Resolution allocating American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding for the Homeless Outreach Team.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the City was awarded American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding from the U.S. Treasury; and

WHEREAS, the City Council passed Resolution 22-0296 on February 22, 2022, appropriating ARPA funds to acquire property for a Temporary Bridge Homes Project that did not move forward; and

WHEREAS, the anticipated use of funds for the Homeless Outreach Team would still serve the hardest hit individuals and families, including those impacted by homelessness; and

WHEREAS, ARPA funding is subject to restrictions as dictated by the Federal government and the City's usage of this funding must be compliant with those restrictions; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of La Crosse have entered into a partnership to coordinate a community-wide plan to address homelessness; and

WHEREAS, while planning is underway it would be a setback to homeless response efforts to lose the local capacity to provide outreach to the individuals and families on the Coordinated Entry list (currently at 290), including 80 individuals that are currently sleeping outdoors; and

WHEREAS, staff has completed the procurement process and identified Independent Living Resources, who is also the agency currently providing outreach services, to continue providing these services to those experiencing homelessness and to collect data that will support the development of a community-wide plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse to allocates \$155,000 of ARPA funds designated to addressing to Independent Living Resources to provide outreach services to unsheltered individuals residing in the City of La Crosse.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor, Finance Director, and Homeless Services Coordinator are hereby authorized to take all steps necessary to effectuate this resolution.

I, Nikki M. Elsen, certify that this resolution was duly and officially adopted by the Common Council of the City of La Crosse on August 10, 2023.

Nikki M. Elsen, WCMC, City Clerk City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

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