THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

Staff Report

Council Meeting Date: June 9, 2020

Subject: Contract Amendments for Extension of COVID-19 Shelter Operations Agreements

Staff Resource(s): Sam Powers, Director of Community and Economic Development
Brian Huskey, Community Development Analyst

Action Requested: Approval of resolutions to ratify City Manager's execution of contract extensions with Red Roof Inn, Inc. and Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina.

Background:

- On May 12, 2020, Council ratified the City Manager's execution of agreements with Red Roof Inn, Inc., Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina, and Axis Security for operations of a COVID-19 motel-based non-congregate emergency homeless shelter for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness and at significant risk of contracting COVID-19 because of age and/or underlying chronic health concerns.
- Sixty-five people (couples, families occupying some rooms) are currently in shelter and will continue to achieve the public health objective of prevention of COVID-19 among the community's unsheltered homeless population.
- It is desirable to continue this program, but the current term of the City's agreements with its partner organizations terminate in advance of the June 9th City Council Meeting.
- To avoid any lapse in service to this population, it is necessary to execute the amendments prior to June 9th to continue the agreements.
- The existing agreements with the vendors allow for extensions to continue operations if needed, however additional funding is necessary.
- The existing agreement with Axis Security requires only an extension beyond the current term ending on June 30th. Sufficient funds for this activity were previously approved on May 12th and no additional amounts are needed to extend the term of the contract for security. No council action on this contract is requested at this time.

Council Goal(s):

- A Diverse Community
- A Well-Planned and Livable Community
- Fiscally Resilient City

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- Continues the successful operation of the existing expanded COVID-19 homeless shelter.
- Addresses public health and safety.
- Non-congregate motel shelter, essential operations, and security costs are eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

Con(s):

- Potential damages incurred at the Hotel are not eligible for reimbursement from FEMA

Fiscal Impact:

- Additional costs for the extensions include $100,000 for Homeward Bound for up to two additional 30 day periods and $183,024 for Red Roof Inn for up to two additional 30 day periods.
- Funding for the contracts will come from previously approved budget authorization that was approved as part of the Affordable Housing Capital Improvement Program, so no budget amendment is required. Community & Economic Development will utilize Capital Improvement Program funding to cover upfront costs pending FEMA reimbursement.

Suggested Motion(s):

- Motion to adopt a resolution to ratify the City Manager's execution of an amendment of the existing Memorandum of Understanding with Red Roof Inn for provision of 60 rooms for COVID-19 non-congregate motel shelter for unsheltered at-risk people experiencing homelessness for up to two (2) additional 30 day terms, at a total cost not to exceed $183,024; and
- Motion to adopt a resolution to ratify the City Manager's execution of new services contract with Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina to conduct essential shelter operations for up to two (2) additional 30 day terms, at a total cost not to exceed $100,000;

Attachment(s):

- Resolutions

RESOLUTION NO. 20- _____

RESOLUTION TO RATIFY THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF AN EXTENSION OF THE EXISTING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH RED ROOF INN FOR PROVISION OF MOTEL ROOMS FOR NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER FOR PERSONS EXPERIENCING UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented an unprecedented need for emergency shelter for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the community's existing emergency homeless shelters have been in isolation status, unable to admit new clients, the potential duration of the COVID-19 pandemic remains unknown, and there are persons in the community currently experiencing unsheltered homeless who are at grave risk for contracting COVID-19 because of age and/or underlying chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, Red Roof Inn, Incorporated has provided 60 motel rooms to the City of Asheville for operation of a non-congregate emergency shelter for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness who are at risk of contracting COVID-19 for an initial period of 30 days, and

WHEREAS, Red Roof Inn has agreed to provide 60 motel rooms to the City of Asheville for operation of a non-congregate emergency shelter for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness who are at risk of contracting COVID-19 for an additional period of at least 30 days; and

WHEREAS, the existing Memorandum of Understanding executed by the City of Asheville and Red Roof Inn, Inc. provides for extensions of additional 30 day periods on mutual agreement between the parties; and

WHEREAS, in order to avoid in lapse in service, it was necessary to execute an amendment to extend the duration of this contract in advance of obtaining City Council Approval;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

City Council ratifies the City Manager's execution of an amendment to the existing Memorandum of Understanding with Red Roof Inn, Incorporated, for provision of 60 rooms at a nightly rate of $44.99 plus applicable taxes for up to two (2) additional periods of 30 days each.

Read, approved, and adopted this 9th day of June 2020.

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CITY CLERK MAYOR

Approved As To Form:

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CITY ATTORNEY

RESOLUTION NO. 20- _____

RESOLUTION TO RATIFY THE CITY MANAGER'S EXECUTION OF AN EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACT WITH HOMEWARD BOUND OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA TO OPERATE A MOTEL-BASED NON-CONGREGATE SHELTER FOR PERSONS EXPERIENCING UNSHELTERED HOMELESSNESS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented an unprecedented need for emergency shelter for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the community's existing emergency homeless shelters have been in isolation status, unable to admit new clients, the potential duration of the COVID-19 pandemic remains unknown, and there are persons in the community currently experiencing unsheltered homeless who are at grave risk for contracting COVID-19 because of age and/or underlying chronic health conditions; and

WHEREAS, the City of Asheville has previously executed a Services Contract with Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina to provide essential operations services for a non-congregate emergency shelter for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina has been successfully operating the existing non-congregate motel-based emergency shelter for persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness who are at risk of contracting COVID-19 during the initial contract period of 30 days, and

WHEREAS, Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina has agreed to continue to provide essential operations services for the existing non-congregate motel-based emergency shelter; and

WHEREAS, the existing Services Contract executed by the City of Asheville and Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina provides for extensions of additional 30 day periods on mutual agreement between the parties; and

WHEREAS, in order to avoid in lapse in service, it was necessary to execute an amendment to extend the duration of this contract in advance of obtaining City Council Approval;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE THAT:

City Council ratifies the City Manager's execution of a contract amendment to the existing Services Contract with Homeward Bound of Western North Carolina to continue to operate the existing non-congregate motel shelter for at-risk persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness for up to two (2) additional periods of 30 days each for a total cost not to exceed $100,000.

Read, approved, and adopted this 9th day of June 2020.

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CITY CLERK MAYOR

Approved As To Form:

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CITY ATTORNEY