



Colonial Heights City Council Meeting Agenda Item Executive Summary

City Council Meeting

MEETING TYPE: City Council Regular Meeting

MEETING DATE: June 9, 2020

ITEM: Summary of COVID-19 Grant Funding and Proposed Uses of Funds

DEPARTMENT: City Manager/Finance

PROPOSED ACTION: Staff discussion with City Council; and recommend City Council support/ approval of proposed uses of funds

BACKGROUND: The City of Colonial Heights has received (or will be receiving) COVID-19 related grant funds from various programs. The following is a summary of funding for the City, and the attached document provides an outline of initial proposed uses of funds (which will be updated as needed moving forward) and estimated amounts.

Federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)

The City has received \$1,515,466 in Federal funding through the Commonwealth of Virginia. CRF funds may only be used to cover costs that:

1. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
2. were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or government; and
3. were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.

CRF funds can only be used for direct costs associated with response to COVID-19 and cannot be used to make up for revenue shortfalls.

Staff has proposed multiple uses of funds as outlined in the attached document. One of the proposed uses is a Hazard Pay Program which is outlined in a separate attachment.

US Health and Human Services funding to EMS Transport Providers

The City received \$35,859.51 in HHS stimulus (part of the CARES Act) that sends an allotment proportional to the City's Medicaid funding, which we are receiving for EMS Transports.

CDBG CARES Supplemental Grant

In addition to the regular CDBG funds of \$105,797 that the City will receive for Program Year 20-21, the City is receiving \$62,237 in CDBG CARES Supplemental Grant Funding. One of the approved uses of this funding is for assistance with utility payments. Staff proposes the establishment of a program to assist residents with payment of City utility bills (this will be an item on the June 16 worksession).

FEMA

Certain expenditures by the City to respond to the COVID-19 Pandemic are eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

Types of eligible expenses include:

- Training specific to the declared event
- Disinfection of eligible public facilities
- Use of specialized medical equipment
- Purchase and distribution of food, water, ice, medicine, and other consumable supplies, to include personal protective equipment and hazardous material suits

The City will need to expend the \$1.5 million in CRF funding before utilizing FEMA funds for expenses.

Also, while not awarded directly to the City, the Cameron Foundation awarded our Volunteer Fire Department with over \$3,300 for purchase of specialized decontamination equipment for our medic units and fire stations.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funding for this item was included not included in the current-year budget N/A

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends Council support for the initial proposed uses of COVID-19 Grant Funds and approval to implement the proposed hazard pay program.

ATTACHMENTS: Summary of Proposed Uses of COVID-19 Grant Funds; Proposed Hazard Pay Program

- Staff will be making a detailed presentation on this agenda item at the meeting.**
- Staff will provide brief comments and answer questions on this item at the meeting.**
- This is a routine procedural item and no presentation is planned for the meeting.**

Councilmembers who have any detailed questions or would like to request additional information regarding this item are encouraged to contact the City Manager at their earliest convenience.