

CITY OF CORRY

CHAMBERS/ZOOM - ONLINE

6:10 PM

MARCH 10, 2022

Mayor Baker opened the meeting. Roll call found Council members Fike, Lindstrom, Roche and Sproveri present, along with City Business Manager Heil, Police Chief Cherry, Interim Fire Chief Hodak and Streets Lead Operator Mark Leofsky.

Hearing of the Public:

Chuck Gray, of Impact Corry, stated that about a year ago \$400,000 was applied for generators for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. She received a call today that it has passed the House. It is in the omnibus spending budget. It is scheduled to be voted on in the Senate tomorrow evening. If it passes the Senate and it gets signed by President Biden, then the WWTP would have \$400,000 for their generator. She has been in contact with the Municipal Authority today because they were going to do an application for an upcoming grant to fund the generator project. So hopefully, we will find out in time that we do not duplicate efforts. Hopefully by this time next week we can say that we have it. The other item that they applied for at the same time was \$500,000 for the fiber implementation, to start building the fiber network and technology center. That also got recommended for funding and is in the plan. Therefore, hopefully \$900,000 is coming to Corry in the very near future.

Buzz Hammond stated the Municipal Authority meet this morning because the application for \$750,000 had to be in by March 15th. It is somewhat a duplication of what Ms. Gray did in her first grant application. However, after the application has been in and accepted we have 45 days to amend it and modify it for something else.

Mayor Baker asked if there is a match required. Ms. Gray stated the City would match with \$100,000. She stated she did not write the grant in such a way that the match could not be made from other grant funds. So if the Municipal Authority grant succeeds then the grant match could be made from that. Mr. Heil explained that if that didn't work, there are funds available through the American Rescue Plan Funds of over \$680,000 that Council has not decided how to use those funds. Those funds could definitely be used for the \$100,000 match. Ms. Gray stated that the restrictions for the American Rescue Plan Funds have been lessened and DCED is developing a group to help cities to understand the conditions of the spending. Mr. Heil stated that the handout that was given to Council yesterday was information on what the funds can and cannot be spent on. Mr. Sproveri stated that would be the perfect place to take the match from so funds would not be taken from the Municipal Authority grant.

Bill Roche, speaking as a member of the public, the way the City Manager and Solicitor departed the City showed that we need to inform Council of personnel changes and any other significant changes before they occur. So that City Council can participate in managing the City. Mayor Baker apologized stated he should have done that and he is sorry. Ms. Lindstrom stated with Lisa Jordan leaving there are personnel changes needed in the office. Mr. Roche stated that an executive session needs to be scheduled regarding those changes.

(1) Mayor Baker made a motion to receive and file letter dated March 8, 2022 from Impact Corry and Corry Hi-Ed requesting a resolution regarding DCED Local Share Account Grant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roche. Mayor Baker announced motion passes.

ROLL CALL

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

IMPACT CORRY GRANT UPDATES

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY GRANT UPDATE

POSSIBLE USE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS

CONCERNS REGARDING PERSONNEL CHANGES

IMPACT CORRY / CORRY HI-ED REQUEST RESOLUTION

(2) Mayor Baker made a motion to approve Resolution 22-08 that the City of Corry agree to serve as application leads for the Rural Communities as Regional Target Sector Workforce Development Hubs. The motion was seconded by Mr. Roche. Mayor Baker announced motion passes.

(3) Mayor Baker made a motion to appoint MacDonald, Illig team as the legal representation/solicitor for the City of Corry. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fike. Mayor Baker announced motion passes.

Hearing of the Public:

Buzz Hammond stated that with the 20% increase in fuel prices, he challenges the two chiefs and department heads to see what we can do to help our trucks, cars and machinery. Not to sit idle and run or not be used for anything other than immediate responses. Everywhere we can save, we will have to because there is x amount of dollars budgeted and 20% is going to use that up. Mr. Sproveri stated that the fire chief has already instituted butts in seats. We have 6 man cabs and that will assist the volunteers. As they will drive to the station, then load up in a truck and go to the scene.

James Roberts stated the sound on Zoom was very bad tonight and it is really hard to understand what you are saying. The second thing is that when you publish a meeting to start at 5:15 and doesn't start until 5:45 which has happened a couple weeks in a row. It is waste of time for a lot of people including your employees. Also if you have an executive session, he thinks you should make a motion to have one. Then give a time when you start and then when you finish. Then come back into the regular meeting. He stated these are just observations and he hopes Council takes them as a positive thing. Mayor Baker thank him for his comments. It was discussed that the executive session should be on a different day than the voting meetings. Mr. Sproveri asked if Council should consider having 2 regular voting meetings per month as was done in the past. Mayor Baker asked that this topic be added to the next work session.

(4) **Announcement of meetings:**

- February 21, 2022 executive session was held regarding personnel.
- March 10, 2022 executive session was held regarding legal representation.
- Thursday, March 17, 2022 work session, 5:15pm in Council Chambers or by zoom.
- Monday, March 21, 2022, regular meeting, 7pm in Council Chambers or by Zoom.

(5) Mr. Roche made motion to adjourn at 6:36 pm; Mr. Fike seconded which carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne M. Smith
City Clerk

**22-08 LEAD
REGIONAL TARGET
SECTOR
WORKFORCE**

**APPOINT
SOLICITOR
MACDONALD
ILLIG**

**HEARING OF THE
PUBLIC**

**FUEL PRICES
INCREASES**

**CONCERNS
ZOOM SOUND**

**OBSERVATIONS
MEETING START
TIME**

**MEETING
SCHEDULE**

ADJOURN