

Budget and Finance Committee

3/14/24 6:00 PM

Meeting Post: <https://www.cityofnewburyport.com/budget-finance/events/347506>

Roll:

B/F: Zeid, Harman, Khan

Additional: McCauley, Wright

Staff: Manning, Gallagher

Agenda:

Likely to discuss:

• ORDR00545_03_11_2024 School Security Upgrades Lease Order \$731,343.00 (COTW)

- Super Gallagher was present
- SG – School system
- SG – Went to conference at Endicott, heard from Parkland chief
- SG – Heard from one of the survivors from another shooting
- SG – Going through those scenarios and what could be done to be safer
- SG – Have some ESSR funds
- SG – Current system is not reliable, have had to fix.
- SG – Company let us pilot cameras, vape detector
- SG – The pilot went well
- SG – It is accessible, used ESSR to upgrade some cameras at the high school. Added more
- SG – Asked company if they could do an audit
- SG – 10 year warranty on the hardware and software
- SG – Use the ESSR funds as down payment and then pay the annual amount for 7 year. Within 2 months, they will do the entire system.
- SG – Police can use. Real time control by principals
- SG – They will have the floor plans of the school
- SG – Also using In Force 911
- SG – Have done ballistic film on some windows
- SG – Working on green light grant, waiting for RFP
- SG – Maybe get a grant of up to \$400k
- SG – This is a need but didn't want to impact city or school budgets
- AK – Lockdown protocols exist?
- SG – Yes
- AK – Missing piece is isolation
- SG – Yes
- AK – How is it currently handled? See it as comprehensive across all the schools. Police have access.
- AK – What are they currently monitoring (police)

- SG – Systems are older but they have monitor where they can look
- SG – Cameras aren't that sharp
- AK – Current system is 10 years old
- AK – Police and fire in discussion
- SG – Yes
- BH – VC back silicon valley company
- BH – were they a vendor there
- SG – there were other districts that use them
- SG – they have been responsive
- SG – Steve liked that they swapped out equipment
- BH – What was technical piece
- SG – Mike Morse is our person
- SG – He spoke with other communities that use this system
- BH – What did people like in the pilot
- SG – Administration liked that they could see students leaving the school. Principals saw alert that door was opened
- SG – 7 year commitment, 10 year warranty
- SG – Software and hardware updates are included
- BH – Do we get to keep the stuff. We finish the payment and then we get to keep that stuff
- SG – we keep the stuff. 7 years done payment, keep it until 10th year
- BH – opportunity to create this overnight. How large or small you see the gaps as being
- SG – response time is everything
- JM – Did we single source this bid
- SG – Will ask Steve on that one, not sure if we did
- JM – Do we have a policy as to what we do what the film and images
- SG – Yes, we have a policy. Who has access, etc
- JM – Images of child isn't somehow posted somewhere else
- SG – Yes
- JM – But not in the cloud
- SG – Yes, we can look at that
- SG – Good point
- SZ – Does IT director of School still exist?
- SG – We have a team of people and Michael Morse, we have 4 people
- SZ – Is this the model what we're looking at
- SG – Yes, looking at team approach
- SZ – Verkada can work but we didn't really look at anything else
- EM – Verkada is on state contract list
- SZ – Where is this on the City side
- EM – This will be in capital plan, look at other buildings in second phase
- BH – What else comes from Choice
- SG – It is sort of a rainy day fund. We are confident we can meet obligation
- JM – State Law – school choice must be used for direct education of students. Kind of stretch.

- SG – Don't agree, first thing we need to is provide safe environment
- JM – I think there are other ways to fund it
- JM – I think that does not play of play into the spirit. That funding is to supplement direct education
- JM – Maybe spend it on teacher or program
- JM – This is more of capital expense, that is my heartburn
- JM – Can we get something from state as to whether this is acceptable
- MW – Simple math. Committing 16 choice students for the next 7 years.
- SZ – Can we see the Verkada agreement
- SG – Yes
- EM – don't think we can get better rate, maybe wrap it into a bond, maybe get it into a bond. Maybe shave off 1%.
- EM – Variable on the grant
- SZ – Can we just buy it?
- SG – 1 year, 3 year, etc. This is the most predictable.
- MW – Can you pay early? Without penalty
- SG – Yes
- AK – Conceptually we need it
- AK – Didn't know how old it is
- AK – Would be nice what else there is out there. Hard to know what else it out there.
- AK Inclined to support
- AK – When would get installed, next couple of month
- AK – Keep it in committee
- BH – agree with colleague. Feeling a little bit unsure of other agreement
- SZ – Contract unions
- EM – We removed tech stipend and replaced
- EM – they are using personal cell phone
- **Stays in committee**

• TRAN00184_03_11_2024 City Clerk: General Fund Free Cash \$15,000 to Elections \$15,000

- Clerk was present
- Clerk said that the balance was -23k
- RJ - Clerk 11266 coming from Whittier reimbursement for their election. They were good to work with and quick
- RJ - That means current balance is -11234
- RJ - Haven't paid yet for presidential primary, that will be \$4k
- RJ - Have cost of current recount but will be around \$3k
- RJ - So looking at \$7k
- RJ - We do get reimbursed for early voting from the fall, \$6k is expected
- RJ - Net balance (\$12,700)
- RJ - \$15k bring us to about \$2k
- RJ - We will get a reimbursement of \$8k for presidential primary but not for a long time
- RJ - Will we get refunded for recount. Probably not. Clerks will request.

- RJ - With transfer will be tight
- SZ – are they obligated to reimburse
- RJ – not sure, will take a look
- BH – Calculation of how they arrive at \$6k
- RJ – They have a spreadsheet – hours, poll workers, etc.
- **Motion to approve AK/BH, 3-0**

• ORDR00543_03_11_2024 Gift Acceptance Friends of NBPT Trees \$6500

- 12 Trees
- Spring planting, care for 2 years
- Locations not selected yet
- Motion to Approve AK/BH 3-0

Unlikely to debate in depth:

• ORDR00546_03_11_2024 Harbormaster Dept. Season Dock Permit Fee

- Invited appropriate stakeholders to next meeting

• TRAN00185_03_11_2024 Mayor: ARPA State & Local Fiscal Recovery Funds \$282,653.87 (B&F/COTW) and Joppa Park Walkway \$30,487.91 to Lower Atkinson Common Improvements \$313,141.78

- Waiting on ARPA Committee

Finance Director Update

- Finance Director update
 - Usual, grants, transfer
- AK – Presented nicely but sometimes in preparation of op budget, tough time fiscally. Services delivered today versus 15 years ago.
- Discussed further around zero-based budgeting and exploring positions and staffing

Public Comment:

Jane Snow – 9 Coffin St – Can we also keep an eye on buildings and spacing? Some places need to be addressed.

Motion to adjourn:

AK/BH, 7:22pm, 3-0

Recording:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/pFWdZxox7m9dwmv6DmdJY4XmPwCa6l8QbNkiemzlepMf18NdluafUthYvCWfa3Bs.lkiWJTRp6wGYprA>