



MINUTES

**Committee on Ways and Means
Friday, August 23, 2019 @ 8:30 a.m.
10th Floor Conference Room, City Hall**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Patricia Spitzley, Chair
Council Member Peter Spadafore, Vice Chairperson - excused
Council Member Kathie Dunbar, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

LaSondra Crenshaw, Administrative Assistant
Eric Brewer, Council Internal Auditor
Joe Abood – City Attorney
Amber Paxton – Office of Financial Empowerment
Lisa Hagen – Council Legal Analyst

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER DUNBAR TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 26, 2019 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment

No public comment

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; National League of Cities / JP Morgan Chase and Co. Grant for “Cities Addressing Fines and Fees Equitably”

Ms. Paxton stated the national league of cities came out of Ferguson work. It went to four or five different departments to see how they could assess fees. First part will be data analysis, upon approval from council they will use data from ordinance violations and map by geography based on where the person lives, race, gender, income (information from census data). She advised that Hispanic is not an option for officers to choose, however they are working to see if this could be changed.

Ms. Paxton advised that \$8000.00 would be used for a researcher from MSU, should ask software vendor to pull data currently working with Anethia Brewer on this. In addition, \$2000.00 will be used to purchase gift cards for focus groups. Ms. Paxton stated there is no corporate match

Council Member Spitzley asked if they consulted with departments before applying for these grants. Ms. Paxton advised they consulted with the Fire department, Treasury, Parking, and Courts. Council Member Spitzley suggested they consult with the Lansing Police Department, as this will directly affect them.

Next step is looking at potential policy changes.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER DUNBAR TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES / JP MORGAN CHASE AND CO. GRANT FOR CITIES ADDRESSING FINES AND FEES EQUITABLY. MOTION CARRIED 2-0

DISCUSSION – Budget Priorities

Council Member Spitzley stated they would like to discuss how we could address things through Ways & Means to make it more meaningful. Council Member Dunbar stated the current Budget Priorities List is concerning and Council Member Spitzley agreed.

OTHER

No other topics of discussion

ADJOURN

Adjourn at 9:25 a.m.

Submitted by,

LaSondra Crenshaw, Administrative Assistant

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on Friday Sept 13, 2019