

City of Madison

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Master

File Number: 61070

File ID:61070File Type:ResolutionStatus:Council New

Business

Version: 1 Reference: Controlling Body: COMMON

COUNCIL

File Created Date: 06/22/2020

File Name: Final Action:

Title: Authorizing the City Clerk to apply for and accept a Coronavirus Aid, Relief and

Economic Security (CARES) subgrant from the Wisconsin Elections

Commission, and amending the 2020 Adopted Operating Budget to increase the

City Clerk's Supplies budget by \$198,200.

Notes:

CC Agenda Date: 07/14/2020

Agenda Number: 107.

Effective Date:

Enactment Number:

Sponsors: Satya V. Rhodes-Conway, Sheri Carter, Lindsay

Lemmer, Michael J. Tierney, Keith Furman, Syed Abbas, Grant Foster, Rebecca Kemble, Michael E. Verveer, Arvina Martin, Donna V. Moreland, Patrick W. Heck, Shiva Bidar, Max Prestigiacomo and

Marsha A. Rummel

Attachments: WEC CARES Announcement.pdf, WEC CARES

Agreement and Certification Form.pdf, WEC CARES

FAQ.pdf

Author: Hearing Date:

Entered by: echristianson@cityofmadison.com Published Date:

Approval History

 Version
 Date
 Approver
 Action

 1
 Stephanie Mabrey
 Approve

History of Legislative File

 Ver- Acting Body:
 Date:
 Action:
 Sent To:
 Due Date:
 Return
 Result:

 sion:
 Date:

Clerk's Office 06/23/2020 Referred for

Introduction

Action Text: This Resolution was Referred for Introduction

Notes: Finance Committee (7/20/20) Common Council (7/21/20)

1 COMMON COUNCIL 07/14/2020

Text of Legislative File 61070

Fiscal Note

The proposed resolution authorizes the City Clerk to apply for and accept a Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) subgrant from the Wisconsin Elections Commission, and increases the City Clerk's Supplies budget by \$198,200. All Wisconsin municipalities are eligible to receive CARES subgrants in the amount of a \$200 base plus \$1.10 for each registered voter. The grant is intended to support election costs such as additional ballot supplies, printing, postage, personal protective equipment, and cleaning associated with administering an election during the COVID-19 pandemic. The City Clerk's Office will use the funding for additional postage costs associated with increases in absentee voting. As of June 30, 2020, the Clerk's Office spent nearly \$145,000 on postage, largely driven by April absentee ballot mailing costs.

Title

Authorizing the City Clerk to apply for and accept a Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) subgrant from the Wisconsin Elections Commission, and amending the 2020 Adopted Operating Budget to increase the City Clerk's Supplies budget by \$198,200.

Body

The Wisconsin Elections Commission has created the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) program to help defray administrative expenses incurred by municipalities due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

WHEREAS, the City of Madison as a municipality has a proud history of fair and transparent elections with the focus on the voter, and

WHEREAS, the Madison City Clerk's Office is committed to the never-ending goal of all eligible voters being able to vote and having their votes counted, and

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus pandemic has had a marked effect on election administration including difficulty securing polling places, safety for Election Officials working the polls and an extraordinary increase in the number of absentee ballot requests, and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk's Office completed a racial equity analysis of the April election held during a pandemic finding that communities of color tend to prefer in-person voting, and

WHEREAS, going forward, more deliberate planning will need to continue to create an environment where underrepresented parts of our community can safely and easily vote, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Madison authorizes the City Clerk to apply for, and accept a CARES subgrant from the Wisconsin Elections Commission for the purpose of continuing and expanding open and transparent elections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Madison 2020 Adopted Operating Budget for the City Clerk's Office is amended to increase the Supplies budget for the Clerk's Office by \$198,200.