


**CITY OF BETHLEHEM, PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**

	INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM	
	TO:	Mr. Robert Vidoni
	FROM:	Captain Michelle Kott
	DATE:	14 Nov 2019
	RE:	2019 Local Share Account Northampton & Lehigh Counties

The Police Department is applying to receive up to \$108,737.64 in funding through the 2019 Local Share Account Northampton & Lehigh Counties grant. The grant will be used by the Police Department to greatly improve its ability to enforce traffic violations related to the maximum gross weight of commercial vehicles.

Bethlehem has been identified by the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission as having multiple locations for "freight generating operations" as well as corridors popular for freight movement such as SR512, SR412, Schoenersville Road and Airport Road. The City of Bethlehem is also home to 3 major industrial parks and is within 3 miles of 5 additional industrial parks. Per the Lehigh Valley Industrial Park and Majestic Realty webpages, the amount of acres in each industrial park can generate hundreds if not thousands of trucks each day traveling through the City of Bethlehem. Additionally, the City has at least 4 bridges which have either recently been repaired or are in need of repairs and have damages (or wearing) attributable to vehicle weight. If approved the grant funds will be utilized to purchase (10) Haenni WL108 Wheel Load Weigher portable scales. These portable scales will enable trained Bethlehem Police Officers to enforce vehicle code violations related to maximum gross weight of commercial vehicles. The purchase not only improves traffic safety, but also is a proactive step to help maintain roadways and bridges within the city.

Funds will also be used to purchase a PC interface box that will allow the data/readings from the portable scales to be wirelessly transmitted to the officer's PC/laptop for documentation and/or prosecution purposes. Finally, due to the weight of the scales (each scale weighs 16.5 kg, approximately 36 pounds each) funds will be utilized to acquire a 2020 F-250 pickup truck with emergency lighting upfit, to haul and store the scales.

In order to receive and use these funds, the purpose and use of the funds must be made available for review by City Council. I am requesting this communication be addressed at the next City Council meeting.

A public hearing must be held to give interested persons opportunity to comment regarding the funding to be received by the Police Department. Therefore, I am requesting the proposed resolution be read into the record when appropriate. This will allow for the required opportunity for public comment.

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A copy of the proposed resolution is attached to this memorandum.

Thank you for your assistance, and please contact me if you need any further information.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bethlehem that the Mayor and Controller are hereby authorized to execute the grant award documents for funds to be received under the 2019 Local Share Account Northampton & Lehigh Counties Grant in the amount of up to \$108,737.64. The grant will be used by the Bethlehem Police Department to purchase 10 portable scales, a PC interface box, and a vehicle for traffic enforcement.

Sponsored by _____

ADOPTED by Council this _____ day of _____, 2019 .

President of Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk