



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Thursday, December 5, 2024 @ 3:00 p.m.
City Council Conference Room

CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Spadafore called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

PRESENT

Council Member Peter Spadafore, Chair
Council Member Tamera Carter, Vice Chair
Council Member Jeffrey Brown, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager
Charles Randall, Internal Auditor
Greg Venker, OCA
Lisa Hagen-Lawrence, OCA
Chief Backus, LPD
Anethia Brewer, 54 A District Court
Judge Ward, 54 A District Court
Brett Kaschinske, Parks and Recreation
DeLisa Fountain; Neighborhoods and Citizen Engagement
Ken Ley, LFD

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER BROWN TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 7, 2024 ON FILE. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Discussion/Action:

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Priority Health and National Fitness Campaign Grant for outdoor gym at Davis Park

Mr. Kaschinske stated this is the 3rd outdoor gym to be installed in a park; one currently at Stabenow Park and one at McQuire. There will be a matching cost to the City, but the grant itself is \$50,000. The total equipment cost is \$120,000, and up to \$50,000 for concrete pad plus install. This request is to accept the \$50,000 grant, for placement at Davis Park on the Pleasant Grove side of the park.

Mr. Randall had no comments.

Council Member Brown asked if the City portion of \$70,000 was in the budget and Mr. Kaschinske confirmed it was in the budget and set aside.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER CARTER TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT ACCEPTANCE FROM PRIORITY HEALTH AND NATIONAL FITNESS FOR OUTDOOR PARK AT DAVIS PARK. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION- Grant Acceptance; Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) Grant for hiring of additional firefighters

Mr. Lay, Assistant Fire Chief in charge of operations for LFD, explained they are hopes in accepting the FEMA grant for funds over the next 3 years. There is no match, and they hope to fill current vacancies and upcoming vacancies from retirements.

The resolution was missing from the packet and the grant form was incorrect noting items not for this grant. Chief Lay was asked to send the updated grant form to Council office staff.

Council Member Spadafore discharged the grant acceptance resolution to the Committee of the Whole for action on Monday, 12/16/2024.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Firearms Prohibition Enforcement Project

Ms. Brewer and Judge Ward outlined the firearm prohibition project where Lansing was selected of 2 sites in Michigan as a demonstration project. It was determined that the Court will take the lead for the \$550,000 over three(3) years with no match. The first year can be spent on planning and the funders are not looking for deliverables in the first year.

Council Member Randall asked for match and amount clarifications.

Judge Ward stated that the funds for Lansing is \$550,000 over three (3) years, and they asked for a draft budget. Council Member Spadafore asked if the resolution could be amended to state “up to \$550,000”. Judge Ward noted for the first year they have \$127,555, but the next years could be more based on serves, but they know they cannot spend more that \$550,000 over three years. Council Member Spadafore asked if there is a grant award letter stating the City got \$550,000, and Judge Ward state no.

Mr. Randall stated the State is only in the contract form, and Judge Ward added that this years contract is only \$127,555. Ms. Hagen-Lawrence stated that is should be included in their upcoming budget.

Judge Ward noted that the contractor and equipment is unknown at this time. Council Member Spadafore stated that if more funds are requested, then Council will have to approve those changes. If the funds come before the normal cycle, there would be a budget amendment.

Council Member Carter asked about the project coordinator. Judge Ward stated that with law enforcement being involved they would have an understanding.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER CARTER TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT ACCEPTANCE FOR FIREARMS PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Workers Compensation Settlement Claim WC#2062876-01759-001

Ms. Hagen-Lawrence explained the resolution for granting of a settlement in the amount of \$101,134.30. The claimant will not return to work and is retired on duty disability. Because of that they were not offered another job in another department. Since they have already been approved for duty disability, they have been collecting that and this will be a full and final complete redemption.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER CARTER TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE WORKERS COMPENSATION SETTLEMENT CLAIM WC#2062876-01759-001. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) Community Policing Grant

Chief Backus explained the operation through the State of Michigan MCOLES, and this grant started in October 2024 and will run through 2026. There is no local match, and the funds will be used for polling and community crime reduction, and to pay for problematic areas for the Lansing 360 effort. The funding will cover 2 years.

Council Member Spadafore asked if this can be used for work that has already been done with the 360 efforts, and the Chief explained it cannot be used for officer overtime. The funds they have used over the last 2 years were ARAP funds and now these funds will allow them to continue with the program for the next 2 years.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER CARTER TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE MCOLES COMMUNITY POLICING GRANT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Office of Highway Safety Planning Grant for message signs

Chief Backus acknowledged that this will be for more than message signs. This is for \$330,000 to fund 900 hours of preventive officer efforts to focus on non-motorized safety, and distracted driving. The grant will cover 2 speed alert and message signs as well.

Council Member Carter asked what would be used for distractive driving, and the Chief stated it would be enforcement efforts in addressing texting and driving.

Council Member Spadafore asked how many signs are currently being used for this in the city. Chief confirmed there are probably over 30 currently attached to signs, but those are not connected to Wi-Fi. These signs have Wi-Fi capability that will be able to provide them with the information they need.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER CARTER TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR GRANT ACCEPTANCE FROM OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY PLANNING FOR MESSAGE SIGNS. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Presentations

DeLisa Fountain – Update on Office of Neighborhood Safety

Ms. Fountain first apologized for scheduling issues over the past couple months.

Council Member Brown asked if she could come back at a future meeting with a written update.

Council Member Spadafore state this will be the last meeting for the Committee in 2024 and asked Ms. Fountain to provide a verbal update now.

Ms. Fountain stated she is actively working with HR on the new position of Office of Neighborhood Safety Coordinator who will be working with community-based organizations who are doing violence prevention work. They will also coordinate with LPD for their officers.

Council Member Spadafore encouraged her to work strongly with HR because when the mayor submits the budget this would need to be incorporated into it. He also encouraged to collaborate with the departments that presented earlier in the meeting on grants they are accepting for gun violence, firearm safety, domestic abuse and community policing.

Council Member Spadafore then asked Ms. Fountain to submit the document to Ms. Boak for her to forward onto the complete Committee.

OTHER

No other topics of discussion.

ADJOURN

Adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Submitted by, Sherrie Boak, Recording Secretary, Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on February 5, 2025