



**REGULAR WORK SESSION MEETING**

**TUESDAY APRIL 26, 2022 @ 6:00 PM**

**CHERRYVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**411 E. CHURCH ST. CHERRYVILLE, N.C. 28021**

The Honorable Mayor H.L. Beam called the meeting to order. Councilmember's Jill Puett, Gary Freeman, Malcolm Parker, and Jon Abernethy were present. City Manager Brian Dalton, City Clerk Paige H. Green, City Attorney Palmer Huffstetler Jr., Police Chief Cam Jenks, Public Works Director Brandon Abernathy, Fire Chief Jason Wofford, Finance Director Dixie Wall, and Planning & Zoning Director Alex Blackburn were also present. Michael Powell of the Cherryville Eagle was present for media coverage.

**PROCLAMATION OF APPRECIATION RE: CITY CLERK PAIGE GREEN, PROFESSIONAL MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK, MAYOR H.L. BEAM:**

Councilmember Puett read a proclamation of appreciation to Professional Municipal City Clerk Paige H. Green. May 1 thru May 7, 2022 is Professional Municipal Clerks Week. Councilmember Puett thanked Paige for all she does for the City of Cherryville. Below is a copy of the proclamation:



**Proclamation**

**53rd ANNUAL PROFESSIONAL MUNICIPAL CLERKS WEEK  
May 1 - May 7, 2022**

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk, a time honored and vital part of local government exists throughout the world, and

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk is the oldest among public servants, and

Whereas, The Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk provides the professional link between the citizens, the local governing bodies and agencies of government at other levels, and

Whereas, Professional Municipal Clerks have pledged to be ever mindful of their neutrality and impartiality, rendering equal service to all.

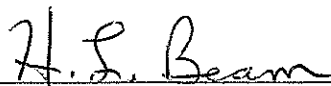
Whereas, The Professional Municipal Clerk serves as the information center on functions of local government and community.

Whereas, Professional Municipal Clerks continually strive to improve the administration of the affairs of the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk through participation in education programs, seminars, workshops and the annual meetings of their state, provincial, county and international professional organizations.

Whereas, It is most appropriate that we recognize the accomplishments of the Office of the Professional Municipal Clerk.

Now, Therefore, I, Henry Lee Beam, III, Mayor of Cherryville, do recognize the week of May 1 through May 7, 2022, as Professional Municipal Clerks Week, and further extend appreciation to our Professional Municipal Clerk, Paige H. Green and to all Professional Municipal Clerks for the vital services they perform and their exemplary dedication to the communities they represent.

Dated this 26 day of April, 2022.

  
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H.L. Beam, Mayor

**CONSIDERATION OF REVISED ORDINANCE RE: GRANT PROJECT ORDINANCE FOR AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 RECOVERY FUNDS, CITY MANAGER BRIAN DALTON:**

City Manager Brian Dalton asked for consideration for the revised Grant Project Ordinance for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Recovery Funds. Mr. Dalton explained that the guidelines for the funds have been revised again and in order for the funds to pay for the projects we have already started on, we will need to supplement the cost object with salaries. Below, is a copy of the revised ordinance:



**Amended**

**Grant Project Ordinance for the City of Cherryville American Rescue Plan Act of 2021: Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Cherryville, North Carolina that, pursuant to Section 13.2 of Chapter 159 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the following grant project ordinance is hereby adopted as amended:

**Section 1:** This ordinance is to establish a budget for a project to be funded by the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of H.R. 1319 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP/CSLFRF). The City of Cherryville (City) has received the first tranche in the amount of \$967,565 of CSLFRF funds. The total allocation is \$1,935,131, with the remainder to be distributed to the City within 12 months. These funds may be used for the following categories of expenditures, to the extent authorized by state law.

1. Support public health expenditures, by funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff;
2. Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector;
3. Replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic;
4. Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors; and,

5. Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and storm water infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet.

**Section 2:** The City has elected to take the standard allowance, as authorized by 31 CFR Part 35.6(d)(1) and expend all its ARP/CSLFRF funds for the provision of government services.

**Section 3:** The following amounts are appropriate for the project and authorized for expenditure:

Internal Project Code	Project Description	Expenditure Category (EC)	Cost Object	Appropriation of ARP/CSLFRF Funds
001	Law Enforcement Services for period of March 3, 2021 through March 31, 2023	6.1	Salaries	\$710,000
002	Water Administration Services for period of March 3, 2021 through March 31, 2023	6.1	Salaries	\$430,000
003	Wastewater Services for period of March 3, 2021 through March 31, 2023	6.1	Salaries	\$176,000
004	Water Plant Services for period of March 3, 2021 through March 31, 2023	6.1	Salaries	\$265,000
005	Street Services for period of March 3, 2021 through March 31, 2023	6.1	Salaries	\$200,000
006	Finance Services for period of March 3, 2021 through March 31, 2023	6.1	Salaries	\$154,131
	<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$1,935,131</b>

**Section 4:** The following revenues are anticipated to be available to complete the project:

**ARP/CSLFRF Funds:** \$1,935,131

**General Fund Transfer:** \$0

**Total: \$1,935,131**

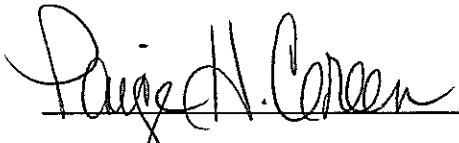
**Section 5:** The Finance Officer is hereby directed to maintain sufficient specific detailed accounting records to satisfy the requirements of the grantor agency and the grant agreements, including payroll documentation and effort certifications, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.430 & 2 CFR 200.431 and the City's Uniform Guidance Allowable Costs and Cost Principles Policy.

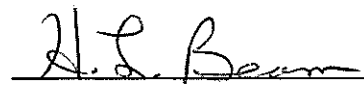
**Section 6:** The Finance Officer is hereby directed to report the financial status or change of the project to the governing board on a quarterly basis.

**Section 7:** Copies of this grant project ordinance shall be furnished to the Budget Officer, the Finance Officer and to the Clerk to City Council.

**Section 8:** This grant project ordinance is effective as of March 3, 2021, and expires on December 31, 2026, or when all the ARP/CSLFRF funds have been obligated and expended by the City, whichever occurs sooner.

Adopted this 26 day of April 2022.

  
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Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk

  
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H.L. Beam, Mayor

(SEAL)

Councilmember Abernethy made a motion to adopt the revised Grant Project Ordinance as written for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Recovery Funds. Councilmember Puett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

**DISCUSSION OF HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR RETIREES, CITY MANAGER BRIAN DALTON:**

City Manager Dalton explained that he has put together some options for updating Article VIII, Insurance and Retirement Benefits, for the personnel policy. Mr. Dalton explained that he and City Clerk Paige Green talked to advisors with the North Carolina League of Municipalities and he discussed the matter with City Attorney Palmer Huffstetler Jr. Mr. Dalton revised the



current policy adding consecutive years of service and clarifying the definition of retirement. Below is a copy of the policies Mr. Dalton drafted for consideration:

***Employees Hired on or after June 1, 2022 Or Policy for all current employees and future hires.***

*An Employee who retires from the City of Cherryville with 25 or more consecutive years of service with the City of Cherryville is entitled to receive the same health insurance coverage (Medical only) provided to full time employees. The City of Cherryville pays 100% of the premium for the retired employee that has 25 or more consecutive years with the City of Cherryville. Definition of retirement is beginning to receive monthly payments form Local Government Employees Retirement System (LGERS). Retired employees on the medical plan upon retirement are not allowed to cover dependents. The Retired employee will remain on the Medical plan until their 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday or Social Security disability.*

***Employees Hired prior to June 1, 2022***

*An Employee who retires from the City of Cherryville with 22 or more **consecutive** years of service with the City of Cherryville is entitled to receive the same health insurance coverage (Medical only) provided to full time employees. The City of Cherryville pays 100% of the premium for the retired employee that has 22 or more consecutive years with the City of Cherryville. Definition of retirement is beginning to receive monthly payments form Local Government Employees Retirement System (LGERS). Retired employees on the medical plan upon retirement are not allowed to cover dependents. The Retired employee will remain on the Medical plan until their 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday or Social Security disability.*

Mr. Dalton explained that council could decide to keep the policy as written for current and future employees, or decide to change the years of service to 22 years of service for current and future employees and they can also define some of the language.

After some discussion, Councilmember Freeman made a motion to adopt both policies and for employees hired prior to June 1, 2022 remove the word consecutive from that policy. Councilmember Puett seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. Below are the adopted policies:

**Employees Hired on or after June 1, 2022 (Adopted April 26, 2022)**

An Employee who retires from the City of Cherryville with 25 or more consecutive years of service with the City of Cherryville is entitled to receive the same health insurance coverage (Medical only) provided to full time employees. The City of Cherryville pays 100% of the premium for the retired employee that has 25 or more consecutive years with the City of Cherryville. Definition of retirement is beginning to receive monthly payments form Local

Government Employees Retirement System (LGERS). Retired employees on the medical plan upon retirement are not allowed to cover dependents. The Retired employee will remain on the Medical plan until their 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday or Social Security disability.

**Employees Hired prior to June 1, 2022 (Current Employees)**

An Employee who retires from the City of Cherryville with 22 or more years of service with the City of Cherryville is entitled to receive the same health insurance coverage (Medical only) provided to full time employees. The City of Cherryville pays 100% of the premium for the retired employee that has 22 or more consecutive years with the City of Cherryville. Definition of retirement is beginning to receive monthly payments from Local Government Employees Retirement System (LGERS). Retired employees on the medical plan upon retirement are not allowed to cover dependents. The Retired employee will remain on the Medical plan until their 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday or Social Security disability.

**DISCUSSION OF WATER & SEWER FUNDS, CITY MANGER BRIAN DALTON:**

City Manager Dalton shared that he did some research on our current water rates and minimums. Mr. Dalton explained that the current minimum rate for inside water customers is \$17.00 and that rate includes the first 2,000 gallons of water used. After the first 2,000 gallons, customers are billed for each 1,000 used. The outside minimum rate is currently \$34.00 and that includes the first 2,000 gallons of water used. After the first 2,000 gallons used, customers are billed per 1,000 gallons. Mr. Dalton proposed that if the minimum for inside customers were \$17.00 for the first 1,000 gallons of water, and \$34.00 for the first 1,000 for outside customers, it would create a revenue increase of \$402,636 per year. This increase is based on the current average amount of water being used at this time.

After some discussion, it was decided that this change would be added to the proposed 2022 – 2023 budget and adopted.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

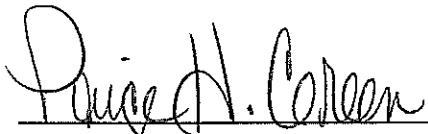
Councilmember Freeman shared that he has received complaints about the Cherry Blossom and the farmers market being cancelled.

City Manager Dalton shared that he did receive a quote for the dog park at West Gate. Mr. Dalton passed the quote around the table for Council to look at. He stated that he is still waiting on bids for the paving.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Councilmember Abernethy made a motion to adjourn the work session meeting. Councilmember Parker seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Adopted this 9 day of May, 2022.



Paige H. Green, CMC, NCCMC, City Clerk



H.L. Beam, Mayor

