

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

September 5, 2023 at 5:15 PM

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Stewart, Trisciani, E. Sapienza, Cavanaugh, Heath

Messrs.: J. Belanger, T. Fleming

1. Communication from Janet Horvath, Recreation & Enterprise Manager, requesting a line item adjustment to CIP 510024 Fun in the Sun.

*On motion of **Alderman Trisciani**, duly seconded by **Alderman Heath**, it was voted to approve.*

2. Communication from Steve Hoeft, BSO, requesting a line item adjustment to CIP 412522 2022 COSSAP Program.

*On motion of **Alderman Trisciani**, duly seconded by **Alderman Cavanaugh**, it was voted to approve.*

3. Communication from Steve Hoeft requesting a project extension for CIP 411722 NIBRS Crime Statistics Software to 9/30/2024.

*On motion of **Alderman E. Sapienza**, duly seconded by **Alderman Cavanaugh**, it was voted to approve.*

4. Communication from Ryan Cashin, Fire Chief, requesting permission to apply for a Homeland Security grant of up to \$50,000 to purchase a two-tier boat trailer.
(Note: No local match is required.)

*On motion of **Alderman Heath**, duly seconded by **Alderman Trisciani**, it was voted to approve.*

5. Communication from Ryan Cashin requesting permission to apply for a Homeland Security grant of up to \$220,000 to purchase two utility trucks.
(Note: No local match is required.)

*On motion of **Alderman Heath**, duly seconded by **Alderman E. Sapienza**, it was voted to approve.*

6. Communication from Kristen Clarke, Traffic Engineer, requesting permission to apply for a U.S. Department of Transportation SMART (Strengthening Mobility & Revolutionizing Transportation) grant of up to \$2 million.
(Note: No local match is required.)

*On motion of **Alderman Heath**, duly seconded by **Alderman Trisciani**, it was voted to approve.*

7. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$53,300 for CIP 410824 Highway Safety Grant.

*On motion of **Alderman Trisciani**, duly seconded by **Alderman Heath**, it was voted to approve.*

8. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$110,000 for CIP 410924 NH Law Enforcement Mental Health & Wellness Program.

*On motion of **Alderman Heath**, duly seconded by **Alderman Cavanaugh**, it was voted to approve.*

9. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$4,000 for CIP 611921 Waypoint-298 Hanover Street Renovation Project.

*On motion of **Alderman Cavanaugh**, duly seconded by **Alderman Heath**, it was voted to approve.*

10. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$25,000 for CIP 810024 Election Infrastructure Improvement.

*On motion of **Alderman Cavanaugh**, duly seconded by **Alderman E. Sapienza**, it was voted to approve.*

11. Communication from the property owner of 244 Bell Street requesting subordination of City liens in the amount of \$81,883.

Alderman Heath asked can we have Jeff Belanger come up please. Can you tell me about why we are doing this and what your recommendation is?

Jeff Belanger, Planning & Community Development Director, responded you can see the letter that Mr. Ramos submitted is attached to your agenda. He is looking to subordinate a loan. This is not an uncommon thing. It is somewhat uncommon...you can see that he is asking to pay off some debt as part of this so we didn't really want to give a firm recommendation. It is ultimately up to the committee. Todd has seen more of these than I have and maybe he has some additional comments.

Todd Fleming, CIP, stated at one point, there was a policy that was more or less if someone was going to subordinate a loan to get a lower interest rate and take out cash to make improvements on the property that was okay.

Alderman Heath asked but isn't this forgiving debt.

Mr. Fleming answered basically they are refinancing and getting additional money to make improvements to the property and pay off debt that the owner has.

Alderman Heath asked what is the advantage to the city to do this.

Mr. Fleming replied the city is still in the same mortgage position. They have provided an appraisal that shows that there is value in the property so if there is a problem both the primary lender and the city would be repaid. This type of loan is only due and payable upon sale of the property so if they sell the property then the city basically gets all of our money back.

Alderman Trisciani stated under this program this is affordable housing given that they are under the lead abatement. It is neighborhood housing. Yes, he is paying some debt off but we are staying in the same position and we are maintaining affordable housing in the city.

Mr. Fleming stated this is an owner that went through the down payment assistance program to purchase the home and in addition they took advantage of other city programs to improve their housing.

*On motion of **Alderman Trisciani**, duly seconded by **Alderman E. Sapienza**, it was voted to approve.*

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman E. Sapienza**, duly seconded by **Alderman Cavanaugh**, it was voted to adjourn.*

A True Record. Attest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Hammond". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Clerk of Committee