

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION
COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 6, 2024**

ATTENDANCE: Rolanda Smith, Co-chair; Michelle Lyons; Jorge Cruz, Sr.; Eneida Martinez; Maria Valle; AmyMarie Vizzo-Paniccia, Aidee Nieves, Council President

OTHERS: Angelica Ojeda, Central Grants; Paul Grech, Police Captain

CALL TO ORDER

Co-chair Smith called the meeting to order at 6:05pm. There was a quorum present at the time of the roll call.

82-23 Proposed Resolution regarding approval of sewer extension for 520 Success Avenue in accordance with Municipal Code of Ordinances, Section 13.04.620.

Co-chair Smith said item 82-23 was withdrawn by the full council on August 5th, 2024 at the city council meeting so there will not be any discussion on the matter.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES

- **July 2, 2024 (Regular Meeting)**

****COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 2, 2024 (REGULAR MEETING)**

****COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

107-23 Grant Submission: re U.S. Department of Justice - Congressional Directed Spending FY24 Byrne Discretionary Grants Program -Regional Forensic Technology Laboratory #25237).

Ms. Ojeda shared grant of \$9,063 dollars from the Byrne Discretionary Grant Program requires no city match and will cover the equipment and technology cost to help with cyber-crimes and extracting data from devices.

Council member Cruz said this is a great idea. He is familiar with the last proposal regarding DNA.

Captain Grech replied this is related to electronic devices, they will be able to unlock devices and recover deleted files to submit evidence around child pornography, shooting, and other cyber-crimes.

Council member Cruz asked what is the current process to get into locked phones.

Captain Grech replied they do it in house, they received a grant two years ago which allowed them to purchase software at \$120,000 dollars that allows them to bypass the password to cell phones and retract data.

Council member Lyons said she is also familiar with the Byrne's grant, and asked if the grant also provides emotional support for the Police Officers.

Captain Grech said that was not the Byrne grant, this comes from the house of representative and senate. These funds would be used to purchase equipment.

Council member Valle asked how they would extract information from drones.

Ms. Ojeda replied if there are drones being used for crimes, they will be able to access the data by bypassing password protection with the equipment and software.

Council President Nieves asked who is in charge of the operation, who would have access to the equipment and data, and how would they track who is handling the equipment and data.

Captain Grech replied they currently have a secured locked room with a special code that has limited access to only 3 people, and he doesn't even have access to the room. There would be a lot of training involved and a search warrant would be required in order to collect data.

Council President Nieves asked if the \$9,063 dollars is just equipment, would they need more funds for training or manpower?

Captain Grech replied no, they will just plug in the device and it could unlock instantly or many years later depending on the level of security.

Council President Nieves asked will there be any cost to retain or store the data.

Captain Grech replied all the information will be stored on an electronic file and turned in as evidence on an external hard drive.

****COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 107-23.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ AND COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJOURNMENT

****COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ MOTIONED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 6:17PM.**

****COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

****THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Vianca Rivera,
Telesco Secretarial Service