



Memorandum

To: Members of the Sustainability Committee

From: Michael Peters, Sustainability Coordinator

cc: Mayor David E. Weiss
Jeri E. Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: February 24, 2022

Re: **Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC)
Energized Community Grant Application**

The City is a member of the Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC). NOPEC is a regional council of governments formed under Chapter 167 of the Ohio Revised Code to administer electric and/or gas aggregation programs for communities. NOPEC currently serves over 200 communities who have been authorized by ballot to purchase electricity or gas on behalf of their citizens.

Shaker Heights offers its residents electric aggregation through NOPEC but currently administers our own gas aggregation program approved by a vote of our residents.

NOPEC's Energized Community Grant Program provides funds to member communities to implement energy savings or energy infrastructure measures. In 2019 the City received \$55,958 in grant funds that were applied to the \$150,000 replacement of the aging generators and electrical service upgrades at City Hall at 3400 Lee Road. For 2020, the city has escrowed \$52,472 for the electrical service upgrade and emergency generator replacement at Fire Station II, 2801 Warrensville Center Road. For 2021, the City was awarded a grant of \$38,264, replacement of the Building Automation System at Fire Station 1. For 2022, the grant award is \$36,258.

The amount of the grants has decreased for two reasons: 1) the number of accounts has decreased, presumably as residents have opted-out to either get better pricing or a renewable energy contract in the open market, and 2) in 2021, NOPEC reduced the grant award to \$5 per enrolled account from the \$7 per account in previous years.

A new grant agreement between the City and NOPEC is requested by NOPEC along with Council approval for acceptance of the grant award. We propose using the \$36,248 award to offset costs associated with the upgraded heating and ventilation system at City Hall. This is part of the renovation of the former Fire Station space for the Building and Housing Department and will reduce annual maintenance costs, reduce energy costs, and improve the ability to control heating and cooling of this portion of the building.

When we receive the \$36,248 in grant funds it will be deposited in Fund 401, the General Capital Fund, to offset the City funds allocated to this project.

CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS

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The Committee is requested to recommend that City Council approve entering into a grant agreement and accept the grant from NOPEC in the amount of \$36,248. Upon approval the matter will be considered by the Finance Committee before review by City Council.