

**ORDINANCE NO. 89-2020**

**AN ORDINANCE TO ENCUMBER THE UNENCUMBERED BALANCE OF THE CARES ACT FUND TO BE USED FOR PAYROLL EXPENSES FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES WHOSE SERVICES WERE SUBSTANTIALLY DEDICATED TO MITIGATING OR RESPONDING TO THE COVID-19 PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, the United States Treasury Department ("Treasury Department") issued guidance on September 2, 2020 indicating that local governments may utilize CARES Act funds for "payroll and benefits expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 health emergency"; and

WHEREAS, the Treasury Department has further stated that the "full amount of payroll and benefits expenses of substantially dedicated employees may be covered using payments from the Fund"; and

WHEREAS, the Treasury Department states, in recognition of the particular importance of public safety workers, that local governments may presume public safety employees meet the substantially dedicated test; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Office of Management and Budget issued guidance consistent with that of the Treasury Department, stating that the substantially dedicated presumption includes police officers and those who directly support police officers such as dispatchers and supervisory personnel; and

WHEREAS, the City of Reynoldsburg has identified our public safety employees in the Reynoldsburg Police Department as substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 health emergency, such that CARES Act funds may be used for payroll expenses and benefits for their services; and

WHEREAS, from March 7, 2020 through October 30, 2020, the City of Reynoldsburg expended a total of \$6,080,797.02 for public safety payroll expenses and benefits; and

WHEREAS, the City of Reynoldsburg anticipates that the unencumbered balance of CARES Act funds utilized for public safety payroll expenses and benefits will approximately between \$2.1 million and \$2.3 million, which would account for a little more than one-third (1/3) of the total cost of public safety expenses during the pandemic.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REYNOLDSBURG, OHIO;**

**SECTION 1:** That the City of Reynoldsburg hereby encumbers the balance of the funds from account number 203.000.5529 Miscellaneous Distribution that are not encumbered prior to November 20, 2020, for payroll expenses and benefits of public safety employees of the City of Reynoldsburg.

**SECTION 2:** 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, such that this Ordinance should take effect and be in force immediately from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor.

Passed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2020.

  
Leandra Jenkins, Council President

ATTEST:   
Mollie Prasher, Clerk of Council

APPROVED:   
Joe Begany, Mayor

DATE: 11/9/2020