

Item #: 23-124  
COUNCIL MTG OF: November 21, 2023  
FROM: David Caron, Town Administrator  
OFFERED BY: Chief George R. Feole  
PREPARED BY: Captain David M. Michaud  
SUBJECT: Stanton Foundation K-9 Grant

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STAFF REPORT  
*Public Hearing 12-5-23*

**PURPOSE:** Consider applying for and accepting a grant from the Stanton Foundation K-9 to help augment the costs of our new K-9 patrol program.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:** The Council is urged to authorize staff to participate in this grant program which, if received, will significantly reduce program implementation cost.

**BACKGROUND:** The Stanton Foundation was created by Dr. Frank Stanton, the long-time president of CBS. Dr. Stanton designated canine welfare as one of the primary missions of his foundation. The Stanton Foundation provides grants to support the creation of new police K-9 units in cities and towns in New Hampshire and surrounding states. Grants are awarded in the amount of \$32,000, which will cover costs including purchasing the dog, training costs, kennel facilities at the officer's home, retrofitting a K-9 cruiser, and food and veterinary care for the first three years.

The Derry Police Department does not currently have a K-9 program and with the Town Council's action on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023, to approve such a program, the Police Department began to research additional funding opportunities. The Stanton Foundation would significantly aid with the funding of the program, requires no match, and the funds are available for a three-year period.

In addition to the \$32,000, funds are also available as part of this grant to cover backfilling overtime for the officer who is sent to a K-9 academy for training. This will provide the department with \$1,100 per week, for the duration of the 14-week K-9 academy (\$15,400). Additional funds will also be provided to cover enhanced training for the K-9 team in narcotic or explosive detection, which is typically \$4,500.

In total, the police department could receive up to a total of \$51,900 from the Stanton Foundation to utilize towards the establishment of our K-9 program.

**DISCUSSION:** The Town Charter provides that the Town Council may apply for and accept grants or gifts. Specifically, "**SECTION 9.15 Grants, Gifts;** provides in part, that the Town Council may apply for, accept and expend monies received from the State, Federal, or other governmental units, or from private sources which become available during the fiscal year."

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The acceptance of this grant would have a positive impact on the budget, as it would lower the overall tax impact of the program via a new revenue source. There is no match requirement for the town.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL:** Grant authority to the Town Administrator to apply for and accept a grant for up to \$51,900 over a three-year period from the Stanton Foundation, without further Town Council action.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:** See Resolution Number 23-78 for consideration after the December 5, 2023 public hearing.

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# RESOLUTION

## Number 2023-078

To Authorize the Town to Apply, Receive and Expend a Grant from the Stanton Foundation in Support of a Police Canine Program

WHEREAS, Section 5.1 of the Town Charter designates the Town Council as the governing and legislative body of the Town, and

WHEREAS, Section 9.15 of the Town Charter authorizes the Town Council to accept grant funding; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council under Resolution #2023-051 approved a Supplemental Appropriation to begin a Police Canine Program; and

WHEREAS, the Stanton Foundation provides grants to New Hampshire municipalities in support of the creation of new police K-9 units; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Town to seek outside funding to assist with the costs associated with the Canine Program;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED IN COUNCIL that the Town Administrator is hereby authorized to apply for, accept and expend up to Fifty-Three Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$53,900) in grant funds from the Stanton Foundation to assist with the creation of the Derry Police Canine Program.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Adopted: December 5, 2023

Attest:

X \_\_\_\_\_

Charles Foote, Council Chair

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

X \_\_\_\_\_

Cristina Guilford, Town Clerk

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