

May 17, 2021

Members present: Daniels, Schaber, Meade

With a quorum present, Daniels called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

Minutes

Schaber made a motion to approve minutes of 05/03/2021; Meade 2nd; Roll Call: Ayes – Daniels, Schaber, Meade; Nays – none.

Minutes of 05/03/2021 approved (3-0)

Old Business -- none

New Business

Item 1. Discussion of the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Guidance.

Service Director Chaffin presented a concise summary of the 151-page ARPA guidance, as well as some FAQs, and webinars. The state will apply and then funds flow to county and then on to the City. That may take 120 days to accomplish. The CEO (the Mayor) applies for, accepts, and administers program. An application is required. It is projected that Marion City may receive an estimated \$7.3 million in two separate installments one year apart. States and local governments cannot restrict the expenditure of funds beyond the treasury guidance. She went over the allowable use categories, as well as examples of expenditures. She also reviewed the ineligible uses. All use must comply with 2 CFR 200 et seq. They have not received guidance from OMB and the treasurer's office, but are expecting more for municipalities. There is a reporting responsibility, like with the CARES Act.

She asked council members to reach out to her to discuss ideas for projects so that they do not lose track. There is interest in using funds for slum and blight and she is watching for eligible uses.

Mr. Feliciano asked if this is something new and will it occur again. Is this a one time or will we get it in future years. Chaffin explained that this is a one-time program with two payouts. We have through 2024 to complete projects and spending. They will be asking for some general fund appropriations for professional services so that they can get some engineering and design done on proposed projects. They will request reimbursements.

Mr. Feliciano asked if this is something that we can apply for again in two years. Chaffin responded no.

Mr. Schneider talked about the importance of spending these funds in a meaningful way so that this program could have a lasting impact that could serve our community for many years.

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Mr. Meade said that he thought council could agree to use a portion of the funds to tear down dilapidated houses. He felt this could make a lasting impact throughout the city.

Item 2. Auditor's Monthly Reports

Reports were available for review. They have collected \$1.5 mil more than they have spent through April. The other funds have collected \$3 mil more than they have spent. He offered to address questions.

Other Matters

It was reiterated from the legislation recently passed in council that the ARPA money would be spent as collectively agreed by the legislative body and administration.

Adjourn

With no other business, Daniels adjourned the meeting at 6:51 PM.

Chairman Daniels

Clerk of Council

Finance Committee Minutes

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