



MINUTES
Committee on Ways and Means
Monday, January 27, 2020 @ 4:00 p.m.
10th Floor Conference Room, City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Carol Wood, Chair
Council Member Peter Spadafore, Vice Chairperson
Council Member Brian T Jackson, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, City Council Office Manager
Lisa Hagen, Assistant City Attorney/Council Research Assistant
Eric Brewer, Council Internal Auditor
Amber Paxton, Financial Empowerment
Emily Stevens, Parks and Recreation
Joe McClure, LPD
Sgt. Schlagel, LPD
Jim Smiertka, City Attorney

Minutes

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 28, 2019 AS PRESENTED. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

Discussion/Action

RESOLUTION – National League of Cities; Addressing Fines & Fees Equitably Grant

Ms. Paxton acknowledged that the City received part one of this grant in July 2019 for \$10,000. She then provided details on the grant which included specifics on the program in conjunction with 54-A District Court on debt related cases. They have posted an RFP for restoration justice and currently have been impressed with the submissions. Ms. Paxton went on to state that this grant will be used to off-set staff time on the project, and the balance will be used for incentive dollars for those effected by the debt which is preventing them from getting their driver's license back if they participate in the financial empowerment center program. Council Member Jackson

asked if there were an initial results on how many people will be impacted, and Ms. Paxton stated they are looking at the violations because of unpaid debt, and their research shows in Lansing there are 70% male, 53% African American and well over half are under the age of 30. Council Member Jackson then asked about the Restorative Justice Program itself, and stated it is a support circle and this grant will be only for those people affected by an arrest because of fines and costs. Council Member Jackson asked if they have looked at the recent study done by the State of Michigan Task Force, and Ms. Paxton noted they will be working with a researcher from MSU who was paid out of the 1st portion of the grant and she will be incorporating the State information into her findings. Council Member Wood asked how waiving the fees would impact the budget where they have noted they will take in fees. Ms. Paxton stated it would be minimum because there about 150 maximum of the 1800 cases and fines are not being waived but the fees are. Council Member Jackson asked if they considered extending the program to include “No License on Person” cases, and Ms. Paxton confirmed she had not considered that but would look into it. Council Member Wood noted the grant form stated there was no City match and Ms. Paxton confirmed they are using current staff.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES EQUIABLY GRANT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Lansing Parks and Recreation w/Lansing Police Department; Project Safe Neighborhood

Ms. Stevens stated this grant will work with the current LPD Basketball programs on Friday and Saturday evenings in the summer and the program also extends to indoors during the winter months for after school programs. The grant will cover LPD cost, staff cost, the gym use, court use, prizes and food. Council Member Wood asked for confirmation that there is no City match, and Ms. Steven confirmed along with noting the source of the grant will be the Battle Creek Community Foundation. The Committee and applicants spoke briefly about statistics on attendance and Mr. McClure stated he would get the numbers to the Committee. Council Member Wood asked about conditions on participants meeting or being out after curfew and Ms. Stevens noted they had not had any issues in the past but would reach out to LPD for further details on if they have something in place.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS AND RECREATION GRANT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Lansing Police Department; Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant

Mr. McClure informed the Committee that this grant was also from the Battle Creek Community Foundation, along with the US Attorney office. It is a Federal grant with no match, encouraging community engagement with LPD on the “LPD and Me Workshop” which assists the youth between the ages of 8-15; a maximum of 25 students to be trained in law enforcement. The grant will also go towards Hoop-It-Up where the LPD officers participate in open basketball games with the youth and are provided with a basketball hoop and basketball to use. Other programs the grant will go towards is a health and fitness club for 8-16 year olds on staying fit and health, pairing them with an officer to work out with twice a week. Lastly funds will also be used to print 3,000 welcome packets for distribution, and “Light up Lansing” where they will pass out light bulbs. Council Member Jackson asked who in the LPD would be in charge of these programs and was told Officer Osborn.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT FOR LPD. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Lansing Police Department; Sub-Recipient of MSP for Byrne Justice Assistance Grant

Mr. McClure informed the Committee that the grant of \$133,200 will not have a City match, goes through 9/30/2020 and the items it will purchase include video analytics software, video processor hardware, and is also part of the technology enhancement grant. Council Member Wood referenced the grant form and asked if it was awarded in October, but the Committee is just seeing it, and Council Member Spadafore confirmed that this Committee did not meet again in 2019 after it was awarded and this was the first Committee meeting. Mr. McClure assured the Committee that no purchases have been made as of yet.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

RESOLUTION – Grant Acceptance; Lansing Police Department; 2019 Justice Assistance Grant

Mr. McClure noted this is the annual JAG grant and out of the \$116,680 the County will get \$11,226. The City will use their funds to purchase uniform upgrades and redaction software. Mr. McClure could not provide any details on what the County would be using their funds for. Council Member Jackson noted in the past software purchases were made that did not sync with currently equipment, and he asked if they had done the research to make sure this purchase would be compatible. Mr. McClure noted that before they purchase it they will screen for compatibility with current programs. Council Member Wood asked if they have to get IT approval first, and Mr. McClure confirmed that IT has been involved already with all their software and computer purchases. Mr. Brewer referred the Committee to the packet noting the vetting documentation was all included.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION FOR THE 2019 JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT. MOTION CARRIED 3-0.

Sole Source Purchase; Lansing Police Department; Action Target Inc. vendor for Bullet Traps at Lansing Police Firearms Range

Sgt. Schlagel explained the sole source was to replace two traps that catch rounds in the shooting range because they were unsafe. This vendor is the sole vendor due to the fact that their equipment is outdated and they are the only vendors that have the replacement parts. Sgt. Schlagel confirmed the purchase was made on January 8, 2020. Council Member Wood asked Sgt. Schlagel to provide any updates on the current condition of the shooting range itself. Sgt. Schlagel acknowledged it was building 1999, some of the equipment had a 10 year life expectancy and confirmed the range does need some updating. Per this vendor the cost for a complete upgrade could come in at \$830,000, and would not include the removal of the current system.

Council Member Spadafore stepped away from the meeting at 4:29 p.m.

Sgt. Schlagel informed the Committee that currently he was not able to put a life cycle on the current condition of the range, but weather and other factors take a toll on them.

Council Member Spadafore returned to the meeting at 4:31 p.m.

MOTION BY COUNCIL MEMBER SPADAFORE TO PLACE ON FILE THE SOLE SOURCE FOR LPD AND ACTION TARGET, INC. 3-0.

Council Member Wood asked Sgt. Schlagel to provide an overview on the current range to the Committee in the future. Mr. McClure added to the conversation that there is a request in the 2021 budget for replacement.

ADJOURN

Adjourn at 4:35 p.m.

Submitted by,

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager

Lansing City Council

Approved by the Committee on February 14, 2020