

Memo

To: Berlin City Council
From: Jim Wheeler, City Manager
Date: 4/19/2021
Re: City Manager's Report

1. Attached please find a communication from Kevin LaChapelle of Industrial Protection Systems, IPS. IPS is the vendor who provided the new Self Contained Breathing Apparatus to our Fire Dept. It is nice of Mr. LaChapelle to take the time to note his very positive experience at the BFD.
2. The private property transfers for the month of March are attached.
3. While we are still awaiting more specific guidance from the US Treasury on how American Recovery Funds can be used, attached is an excerpt from some Frequently Asked Questions which outline four broad categories of use. The latter two categories seem like the more likely areas for municipal funding. More information is expected from the Treasury in the coming weeks.
4. Attached is notification from NHDES of the approval of a DERA grant for our snow blower and garbage packer purchases. The grant is expected to reimburse the City \$44,076.

Good afternoon Manager Wheeler, Mayor Grenier and Berlin City Councilors,

I hope this email finds you well. I am emailing today from two perspectives; As your Sales representative that provided the City of Berlin's AFG Grant funded Air Packs and as a 30 year fire service professional.

We at (IPS) Industrial Protection Services appreciate the immense professionalism that you all put forward in choosing 3M/SCOTT as your SCBA and IPS as your vendor, all while the peak of Covid 19 settled into your City. The hard work that Chief Watkins employed during this project has certainly paid off for the citizens of Berlin and ultimately the safety of your firefighters. Winning a Fire Act Grant is never an easy task.

Furthermore, the delivery and training process at your Firehouse was an experience that I was extremely impressed and somewhat awe struck by. I was welcomed by ALL like it was my own firehouse. Each and every one of your members was eager to assist in every form. The high level of PRIDE and OWNERSHIP that flows through your firehouse is bar none and not regularly seen in todays fire service. Be proud!

Congratulations on your new (SCBA's) Self Contained Breathing Apparatus.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide life saving equipment to your great City!

Yours in Safety,



"Semper Paratus"

Kevin LaChapelle, CPM

Sales Representative

Industrial Protection Services

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Salem, NH 03079

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Frequently Asked Questions

How can recipient governments use relief allocations from the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds?

The Department of Treasury will issue guidance detailing its interpretation and implementation of eligible uses, but the statutory language specifically authorizes use of the funds. Each of the following is a separate allowable use of the funds for the recipient:

- To respond to the pandemic or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality;
- For premium pay to eligible workers performing essential work (as determined by each recipient government) during the pandemic, providing up to \$13 per hour above regular wages;
- For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the pandemic (relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency);
- To make necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure;

In addition, a recipient may transfer its allocation to a private nonprofit organization, Tribal organization, public benefit corporation involved in the transportation of passengers or cargo, or special-purpose unit of State or local government, if the recipient government so chooses. The recipient entity would need to use the funds consistent with the purposes listed above.

The recipient government must send Treasury periodic reports with a detailed accounting of the uses of the funds (States and territories must also provide all modifications to tax revenue sources since March 3, 2020).

The language explicitly prohibits funds from being deposited into a pension fund.

States and territories are also prohibited from using the funds to offset, either directly or indirectly, a tax cut made since March 3, 2021.

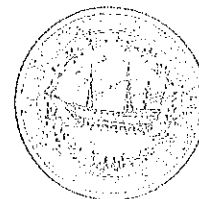
While the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund eligible uses are broader than those of the CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Fund, [guidance](#) previously released for the Coronavirus Relief Fund may provide insight into how Treasury may interpret and implement these American Rescue Plan provisions.

How will state and local governments receive the relief allocations?

States and territories will receive their allocations within 60 days of submitting to Treasury a certification signed by an authorized officer that the funds are needed to respond to the pandemic and will be used in compliance with the eligible uses. If Treasury decides that a payment to a state requires additional justification, the Secretary could choose to withhold up to 50% of the allocation to each state and territory for up to 12 months from the date the certification of need is



The State of New Hampshire
Department of Environmental Services



Robert R. Scott, Commissioner

April 9, 2021

James Wheeler, City Manager
City of Berlin
168 Main Street
Berlin, NH 03570

Re: NHDES Grant ID # 00A00175-2019-010

Dear Mr. Wheeler,

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is pleased to notify you that the grant agreement to help fund the purchase of a snow blower and truck was approved by the Governor and Executive Council on April 7, 2021.

This letter serves as your notice to proceed with the project as described on the New Hampshire Clean Diesel Program application and the grant agreement signed on December 1, 2020.

Once all requirements in the grant agreement and exhibits A, B, and C have been met and required documentation submitted, NHDES will reimburse The City of Berlin an amount not to exceed 25% of the cost of the snow blower and truck, or \$44,076, whichever is less.

Please read the approved agreement thoroughly and if you have any questions, please contact me at Timothy.White@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-5552.

Sincerely,

Timothy H. White, AICP
Supervisor, Mobile Sources Section

Enclosure(s) (1) Signed Agreement