



CITY OF AMESBURY  
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN

---

**SPONSORED BY: C. Kenneth Gray, Mayor BILL No. 2017-085**

At the meeting of the Amesbury City Council held on November 14, 2017 in the City Hall Auditorium the following action was taken:

**An Order** to appropriate \$20,000 from the Smart Growth Stabilization fund (7301) to facilitate the provision of social services.

**Summary:** The Pettengill House, Inc. (PHI) is an award-winning non-profit social service agency targeting the needs of the local community. In collaboration with our City Departments, they have extensive experience in providing "wrap-around" services to support at-risk and low income individuals, children and families through education, support service interventions and a therapeutic system of care.

The Pettengill House Resource Center in Amesbury, is located at 21 Water Street. Pettengill House currently provides an array of direct and targeted services to the School Department, along with mental health supports to the Senior Center. PHI also provides comprehensive case management services to the Police Department on an as needed basis.

Funds from this request are intended to fill identified community gaps pertaining to social service interventions, programs and agency collaborations and to formalize services to all qualifying citizens of the Amesbury community. This will be achieved by the implementation of the Pettengill House Therapeutic System of Care approach (see attached materials) providing direct services, comprehensive case management and interventions through a streamlined, community collaborative approach which supports equal access and best practices for Amesbury residents: providing best practices, and expertise, avoiding duplication of services, and be most cost effective. Programs and interventions will address health and well being, physical and mental health, individual and family stabilization, shelter and housing interventions, basic needs and crisis interventions.

The second identified gap to be addressed in this request is the Opioid crisis and substance addiction epidemic. Funds from this request will formalize services with the Police Department to address and support opioid and substance addiction within the Amesbury community. In 2016 seven deaths were attributed to this crisis in Amesbury. Massachusetts officials report more than 2,000 people died from opioid-related overdoses last year, as the focus of the epidemic continues to shift toward the synthetic drug fentanyl. Data from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health shows an average of more than 5 deaths per day during 2016. Over the next year Pettengill House will implement supports and treatment to those struggling with addiction, assist their families as needed, provide interventions and stabilization, and establish communication between agencies; preventing further addiction and providing follow-up outreach services. This formalized collaboration with Police and Pettengill House will establish a pilot program to determine the effectiveness of the approach toward identifying better service coordination across all client sectors for a multitude of issues. Beyond these services the end result will be recommendations in the form of a report outlining steps for a comprehensive social service network that

closes service gaps and moves toward coordinating resources across agencies while addressing crucial impacts on society from issues such as Opioid addiction.

**Be it Ordered by the City Council of the City of Amesbury assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:**

That \$20,000 is hereby appropriated from the Smart Growth Stabilization fund (7301) for facilitation and provision of social services.

Councilor Donna McClure motioned to approve 2017-085. Councilor Mary Louise Bartley seconded. A roll call vote was taken and it was unanimous (9 present).

Witness my hand and seal for the City of Amesbury this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

11/21/2017  
Date