

AGENDA ITEM: **# 11**

DATE: August 6, 2012

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

INITIATED BY: Todd I. Selig, Administrator

AGENDA ITEM: DISCUSSION REGARDING THE JUNE 25, 2015 PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN VISIT TO DURHAM

CC PREPARED BY: Todd I. Selig, Administrator

PRESENTED BY: Todd I. Selig, Administrator

AGENDA DESCRIPTION:

BACKGROUND:

On June 25, 2012, the Obama for America campaign hosted a presidential campaign event for President Barack Obama at the Oyster River High School (ORHS) in Durham, NH.

Historically, when organizations or political campaigns schedule events ranging from road races to campaign assemblies that necessitate additional public safety services, the Town has billed the relevant organizing entity accordingly.

In the spring of 2012, the UNH Cycling Club organized the Criterion bike race along portions of Mill Road. Durham billed the organizers for additional public safety-related police and fire costs incurred. Events such as Todd's Trott and the Oyster River Festival are billed for relevant public safety costs needed to adequately cover the event for services such as road closures, traffic details, etc. The logic behind such billing is to ensure that local tax dollars are not being expended for non-municipal events that are privately organized and may not necessarily benefit or appeal to the community at large.

This practice has been in place dating to well before the January 2000 Republican National Debate at the UNH Johnson Theatre after which then-candidate George W. Bush appeared at the Oyster River High School and whose campaign was billed by

the Town for special detail costs. The Town was compensated.

In December 2003, UNH hosted a Democratic national debate at the Johnson Theater hosted by Ted Koppel. Durham provided public safety support, billed UNH, and was compensated.

In May 2007, former Presidents Bush and Clinton addressed the graduates at UNH for Commencement. Durham billed UNH for the additional detail costs requested by UNH and was compensated.

In September 2007, UNH hosted a Republican national debate sponsored by FOX News at the Whittemore Center. Durham provided public safety support, billed UNH, and was compensated.

In 2008, candidate Barack Obama's campaign requested a police detail when he spent the night at the Holiday Inn Express after paying a visit to the community. Durham provided the detail, billed the campaign, and was compensated.

In April 2011, Vice President Biden visited UNH for an official state visit at the invitation of the University in the Memorial Union Building. UNH requested additional police support from Durham for the event and Durham billed UNH for these services and was compensated.

There are numerous instances when political candidates visit Durham and do not generate any additional public safety costs for the community. Often, Durham does not know the candidates are in town. In one example, Bill Bradley was on campus and Durham police only learned of the visit and his presence when Mr. Bradley was shaking hands in the middle of Main Street creating a traffic jam in front of Libby's. In these situations, no billing is issued as no additional costs are incurred by the Town.

When Governor Lynch visits Durham he arrives in a mini-van with a state trooper driver in plain clothes typically requiring no additional local public safety support.

The norm for the majority of campaign visits is that the candidates are visiting the UNH Campus to interact with the student body there. UNH overtly understands that Durham is very sensitive to any additional cost incurred by the community in hosting this state institution. Therefore when candidates attend campus events, UNH officials understand inherently that there will be a need to reimburse Durham for additional costs. It is our understanding that when candidates visit UNH, the University charges for use of the facility space.

As noted, Chief Kurz and Administrator Selig have taken the position for well over

the last decade that if a President or Vice President visit Durham on an official state visit, there would be no charge. However, when the President or Vice President visit Durham on a campaign visit, the campaign, regardless of party affiliation, should absorb the added local public safety costs rather than local taxpayers. The fact is, however, that the June 25th visit was the first instance in recent memory when a President has visited Durham off campus for a purely campaign event.

The costs associated with hosting a Presidential visit is high for Durham, in the \$15,000 - \$30,000 range, depending upon the duration of the visit and the venue. Logistics associated with such visits are ever changing leading up to the event itself so precise cost estimating is quite challenging. These costs are not budgeted and represent a significant portion of Durham's budgeted public safety overtime costs for the fiscal year.

JUNE 25TH PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN VISIT TO ORHS IN DURHAM:

Chief Kurz was notified by the U.S. Secret Service on Tuesday June 19th that President Obama would likely be visiting the NH Seacoast area. A meeting was convened by the U.S. Secret Service for Wednesday June 20th, 2012, at the Portsmouth Police Department for area police chiefs concerning the possible visit.

On Wednesday evening, June 20, 2012, Police Chief David Kurz received a call on his way home from the U.S. Secret Service that Durham would *not* be the venue for the visit as the President would be visiting three locations in Dover.

Early on the morning of Thursday, June 21, 2012, on his way into work, Police Chief Kurz received a follow up call from the U.S. Secret Service indicating that plans had changed and that President Obama would be coming to the Oyster River High School in Durham on Monday June 25, 2012. The agent asked if Chief Kurz could meet him at a briefing that morning at the ORHS. Chief Kurz contacted Durham Fire and both agencies sent representation to the meeting at ORHS with the U.S. Secret Service and campaign organizers. Chief Kurz reports that when he arrived at the high school approximately 70-100 officials from the Secret Service and the Obama Campaign were already at this meeting.

At the briefing, Chief Kurz approached a member of the U.S. Secret Service and inquired whether the visit would be an official Presidential state visit to Durham or a campaign stop, and if the latter, to whom he should speak concerning reimbursement to the Town for public safety-related costs.

The U.S. Secret Service contact indicated that it was a campaign visit and that the inquiry should be directed to the campaign. Chief Kurz was then directed by the U.S. Secret Service to a representative of the campaign and was informed by this

individual that it was the U.S. Secret Service, not the campaign, that was requesting public safety services and that any cost reimbursement requests from the Town of Durham should be directed to that agency.

Chief Kurz explained to this campaign representative that it would be the expectation of the Town of Durham that the community would be reimbursed for the event and requested that the representative pass the Chief's contact information along to the appropriate campaign representative so that arrangements could be made for reimbursement. The campaign representative, who did not provide Chief Kurz with a business card or contact information, indicated that the request would be passed along to the campaign and that someone from the campaign would follow up with the Chief. The campaign did not follow up with Chief Kurz.

By mid-day on Thursday, June 21, 2012, having received no follow up from the campaign organizers, Chief Kurz reached out to the U.S. Secret Service to again inquire about reimbursement for public safety-related costs and asked that they reach out to the relevant campaign officials for a follow up with the Town of Durham as requested earlier that morning. No follow up from the campaign was received.

By early evening on Thursday, June 21, 2012, having received no follow up from the campaign, Chief Kurz spoke with the head of the U.S. Secret Service in NH and once again made the request that the campaign follow up on the Town's request. The campaign did not follow up.

From Friday, June 22, 2012 through Sunday, June 24, 2012, the Town of Durham reached out to the Obama for America-NH campaign through Administrator Selig in an effort to obtain a firm commitment for reimbursement for the June 25, 2012, campaign event.

On Friday evening, June 22, 2012, after speaking with the Council Chair and Chair Pro-tem, and after having received feedback from other members of the Council that the reimbursement matter was of concern, a determination was made by the Council Chair to schedule a special meeting of the Council for 8:30 AM Monday morning, June 25, 2012, to discuss the matter in public so as to ensure all members of the Council could participate in a conversation about the topic.

On Friday, June 22, 2012, at 10:13 PM Administrator Selig sent an email to the Town Council which stated, in part:

"A tremendous amount of time has been devoted this evening to addressing the campaign-related costs that are associated with the Obama for America campaign visit of President Obama to Durham on Monday. To this end in conversations with Jay [Gooze] and Jim [Lawson], we will be posting tomorrow morning for a special emergency Council meeting to

be held Monday morning, 6/25, at 8:30 AM to discuss the matter as a Council in public in full and whether the Council desires to take the symbolic action of disinviting the President from visiting Durham. Our sincere hope is that this meeting will not be necessary and that the campaign will agree to reimburse the town's projected public safety costs associated with the event."

The public notice posted on June 23, 2012, at the Durham Town Office and the Durham Public Library, read as follows:

"Discussion and possible action regarding the upcoming Obama for America Campaign stop scheduled to be held in Durham at the Oyster River High School at noon on Monday, June 25, 2012, the financial impact of this campaign stop upon the municipality, and whether the Obama for America campaign has agreed to reimburse the municipality for the anticipated unbudgeted \$20,000 to \$30,000 cost associated with local public safety services required by the campaign visit."

The issue received heavy media focus on Saturday, June 23, 2012, as well as on Sunday, June 24, 2012.

A formal letter was received by Mr. Selig via email on Sunday, June 24, 2012, from Ann Marie Habershaw, Chief Operating Officer, Obama for America. The letter, dated June 23, 2012, stated, in part: *"As a private organization, OFA does not participate in security or traffic control planning. All such decisions, including their impact on costs incurred by federal, state or local governments, are exclusively within the control of the appropriate government officials. Should there be a question about the allocation of expenses among the cooperating authorities, we assume that it should be directed to the U.S. Secret Service."*

On June 24, 2012, an anonymous donor, a Durham resident, spoke with the Council Chair and Administrator and offered to pay for town public safety costs up to \$20,000. The donor wanted to convey her/his sentiment that the Town had done the right thing in asking the campaign to do its part. With this development, the Council Chair and Chair Pro-tem issued a statement canceling the scheduled special Town Council meeting for June 25, 2012.

FINAL COST TALLY ASSOCIATED WITH PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN VISIT FOR DURHAM, NH

The Durham Police and Fire Departments have calculated a final tally associated with the June 25, 2012, Obama for America presidential campaign visit to the Oyster River High School in Durham, NH. The cost breakdown is as follows:

Durham Police Department - \$2,738.78; Durham Fire Department - \$2,335; Dover Police Department - \$1,044.99 ; Farmington Police Department - \$295.75 ; Strafford County Sheriff's Office - \$1,130.64; UNH Police Department - \$4,153.13 ; Towing

Charges (Bagdad/Canney Rds.) at Direction of the U.S. Secret Service - \$1,300

Total Cost: \$12,998.29

The City of Rochester and the Town of Barrington have determined they will not be billing the Town of Durham for services provided in support of the campaign visit. While initially estimating a cost as high as \$30,000 on June 22, 2012, the Durham Police and Fire Departments had lowered their estimated cost figures by June 24, 2012, as being \$16,654 for police and \$3,197 for fire totaling \$19,851. On the day of the event, however, town public safety officials were able to reduce local costs through the careful distribution of available personnel. In addition, as noted above, some external agencies opted not to bill the Town of Durham for services provided as part of the presidential campaign stop.

Durham Department of Public Works staff members participated in the event's safety preparations including closing and opening roadways but because this was done during the regular workday for staff, no additional charge to the community was incurred.

ANONYMOUS DONOR UPDATED INFORMATION

As noted earlier, on June 24, 2012, an anonymous donor, a Durham resident, contacted Council Chair Jay Gooze and Administrator Todd Selig and offered to pay for the town public safety costs up to \$20,000 associated with the June 25th Obama for America presidential campaign visit to Durham. The resident asked to remain anonymous because this individual values privacy for her/himself and for her/his family.

By mid-day on June 25th, the Administrator's Office had received several "Right to Know Law" requests, one of which was from Americans for Prosperity New Hampshire, relative to the anonymous \$20,000 donation offer. Requests were also received from WMUR and the Associated Press.

Because the offer from the anonymous Durham resident was made verbally, there exist no documents which pertain to it at this time. When the Town is in receipt of the funds, we will most certainly entertain further requests for information and will provide that information in accordance with the NH Right to Know Law.

The Town has been contacted by Attorney Abigail Sykas of Dover, NH on behalf of the anonymous donor relative to costs associated with the June 25, 2012, presidential campaign visit to the Oyster River High School in Durham. Attorney Sykas has been engaged by her client to ensure that a gift to the Town of Durham would be made in keeping with applicable campaign finance laws.

Separate and distinct from the anonymous donor, the Town did receive one check in the amount of \$150.00 from Martha and David Burton of Durham, NH as well as a second check in the amount of \$100.00 from David and Linda Feldman of Durham, NH. Both checks were intended to defray the cost of the presidential campaign visit to the community.

HISTORICAL ANONYMOUS GIFTS TO THE TOWN FROM RESIDENTS

The Town of Durham does have a history of accepting anonymous contributions from residents. From 2002 through 2011, the Town Council accepted \$6,907.62 in anonymous donations from a variety of individuals offsetting the cost of such things as the Farmer's Market in the Pettee Book Parking Lot (see attached spreadsheet dated August 2, 2012).

BETTER COORDINATION WITH THE OYSTER RIVER COOPERATIVE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Officials at the Oyster River Cooperative School District were contacted by the Obama for America campaign during the week of June 18, 2012, to ascertain whether the Oyster River High School gymnasium was available for a presidential campaign visit. District officials worked through the logistics of reserving the gymnasium and required advance payment of just over \$7,100 for use of the facility because they had learned that political campaigns in general are not always forthcoming with payments. District officials did not make contact with the Town of Durham regarding the request.

On July 23, 2012, Town and School District officials met to debrief regarding the presidential campaign visit which occurred on June 25, 2012. A number of items were highlighted as necessary future improvements:

1. It is imperative for the Town of Durham police, fire, and public works departments to be contacted by the ORSCD well before large events are scheduled at the high school or middle school, particularly those which exceed the capacity of the facilities or attract large external audiences which may create a public safety, parking, or financial impact on the broader community. Relevant Durham agencies should be intricately involved in the early planning stages prior to booking an event.
2. Adequate parking should be provided/arranged to ensure an event does not create public safety or nuisance issues for surrounding neighborhoods.
3. Adequate bathroom facilities should be made available to properly service the attending public.

4. Adequate shelter should be available to protect the public in case of inclement weather.
5. Thought should be given to ensure that there is appropriate climate control and the availability of fresh water within the facility being requested to comfortably support the event and attending public.
6. Tickets sold for such events should not reasonably exceed available seating capacity.

LOOKING FORWARD

Looking ahead, the Council will want to discuss how the Town should handle requests of a similar nature.

Most communities across the United States do not raise the issue of cost or reimbursement when a sitting President comes to visit, whether that visit is an official visit or a campaign visit. Some do. Newport Beach, CA recently raised the issue with both the Romney and Obama presidential campaigns (see attached articles). Burlington, VT and South Burlington, VT sent invoices earlier this year to the Obama campaign for campaign-related public safety services. The invoices have not been paid. Stratham, NH recently billed the Romney campaign and was reimbursed for a campaign visit. Wisconsin communities have grappled with the issue (see attached article). However, the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) indicates that attention has simply not been devoted to this issue to date on a national level.

A presidential campaign visit can be an honor for residents. It can potentially raise the profile of a community within a region or a state. It can bring hundreds of staff and thousands of possible supporters to an area with a net positive economic impact. It can bring the office of the presidency, regardless of party affiliation, within reach of local community members. Prominent local, state, and Federal officials are afforded a very public opportunity to be seen hosting or spending time with the President. Public safety officials are brought in on overtime which is viewed positively by local rank and file public safety personnel. And despite being a candidate, the individual in office is still the President who legitimately needs special protection. As we well know, there have been numerous attempted and successful assassination attempts on the President in United States History. Local support of public safety services related to hosting the cost of a presidential visit, whether an official visit or a campaign event, in these terms is perhaps the cost of democracy in America.

However, not all regions experience an economic boon when the President comes to visit. Roadways are closed. Parking is restricted. Local business is interrupted.

Residents are inconvenienced. Municipal resources must be redirected, and often significant unanticipated local tax dollars are expended on a purely partisan political event, the full cost of which is almost certainly unknown by the general public within the host community. This may mean that worthy projects that survived the scrutiny of the annual budget process in a community are foregone to offset unanticipated public safety overages associated with a presidential campaign visit. In this light, local communities and counties across the United States could be viewed as subsidizing the cost of professionally managed multi-million dollar political campaigns that desire to reserve *their* resources for purely partisan purposes. The question, then, may not so much be whether Durham should bill or not, but rather whether the present system of locally-supported presidential campaign visits is understood by residents across America, and whether we should accept it or evaluate whether there is an opportunity to alter it given that both major political parties in the United States benefit from it at the expense of local taxpayers.

Certainly, we will continue to manage Special Event/Use of Town Property/Road Closure Permits (see example attached) as we have in the past. In addition, political campaign events or the host of those events requiring public safety services that do not involve the U.S. Secret Service will be billed as has historically been the case.

Official state visits from the President or the Vice President off campus in Durham will not be charged for local public safety services.

But when the U.S. Secret Service is assigned to an individual, whether it is the President of the United States or another presidential candidate, and that individual schedules a visit to the Town of Durham for a campaign event, rather than for an official state visit, the issue of billing becomes extraordinarily problematic.

LEGAL AUTHORITY:

N/A

LEGAL OPINION:

N/A

FINANCIAL DETAILS:

Refer to information provided in agenda description above.

SUGGESTED ACTION OR RECOMMENDATIONS:

Hold discussion as appropriate concerning the June 25, 2012 presidential campaign visit to Durham.

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Presidential campaign stops can be costly for Wisconsin towns

The Post-Crescent (Appleton, Wisconsin)

BYLINE: By, Nick Penzenstadler

4/13/2012

Local taxpayers likely will be left footing the bill for security costs associated with recent campaign stops by Republican presidential candidates.

Private organizations like Lawrence University and Gold Cross Ambulance probably will have to eat expenses they racked up, too, during the visits to northeast Wisconsin.

Though some plan to bill the campaigns of Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum and Newt Gingrich for staffing and equipment costs incurred during the candidates' stops in the past three weeks, officials acknowledge they have little hope of being paid.

"I've heard horror stories when it comes to billing. You're basically spinning your wheels trying to bill a politician," said Town of Menasha Police Chief Rod McCants.

Romney's March 31 speech at Lawrence University in Appleton lasted only 24 minutes, but the preparation, protection and space costs could add up to thousands of dollars and may go unpaid.

The university still is tabulating its bill for renting Stansbury Theatre, and paying for supplies and staff. LU spokesman Rick Peterson said the Romney campaign will receive the bill soon. It costs \$434 to rent the theater for a day, according to university records.

Meanwhile, Gold Cross Ambulance Service had a truck at the university for three hours because Romney's staff required an ambulance at the event in case of an emergency.

"We charge \$125 per hour so it would be \$375," said Mark Fredrickson, operations director. "We're not sure if we'll charge for the event yet."

Romney and Santorum won't see a bill from police agencies in the Fox Cities, however.

McCants reassigned detectives to protect Santorum at the April 3 stop at Sabre Lanes, but the Town of Menasha Police Department will not bill the campaign because there was no overtime used for the event.

Earlier that day, Santorum stumped at Simon's Specialty Cheese in Little Chute, but Fox Valley Metro Police Department also will not charge the campaign because no additional officers were needed.

The Appleton Police Department benefited from school not being in session during Romney's visit March 31 and reassigned school liaison officers to handle the event, said Sgt. Pat DeWall. He said the department will not bill Romney's campaign for the event.

Once candidates hit the highway, the State Patrol provides protection, clearing traffic and looking for roadside threats. That agency works with the U.S. Secret Service to get candidates safely from point A to B, said Cpt. Nick Scorcio, northeast region commander.

"We don't charge, and I don't think we ever have for dignitary protection," Scorcio said. "It's part of our statutory authority to assign state traffic officers to protect officials and other persons as part of Homeland Security."

Brown County agencies to send bill

The Brown County Sheriff's Department was the first local agency to issue a bill this year for campaign-related security.

An invoice for \$4,285.60 went to Rick Santorum's campaign last week for security costs that included the use of a bomb-sniffing dog and its handler, and stationing officers at Ravine Pub & Grill in Bellevue for a campaign stop.

Likewise, Green Bay police and the Bellevue Fire Department will bill the campaigns for appearances, officials said, though neither has tallied its costs.

Santorum also visited the National Railroad Museum in Ashwaubenon on April 1. Gingrich visited Kroll's West in Ashwaubenon on March 30. Romney made a campaign stop April 2 at Wisconsin Building Supply in Howard.

Ashwaubenon Public Safety Cmdr. Kris VerVaren said the department devoted about six hours to the Kroll's West event, and seven to the appearance at the National Railroad Museum.

Officials typically have reimbursed local departments for appearances that are strictly fundraisers, Brown County Sheriff John Gossage said.

The department received \$5,126 to cover overtime costs from President George W. Bush's 2006 appearance at a fundraiser in Howard for congressional candidate John Gard. The department also was reimbursed for expenses when House Speaker John Boehner visited a residence last August for a private event for U.S. Rep. Reid Ribble, R-Sherwood.

No charges for presidential visits

Police cannot bill the government for expenses incurred from a visit of a sitting president because it's his work as the country's chief executive, multiple officials said. For example, police departments were not reimbursed for President Barack Obama's January 2011 visit to Skana Aluminum Co. in Manitowoc.

Presidential visits often cost much more than campaign stops because officers have to control intersections and do other work not required during a candidate visit, said Jeremy Muraski, operations lieutenant for the Green Bay Police Department.

The reimbursement issue gets fuzzy when a candidate has protection from the Secret Service, which will ask local agencies to assign officers for the event. Campaigns can argue they shouldn't have to cover costs because the government made the request.

"My guess is that the campaigns will tell us, 'We didn't request the security, so we can't be held liable for it,'" Gossage said.

Each candidate who paid a visit to the Green Bay area recently had Secret Service protection.

Costs at a glance

» An overnight visit by 2008 Republican presidential hopefuls Sen. John McCain and Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin to Green Bay racked up \$14,000 in overtime.





» A one-day Resch Center visit by candidate Barack Obama in 2008 required \$10,088 in overtime among several agencies.

» President George W. Bush's visit to the Resch Center on Oct. 30, 2004, totaled \$31,665, which ended up being about \$329 per minute for the 96-minute stop.

» Another Bush visit – at the Resch Center on July 14, 2004 – generated \$31,560 in overtime costs from departments.

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Story of the Day...



Vermont Police Send Obama Campaign Bill for Security

2

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Apr 6, 2012

By [Todd Starnes](#)

A Vermont police chief said President Obama's re-election campaign has failed to reimburse local taxpayers after his officers had to work overtime to provide security at two fundraising events.

FOLLOW TODD ON FACEBOOK — HE'S PITHY.

Trevor Whipple, the police chief in South Burlington, told Fox News that his department incurred \$4,200 in overtime expenses as a result of separate fundraising events featuring President Obama and the First Lady.

"At the end of the day, I've submitted an invoice and they haven't paid," Whipple told Fox News. "It was an additional burden on our taxpayers, on our budget and we simply wanted to ask that they reimburse us."

Whipple said the overtime was even more significant because of First Lady Michelle Obama's visit. He said his department was not given advance notice.

And for a town of 17,000 people, he said it's a good bit of money.

"It's not going to break the bank, but clearly those are tax dollars that were not approved with the expectation they would be used provide security for a fund-raising event," he said.

The police chief in the city of Burlington has also submitted a similar request to the Obama campaign — asking to be reimbursed for several thousand dollars.

"Here we are in April and we still have this outstanding debt of approximately \$2,100," Burlington police chief Andi Higbee told television station WCAX.

The Obama campaign did not return calls seeking comment. On Thursday the president held a \$40,000 per person fund-raising event in a posh Washington, D.C. hotel.

Both police chiefs argue that there's a difference between providing security for an official presidential visit and a campaign event.

"My request was not to the president, not to the White House, but to the campaign," Whipple said. "It has nothing to do with politics. There was an additional financial burden on our agency and this was – in my mind – a fundraising event. Had the president been coming here to speak to a group or to do something that was 100 percent part of the president's duty, I wouldn't send anyone a bill."

But the head of Vermont's Democratic Party disputes that argument.

"The president is the president wherever he goes and whatever he does," Vermont Democratic Party Chairman Jake Perkinson told Fox News. "I don't think there's any credible reason to be nickel and diming the security of the President of the United States or his family."

Perkinson said taxpayers should be happy to cover the cost of the president's fundraising visit to Vermont.

"It's certainly not in line with any of the officers or emergency personnel that I happened to speak with on the day of the event all of whom without exception were extremely excited to have the honor and privilege to be in such close proximity to the leader of the free world," Perkinson said.

Whipple said he does not begrudge the presidential visit and promised that if a Republican came to town and the Secret Service asked his department to provide security he would do the same thing.

"We would provide it," he said. "We would not require payment up front. But I would submit an invoice. We don't cross party lines."

Perkinson called the controversy "silly."

"Unfortunately, they want to go down this path and make an issue out of something that's not really an issue," Perkinson said. "As Americans we can all agree there is no debate about the importance of keeping the president and his family safe."

The police chiefs of both cities said it's been more than a week and they still haven't heard from the campaign.

So will they seek the services of a debt collector?

Whipple said that wasn't his decision to make.

"We patiently await payment," he said.

April 21, 2012

'Presidential' vs. 'Political' Trips: A Blurry Line, and Tricky Math

By JACKIE CALMES

WASHINGTON — Facing 5,000 enthusiastic students at Florida Atlantic University, President Obama rolled up his sleeves and raised his voice to chastise Republicans for their spending cuts and “broken-down theories,” evoking chants of “Four more years!”

And that was the nonpolitical stop on Mr. Obama’s swing-state itinerary for that day early this month. The president sandwiched the 34-minute speech, billed as an official address on his so-called Buffett Rule for a minimum tax rate for the wealthiest Americans, amid three overtly partisan fund-raisers that accounted for the bulk of his time along the south Florida coast.

Mixing policy and politics, Mr. Obama is picking up the pace of his travel with that ultimate incumbent’s perk — unlimited use of Air Force One. The trips are mostly to about a dozen swing states that will decide the election and to two reliably Democratic states, New York and California, for campaign money.

And Mr. Obama is not the only frequent flier with a re-election agenda. Both Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr. and the first lady, Michelle Obama, are increasingly stumping around the country as the campaign seeks to repeat its fund-raising success of 2008 and counter a building wave of G.O.P. cash.

The trips yield a payoff not only in donations — collected at small-crowd, big-dollar events in the sumptuous homes of donors and at small-dollar, big-crowd rallies — but also in local headlines trumpeting Mr. Obama’s message of the day. Taken together, they raise the quadrennial question of how much of a president’s travel should be paid for by taxpayers and how much by his party.

“It’s very opaque,” said Meredith McGehee, policy director of the Campaign Legal Center, a nonpartisan group. “You’re kind of left in the position of, ‘Trust us; we’re doing it right.’”

Since Mr. Obama filed for re-election a year ago, he has taken 60 domestic trips, of which 26 included fund-raisers, according to Mark Knoller, a White House correspondent for CBS News who for years has compiled such data.

Mr. Knoller's count shows that since Mr. Obama took office, his most frequent destinations besides Maryland, Virginia and Illinois, his home state, have been fund-raising centers and swing states: New York (23 visits), Ohio (20), Florida (16), Pennsylvania (15), Michigan (11), California and North Carolina (10 each), Massachusetts (9), Wisconsin (8), Iowa and Nevada (7 each), and Colorado (6).

On Wednesday, Mr. Obama made an official visit to an Ohio community college and a political trip to Michigan for two fund-raisers. This week, he is scheduled to visit North Carolina, Iowa and Colorado for official addresses on student loans at three campuses, prime territory for his drive to motivate young voters.

Officials at the White House, the Chicago campaign headquarters and the Democratic National Committee declined to say how they decide which events are political and how much to reimburse the government. That secrecy has a tradition dating at least to the late 1970s.

Katie Hogan, a campaign spokeswoman, said, "The campaign will follow all rules and pay for the portion of travel that relates to political events, as has been true for previous incumbent presidential candidates."

A White House spokesman, Eric Schultz, said, "As in other administrations, we follow all rules and regulations to ensure that the D.N.C. or other relevant political committee pays what is required for the president to travel to political events."

While it is not possible to know for sure, the Democratic Party is probably paying more than other presidents have for Air Force One because of a regulatory change in 2010. Instead of repaying the government based on the cost of first-class commercial airfare, as presidents had since Jimmy Carter defeated Gerald R. Ford, reimbursements must now reflect the cost of chartering a 737 aircraft. (Air Force One, the name for whichever plane in the fleet carries the president, is usually a 747.)

Past presidents have been accused of adding official events to political trips to reduce their campaign's spending, but Mr. Schultz said that was no longer an issue. "The fact that there is an official event on the schedule doesn't reduce the travel costs paid by the campaign to the federal government," he said.

The Democratic Party's latest monthly report of travel reimbursements, filed last week to the Federal Election Commission, had precise entries like \$3.82 for "White House Airlift In-flight services" — a sandwich from the Air Force One galley perhaps? — and 23 payments totaling nearly \$100,000 for airfare, including \$95,759.10 to White House Airlift Operations and \$3,833.19 to the Treasury Department. Aides would not describe what trip, traveler or expense were reflected by

each entry.

Expenses are not limited to Air Force One, which costs \$179,750 an hour for “fuel, flight consumables, depot repairs, aircraft overhaul and engine overhaul,” according to the Pentagon. For years, presidential travel has included at least two other aircraft: a backup plane and a military cargo plane to ferry Secret Service vehicles, helicopters on occasion and the president’s customized limousine, nicknamed “the Beast.”

The White House press secretary, Jay Carney, quizzed by reporters last week about Mr. Obama’s travel, said: “The president is the president 24 hours a day and seven days a week, and he has to fly on Air Force One. He has to have security and communication. There are elements of his job that are always with him, regardless of whether he’s in a campaign event or an official event. And costs are apportioned accordingly.”

Mr. Carney’s predecessors made similar arguments, including Republicans, though Republican operatives are quick to criticize Mr. Obama.

“There’s a feeling out there that the president is putting more time and energy into his campaign than putting forth solutions to help the country,” said Kirsten Kukowski, spokeswoman for the Republican National Committee.

Michael Berman, a Democratic lobbyist who was a lawyer in the Carter White House, said the Ford White House sought to make nearly full reimbursements for campaign-related use of Air Force One. But Mr. Berman devised the first-class airfare formulation that both parties used until 2010.

“You don’t want to penalize the person who’s in office,” Mr. Berman said, by forcing him to cover all expenses for security, for example. “But they also shouldn’t have an advantage.”

News accounts covering more than three decades and six presidents back through Mr. Carter — three from each party — attest to the recurring controversy.

President George Bush made more political trips “than any president in history” before the 1990 midterm elections, The Los Angeles Times wrote, and “by mixing official and political travel” passed much of the cost to taxpayers. Bill Clinton, newly re-elected, “may well have set a record for political travel” in 1997 as he flew to fund-raisers to erase Democrats’ debt, The Atlanta Journal-Constitution reported.

And George W. Bush was “using Air Force One for re-election travel more heavily than any predecessor, wringing maximum political mileage from a perk of office paid for by taxpayers,” The Associated Press wrote in 2004.

Thirty years ago, Ronald Reagan made an “official” visit to Ohio before the midterm elections and told his audience about all the positive things he would have liked to say about the Republican candidates for governor and senator who were there.

But, he added, “This isn’t a political rally, so I won’t say any of those things!”

Kitty Bennett contributed reporting.

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CORONA DEL MAR TODAY

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City Sends Obama Campaign \$35K Invoice for CdM Visit

posted: May 25th, 2012 11:20 am | [26Comments](#)



The City of Newport Beach spent \$35,043.04 on police officers when President Obama stopped in Corona del Mar in February for a campaign breakfast, and revenue officials have sent his campaign an invoice to recoup the costs.

City Manager Dave Kiff said the invoice was his idea.

“I think it is appropriate to treat it like a private event – if another private event that large and which required that much police presence occurred, we would bill the event sponsor,” he said in an email. “If the President was here on presidential business, we likely would not have billed for that.”

The invoice is dated May 10 and is due June 9.

The expenses include costs for a police lieutenant, sergeant, two officers, a reserve officer, a senior dispatch officer, a community service officer plus overtime. The breakdown of costs ranged from \$12,203.45 for the police officer to \$307.79 for the community service officer’s overtime, according to the document.

The memo was sent from the city’s Revenue Department to the Obama For America office in Chicago. As of late Thursday, there had been no response or payment, said Tara Finnigan, a Newport Beach spokeswoman.

The Feb. 16 breakfast was held at the Shore Cliffs home of Jeff and Nancy Stack. Entrance to the breakfast cost \$2,500 per person, with a \$10,000 photo reception and breakfast option and a \$35,800 “greet + breakfast” option, according to the invitation.

Published reports stated that Obama raised \$45 million in February and at least \$8 million in six fundraisers in Los Angeles, San Francisco and at the Stack home.

An email and telephone message sent to campaign workers seeking comment for this story were not immediately answered.

Kiff said the presidential visit, which drew crowds of protesters and counter protesters that Obama likely never saw along East Coast Highway, was an honor.

“We are of course always honored when any US official, especially the President, comes to visit our community,” his email said.

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President Obama to visit N.H. on Monday

Photo 1 of 1 | Zoom Photo +



Campaign officials confirmed President Barack Obama will travel to somewhere in Strafford County for a campaign event on Monday, June 25, but have yet to release specifics on the visit.

By Charles McMahon cmcmahon@seacoastonline.com June 20, 2012 10:49 AM

PORTSMOUTH — Speculation is building on where President Barack Obama will visit when he travels to New Hampshire on Monday, June 25.

Campaign officials have confirmed Obama will travel to somewhere in Strafford County for a campaign event, but have yet to release specifics on the visit.

Details on the campaign stop, including ticket information, are expected to be released in the coming days, according to campaign officials.

More to follow

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Article published Jun 21, 2012

Obama to deliver remarks at Oyster River High School

MANCHESTER — Obama for America – New Hampshire announced Thursday afternoon that on Monday, June 25, President Barack Obama will deliver remarks at Oyster River High School in Durham.

The doors will open at noon for those hoping to attend the event to be held in the Oyster River High School Gymnasium at 55 Coe Drive.

The event is free and open to the public. However, space is limited and tickets are required. Members of the public are invited to pick up their free tickets at their local OFA-NH office (listed below) starting at 9 a.m. EDT on Friday, June 22. Tickets are first-come, first-served. More information on ticketing can be found by visiting www.ObamaNH.com.

Local tickets distribution centers are as follows:

Dover
660 Central Avenue, Unit 102
Dover, NH
Dover@ofanh.com
(603) 617-6565

Exeter
134 Front Street
Exeter, NH
Exeter@ofanh.com
(603) 738-9629

Portsmouth
125 Brewery Lane
Portsmouth, NH
Portsmouth@ofanh.com
(603) 380-4699

Subject: President Obama to Visit Durham - ORHS

Date: Thursday, June 21, 2012 3:56:46 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Todd Selig <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>

To: 'dianacarrollnh@hotmail.com' <dianacarrollnh@hotmail.com>, 'pestanhope@stanhopegroup.com' <pestanhope@stanhopegroup.com>, [External] Julian Smith <whaleroock@owl.smith-family.com>, 'jgoozetc@gmail.com' <jgoozetc@gmail.com>, 'bcotetc@gmail.com' <bcotetc@gmail.com>, Jen Berry <jberry@ci.durham.nh.us>, 'rmowertc@gmail.com' <rmowertc@gmail.com>, 'kittyfmarple@comcast.net' <kittyfmarple@comcast.net>, 'Jim Lawson' <lawsonje24@comcast.net>, David Howland <Howland.durhamnh@gmail.com>

Dear Members of the Council,

It has been formally announced that President Obama will visit the Oyster River High School on Monday. We are requesting tickets for all Council members in the event you desire to attend. There will be a significant amount of planning over the next few days leading up to this event. In addition, because this is a campaign stop, I have requested that Durham be reimbursed for the community's fire and police expenses associated with the stop.

Todd

Todd I. Selig, Administrator
Town of Durham, NH
T. 603.868.5571 || F. 603.868.5572
tselig@ci.durham.nh.us || www.ci.durham.nh.us

Subject: Two Updates - Presidential Visit to Durham | Amber Acres
Date: Friday, June 22, 2012 5:53:18 PM Eastern Daylight Time
From: Todd Selig <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>
To: 'dianacarrollnh@hotmail.com' <dianacarrollnh@hotmail.com>, 'pestanhope@stanhopegroup.com' <pestanhope@stanhopegroup.com>, [External] Julian Smith <whalerock@owl.smith-family.com>, 'jgoozetc@gmail.com' <jgoozetc@gmail.com>, 'bcotetc@gmail.com' <bcotetc@gmail.com>, Jen Berry <jberry@ci.durham.nh.us>, 'rmowertc@gmail.com' <rmowertc@gmail.com>, 'kittyfmarple@comcast.net' <kittyfmarple@comcast.net>, 'Jim Lawson' <lawsonje24@comcast.net>, David Howland <Howland.durhamnh@gmail.com>
BCC: Todd Selig <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>

Dear Members of the Council,

I wanted to brief you on two issues as we head into the weekend.

First, I have been in touch with the **Obama for America NH campaign** over the course of the day today which in turn has been in touch with the Obama for America campaign headquarters located in Chicago regarding Durham's request for reimbursement for police and fire expenses associated with the scheduled campaign visit on Monday at the Oyster River High School. Chicago reports back that because it was the Secret Service that requested police/fire assistance, rather than the campaign itself, the policy of the Obama campaign is that no reimbursement is provided for emergency service provider costs. Our response is, of course, that it was the Campaign that is organizing the President's visit to Durham, not Durham requesting the Campaign stop in this community.

The press is interested in this topic as I have had calls from WMUR to date but I have declined call backs over the course of the day awaiting what I hoped would be a positive response from the Obama campaign. It was not the response for which we had hoped.

At this point, the head of the Obama for America NH campaign will be following up with me in the morning but my sense is that the campaign will not honor Durham's request.

At this morning's agenda setting meeting, Jay and Jim indicated their interest in holding a press conference to indicate that unless the campaign was willing to reimburse Durham for our public safety costs, we would request that he find an alternate location for Monday's meeting. I held off on taking them up on the offer. At some juncture, though, that might be our only recourse if we really want to push the issue. My hope continues to be that it will not come to that and that the campaign will find a way to work with Durham.

Unfortunately, the Oyster River School District did not notify Durham about the contact from the Obama Campaign and rented the gym for around \$7,000 to reimburse for their costs associated with the event. Clearly communication is not what it should be between Durham and ORCSD. Very frustrating.

Earlier today, Jay and Jim stopped in for our agenda setting meeting to indicate that they were prepared if necessary to participate in a press conference asking the President not to visit Durham because of the added costs to the community given the fact that Durham's costs would not be reimbursed. I have taken this idea under advisement and will connect directly with Jay and Jim over the weekend as to whether the idea would be beneficial. The

campaign notes that while other communities have requested public safety costs, no community has to date uninvited the President.

Loren and I will be in Massachusetts tomorrow to attend a relative's bat mitzvah but I'll remain dedicated to this topic to the extent we can make positive headway.

Second, I have had numerous conversations regarding the **Amber Acres appraisal** over the last several days since Monday evening and to spare you a detailed overview, suffice it to say that my conclusion is that it would simply not be productive for the community to undertake an independent review of the Craft appraisal at this juncture, nor would it be productive at this juncture or a good use of our resources for us to undertake a new appraisal of the parcel.

I have learned in my evaluation of the issue that the Federal FRPP review process that will follow will in fact be extremely thorough and my opinion is that we should allow that process to play itself out. The Federal review will evaluate both process as well as appraisal specifics and should pick up deficiencies if they exist.

My recommendation is, assuming a positive outcome during the course of the upcoming the public hearing, that the Council approve accepting the executory interest contingent upon a successful Federal appraisal review and acceptance by the FRPP program.

In addition, the Council can consider whether it wants to make the approval contingent on there being no change in the final post-Federal FRPP review process appraisal value for the parcel as a result of that review which deviates by more than a specific percentage from the present number. The Council can discuss what an acceptable deviation might be or if it desires to set such a threshold at the next meeting.

I am not inviting a dialogue on this issue, simply putting forward my recommendation. I have been in touch with both Jim Lawson and Peter Stanhope on this approach.

I do not plan to devote more time to the appraisal issue before the next Council meeting other than to notify Brian Hart and the property owners.

Todd

Todd I. Selig, Administrator
Town of Durham, NH
T. 603.868.5571 || F. 603.868.5572
tselig@ci.durham.nh.us || www.ci.durham.nh.us

Everyone can tackle climate change. How can you reduce your carbon footprint?

Subject: EMERGENCY COUNIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY, 6/25/12 AT 8:30 AM | PRESS RELEASE: Durham, NH Requests Reimbursement from Obama for America Campaign for Scheduled Campaign Stop Monday

Date: Friday, June 22, 2012 10:13:18 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Todd Selig <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>

To: 'dianacarrollnh@hotmail.com' <dianacarrollnh@hotmail.com>, 'pestanhope@stanhopegroup.com' <pestanhope@stanhopegroup.com>, [External] Julian Smith <whalerock@owl.smith-family.com>, 'jgoozetc@gmail.com' <jgoozetc@gmail.com>, 'bcotetc@gmail.com' <bcotetc@gmail.com>, Jen Berry <jberry@ci.durham.nh.us>, 'rmowertc@gmail.com' <rmowertc@gmail.com>, 'kittyfmarple@comcast.net' <kittyfmarple@comcast.net>, 'Jim Lawson' <lawsonje24@comcast.net>, David Howland <Howland.durhamnh@gmail.com>

Dear Members of the Council,

A tremendous amount of time has been devoted this evening to addressing the campaign-related costs that are associated with the Obama for America campaign visit of President Obama to Durham on Monday. To this end in conversations with Jay and Jim, we will be posting tomorrow morning for a special emergency Council meeting to be held Monday morning, 6/25, at 8:30 AM to discuss the matter as a Council in public in full and whether the Council desires to take the symbolic action of disinviting the President from visiting Durham. Our sincere hope is that this meeting will not be necessary and that the campaign will agree to reimburse the town's projected public safety costs associated with the event.

In addition, you will find a press release below outlining the situation for the media who have been calling this evening. The release went out earlier this evening.

I anticipate that Durham may very well become a focus for the media over the next few days and to this end suggest that inquires from the media are sent along to me for a consistent community response.

Todd

Todd I. Selig, Administrator
Town of Durham, NH
T. 603.868.5571 || F. 603.868.5572
tselig@ci.durham.nh.us || www.ci.durham.nh.us

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Durham Town Council Emergency Special Meeting Agenda Monday June 25, 2012 Durham Town Hall - Council Chambers 8:30 A.M.

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of Agenda

III. New Business

Discussion and possible action regarding the upcoming Obama for America Campaign stop scheduled to be held in Durham at the Oyster River High School at noon on Monday, June 25, 2012, the financial impact of this campaign stop upon the municipality, and whether the Obama for America campaign has agreed to reimburse the municipality for the anticipated unbudgeted \$20,000 to \$30,000 cost associated with local public safety services required by the campaign visit.

IV. Nonpublic Session (if required)

V. Adjourn (NLT 9:30 AM)

**NOTE: THE TOWN OF DURHAM NEEDS 48 HOURS
NOTICE IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL COMMUNICATION
AIDS**

Subject: Update on Presidential Visit

Date: Saturday, June 23, 2012 3:39:43 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Todd Selig <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>

To: 'dianacarrollnh@hotmail.com' <dianacarrollnh@hotmail.com>, 'pestanhope@stanhopegroup.com' <pestanhope@stanhopegroup.com>, [External] Julian Smith <whalerock@owl.smith-family.com>, 'jgoozetc@gmail.com' <jgoozetc@gmail.com>, 'bcotetc@gmail.com' <bcotetc@gmail.com>, Jen Berry <jberry@ci.durham.nh.us>, 'rmowertc@gmail.com' <rmowertc@gmail.com>, 'kittyfmarple@comcast.net' <kittyfmarple@comcast.net>, 'Jim Lawson' <lawsonje24@comcast.net>, David Howland <Howland.durhamnh@gmail.com>

Dear Members of the Council,

Loren and I are in Lexington, MA today for a bat mitzvah but a brief note to inform you between events that I did speak with the Obama for America NH Campaign Director after making several attempts over the course of the day regarding the reimbursement issue and the campaign has taken the position that it will not reimburse Durham for the public safety-related costs. The campaign does not anticipate altering its perspective relative to this matter.

Todd

Todd I. Selig, Administrator
Town of Durham, NH
T. 603.868.5571 || F. 603.868.5572
tselig@ci.durham.nh.us || www.ci.durham.nh.us

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Durham Fire Department

51 College Road ■ Durham, New Hampshire 03824-3585

Phone 603-862-1426 ■ Fax 603-862-1513

fire@ci.durham.nh.us

Fire, Rescue and Emergency Medical Services

June 23, 2012

Todd Selig, Town Administrator
Town of Durham
15 Newmarket Rd.
Durham, NH 03824

Dear Todd,

With respect to the Durham Fire Department's assets committed to President Obama's campaign event at the Oyster River High School on Monday, the cost breakdown is as follows (calculated based on set standard outside agency charges):

- **One Fire Captain @ \$87.49 per hour, for approximately 7 hours, totaling \$ 612.43**
- **Six Firefighters @ \$61.54 per hour, for approximately 7 hours, totaling \$ 2584.68**
- **Total DFD salary expenses for the event: \$ 3197.11**

Note: Although I as the Assistant Chief and Fire Inspector John Powers will be assigned and working on-site for the duration of the event, Monday is our normal work day and both of us work the day shift, so there is no additional charge. There is also no additional charge for the use of the fire engine itself on standby.

These costs do not include any charges/costs pertaining to McGregor Memorial EMS unit staffing, nor those that may be associated with the Seacoast Technical Assistance Response Team (START Haz Mat Team).

Respectfully submitted,


Jason M. Cleary
Assistant Chief of the Department

Durham Police Department
86 Dover Road
Durham, NH 03824
868-2324

MEMORANDUM

June 24, 2012

TO: Todd Selig, Town Administrator

FROM: Dave Kurz, Police Chief 

RE: Preventive Police Costs Associated with Presidential Visit

This memo is designed to provide you with cost parameters for the President's visit to Durham on Monday June 25th. As you are aware, the number of personnel that comprise the Durham Police Department prohibits us from accomplishing this public safety issue without assistance from our neighboring law enforcement entities. All of those agencies will require compensation at overtime rates for the assignment of personnel to Durham. Several agencies have indicated that they will not charge us for those personnel currently on duty but those definitive numbers will not be known until the event has concluded. Given the various tasks that we have been charged to address I have determined the estimated cost impact to be as follows:

Agency	Number	Cost Implications
Durham Police	15	\$ 4,354.00
UNH Police	20	\$ 5,400.00
Dover PD	5	\$ 1,620.00
Strafford County	12	\$ 2,880.00
SRT	6	\$ 1,800.00
Canine	2	\$ 600.00
		\$ 16,654.00

These figures represent the "high-end" of the cost implication to the Durham Police budget for this event. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

[Back](#)

Article published Jun 24, 2012

Durham plans emergency meeting ahead of presidential visit: Could resolve to 'disinvite' Barack Obama

DURHAM— An emergency meeting is scheduled for town councilors Monday morning to discuss and act on what steps to take regarding costs related to additional public safety requirements for the President's visit Monday afternoon.

President Barack Obama is scheduled to visit Oyster River High School for a free to the public event that would cost an estimated \$20,000 to \$30,000 in fire and police public safety services required by the Secret Service.

Historically, the town absorbs costs of a presidential visit, however, being that this is a campaign stop, the town has reached out to the Obama for America campaign to seek reimbursement for the expense. In an email sent to council members by Town Administrator Todd Selig, the intent of the meeting is "to discuss the matter as a Council in public in full and whether the Council desires to take the symbolic action of disinviting the President from visiting Durham. Our sincere hope is that this meeting will not be necessary and that the campaign will agree to reimburse the town's projected public safety costs associated with the event."

Selig told Foster's on Saturday that there is no with to disinvite the president to the town.

Council member Julian Smith said he was confused then as to why this meeting will even be necessary, especially since the town was not the entity to invite the president in the first place and therefore can do no such "disinviting."

While Smith said Selig may have a responsibility to pursue this as a long-term issue, he saw no need as far as Monday's visit is concerned and said the situation was now like a "tempest in a teapot."

"The administration is trying to make it an issue and I don't know what the bottom line is in terms of when a sitting president is on the campaign trail whether his campaign should pay for certain public costs or not," he said.

He added that he does not think the town administrator is grandstanding, but that these actions will likely be perceived that way.

State Senator Amanda Merrill issued a response to the issue calling the visit an honor for the town and said that she is thrilled to have such an opportunity in her hometown of Durham.

"First, I am confident that the Obama for America campaign will follow all laws regarding campaign visits. Second, I am hopeful that the dedicated people who serve the Town of Durham would stand ready to participate in what I would consider to be the more appropriate context of a comprehensive, nonpartisan discussion of these complex issues should the

occasion arise," the statement reads.

Rochester Mayor T.J. Jean also responded with his thoughts on the importance of a presidential visit to a local community and stated that the City of Rochester would have been delighted to host the President during his visit to Strafford County.

"While I remain cognizant of the additional security and public safety costs inherent with such an event, I truly believe the opportunity for our citizens to experience a Presidential Visit outweigh the cost," his statement read.

In response, the Obama campaign issued their own statement, "As a private organization, Obama for America does not participate in security planning. All such decisions, including their impact on costs incurred by federal, state or local governments, are exclusively within the control of the appropriate government officials. Should there be a question about expenses among the cooperating authorities, we assume that it should be directed to the U.S. Secret Service."

[Back](#)

Article published Jun 24, 2012

NH town addresses reimbursement for Obama visit

DURHAM, N.H. (AP) — The chairman of the Durham Town Council plans to make an announcement regarding local expenses to result from an Obama campaign visit.

Council Chairman Jay Gooze is to address expenses for Monday's Obama for America campaign stop in the New Hampshire town, which asked Obama's campaign to pay for public safety costs during his visit to Oyster River High School.

Durham officials say Obama's visit on Monday is expected to cost the town an extra \$20,000 to \$30,000 in overtime payments.

The town absorbs the costs associated with presidential visits, but says it shouldn't have to pay for political campaigns.

The Obama campaign said it would pay for the portion of travel that relates to political events.

Obama is scheduled to speak Monday at Durham's Oyster River High School.

RECEIVED

JUN 24 2012

ADMIN. OFFICE
TOWN OF DURHAM

June 23, 2012

Town of Durham
Attn: Todd Selig, Town Manager
15 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824-2898

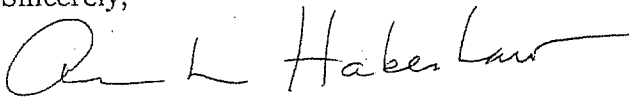
RE: Request for Payment of Security Costs

Dear Mr. Selig:

Obama for America ("OFA") has been informed of your request for payment of expenses anticipated by the Town of Durham in relation to President Obama's upcoming visit on June 25, 2012.

As a private organization, OFA does not participate in security or traffic control planning. All such decisions, including their impact on costs incurred by federal, state or local governments, are exclusively within the control of the appropriate government officials. Should there be a question about the allocation of expenses among the cooperating authorities, we assume that it should be directed to the U.S. Secret Service.

Sincerely,



Ann Marie Habershaw
Chief Operating Officer
Obama for America



TOWN OF DURHAM
15 NEWMARKET ROAD
DURHAM, NH 03824-2898
Tel: 603/868-5571
Fax: 603/868-5572

June 24, 2012

With respect for the President and support for our town administrator

To our public,

The excitement is palpable in our New Hampshire college town as the President prepares to visit on Monday. The warm welcome he will receive from our residents – young, old, and in between – in a packed high school gymnasium will leave no doubt that he picked the right place to come. Durham is steeped in history and natural beauty and is looking to brighter economic times ahead with excellent schools and the potential of new high-tech redevelopment linked to our state university. What better backdrop for a Presidential address?

That said, Durham has come in for criticism and praise for our town administrator's request on behalf of the community this past week for the Obama campaign to reimburse the cost to town taxpayers for local police and fire services in support of the President's campaign visit. We have heard from those who think it's disrespectful to ask the President's campaign for help in covering the cost of his visit. And we have heard from others who say that no local taxpayer, regardless of party loyalty, should foot a campaign expense. These are honest and strongly held beliefs and, judging by the debate unfolding in the national news media, our request has struck a nerve.

We want to be clear that our town's request was not motivated by partisan politics (a majority of Durham voters are registered Democrats) or by a want to make a national statement about campaign reimbursements. We have more than enough civic work on our plate. To be clear, our request came from the basic responsibility that a local government has to its residents to ensure that expenses outside our approved budget are recovered in a fair and equitable manner. As in small towns across the country, we have struggled to save money while providing essential quality services to our public. We commend our Town Administrator, Todd Selig, for respectfully raising this issue. We owed it to our residents to ask the Obama campaign to help cover our costs. Unfortunately, they declined.

Happily, this afternoon, an anonymous donor, a Durham resident, contacted the Town Administrator and Council Chair and offered to pay for town public safety costs up to \$20,000. The donor wanted us to make public his/her sentiment that our Town had done the right thing in asking the campaign to do its part. We are grateful for this generous offer. With this development we have decided to cancel Monday's special Town Council meeting. The issue of proper compensation for public services from any political candidate is a matter for discussion at a future Town Council meeting.

That said, *we believe that now is not the time to further deliberate the issue* but to look forward to Monday's visit. It is a privilege for any town to host a sitting President of any party and we do not take that responsibility lightly. Durham residents will welcome the President with open arms tomorrow and the proud members of our police and fire departments will do their jobs with honor.

Jay B. Gooze, Council Chair

James E. Lawson, Council Chair Pro-tem



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Jun 25, 2012 10:15am

Anonymous Donor Helps Town Pay for Obama Visit

(http://abcnews.go.com/author/devin_dwyer/)

By Devin Dwyer

(http://abcnews.go.com/author/devin_dwyer/)

@devindwyer



7



18



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15

Text

(http://twitter.com/devindwyer)

DURHAM, N.H. — When President Obama makes a campaign stop here this afternoon, he'll have an anonymous donor to thank for defusing what had been a growing controversy over the cost of the presidential visit to local taxpayers.

Durham officials announced Sunday that an unidentified town resident offered \$20,000 to cover the extra police and fire services deployed in conjunction with Obama's speech at Oyster River High School. The town had sought reimbursement from the president's campaign, which demurred.

"We have more than enough civic work on our plate," Durham council chairman Jay Gooze said in a statement. "To be clear, our request came from the basic responsibility that a local government has to its residents to ensure that expenses outside our approved budget are recovered in a fair and equitable manner."

Most localities visited by the president on official and political business usually absorb the cost of deploying extra local public safety services to support Secret Service. But given budget concerns, officials here decided to request reimbursement given the political nature of the event.

Obama campaign aides said local public safety staffing and operations were out of their control and thus costs could not be reasonably assigned to them.

"As a private organization, OFA does not participate in security or traffic



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About Political Punch

Political coverage and musings on pop culture from ABC News Senior White House Correspondent Jake Tapper and the ABC News White House team.

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control planning. All such decisions, including their impact on costs incurred by federal, state or local governments, are exclusively within the control of the appropriate government officials," Obama for America chief operating officer Ann Marie Habershaw wrote in a letter to Durham town manager Todd Selig on June 23.

"Should there be a question about the allocation of expenses among the cooperating authorities, we assume that it should be directed to the U.S. Secret Service," she said.

At a press conference Sunday, Gooze thanked the donor for resolving the issue. "The donor wanted us to make public his/her sentiment that our town had done the right thing in asking the campaign to do its part," he said. "We are grateful for this generous offer."

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

An emergency council meeting that had been planned for this morning to publicly debate the cost of the president's trip was cancelled, averting what could have been a distracting sideshow to Obama's event.

But the controversy is not entirely over. The pro-Republican advocacy group Americans for Prosperity has filed a "right to know" request with the town administrators seeking to reveal the identity of the donor.

"The people of Durham have a right to know the identity of this anonymous donor and what his or her intentions are in giving this significant sum of money," said Corey R. Lewandowski, State Director of Americans for Prosperity-New Hampshire. "The donor may have business pending before the town or may be trying to skirt [Federal Election Commission] law, which precludes this sort of donation."

Durham, home to the University of New Hampshire, is a majority Democratic area. Officials and local residents said they welcomed Obama but were concerned about costs.

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AMERICANS FOR PROSPERITY®

NEW HAMPSHIRE

VIA E-MAIL

June 25, 2012

Mr. Todd Selig
Town Administrator
Town Hall, 15 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824

Dear Mr. Selig,

This is a request under the New Hampshire Right to Know Law (RSA 91-A).

According to the *Boston Globe's* June 24th article titled "NH town to receive expenses for Obama visit" I am writing to formally request you provide me with all information related to the reported anonymous donation the town is set to receive.

This request includes but is not limited to copies of the check(s) received to pay for the extra security detail of Mr. Obama, any wire transfers received to offset costs of the additional security, and/or any other payments made to the town directly or indirectly, from any and all, either anonymous or disclosed donors related to Mr. Barack Obama's visit to Durham, NH on June 25, 2012.

I am deeply concerned that some individual(s)/corporation(s)/unknown entity may be attempting to cast undue influence on the town by donating such a significant sum of money. What assurance do the residents have that this individual/entity does not already conduct business in the community, have business pending before the community or is simply attempting to skirt Federal Election Commission (FEC) laws which would preclude this donor from making such a contribution? The people of Durham have a right to know who is funding their government.

Pursuant to the guiding statutes, please respond to this request within five (5) days of receipt. If you deny any or all of this request, please cite each specific exemption you feel justifies the refusal to release the information and notify me of appeal procedures available to me under the law.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Corey R. Lewandowski
New Hampshire State Director
Americans For Prosperity – New Hampshire
PO Box 464
Windham, NH 03087
603/894-5881 (office)
202/550-7839 (Cell)

PO Box 464 • Windham, NH 03087 • 603-894-5881
www.americansforprosperity.org/new-hampshire

Everyone can tackle climate change. How can you reduce your carbon footprint?

From: <Gillum>, Jack <JGillum@ap.org>
Date: Monday, June 25, 2012 10:16 AM
To: Todd Selig <tselig@ci.durham.nh.us>
Cc: Lorrie Pitt <lpitt@ci.durham.nh.us>, Dave Kurz <dkurz@ci.durham.nh.us>
Subject: AP public records request

City of Durham
Town Hall, 15 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH 03824

June 25, 2012

RE: Public records request

Dear Sir or Madam:

Pursuant to New Hampshire's right-to-know law, RSA Ch. 01-A et seq., I hereby request access to and copies of: All emails to or from town employees regarding private donations to cover the costs of President Barack Obama's visit to Durham, N.H., on June 25, 2012. This request covers both paper and electronic records.

Because this is a request by the news media for records in the public interest, I ask that you waive any search fees. If the fee for retrieving or reproducing these records will exceed \$50, please notify me before filling this request. I can be reached at (202) 641-9448 or by electronic mail at jgillum@ap.org.

Please note that the information requested does not fall under an exemption provided by RSA Ch. 01-A:5; therefore, it must be released. If, for any reason, any portion of this request is denied, please provide written notice of the records that were withheld, and the specific legal justification for the denial.

Finally, I remind you that New Hampshire law is unambiguous regarding to access to governmental records. "Every citizen during the regular or business hours of all public bodies or agencies, and on the regular business premises of such public bodies or agencies, has the right to inspect all governmental records in the possession, custody, or control of such public bodies or agencies." RSA Ch. 01-A:4. As such, government agencies must "make available for inspection and copying any such governmental record within its files when such records are immediately available for such release." *Id.*

I therefore look forward to your prompt reply.

Thank you for your assistance,

Jack Gillum
Reporter
The Associated Press



June 25, 2012

Todd Selig
Town Administrator
Town of Durham
15 Newmarket Road
Durham, NH
03824-2898

Re: **RECORDS REQUEST**

Mr. Selig:

Pursuant to the New Hampshire state open records act, RSA-91A, I request access to and copies any documents, email messages and/or or receipts related to the anonymous \$20,000 donation promised to the town to cover security related expenses for President Obama's campaign trip to Durham on June 25, 2012.

I agree to pay reasonable fees for the processing of this request.

Thank you for your assistance. Please don't hesitate to contact me by phone or email regarding this request.

Sincerely,

David Sakowich
News Assignment Manager
WMUR-TV
100 South Commercial Street
Manchester, NH
03103
(603) 641-9000
dsakowich@hearst.com

100 South Commercial Street
Manchester, NH 03101
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Article published Jun 29, 2012

Durham police 'frustrated' during President Obama's visit

DURHAM — Working under the direction of the Secret Service during President Obama's visit to the Granite State on Monday, Durham officials found themselves in somewhat of a quandary with the agency's changing requests, putting them at odds with some visitors.

Deputy Police Chief Renee Kelley said the part of priority of the police department on Monday was to provide site security at the high school and assist with the president's motorcade as it passed through town. The other priority, of course, was to provide both visitors and Obama with the highest level of security possible.

Some of the pre-discussed requests of the Secret Service he said change on Monday once things got under way. Parking, especially, created an issue along Bagdad Road through to Canney Way with the Secret Service asking all cars be removed from the area they had initially approved for people to park in, and furthermore, directed no pedestrian walk up Bagdad Road either. Kelley said disallowing people to walk down Bagdad Road was not the wish of the police department, seeing as they had already gotten approval to instruct people to be there.

"We were frustrated as well," Kelley said.

While the town was thrilled with the visit, one issue may have been the volume of people who showed up.

"There were far more people than we were led to believe," Kelley said of the number of tickets issued from Obama campaign offices for the event.

Police Chief Dave Kurz, Kelley, and other officers who kept mobile posts aided walkers as much as they could getting from their car to the high school, he said.

Town Administrator Todd Selig said arrangements were made for those who's vehicles were towed for parking in the Durham evangelical Church lot so they would not be subject to pay the impound fee. The town absorbed the costs associated with vehicle removal.

"We didn't feel it was fair," he said.

He explained that the Secret Service also would not allow anyone access to the school during the event and as there were no porta potties available, this created another frustration. The town, he said, intervened, however, opening the School Administrative Unit offices and the Field House to the public.

With stormy weather rolling through the area, conditions were not ideal for walking distances, especially for the elderly, Selig said, and this is partly why police took it upon themselves to shuttle attendees to the event.

All in all, Selig said it was a good day in Durham and there is an "after meeting" scheduled to discuss how to handle requests such as these from anyone in the future.

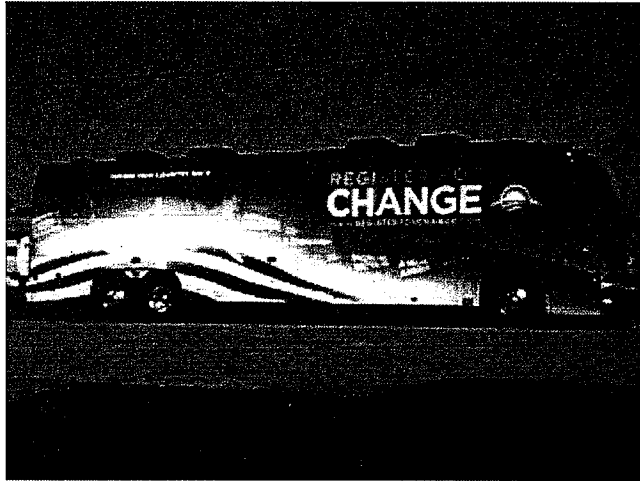
"Every event is different," Kelley said. This was the first time a sitting president has visited Oyster River High School and the town had only three days to prepare, he said.

"Certainly there are things that we may do differently next time," he said.

NH towns often stuck Presidential campaign bills

Posted By [Grant Bosse](#) On July 9, 2012 @ 10:59 am In [Featured,News](#) | [Comments Disabled](#)

(DURHAM, NH) New Hampshire is used to welcoming sitting Presidents, often as they campaign for a second term. But a visit from Air Force One comes with motorcades, increased security, and unexpected overtime for local police departments. While local officials across the state are happy to host Presidential candidates, several towns have tried to collect from the campaigns for their extra expenses.



[1]

Photo: Brietbart

Presidential Barack Obama's campaign rally in Durham two weeks ago drew national attention not just for the President's attack on Republican rival Mitt Romney. Durham Town Administrator Todd Selig estimated that the President's visit would cost the town \$20,000 to \$30,000 in overtime for police officers providing security and directing traffic for the motorcade. Obama for America declined to reimburse Durham, arguing that the extensive security costs were requested by the Secret Service. An anonymous donor came forward ahead of the campaign stop, pledging \$20,000 to help pay for the unexpected expense.

Officials in other New Hampshire towns that hosted Presidential and campaign stops say they have also been unable to get campaigns to pay for their visits.

Hudson Police Chief James Sartell was a Sergeant in 2004 when Vice-President Dick Cheney held a campaign rally at a local manufacturing plant. He says then-Chief Dick Darling and the Board of Selectmen asked the Secret Service to reimburse the Police Department for the extra details. He says the town got a letter back saying that they could ask the Bush-Cheney campaign for payment, but that the campaign was under no obligation to pick up the police tab. Sartell says he doesn't think Hudson ever followed up with a request to the campaign.

Sartell worked a detail for the Cheney visit, and was happy to host the Vice-President, but he says such high profile events mean a lot of time and money for local police.

"Back in 2004, we had our share of protesters," Sartell remembers. "It certainly taxes your infrastructure."

The Romney campaign rolled into Hillsboro in May, highlighting federal stimulus funding for an historic bridge that no longer crosses the river. Town Administrator John Stetser says the town assigned six policeman for the Romney visit at the request of the Secret Service, with no promise of ever being paid back. He told NH Watchdog that he had not contacted the Romney campaign.

"The Police Chief might have," Stetser explained. "We discussed it, but haven't done anything about it yet."

Stetser has since resigned as Town Administrator.

The Obama Campaign stop in Durham is not the first time police expenses have sparked a political fight. Nashua Mayor Rob Wagner billed the White House \$20,000 for President George Bush's 1992 campaign event in the city, but did not send an invoice when President Bill Clinton visited Nashua two years later. That prompted a protest from [State Republican Chairman Steve Duprey](#) [2].

Between New Hampshire's First in the Nation Primary and its status as the most closely contested only swing state in the Northeast mean the Granite State will continue to be a frequent stop for Presidents and Presidential hopefuls. And local officials can try to get paid back for the extra expenses that come with national political attention. But Presidential campaigns don't have to pay up.

Jim Geraghty reports at *National Review* ^[3] that the Romney campaign has been reimbursing local police departments, including three payments to the City of Manchester.

From July 2011 to April 2012, the Romney campaign paid \$37,425.15 to local police departments in the expenditure category of "security," according to data filed with the Federal Election Commission. In addition, there are separate payments to individual officers who are, presumably, working in their off-hours to handle event security; the Romney campaign has spent a total of \$111,865.34 on security.

The amounts range in size from \$3,640, in an undated payment to the Richland County Sheriff's Department in Columbia, South Carolina, to \$72 to the City of Chandler in Arizona. Several local police departments are paid several times; the Manchester, N.H., police department was paid \$415.76 in October and two separate payments for the same amount dated December 2. Obviously, these amounts are unlikely to cover the entire costs for the campaign events, but at least local taxpayers are spared some of the expense for the police overtime.

Article printed from New Hampshire Watchdog: <http://newhampshire.watchdog.org>

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[1] Image: <http://newhampshire.watchdog.org/files/2012/07/Obama-Bus.jpg>

[2] *State Republican Chairman Steve Duprey*: <http://news.google.com/newspapers?id=x2IgAAAAIBAJ&sjid=52UFAAAAIBAJ&pg=1388%2C3665984>

[3] *National Review*: <http://www.nationalreview.com/campaign-spot/303917/one-presidential-campaign-pays-local-police-one-doesnt>

President Obama Visit - June 25, 2012

Durham Police & Other Agencies

7/20/12

<u>Officer</u>		<u>Hours Worked</u>		<u>Total</u>
Sergeant Michael Bilodeau	OT	6 hours @ \$46.03	\$	276.18
Sergeant Jack Dalton	OT	6 hours @ \$51.32	\$	307.92
Sergeant Kathryn Mone	OT	6 hours @ \$50.73	\$	304.38
Sergeant Daniel Brooks	OT	6.5 hours @ \$42.28	\$	274.82
SRO Holly Malasky	OT	1.5 hours @ \$47.41	\$	71.12
Officer Michelle Montville	OT	6 hours @ \$36.66	\$	219.96
Officer Matt Brown	OT	6.5 hours @ \$36.63	\$	238.10
Officer Nick Glowacki	OT	6 hours @ \$37.40	\$	224.40
Officer Pam Donley	OT	6 hours @ \$43.52	\$	261.12
Officer John Lavoie	OT	6.5 hours @ \$41.67	\$	270.86
Officer Tom Kilroy	OT	6 hours @ \$35.97	\$	215.82
Officer Edward Cilley	OT	3 hours @ \$24.70	\$	74.10
Other Agencies:				
Durham Fire Department			\$	2,335.00
Dover Police Department			\$	1,044.99
Farmington Police Department			\$	295.75
Strafford County Sheriff's Office			\$	1,130.64
UNH Police Department			\$	4,153.13
TOWING FEES at the Request of Secret Service			\$	1,300.00
Total:			\$	12,998.29

Note, Rochester, Barrington, and the State Police will not be billing the Town of Durham.

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Government

Will St. Pete Be Reimbursed for RNC Security?

While \$270,000 for security cameras will be reimbursed, there is no guarantee about other RNC security expenditures, the Council learns.

By [William Mansell](#) [Email the author](#) July 27, 2012

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On Thursday City Councilors voiced their displeasure with the unknown security costs that will be associated with Tropicana Field hosting **the official Republican National Convention Kick-Off Party** on Aug. 26.

Starting that weekend, the **Secret Service has announced a plan to shut down several streets and sidewalks** along the perimeter of the Trop. Anything outside that perimeter is the responsibility of the city.

The city has **spent \$270,000 for security cameras** for the event, though the city's legal team said the U.S. Department of Justice and City of Tampa will reimburse St. Pete for that expense.

Expenses not associated with the cameras, such as overtime for police, firefighters and other city employees, are still up in the air, according to deputy city attorney Mark Winn.

"They may or may not be reimbursible," he said.

Congress, Winn said, has approved a \$50 million grant for security for the RNC in Tampa. All reimbursements for Tampa and St. Pete have to come out of that fund.

Winn said St. Pete is still negotiating with Tampa to get reimbursements for those expenditures. Some police costs have been submitted, but are still waiting Tampa's approval.

Last week, the city **approved the creation of an expansive "Event Zone"** that regulates what you can carry, where you can go and in some cases what you can wear inside that zone.

At Thursday's agenda review session, Council member Jim Kennedy said he was hesitant moving forward with an ordinance where expenses have not been settled. He asked the legal team what would happen should the city not go forward with the ordinance.

"If we were concerned about that, and if we voted 'No' on the clean zone ordinance, would that then protect us from incurring costs that we may not want to incur?" Kennedy asked.

City Attorney John Wolfe said the city does not have much of a choice. The "Event Zone," he said, isn't so much an RNC requirement but a necessary measure to protect St. Pete residents, property and businesses.

"It's really to protect the city, the (city's) assets and the property owners," Wolfe said.

Winn said that while he expects most protesters to be peaceful and not destroy property, history shows there has been unrest and upheaval.

A majority of protesters are peaceful, however, there's traditionally a small percentage of people who do intend to create damage, Winn said.

"Basically you're saying we need to do this for self-preservation," Kennedy said. "That we really have no choice in the matter."

City Administrator Tish Elston, who was sitting in for Mayor Bill Foster Thursday, said Foster would not approve events that the city had no chance of reimbursement.

"From the onset the mayor has always been told we'd get reimbursed," she said. "We are not interested in having events that can't be reimbursed."

Council member Steve Kornell said he understands the need, but feels that city is being led down a path without much control.

"I'd really like to see some movement on this," Kornell said. "This is a big event, and I (don't) think people are assuming we'd pull the plug. However, I also don't like that we are kind of being shuffled around."

"I hope discussions move along rapidly, because I dislike the idea of voting on something that I don't know how much it is going to cost," he added. "It's a difficult situation we are being put in. I hope those discussions move rapidly. That back and forth is fine, just get it resolved."

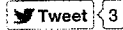
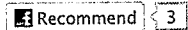
Council member Wengay Newton **expressed concerns last week** that the more than seven square miles of zone was unnecessary after the kick-off party. While the party is on Aug. 26, the event zone runs through Aug. 30 because other unannounced delegate/media events are expected at various St. Pete locations.

Winn, however, said police want to keep the zone in place for the duration of the RNC week because of those additional events.

A final reading of the ordinance for the creation of the "Event Zone" is scheduled for Aug. 2.

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L.A. NOW

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA -- THIS JUST IN

Romney campaign pays Newport Beach police bill; Obama past due

July 30, 2012 | 9:15 am



President Obama is past due on his bill from the city of Newport Beach, which has asked his campaign to reimburse the city for police security at a fundraiser in Newport Beach.

Newport Beach City Manager Dave Kiff billed the campaigns of President Obama and presumptive GOP candidate Mitt Romney for security at their separate fundraisers in Newport Beach. The Romney campaign paid its bill last week, about a month after the city sent its invoice. The Obama bill for \$35,000, however, was sent in May and has not been paid.

Now that the Romney campaign has paid its bill, the city is left in the awkward position of collecting from Obama.

But a Secret Service official said Newport Beach city administrators are asking the wrong people to pay for police protection at presidential campaign events.

It's the Secret Service that is responsible for the candidates' security, not the campaigns, spokesman Max Milien said, and any cost concerns should have been directed its way.

"We cannot reimburse any agencies," he told the Daily Pilot. "We make that clear from day one."

Milien explained that an advance team works with local law enforcement to plan road closures and other measures before a candidate's visit. If the local agency cannot afford to pay for extra security or overtime, the local officials should inform the Secret Service ahead of time, he said.

In that case, Milien said the Secret Service would seek help from other law enforcement groups — county or state police, for example, who would not charge for the service.

Kiff said the police department raised the issue with the Secret Service before the president's visit.

"At that time, our staff was told that the Secret Service would not reimburse the City," Kiff wrote in an email, "and that we should check with the President's campaign or the DNC."

About three weeks ago, the Democratic National Committee contacted the city and told officials to deal with the Secret Service.

"Any local law enforcement organization contacted by the Secret Service to assist in security should discuss matters related to costs and how to effectively manage those costs with the Secret Service," DNC spokeswoman Melanie Roussel wrote in an email to the Daily Pilot on Wednesday.

Meanwhile, Kiff would just like the issue to go away.

"I am very tired of this story, but it will have legs again," Kiff wrote in an email to the City Council after the Orange County Register inquired about the Romney campaign's payment.

The city was "honored" to have the president in town, Kiff said, but he viewed the campaign fundraisers as private events.

"Had this been a 'business trip' — if the President came to Newport Beach to talk about one of his policies with our residents—the city would not have sent an invoice," he wrote in an email to the Pilot.

ALSO:

9 arrests made during Anaheim police-shooting protests

Teacher's aide charged with leaving her naked daughter in car

12 people stuck on Superman ride for 2 hours at Six Flags Vallejo

-- Mike Reicher, Times Community News

Photo: President Obama visited Corona del Mar on Feb. 16. Credit: Amy Senk / Times Community News

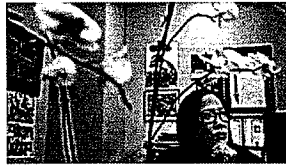
EDITOR'S PICKS:



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Mitt Romney and GST Steel

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Comments (3)



TOWN OF DURHAM

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FAX: (603) 868-8063

Email: jrichard@ci.durham.nh.us

PERMIT APPLICATION

TYPE OF PERMIT (Please check one):

- Special Event _____
- Road Closure Request _____
- Use of Town Property _____

DATE OF EVENT: _____ TIME(S) OF EVENT: _____

NAME OF APPLICANT/ORGANIZATION: _____

NAME OF EVENT: _____

PERSONAL CONTACT FOR THIS EVENT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NO.: DAY: _____ EVENING: _____

EMAIL: _____

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST (Pertaining to amplified music, location, route of travel. Please attach maps denoting routes and road closures):

ANTICIPATED NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS: _____

ANTICIPATED NUMBER OF VEHICLES: _____

CERTIFICATE OF INSURANCE INFORMATION

As evidence of its financial ability to indemnify the Town of Durham, during the term of this agreement, the applicant shall obtain and pay premiums for Commercial General Liability insurance protecting the parties hereto, their agents, officers, elected officials, representatives, or employees because of bodily injury, property damage, personal injury or products liability incurred by the parties in the performance of the terms of this lease, such policy to provide limits no less than \$1 million per occurrence. A Certificate of Insurance naming the Town of Durham as an Additional Insured shall be provided.

Insurance Carrier: _____

Policy Number and Expiration Date: _____

The undersigned hereby agrees, at its sole cost and expense, to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the Town of Durham and all associated, affiliated, allied and subsidiary entities of the Town, now existing or hereinafter created, and their respective officers, boards, commissions, employees, agents, and contractors (hereinafter referred to as "indemnities") from and against any and all liability, obligation, damages, penalties, claims, liens, costs, charges, losses and expenses which may be imposed upon, incurred by or asserted against the indemnities by reason of any act or omission of the undersigned, its personnel, employees, agents, contractors or subcontractors which results in damage or injury of any kind to any person or any property and which arises out of or is any way connected with the activities permitted by this permit.

Printed Name and Signature of Event Coordinator/applicant Date

Printed Name and Signature of Principal/Owner/Authorizing Authority Date

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Reviewed by DPW
Comments:

Reviewed by PD
Comments:

Reviewed by FD
Comments:

Approved

Todd I. Selig, Town Administrator Date

GENERAL USE POLICY FOR TOWN FACILITIES

When not used for regular purposes, buildings and grounds or portions thereof may be used for adult education, discussion, religious, civic, social, recreation, entertainment purposes, and such other purposes that promote the welfare of the community, including use as registration and polling places for voters.

No person, group, or organization has any vested right to use Town property; but the right to use the property for any lawful purpose is subject to approval by the Town.

Accordingly, the Town Administrator has established detailed regulations pertaining to the public use of facilities.

USE OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS

The use of Town buildings, grounds, equipment and facilities will be authorized by the Town Administrator in conformity with the following regulations governing their use.

1. Requests for the use of Town buildings will be made through the appropriate department where the facility is located at least 14 days prior to the date of use.
2. Requests for special event, road closure or use of Town property permits must be completed and received at least four (4) weeks prior to the date of the event, road closure or property use.
3. Applicant is responsible for acquiring the necessary signatures from Town officials. In addition, both the event coordinator and the organization's owner/principal are required to sign the application.
4. If a student organization, appropriate staff advisor must complete the application.
5. Applicant shall be responsible for the cleanup of Town building/grounds prior to leaving the premises.
6. Road closure permits must go before the Town Council for final approval, which meets the first and third Mondays of each month. Applications for use of Town facilities, including large numbers of persons, may also be referred to the Town Council by the Town Administrator for approval.
7. For a use of Town property permit, applicant will post a minimum deposit of \$150.00, which will be refunded to the applicant, less any costs, within five (5) working days of the event. Further, the applicant agrees to pay any and all costs incurred by the Town greater than \$150.00.
8. Facilities may not be used for commercial purposes.
9. The use of Town buildings for government purposes, meetings of pupils, community meetings, local community group entertainment for the community, clubs, alumni associations, parent-teacher associations and other organizations affiliated with the Town have precedence over all others.
10. All activities must be under competent adult supervision approved by the Town Administrator. The group using the facilities will be responsible for any damage to the building or equipment.
11. Groups receiving permission are restricted to the dates and hours approved and to the

building area and facilities specified, unless requested changes are approved by the Town Administrator.

12. Groups receiving permission are responsible for the observance of Town and state fire and safety regulations at all times.
13. The use of alcoholic beverages, profane language, or gambling in any form is not permitted in municipal buildings or on Town grounds. Smoking within municipal buildings is not permitted.
14. The Town will cooperate with recognized agencies, such as the Red Cross and Civil Defense, and will make suitable facilities available without charge during community emergency or to prepare for civil defense.
15. Liability insurance will be required for all outside groups given permission to use facilities or to hold an event. Organizers of any activity not under the direct supervision of an employee of the Town must provide a certificate of insurance endorsed to name the Town as an additional insured.
16. In situations where extended use of Town buildings or facilities is required, rental fees may be set at a contract price as determined by the Town Administrator.
17. The Town Administrator reserves the right to cancel any permission granted.