



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Monday, May 23, 2022 @ 4:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Spadafore called the meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Peter Spadafore, Chair
Council Member Jeremy Garza, Vice Chair- excused
Council Member Carol Wood, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Lisa Hagen, OCA
Jim Smiertka, OCA
Jake Brower, Finance
Amber Paxton, Financial Empowerment
Luciana Solis, Mayors Office
Jane Bias DiSessa, Mayor's Office
Emily Linden, Finance
Anethia Brewer, District Court
Bill Brunner, Public Service
Judge Buchannan, District Court
Mark Lawrence, Mayor's Office
Lucianna Solis, Mayor's Office
Jane Bias – DiSessa, Mayor's Office
Lorenzo Lopez, Suits in the City
Council Member Brown
Stephanie Blandford, District Court
Bill Brunner, Public Service
DeLisa Fountain
Cameron Burns, Mayors for a Guaranteed Income, via Ms. Paxton TEAMS
Kathrine Cagat, Mayors for a Guaranteed Income, via Ms. Paxton TEAMS

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM MAY 4, 2022 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment

Mr. Lopez spoke on the ARPA act and how the items were chosen for the list, and his frustration on the list of projects were not diverse.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Eviction Diversion Initiative

Ms. Brewer made introductions and summarized the diversion program. This grant was applied for and the District Court made the cut of receiving the grant. Ms. Blandford noted the court was selected as 1 of 12 courts. They will pull together agencies to work together and keep people in their homes. Once people get to the courts they are able to provide them with a facilitator.

Council Member Spadafore 100% funding, and Ms. Blandford stated it is in their commitment to sustain after years three and four. Ms. Brewer stated they will work with a team monthly and other jurisdictions. Mr. Smiertka stated he did not see anything after 2 years after 2 years.

Council Member Wood asked if this is a contract position and Ms. Brewer confirmed, but they would look for employee in the future.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT ACCEPTANCE FOR THE EVICTION DIVERSION INITIATIVE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

PLACE ON FILE – Sole Source Purchase; Public Service Department requests Hamlett Engineering Sales Co. as the vendor for two ISCO 5800 Samplers

Mr. Brunner explained the equipment, and the need for the items to continue their testing process. The current samplers are old, cannot get parts for them, and with a purchase of the new one the employees are trained on their use and maintenance.

Council Member Wood asked OCA if there was a contract on this. Mr. Smiertka stated he was not sure but there could be a purchase order. Mr. Brunner stated there should be a purchase order. Council Member Wood stated if the ordinance requires, she asked OCA to confirm it is on file.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER WOOD TO PLACE ON FILE. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Presentation-ARPA Spending Plan Presentation – Office of Financial Empowerment

Ms. Paxton outlined the need for low income families and the ways to address on levels to be replicated to help residents. The proposal is for the Guaranteed Income Pilot of \$1 million, with \$500,000 in FY 22/23 and \$500,000 FY23/24. Ms. Paxton stated they are not looking to sustain this, but to gather data to impact State and Federal policy.

Council Member Spadafore asked what happens to the families that are granted this, when the money runs out. Ms. Paxton stated that the City perspective is financial counseling and part of the offerings integrated. Council Member Spadafore asked about the debt number, and Ms. Paxton stated everything is considered but the mortgage.

Council Member Wood voiced her concern that of the \$49,924,664 they have set aside \$1,100,094 to balance the budget and there is the recent \$2 million for the recent premium pay. So there is \$27 million and with the recent audit of the fleet; to bring them to standards, they need \$31 million. With the potential of a recession there might not be another opportunity to utilize dollars. She acknowledged the program sounds noteworthy, however Council has to balance the fact and address the needs. After looking at the potential appropriations, there might not be funds

left to complete what needs to be done. Ms. Paxton stated that fleet is not an allowable use of ARPA funds, and guaranteed income is an allowable use. Council Member Wood referenced the ARAP spreadsheet provided by the Mayor for spending, noting it listed vehicles. Mr. Brower confirmed that fleet is “tricky” but there are specific equipment that are eligible. Council Member Wood pointed out that they need more than \$2 million needed for fleet. Mr. Brower suggested freeing up GF dollars to address those needs.

Council Member Spadafore asked what the Lansing eligibility numbers were, and Ms. Paxton stated they would not be using income as a requirement, but the neighborhoods. She added that they have not finalized eligibility, but looking at a neighborhood focus; specifically Willow, Walnut, Comstock, Baker the area around Holmes.

Mr. Burns spoke briefly and confirmed they do not have the data to authority on how the recipients fared after 24 months after last payment, and won’t get that until January 2023.

Mr. Smiertka stated the OCA has spoken on the authority with federal law for this program on the guaranteed income.

DISCUSSION – Resolution on American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) 2nd Traunch Budget Appropriation

Council Member Spadafore informed the Committee that Public Service, LPD and LFD will be present at the Special meeting on June 6, 2022 to provide details on the items effecting their department on the spreadsheet for this spending.

Council Member Wood referenced an Appendix C from the US Treasury that Mr. Brower sent in an email earlier today. Mr. Brower acknowledged the document which listed the Category and if programmatic Data was associated to certain categories of spending. This was provided for Council guidance on the \$2 million in the funding for them to consider.

Council Member Spadafore reminded the Administration of the request from the Committee on May 4, 2022 for a summary of each item in the list from the Mayor. He again asked for it by the next meeting; June 6th.

Other

No further discussion items.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee June 6, 2022