CITY OF MERIDEN APPROVED MINUTES SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING JULY 29, 2020

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:09 PM

THOSE PRESENT

Council Members: BJ Whiteman Floyd Cozadd Brian Smith

Dana Boyer, Mayor Lee Hendricks, City Attorney

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Boyer introduced the key topic of the special meeting as a discussion regarding SPARK Funding from the County. Lee Hendricks discussed with the Council the two methods of funding involved in this round of SPARK Funding from the County. First are reimbursements which include any and all COVID related costs which occurred between March 1 and July 31, 2020. Lee Hendricks introduced to the Council a spreadsheet he has created showing all of the reimbursements of the City and those provided by City businesses. The Mayor pointed out that the Ernest Spencer reimbursements were lacking and Lee Hendricks stated that he would update the form before submitting it to the County.

Lee Hendricks discussed that the City learned of this process a little over two weeks ago and in an effort to inform businesses, hand delivered letters to all of the brick and mortar storefronts in town to alert them of their ability to apply for reimbursement and future funding. Five businesses responded to that request and those businesses are all documented in the reimbursement form.

Lee Hendricks stated that both the reimbursement and the direct aid forms are due to the County on August 3, 2020, but he would like to have the reimbursement form in immediately. Mr. Hendricks discussed that he was advised by the County that his legal fees for the gathering and preparation of these spreadsheets were a reimbursement and therefore will be paid out of the SPARK Funding and not out of the taxpayer funds or city budgeted expenses. Mr. Hendricks then walked through the spreadsheet with the Council to insure there were no questions. The Council had no questions.

Mr. Hendricks then discussed direct funding and how the future expense needed to be tied to COVID related matters. He discussed that he was currently working on the spreadsheet which would include requests from the City and a few requests from businesses in town. Mr. Hendricks then walked through possible future direct expenses for the City put together by Mr. Hendricks, Matt Williams with the City maintenance staff and other City staff. The items on the list were discussed, as was a priority system for those items. Mr. Hendricks then discussed an additional item in the form of a business grant which the County had discussed in its SPARK meetings.

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NEW BUSINESS – CON'T

Mr. Hendricks stated that such grants would require an application process to prove that prior costs missed in the City's notice period and future costs put forth by businesses could be covered so long as an application was filled out, the business provided proof of those COVID related expenses either in the past or in the future, and the provided receipts for the same. The Council agreed that the grant plan would be a good idea to include in the direct aid list. The City then prioritized items for the list which Mr. Hendricks would be sending to the County.

Motion made by BJ Whiteman, seconded by Floyd Cozadd, to empower Lee Hendricks to finalize the direct aid spreadsheet and send a copy of the same on behalf of the City Council to the County. Motion passed 3-0.

CONTINUE OR ADJOURN THE MEETING

Motion made by Floyd Cozadd, seconded by Brian Smith, to adjourn meeting. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

| Jorni Lederar Assistant City Cle

Jerri Lederer, Assistant City Clerk

