

REPORT OF THE HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

NOVEMBER 17, 2004

A meeting of the Human Affairs Committee was held Wednesday, November 17, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Chairman Lori Cardin presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman Marc W. Plamondon, Vice Chair
Alderman Kevin E. Gage
Alderman David D. Lozeau

Members not in Attendance: Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner

Also in Attendance: Sgt. Glenn Levesque, Nashua Police Department
Philip Costa, Nashua Police Department
Chris Lister, Public Health & Community Services Div.

COMMUNICATIONS – None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-04-137

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

**RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS IN THE
AMOUNT OF \$546 FROM TARGET, INC. INTO SPECIAL ACCOUNT #331-6211**

MOTION BY ALDERMAN GAGE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Glenn Levesque

What happened with this grant is Target approached us, Target Stores, and they run a program where they step out into the communities to help organizations. They came to us and asked if there was something they could help us with. At the time, we were looking for some new dictaphone equipment. They were able to provide us with some money to make that purchase. That will be used in the Detective Division to transcribe the taped statements.

Chairman Cardin

Is this the total cost of the equipment?

Glenn Levesque

I believe it is yes.

MOTION CARRIED

R-04-138

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,771 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT #331-6205 "LLEBG 2004" AND THE TRANSFER OF \$1,530 FROM ACCOUNT 597-86607 INTO THE SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN GAGE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Lozeau

A clarification – LLEBG do you happen to know what that stands for?

Glenn Levesque

That is the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant.

Alderman Lozeau

Thank you.

Glenn Levesque

It is from the U.S. Department of Justice. The purpose is to detect and deter crime and for public safety. With this money we purchase equipment and support overtime for different crime prevention programs.

Alderman Lozeau

Thank you.

Alderman Plamondon

Are there a certain amount of dollars allocated annually under this LLEBG to the City of Nashua?

Glenn Levesque

Yes. It is all set up under a formula grant based on the Index 1 crimes, which are your major crimes. We request those. Washington puts it into a formula and let's you know based on how much money they have to disburse throughout the country and to every agency that applies how much you are eligible for, and this year they came up with this amount for us of the \$13,000.

Alderman Plamondon

The smaller amount of money we get the better we are in relation to crime.

Glenn Levesque

Correct. However, this particular program for this fiscal year has been cut in half by the federal legislature because the money is being re-allocated to other things going on – specifically Homeland so even if your crime rate was up more than likely this year because the entire budget was cut in half you will receive less money, which we did. It is basically cut in half from what we received last year.

Alderman Plamondon

Thank you.

Chairman Cardin

Are there any other questions?

MOTION CARRIED

R-04-139

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,923.08 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY, INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT #331-6210 "2004 HOMELAND SECURITY – BOMB UNIT"

MOTION BY ALDERMAN PLAMONDON TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Lozeau

I understand the bomb dog is gone. Is that a problem? Do you have an opinion on that? I am hearing things saying the bomb dog is gone, we need a bomb dog...

Glenn Levesque

The actually reasoning behind that I am not privy to. This money is specifically for equipment purchases though so it can't support a canine for the unit. It would have to be equipment purchases.

Alderman Lozeau

Thank you.

Chairman Cardin

Is there any other discussion?

MOTION CARRIED

R-04-140

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$26,923.08 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY, INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT #331-6208 "2004 HOMELAND SECURITY – SRT"

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

Glenn Levesque

Before I leave I would like to thank the Board for their support over the years. I really appreciate all of the support you have given me. I have enjoyed working with you.

Alderman Lozeau

It has been a pleasure.

Chairman Cardin

It has been a pleasure working with you. You are the most consistent person to show up from any department before this committee. Thank you very much for that. We can always count on you being here. Welcome Phil.

Philip Costa

I look forward to working with you. I will try to have as good a track record as Glenn did.

Chairman Cardin

Beautiful. It will be hard shoes to fill with this committee.

R-04-141

Endorsers: Mayor Bernard A. Streeter
Alderman Lori Cardin
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

**RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$2,500 FROM THE
US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTO SPECIAL REVENUE
ACCOUNT #341-6469 "HEALTH LITERACY GRANT PROJECT."**

MOTION BY ALDERMAN GAGE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Chris Lister

The proposal is included with a memo on the cover. I would be happy to answer any questions you might have.

Chairman Cardin

Is this a grant we have received before?

Chris Lister

It is not. It represents the discretionary funds from the Region 1 Department of Health & Human Services out of the Boston Office of Minority Health. They are interested in implementing strategies to reduce the area's health. This is for the Latino community.

Chairman Cardin

Is there a match for this grant?

Chris Lister

There is not.

Alderman Lozeau

If you could give a summation on what the Health Literacy Grant project actually does – how big is the project, what type of people does it serve, etc.

Chris Lister

It is actually a partnership with Nashua Area Health Center. What we propose to do is to develop a Spanish tool kit. I would be happy to let you look at this for a minute. What it would do is serve to communicate between the health providers for example and also the division. If one of the welfare staff people needs to communicate with a Latino speaking client. What we propose to do is to put down publicly 5 or 6 baseline questions; what is your name, and reproduce that so that the non-Spanish speaking staff person can be able to communicate with the Spanish-speaking individual.

Alderman Lozeau

Thank you.

Alderman Plamondon

Will this be implemented in conjunction with existing .. this is focusing on the Spanish speaking community – will this be used in conjunction or in concert with existing Spanish speaking organizations?

Chris Lister

At this time it is a pilot project. We would be working with the Nashua Area Health Center, which is adjunct to Southern Regional Medical Center. They do have a lot of Spanish speaking clients. They would be accessing this developed Spanish tool kit as the provider for their customers. If we have enough funding we would be happy to replicate this.

Alderman Plamondon

I am on the Board of Directors for the Latino Community Council, and they get a lot of Spanish – it is multi-racial and multi-ethnic, but I would say 90-95% are Spanish speaking, and they are a liaison organization for a lot of health – also how do they get their driver's licenses, trying to explain the laws here. Chief Hefferan is on the Board of Directors. I can just see this tool giving them – right across the street from the health center so I can just see this as a good tool for them to answer some basic questions and then send them across the street and introduce them to who they need to speak with for whatever...

Chris Lister

We would be happy to work with them. If you would like to speak with our Director and make contact with him.

Alderman Plamondon

I have spoken to Stefan a couple of weeks ago. I will talk to him again.

Chris Lister

We would be happy to work with them.

Chairman Cardin

Is there any other discussion?

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

Chairman Cardin

We did discuss the communication held in committee at our last meeting, and that was something that we did not recommend at the time. If anyone wishes to remove that from the table we can do so, but I don't plan to take any action on it this evening unless anyone has any other recommendations.

Alderman Lozeau

We discussed allocating those funds, and we decided to hold it. Then we spent the funds shortly thereafter on a roof project or something.

Chairman Cardin

That is correct.

HELD IN COMMITTEE

From: Paul Newman, Manager, Urban Programs Department

Re: Plus Company and Area Agency HOME Allocations

DISCUSSION

Alderman Plamondon

I have tickets for the Latino Community Council's Award Banquet, which will be December 10th. I just got them before I walked in the door here. Tickets are \$15 a person if anyone would like to go. I might even have some nominations for anybody who is on the Board or whatever who has been a contributor to the Spanish speaking population.

Chairman Cardin

Where is the event being held Alderman Plamondon?

Alderman Plamondon

It will be at 58 Elm Street, which is right down the street from here. The back door entrance on Maple Street Lot, which is where their dining facilities and conference rooms are. December 10th at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOZEAU TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Committee Clerk Pro Tem