

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE
ZOOM MEETING
AUGUST 18, 2021**

ATTENDANCE: Evette Brantley, Co-Chair; Maria Valle, Co-Chair; Rosalina Roman-Christy; Jeanette Herron; Mary McBride-Lee; Scott Burns.

STAFF: Constance Vickers, Legislative Aide; Isolina DeJesus, Director of Central Grants; Tammy Papa, Acting Health Department Deputy Director; Melissa Oliviera, Central Grants.

OTHER: Joseph Katz; Matthew McCarthy, Council Member; Eneida Martinez, Council Member; Selena.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Brantley called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. There was a quorum present.

APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MINUTES: JULY 21, 2021

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOTIONED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JULY 21, 2021 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VALLE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

102-20 GRANT SUBMISSION: RE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT. (#22540)

This item was combined with 104-20.

Ms. Melissa Oliviera came forward to discuss these items. The new Service Bureau Grant is to provide community youth with enhancements to juvenile justice, mental health, community outreach, and provide positive youth development services amongst other services. For this grant the City will continue to subcontract with the Bridge Course Now Review Board for case management services. The goal is to serve 125 youth throughout the year. This is a two-year grant running from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 for a total amount of \$17,074. There is no match requirement.

Ms. Tammy Papa came forward to discuss this item. She said the Youth Service Bureau actually operated a juvenile review board. They want to provide young people with the opportunities and support they need so that they don't end up in the juvenile system with arrest records. She said the organization was well worth funding. They

have a committee of individuals from with committee of individuals from within the city that sit with young people and their families. They take referrals from the police department. They take referrals from the City office and from the court system as well as individuals that are self-reported.

Chairman Brantley asked if the Commission just gives them the funding.

Ms. Papa said that was part of it. She reviewed the intake process for the Commission. If it's not appropriate for them they are referred to other services.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 102-20 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

104-20 GRANT SUBMISSION: RE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES – YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU. (#22532)

Ms. Oliviera came forward to discuss this item. This is the Youth Service Bureau grant to support youth programs funded through the services division. Funding from this program will be to support recreation activities and outreach programs for bridge for youth. The services are very similar to what the purpose for the enhancement was; which is address critical issues such as juvenile justice, mental health, child welfare, and youth development. The City will subcontract with non-profits to carry out the search. This is a two-year grant: July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023. From the state they are receiving \$115,949 and from the City they are receiving a matched \$65,951. There's also a CDBG funding being used as match for \$50,000.

Chairman Brantley asked if the \$65,000 match was in addition to the \$50,000 from CDBG.

This was confirmed and it will total \$115,000.

Chairman Brantley asked where the money was coming from.

Ms. Selena said it was coming from the Lighthouse Program on Lighthouse Park and the funding was available.

Council Member McBride-Lee asked how this program benefited young people.

Ms. Oliviera said they were putting out an RFP for the funds. They generally will give out about 14 awards in total. The funding is roughly anywhere from \$5,000 to \$10,000. They're small grants that organizations can apply for to support programming that is acceptable under the WIA state. That programming can be around juvenile justice, it can be after school programs, it can be summer programs, it can be a birth of five programs. Anyone doing any type of parenting class can apply for these funds.

Council Member Roman-Christy asked how many youths would be served through the program.

Ms. Oliviera said they expect about 1100 youths and it's been higher than that in the past. Last year there were appx. 870 but that was lower due to COVID. She expects around 1100 to 1500 young people before adding in Lighthouse Kids.

Council Member Roman-Christy asked if they were limited in the amount of sessions for social services through the grant.

Ms. Oliviera said that was possible depending on what other funding sources. It is very seldom that they get an application for that isn't matched or leveraged by other funds that the organization has.

Council Member Burns asked about the salaries of those employed and if the salary of \$41,000 was for a City Employee or outside hire.

Ms. Oliviera said the position was for a City employee and the salary was for the Youth Program Manager and was 50% of his salary and benefit.

Council Member Burns asked if the rest of the salary for the individuals was from the City itself.

Ms. Oliviera confirmed this.

Council Member Burns asked if the organizations that benefit change from year to year or not.

Ms. Oliviera said they usually had the same organizations apply.

Council Member Lee asked about the details for application and scoring process and if it was potentially detrimental to newer organizations.

Ms. Oliviera said she didn't think the process would negatively impact somebody.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 104-20 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER ROMAN-CHRISTY SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

103-20 GRANT SUBMISSION: RE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH PER CAPITA FUNDING ALLOCATION. (#22220)

Ms. Isolina DeJesus came forward to discuss this item. It is the annual capital equity allocation from the Department of Public Health. for the purpose of assisting them with providing for health public functions to their communities. This year this provides the opportunity to carry funds over if they weren't expended the previous year. This year the City has a carryover amount of \$126,073.45. The annual allocation is \$278,690.70. Which leaves them with a budget of

\$404,763.52 . They're submitting an application to fund various items. Some of those items which should be included in the grant summary, salary, or fringes for three positions. These are portions of salaries. She also added a full amount for a project manager. \$290,933.13 of that amount will be used for salary and fringe.

In addition to that there are some contractual expenses. One for a consultant to finish up the accreditation process that would be at \$16,000. \$10,000 will be given to data haven to help with the community needs assessment. Under the other category, they will be funding some environmental services for \$14,500. They will also be covering their accreditation fee, which is \$8,400. The Health Department is hoping to do a rather large marketing and advertising campaign at \$60,000. The remaining amount of \$4,930 would cover training for Health Department employees.

Chairman Brantley asked what the advertisement was.

Ms. DeJesus said they were still in the process of putting that together and didn't have a lot of details.

Chairman Brantley asked if the federal government was helping out.

Ms. DeJesus confirmed this.

Chairman Brantley asked if there was a match from the City.

Ms. DeJesus said there was no match from the City.

Chairman Brantley asked if the left over \$126,000 would be applied to the upcoming budget.

Ms. DeJesus confirmed that it would.

Chairman Brantley asked to break down the salaries of those employed.

Ms. DeJesus said that the Health Director's salary is \$97,729 and \$38,167 of fringe. The portion of the public health nurse and communicable for that portion for salaries \$20,123.64, and the fringe is \$12,006 74.42. The project manager is that 82,000 that's 100% of that salary 82,009.

Council Member Burns asked if the position of project manager was a new or old position.

Ms. DeJesus said it was a new position they were adding because they had the funding for it.

Council Member McBride-Lee asked a question about the advertising for the new position.

Ms. DeJesus said it would be a public advertisement, but she didn't know a lot about the details.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER HERRON MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 103-20 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

105-20 GRANT SUBMISSION: RE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS FOR THE 2021 CLIMATE PROTECTION AWARDS. (#22450)

Mr. Joseph Katz came forward to discuss this item. This grant awards mayors or municipalities who have demonstrated sustainable practices in their cities. The City decided to submit an application for the Cherry Street lofts project with regards to their fuel cell. The city received a \$10,000 reward for this in 201. The grant is \$25,000 for the City. They are obligated to provide it to a non-profit organization who is performing sustainability activities in the City. There is no match required by the City.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE MOTIONED TO APPROVE ITEM 105-20 AS SUBMITTED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BURNS SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

ADJORNMENT

**** COUNCIL MEMBER VALLE MOTIONED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MCBRIDE-LEE SECONDED THE MOTION.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Meeting Adjourned at 6:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Telesco Secretarial Services