

**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.

