

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-13

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELLensburg, WASHINGTON

establishing a community support program in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak using the City's CARES Act funding allocation from the State of Washington.

WHEREAS, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-05 on February 29, 2020, which declared a State of Emergency for all counties throughout Washington state as a result of the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic outbreak; and

WHEREAS, Governor Inslee issued Proclamation 20-25, "Stay Home, Stay Healthy, on March 23, 2020, which was amended on April 2, 2020, and again on May 4, 2020 (Proclamation 20-25.3) to prohibit all people in Washington State from leaving their homes or participating in social, spiritual and recreational gatherings of any kind regardless of the number of participants, and all non-essential businesses in Washington State from conducting business, within the limitations therein, through May 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, the Ellensburg City Council declared a public health emergency in Ellensburg arising from the COVID-19 outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the President of the United States declared a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak; and

WHEREAS, section 601(a) of the Social Security Act, as added by section 5001 of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("CARES Act"), and the CARES Act established the Coronavirus Relief Fund (the "Fund") and appropriated \$150 billion to the Fund be used to make payments for specified uses to States and certain local governments; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ellensburg has been notified by the Washington State Department of Commerce that its share of the Fund will be approximately \$598,800.00, and that such funds may only be used for certain uses as provided in the CARES Act, including but not limited to:

- Expenses associated with COVID-19 testing, contact tracing and emergency housing required for those persons needing to be isolated or quarantined;
- Expenditures are necessary due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19, including purchases such as personal protective equipment, sanitation or similar supplies;
- The provision of grants to small businesses to reimburse for the costs of business interruption caused by closures;
- Consumer grants to prevent eviction assist in preventing homelessness;
- Emergency financial assistance to individuals and families directly impacted by a loss of income due to the COVID-19 outbreak;
- To assist utility account holders facing economic hardship resulting from the COVID-19 outbreak;

- The costs of increased workers compensation coverage for first responders;
- Subsidize payments by utility account holders who are facing economic hardships so they may continue to receive essential utility services;
- Paying for unemployment insurance costs incurred by the City as an employer;
- Expenses of providing paid sick and paid family and medical leave to public employees to enable compliance with COVID-19 public health precautions; and
- Any other purpose authorized under federal or state law.

WHEREAS, the City has already committed payment of up to \$149,700 from the City's allocation of CARES Act funding from the State to the Kittitas County Health Department for the purposes stated in Resolution 2020-12, leaving a balance of up to \$449,100 to be used for other uses permitted by the CARES Act; and

WHEREAS, disruptions to workers and small businesses are serious, as small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and provide the foundation of employment, services for the community, and revenue for cities and other public agencies to continue to provide essential services for the public welfare and benefit; and

WHEREAS, citizens who have lost their primary source of income may be unable to afford to stay home or practice social distancing which could have a negative impact on the public's health; and

WHEREAS, the Ellensburg City Council recognizes that one of its essential functions is to secure the health and welfare of Ellensburg's citizens; and

WHEREAS, resources are necessary to help small businesses survive and certain small businesses reasonably require public aid in order to survive; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the Ellensburg City Council do resolve as follows:

Section 1. The "Whereas" provisions set forth above are hereby incorporated in this Resolution as findings in support of the actions authorized in this Resolution.

Section 2. The City Council hereby authorizes the formation of a City Council subcommittee to determine how the City's remaining CARES Act funding should be distributed, and the requirements, application, review and distribution of such funds (the "CARES Act Funding Subcommittee"). The subcommittee shall consist of three councilmembers and two representatives appointed by the Ellensburg Business Development Authority/CenterFuse.

Section 3. The CARES Act Funding Subcommittee shall also evaluate and recommend to City Council a process for distribution of the City's CARES Act funding, including the potential to contract with a third party for the intake of applications and distribution of funding upon approval by the City.

Section 4. The CARES Act Funding Subcommittee shall report back to City Council at its earliest opportunity for review and approval of the subcommittee's recommendations.

Section 5. The provisions of this Resolution shall become effective upon adoption and shall continue until further formal action of the City Council.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ellensburg this 18th day of May, 2020.

8/1/
Bruce Fahey (May 19, 2020 08:44 PDT)

MAYOR

Beth Leader

Attest: Beth Leader (May 19, 2020 08:35 PDT)

City Clerk

Resolution 2020-13 - CARES Community Fund

Final Audit Report

2020-05-19

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