

City of Waukesha

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Committee: Finance Committee	Date : 11/28/2023
Common Council Item Number: ID#23-7885	Date: 12/5/2023
Submitted By: Mayor Shawn Reilly	City Administrator Approval: Anthony Brown, City Administrator
Finance Department Review: Joseph Ciurro, Finance Director	City Attorney's Office Review: Brian Running, City Attorney

Subject:

Review and act on a request to support the Parade Memorial at Grede Park with ARPA funding in the amount of \$600,000.

Details:

Following the Parade tragedy, the Mayor established a Parade Memorial Commission. The Commission's purpose is to create a memorial (s) that thoughtfully honors the victims of the Waukesha Christmas Parade tragedy, provides an opportunity for reflection and represents healing as a community.

The Commission determined two locations for memorials, one on Main Street and a second, larger memorial at Grede Park. The Main Street memorial will be located along the parade route itself. The larger memorial at Grede Park, is near the route, and allows for a larger space for community to reflect, remember and heal.

Once the designs were finalized fundraising for the memorials began. The City has been very successful in raising monetary donations as well as donations in kind.

The Main Street memorial was dedicated on 11/21/23, the second anniversary of the tragedy. The City is also getting ready to bid the Parade Memorial at Grede Park so that it can start construction in 2024.

The Mayor is proposing that the City participate in the funding of the Parade Memorial at Grede Park by dedicating \$600,000 of ARPA funds, that are currently unassigned, to the project. These funds will allow the City to sign contracts with fabricators for some of the components of the memorial that have long lead times and ensure that they are completed. The ARPA funding and donation funds will not be comingled. Donation funds are held at the Waukesha Community Foundation. Using the ARPA funds would symbolize the City's support for the project, their support for the victims, and their focus on community healing.

Options & Alternatives:

- 1. Approve the ARPA funding needed for the memorial guaranteeing the completion of the memorial.
- 2. Deny the request for ARPA funding which will delay the construction of the memorial.

Financial Remarks:

As of now, there are \$1,195,000 in ARPA funds which are not currently assigned to specific projects.

Executive Recommendation:

Recommend approval of a request to support the Parade Memorial at Grede Park with ARPA funding in the amount of \$600,000.