

CITY OF WILLIAMSPORT, PA RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION # 9048

DATE 7-9-20

TITLE

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A CARES ACT AMENDMENT TO THE 2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

WHEREAS, the City of Williamsport intends to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to receive \$609,271.00 in CARES Act funding to be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the City is required to amend its most recently approved annual Action Plan to account for the CARES Act funding; and

WHEREAS, HUD approved the City of Williamsport 2019 Action Plan on July 31, 2019; and

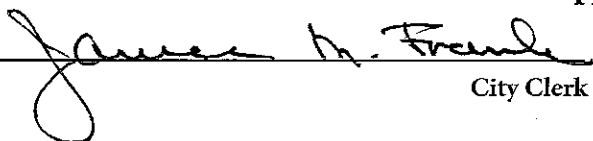
WHEREAS, in compliance with the HUD waiver dated May 22, 2020, which allowed for a five (5) day public comment period, the CARES Act amendment was available for public inspection from July 1, 2020 – July 9, 2020 and the comments of various agencies, groups and citizens were taken into consideration in the preparation of the final document.

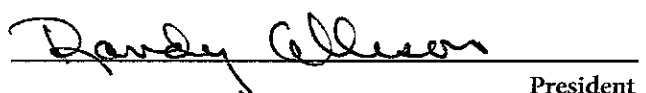
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILLIAMSPORT:

SECTION 1. That the CARES Act amendment for the FY 2019 Annual Action Plan CDBG Program is hereby in all respects approved and the City Clerk is hereby directed to file a copy of said amendment.

SECTION 2. That the Mayor and City Council are cognizant of the conditions that are imposed in the undertaking and carrying out of the Community Development Block Grant COVID funding (CDBG – CV) activities with federal financial assistance, including those relating to (a) the

Approved


City Clerk


President

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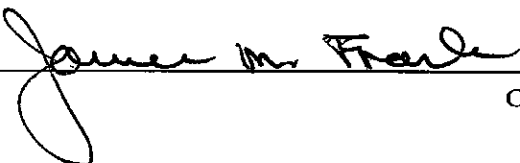
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relocation of site occupants, (b) the prohibition of discrimination because of race, color, age, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or national origin and other assurances as set forth under the certifications.

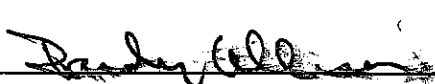
SECTION 3. That the Mayor on behalf of the City of Williamsport is authorized to file a CDBG-CV application for financial assistance with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and is further authorized to act as an authorized representative of the City of Williamsport to sign any and all documents in regard to these programs.

SECTION 4. That the Mayor on behalf of the City of Williamsport is hereby authorized to provide assurances and/or certifications as required by the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, and also any supplemental or revised data which the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development may request in connection with the review of this application.

Approved



City Clerk



President



CITY OF WILLIAMSPORT

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Derek Slaughter and Members of City Council
FROM: Stephanie P. Young
RE: **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE A CARES ACT AMENDMENT TO THE 2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN**
DATE: July 2, 2020

The City has been notified that it will be receiving CARES Act funding in the amount of \$609,271.00. The CARES Act funding is Community Development Block Grant funding (CDBG-CV) that must be used to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

In order to receive a grant contract for this funding, the City must prepare an amendment to the most recently approved annual Action Plan. HUD is still reviewing the 2020 annual Action Plan and has recommended that we amend the City's 2019 annual Action to account for the CDBG-CV funds.

The CDBG-CV funding must adhere to the CDBG requirements of benefitting persons in a low to moderate income range and be used to address the COVID-19 pandemic as referenced above. Funding also must not be a duplication of benefits and is intended to be used as gap funding.

We are proposing to allocate \$559,271.00 to public service activities. Local non-profits that benefit a low to moderate income population will be given an opportunity to apply for funding, similar to the process that takes place during the development of the annual Action Plan. Organizations that are selected for funding will enter into a subrecipient agreement with the City.

We are proposing to allocate \$50,000 to a Microenterprise Loan program for COVID-19 related projects. This program has been in existence in the City since 1997. The Microenterprise Loan Program provides credit for the establishment, stabilization and expansion of a microenterprise.

HUD defines a microenterprise as "a commercial enterprise that has five or fewer employees, one or more of whom owns the enterprise". To qualify for the program, the owner of the microenterprise or a minimum of 51% of its employees must meet HUD's low to moderate income levels. These income levels are based on family income. The microenterprise must be located within the corporate limits of the City of Williamsport.

The terms of the CDBG-CV funded Microenterprise Loan Program will be the same as the Microenterprise Program that the City currently has in place. Loans are offered at a 3% interest rate over

a ten year term. The first year of payment is deferred and the ten year repayment period begins after the deferment. The maximum loan amount per microenterprise is \$10,000.

As required by HUD, the CARES Act amendment was available for public review and comment from July 1 – July 9, 2020. HUD issued a waiver to allow for a five (5) day public review and comment period.

The HUD application submission documents and CARES amendment are attached for your review.

We are requesting City Council action on this item on Thursday, July 9, 2020.