



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Monday, August 9, 2021 @ 4:30 p.m.
Lansing City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Members Present

Council Member Carol Wood, Chair
Council Member, Adam Hussain, Vice Chair
Council Member Peter Spadafore, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, City Council Office Manager
Lisa Hagen, OCA
Eric Brewer, Internal Auditor
Joe Abood, OCA
Jake Brower, Budget Director
Nick Tate, Deputy Mayor
Joe McClure, LPD
DeLisa Fountain, EDP

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JULY 16, 2021 WITH AMENDMENTS TO FIRST ACTION ITEM, IN FIRST LINE TO INCLUDE "AWARDED \$50,000 TO PERFORM THE STUDY AND PREPARE FOR..." MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Emergency Carryforwards FY2020/2021

Mr. Tate informed the Committee this was started with the discussions on gun violence and mutual connections to organizations that help with the youth. In their research, they looked at which organizations were doing the work now and reached out to those. Out of that research came five (5) areas to focus on; athletics, mentorship, athlete interaction, STEM/STEAM, after school activities and community organizations. Prior to participating in program, they were asked to make sure they were a non-profit, they needed to submit a copy of the By Laws and Articles of Incorporation, provide a proof filed with IRS 990, and a list of their accomplishments. In addition the submission must include an agreement to utilize funds in the City of Lansing.

Council Member Wood asked where the \$180,000 come from. Mr. Brower detailed that the funds were compiled from the savings from the FY2020/2021 budget. That included \$80,000 from LPD, \$60,000 from the Mayor's budget and \$40,000 from Parks and Recreation.

Ms. Fountain detailed for the Committee that some of the organizations want to work with the youth, but do not have their 501c3 and these grants would help. Most of the organizations chosen have already created success in the community. The Committee asked for a list of the smaller organizations. Ms. Fountain was not able to provide the list at this time but the funds would be between \$1,000 - \$2,000, and currently for the large portions they do not have a list of organizations yet. Council Member Wood noted that if the funds can be used to rent the parks and recreation, in the end then the funds from Parks would be going right back to them. Ms. Fountain stated the City fees will be waived for use of the City venues.

Council Member Spadafore asked if the resolution can be altered by Council or only by the Mayor. He added he had determined there was \$25,000 in the Council budget for an addition to the funds. Council Member Wood stated in the case of this resolution with funds, Council can either vote for or against, and Mr. Abood confirmed.

Mr. Tate outlined some of the organizations they will work with:

(1) Mentorship

Turning Point of Lansing

Petals and Pinecones

Building Child and Family Institute

(2) After School Activities

South Side Community Coalition

YMCA of Lansing (pending receipt of requested documentation)

(3) Athletics

Lansing Kappa Foundation

(4) Science Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics (STEAM) /Science, Entrepreneurship, Agriculture and Math (SEAM)

Next Young Phenom Foundation

Mikey 23 Foundation (pending receipt of documentation)

(5) Small Community Organizational Fund

Distributed through DNCE and DeLisa Fountain

Lastly, Mr. Tate made the Committee aware that they are still speaking to community partnerships with YMCA and Mikey 23.

Council Member Wood noted asked if it would be beneficial to reduce the parks fees for their activities to increase their membership, instead of spending those funds towards these organizations. Council Member Spadafore spoke in support of the funding, because to reduce the fees in parks programs, then they are hoping more residents register with the Parks and Recreation, this way the money gets out towards the community.

Mr. Abood relayed a communication he had with the Parks Director where it was stated there is currently a low number of staff, therefore they are struggling to have some programs because there are not enough adults to supervise.

Council Member Wood asked if there was a timeline in these contracts that they have to spend the funds by the end of this Fiscal Year (6/30/2022). Mr. Tate stated they do not have a timeline but expect they will be spent when they get the funds, and used over the summer.

Ms. Fountain assured the Committee they will encourage residents to participate in the Parks and Recreation programs, however there are some barriers and a staffing shortage, and in this case the organizations they are working with are already in hot spots.

Mr. Brewer asked Mr. Tate if the funds are awarded will the organizations have a contract or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Mr. Tate acknowledged they can have a MOU to make sure funds are used in a timeline. Council Member Wood encouraged the Administration to review the current HRCS contracts as a template.

Ms. Fountain confirmed for the Committee that for the smaller organizations they will be using the same agreements that are used for their Neighborhood Advisory Grants as their template, and asking for timelines and receipts, and will have preference for local vendors.

Council Member Wood asked where the \$80,000 in the LPD budget came from. Mr. McClure confirmed it was from line item for School Crossing Guards, where they were not used in the last fiscal year. Council Member Wood confirmed that that task is required by the State, so by not having to use crossing guards in the last FY, then funds are available.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER HUSSAIN TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE EMERGENCY CARRYFORWARDS FOR FY2020/2021. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on August 20, 2021