



**MINUTES
FAIRFIELD COUNTY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 2022
5:30PM**

I. Call to Order

Mr. Bell called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. He said Councilmen Roseborough and Robinson were on their way.

II. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Vice Chair Greene to approve the agenda, seconded by Councilman Gilbert. ***The motion carried 3-0.***

III. Invocation

Invocation was led by Vice Chair Greene.

Mr. Bell stated the ordinance for these funds passed (first reading – by title only) last week. They wanted to have the work session to talk about the things they were proposing for the use of the funds. For background information, he said when the roof was replaced it cost less than anticipated. He referenced a sheet passed out by Mrs. Williams and said the excess funds amount was \$233,000.

Councilman Roseborough entered the meeting at 5:36pm and Councilman Pauley entered the meeting at 5:37pm.

IV. Items for Discussion

A. ARPA Funds

Mr. Bell stated the proposed usage of the funding and included that the numbers were based on the department's requests and the amount needed to cover said requests.

1. Replace two Sheriff's Department vehicles @ \$71,700
2. Equipment for the vehicles @ \$28,447 (radios, lights, etc.)
3. Pre-owned vehicle for the Deputy Coroner @ \$16,000 (formerly quoted at \$15,000 but price increased by \$1,000)
4. Replace vehicle for Animal Control @ \$36,000
5. Replace vehicle for Airport @ \$30,000

All of these items would be paid for via the excess funds from the roof project. He asked for questions and there were none. He said they were trying to meet some their public safety needs and at the same time looking towards the future.

The second allotment of ARPA funds were expected in August/September. The proposed usage for these funds were;

1. Upgrade Courthouse HVAC @ \$1,030,793 (for information, they were trying to attend to the Courthouse needs based on ARPA requirements)
2. Upgrade Courthouse electrical @ \$492,008
3. Replace a fire tanker @ \$340,000
4. Replace an EMS ambulance @ \$300,000

He said regarding the Courthouse renovations, they had \$4.2 million in the bond but the Courthouse renovations cost \$5.3 million. They also had to deal with some utility issues, which cost about additional \$200,000. Due to the way the monies were being spent from the ARPA funds, it would leave some money in the bond. They also had needs at the Detention Center, which they would talk about later.

Mr. Gilbert said regarding the ARPA funds, they were addressing some essential needs but in the future, they needed to look at ways to fund the departments with more vehicles - this was just a band aid on what they really needed.

Mr. Bell said they talked originally about purchasing fire trucks and he referenced some of the things that other counties were doing. He said Chester County was purchasing one truck and getting 5-6 additional trucks and paying for one each year. He was hopeful that it was a practice they could adopt as they looked at next year's budget. It would enable them to get 5-6 trucks but only pay for one. These were innovative things to think about. They thought they would be able to purchase trucks with this ARPA funds but they spent about \$585,000 they would not be able to do that and they did not have the resources. They were planning on ways to get it done. He said he wanted to make sure everyone knew of the proposed uses of the ARPA funds and to give the opportunity for questions. It was a current need and forward thinking plan.

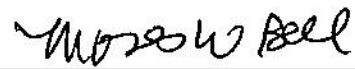
V. Adjourn

At 5:40pm, Vice Chair Greene made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded By Councilman Gilbert. Mr. Bell said there was no vote taken and they stood adjourned at 5:40pm.

Fairfield County is now open to a certain number of citizens abiding by social distancing rules in order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 in our community. We will follow advice from federal and state leaders and implement guidance issued by the CDC and DHEC. We also strongly recommend that masks be worn while in the Administration Building. Fairfield County will continue to live stream its meetings via the County YouTube page in order to provide information to our citizens and in the interest of transparency



KIM W. ROBERTS, Ed. D.
CLERK TO COUNCIL



MOSES BELL
CHAIRMAN