



FINANCE, ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE  
Council Chambers B, Keene City Hall  
June 27, 2024  
6:00 PM

**A. AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Acceptance of a Donation to the Heberton Fund - Library Director
2. Acceptance of Donation to Fund Makerspace Interns - Library Director
3. Charles Smith - Request to Address Issues of Transparency and the Impact of Homelessness
4. Charles Smith - Request to Address Issues Relating to Freedom of Speech and Signage
5. Invest NH - Demolition of Former Roosevelt School - Economic Development Director/Special Projects

**B. MORE TIME ITEMS**

1. Relating to Boards and Commissions  
Ordinance O-2024-05

**NON PUBLIC SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**



ITEM #A.1.

## CITY OF KEENE NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Meeting Date:** June 27, 2024  
**To:** Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee  
**From:** Martine Fiske, Library Director  
**Through:**  
**Subject:** **Acceptance of a Donation to the Heberton Fund - Library Director**

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**Recommendation:**

Move that the Finance, Organization, and Personnel Committee recommend that the City Manager do all things necessary to accept and expend a donation of \$1,169 to the Heberton Fund from the Trustees of the Keene Public Library.

**Attachments:**

None

**Background:**

The Heberton Fund account accepts rental income from the television study, meeting rooms and event halls that were created when the Library expanded in 2019. That income is used to pay for repairs, improvements and staffing and maintenance associated with renting those spaces. Use of the Heberton Funds requires the prior approval of the Library Trustees, the Friends of the Library and the City Manager.

Cohen Hall, in the Heberton Annex, has a high level of reverberation that makes use of the space particularly difficult for lectures and dialog in movies. The Library's main lobby also has a high level of reverberation that makes conversations at the Circulation desk difficult and carries noise into surrounding areas. In February 2024, all three parties agreed to an acoustical study for improvements to Cohen Hall and the main lobby to be funded by splitting the invoice with half from the Heberton Fund and half from the Library Trustees. The Library Trustees engaged Reuter Associates after reviewing proposals from two acoustical engineers. The acoustical study has been completed. A report of recommendations and an invoice for \$2,338 has been received. The Trustees are donating one half of the invoice amount to the Heberton Fund so that the City may write one check for the full amount from the Heberton Fund.



ITEM #A.2.

## CITY OF KEENE NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Meeting Date:** June 27, 2024  
**To:** Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee  
**From:** Martine Fiske, Library Director  
**Through:**  
**Subject:** **Acceptance of Donation to Fund Makerspace Interns - Library Director**

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**Recommendation:**

Move that the Finance, Organization, and Personnel Committee recommend that the City Manager do all things necessary to accept and expend a donation of \$15,000 from the Friends of the Keene Public Library to fund Makerspace Interns.

**Attachments:**

None

**Background:**

The Friends of the Keene Public Library have been funding Maker Interns at the Keene Public Library since at least 2016. The interns work in the Kingsbury Makerspace with librarians to design and provide programming. The interns also help train our certified community makers on the use of the various pieces of machinery and equipment in the Makerspace. The Library currently has two Makerspace interns.

To the City Council

I would like to address issues of transparency with local government.

I would also like to address the impact of homelessness.

Thank You

Charles Smith  
9 Gates St  
Keene N.H. 03431



Dear City Council,

I would like to address you regarding freedom of speech and sign usage. My name is Charles Smith, I live on Gates Street. Please call back to confirm

 Thank You

Charles Smith



## CITY OF KEENE NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Meeting Date:** June 27, 2024  
**To:** Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee  
**From:** Medard Kopczynski, Economic Development Director/Special Projects  
**Through:** Elizabeth Dragon, City Manager  
**Subject:** **Invest NH - Demolition of Former Roosevelt School - Economic Development Director/Special Projects**

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**Recommendation:**

Move to recommend that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate, accept, and expend an InvestNH Capital Grant not to exceed \$412,000 with Keene Housing and the State of New Hampshire Department of Business Affairs (BEA) for the demolition of 438 Washington Street (the former Roosevelt School).

**Attachments:**

None

**Background:**

The Keene Housing Authority has been contacted by InvestNH staff, who suggested they apply for demolition grant funding. The proposed funding will be used for the demolition at the former Roosevelt School property. \$412,000 has become available for InvestNH Capital Grant Funds, and it is in the interest of the City of Keene that these funds be applied for and added to the funding stack for the project. To achieve this funding, the City of Keene must be a signature and oversee certain aspects of the funding. In addition, the City of Keene will administer all funding received pursuant to the Grant Agreement and ensure the funding is expended pursuant to Municipal Demolition Grant program requirements.

This request would empower the City Manager to negotiate, accept, and expend the funds as needed. When approved by the Governor and Council, the fund will be managed as stipulated in the final agreements. The Keene Housing Authority was established by the City of Keene in 1965 under the New Hampshire Housing Authorities law. The Housing Authority is a committee of the City of Keene, as detailed in Chapter 2 of the Code of Ordinances.