



## STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #: 20-44  
COUNCIL MTG OF: May 5, 2020  
FROM: David Caron, Town Administrator  
OFFERED BY: Administration  
PREPARED BY: Administration  
SUBJECT: To Accept Grants and other Funding related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

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### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to request Council authorization to 1) accept \$33,814 in funding from the Federal Government for one specific program 2) to apply for and accept a grant in the amount of \$48,708 from the NH Department of Justice for filter and voice amplification devices, and 3) authorize the Town Administrator to apply for and accept any COVID-19 related funding and place in the COVID-19 Expendable Trust.

### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

Please see comments within this staff report.

### BACKGROUND

Section 9.15 of the Town Charter authorizes the Town Council to apply for, accept and expend funds received from the State, Federal or other Governments, or from private sources. Typically, the Council authorizes the Administrator to perform these duties on a case by case basis. Given the anticipated breadth of resources which may become available responding to the COVID-19 Pandemic, it is recommended that the Council provide blanket authorization to the Administrator to apply for and accept any COVID-19 related reimbursements or other revenues.

The Town was recently notified that it will receive \$33,814 from the Federal Government to assist with any losses or service disruptions as a Medicare Service provider through its Emergency Medical Services.

The Police Department is in the process of securing a grant from the NH Department of Justice in the amount of \$48,708 to acquire filtering devices to supplement COVID-19 personal protective equipment (PPE) and voice amplifiers to assist with communications when using PPE.

### DISCUSSION

The source and total amount of assistance to support town operations and respond to COVID-19 is currently unknown; we do know that there are a multitude of federal programs which may assist communities directly, and state government is beginning discussions on how to disburse its \$1.25B grant from the feds.

Typically, the Council acts to apply, accept and expend funds from other sources, whether it be government or private. Additionally, the Council schedules a public hearing for grants over \$10,000 as required by state statute. It is recommended that the Council hold a public hearing on May 5 to receive public input on a proposal to authorize the Town Administrator to apply for and accept COVID-19 related funding. The Resolution would require that any funds be placed in the COVID-19 Expendable Trust which further requires Council approval to expend from that fund. This process allows the Town to harvest revenues in a more efficient manner while retaining the Council's appropriation authority. This action is authorized pursuant to the Legislature granting municipalities special powers during an emergency, pursuant to RSA 21-P:43.

FISCAL IMPACT

No significant fiscal impact associated with this change in procedure, although minor savings will be realized by eliminating multiple public hearing notices.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL

After the May 5, 2020 public hearing, move to adopt Resolution #2020-023.



## RESOLUTION

### Number 2020-023

To Apply for and Accept Grant and other Funding from Various Sources  
for COVID-19 Mitigation, Response and Recovery

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WHEREAS, the Section 9.15 of the Town Charter authorizes the Town Council to apply for, accept and expend funds received from the State, Federal or other Governments, or from private sources; and

WHEREAS, the Town is scheduled to receive \$33,814 from the Federal Government as a Medicare service provider through its Emergency Medical Services; and

WHEREAS, the Town is applying for \$48,708 from the NH Dept. of Justice for additional personal protective and communications equipment for its Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the Town anticipates receiving additional funds from several different sources related to the COVID-19 pandemic and would benefit from a streamlined acceptance process; and

WHEREAS, any funds received would be placed in the COVID-19 Mitigation, Response and Recovery Expendable Trust, for which the Town Council is designated as Agents to Expend;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED IN COUNCIL that the Town Administrator is hereby authorized:

- 1) To accept \$33,814 in Federal Stimulus Funds as a Medicare provider;
- 2) To apply, accept and expend \$48,708 from the NH Dept. of Justice for additional PPE and communication devices for the Police Department;
- 3) Without further Council action, to apply for and accept any funds in accordance with RSA 21-P:43 for COVID-19 Mitigation, Response and Recovery;
- 4) To sign all necessary applications and agreements to implement the provisions of this Resolution; and
- 5) Place all revenues in the Expendable Trust as established by the Town Council pursuant to Resolution #2020-012.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Adopted: May 5, 2020

Attest:

X \_\_\_\_\_

Charles Foote, Council Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

X \_\_\_\_\_

Daniel Healey, Town Clerk

Date: \_\_\_\_\_