

Michael Borg
Town Manager



TOWN OF NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
43 South Washington Street
North Attleborough MA 02760
508-699-0100

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: Tuesday, September 26, 2023
TO: Town Clerk
FROM: Michael Borg *MMJ 26 SEP 23*
CC: Chief Christopher Coleman
Linda Catanzariti Town Accountant
Chris Sweet Treasurer/Accountant
RE: Measure 2024-019- Approval to spend \$90,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2024 (one time expenditure) from the Fire Alarm Revolving Account 26220172 to upgrade outdated fire alarm monitoring system.

Town Council Meeting- President Justin Paré
Measure 2024-019- Approval to spend \$90,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2024 (one time expenditure) from the Fire Alarm Revolving Account 26220172 to upgrade outdated fire alarm monitoring system.

Purpose and Justification:

The Fire Alarm Revolving Account currently has a balance of \$182,190.70. There is a maximum allowed expenditure of \$50,000.00 each year. The recommendation would be to allow for a one-time adjustment to the spending limit to \$90,000.00 in order to upgrade our outdated fire alarm monitoring system at a cost of \$82,129.00 plus any additional needed expenditures.

The Vision Emergency Reporting System is the communication system which receives fire alarm radio box signals for many commercial occupancies in Town. Individual commercial occupancies have a radio box which their fire alarm system is tied into and when an alarm is triggered it is transmitted through the radio box to the public safety dispatch center who in turn dispatches fire apparatus. Each commercial occupancy equipped with a radio box pays the Town \$200.00 for this monitoring feature which is deposited into the fire alarm revolving account and brings in approximately \$30,000 per year in revenue. We were recently notified that we are required to update our Vision 21 system to the new version as the current system is outdated and parts are becoming obsolete. We currently have two vision 21 systems with one at the Police Department Dispatch and a backup system at fire department headquarters and the estimated cost to upgrade to the new system is \$82,129.00.

As this is an unexpected expense and was not included in our CIP program, I would recommend using the Fire Alarm revolving account which has \$182,190.70 in the account however, due to a current language in the revolving measure of the budget we are limited at only spending up to \$50,000 each Fiscal Year.

For the current Fiscal year, we have already spent \$2172.00 for quick books which manages the fire alarm revolving account invoices and billing, and we are expected to spend an additional \$2000.00 for a computer/monitor for the Superintendent of Fire Alarm. With these expenditures we are only able to spend \$45,828.00 and would require additional funds from another source unless a one-time spending increase is approved. The recommendation would be to change the measure language to allow for up to \$90,000 spent on a one-time basis to upgrade our outdated fire alarm monitoring system. Lastly, the current language for the amount allowed to be spent has not adjusted with today's prices.

The Town Council met on September 18, 2023, and on behalf of the Town Council, a motion was made by Vice-President Simmons to refer Measure 2024-019- Approval to spend \$90,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2024 (one time expenditure) from the Fire Alarm Revolving Account 26220172 to upgrade outdated fire alarm monitoring system for further discussion and review.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Costello.

Motion carried. 8-0 UNANIMOUS

The Finance Sub-Committee met on September 21, 2023, and on behalf of the Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Donovan to refer back to the Full Town Council Measure 2024-019- Approval to spend \$90,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2024 (one time expenditure) from the Fire Alarm Revolving Account 26220172 to upgrade outdated fire alarm monitoring system with a favorable recommendation.

Councilor Costello seconded the motion.

Motion carried 5-0. UNANIMOUS

The Full Town Council met on September 25, 2023, and on behalf of the Town Council Vice President Simmons made a motion to approve Measure 2024-019- Approval to spend \$90,000.00 in Fiscal Year 2024 (one time expenditure) from the Fire Alarm Revolving Account 26220172 to upgrade outdated fire alarm monitoring system.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Slobogan.

Motion carried. 7-0 UNANIMOUS