CITY OF LARAMIE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING April 19, 2022



Agenda Item: Resolution

Title: Resolution 2022-26, Amending Language to American Rescue Plan

Act (ARPA) Funding

Recommended Council MOTION:

Approve Resolution 2022-26, amending language in Resolution 2021-61 for appropriations totaling \$5,673,340 for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) for the fiscal year 2021-2022 to change allocation of ARPA funding for projects to total revenue recapture, and authorize the Mayor and City Clerk to sign.

Administrative or Policy Goal:

To provide ARPA funding for government services to the extent of revenue reduction due to COVID-19 public health emergency and to assist in investment of water and sewer infrastructure.

Background:

The City initially received funding of \$4,990,000 from ARPA funds based on population. Some smaller cities and towns declined the funding from the State due to the OMB grant requirements and reporting. As the initial was only estimated and with some cities opting out there was an increase to the City of Laramie funding in the amount of \$5,673,340. The first traunch was received on June 24, 2021, for \$2,836,670. The second traunch or balance of \$2,836,670 is due approximately 12 months later.

Treasury Guidance is limited on how the City can spend the funding. The basic guidelines for ARPA are as follows:

- 1) To respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts, including assistance to households, small businesses, and nonprofits, or aid to impacted industries such as tourism, travel, and hospitality.
- 2) To respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent fiscal year prior to the emergency.
- 3) For the provision of government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue due to the COVID-19 public health emergency relative to revenues collected in the most recent full fiscal year prior to the emergency.
- 4) To make the necessary investments in water, sewer, or broadband infrastructure.

The State of Wyoming has ARPA funding, and the City does not want to duplicate programs. The State already had implemented ERAP (Emergency Rental Assistance Program) to which includes help for citizen's rent and utilities. The State also contracted with University of Wyoming (WYGISC) to conduct a state mapping of broadband detailing providers and speeds per geographic area. The Wyoming Business Council is in charge of broadband funds and working with providers to helped unserved or underserved households or businesses. As the legislature meets, the State will be working on other programs. The State received \$524 million in ARPA funds to date, with another \$534 million anticipated during 2022. The Governor's focus on funding criteria: long term impact or rate of return, support stimulus over relief, where possible leverage dollars through matching or buy-in programs, benefit a wide group of citizens.

Proposed Changes:

The Treasury Department changed the calculation for revenue recovery and now allows local entities to have up to \$10 million in revenue recovery for "governmental services". The City had originally designated \$4 million to projects but now can use the monies under revenue recapture. This will only be a change in treasury reporting as the City would still allocate revenue recovery for \$2 million in Sewer and \$2 million in Water funding. The General Fund will also receive the remaining \$1,673,340 as already determined. This does not change the budget amendment already adopted in Resolution 2021-61.

Legal/Statutory Authority:

Approve to amend budget per W.S. 16-4-112. 16-4-113

BUDGET/FISCAL INFORMATION:

REVENUE

GRANTS	5,643,341	ARPA fundin
Total FY 2020 Sources	\$ 5,643,341	

EXPENSE

Budgeted Expenditure (approved and adopted by Council)

Amendment FY 2022	\$ 5,643,341	Revenue Recovery \$2.0 M Sewer fund, \$2.0 Water fund. \$1,643 GF

Responsible Staff:

Malea Brown, Chief Operating Officer Jennifer Wade, Administrative Services Director

Attachment:

Budget Resolution 2022-26