

REPORT OF THE HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

A meeting of the Human Affairs Committee was held Thursday, September 21, 2006 at 7:32 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 David MacLaughlin  
Alderman Michael Tabacsko  
Alderman Richard LaRose

Members not in Attendance:

Also in Attendance: Alderman-at-Large David W. Deane  
Hillary Booth, Administrator, Hunt Building  
Scott Slattery, Manager, Urban Programs  
Katherine E. Hersh, Div. Dir., Community Development  
Phillip Costa, Nashua Police Department  
Bob Mack, Manager, Welfare Officer

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Katherine E. Hersh, Director, Community Development Division  
Re: Resolution regarding CDBG Contingency

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN LAROSE TO ACCEPT AND PLACE ON FILE  
MOTION CARRIED**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

**R-06-112**

Endorsers: Alderman Richard LaRose  
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon

**AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$8,879 FROM FY2006 CDBG CONTINGENCY  
FUNDS TO THE HUNT MEMORIAL BUILDING**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN LAROSE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman LaRose

This request is, under the contract that the Hunt has with the architect, there is a 10% charge for his services on the bid price of the work. Had all of this work been done at the same time

that 10% would have been on the gross that was bid, but the project was done in 2 or 3 stages.

I know that Alderman Deane was very involved on the first couple of stages where because the staging was already there he got some monies appropriated so they could do the top part. I believe this will finish the re-pointing of the bricks. I thought I grabbed the paper that told us what the \$8,800 was funding – what their work was, and I know that some of it is they are going to come 4 times to make sure that the work is done correctly, and they are going to be looking at the bills that are presented to make sure that they are correct, etc. Here it is. I have it. All of you have a copy.

Hillary Booth

What happened was we have been re-pointing the bricks bit by bit, and we now have the money to finish it off. What we forgot to do was add in the 10% that the architect deserves so this is the request for the money. If anybody needs a copy of what the architect will do, this is the piece of paper that was passed around.

Chairman Plamondon

Ms. Booth to the best of your understanding do you feel this \$8,879 will this complete the scope of work for the re-pointing of the brick at the Hunt Building?

Hillary Booth

Yes.

Chairman Plamondon

Are there any other questions from the committee?

Alderman Tabacsko

Alderman LaRose said this is a 10% fee. Is that to imply that we did not pay that 10% fee on some of those other pieces?

Alderman LaRose

No. The 10% fee is 10% of the bid price of \$88,000. Had they had all the money, the 10% would have been only put on the bills' price. This was also looked at by Corporation Counsel to make sure that was what the contract said, that they would be getting 10%. That is what the contract said. We do have to pay for it.

Alderman Tabacsko

Thank you.

Chairman Plamondon

Alderman Deane do you have anything to add?

Alderman Deane

The charge that wasn't added to – I would imagine the bid amount was \$88,879, and the charge for the architectural services for the inspections as the process proceeds with the chinking and cutting of all of the joints in the brickwork and then the replacement is all oversight by the architect so basically he is inspecting the work. When he was hired to over see the project, he was involved with the roofing, with all the brickwork and everything. Everything that has been done there goes through them. It is a charge that we have incurred throughout the project.

Chairman Plamondon

Originally we were only going to be doing a partial re-pointing, but then we decided while the staging was there we would move forward to finish the job. This is all part of those architectural fees. Is that correct?

Alderman Deane

Last year we appropriated more money to do the other two sides of the tower wall because they would have had to re-stage the entire building again to get the staging up to do those other two walls. We came in and talked about it, and we decided that while we had two sides up we might as well do the other two instead of incurring the cost to have them set up staging again just to do the other two walls. This is going to be the north side I believe it will be Roby's room as well.

Hillary Booth

It is the left of the front; they are going up the wets or east – up to the north and then down to the front door. That will complete this.

Alderman Tollner

I think this is smart to do now. How much money do we have left in contingency? Basically what this legislation says is we are taking it out of the CDBG contingency fund. Do we know how much money will be left in there?

Chairman Plamondon

Where we just closed the books on the CDBG we also got some extra funds from salaries that were not used last year for administrative costs so barring some other things that we are looking at tonight to take from contingency monies, we should still end at – the CDBG fund balance currently, without anything that we have done this evening is \$197,500.

Alderman Tollner

What administrative salaries are you talking about?

Chairman Plamondon

I could have Mr. Slattery...

Scott Slattery

We had administrative fees that are built into the grant that are monies that weren't spent from the grant last year. What happens is those monies get rolled into the contingency fund. The present balance in the contingency fund right now before any action is as Chairman Plamondon said \$197,534.24.

Alderman Tollner

To your statement earlier, you said some were going to be used to cover what?

Chairman Plamondon

My statement earlier was referring to coming legislation to be discussed this evening.

Alderman Tollner

Okay.

Chairman Plamondon

Is there any other discussion? The motion on the floor is to recommend final passage.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**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: Hillary Booth, Administrator, Hunt Building  
Re: Architect Fee for Completion of Contract for Masonry Restoration

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

**R-06-113**

Endorser: Alderman Richard LaRose  
**AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF \$52,939 FROM FY2006 CDBG CONTINGENCY FUNDS TO THE SENIOR CENTER**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Katherine E. Hersh

The Senior Center project is complete I am pleased to say, and the new Senior Center opened for business August 1<sup>st</sup>. The memorandum that was in your packets along with the agenda details the sources of funds and we stayed within that budget for the completion of the project. What happened though is that as you can see in that list of funds there are a number of federal funds. Ultimately we were not able to allocate all of the costs of the project to all of the funding sources because each one of those funding sources has limitations.

In the end, we had \$52,939 of the HUD EDI Housing Grant that we could not spend out of that grant based on the grant requirements. The request tonight is instead to use \$52,939 of contingency from CDBG, which this money can be used, the costs can be used from that, and return the \$52,939 of the HUD EDI Affordable Housing money back into that pot. It is really just a matter of which pot of money we are taking the money out of. It isn't additional cost to the project it is really a matter of which pot we are funding it out of.

Alderman Tabacsko

What can that \$52,000 be used for if not this?

Katherine E. Hersh

It can be used for affordable housing projects. The reason was \$155,000 that we got from that towards this project, and the project was both the Senior Center, which was the city's part of the project and the elderly housing component, the 43 units of affordable elderly housing, which was the Southern New Hampshire Services component of that. That part of the project was paid for with HUD 202 money. The HUD 202 money had limitations on what they could spend their money on. For example, the asbestos work that we did on the project was the city's cost for the site. HUD 202 would not pay for that. We used some of the – the amount of money that we could allocate towards that asbestos remediation that was appropriate for that as part of the housing costs that we could justify as housing costs we allocated to that fund. We didn't have enough of those funds that we could allocate that were truly costs of the housing.

It was very complicated. We spent a huge amount of time going through these numbers and trying to best allocate the funding. For example, EPA Brownsfield money can only be used for certain costs. I am not sure if that fully answers your question, but the remainder I think of your question is so what can this money be used for subsequently. The HUD EDI Affordable Housing Fund has been used in the past for a number of different projects that non-profits have applied for that have to do with affordable housing. There are other projects, for example, that Southern New Hampshire Services or Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Nashua or other agencies can apply for and use that funding.

Alderman Tabacsko

Would those types of possible uses also be the types of possible uses from the CDBG contingency balance?

Katherine E. Hersh

They could be yes.

Alderman Tabacsko

Where I am going with that is by taking this from CDBG what is the downside I guess is where I am trying to get to in a roundabout way. We are going to be limited in that \$52,000 to housing issues.

Katherine E. Hersh

Exactly. For example CDBG might be able to be used for doing the handicapped access ramp, which we have done for the soup kitchen recently, which the Affordable Housing money would not be able to be used for or something for the Adult Learning Center for example. It is strictly for affordable housing.

Alderman Tabacsko

Thank you very much.

Chairman Plamondon

If I might, we have this assistance that we can give to CDBG areas for people who qualify for homes that are run down and such that we can give assistance to repair the homes. This is something that we are really pushing for this year especially for inner-city areas, our blighted areas, where homeowners can come forward, and as long as they meet the qualifications, borrow these funds and it goes as a lien to the home, and it is interest free and follows the lien of the home. These funds can go to projects such as that. We are really trying to focus on our inner-city area particularly like the Tree Streets to turn things around especially with all of the press we have been getting of late. This would be a way to turn our neighborhoods around.

Alderman Deane

Mr. Slattery can you come up here for a moment please? I wanted to go back in time and explain the whole funding source when we met every Friday or every other Friday when we started, there was a lot of happiness and a lot of sorrow when we were looking through all of these numbers where we were getting prices on things, things were up and down. The other portion was making sure that the funds that we had were applicable to portions of the project. If you look at the memorandum that was sent you have the five funding sources and we were working in conjunction with Southern New Hampshire Services as well, and we had some cost sharing in the project with them because there is a wall between us. There was some common area and a lot of that worked out well.

The other thing that I bring back is the fundraising drive that the Activities Center had in mind when this whole project started 3-4 years ago, and come to find out that they had raised some monies and we found out after the fact that we couldn't utilize any of them. At that point in time,

the building committee was kind of put behind the 8 ball to figure out well we have to start finding some efficiencies, and we did a lot of engineering ourselves with Eckman who had come in and gave us lots of different options that we could use. We looked at the feasibility and the cost savings of the different options. For example, It is a public building so we were talking about removing the tile out of the front, which will get the wear and tear, and putting in a cheap piece of linoleum just didn't make sense – we went through the whole building like that floor by floor and room by room, and we cut things out to get the costs down.

There was another component and I had spoken with Mrs. Anderson about it – early on in the project, I had brought some legislation in to take \$100,000 out of the general fund to but the Tamulonis property. The band hadn't been let for the project, and some of the funding was still coming together at that point. In order to get things moving we had to get the Tamulonis property. There was a lot of negotiating with the family because Mr. Tamulonis at the time was an elderly man living by himself, and his family had concerns. He had lived there since – I think he was born there in that house. When the City purchased the property and raised the building Mr. Tamulonis went into Davidson Landing or I forget where they placed him, but he was happy being placed, but when the project moved on the \$100,000 became available. It was given back to the City. The \$100,000 was never added into the project. It was loaned and then returned because of the way the process was moving along.

I talked with Mrs. Anderson about this. She was concerned that she didn't want people to think that the \$100,000 was still out there and available. If you go back and look at the minutes when we had discussed it, the Board had approved using the \$100,000 and then returning it – not keeping it or spending it for any other part of the project. That was done.

I understand the concerns with the EDI and the CDBG contingency, but normally in the years I have been on the Board – my question to you Mr. Slattery is if this does get approved it takes the \$188,875.24 and reduces it to \$135,936.24. Now when you look in the past we have looked at applicable projects such as the Soup Kitchen I believe came back and there was a project for Harbor Homes down at Allds Street when they started doing the handicapped bathrooms they were putting in – as usual when you start digging into something you end up finding rod or something like that, so they had to come back. In your estimation, when you look at the projects, and I am not quite sure of what they all were this year, if you look at projects of that nature where funding was approved as submitted to the Board of Aldermen by this committee, what funding amount for those types of projects were approved this year? Do you know off hand?

Scott Slattery

For all of the CDBG projects for this year?

Alderman Deane

For the projects that might have a possibility of finding or uncovering something that wasn't anticipated. I know there was a project down here with the heating system and windows and things of that nature, but ...

Scott Slattery

The Community Council project.

Alderman Deane

That has been a multi-year sort of thing. Those folks come back every year and do another component of the building. I really can't hold you to this, but if you look at the projects that were approved or are on going, what percentage of those projects do you think would have the possibility of them coming back for contingency money?

Scott Slattery

I would estimate in the vicinity of 25%. Fortunately, we have a good staff of folks in Urban Programs that put together the specifications for these types of projects, and try to build in some of these unforeseen costs that are going to come down the road. We try to do as much due diligence as we can initially to prevent those types of things because you are absolutely right when they get into some of these jobs, and like you said they start pulling out walls and they encounter other things. Those are unforeseen. I think 25% would be a healthy estimate.

Alderman Deane

What would the total dollar amount be of that 25% of those projects?

Scott Slattery

Probably in the vicinity of \$300,000.

Alderman Deane

It was \$300,000 that was approved.

Scott Slattery

Correct.

Alderman Deane

Out of that \$300,000, 25% may come back?

Scott Slattery

I think that would be a healthy estimate yes.

Alderman Deane

I am trying to remember when we approved those projects don't they sometimes carry a little contingency in those projects? They usually come in with an estimated figure and then they carry a little contingency themselves in those projects?

Scott Slattery

That is correct.

Alderman Deane

If this was approved, and I think it should be, that leaves \$135,936, and out of the \$300,000 – that will leave a good buffer in there for any possibility of contingency for these other projects that the committee and the Board of Aldermen had approved doing.

Scott Slattery

I would agree. I would think that would leave us a healthy buffer for some of those projects that will come back.

Alderman Deane

The \$197,574.24 number that you gave, is that all of the prior year contingencies added in? Is that total?

Scott Slattery

Yes sir that is the total balance.

Chairman Plamondon

What I show for before we started this evening the fund balance was \$197,534.24. If this passes, if my math is correct, \$135,716.24 is what I show would be remaining.

Alderman Deane

Thank you.

Alderman Tollner

I will vote in favor of the legislation, but in voting in favor of the legislation I have to state that I do have some concerns if that number is down to \$135,000 because I can remember a number of projects over the last couple of years where the different non-profits came back and say they had received \$30,000 for a project and once they got into it found out that they need \$45,000 for the project and they are in the middle of ripping out a window or floor or heating system – if they come back we are certainly not going to say wait until next year.

I guess the question I have is in this project it is done already – when did we find out that we couldn't use the HUD EDI money and had to make the change over to the CDBG contingency money? Using CDBG money you have a lot of flexibility. You could spend that money any number of different ways where the HUD EDI monies have like was stated a number of guardrails around it. When did we find this out? The project has been done for two months now. We had to know some time ago that this was going to occur.

Katherine E. Hersh

We knew towards I would say the July timeframe that we had a challenge to figure out how to do it. That is when we realized that we couldn't spend all of the money the way we thought we could spend the money. We did not have the meeting, there was a meeting that Ms. O'Riordan, Ms. Anderson, and Ms. Bielawski, and I participated in to make the final determinations, and that was not until the end of August that we finally put that schedule in. As soon as we did that we immediately got the legislation written, and put into the Board.

Alderman Tollner

When we found that out did we go back and look at any monies that we had released under the CDBG to non-profits and see if any of that money that we had already released in lieu of spending the CDBG money – flip it to use the HUD EDI? Basically what I am saying is did we look at anything that we had previously approved that we could flip and take this \$53,000 that now we had found out we can't use for the Senior Center project and go back and look at some of the other projects we approved using CDBG money and see wow could we use that \$53,000 on any of those projects?

Katherine E. Hersh

That is a good point, and we did not expressly do that, but in the course of that meeting we discussed a number of ways – we really tried to brainstorm the different ways that we could find the money to trade with this fund. That didn't specifically come up, but I am trying to think – I don't have the list of the other CDBG projects that were funded this year. I can't say specifically, but I am trying to think of the housing projects that were specifically used that the HUD EDI money could be used for.

That is a great point, and we could still do that. We could still come in with another piece of legislation and do that if that works. We would have to take a look at that because there are different requirements for each one of those funding sources. For example, if someone has already let a contract that meets the requirements for the terms and conditions in the contract and all of that other stuff – we can look at that.

Alderman Tollner

I am thinking I could be off base looking at Shaddock Street, Harbor Homes, the shelter, maybe some of the work that Margarite's Place is doing, etc.

I think you did a very good job in trying to find the funds to do this, but at the same time I would like us to try and spend a little bit more time, and go back. If there is a way where we can flip-flop in reverse of what we are doing here, and look at some of those projects that we could apply the HUD EDI money to in lieu of using the CDBG money. Heck two weeks from now we could get a call from any one of those non-profits that have a major issue and we would have to write off \$50,000 - \$60,000, and all of a sudden maybe 1 or 2 projects away from having no money. I think most of the people know this; we carry contingency money for years in these projects. It is not like we carry it for one year and want to use it all up. I think we still have contingency money from '04, '05, and '06.

Chairman Plamondon

Director Hersh is that something we could look into and if need be still introduce additional legislation?

Katherine E. Hersh

Yes.

Alderman Tollner

Right if we find it.

Scott Slattery

I think we are in a good position to do that. Folks may not know that this year HUD mandated changes in the language in all of our grant agreements to include these performance measure outcomes so we have been delayed in getting the grant agreements out to some of the non-profits. Actually we are in a great position to do that because a lot of these grants haven't been executed yet. That will be something that my staff will look into.

Alderman Tollner

I would be more than happy to sponsor that legislation. Thank you.

Chairman Plamondon

It is my understanding a lot of these HUD monies will have a lot more restrictions coming forward. They are getting tighter and tighter. Is there any other discussion?

Alderman Deane

Would you allow me a little latitude to ask Mr. Slattery a question?

Chairman Plamondon

Is it on this legislation?

Alderman Deane

I just want to know if he is going to be here for the remainder of the meeting.

Chairman Plamondon

Mr. Slattery will you be here?

Scott Slattery

Yes sir.

Alderman Deane

I have a question on another topic I would like to ask you. Thank you.

Chairman Plamondon

Are there any further questions?

Alderman Tabacsko

For clarification purposes, do we want to pass this recommendation and then simultaneously allow this...

Chairman Plamondon

That is the motion on the floor unless you want to amend...

Alderman Tabacsko

I think that makes perfect sense.

Chairman Plamondon

The motion on the floor is to recommend final passage of R-06-113.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R-06-114**

Endorsers: Alderman Michael J. Tabacsko  
Alderman Marc W. Plamondon  
Alderman-at-Large James R. Tollner

**AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF ANY GRANTS LESS THAN \$5,000 A PIECE THAT MAY BECOME AVAILABLE FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, HIGHWAY SAFETY AGENCY FOR DWI ENFORCEMENT PATROLS FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2006 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Phillip Costa

We end up getting small grants from the State Highway Department, and for various reasons some of them are seatbelt enforcement, there was recently a DWI enforcement roadblock grant so these keep coming in, and I think what the Business Manager is trying to do to get like a blanket statement out there that if they are small grants that are going to keep funneling in every quarter to get them covered by this.

Alderman Tabacsko

I had the opportunity to speak with Mrs. Smith, and it does, to me, make an awful lot of sense. Just last week at the Board meeting we had a \$500 grant come through for final passage. By the time that gets through the committee process and whatnot for \$500 it seems very cumbersome for the department to go through all of that. This is up to \$5,000 per grant and that the other requirement is that it does not require any city matching funds. It is also specifically tied to DWI enforcement. One of the questions that I have because I am not a financial person, is there a reason why it is specifically to DWI enforcement because I have seen that you have something else here that comes in – we get other things that are similar circumstance, would it make sense to open this up a little broader or is there a financial reason that we don't do that?

Phillip Costa

I was under the understanding that it was going to be for all of the smaller grants from the Highway Safety Agency. On this legislation it says for DWI enforcement, but some of the ones in the past have been for seatbelt enforcement, and those are about a \$600 grant for a couple of officers going out on a couple of nights doing seatbelt enforcement.

Alderman Tabacsko

In that case, I think with the concurrence of the Police Department I would move to amend.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO TO AMEND R-06-114 IN THE TITLE BY DELETING THE WORDS “FOR DWI ENFORCEMENT PATROLS” AND IN THE BODY BY DELETING THE WORDS “FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING DWI ENFORCEMENT PATROLS”**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Tollner

I know that these are grants that don't require the City to match?

Phillip Costa

That is correct.

Alderman Tollner

It also doesn't require the City to carry on these programs after the grant dollars leave? For instance there are some grants that we get from a number of different entities that would last say two years let's say, but it is a commitment on the City's part that when that time period is over the City is obligated to continue and fund those programs. This....

Phillip Costa

These grants aren't set up that way Alderman. When they come out with these they are for a specific weekend or a specific night.

Alderman Tollner

Okay.

Phillip Costa

Usually it is around Labor Day or Memorial Day, and then they do DWI enforcement at the end of the summer.

Alderman Tollner

Thank you.

Chairman Plamondon

When these funds get accepted normally there seems to be a public notice that is given that something is going to happen for DWI roadblocks. I know it has happened here in Nashua and in Hudson. I know these funds are also the same funds that went to Salem and Pelham. I assume there was some public notice. Is that part of the stipulation in accepting these funds?

Phillip Costa

Before you can do a roadblock there are certain legal obligations. One of them is to get in front of a Judge and get a Warrant signed that you are going to be able to stop traffic on this street at this time for the purpose of enforcing DWI statutes.

Chairman Plamondon

Does notice need to be given?

Phillip Costa

Yes. Generally that goes out into the Telegraph and I am not sure if they put it on the local television station or not.

Alderman Deane

The amendment is authorizing acceptance and appropriation of any grants less than \$5,000 a piece that may become available from the State of New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency that don't require a city match. Is that the amendment in the title and body?

Alderman Tollner

In the body it does have it already that – it doesn't say that in the title, but in the body it says Nashua Police Department are authorized, without additional specific approval, to accept and appropriate grants in the amount of less than \$5,000 a piece, which do not require matching funds from the city. That is in the body not the title.

Alderman Deane

My next question to the Police Department is do we ever receive associated grants like that that exceed \$5,000?

Phillip Costa

No. There have been three that we have been getting. Two for seatbelt compliance and a larger one, which is \$3,900 for the DWI roadblocks.

Alderman Deane

It is too bad we don't get more. I kind of agree for the sake of Ms. Smith's job over there that we might just want to put in that we get an annual report of the grants under \$5,000, and then Ms. Smith can just as the grants come in – we approve the legislation and then as the grants come in on June 30<sup>th</sup> Ms. Smith submits an annual report of the grants received from the State. That way it updates the Board and is a rolling process in place. That way you folks don't have to come back – Legal is not tied up doing the legislation and you are not sitting here at 8:15 p.m. on a Thursday night when you could be with your family.

I think it is a good idea. I think it should just be – it might be wise to have it go through the entire fiscal year and ask for an annual report from the Chief Administrator of the Police Department and be done with it. Thank you.

Alderman Tabacsko

The legislation currently does contemplate the full fiscal year. Wouldn't the recap of grants be part of the annual budget that comes in? No? They wouldn't break that out in the budget line item?

Chairman Plamondon

No.

Alderman Tollner

Just so everybody knows what we are doing – I am going to add an amendment – just so everybody is clear, in the title we are removing at the second to last line “for DWI enforcement patrols”, and the in the body of the legislation the second to last line eliminating “for the purpose of conducting DWI enforcement controls”, and then adding a last sentence to the line “The Board of Aldermen shall receive an annual report listing all of the grants accepted by the Nashua Police Department at the close of each fiscal year.

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO FURTHER AMEND R-06-114 BY ADDING A SENTENCE AT THE END THAT READS “THE NASHUA POLICE DEPARTMENT SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL REPORT LISTING ALL OF THE HIGHWAY SAFETY AGENCY GRANTS ACCEPTED BY THE NASHUA POLICE DEPARTMENT AT THE CLOSE OF EACH FISCAL YEAR”**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman LaRose

Officer Costa does the Police Department get any grants from the State of New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency above \$5,000?

Phillip Costa

No. Like I said the three that we have been getting are all below that threshold.

Alderman LaRose

The grants that you receive do that automatically come or do you try to get them?

Phillip Costa

These have been set up and have been ongoing since before I got there, but there are a lot of other grants that I go out and seek them and write grants. It is a competitive bid system.

Alderman Tabacsko

Officer Costa, the legislation as now amended and amended, are you still comfortable with this?

Phillip Costa

Yes I believe that was the intent of this resolution.

Chairman Plamondon

The vote is for both amendments.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN TABACSKO TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE AS AMENDED  
MOTION CARRIED**

**R-06-115**

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

**RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$500 FROM TARGET  
INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT #331-6239 “TARGET DONATION ACCOUNT”**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN MACLAUGHLIN TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Phillip Costa

This money is a donation. There is no matching requirement. It will be used to help set up the new Nashua Crime Line that we are getting up and running.

Chairman Plamondon

Do we have any other additional appropriations to date to set up the crime line with more than this \$ 500?

Phillip Costa

I believe we have gotten a donation from Oracle that is also going towards this.

Chairman Plamondon

Do we have a timetable as to when this might become active?

Phillip Costa

Soon. They have recently got their Tax ID from the State so we are moving forward.

Alderman LaRose

Could you explain exactly what the crime line is going to do?

Phillip Costa

It is going to be a tips line where people can call up with anonymous tips and receive basically our control number or some form of identifying who they are. If their tips turn out to be accurate and lead to an arrest there is a scale depending on the crime as to how much they get paid. We don't have any contact with them. It is set up through a third party through one of the banks. We deliver the funds to them and then they – actually we don't the crime line will have their own funds. They will make the payment.

Chairman Plamondon

This has been in use in several other communities in the area for a long time. I know Manchester has one. Hudson has one. I think it operates.

Phillip Costa

I believe Merrimack has one as well and there is – there are thousands throughout the country.

Chairman Plamondon

It is actually common. I think this will be a huge assistance to the City of Nashua in enforcing crimes.

Alderman LaRose

Where is the reward money coming from?

Phillip Costa

Through donations like this. It is not funded by the City. It is not funded by the Police Department. It is a non-profit. They will do their own fundraising. Target is getting things up and running. Oracle has made donations.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**R-06-116**

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

**RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$10,000 FROM THE COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT #332-6308 TO OPERATE A REGIONAL JUVENILE FIRE INTERVENTION PROGRAM**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN MACLAUGHLIN TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Tollner

I wanted to know if there is a match.

Chairman Plamondon

The legislation does not mention any matching funds.

Alderman Tollner

The motion on the floor is for passage? Why don't we have the motion say contingent upon no matching funds from the City? If there is we can find out before the next Board of Aldermen meeting – I will find out, and then that way if there is we can send it back to committee.

**AMENDED MOTION BY ALDERMAN MACLAUGHLIN TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE CONTINGENT UPON ACCEPTANCE NOT REQUIRING ANY MATCHING FUNDS FROM THE CITY OF NASHUA**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman LaRose

I would like to know more about this whole thing. It is nice to accept \$10,000, but they are talking regional juvenile fire intervention program. I think someone from the Fire Department should be here to explain what this is all about.

Alderman MacLaughlin

Alderman LaRose asked a very appropriate question. If we may reflect briefly, earlier this year, it might have been this summer or at least late in the spring there was a special on WMUR TV, which focused on this very program being conducted by Rick Wood of the Fire Inspector's Office. What it entails is literally bringing juvenile not necessarily victims, but students who have had difficulties demonstrating an understanding of the dangers of playing with fires in various settings that are incredibly dangerous, bring them together in a classroom environment on city property – in this case having been Lake Street Fire Station – in a classroom setting receiving instruction as to the safe handling of hazardous or flammable materials and other subject matter.

It is a full-blown course that is run out of the Fire Inspector's office. It has as received citywide and statewide acclaim for sort of the pioneering if you will of the importance of this type of specific directed training. The whole idea is to allow the support of that program to move forward.

Alderman Tabacsko

Earlier this year the Fire Department hosted an open house, and at that open house in addition to the special that Alderman MacLaughlin just referred to that had been on Channel 9, we had the opportunity to actually see – they also have a trailer that they can take around to the different schools that has the whole thing set up. They can do the fake smoke and show the kids how to check and how to get out. It is a very comprehensive and I thought a very worthwhile program, and one that as has been mentioned has already won them some level of acclaim.

I understand the concern about the matching funds. The fact that this is silent, I guess since this is my first term I am not quite sure – I am assuming that if it is silent on the subject of matching funds that they are not required, but I don't know that for a fact. If that amendment is something that someone wants to make I guess I would support it at that point. I would rather not delay this if at all possible.

Alderman LaRose

I am just assuming that from what Alderman Tabacsko has said that the City of Nashua would be taking that to different schools outside of the City – I have no problem with that. I thank Aldermen MacLaughlin and Tabacsko for informing me much to my delight on what the Fire Department is trying to do.

Alderman MacLaughlin

Thank you Alderman for asking the question. The amendment that Alderman Tollner suggested and I eagerly accept contains the verbiage, which will preclude that requirement of any citywide match, and I think that gets us off the hook. I would urge support of the committee on the amended version of the motion.

Alderman Tollner

I will support it. What I will also do is ask the Fire Department to send a memo to the Board of Aldermen prior to Tuesday night's meeting.

... tape flipped ...

Chairman Plamondon

The motion on the floor is to recommend final passage contingent upon no matching city funds.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

**R-06-117**

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

**RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$18,000 FROM HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AS WELL AS CONTRIBUTIONS FROM AREA TOWNS AND OTHER MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES INTO SPECIAL REVENUE ACCOUNT 341-6406 “MEDIATION COMMUNITY EDUCATION SERVICES”**

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN TOLLNER TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE**

ON THE QUESTION

Alderman Tollner

Mr. Mack it says here that we are accepting \$18,000 as well as contributions from area towns. Am I correct in assuming you are pinch hitting for someone this evening?

Bob Mack

Well Sandy Mulcahy is the Program Coordinator. The mediation program has actually – it does fall under the Welfare Department. I am here on behalf of the program.

Alderman Tollner

It says that we are getting \$18,000 from Hillsborough County, which is great; do you have any idea of versus the \$18,000 we are getting from Hillsborough County what might the contributions be from some other towns?

Bob Mack

The surrounding towns they determine how much they are going to donate. We kind of project what we expect to have donated.

Alderman Tollner

Do they provide us a little more money on this than they do transit?

Bob Mack

Well I don't know what money they provide on transit Alderman Tollner, but last year we received around \$4,700 from surrounding towns.

Alderman Tollner

You are safe with that figure? I am not going to hold you to it, but around that?

Bob Mack

I would say \$4,000 to \$5,000.

Alderman Tollner

As we disburse these services, one would think that we are probably required to provide services for the surrounding towns as well.

Bob Mack

Yes.

Alderman Tollner

Do you have any figures from your office or Sandy to say 65% of those services are rendered to the Nashua population, 10% Milford, 5% Hudson and so on and so forth?

Bob Mack

I do have some statistics. It was approximately 57% were for Nashua residents. I do not have the breakout for the surrounding towns however. I could get you that information if that is requested.

Alderman Tollner

I am more concerned with what we spend on Nashua than the breakdown. It is the intent though from Hillsborough County is for us to provide those services because those towns are within Hillsborough County?

Bob Mack

That is correct.

Alderman Tollner

The cost of those services that are going to be given out in the mediation area would not exceed say the \$18,500 let's say?

Bob Mack

That is a good question Alderman Tollner. The actual services are provided through volunteer mediators so the costs to the program are basically to fund the salary as well as some program expenses such as getting out flyers, just some general office supplies to maintain the program internals.

Alderman Tollner

The \$18,500 roughly – it is \$18,000 plus the contributions from the towns \$22,000 - \$23,000 – that is just to supplement a salary that is not the whole salary correct?

Bob Mack

Correct. The City does put in a little over \$12,000. That is in the Welfare salary line items.

Alderman Tollner

So for this whole program then we are looking at roughly \$34,000 - \$35,000?

Bob Mack

Correct.

Alderman Tollner

Of that then 57% of those services are provided for Nashua and roughly 43% are for outlying towns.

Bob Mack

Correct.

Alderman Tollner

Then what happens during the course of the year? Do you ever go over? You probably have to log or follow the amount of services that you are offering for the mediation. Does there every come a time when you say there is three months left in the year and we have already spent the money that is allocated for this program?

Bob Mack

No that is not really the case. The service delivery is done through volunteer mediators. It really doesn't – there is no additional cost. If you provide the service for 300 juveniles and their families or 500 juveniles and their families, the cost is pretty much flat.

Alderman Tollner

The only thing you really have to worry about in the costs are the communication, flyers, and a portion of the salary.

Bob Mack

General office supplies, salary yes, and again it is a grant funded program so if there are issues with grants being reduced, but that hasn't been the case for the last few years. We have gotten \$18,000 through the Hillsborough County Grant for the last few years.

Alderman Tollner

Thank you.

Chairman Plamondon

From a County perspective, Hillsborough County is allocating \$18,000 to Nashua for the surrounding communities. Does the County also give funds to City of Manchester, which is also Hillsborough County or any other public health departments within Hillsborough County?

Bob Mack

I believe there were approximately \$300,000 worth of grant dollars that were distributed across Hillsborough County.

Chairman Plamondon

Wow \$300,000 and Nashua got \$18,000?

Bob Mack

For this specific program. To be honest with you I couldn't give you a breakdown of where all of those funds went.

Chairman Plamondon

Where I was going is the \$18,000 to Nashua from Hillsborough County they are not expecting us to also extend our reach throughout all the corners of Hillsborough County – it is mainly greater Nashua. Is that correct?

Bob Mack

That is correct.

Chairman Plamondon

Are there any other questions?

Alderman Tollner

Is there any way we can lobby for additional dollars?

Bob Mack

There had actually been – we had thought we were going to receive less, but then we made a few phone calls and discovered there was either an error in what they had originally decided to give us or they decided to increase it to the \$18,000.

Alderman Tabacsko

Does the programming that comes from this, and the City is providing part of the salary – is there a correlation that can be drawn that each month we get reports from you on the welfare numbers and lately it has been very favorable on a comparison basis – is this the kind of thing that is helping to drive that kind of report that we have been seeing?

Bob Mack

I would not make that correlation. Even though this program is under the welfare umbrella it really operates as a separate program. Do we refer some clients to the mediation program yes. There is no direct correlation to the welfare expenditures versus the mediation program.

Alderman Tabacsko

Thank you.

Alderman MacLaughlin

First of all may I simply extend my compliments on the outstanding job that Director Mack continues to do in his department. I think we all agree that your reports have been encouraging, and shows sound management by you and your staff regarding the expenditure of public dollars in your department. I want to say thank you for that.

My question is of this sum that we are discussing under this resolution, if we were to break that down in terms of how much of that would be intended for expenditure within city limits could you estimate that amount? Is it based on the 57% that you mentioned?

Bob Mack

You could draw that conclusion and say well we receive as we discussed \$22,000 out of \$36,000 or whatever the exact figure may be, what that percentage is and how that correlates to that 57%. I think what you also have to look at with a program such as the mediation program is the value added to the community, the value added to people's lives, peer mediation programs that take place in the school departments, additional trainings that take place because of the mediation program – because we have that program here in Nashua. I think those types of value added to the community aspects are hard to put a dollar amount on.

When you also look at the time given by the volunteer mediators – a lot of these mediators are trained professionals and they would make hundreds of dollars per hour in their professions, and they give their time to this program. If you consider that expense that we are not having to dish out, that is an additional value added I would say.

Alderman MacLaughlin

I certainly agree. I guess my question would be better directed toward hypothetical – let's say you have a mediation issue in Town B, but you have one here in Nashua as well and they occur at the same time – my interest is how would you direct your resources under this resolution to handle those? Would Nashua ever be in a position where a case within city limits might receive any less attention than let's say one of the surrounding towns? That is my focus.

Bob Mack

I would say neither case would get less attention. Because of the pool of mediators there are a number of folks that could be assigned to mediate both simultaneous cases. There are frequently 2 or 3 mediation appointments that are scheduled at the same time over at the division at 18 Mulberry Street.

Chairman Plamondon

The motion is to recommend final passage. Is there any further discussion?

**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 TOLLNER TO HOLD R-06-118 IN COMMITTEE PENDING THE  
PUBLIC HEARING SCHEDULED FOR OCTOBER 18, 2006 AT 7:00 PM IN THE  
ALDERMANIC CHAMBER**

**MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

DISCUSSION

Alderman Deane asked Mr. Slattery why the roofing project at the Boys Club appears to have stopped. Mr. Slattery responded the Boys Club started the job before the grant agreement was executed, and, therefore, had to stop. The agreement has since been executed, the environmental review has been done, and staff is currently reviewing received bid documents. It is expected the project will continue within the next few days.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was declared adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Alderman David MacLaughlin  
Committee Clerk