

CITY OF NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA  
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2020-107 (2020-565)  
AUTHORIZING FEDERAL CARES ACT FUNDING & RELATED BUDGET AMENDMENT  
FOR AUTHORIZED EXPENDITURES

- WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, passed on March 27, 2020, provides over \$2 trillion in federal economic relief to protect the American people from the public health and economic impacts of COVID-19; the CARES Act provides assistance for American workers, families, and small businesses, and preserves jobs for American industries; and
- WHEREAS, Section 5001 of the CARES Act established the \$150 billion Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF), providing payments to state, local, and tribal governments navigating the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak; and
- WHEREAS, on June 26, 2020, the Minnesota Legislative Advisory Commission approved Governor Walz's request to formally allocate state received CARES Act funds to counties, cities, and townships in the State of Minnesota (State); and
- WHEREAS, the City of Northfield has received \$1,538,900 in Federal CARES Act funds from the State; and
- WHEREAS, the CARES Act sets criteria that expenses must meet to be eligible for CRF funding reimbursement, and the Federal Treasury's Coronavirus Relief Fund Guidance (Treasury Guidance) and Section 601(3) of the Social Security Act further outline allowable uses of CARES Act funds; and
- WHEREAS, the Treasury Guidance permits local governments to transfer CARES Act funds to non-profit entities for further distribution, so long as such distribution qualifies as an eligible expense; and
- WHEREAS, pursuant to the CARES Act and Treasury Guidance, the City Council has considered how to use its CARES Act funds in a manner that complies with each of the following requirements:
1. CARES Act funds shall be used to meet necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to COVID-19; An expenditure is reasonably necessary for its intended use in the reasonable judgment of the government officials responsible for spending Coronavirus Relief Fund payments; Expenditures must be used for actions taken to respond to the public health emergency, including expenditures incurred to respond directly to the emergency, as well as expenditures incurred to respond to second order effects, such as by providing economic support to those suffering from employment or business interruptions due to COVID-19-related business closures;

2. CARES Act funds shall be used to meet costs not accounted for in the city's budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020;
3. CARES Act funds must not be used to cover an expense for which funding has already been received from an alternative Federal or State program;
4. Performance or delivery must occur during the covered period, but payment of funds need not be made during that time (though it is generally expected that this will take place within 90 days of a cost being incurred); for cities, the covered period is March 1, 2020, to Nov. 15, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that it is in the best interests of the City, and in compliance with the CARES Act, Treasury Guidance, and guidance promulgated by the State, to allocate a portion of the City's CARES Act funds to certain non-profit entities for eligible purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City has further determined that it is in the best interests of the City, and in compliance with the CARES Act, Treasury Guidance, and guidance promulgated by the State, to demarcate a portion of the CARES Act funds for specific use by the City for eligible purposes; and

WHEREAS, the City is continuing to explore additional eligible expenditures related to authorizing CARES Act funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THAT:

1. The City Council authorizes a budget amendment of \$50,100.00 of CARES Act funding for expenditures made by the Northfield Chamber of Commerce for staff time assistance and communications made to members of the local business community, in partnership with the City of Northfield's emergency management and economic development partners, as relates to compliance with COVID-19 regulations and executive orders, financial assistance inquiries, and community needs.
2. The City Council authorizes a budget amendment of \$25,000.00 of CARES Act funding for expenditures made by the Convention & Visitors Bureau of the City of Northfield, by and through its services contract with the Northfield Chamber of Commerce, for eligible expenses for community marketing efforts related to visiting the City of Northfield in light of COVID-19.
3. The City Council authorizes a budget amendment of \$43,532.00 of CARES Act funding for expenditures made by the Northfield Public Schools for personal protective equipment (including but not limited to face-coverings), cleaning supplies, and communications equipment necessary to help mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

4. The City Council authorizes a budget amendment of \$75,000.00 of CARES Act funding for expenditures made by the Northfield Hospital & Clinics for use toward purchase of a Bright.md SmartExam virtual care platform. Specifically, Northfield Hospital & Clinics will purchase the Bright.md SmartExam virtual care platform, which will provide patients the ability to access online self-guided medical exams. Healthcare providers will receive an evaluation of the patients' exams, and will provide feedback to the patient. Healthcare providers may refer the patient for in-person treatment. Referrals would be made to a Northfield Hospital & Clinics provider. The expected time to complete a virtual visit is expected to take only a matter of minutes, and the charge to the patient is expected to be \$35 to \$55 per visit. If an in-person visit is recommended, there would be no additional charge to the patient.
5. Performance or delivery of the foregoing must occur during the covered period, but payment of funds need not be made during that time (though it is generally expected that this will take place within 90 days of a cost being incurred).
6. Any and all distribution, transfer, or use of City CARES Act funds may only occur so long as such distribution, transfer, or use is made in compliance with the CARES Act and guidance issued by the Treasury Department and/or State.
7. The Mayor, City Administrator, City Clerk, staff and consultants are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all additional steps and actions necessary in order to accomplish the intent of this Resolution, including execution of grant agreements with the recipient organizations listed in this Resolution.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Northfield on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

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Mayor

VOTE:      \_\_\_\_ POWNELL \_\_\_\_ GRABAU \_\_\_\_ DELONG \_\_\_\_ NAKASIAN  
              \_\_\_\_ NESS \_\_\_\_ PETERSON WHITE \_\_\_\_ ZWEIFEL