

Coralville City Council

Work Session

April 14, 2020

Via Electronic Meeting because a meeting in person is impossible or impractical due to concerns for the health and safety of Council members, staff, and the public presented by COVID-19

Present: Mayor John Lundell; Council Members Laurie Goodrich, Meghann Foster, Jill Dodds, Mitch Gross, Tom Gill

Staff Present: City Administrator Kelly Hayworth, Assistant City Administrator Ellen Habel, City Attorney Kevin Olson, Director of Finance Tony Roetlin, Director of Parks and Recreation Sherri Proud

Mayor Lundell opened the meeting at 7:25 pm.

Mayor Lundell asked Assistant City Administrator Ellen Habel for an update on Census response. Habel reported that the state of Iowa is currently tied with Nebraska for fifth in self-response rate at 54.7%; the rate in Johnson County is 56.7%, which is in the top 25 for the state's counties; and Coralville's rate is at 58.8%, with tracts ranging from 70.8% to 52.3%.

1. City Administrator's Time: City Administrator Kelly Hayworth reported on the following:
 - The United Way gave a very positive report on the operations of the Coralville Community Food Pantry.
 - Hayworth, Habel, and the City Engineers continue working on Clear Creek Watershed funding, with a current allocation of approximately \$480,000 and \$1 million to \$2 million in projects. Hayworth said the priority for the projects is the area behind Coralville Central and the funds need to be spent by December 2021.
 - Financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic—Hayworth noted the impacts of COVID-19 on hotel/motel tax revenues will be felt most in FY21. Director of Finance Tony Roetlin said that property tax distribution to the City from Johnson County was reduced in March from the expected amount as a result of the deferred payment option. Roetlin also noted that over the longer term, impacts on valuations are unknown. Hayworth reported delinquent utility payments are not out of the ordinary but both those and property tax payments could become a larger issue in the coming fiscal year. Hayworth said transit fares are down \$117,000 and MPOJC is expected to allocate CARES funds by late May. Council members commented on the importance of direct deposit for utility payments and suggested streamlining the process for enrolling in that system. Hayworth said the CHC is meeting weekly regarding the Marriott and that the hotel continues to book events. Habel reviewed the state funding from the CARES act and estimates for the share to be distributed to local governments.
 - Hayworth said arena construction continues on schedule for opening in late August and the interim general manager has been hired as the general manager.

Adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Notes taken by Ellen Habel, Assistant City Administrator