

CITY OF LOWELL

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

VOTE

IN CITY COUNCIL:

ORDER,

To transfer funds to allow for the purchase and installation of the equipment needed to meet the intended purchase of the mobile production van.

ORDERED,

By the City Council of the City of Lowell, as follows:

That the amount of **One Hundred Fifty Six Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Five (\$156,435.00) Dollars** be transferred:

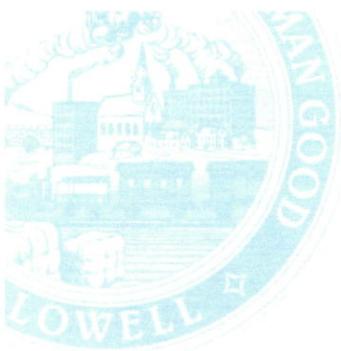
FROM: Fund #1710, more fully described in Attachment A:

TO: Account #01237975 588200, more fully described in Attachment A.

ORDER RECOMMENDED AND INTRODUCED BY:



Kevin J. Murphy, City Manager



Kevin J. Murphy
City Manager
Michael McGovern
Assistant City Manager

March 26, 2018

Mayor William Samaras, and

Members of the Lowell City Council

Dear Members of the Lowell City Council:

The Massachusetts Municipal Modernization Act of 2016 significantly altered the manner by which revenues from Cable Franchise Fees are treated in the municipal accounting structure. In June of 2017, the City Council accepted Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53 F ¾ establishing a PEG Access and Cable Related Fund.

Under this Act, revenues from the cable provider are deposited into a separate revenue account that cannot be expended without an Appropriation recommended by the City Manager and approved by the City Council. These appropriations shall only be used for cable related purposes.

With that, by way of background, I am attaching a VOTE requesting the City Council to appropriate \$156,435 from the PEG Cable Access Fund to the City Manager's Cable Access Budget. The funds will be utilized to complete a project that began in 2015 when the City purchased a large, special purpose van. The van is intended to be used as completely outfitted mobile production studio as a part of the curriculum of the Colleen Creegan Media Studio Program at Lowell High School.

Unfortunately, "available funds" at that time only permitted the acquisition of a "shell" vehicle. However it was designed to be "fit out" as a complete mobile broadcast studio. Approval of this appropriation will allow for the purchase and installation of the equipment needed to meet the intended purchase of the van.

A functioning mobile studio will greatly enhance, not only the curriculum of the Media Studio Program, but also will allow for the remote broadcast to City residents of Community Events, such as The Lowell Folk Festival. Currently the City "borrows" the mobile studio from Dracut for this broadcast.

Approval of this VOTE is recommended.

Very Truly Yours,

Kevin J. Murphy
City Manager