

ORDINANCE NO. 58-2020

AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE REYNOLDSBURG COVID-19 BUSINESS RELIEF GRANT PROGRAM, APPROPRIATING \$300,000.00 FROM THE CARES ACT - FRANKLIN COUNTY FUND, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, 116 Public Law 136 (the CARES Act) was signed into law by the President of the United States on March 27, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio General Assembly established a process for distributing funds provided by the CARES Act in House Bill 481 (“HB 481”) of the 133rd General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, the City of Reynoldsburg has received \$1,119,777.89 in distributions from the State of Ohio and, pursuant to Ordinance Number 55-2020, the Council of the City created Special Revenue Funds to account for the funds received under these distributions; and

WHEREAS, the 133rd Ohio General Assembly passed Senate Bill 310 (“SB 310”), which permits a political subdivision to utilize all or a portion of the funding received under HB 481 for the purposes of establishing a small business grant program; and

WHEREAS, SB 310 requires the Council of the City of Reynoldsburg to adopt an ordinance or resolution to create the small business grant program, which sets forth the form and manner by which qualifying businesses may apply for and receive grants, the standards for evaluating and prioritizing grant applications, the reporting requirements for qualifying businesses that are awarded grants, and the manner in which unspent and/or improperly spent proceeds are to be repaid by a grant recipient; and

WHEREAS, Council of the City of Reynoldsburg believes that providing a portion of the CARES Act funds to small businesses in the City impacted by the effects and orders associated with the effects of COVID-19 is in the best interests of the citizens of the City of Reynoldsburg;

WHEREAS, Council has elected to create the Reynoldsburg COVID-19 Business Relief Grant Program.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG:

SECTION 1. That Council hereby authorizes the issuance of grants from the proceeds received by the City from CARES Act Funds to be issued to local businesses directly impacted by COVID-19.

SECTION 2. That the Director of Development shall establish the Reynoldsburg COVID-19 Business Relief Grant Program, utilizing the application attached to this Ordinance, and engage in efforts to inform the business community of the City of the application process.

SECTION 3. That grant funding from the Reynoldsburg COVID-19 Business Relief Grant Program shall only be available for eligible expenses incurred between the period of March 1, 2020 until August 31, 2020.

SECTION 4. That any grants approved for small businesses directly impacted by COVID-19 shall be used only for permitted purposes as set forth in the CARES Act and SB 310 and shall be subject to audit and oversight by the City Auditor as well as the Ohio Office of Budget and Management.

SECTION 5. That to ensure that all funds awarded to businesses impacted by COVID-19 are being used for permitted purposes there is hereby established a committee consisting of the Director of Development, the City Auditor or a representative of the City Auditor, and a representative of the Reynoldsburg Chamber of Commerce who shall review all grant applications submitted by businesses impacted by COVID-19.

SECTION 6. That the amount of \$300,000.00 shall be appropriated to account number 203.000.5529, Miscellaneous distributions from the CARES Act- Franklin County Fund (203), to finance the Reynoldsburg Business Relief Grant Program.

SECTION 7. That, for the reasons set forth in the preamble, this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, necessary for the preservation, health, safety, and welfare of the Citizens of the City of Reynoldsburg, such emergency arising out of the immediate need for the passage of this legislation to be in compliance with the CARES Act and to ensure the timely distribution of funds within the permitted period of time, such that this Ordinance should take effect and be in force immediately from and after its passage by Council and the approval of the Mayor.

PASSED this 26th day of August, 2020.

Leanora Jenkins
Leanora Jenkins, Council President

ATTEST: Mollie Prasher
Mollie Prasher, Clerk of Council

APPROVED: Joe Begeny
Joe Begeny, Mayor

DATE: 8-26-2020