don LeBrun
Committee Clerk, pro tem