“Norfolk Mayor and City Officials Doused with Ice-Challenge Columbus”

The Ice Bucket Challenge now goes to Columbus City officials. Norfolk City Mayor Sue Fuchtman made the challenge to the neighboring city shortly before she and other Norfolk City officials got dumped on Friday with a loader bucket of ice water.

“This is a great cause and we’re happy to take some icy water for ALS. Now we’ll look to Columbus to see if the mayor, council and staff there are up for the Ice Bucket Challenge,” Fuchtman said.

The Ice Bucket Challenge is a fundraising campaign that has gone viral with people getting ice dumped on them to raise funds for and awareness of ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis). Before a person gets the ice water dumped on them, they nominate some one else to take the Ice Bucket Challenge. People also donate money to the ALS cause to get out of the Challenge or in addition to getting ice poured on them. The video of the Ice Challenge is then usually posted on the Internet. Over $53.3 million has been raised since the Ice Bucket Challenge began. Nearly $300 was raised for the ALS cause by City officials at Friday’s event.

Taking the icy water deluge along with the mayor were City Council members Corey Granquist, Jim Lange, Shane Clausen, Thad Murren, Dave Fauss, and Dick Pfeil; City Administrator Shane Weidner; City Staff members Jim McKenzie, Beth Deck, Scott Cordes, Dennis Watts, Sheila Schukei, Jessica Chamberlain, Randy Gates, Courtney Denkinger, Dennis Smith, Julie Drahota, Melissa Drevecky, Deb Johnson and Marsha Brown.

According to the ALSA website ALS is a disease which affects the nerve cells in the brain and spinal cord that control voluntary muscle movement. The disease causes degeneration of the motor neurons. When the neurons die, the ability of the brain to control muscle movement is lost. The disease, commonly referred to as Lou Gehrig’s disease, kills more than 5,000 Americans per year. For more information go to http://alsa.org.