

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT

November 19, 2024 at 6:15 PM

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order.

The Clerk calls the roll.

Present: Aldermen Morgan, Terrio, Kantor, Long, Burkush

Messrs.: A. Aldenberg

1. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$11,867 for CIP 411325 SWAT Search & Rescue Equipment.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

2. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$200,930 for CIP 411425 Justice Assistance Grant.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

3. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$45,000 for CIP 411525 Intelligence Liaison Officer Program.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

4. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$93,000 for CIP 411625 STOP Violence Against Women.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Kantor**, it was voted to approve.*

5. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorization providing for the acceptance and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$305,000 for CIP 712625 Lead Service Line Replacement Project

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

6. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorizations providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$94,440.52 for CIP 510025 Parks Deferred Maintenance.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

7. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorizations providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$8,481.02 for CIP 510324 Parks Deferred Maintenance.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

8. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorizations providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$144,784 for CIP 510422 Livingston Pool Repair.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

9. Amending Resolution and Budget Authorizations providing for the transfer and expenditure of funds in the amount of \$134,825 for CIP 711623 Downtown Sidewalk Repair.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

10. Communication from Ryan Cashin, Fire Chief, requesting approval of a \$25,000 Hazmat Team Grant from the state of NH.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

11. Communication from the Fire Chief requesting approval to use \$531,332.99 in impact fees to help offset the increase in construction costs for the EOC Upgrades Project.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

12. Communication from Jonathan Hopkins, Central Fleet Services Director, requesting authorization to issue request for proposals and enter into contracts to purchase two Fire Department engines.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

13. Communication from the Central Fleet Services Director requesting an extension of CIP 710324 Central Fleet Deferred Maintenance to December 30, 2024.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve.*

14. Communication from Allen Aldenberg, Police Chief, requesting \$170,000 for the Women's Locker Room Expansion Project.

Alderman Terrio moved to approve contingent upon funding being found.

Matthew Normand, City Clerk, asked do you want to defer this to the FY26 budget discussion.

Alderman Terrio answered correct unless we can find it before then.

Alderman Long asked do you know where this money is coming from.

Allen Aldenberg, Police Chief, responded at this point, I don't have the money in my budget I think for obvious reasons that we have discussed in front of this Board in the last couple of months. We have two lockers remaining in the female locker room. That is the good news story. I think we have almost doubled our female officer complement in the last three and a half to four years and we continue to make many efforts to hire more female officers. To defer it to FY26, since we are almost at the end of the year I think if the money does become available we need to be amenable to that. If not, then we will have to adjust internally and wait until FY26. We just ask that this become a priority in FY26 if possible.

Alderman Long asked so if we could find the money it would be your recommendation that we get this done.

Chief Aldenberg replied it would be but I understand the constraints that everybody is under right now so I am respectful of that.

Chairman Morgan asked do you want us to approve this contingent upon finding funding and not defer it to FY26 so we can get it done.

Alderman Long responded yes.

Chief Aldenberg stated as long as the discussion is moving forward, that is appropriate.

Chairman Morgan stated I think we are all for it. We just have to find the money.

Alderman Kantor asked is this for biological females only.

Chief Aldenberg answered yes this locker room right now is for biological females only. We have internal discussions should other issue arise and we will be well prepared to react to that appropriately.

Alderman Terrio amended his motion to approve the request contingent on funds becoming available. **Alderman Long** duly seconded the motion. Chairman Morgan called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chief Aldenberg asked is that something that will be revisited every month by the normal budget process.

City Clerk Normand stated before we go on to Item 15, I just for the record wanted to note that as part of Item 5 you had a revised communication in front of you from Phil Croasdale. That item includes a \$305,000 bond resolution.

15. Communication from Mayor Ruais requesting various American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) fund reallocations as outlined in the attached document.

Chairman Morgan stated I would like to make some adjustments to this by breaking it into three different items for us to vote on at the BMA tonight. The first is I would be asking for a motion to approve CIP 610024 Winter Emergency Shelter and CIP 610725 Winter Warming Station and refer to the BMA this evening.

Alderman Terrio moved to approve CIP 610024 Winter Emergency Shelter and CIP 610725 Winter Warming Station and refer to the BMA this evening. **Alderman Long** duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Long asked is the ARPA funding that we are going to appropriate prior to the end of December.

Chairman Morgan answered that is correct.

Alderman Long asked what were the two...

Chairman Morgan interjected all of the ARPA funding that is in the package is going to be broken into three different items. I am going to read this out but this one is for the two winter emergency shelter projects.

Alderman Long asked is that part of the attachment.

City Clerk Normand stated it is part of the mayor's project list. Chairman Morgan is just breaking out some of the projects for individual votes.

Chairman Morgan called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Morgan stated I would now look for a motion to approve CIP 610325 Beech Street Program and CIP 610825 Case Management Engagement Center/Shelter Beech Street and refer to the BMA this evening.

*On motion of **Alderman Burkush**, duly seconded by **Alderman Long**, it was voted to approve CIP 610325 Beech Street Program and CIP 610825 Case Management Engagement Center/Shelter Beech Street and refer to the BMA this evening.*

Chairman Morgan stated I would now look for a motion to amend the proposed CIP 310025 MCC Tuition Support Program by decreasing allocation to \$200,000, increasing the proposed CIP 211825 MPAL General Assistance and CIP 8100925 Welfare Basic Needs Support projects by \$50,000 each, and approve with a referral to the BMA this evening.

Alderman Long moved to amend the proposed CIP 310025 MCC Tuition Support Program by decreasing allocation to \$200,000, increasing the proposed CIP 211825 MPAL General Assistance and CIP 8100925 Welfare Basic Needs Support projects by \$50,000 each, and approve with a referral to the BMA this evening. **Alderman Burkush** duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Long asked what is the extra \$50,000 going to be used for.

Chairman Morgan stated Charleen is here.

Charleen Michaud, Welfare Director, stated all of the money will go for food, housing costs and utility payments.

Alderman Long asked so this would be in addition to what you currently have.

Ms. Michaud replied correct.

Alderman Long stated that's good. Is it going towards hotels?

Ms. Michaud responded housing costs so rent or hotels or mortgage payments.

Alderman Long asked but not expanded...I think right now it is eight nights that people get in a hotel.

Ms. Michaud answered there is no limit on the number of nights. We only provide assistance for seven days at one time and then we re-determine eligibility based on compliance.

Chairman Morgan asked Chief Aldenberg can you come up and answer a question about MPAL.

Mayor Ruais stated I can respond to that question. I had a conversation with John Rainville who as we all know is the Executive Director of MPAL. His request is that this would go towards general assistance funds. Earlier this year in the budget we supported, for the first time, \$50,000 for the Choices Program specifically and when I asked him what the best use of these dollars would be to support the program, he said general assistance funds.

Chairman Morgan called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Morgan asked is there a motion to approve the balance of the Mayor's proposed project adjustments for this item and refer to the BMA this evening.

*On motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Burkush**, it was voted to approve the balance of this item and refer it to the BMA this evening.*

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

A True Record. Attest.

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

Clerk of Committee