

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, September 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber and via Zoom. The meeting link information can be found on the agenda.

Mayor Jim Donchess, Chairman, presided.

Members of the Committee present: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Patricia Klee, Vice Chair
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien
Alderman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Elizabeth Lu
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

Members not in Attendance: Alderman-at-Large Brandon Michael Laws

Also in Attendance: John Griffin, CFO/Comptroller
David Fredette, Treasurer/Tax Collector
Kim Kleiner, Administrative Services Director
Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief
Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor
Karen Smith, Business Manager
Jeff Lafleur, Solid Waste Superintendent
Dan Hudson, Engineer
David L. Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager
Re: Ford Police Interceptor Vehicles in the amount not to exceed \$83,503.90 funded from accounts 81500 Vehicles/FY22 CERF (Police Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE REQUEST TO REPLACE TWO UNMARKED VEHICLES WITH THE 2022 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$83,503.90. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 150 POLICE DEPARTMENT; FUND: 81500 VEHICLES/FY22 CERF

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

All right and I think Deputy is here on this.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Good evening, Mr. Mayor. I believe Brian Sojka the head of our fleet maintenance and Karen Smith are on for this on here for the language line, Sir.

Mayor Donchess

Oh okay. So are they - Karen Smith are you on Zoom? I mean, it's pretty self-evident but.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I don't see either one.

Alderman Klee

Karen Smith was on if she's still there.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Oh, yes,

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Hi Mr. Mayor. I'm here and Brian Sojka is to be calling in the Fleet Maintenance Manager.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Great. Thank you.

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

I am here.

Mayor Donchess

Alright. So we're on this Police Interceptor item.

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Go ahead Brian.

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Aye yes - Brian Sojka Fleet Supervisor. What questions do you have? I'm sorry?

Mayor Donchess

Well, I mean, it's fairly obvious but usually we just you can give like a short explanation of what the purchase is.

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Yeah we're looking to replace to detective units. We actually have two Impalas and we're replacing them with two utilities and these are actually going to be Detective units .with fully lighted equipment inside the vehicle, not outside but inside the vehicle.

Mayor Donchess

Alright and this is funded from CERF meaning the Capital Equipment Reserve Fund, correct? Yes, it is. All right. Any questions, comments? Alderman O'Brien.

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I see you're going to accept communications later and this and that will be a motion to MHQ which I assume that's going to be the lighting portion for these particular cruisers. Am I correct?

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

They're actually doing all the lighting equipment for those vehicles and we're purchasing them from them of course too.

Alderman Klee

They're two separate Memos.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Klee.

Alderman Klee

I believe those are two separate Memos so if I'm not correct. Yes, they were two separate items. The lighting is a separate item from the purchase of the vehicles.

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Correct.

Mayor Donchess

Yeah I don't know if you have the agenda but we're just on the \$83,000 purchase at this point. All right any other comments or questions? Alderwoman Kelly.

Alderwoman Kelly

Yeah so a number of months ago we talked about the fleet and there was a comment that there was you guys looked at hybrid. I asked that as we continue to replace these that we would think about looking at hybrid as we try to be more mindful with carbon emissions. Was it was it looked at for these vehicles?

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

I actually looked into them briefly. I know this is very new to Ford right now so I'm trying to get a little bit of input. Actually State Police of Massachusetts is using the hybrid. So I'm just trying to give a little bit of time to see how these are working out for them before we actually go forward with anything at this point.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Any other questions, comments?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Ford Police Interceptor Vehicles in the amount not to exceed \$40,619 funded from accounts 81500 Vehicles/FY22 CERF (Police Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE REQUEST TO REPLACE ONE FORD INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLE MARKED WITH THE 2022 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$40,619. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 150 POLICE DEPARTMENT; FUND: 81500 VEHICLES/FY22 CERF

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Alright. Is the Fleet Manager could you tell us briefly about this item.

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Brian Sojka, Fleet Supervisor. This is a marked unit fully marked unit is the sergeant's vehicle. So it will be including all new equipment for inside the vehicle except for the MDT and department radio and State radio because we're be able to repurpose that into the new vehicle because it is a redesigned vehicle from going from the older vehicle to the newer vehicle.

Mayor Donchess

Right and this is coming from CERF again I see. Any questions or comments?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Multi Year Interpreting Services Contract in the amount not to exceed \$3,500 funded from accounts 55699 Other Contracted Services (Police Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE A MULTI- YEAR INTERPRETING SERVICE CONTRACT WITH LANGUAGE LINE PHONE SERVICES, INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$3,500. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 150 POLICE DEPARTMENT; FUND: 55699 OTHER CONTRACTED SERVICES

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Deputy, thank you.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Good evening ladies and gentlemen. This contract with Language Line Solutions, Inc. allows us to further attain the Chief's goal of having a culturally effective organization and there are many facets to this. This falls directly under language and communication access plan, which is something for years that we have strived to improve. We've been using emergency 911 for interpretations and translations and we've been told by emergency 911 they can continue to do this on an emergency basis but for a very in depth investigation, it is taxing their resources.

Currently NYPD uses this company. NYPD has invested approximately \$800,000 to do this. It is an app based platform. We're going to be using cell phones and iPads that have been donated to the Police Department. Myself and Lieutenant Pat Hannon came before the aldermanic circle I believe 2020 and you approved a contract through Verizon called "The Heroes Project". So the phones, the iPads, and the actual service program are at no charge to us. This \$2,500 fee is a one-time unlimited use, which means we can put it on as many devices as we want. This would allow us to do interpretations for approximately 240 different languages to include American Sign Language. We're very excited about this. We're going to put these devices in the front lobby with our Victim Advocates, patrol units, Detective Bureau, and in booking. Right now we have applied for a grant through Governor Shaheen's office, the Department of Justice discretionary funding. We'll find out the end of October if we get it but they complimented us on the use for this. It's pay as you go. It's approximately \$1.90 a minute for the service so it can be costly but we have an obligation to the community to, you know, be able to take any call for service despite any barriers we have.

I can entertain any questions you may have.

Mayor Donchess

Any questions, comments? Alderman O'Brien?

Alderman O'Brien

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I applaud you for this. I think there's definitely a need but looking at that, and I think you know my background Chief, could just be, you know, shared with another Division. I mean, particularly with Fire. Let's say they do go to a situation could be a medical or something like that where not necessarily an officer may be there at the time, can it be shared?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Absolutely. So this is ideal for police, fire, EMTs, social services, any city any public health, any city entity that is having difficulty making a comprehensive communication due to a language barrier or an impairment of some sort.

Mayor Donchess

Alderman Harriott-Gathright.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Okay you stated \$2,500 but I actually said \$3,500 so.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Yes Ma'am. I apologize. You're absolutely correct. The \$2,500 is the initial cost to do the unlimited service and the other \$1,000 that we're asking to be appropriated is to actually start to use the translation while we wait to see if we get the grant.

Alderman Harriot-Gathright

Okay.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Kelly.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. So you said this is a one-time fee to get started but its \$1.90 every time you use it?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Yes Ma'am.

Alderwoman Kelly

Is that where you're hoping that grant money will cover.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Yes, Ma'am.

Alderwoman Kelly

And I know you talked about it being in the front lobby. I'm just interested in terms of where you guys would use it. Would be over 911, would it be during interrogations, like how would it...?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

It would be it would be all inclusive. So if someone walks into the front lobby, we're going to have devices in records and reception in order to bring an officer out in order to communicate. If an arrest was made and we need translation services or interpretation services in booking, we're going to use it in booking. If Detectives are working a case and they're going to do a very formal in depth interview, it can be used during the interview process while it's all being video recorded. Officers can use it street side. It will be used by Domestic Violence Victim Witness Advocates. Any need we have within the agency or if requested by another agency, we can easily because we're talking about cell phones and we can just drive them right over.

Alderwoman Kelly

I'd like to follow up.

Mayor Donchess

Go ahead.

Alderwoman Kelly

I mean, I think obviously, it makes a lot of sense given some of the priority, again, that the department has put out. I guess my concern is a little bit of around the if you're paying for each time. There's a really hard - how are you going to know how much it's going to cost and do you know...?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Yes. I can give you a ballpark answer. So what we did was from January 2019 to mid-May when we started to crunch these numbers, we ran the amount of interpretations that we did and it came out to be 237. Of that, the average time duration was about 43 minutes and we based those numbers and just to the multiplication on the

per minute. The lowball number I was told we got was about \$32,000. We are hoping to use this more, and more, and more for - we're hoping to use this every day to fully communicate with the community. So we're hoping if we get our maximum ask for the grant that would be much higher than the 30,000. Like I said, Governor, I'm sorry, Senator Shaheen's office they were very excited about this idea.

Mayor Donchess

All right, Alderman Harriott-Gathright.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I'm excited that you know that Nashua PD has decided to go in this direction so that you can be responsive to all of Nashua because of, you know, the multi generations here. But what I would really like to see is that you hire people into that clerk position, okay, that can do some of this. I don't feel as though we should be paying a company when we have people that live in the city that are capable of doing things of that nature

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Are you talking about the receptionist position?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Yeah exactly, exactly. Those that take the calls. So I would like to see that happen and that the a part of the future for Nashua PD that you're looking to really diversify, which I know you are as far as the Police Department, in terms of the police. But I would like to see that internal piece because I've been there several times, and I know what it looks like and I'm just saying it should be more diverse because this is a city of welcoming and diversity.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Yes. I am in agreement with you which is why we're striving for this.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Klee.

Alderman Klee

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I think this is an incredible idea and I'm sure that you've thought of and tried other alternatives. I do have some anxiety about the average of 43 minutes 32,000 hoping to get a grant but not knowing whether or not we're going to get a grant and we're going to commit into doing something like this without knowing how we're actually going to pay for it if you don't get the grant. That's the big thing that I mean, I would have rather see it come through once we know we get the grant but then I know that doesn't always happen that way. We have to take advantage of the things that we have.

So if this came to \$32,000, you were only asking for \$3,500 to kind of get this started but then you're going to have this unfunded - I don't want to say mandate - but you're going to have this unfunded bill that's going to be coming through. Are you going to be coming back to us and asking for \$32,000 or?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

That's not our plan. I don't foresee it. First of all, we are obligated whether or not we go with this to communicate with every member of the community and I know you know that. Using emergency 911, I remember vividly being a patrol officer and if you asked me what do you do? We call emergency 911. We have been striving at diversity. Currently, we have officers and employees that speak Spanish, Portuguese, Cantonese, French, American Sign Language, and assuming the hire goes through, an Advocate can also speak a form of it was explained to me as Costa Ricans. It's not American Sign Language by its Costa Rican sign language and she is in the process of also learning American Sign Language.

So that is the vast majority of languages that we do encounter. But out of this 237, and I have the different languages here I'll share it with you if you'd like through e-mail or I can read it if you'd like, but the vast majority of languages I just mentioned, but there are obviously we have a very culturally diverse community and it's not going to catch everything. If we don't do this, if we don't do this at all, we still have an obligation to try to get those interpretations. And what we have been doing for major cases is we have to subcontract out, out of our budget, to accompany and have an interpreter come up from Concord, Manchester, Boston, depending on how

unique the dialect may be, and those are extremely costly. The benefit of this is once we sign the contract, we are under no obligation to use it moving forward. Meaning if six months from now we can't use it, then there's no more service charges. We can end the contract or it can just sit in limbo until we have the funding for it.

Alderman Klee

May I follow up?

Mayor Donchess

Yes.

Alderman Klee

I appreciate that. That actually makes me feel a little bit better. But I know that hospitals use certain types of interpretations and so on. I mean do they have people that they call up that work there or do we know how they do it versus what this is going to be? I don't know what the cost of their programming is either but I guess I'm asking more of this has all the bells and whistles and it's wonderful. And I think it's really worthwhile and as my colleagues have pointed out, it's important. I live in a very diverse Ward where sometimes it is very difficult to communicate with people that I don't speak that language. So for you to have something like this, I know it's going to make your job easier because you're going to be in my Ward and so on. So I do appreciate that.

I'm just have a little bit of anxiety of this unfunded where's the money going to come from this \$32,000? I know you said we don't need to worry about it but we do because at the end of the year are you going to come back and say is ended up costing us \$32,000. And not that \$32,000 in the grand scheme of things is it worth every penny of it? I don't mean that. I'm just saying is that we have to come up with the money at some point.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Mr. Mayor may I?

Mayor Donchess

Yeah.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Alderwoman I don't disagree with what you're saying but let's take it into what we're currently doing today.

Alderman Klee

Okay.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Right now today if you said well what would you do because this is happening on a daily basis, we would have to either use emergency 911 if it was for an emergency or if it was for a more in depth investigation, we are going to subcontract a company and that usually can take depending on the issue a couple of days and we muddle through and at times we've used family members in an emergency situation just so we can take control of the situation and that any investigator, it's kind of common sense, it is not an ideal situation to use a family member or loved one to interpret. We understand that and we avoid it at all costs. That's currently what would happen. We would use one of our officers or employees. We would call the other agencies. We would call the Manchester. We'd call down to a more diverse agency like Boston and we can do that but these are very time consuming. So if we didn't do this, I understand when you talk about the unfunding, but right now we have an obligation to do it regardless. So then plan of the Captain of the Detective Bureau that did all the research on this was until we understand what the standing is with the grant, we will scrutinize this as much as possible. We're not going to turn people away, of course, but we're going to use this for the most dire need. Hoping to get the grant, then we can use it hopefully, you know, three times the amount and really surpass this number.

Alderman Klee

Thank you. Just one more follow up.

Mayor Donchess

Yes.

Alderman Klee

Thank you. So if I heard you right, you said that you have to bring in consultants, and hire contractors, and so on to come in when you have to do certain investigations could take a couple of days. So the money that you would save off of that would equal and take care of this. So you have that already budgeted. Is that correct? So you may not actually need any more money because you're not going to be using those services? Do I understand that correctly?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

We have it budgeted under - we don't know what it's going to look like. When we have the average, it falls under our investigative account. So if we had someone that needed the use of American Sign Language, we would have to contract with a company. They would send the interpreter down and then, you know, they bill by the minute, hour, half hour, what have you, and then we would end up spending that amount of money out of our existing budget. We have been conducting these interpretations for decades and decades within our own budget. To my knowledge, and I'm only going by my experience, I don't recall a time that we've come to City Hall asking for more money for translation and interpreting services. We've always been able to manage it within our own budget.

This grant - the plan is to increase what we've had and not just use it on a limited basis to increase it. So you're having a Ward meeting and you contact us and say would it be possible to have an officer come by with the app because I have someone from this country that could really benefit otherwise they're not going to be able to attend the meeting meaningfully. Yes, we can do that. Chief Rhodes calls and says, would you guys be able to come where we're at this incident and we're having trouble with an interpretation? Yes, of course, we can do that and we want to increase that number as opposed to now if it's not directly a criminal investigative matter, we might say, I don't have anyone that speaks that dialect or that language. Therefore, I can't contract a company to come to your Ward meeting and I can't help you Chief Rhodes. Does that make sense what I'm saying? I don't look at it as big of a concern because we're already doing this now with our existing budget. That grant will allow us to do more. Without the grant, we'll continue to do status quo. We'll meet the needs of the city within the budget.

Alderman Klee

Yeah, yes and no. I feel like you've said that you're going to be able to handle it with within your budget because you're already doing something of a different ilk kinda by contracting them out. I always look at that we're not going to get the grant. We always hope to get the grant but I always look at it as not getting the grant.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Sure.

Alderman Klee

I will just this time hope we get the grant. Thank you.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

You're welcome Ma'am.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. When do you expect to hear about the grant or when is the grant being...?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

End of October. We expect to hear by the end of October.

Alderwoman Lu

And your reduced trial time extends through...?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

From the time that the contract is signed, we can immediately download the application and we can start using it immediately. Once the contract goes through, we can start using immediately. So let's say sometime to September until the end of October, you're talking about roughly, and I'm estimating, a four to five week period maximum.

Alderwoman Lu

I see. Okay thank you.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

You're welcome.

Mayor Donchess

Do you have something?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Yeah.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Just a question just only because I'm just trying to understand this. When it says that the funding will be through Department 150 Police Department and it gives the fund number that means that there's already money there?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Yes. We already received different grants. If Karen Smith is still on, she can explain exactly what that account is but I know you know that the amount of grants that we have there's already something...

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I know. I know you guys you do a lot. I just want to make sure that you know because I think we're kind of worried about where we're going to get the money from when you might already have the money. No?

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Not to do what we want to do. Again...

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

...if you wanted though.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

I'm not coming here to ask for this program because for the past several years, we've been unable to communicate with the community. I'm saying we would like this program and we apply for this grant because we want to continue to attain this vision that the Chief has and that we support of a culturally effective organization. There are many facets to it. This is just having a communication plan is one of about seven facets that we're focusing on and this actually is a major step in the right direction of allowing us to do that.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Thank you.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

You're welcome.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Kelly.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you. Thank you for your thorough, you know, explanation here. I do share some of the concerns around do we get the grant? Do we don't get the grant? Does the grant come year after year or is it a one-time grant and then you still have to find room in your budget? I don't want to add more administrative tasks for people but I think I would feel better if in the beginning we had a little bit more like once a month what's being happened because as we roll this out, you don't have the grant and you're not for how often your officers are using it.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Correct.

Alderwoman Kelly

So do have a plan to kind of keep your eyes on that.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Yes. Until we understand the status of the funding through the grant, we are going to scrutinize when we use it. We're going to use it in the most - I hate to use the word "dire" circumstances - knowing and, again, we're talking dollars and cents. So we'll be blunt - knowing we're getting the most bang for our buck with this program. That doesn't mean if we are in a situation or responding to a call where there is a language barrier that we're going to say this is not worth using this application. Therefore we are going to just drive away. We're going to continue to do exactly what we do today. We are going to contact emergency 911, other agencies. We are going to find someone in the immediately that can assist us with that but because that can be time consuming, there can be a time delay, this is something that we can...and again, I want to make sure I'm wording this correctly. I'm not coming here saying we are having a problem communicating with our residents and without this, we can't do our jobs. We're saying we're doing it. We can do it much better with this application and the goal isn't let's communicate better. The goal is the culturally effective organization. Again, I just say it's one of the facets. The reason I haven't gone through the others, and I'd be more than happy to, is this is the out of the seven facets, this is the only one that applies to what I'm here for tonight. It's it's a multifaceted approach to how to be more culturally effective.

Alderwoman Kelly

If I could respond?

Mayor Donchess

Yeah.

Alderwoman Kelly

Thank you and I applaud you for bringing this forward, especially knowing that the other police departments who have used this and it's been effective and if it can help in situations where someone's unable to interact because of a language barrier, I'm behind that. Just as a teenager who lived through when cell phone started and a mom, I've seen the before we get unlimited all of a sudden, you're doing texts and you keep going oh when you're paying per. So that is just the anxiety that I have is just making sure that you guys have the effective tools to do this but we don't end up in a situation where we run up a lot of money in a month.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

I totally understand. I've seen over my career, I've seen some very staggering bills from translation services for - and I'm talking not day to day these 43 minute - I'm talking about a three hour interview with a hearing impaired person when we needed the services of American Sign Language and we're spending hundreds, and

hundreds, and hundreds and we will always do that. Without this, we're going to continue to do it because we have an obligation.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. I just want to be sure I understood Alderwoman Gathright's question. This has been charged to other contracted services and you have funding, you have appropriations for that type of thing. I imagine that other contracted services are typically somewhat unplanned, you know, that's why they're called other contracted services. It's kind of a catch all. So I think that you do have funding for this in your budget. You have some funding for it.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

We do not have...

Alderwoman Lu

This fund 55699.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Yes.

Alderwoman Lu

It's called "Other Contracted Services". So you know you have some funds there. I'm not saying that it would necessarily cover it all.

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

And that where I'm going. This approach and this idea is not something that was earmarked under those funds. So I can't say no, there's not a cent within our budget to pay for any of this. I'm saying we would not be able to accomplish what we're looking to accomplish with what we currently have because we didn't apply for a grant for this. It didn't exist.

Alderman Klee

Mr. Mayor, Miss Smith has got her hand raised. I think she wants to add to the conversation.

Mayor Donchess

Miss Smith.

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Yes. Karen Smith. If I can just comment that the \$2,500 and the \$1,000 that we set aside is consider it like a seed to the grant and yes Deputy Testaverde has mentioned that grants do look to see that initiative and that is encouraged. Now I don't know if the grant would end up paying for the \$2,500 or if that is something that's kind of our investment in this. The budget will accommodate paying for the \$2,500 and then we did put an allotment of the \$1,000 to bring us into the first quarter, if you will, of this program. After Finance, this is a multi-year contract. It will need to go through the Board of Aldermen. So that timeframe is still going to, if this is approved, going to take time. So we're probably going to be running right along nicely with hopefully the approval from the grant program. Again, it's an appropriation so I don't even know if it's really considered a grant but any funding that we could receive would definitely be something that we would need because the amount of money that we have for this type of transcriptions is small - \$ 2,500 and the \$1,000 is about what we're looking at for our budget program. We would definitely need the dollar amount that we're looking at for a future program as the Deputy has explained is much greater than the parameters that we have for our working budgets. Hope that helps.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Thank you very much.

MOTION CARRIED

Jim Testaverde, Deputy Police Chief

Thank you all have a great night.

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Landfill Gas Expansion Phase III in the amount not to exceed \$457,720 funded from accounts 81300 Machinery & Equipment (Solid Waste Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH SCS FIELD SERVICES OF RESTON, VA, TO CONSTRUCT AN EXPANSION OF THE LANDFILL GAS COLLECTION SYSTEM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$457,720 PENDING BOND APPROVAL. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 168 SOLID WASTE; FUND: BOND; ACTIVITY: LANDFILL GAS SYSTEM EXPANSION

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

And I believe we have Mr. Boucher here.

Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste

It's Superintendent Jeff Lafleur Mayor. Sorry.

Mayor Donchess

Sorry.

Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste

No, no, no problem. I know the waste throws people off. This this is an expansion of our gas expansion as it says. We're going to extend our main header vacuum into the brand new Phase III landfill. It's going to also include seven new horizontal gas collection wells and six leachate cleanout pipes to vacuum. This is part of our operating plan and part of DES's, you know, we have to do this per our operating plan.

Mayor Donchess

Questions, comments? So could you get in the truck behind you and just drive it away?

Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste

I'd love to right now.

Mayor Donchess

All right. You could do a little demonstration for us right now.

Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste

Right.

Mayor Donchess

All right. No questions that I see.

MOTION CARRIED

Jeff Lafleur, Superintendent of Solid Waste

Thank you all.

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Engineering Consulting in the amount not to exceed \$2,600,000 funded from accounts SFR Loan
(Engineering Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE ENGINEERING CONSULTANT CONTRACT WITH HAZEN AND SAWYER OF MANCHESTER, NH, FOR THE CMOM IMPLEMENTATION PHASE II IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$2,600,000. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: SRF LOAN; ACTIVITY: CMOM PHASES II (PENIDNG APPROVAL)

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Mr. Hudson is here on this.

Dan Hudson, Engineer

Thank you, Mr. Mayor. So this contract is for the CMOM program which stands for “Capacity Management and Operation and Maintenance” and it has to do with our wastewater and stormwater system. We are required to implement this plan as part of our permitting.

In 2018, the Hazen and Sawyer started this process. They develop the plan, we sought funding approval from DES and it was split into two phases. The first phase \$2.6 million. This phase \$2.6 million. During the first phase, we completed efforts such as completing CCTV inspection of pipes, identifying what needed to be fixed and replaced. As part of that, we found 11 pipes needing full replacements, 76 locations where we had to make point repairs, you know, pick up a pipe and fix just one spot, and we found 320 pipes that require the lining which we did under a separate contract. In this arrangement, this firm kind of works as an extension of our staff providing engineering support for the maintenance of these systems and it helped us do a number of important things. So bringing forward the second phase for your review and consideration.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Klee.

Alderman Klee

Yes, I don't actually have a question for Mr. Hudson. It was just clarification. When the Clerk read the dollar amount, it should be \$2,600,000 and that \$2,000,600.

Mayor Donchess

Correction noted.

Alderman Klee

And I'm fine with what Mr. Hudson had to say.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone else? Oops, Alderwoman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. Mr. Hudson, who is the loan through? Who is the loan through?

Dan Hudson, Engineer

So the loan is with the State of New Hampshire actually. It's implemented through DES. We do work and then

close a loan and this loan currently is pending Governor and Council approval but it's on the list of DES's projects and we fully expect that to be approved in the near future.

Alderwoman Lu

And just a couple follow ups. Is this is this project contingent on getting the loan approved?

Dan Hudson, Engineer

Yes. That's how we drafted the motion and these loans are similar to if we were going to bond work, you know, the benefit of this type of program which benefits the system over a long period of time is borne out over time as part of the one a payment. So yes, this is contingent upon that being approved.

Alderwoman Lu

Do you happen to know the interest rate? It must be favorable?

Dan Hudson, Engineer

I don't happen to know it. It is favorable. Yeah these loans are very, very competitive and that's why a lot of communities including the Nashua pursue them.

Alderwoman Lu

I'm all set.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Water Pump Repairs in the amount not to exceed \$43,541 funded from accounts 54487 Equipment Repairs & Maintenance (Wastewater Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE REBUILD OF A RAW WATER PUMP BY FIRST ELECTRIC MOTOR SERVICES, INC., OF WOBURN, MA, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43,541. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: WASTEWATER; ACCOUNT CLASSIFICATION: 54 PROPERTY

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

All right now I think Mr. Boucher is up.

Dan Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent

Yes Mayor. Thank you. Dave Boucher, Wastewater Superintendent. This is the second of four wet weather facility raw water pumps. Motors that were going to send out to rebuild, this one has been sent out. Went to First Electric. What they do is they break it down, inspect it, make sure that it can be rebuilt, and this is the quote for the rebuild which includes rewinding the stator, testing of it, all new seals, and new cables. They'll also deliver it and then we'll have two more motors to go in this particular facility.

Mayor Donchess

Questions?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: 2021 Paving Program: Arterial & Collector Roadways Change Order 1 in the amount not to exceed \$766,725 funded from accounts 81704 Paving Bond & 81700 Sewer Rehab Bond (Engineering Department)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE A CHANGE ORDER WITH SUNSHINE PAVING CORPORATION OF HUDSON, NH, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$766,725 FOR THE PAVING OF ADDITIONAL ROADWAYS. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 160 ADMIN/ENGINEERING; FUND: BOND AND TRUST; ACTIVITY: PAVING; DEPARTMENT 169 WASTEWATER; FUND: BOND; ACTIVITY: SEWER REHAB

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

I think we're back to Mr. Hudson.

Dan Hudson, Engineer

Yes, we are. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. So Sunshine Paving was the low bidder on both of our paving contracts this year. We bid out an arterial and a residential contract. This is a proposed change order to the arterial contract. As part of this year's paving program, as is the case, often there was a number of roads that we couldn't complete for various reasons whether meaning finding out we needed utility work that we didn't expect or other things like that. So this proposal was to add additional roads offsetting that over one mile that we couldn't do with an additional 3.4 miles. This, as I said, that Sunshine is working through completing the currently contracted work and when they meet certain milestones, then we will award this additional work for these additional streets.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Klee.

Alderman Klee

Thank you. So the question that I have is that you said that there were some roads that we were unable to do because of utility work and so on. Does that mean that that list that sits on the site there are going to be some streets that will not get done? And if so, is it possible for us to get a list of those so we can talk to the constituents that have been watching that list to see their road paved.

Dan Hudson, Engineer

Yes, absolutely. We will amend or post a deferred list and it's not that those won't be done in the near future, it's just for whatever reason we ran into a hiccup so they couldn't be done, you know, promptly this year. So yeah, we will provide that that information.

Unfortunately, you know, we do our best planning we can but there's always changes. There's always roads that get deferred and so those people are disappointed but then we add roads where people weren't expecting it and so they're happy and benefit from it. So it's always an evolving thing but yes, we will make public those roads that need to be deferred.

Alderman Klee

Just one more thing. And I truly appreciate that. I thank you very much but I think all of us as Aldermen have heard this. Why are they doing this road over that road? I have the answers to those questions that that's not a problem. It's just that when people see that their road is on there and they get that excitement. So I think as an Alderman, I truly appreciate the heads up so we can kind of counteract it before that phone call comes. So thank you very much.

Dan Hudson, Engineer

You're welcome. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

Is this coming out of Streets or...?

Dan Hudson, Engineer

So this is funding that's already been bonded. It's out of the payment bond. So it's funding that's remaining that's previously been authorized.

Alderwoman Lu

Oh, it's all bond?

Dan Hudson, Engineer

Yeah. It's all previously authorized bond money.

Alderwoman Lu

Thanks.

Dan Hudson, Engineer

And I should know that we will be coming soon. We're five years into what was a vision as a 10 year paving program. So we will be back. This is our final year of this paving program or the fifth year of the bonding that we secured. So we will be back in the near future seeking future funding for the program.

Mayor Donchess

All right.

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Re: Postage Machine lease in the amount not to exceed \$6,000.60 funded from accounts 55607 Postage & Delivery (Library)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE REQUEST TO ENTER INTO A NEW POSTAGE METER LEASE AGREEMENT WITH PITNEY BOWES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2022 THROUGH 2024 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$6,000.30. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 179 LIBRARY; FUND: 55607 POSTAGE AND DELIVERY

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Ms. Parkinson are you on?

Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

Yes I am.

Mayor Donchess

Okay. This was for the Library, right?

Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager

It is for the Library. It's a replacement postage meter for their existing meter that came up for renewal. So rather than renew the old equipment, I got a new lease like for like for an additional five years.

Mayor Donchess

Anyone?

MOTION CARRIED

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager
Re: Change Order for Public Health Renovation

There being no objection, Mayor Donchess accepted the communication and placed it on file.

There being no objection, Mayor Donchess suspended the rules to allow for a communication received after the agenda was prepared.

From: Kelly Parkinson, Purchasing Manager
Re: Ford Police Interceptor Vehicles in the amount not to exceed \$186,084 funded from accounts 81500 Vehicles/FY20 & FY22 CERF

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT, PLACE ON FILE AND APPROVE THE REQUEST TO REPLACE FOUR (4) MARKED VEHICLES WITH THE 2022 FORD POLICE INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES WITH MHQ, INC., IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$186,084. FUNDING WILL BE THROUGH DEPARTMENT 150 POLICE DEPARTMENT; FUND: 81500 VEHICLES/FY20 AND FY22 CERF REPLACEMENT SCHEDULES

ON THE QUESTION

Mayor Donchess

Ms. Smith or someone from the PD? Now I don't have that. That's that wasn't - I didn't get it. They didn't put it on the desk here. But that is accepted under suspension of the rules. But is there someone from the PD still on?

Karen Smith, Business Manager

I am here Mr. Mayor. Brian Sojka. He may not be here, but I can help you.

Mayor Donchess

Yeah, just give us a brief explanation.

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

I am sorry. I am here.

Mayor Donchess

Okay.

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Yes, Brian can answer anything technical you might have. Brian, you want give a description?

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Yes. We're going to be replacing four marked patrol vehicles. Two of them are Ford Crown Victorias and two of them are Ford Utilities. This is going to include the vehicle and all the new equipment because we're

changing from an old vehicle to the new redesign Ford Utility. We will be repurposing the department radio, State radio, and the MDT into the new vehicle.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Alderman Harriot-Gathright.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

What's the Crown Vic? What's the year's model for these vehicles and the Ford Utility?

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

The two Ford Crown Victorias are 2011 vehicles and the other two utilities - one is a 2018 and one is a 2019.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. Were these four on the CERF schedule?

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Yes, they are.

Alderwoman Lu

Okay. I didn't - this is the first I've heard of these. Did we get a late e-mail? Thank you. I'm all set.

Mayor Donchess

Alderman Harriott-Gathright.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Yeah my only question is typically like the Ford Utility is - can you tell me what that what type of vehicle that is? For the utility? What, what...?

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

What the Ford Utility is?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Yeah.

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

It's like an Explorer. It is an Explorer but Ford does not call it an Explorer. They call it a Ford Utility Interceptor. It's designed to do what we use it to do.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Alright. So 2018, 2019 and when 2021? Is that the normal span that you would keep that utility vehicle? I'm just curious. Why would you be...

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

On the 2018, we keep it roughly two and a half years and the 2019, we'll be doing the same thing but it's when we actually purchased it is where it came out to the mileage. We try to shoot for 100,000 miles before we trade them in because we see a lot of issues and the vehicles are out of warranty at that point. Both those the 2018 and the 2019 should be definitely over 100,000 by the time we actually take possession of the new vehicles, and including the two Crown Victorias too.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Okay. So typically, you keep vehicles for 100,000 miles.

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Yes, we do.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Okay. Thank you for that. I think this is the first time I've heard that since I've been an Alderman but thank you.

Mayor Donchess

All right, anyone else? Alde4woman Lu.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. Just why did this come so late because I see that purchasing process did in August and I'm always uncomfortable when I have to make a decision to spend money without looking. Any idea why? Did it just...

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Mr. Mayor, could I speak to that?

Mayor Donchess

Yeah, yeah, please do.

Karen Smith, Business Manager

I apologize. The scanner ate my original request for Finance. So between Kelly and I, we got it through. So I apologize.

Alderwoman Lu

I see, so something got lost in...

Karen Smith, Business Manager

Yes. The letters made it through, but my cover letter did not.

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Harriott-Gathright.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I think it was Officer Brian. Can you spell your last name for me so I can make sure I'm correct with this?

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor

I'm not an officer, but my last name is Sojka – S-o-j-k-a.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

And what is your title?

Brian Sojka, Fleet Maintenance Manager

Fleet supervisor. I'm in charge of the fleet.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

Okay. Thank you.

Mayor Donchess

All right. Did we vote? I don't think we voted.

Alderman O'Brien

No we didn't vote.

MOTION CARRIED

Mayor Donchess

From Alderman Harriott-Gathright, is there a motion to accept and place on file the last communication regarding change order for public health and renovation?

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

No. It doesn't say that.

Mayor Donchess

Well could you make that motion?

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE THE LAST COMMUNICATION
MOITON CARRIED**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS - None

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

RECORD OF EXPENDITURES

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT THAT THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HAS COMPLIED WITH THE CITY CHARTER AND ORDINANCES PERTAINING TO THE RECORD OF EXPENDITURES FOR THE PERIOD FROM AUGUSTE 27 TO SEPTEMBER 9, 2021
MOTION CARRIED**

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

Alderwoman Lu

Thank you. I just like to address our discussion from the meeting last night and I'm sorry. Pardon me? Point of order.

Mayor Donchess

What's the point of order?

Alderwoman Lu

I have the floor. I don't expect people to be groaning while I'm speaking.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

...why are we addressing this?

Mayor Donchess

Well, I didn't cut you off.

Alderwoman Lu

I'm asking for you to call Alderman Gathright to order.

Mayor Donchess

Just go ahead, please.

Alderwoman Lu

No, I won't. Thank you. I'm all set.

Mayor Donchess

Alderwoman Klee.

Alderman Klee

I guess - excuse me Mr. Mayor. I apologize here. I'd like to call the Finance Committee meeting adjourned.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION - None

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN KLEE TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The Finance Committee meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright,
Committee Clerk