

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION FOR IOWA COVID-19 LOCAL GOVERNMENT RELIEF FUND CLAIMS AND DESIGNATING THE FINANCE DIRECTOR AS THE CITY REPRESENTATIVE TO REQUEST REIMBURSEMENT UNDER THE PROGRAM**

**BACKGROUND:**

The State of Iowa has made Federal CARES Act funds available to local governments. Requests for reimbursement by local governments must be consistent with CARES Act funding guidance from the U.S. Treasury Department. Additionally, expenses eligible for FEMA reimbursement must be made through FEMA and claims cannot be duplicated. City staff is in the process of preparing claims for reimbursement under the FEMA program, the Federal Transit program, and the Iowa COVID-19 Local Government Relief Fund. The first reimbursement request deadline under the Iowa COVID-19 Local Government Relief Fund is September 15, 2020.

To be eligible for Iowa COVID-19 Local Government Relief funding, the City Council must pass a resolution stating that the City will follow State and Federal guidelines on use of the funds and that if claims are misrepresented the City will be liable for repayment and any applicable penalty and interest. This is similar to terms in other grant programs.

Due to the timing and coordination of claims related to COVID, the Council should consider designating the Finance Director as the City's authorized representative to submit reimbursement requests under the Iowa COVID-19 Local Government Relief Fund in accordance with the terms and guidance of the program.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Adopt a resolution stating that the City of Ames will follow applicable guidance when seeking reimbursement for eligible expenses under the Iowa COVID-19 Local Government Relief Fund and designates the Finance Director as the City of Ames authorized representative to submit reimbursement requests in accordance with the terms and guidance of the program.
2. Refer back to City staff for modifications.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The adoption of a resolution is required to become eligible to request reimbursement of eligible expenses under the Iowa COVID-19 Local Government Relief program. Reimbursement of expenses will assist in mitigating the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1 as stated above.