

VILLAGE OF HOMEWOOD



BOARD AGENDA MEMORANDUM

DATE OF MEETING: August 27, 2024

To: Village President and Board of Trustees

Through: Napoleon Haney, Village Manager

From: Amy Zukowski, Finance Director

Topic: Budget Amendment – American Rescue Plan Act Project Recommendations

PURPOSE

Staff requests Board approval of a budget amendment to reallocate American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds in order to meet current project needs.

PROCESS

Award & Approaching Deadline

The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program authorized by the American Rescue Plan Act provided \$2,545,191 to the Village of Homewood. In prior fiscal years, the Village has spent \$1,210,901 of the funds. Per the Treasury rules, ARPA SLFRF funds must be spent or obligated by December 31, 2024. An obligation means “an order placed for property and services or entering into contracts, subawards, and similar transactions that require payment.” Any funds obligated at the end of December 31, 2024, will need to be paid in full by December 31, 2026.

Approved Projects

As part of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025 budget, projects totaling \$1,300,017 were approved, with \$34,273 remaining as part of a contingency fund for any projects that cost more than anticipated. Thus far in this fiscal year, four (4) projects have been brought to the Board of Trustees for approval and will be completed and paid for prior to the end of 2024. The purchase of the new ambulance was approved on July 26, 2022 and is under contract. We have received the invoice and anticipate delivery soon.

Updated Projects

With the end of 2024 quickly approaching, staff met to review the list of remaining projects and reallocate some of the residual funds.

Staff recommends moving the purchase of a digital kiosk to a future year and to utilize the remaining funds allocated to the project towards a Business Façade Capital Improvement Program. The purpose of this program is to support local businesses, improve commercial

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corridors, and promote the revitalization of properties by providing financial assistance for exterior improvements to existing commercial/mixed-use buildings. The program is designed to enhance the visual quality of building exteriors, increase code compliance, and contribute to vibrant and visually appealing public spaces in Homewood.

Less funding is needed for the Information Technology Infrastructure Upgrade at this time. The upgrade will include new firewalls, core switches, and managed services that are connected to each other and the internet provider so that if one building experiences an outage, other buildings should remain operational.

Village staff evaluated the property line along 183rd Street and Morgan, and concluded a fence replacement is no longer needed. Those funds have been reallocated to an Emergency Facility Hardening and Disaster Resiliency Assessment. The assessment would include Village Hall, Public Safety Building, Municipal Service Center, and Brian Carey Training Center. The objective of the project is to assess the facilities, then provide recommendations for cost effective and phased solutions that will upgrade the electrical backup power systems both internally and externally. This will allow each of the facilities to remain fully operational during power blackouts and other events that could result in long-term power outages.

The Vehicle and Equipment purchases include a bucket for a front-end loader, concrete block lifter, and potentially a tow-behind generator. The bucket will be utilized for handling salt and the concrete block lifter will provide a safer alternative to pick up concrete blocks. The current tow-behind generator at Public Works is an older model, and Public Works is unable to find parts to continue to service it.

All of the remaining projects will be brought to the Board for purchase or contract approval before December 31, 2024.

Staff will evaluate project statuses every thirty (30) days to ensure that projects are moving forward. If there is any funding that may need to be reallocated, staff will bring the items to a future Board meeting in order to meet the December 31, 2024 obligation deadline.

OUTCOME

Approval of the budget amendment will allow staff to move forward with obligating the remaining ARPA funds in order to meet the Treasury's December 31, 2024 deadline.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

- **Funding Source:** General Fund
- **Budgeted Amount:** \$1,300,017
- **Budget Amendment Amount:** \$34,273

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LEGAL REVIEW

Not Required

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Approve a budget amendment request to reallocate American Rescue Plan Act funds to make adjustments based on current project needs.

ATTACHMENT(S)

ARPA Funding Project List