By: Finance Department

Amended: December 20, 2021

Adopted: December 20, 2021

Yes: Brown, Graham, Harvey, Johnson, Sullivan-Leonard, Velock

No: None Absent: None

City of Wasilla Resolution Serial No. 21-33 (AM)

A Resolution Of The Wasilla City Council Awarding A COVID-19 Relief And Recovery Grant In An Amount Not To Exceed \$48,000 To Urgent Care To Support The Monoclonal Antibody Infusion Clinic.

WHEREAS, through Resolution Serial No. 20-24 and Ordinance Serial No. 20-28, the City of Wasilla (City) accepted \$18,690,897.67 for Coronavirus relief funds through the Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development for costs that are for necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, the City remains diligent in its mitigation efforts within our community by encouraging testing and vaccinations to mitigate COVID-19 health related issues; and

WHEREAS, Urgent Care at Lake Lucille has established a Monoclonal Antibody (mAb) Infusion Clinic and has provided infusions and injections to medical providers, their staff, the underserved and uninsured members of our community; and

WHEREAS, Urgent Care has expressed a need for support for reimbursement for costs provided to date of \$48,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wasilla City Council authorizes support to Urgent Care at Lake Lucille by providing reimbursement for Monoclonal Antibody Infusions to members of our community who could not afford treatment and directs Administration to administer the grant.

Appropriation of Funds. The funds are appropriated to the following:

110-4181-499-45-15 Small Business Grant

\$48,000

## Source of Funds.

110-4181-499-45-18 City Resiliency and Recovery

\$48,000

Effective Date. This resolution takes effect upon adoption.

ADOPTED by the Wasilla City Council on December 20, 2021.

Glenda D. Ledford, Mayor

ATTEST:

[SEAL]

Jamie Newman, MMC, City Clerk

## City of Wasilla **Legislative Staff Report** Resolution Serial No. 21-33

A Resolution Of The Wasilla City Council Awarding A COVID-19 Relief And Recovery Grant In An Amount Not To Exceed \$144,000 To Urgent Care To Support The Monoclonal **Antibody Infusion Clinic.** 

Originator:

Troy Tankersley, Finance Director

Date:

12/9/2021

Agenda of: 12/20/2021

Route to:	Department Head	Signature	Date
X	Finance Director	Blimbanto	12-9-21
X	Deputy Administrator	Antala	12/9/21
X	City Clerk	Same,	12/10/2025
X	Mayor	Derde Lieferd	12-10-21

Fiscal Impact: ⊠ yes or □ no

Funds Available: ⊠ yes or □ no

Account name/number:

110-4181-499-45-15 Small Business Grant

Attachments:

Resolution Serial No. 21-33 (2 pages)

Urgent Care at Lake Lucille Letter dated December 7, 2021 (2 pages)

Summary Statement: The COVID-19 pandemic has required many underserved and uninsured members of our community to seek treatment for symptoms caused from COVID-19.

With the onset of other COVID-19 variants, and to continue encouraging testing and vaccinations for COVID-19, the City has received a request to offer CARES Act Grant assistance to Urgent Care at Lake Lucille in providing Monoclonal Antibody Infusions.

The request for support is \$144,000. This is comprised of \$48,000 of prior expense in providing infusions along with \$96,000 to provide up to 60 more treatments at a cost of \$1,600 each to the medical providers, their staff, and the underserved and uninsured members of our community.

Funding in support of Resolution Serial No. 21-33 requires the transfer from one account to another account within the same fund as allowed through WMC 5.04.150.

If adopted, Administration would require Urgent Care at Lake Lucille to attest to the need of this funding through a memorandum of agreement or similar document before the funds would be granted to Urgent Care.

Proposed Action: Adopt Resolution Serial No. 21-33.



185 E Parks Hwy, Wasilla, Alaska 99654 Ph. 907-373-4200 Fax 907-373-4200

December 7, 2021

Troy Tankersley Director of Finance 290 E Herning Avenue Wasilla, Alaska 99654

Urgent Care at Lake Lucille, through Louis Packer, MD, established a Monoclonal Antibody (mAb) Infusion Clinic on July 12, 2021 as a separate wing alongside our facility. Since July, we have given the mAb infusions and injections to 719 patients. Included in the 719 patients, we also offered, free of charge, this treatment to any *Medical Providers and their Staff and to a limited number of underserved and uninsured members of the community*, if they had no insurance or can't afford their deductible/copay. This has been accomplished largely by word of mouth.

Now, we want to expand and ensure that positive Covid-19 and patients that were exposed to Covid-19, receive the mAb treatment regardless of the ability to pay. The medicine is free, administering it is costly and time consuming and our payrolls have been our highest ever. Expanding our services for this life-saving treatment could reduce both hospitalizations, further reduce Covid-19 spread and deaths while keeping the essential medical workers fit-for-duty.

Since July 2021, we have given away numerous treatments and are working in conjunction with the Mat-Su Health foundation to deliver mAB to both the Medical Professionals and their staff to ensure medical services are up and running and essential medical staff are fit to serve the positive Covid-19 and ill community members.

To recoup some of our extraordinary startup costs, slow reimbursements from the insured, and record-breaking payrolls the Mat-Su health foundation is processing a grant to help recoup our startup expenses. We have been operating on a shoestring budget since the start of the pandemic and have been open 362-days a year. The treatments are 2-3 hours each under direct physician monitoring and it takes a team of 5 employees. We are requesting funds so that we can reach more members of the community that cannot afford this life saving treatment. Currently, when patients can't afford the treatment, and are without insurance coverage we offer a limited number of treatments per day for free. We do this by asking the patients directly when they inquire about the charges of the mAb treatment (which ranges between \$1600-\$1900) depending on their workup. This enables us to offer a limited amount of No Charge treatments to the noninsured, underinsured and underserved

member of the community. We also have reached out to the medical community and their staff to include firemen and EMTs and those who are without insurance or have large deductibles and/or large copays.

If we qualify, and there is funding under the CARES Act, we are requesting to be reimbursed for members of the community that cannot afford the treatment at \$1600 each. This would help us reach more community members. Since July 12, we have given approximately \$48,000 of treatments out for free, and have the capacity, in the days left in 2021 to expand to 3 no charge treatment per day if we could receive reimbursement at \$1600 each. We are open 7-days a week. If we could receive funding for 60 more treatments for the remainder of the month at \$96,000 plus the \$48,000 we have already provided, or any support, we would be better able to support more treatments. The total request would be \$144,000 if we succeed in 60 more free treatments (I imagine it would be less than 60 as there is little time left of this fiscal year). Of course we would supply any audit requested documentation needed for our services, and only request reimbursements for the patients that had the service free of charge.

It is important to know that you must receive this treatment within 10-days of onset of symptoms. To this end: (1) Test early when symptoms first arise (we have an outdoor testing facility); (2) Schedule an appointment (we can always squeeze in the medical workers that day); (3) Call Lou if you any questions 907.715.6956; and (4) get your mAb treatment.

**Prophylactic mAb injections**, if you have been exposed, or fear you have been we offer mAb injections to reduce risk. For this you need not be positive. This allows up to 8-months of immunity at 82% effectiveness. Since medical providers are at a higher risk of exposure, it is essential to keep them up and running.

Please feel free may to contact us if you have any questions. Ellen. Varosi@UrgentCareAlaska.com or call Lou Packer 907.715.6956.

Be Well,

Ellen Rose Varosi Louis Packer, MD

GET IN.... GET OUT... GET BETTER!!!