

REPORT OF THE HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 18, 2006

A meeting of the Human Affairs Committee was held Wednesday, October 18, 2006 at 7:44 p.m. in the Aldermanic Chamber.

Chairman Marc W. Plamondon presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner, Vice Chair
Alderman Richard LaRose
Alderman Michael Tabacsko

Members not in Attendance: Alderman David MacLaughlin

Also in Attendance: Scott Slattery, Manager, Urban Programs Department

COMMUNICATIONS

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO THAT THE RULES BE SO FAR SUSPENDED AS TO ALLOW FOR THE INTRODUCTION OF A COMMUNICATION RECEIVED AFTER THE AGENDA WAS PREPARED
MOTION CARRIED

From: Scott Slattery, Manager, Urban Programs Department
Re: Harbor Homes, Inc. HOME Funds Allocation

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE
MOTION CARRIED

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-06-119

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

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,175 OBTAINED FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT 331-6241 “ NH DRUG TASK FORCE 2007” AND THE TRANSFER OF \$13,400 FROM ACCOUNT 590-23597-6123 “PRIOR YEAR ESCROW – POLICE GRANTS” INTO SAID SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Officer Costa, Nashua Police Department. As you already read through, this is pretty self-explanatory. This grant funds one of our narcotic detectives for the position for one year to the Drug Task Force. The \$13,400 is a city match that has already been budgeted as part of the police budget.

Chair Plamondon

Do any of these funds have anything to do or did they have anything to do with Operation Street Sweeper?

Officer Costa

No, they did not, though the detective funded by this position probably worked with Street Sweeper. Street Sweeper is from the federal government. They gave us buy money and overtime money to put the guys out on the street to extend their workweek past r 40 hours. There were 44 arrests made out of that operation over three months.

Alderman Tabacsko

How was this position funded in the past or is this the first year?

Officer Costa

This has been ongoing for years. I couldn't tell you when it started, maybe the eighties or nineties. It's been ongoing funded through the grant. The city picks up the match but it has been incorporated into our budget.

Alderman Tabacsko

So \$13,400 is the matching city portion?

Officer Costa

Correct.

MOTION CARRIED

Chair Plamondon

This is off the agenda, but I'm sure I can speak for the whole Board of Aldermen and express our condolences to losing a Manchester police officer, another brother in arms. If there is anything we can do, you have our support; I'm sure.

Officer Costa

We appreciate that. (Remarks inaudible – away from the microphone)

Chair Plamondon

Do you know if there is anything being done by Nashua PD for fundraising?

Officer Costa

We're doing that right now, taking donations from members, employees, whoever wants to donate.

Alderman Tollner

WMUR is setting up a link on the website to make a donation to the family.

Chair Plamondon

WGIR also has a place on their site to make donations.

Alderman Plamondon reiterated for the viewing audience the ways in which they could make a donation and remarked that the state needed to rally behind our men in blue and express its support and condolences.

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES – None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO TO TAKE FROM THE TABLE

R-06-118

MOTION CARRIED

R-06-118

Endorsers: Alderman Marc W. Plamondon
Alderman Richard LaRose
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner
Alderman Mark S. Cookson
Alderman Daniel L. Richardson
Alderman-at-Large David Rootovich

**RELATIVE TO THE USE OF HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP FUNDS FOR THE
HARBOR HOMES, INC. 46 SPRING STREET VETERANS' HOUSING PROJECT**

MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman LaRose

In the ordinance, the last sentence says: "the HOME funds are for five two-bedroom units that will be targeted tenants earning 50-60% of median area income and the period of affordability is 20 years." I'm taking this to mean that this has to go on for 20 years.

Scott Slattery

That is correct.

Alderman LaRose

It can go beyond 20 years, but it is a minimum of 20 years that the program has to be enforced.

Scott Slattery

Correct. In order for them to qualify for the housing investment partnership funds, correct.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

DISCUSSION

Alderman LaRose stated that in the memo that Mr. Slattery sent to the committee, the last paragraph says the City of Nashua is obligated by the federal statute to commit HOME funds within two years of receiving them or risk losing the funds as well as the administration funds to pay for the UPD staff salaries. He asked the chairman if at some future date Mr. Slattery could come and speak to the committee about this. If no one is coming forward to use the funds, perhaps the committee could find a way to use the funds for projects that no one is thinking of. It appears to Alderman LaRose that there was a substantial amount of money in the 2006 funds that they couldn't generate any projects for.

Scott Slattery remarked that the allocations for Harbor Homes' veteran's housing project is the last of the '06 money. They have to use the oldest money first for HOME funds projects. They used the last of the '06 money and a portion of the '07 money in order to fund this \$250,000 allocation. Presently, there's still approximately a little over \$161,000 left in '07 funds. They will need to commit these funds by the end of next fiscal year. He mentioned that they have already been approached by Harbor Homes and Marguerite's Place with proposed projects. Mr. Slattery did not think they would have a problem using those funds.

Alderman LaRose stated he did not know what was in the pipeline for future projects. He just wanted to make sure that the city wasn't sitting on \$150,000 that could have been put to good use.

Mr. Slattery offered to put together a presentation for the board so it could get an understanding of what types of projects they have been approached with, the level of funds available, etc.

Chair Plamondon requested that the presentation also include a recap of what the HOME funds can be used for.

Mr. Slattery said he could have a presentation ready for the next Human Affairs Committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO TO ADJOURN
MOTION CARRIED**

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Alderman Michael Tabacsko
Committee Clerk, Pro Tem