

Council Agenda Report

Date: November 12, 2019

Prepared by: Oden C. Wheeler Jr., Director DPW

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SUBJECT: Cambridge Housing Authority

Recommendation: That Council appropriate \$42,864.00 to the Department of Public Works FY 2020 budget for a check received from the Cambridge Housing Authority for a camera equipment and authorize the DPW staff to do the installation.

Discussion:

Several months ago, members of the Cambridge Housing Authority met with DPW staff, and Commissioner Donald Sydnor. The meeting entailed that they wanted to explore if the security camera project that the City installed on Greenwood Ave. could be extended to Weaver Ave., and Cornish Drive. After learning what they felt was the scope of their project, City staff requested that we be allowed to explore what the installation cost could be, and if the City had any available funding. Dale Price and DPW staff looked at the site, developed what the associated cost would be for the installation; i.e. but not limited to; boring underground to install conduit, installation of the concrete bases, poles, wiring, fiber optics, cameras, creation of a video recorder, etc. totaled \$42,864. When revisiting with the Housing Authority staff, we presented all the details, from location of the cameras, number of cameras to be installed, construction details, etc., however we presented to them that we didn't have any available funding at this time. We further presented that we would explore to see if this could be a funded project when we began the FY2021 budget process, with no guarantee. At this time the Housing Authority offered to partner with the City if they paid for the boring work, and all the equipment if the City would provide the staff to complete the installation. The equipment would become the property of the City of Cambridge. They also requested that they be able to monitor the cameras for the safety of their residents if this was possible. In talking with Dale Price this would be possible in that we would be building a video recorder specifically for these cameras, and even if we added other cameras in the future to this recorder he could isolate the Housing Authority to these specific cameras.

Fiscal Impact; \$42,864, which the Cambridge Housing Authority has presented the City of Cambridge with a check.