

**MINUTES
OF
CITY OF WHARTON
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
120 EAST CANEY STREET
WHARTON, TEXAS 77488
Monday, October 26, 2020 –5:30 p.m.**

City Manager Andres Garza, Jr., declared a meeting of the City Council Finance Committee duly open for the transaction of business at 5:37 p.m.

Committee Members present were: Mayor Tim Barker, Councilmember Russell Machann and Councilmember Alice Heard.

Committee Member absent was: None.

City Council Member present was: Councilmember Terry Freese and Councilmember Clifford Jackson.

Staff members present were: City Manager Andres Garza, Jr., Assistant to the City Manager Brandi Jimenez, Finance Director Joan Andel and Community Development Director Gwyn.

Staff member absent was: None.

Visitors: None.

Public Comments. There were no public comments.

The first item on the agenda was to review and consider minutes from the meeting held September 12, 2020. Councilmember Russell Machann made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Tim Barker seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The second item on the agenda was to review and consider Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act:

A. Update on Obligated Funds.

B. Resolution: A resolution of the Wharton City Council authorizing the establishment of one (1) or more programs for the expenditure of funds from the Texas Department of Emergency Management Coronavirus Relief Fund and authorizing the Mayor of the City of Wharton to execute all documents related to said program.

Community Development Director Gwyn Teves stated to the Committee that the Texas Department of Emergency Management (TDEM) notified entities on May 11, 2020 of funding through the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) that was enacted as part of the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. She stated that the disbursement of funds was handled through TDEM and the City of Wharton was allocated up to \$474,870.00. She stated that the first 20% of the allocation had been advanced to the City. She stated that the funds were tied to COVID-19 expenditures incurred due to the medical health emergency. She stated that the funding was available for reimbursement up to the max amount and for the period of March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020. She stated that the following expenditures had been completed or are being requested under the CRF funding allocated to the City during the current state of emergency:

Testing:

Citywide testing to be provided by OakBend Medical \$100,000.00
(\$600 expended at termination of contract)

Wharton EMS Department:

Laptop for Telework \$1,361.00
Disinfection Lamps for 5 Ambulances \$23,784.00
Portable Handheld Radios (10) \$32,734.00
Video Laryngoscopes (6) \$15,526.00 (complete)
Power Load System \$22,111.00 (complete)
4th Ambulance Crew Personnel \$52,400.00

Code Enforcement:

Incode Contactless Permitting/Inspections \$2,300.00
Fire Inspection Contactless Inspections \$2,425.00
iPad (3) for Contactless inspection implementation \$2,100.00

Wharton Fire Department:

Portable Handheld Radios (10) \$41,738.00

Human Resources Department:

Contactless Personnel Software \$11,000.00 (complete)

Community Development:

Masks for Businesses \$2,800.00 (complete)
Handsfree Sanitizing stations and sanitizer for businesses \$28,000.00 (complete)
Zoom Teleconferencing Software \$2,500.00

Utilities/Finance:

Laptops for Telework (2) \$2,700.00

Civic Center:

Handsfree Sanitizing stations and sanitizer \$2,500.00 (complete)

Misc:

Approx. expended on personnel and response to date \$80,000.00

Assistance Program(s):

Rental Assistance
Utility Bill Assistance
Small Business Grant Assistance \$40,000.00

After some discussion, Councilmember Russell Machann made a motion to recommend to the City Council that the remaining funds be used for the following:
funds for the following:

1. Lucas Device.
 2. Police Department Salary and Benefits.
 3. Completion of Contactless Area in City Hall.
- Councilmember Alice Heard seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The third item on the agenda was to review and consider Food Trucks in Guffey Park. Community Development Director Gwyn Teves stated to the Committee that there had been some interest in food trucks wanting to utilize Guffey Park other than on Food Truck Mondays. The City Staff stated that the City's efforts were to build-up Guffey Parks usage. Also, that it was important that it is not over used to the point that demand would fall completely. The Committee suggested that any further use by additional food trucks be delayed until an overall plan for Guffey Park be developed. After some discussion, no action was taken.

The fourth item on the agenda was adjournment. Councilmember Russell Machann moved to adjourn. Mayor Tim Barker seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.



Andres Garza, Jr., City Manager