



FINANCE, ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
Council Chambers, Keene City Hall
March 26, 2026
6:00 PM

A. AGENDA ITEMS

1. FY25 DOJ Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award - Police Captain
2. Written Public Comments - Proposed Capital Improvement Program 2027-2033
Ken Kost - Recommending the "Portland Loo" as an Alternative Approach to Downtown Public Restroom Project
3. Proposed Capital Improvement Program 2027-2033

B. MORE TIME ITEMS

NON PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT



CITY OF KEENE NEW HAMPSHIRE

ITEM #A.1.

Meeting Date: March 26, 2026

To: Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee

From: Steve Tenney, Police Captain

Through: Steve Stewart, Police Chief
Elizabeth Ferland, City Manager

Subject: **FY25 DOJ Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Award - Police Captain**

Recommendation:

Move that the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee recommend that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to co-apply with the County of Cheshire, NH and to accept and expend the U.S. Department of Justice FY25 Byrne JAG in the amount allocated to the City in the amount of \$5,501.00.

Attachments:

None

Background:

We have partnered with Cheshire County on this grant for 15 years. Cheshire County is the fiscal agent of this grant and the City of Keene is a sub-recipient of the proposed grant for the period of January 2026 through September 30, 2026. These funds are used for the continued deployment of cellular phones and data air cards that are equipped in each of our police cruisers. By approving the recommendation, the City Council is approving the submission of the grant application and entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the County of Cheshire, NH for the allocation of these funds.

Honorable Mayor and City Council
City of Keene
3 Washington Street
Keene, NH 03431

March 23, 2026

Re: Portland Loo/CIP

Dear Mayor and City Councilors

This is a follow up to my testimony at the City Council Meeting Public Hearing March 19th. At that meeting I discussed the complexity of the automatic self washing public toilet. It will break down. People will be extremely upset that Keene spent \$500K on this high tech toilet.

We do need a downtown toilet available 24/7.

Please consider changing this project from the automatically washing toilet to one that is manually cleaned.

The "Portland Loo" is an urban toilet designed for toughness, visibility and simplicity.

<https://portlandloo.com/>

They cost significantly less than the automatic toilets.

The \$500K toilet as described, essentially is a big target for those who do not want to see a public toilet. If we are serious about wanting a toilet, we need to present one for far less money.

The Portland Loo are located in Cambridge, MA, Greenfield, MA, Burlington, VT and Amherst, MA and Portland, ME. If you haven't done this already, go see them and ask those cities about their experience with these.

Thank you



Ken Kost
51 Railroad Street