

HUMAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

May 10, 2021

A meeting of the Human Affairs Committee was held Monday, May 10, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in via teleconference.

Chairwoman Kelly

As Chairwoman of the Human Affairs Committee, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means:

We are utilizing Zoom and the meeting link can be found on the agenda as well as on the City's website.

You can also join by telephone by dialing: 1-929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 856 9852 8181 and Passcode: 339006. The public may also view this meeting on Comcast Channel 16.

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, through public postings. Instructions have also been provided on the City of Nashua's website at www.nashuanh.gov and publicly noticed at City Hall and Nashua Public Library.

If anyone has a problem accessing the meeting via phone or Channel 16, please call 603-821-2049 and they will help you connect.

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting via the methods mentioned above, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-To-Know Law.

Alderman Wilshire called the roll and asked them to state the reason he or she could not attend, confirmed that they could hear the proceedings, and stated who was present with him or her.

The roll call was taken with 4 members of the Human Affairs Committee present:

Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly, Chairman, presided.

Members of the Committee present: Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright, Vice Chair
 Alderman June M. Caron
 Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
 Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly

Members of the Committee absent: Alderman Patricia Klee

Also in Attendance:

Bob Mack, Welfare Manager
Bobbie Bagley, Public Health
Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director

ROLL CALL

Chairwoman Kelly

I'm here, I am alone and I can hear everyone.

Alderman Caron

I am here, I am alone and I can hear everyone.

Alderman Harriott-Gathright

I am present, I am in this room alone and I can hear everyone.

Alderman Wilshire

Alderman Klee? She's not joining us this evening, right?

Chairwoman Kelly

Correct, she's unable to make it.

Alderman Wilshire

Thank you. Alderman Wilshire is here, I am alone and I can hear everyone. We have four in attendance.

Chairwoman Kelly

Thank you. I also see that we have Bob Mack our Welfare Manager and Director Marchant with us. Am I missing anybody? Oh I see Director Bagley is here as well. OK. Public Comment; is there anyone from the public that would like to speak on anything we will be taking up this evening? I don't see any members of the public.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

PRESENTATIONS - None

COMMUNICATIONS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-21-129

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderwoman Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF \$1,439,929 FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT INTO PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES GRANT ACTIVITY “HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (“HOPWA”)

MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Chairwoman Kelly

Thank you. I know this is an allocation we get every year. I see Director Bagley and Bob Mack here. Did either of you want to do a quick overview?

Bob Mack, Welfare Manager

Thank you Chairman Kelly. Yes, this Resolution we are looking for approval and acceptance of this Resolution to accept the \$1,439,929.00 from HUD. This is actually a three year grant cycle which we get through HUD. Is it basically a pass through grant. We contract with Harbor Homes and they provide the housing supports, tenant based rental assistance as well as support services for 30 to 35 households per year that receive rental subsidy support and supportive services to maintain their residence. These are households that have at least one household member who has HIV or AIDS and these services are essential to their maintaining housing and health in our community. Again, we've received this grant, this will be the sixth cycle. So we started getting this grant around 2005 and again it is a three year cycle period so we have been through five cycles so far and are looking to move into the sixth cycle for this grant.

Chairwoman Kelly

And Mr. Mack, there is a bit of urgency here, that's why we are hoping to talk about this evening and then suspend the rules to have it go to the Full Board tomorrow, correct?

Mr. Mack

Yes, if that could happen, the grant cycle did end on April 30th, it has an interesting start and stop date so that's why we are looking for this Resolution to move through if possible.

Chairwoman Kelly

Of course. Thank you.

Mr. Mack

Thank you.

Chairwoman Kelly

Does anyone from the Committee have questions? Alderman Wilshire.

Alderman Wilshire

I didn't see it on our Agenda for tomorrow night Mr. Mack. Do you know if someone has worked it out with Donna to have it put on the Agenda.

Mr. Mack

I had had some communications with Donna Graham and she, I thought she had indicated that it was going to be put on the Agenda, depending on how things went this evening.

Alderman Wilshire

If she said it would be there, it will be there.

Chairwoman Kelly

Ok perfect. Thank you. It is definitely noted in my Agenda too because I know you had asked Mr. Mack. So hopefully that'll be taken care of tomorrow evening. But let's take care of it here first.

Alderman Caron

Madam Chair?

Chairwoman Kelly

Alderman Caron?

Alderman Caron

Yeah, I did check the paperwork and it is listed predicated on what transpires tonight.

Chairwoman Kelly

Thanks for checking for that Alderman Caron, I appreciate it.

Alderman Caron

You're welcome.

Chairwoman Kelly

OK, anyone else? Will the Clerk please call the roll?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Caron, Alderman Wilshire, Alderwoman Kelly	4
Nay:	0

MOTION CARRIED

R-21-130

Endorsers: Mayor Jim Donchess
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire

RELATIVE TO THE ACCEPTANCE AND APPROPRIATION OF UP TO \$220,000 FROM THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INTO TRANSIT GRANT ACTIVITY "FEDERAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY ("FTA") OPERATING GRANT"

MOTION BY ALDERMAN WILSHIRE TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Chairwoman Kelly

The motion is for final passage. I believe Director Marchant is here to speak on this?

Sarah Marchant, Director of Community Development

Good evening, thank you so much. Sarah Marchant here. This is a grant that we get every two years and it is formerly called the JARC Grant. This directly subsidizes the Route 2 and Route 6 to make those routes half hour rotations instead on one hour rotations. Those are our busiest routes for job access. So this is what this grant is. So these serve the Mall and Amherst Street.

Chairwoman Kelly

Thank you Director Marchant. Are there questions from the Committee? I have a quick question. I know we do a lot of these things over and over again. You said that the half hour, this is what this subsidizes, do you find that that's enough? I know you are not the head of Transit but just sort of interested if that's enough.

Director Marchant

All of that's my world. We certainly provide adequate service with the half hour rotation; that's our best rotation, better than an hour. I do think that those routes especially certain times of the year could use more. But the number one request we get if we were to expand service is actually for Sundays and that is just a massive cost increase. We are always looking for grants to help out with those operational expenses. Some of the other routes had been requested to go to the half hour service as well, but the biggest request is certainly if we were to expand operations, it would be the focus on providing service on Sunday which we do not do at all right now.

Chairwoman Kelly

If I could – I was about to ask myself if I could follow up, forgot where we were. So on Sundays do you think that the community that we would be serving, is that more like trying to do errands that kind of thing or is it still people who are trying to get to and from work but work potentially on Sundays?

Director Marchant

It is both, I think. Yes I definitely think it will absolutely still serve a lot of jobs and I do think it would also serve some non-job activities. I think the highest ridership would be for jobs.

Chairwoman Kelly

That's really interesting. OK thank you. Anyone else from the Committee have questions? OK. Could the Clerk please call the roll?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Caron,
Alderman Wilshire, Alderwoman Kelly 4

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES - None

TABLED IN COMMITTEE - None

GENERAL DISCUSSION - None

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN - None

POSSIBLE NON-PUBLIC SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HARRIOTT-GATHRIGHT TO ADJOURN BY ROLL CALL

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman Harriott-Gathright, Alderman Caron,
Alderman Wilshire, Alderwoman Kelly 4

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Committee Clerk