



REPORT TO TOWN BOARD

FROM: Andrew J. Quarnstrom, Township Supervisor

DATE: October 6th, 2020

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget Amendment, Ordinance 2020-1001

A. Introduction: The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend the FY 2020/2021 budget to increase revenues by \$25,675.00 in the General Assistance Miscellaneous Revenue Account (803-4800) and increase expenditures by \$25,675 in the General Assistance Emergency Grant account (80380810-52690). Of the \$25,675.00, \$25,000.00 will be used for rental assistance and \$675.00 will be used for administrative costs associated with the grant. This Ordinance would also authorize the Township Supervisor to accept an Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) from the Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Champaign County Continuum of Care in the amount of \$25,675.

B. Recommended Action: The Township Administration recommends approval of this Ordinance.

C. Summary:

The City of Champaign Township applied for and was awarded an Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) for the specific purpose of providing rental assistance to homeless individuals or victims of domestic violence.

D. Background:

1. Emergency Rental Assistance: The City of Champaign Township implemented an Emergency Rental Assistance program in 2018. Since then, the program has expanded in scope and partnership and the Township now works closely with Cunningham Township and Regional Planning to operate a “no wrong door” concept for rental assistance in Champaign County.

2. Emergency Solutions Grant: The Emergency Solutions Grant is provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and through the Champaign County Continuum of Care. Grantees apply through the Continuum annually for the opportunity to receive funding. This grant must be used by July of 2021.

E. Alternatives:

1. Approve Ordinance 2020-1001, An Ordinance Amending the City of Champaign Township Budget and Appropriation for FY 2020/2021 and Approving an Emergency Solutions Grant in the amount of \$25,675.00.

2. Do not approve Ordinance 2020-1001, An Ordinance Amending the City of Champaign Township Budget and Appropriation for FY 2020/2021 and Approving an Emergency Solutions Grant and provide direction to staff.

F. Discussion of Alternatives:

Alternative 1 would approve Ordinance 2020-1001, An Ordinance Amending the City of Champaign Township Budget and Appropriation for FY 2020/2021 and Approving an Emergency Solutions Grant in the amount of \$25,675.00.

a. Advantages

- Approving Ordinance 2020-1001 will allow the Township to expand its rental assistance and specifically in service to chronically homeless individuals and those affected by domestic violence. Approximately 41 chronically homeless individuals or families or domestic violence survivors will benefit from the addition of this grant.

b. Disadvantages

- No disadvantage to approving Ordinance 2020-1001.

Alternative 2 Do not approve Ordinance 2020-1001 and provide direction to staff.

a. Advantages

- None.

b. Disadvantages

- Not approving the Ordinance would preclude the Township from helping additional individuals and families with rental assistance.

G. Community Input: Input can be given during the public comments section of the meeting at which this item is considered.

H. Budget Impact: Should the Ordinance be approved; the Township will receive \$25,675.00, \$25,000.00 of which will be used for rental assistance and \$675.00 for administrative costs associated with providing rental assistance.

I. Staffing Impact: Approximately 2 hours of staff time were needed to write this report. In addition, approximately 40 hours of additional case management will be required by the Township's Emergency Assistance Caseworker over the next year.

Prepared by:

Andrew Quarnstrom
Township Supervisor