

RESOLUTION #1199

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS, AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AS A PROJECT AND USE OF CURRENTLY APPROPRIATED FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$220,000 TO FUND THE PROJECT PENDING A FUTURE BUDGET AMENDMENT, AND AUTHORIZING THE SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE TO ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, in December 2019, a novel coronavirus, now designated as COVID-19, was detected in Wuhan, China; and

WHEREAS, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization (“WHO”) Director General declared the outbreak of COVID-19 a Public Health Emergency of International Concern and advised countries to prepare for the containment, including active surveillance, early detection, isolation and case management, contact tracing, and prevention of onward spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States declared a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease Outbreak; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020 the Governor of the State of Texas, declared a State of Disaster in Texas due to COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, on March 23, 2020, the Hopkins County Judge issued a Declaration of Local Disaster for Public Health Emergency; and

WHEREAS, on April 1, 2020 the Governor of the State of Texas issued Executive Order GA 14 relating to statewide continuity of essential services and activities during the COVID- 19 disaster, which encouraged people to stay home; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order GA 14 specifically required people to “avoid eating and drinking at bars, restaurants, and food courts, or visiting gyms, massage establishments... or cosmetology salons”; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have a growing economic impact on the global economy; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, many Sulphur Springs businesses have been and will continue to be adversely impacted as fewer people patronize those businesses; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code allows municipalities to establish economic development programs for making grants of public money to promote local economic development and to stimulate business and commercial activity in the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Sulphur Springs, Texas recognizes the economic strain the COVID-19 pandemic is causing its local businesses, and desires to establish a stimulus program to provide limited financial assistance to small business physically located within the city limits; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that establishing this program and awarding grants to such small businesses promotes local economic development and stimulates business and commercial activity in the municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further finds that establishing this program and awarding grants to such small businesses will serve the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Sulphur Springs and the interests of the City of Sulphur Springs and its small business community.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. That a small business assistance program pursuant to Chapter 380 of the Texas Local Government Code is established to provide immediate, short-term financial assistance in the form of grants to qualified businesses located within the city limits of the City of Sulphur Springs.

SECTION 2. That the criteria set forth in “Exhibit A- Small Business Assistance Program Policy and Application” establishes program and application requirements and determines a business’s eligibility to receive financial assistance under the program.

SECTION 3. The City Manager of the City of Sulphur Springs, Texas is directed to administer the small business assistance program and is authorized to make grants to businesses that comply with the program requirements, as set forth herein, and is authorized to take any and all other actions deemed necessary to administer the program consistent with the program requirements set forth herein. The City Manager is further authorized to negotiate and enter into Chapter 380 economic development program agreements with selected businesses.

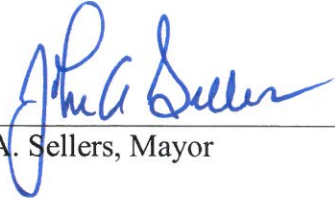
SECTION 4. That under the direction of the City Manager, a four-person small business assistance program committee comprised of the City Manager, Finance Director, Community Development Director and one City Council member shall review and approve applications for the program.

SECTION 5. That through a budget amendment, the City shall appropriate the sum of \$220,000 in the General Fund budget to establish the small business assistance program.

SECTION 6. That each qualified and approved small business is eligible to receive a one-time grant of up to \$2,500.

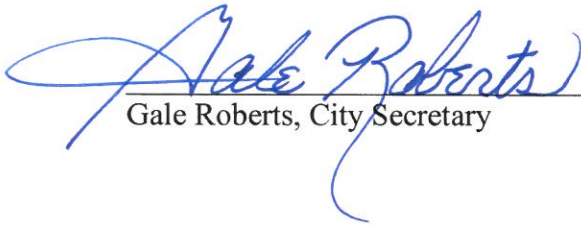
SECTION 7. That this Resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SULPHUR SPRINGS, TEXAS, THIS THE 7th DAY OF JULY 2020.



John A. Sellers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Gale Roberts, City Secretary