



REPORT TO TOWN BOARD

FROM: Andrew J. Quarnstrom, Township Supervisor

DATE: October 6th, 2020

SUBJECT: Fiscal Year 2020/2021 Budget Amendment, Ordinance 2020-1003

A. Introduction: The purpose of this Ordinance is to amend the FY 2020/2021 budget to increase revenue by \$10,000.00 in the General Assistance Miscellaneous Revenue Account (803-48000) and increase expenditures by \$10,000.00 in the General Assistance Contingency Expense account (80380810-52950) to account for a grant from the Mayor's Innovation Project.

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

C. Summary:

The City of Champaign Township applied for a grant from the Mayor's Innovation Project (MIP) to provide funding for Prosperity Gardens. The intent of the grant is to provide funding for a partnership between Carle, CU Farms, and Prosperity Gardens/City of Champaign Township. The funding would go towards implementing a mobile market in which a retired MTD bus is used to deliver locally grown produce to low income neighborhoods in Champaign.

D. Background:

1. Prosperity Gardens: The City of Champaign Township purchased Prosperity Gardens in 2019. Since then, a Farm Director has been hired and the gardens were fully planted this spring. CU @ Work employees work five days a week at the gardens and have produced thousands of pounds of produce for low income residents of Champaign.

2. Mayor's Innovation Project: The Mayor's Innovation Project provides funding for municipalities to assist with a variety of social issues. The Township's application was based on its partnership with the Mobile Food Market and how it will assist in eliminating food insecurity in Champaign.

E. Alternatives:

1. Approve Ordinance 2020-1003, An Ordinance Amending the City of Champaign Township Budget and Appropriation for FY 2020/2021 in the amount of \$10,000.00.

2. Do not approve Ordinance 2020-1003, An Ordinance Amending the City of Champaign Township Budget and Appropriation for FY 2020/2021 and provide staff with alternative direction.

F. Discussion of Alternatives:

Alternative 1 would approve Ordinance 2020-1003 Amending the City of Champaign Township Budget and Appropriation for FY 2020/2021.

a. Advantages

- Approving Ordinance 2020-1003 will offset costs in the Township's partnership in the Mobile Market that provides fresh produce from Prosperity Gardens and other Urban Farms to food insecure neighborhoods in Champaign.

b. Disadvantages

- No disadvantage to approving Ordinance 2020-1003.

Alternative 2 Do not approve Ordinance 2020-1002.

a. Advantages

- None.

b. Disadvantages

- Not amending the budget to accept the grant will shift funding for this partnership to unencumbered Township funds as opposed to from the Mayor's Innovation Project.

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

H. Budget Impact: None should the Ordinance be approved.

I. Staffing Impact: Approximately 1 hour of staff time was needed to write this report. No additional staffing will be needed for this project.

Prepared by:

Andrew Quarnstrom
Township Supervisor