



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Monday, July 10, 2023 @ 4:30 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

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

PRESENT

Council Member Peter Spadafore, Chair- excused
Council Member Carol Wood, Vice Chair
Council Member Brian T. Jackson, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Lisa Hagen -Lawrence, OCA
Greg Venker, OCA
Emily Linden, Internal Auditor
Barb Kimmel, EDP
Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM JUNE 26, 2023, AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Grant Application; HOME Investment Partnership Program American Rescue Plan (HOME ARP)For Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP)

Ms. Kimmel outlined the project by informing the Committee that this is for \$349,383 and will be utilized for rent and financial assistance for those that qualify for HOME ARP special populations. This will be used for assistance up to 6 months' rent and in the rears in the rent.

Council Member Jackson noted that with 6 months in the rear, the landlord could be in the process of eviction and asked if there is anything in the works to address if the funds are paid but the landlord still evicts. Ms. Kimmel stated that she was not aware of anything but would look into it. The funds do not go to the tenant directly, but the landlord so there may be an agreement with payment. The city is the fiduciary and the organization that is the recipient would be responsible

for the agreement. Council Member Jackson acknowledged that there should be an agreement, but the terms might not be in place. Ms. Kimmel confirmed there is an agreement, but not sure.

Council Member Wood referred to paragraph 3 in the resolution which notes “maintain existing housing or those without housing.”. Ms. Kimmel the condition to accept would be not evict, but if they go back to not paying this would not stop eviction then. This is part of the HPP grant which is the homelessness prevention program and they want to preserve peoples housing.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT FOR HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN (HOME ARP) FOR HOMELESSNESS PREVENTIONS PROGRAM (HPP). MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; HOME-ARP funds awarded by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority for Housing Navigation Program (HNP)

Ms. Kimmel explained to the Committee that this grant is \$150,000 paying for housing navigation activities, specifically case management to finding suitable housing for eligible households linked to the voucher programs. Services include robust search, completion of eligibility paperwork, annual recertifications to maintain eligible, and landlord mediation.

Council Member Jackson asked who the case manager goes to, and Ms. Kimmel stated the city is the fiduciary and based to the COC approved organization and not sure if they have chosen that organization. Council Member Jackson noted there is not enough homes for people to move, and if they cannot find a spot ~~who~~ how hard do they try. Ms. Kimmel stated she assumes the COC will take a look at the results and choose another grant recipient. The COC is Continuum of Care made up of non-profits.

Ms. Linden asked if 10% admin cost for being the fiduciary, and Ms. Kimmel confirmed the city does get it and does not pass it along to the COC. Council Member Wood noted that part of reporting back is how they did placement, and that reporting is to MSHDA. The city monitors onsite monitoring and case monitoring.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT FOR HOME ARP FUNDS BY MSHDA FOR HOUSING NAVIGATION PROGRAM. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Shelter Division Pilot

Ms. Kimmel outlined to the Committee that this grant is for \$500,000 that is a onetime two year diversion pilot program. It is awarded to Child and Family and Advent House, and along with COC they are expanding their shelter programs. The funds will be utilized to help housing where families can reside in host homes while they maintain counseling to move towards further permanent housing options. This helps over burdened shelters. There will be an additional 300 households to be served under this grant.

Council Member Jackson has heard concerns with agencies in COC, and why is it the same groups. Ms. Kimmel stated that Advent House and Child and Family Charities applied for the program and it was awarded by MSHDA, so MSHDA made the choice.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT FOR MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY SHELTER DIVISION PILOT. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Priority Health and National Fitness Campaign Grant; Parks and Recreation Department

Mr. Kaschinske stated to the Committee that this grant was done before, and this is for the fitness area at McGuire Park. This would be for Washington Park, and the amount of City funds of \$30,000 for concrete pad that will come out of the park millage account. The amount could be decreased if there are sponsorships, and they will work on the campaign for that to decrease the City match.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT FOR PRIORITY HEALTH AND NATIONAL FITNESS CAMPAIGN GRANT; PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT. MOTION CARRIED 2-0.

OTHER

No other topics at this time.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary,
Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on July 24, 2023 as corrected.