

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Telephone: (716) 286-4310

May 7, 2021

The City Council
Niagara Falls, New York

**RE: Approval of COPS Hiring Program Grant - Award No.: 2020UMWX0451
(Niagara Falls Police Department)**

Council Members:

On October 7, 2020, the City Council approved acceptance of the U.S. Department of Justice's COPS Hiring Program ("CHP") grant in the amount of \$2,308,478.00 to fund eight (8) police officer positions over a three (3) year period. Implementation of the CHP grant will allow the NFPD to increase its community policing and crime prevention efforts.

However, as you know, eight (8) *vacant* positions were eliminated in the 2021 NFPD budget. We are now seeking to hire eight (8) police officers in accordance with the grant to back fill the positions that were previously cut in the 2021 budget. Originally, it was thought that this would require the City to amend the grant to change the hiring category from "New Hires" to "Rehires Previously Laid Off", but this not the case. Accordingly, we are requesting that the Council authorize hiring these additional Police Officers by amending line A.3120.2700.0110.000 of the NFPD budget to include these eight (8) positions.

Will the Council so approve the hiring of eight (8) officers in accordance with the CHP grant and authorize the Mayor to execute any documents necessary to implement the same, provided these documents are in form and content acceptable to the Corporation Counsel?

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT M. RESTAINO
Mayor

Funding Approval:

Daniel Morello, City Controller
City Council Meeting, May 12, 2021

Kennedy _____ Soda _____ Spanbauer _____ Voccio _____ Tompkins _____