

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

September 9, 2021

The City Council
Niagara Falls, New York

**RE: Information Technology Consulting Services – Niagara Falls Police Department
(Chris Soluri and Ron Stipp)**

Council Members:

Over the last several years, Information Technology (“IT”) has played an increasingly important role in effective law enforcement. With constant advancements in computers and systems, law enforcement-related technologies require consistent oversight and upkeep. A review of the IT capabilities of the Niagara Falls Police Department (“NFPD”) indicates that it has needs that must be addressed. As a result of a retirement of the employee responsible for overseeing the Department’s technology needs it is proposed that the City contract with an outside vendor to work with the NFPD’s IT systems to bring them up-to-date.

It is proposed that the City enter into an agreement with Chris Soluri and Ron Stipp to perform these important IT-law enforcement related functions. Both Mr. Soluri and Mr. Stipp are seasoned law enforcement veterans with vast IT experience. Because of their respective backgrounds, both individuals have numerous contacts in both Niagara and Erie Counties which will be an asset to the NFPD and bring it back on track with today’s technology. The work to be performed will include maintenance of computer systems, configuration of appropriate software, oversight of local networks, monitoring of the safety and privacy of networks, and maintenance of appropriate recordkeeping.

An agreement to perform this IT work would be for a period of one year at a cost of \$52,000. Funding will be made available from the City Administrator's Consultant line (A.1210.0001.0451.000) to cover the 2021 anticipated costs of up to \$17,000.00. The remaining funds needed for 2022 will be allocated within the Police Department's 2022 budget.

Will the Council so approve and authorize the Mayor to execute an engagement agreement satisfactory to the Corporation Counsel in both form and content?

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT M. RESTAINO
Mayor

Funding Approval:

Daniel Morello, City Controller
City Council Meeting, September 15, 2021

Kennedy _____ Soda _____ Spanbauer _____ Voccio _____ Tompkins _____