

## ORDINANCE NO. 4922

### AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF \$87,000.00 FROM THE CITY GENERAL FUND RESERVE TO SUPPORT THE HOMEWARD BOUND HOMELESS SHELTER IN THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO

#### RECITALS:

On March 10, 2020, Governor Polis issued an Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency in response to the novel coronavirus of 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic

On March 13, 2020 President Trump declared a national emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

On March 23, 2020 the Grand Junction City Council declared a local emergency due to the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Pursuant to the local declaration of emergency, and by and with this ordinance, the City is authorized to assist persons impacted by complying with the Federal, State or local public health official's imposition or recommendation of social distancing, self-quarantine, business closures and other measures related to COVID-19 that have direct and indirect impacts on business and economic conditions.

On March 30, 2020 the Chairman of the Board of the Homeward Bound Homeless shelter notified the City that the shelter, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic is developing plans for serving homeless persons by among other things, extending the off-site overflow for 90 days, using tents and shade shelters to provide additional beds, to create quarantine pods using portable walls within the existing shelter and adding personnel. The cost of the response plan, as well as the additional costs to provide food and other basic necessities is unfunded.

On April 6, 2020 the Grand Junction City Council approved an Emergency Ordinance appropriating \$500,000 to the #GJSTRONG Fund, which in direct collaboration with the Western Colorado Community Foundation, will provide emergency funding to relieve the stress and strain placed on Grand Junction non-profits providing basic needs of food and shelter to persons suffering impacts as a result of COVID-19.

The temporary assistance afforded by this ordinance includes additional emergency funds to help defray some of the expenses that will be incurred by Homeward Bound in caring for homeless persons that have been directly or indirectly impacted by COVID-19 in the City of Grand Junction.

While Homeward Bound has applied for funding through #GJSTRONG Fund, the City Council finds and determines and extra support is necessary and required so that the COVID-19 pandemic may be mitigated among the homeless population that is served by the shelter.

The City of Grand Junction has the authority pursuant to its Charter, ordinances and law to appropriate and expend funds in furtherance of the general health, safety and welfare of the

inhabitants of the City. The novel corona virus (COVID-19) presents a serious and imminent threat people's health and well-being.

Given the unprecedented impacts, some of which are known and some of which remain unknown, of the COVID-19 outbreak the adoption the City Council finds that this appropriation ordinance is necessary, proper and will further the general health, safety and welfare of the community.

This ordinance appropriates a certain sum of money for the purposes specifically and/or generally stated in the ordinance and the appropriation shall be used only for those purposes.

This supplemental appropriation provides for emergency, temporary assistance with the basic needs of food and shelter. The appropriation shall be allocated such that \$87,000.00 be allocated for improvements to and emergency support of the Homeward Bound Homeless shelter ("Shelter") to assist the Shelter in meeting basic human needs in response to COVID-19.

This action is unprecedented; however, it is wholly consistent with the City's *Strategic Plan*. The adoption of this ordinance furthers the City's partnership with the community. As stated in the *Plan* the City

"... views partnership in its broadest sense and not merely through the lens of delivering municipal services. Partnership with a common purpose is the key to success with public and private collaboration. Whether evaluating opportunities for shared services, partnering for economic development, or creating a shared vision for the future of our community, we recognize that our residents will be best served as we work together with other organizations to find solutions. We take every opportunity to celebrate past successful partnerships to build momentum for future collaboration."

The adoption of this ordinance is fiscally responsible. In this time of emergency, it would in fact be irresponsible to not adopt this ordinance. The approval of the ordinance will help to stabilize some people that may otherwise not be helped. According to City Council policy, City reserves are for a "rainy day"- the COVID-19 emergency necessitates expenditure of reserves so in the near and longer term future the community may recover faster and stronger than if the Fund is not expended. As stated in the *Plan*

"The foundation of effective local governance is trust. To continue to build the trust placed in us by our citizens, we must be responsible stewards of the resources entrusted to our care. Because of limited resources, we must be effective in prioritizing our spending to focus on the things that citizens have identified as most important. As we establish plans and priorities, we do so with an eye to the future. It is not enough to merely find a way to fund a new project or amenity. We must also ensure that we are planning for long-term ongoing operations and maintenance with each item that we prioritize."

The adoption of this ordinance serves to communicate with and engage the community at a time and under circumstances of severe need. As stated in the *Plan* the City will act to "build trust and ensure we continue to focus limited resources on our community's highest priorities."



Appropriating funds to the Economic Stimulus and Response Recovery Fund is a high, if not highest priority of the community.

With the adoption of this ordinance the City Council is endeavoring to serve the people that make this community great. As stated in the *Plan*

“Grand Junction was founded by innovative leaders, ready to lead the way to a new future. Our city continues in that tradition of leadership today. We are not content to wait around for the future, but rather desire to actively shape it. Our City holds a key position in the region. We must be a driving force in issues of regional importance and play a leading role in the growth occurring on the Western Slope. We will do this by setting an example of how local government should operate – in our conduct, in our words, and in our ideas. The status quo will not satisfy us, nor will it work, as we continue to push ourselves outside of our comfort zone to be innovative leaders.”

At its April 15 and May 6, 2020 meetings the City Council considered the foregoing Recitals, the purposes of this Ordinance and the importance of it to the Community and determined that an appropriation in the sum of \$87,000 is necessary and proper given the current emergency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO:** That the following sum of money be appropriated from unappropriated fund balance and additional revenues, to the City General Fund, for the year ending December 31, 2020, from and expended by and through the General Fund for the purposes provided in the ordinance as follows:


Fund Name	Fund #	Appropriation
General	100	\$87,000.00

Severability.

This Ordinance is necessary to protect the public health, safety and welfare of the residents of the City. If any provision of this Ordinance is found to be unconstitutional or illegal, such finding shall only invalidate that part or portion found to violate the law. All other provisions shall be deemed severed or severable and shall continue in full force and effect.

INTRODUCED on first reading on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020 and ordered published.

ADOPTED on second reading this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020.

  
C. E. Duke Wortmann  
President of the Council

ATTEST:

  
Wanda Winkelmann  
City Clerk



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing Ordinance, being Ordinance No. 4922 was introduced by the City Council of the City of Grand Junction, Colorado at a regular meeting of said body held on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 2020 and the same was published in The Daily Sentinel, a newspaper published and in general circulation in said City, in pamphlet form, at least ten days before its final passage.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT a Public Hearing was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020, at which Ordinance No. 4922 was read, considered, adopted and ordered published in pamphlet form by the Grand Junction City Council.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of said City this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020.

  
Deputy City Clerk

Published: April 17, 2020  
Published: May 8, 2020  
Effective: June 7, 2020