

**City of Mt. Washington
Special Council Meeting
February 02, 2022
Fick Hall@4:00 PM**

Mayor Annstrong called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM with the following council members present, Troy Barr, Greg Gentry, Sandra Hockenbury, Albert Thompson, George Maddox and Dustin Armstrong

Also, present were City Attorney Hayden Sweat, City Administrator Elizabeth Hardin, City Treasurer Alice Harris.

Councilwoman Hockenbury led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Armstrong stated the purpose of the meeting is to discuss consideration for ARPA funding projects and receive input from the community and the City Council Members.

The mayor stated there will be no decision tonight on the allocations of the ARPA funds and wants to open the floor for anyone who wants to speak at this time.

Sign In Sheet

Ralph Clark is a representative with the Community Ministries and stated they are a non-profit 501c3 organization and have been serving the Mt. Washington Community since 1984. Mr. Clark described the services they provide include a food pantry and services and assistance with utility bills. He said the ministry is currently located in the old city hall property at 275 Snapp Street and in order to expand the ministry and serve at a greater capacity in the future, they are requesting an amount of \$200,000 by the City Council, to be allocated in the purchase of a larger building. Mr. Clark thanked the Mayor and Council in advance for their consideration.

Mayor Armstrong asked Mr. Clark if Community Ministries was affiliated with any one church? Mr. Clark said they are not; they are a civic organization and chatted separately from any church but are supported by churches.

Councilwoman Hockenbury asked if they were currently looking for an existing building? She stated the reason she asked is the amount they are requesting seems low.

Mr. Clark said they are currently looking, and the availability is very limited here in Mt. Washington and may have to possibly purchase land and build.

Councilman Maddox asked if they are desiring to remain in the downtown area of Mt. Washington.

Mr. Clark said they would love to stay in this area and be centrally located within the city limits.

Mayor Armstrong said he appreciated the request and reiterated there will be no decision made tonight and said there is a timeframe on the allocation and expense of the ARPA funds.

Dawn Hardin stated the funds must be allocated by December 31, 2024, and expended by December 31, 2026.

The Mayor stated the city received another request via phone call to Lori Puchino and asked her to discuss the request with the City Council.

Lori Puchino said she was contacted by Joyce Mercer and said she requested an all year-round swimming facility. She stated in her request there are three high schools in Bullitt County that have to go to Louisville for swim meets and said that elderly and other youth will be able to take advantage of a facility such as this.

Councilman Barr asked if the funds are eligible to utilize for a swimming pool?

Dawn Hardin said basically the funds can be utilized for government services with the new rule.

Councilman Barr said this sounds great but said keep in mind that swimming pools eat money.

Dawn Hardin mentioned the amount received on July 31, 2021 was 1.9 and the second tranche is expected to be received on or around July 31, 2022.

Hayden Sweat said with the new final rule it broadened the eligibility and no entitled cities are able to be more flexible and take advantage of the expenditures accordingly.

Councilman Hockenbury mentioned the gentlemen that has attend a couple of council meetings for a homeless shelter and asked if the funds will need to be spent within the city limits, as he was requesting funds to be utilized on a facility not in the city of Mt. Washington.

Dawn Hardin said the funds can be blended with other government entities for projects.

Mayor Armstrong stated funds that are not utilized may also be donated to other government agencies such as Fire Department or County and cities.

Barry read from the final rule from the Department of Treasury of ineligible uses.

Councilman Maddox mentioned drainage issue throughout the city that may need to be considered.

Dawn Hardin said the Public Works Director has recommended a few projects for the council to consider that are ARPA qualified.

Dawn Hardin mentioned other eligible projects that are in need within the city such as broadband, curbing and gutters along Snapp street to improve drainage. Sanitary Sewer for Clearview Drive and Whitledge Lane project.

Adjournment

Councilman Thompson made, and Councilwoman Hockenbury seconded a motion to adjourn at 4:32 PM Motion carried.

Barry Amstrong
Mayor

Elizabeth D. Hardin
City Administrator