



CITY OF BURTON
BURTON COUNCIL OF THE WHOLE MEETING
FEBRUARY 1, 2022
MINUTES

Council Chambers

Special Meeting

6:00 PM

4303 S. CENTER ROAD
BURTON, MI 48519

This meeting was opened by Councilman Steven Heffner at 6:00 PM.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Tom Martinbianco	Vice President	Present	
Steven Heffner	Councilman	Present	
Vaughn Smith	Councilman	Present	
Gregory Fenner	Councilman	Present	
Christina Conley	Councilwoman	Present	
Greg Hull	Councilman	Present	
Christina Hickson	Councilwoman	Present	

II. AGENDA

A. Discussion and Possible Action on Federal Funding.

Mr. Smith read some guidelines for ARPA funds and asked about changes to current guidelines.

Mayor Haskins explained there have been changes and those will be finalized April 1, 2022.

Mr. Martinbianco suggested using the funds to build a storage facility for the DPW.

Mayor Haskins stated the funds cannot be used to build a building for that nature. You could use the funds to build a daycare center to facilitate childcare needs for those who could not go to work or find childcare.

Mr. Smith stated he thought the county was building a similar infrastructure with their funding.

Mayor Haskins stated County funds are different than our local funds. There are different guidelines and restrictions set forth because the County is an entitlement and we are not.

Mr. Heffner asked how much we have to work with.

Mayor Haskins said we have \$2.9 Million.

Mr. Smith said ok, yes the county has a lot more funding than us.

Mayor Haskins stated there are things within the city identified as needs that we can

present to you as ideas that meet the guidelines.

Mr. Smith asked what is considered critical infrastructure.

Mayor Haskins stated critical infrastructure when it comes to buildings, the clarification we received was a daycare facility. This is because during the pandemic people were having a hard time finding childcare and schools were shutdown.

Mr. Abbey explained as far as what qualifies you can ask for certain projects and they can make determinations. Tonight having this brainstorming session is a great idea, but my suggestion is to wait until the end of February to make any decisions to see where we stand with any of the grants and different projects we applied for.

Mr. Heffner stated the purpose for tonight is for us to brainstorm and come up with some ideas and then have the administration do some research and determine if it meets guidelines.

Mayor Haskins stated in the guidelines they talk about infrastructure IT. When we hired a new IT Director one of the biggest things we wanted to do was get rid of the leasing program for the computers and buy the computers out right. Doing this will save us \$84,000 over a five year period. We could use some of these funds and buy the computers instead of budgeting for that. At our fire station we have antennas that broadcast the internet. It crashes all the time, we could use the funds to run fiber to the fire stations and then they would always be online. Another idea is completing the waterline down Atherton Road from Belsay Road to Vassar Road. This would give the neighborhoods in that area the capability to tie into water. It would also complete the loop, so there is not a dead end in the water main. We could also use funds for ditching. These are some of the needs we have that meet the guidelines.

Mr. Heffner asked about using funds for Parks and Recreation.

Mayor Haskins stated you can use it for something new, not for something that already exists. An example would be if you wanted to put in a sports complex that would be acceptable.

Mr. Heffner asked about Settlement Park.

Mayor Haskins stated that is already an existing park so that would not qualify.

Mr. Hull stated back to Settlement Park, I believe there are ways to get funding for that.

Mrs. Conley asked if we received half of the funding now and then the rest later.

Mayor Haskins stated that is correct.

Mrs. Conley asked if we could use the funding to help residents that were affected by the pandemic with their water and sewer bills. Are you able to determine they have been affected?

Mayor Haskins stated we are unable to determine who does and does not qualify. We did have relief funds during COVID and we did utilize that to help our residents and a lot of them were able to get help.

Mr. Heffner asked for all the council members to share their ideas on how to spend the funding.

Ideas for projects City Council wants to look into

- Completion of the Iron Belle Trail
- Settlement Park
- Sports Complex
- Daycare Center
- Water Main Improvement
- VFW Roof
- Sewer Project
- Senior Center (Center Road)
- Ditching
- Water and Sewer Bills
- Sidewalks
- Bristol Road Culvert
- Computers
- Pedestrian Walk (Center Road-Near Paul's Coney Island)

Mr. Heffner stated he would like to figure out a way to get the residents input.

Mayor Haskins agreed that is a great idea. We would just need to make sure we do it in a way that the response and ideas we get meet the criteria.

Mr. Heffner opened up Audience participation.

Carla Mason from Mt. Morris, Michigan Expressed her concerns with MTA bus stops.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.
