MEMORANDUM

TO: Legislators, Directors, Staff and Media

FROM: Jack Moffitt, Clerk of the Legislature

DATE: May 13, 2020

RE: Matter of Importance – File Nos. 20-0194


As a Matter of Importance – President Carbone, Majority Leader Brew, Vice-President Marianetti, Legislators Wilt, Smith, DiFlorio, Allkofer, Boyce, Anciao, Terp, Dondero, Delehanty, Hebert, Taylor, & Zale

This referral was not made to committee at the preceding meeting of the Legislature on May 12, 2020, but has been determined by President Dr. Joe Carbone to be of sufficient importance to warrant referral between Legislative meetings, pursuant to Section 545-24 (C) of the Rules of the Monroe County Legislature.

Attachments
May 13, 2020

To the Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614


Honorable Legislators:

From the onset, the local response to the COVID-19 pandemic has been community-based, with all levels of government working together to best protect the community. Many municipalities, school districts, and fire districts have gone beyond expectations to safely serve residents – often at an increased cost.

Last month, this Honorable Body accepted $129,433,144.90 in grant funding from the United States Treasury for the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. None of the local government units within Monroe County were eligible to receive these funds as they do not meet the 500,000 population minimum.

In the Treasury Department released Coronavirus Relief Fund Frequently Asked Questions, updated as of May 4, 2020, it states the following:

"A county may transfer funds to a city, town, or school district within the county and a county or city may transfer funds to its State, provided that the transfer qualifies as a necessary expenditure incurred due to the public health emergency and meets the other criteria of section 601(d) of the Social Security Act outlined in the Guidance."

Based upon this updated guidance and conversations with local elected leaders, we believe that many local Towns, Villages, School Districts, Fire Districts, and the City of Rochester have incurred expenses eligible for reimbursement in accordance with the above-referenced guidance.
The specific legislative actions required are to:

1. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to execute intermunicipal agreements with the City of Rochester, Towns of Brighton, Chili, Clarkson, Gates, Greece, Hamlin, Henrietta, Irondequoit, Mendon, Ogden, Parma, Penfield, Perinton, Pittsford, Riga, Rush, Sweden, Webster, and Wheatland, Town/Village of East Rochester, and Villages of Brockport, Churchville, Fairport, Hilton, Honeoye Falls, Pittsford, Scottsville, Spencerport, and Webster, local School Districts, and local Fire Districts for reimbursement of necessary expenditures incurred due to the COVID-19 public health emergency that meet the criteria of section 601(d) of the Social Security Act COVID-related expenses in accordance with the CARES ACT, for the period March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020.

2. Require the County Executive, or his designee, to provide the Clerk of the County Legislature a copy of any agreement authorized under this action, within three days of the execution of such agreement.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c) and is not subject to review under the State Environmental Review Act.

Funding for these agreements is included in the 2020 amended operating budget, general fund 9001, funds center 1209070100, State of Emergency.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]

Dr. Joe Carbone
Monroe County Legislature
President

Steve Brew
Monroe County Legislature
Majority Leader

Brian E. Marianetti
Monroe County Legislature
Vice-President

R. Edwin Wilt
Monroe County Legislator
District 1

Jackie Smith
Monroe County Legislator
District 2

Tracy DiFlorio
Monroe County Legislator
District 3

Frank X. Allkofer
Monroe County Legislator
District 4

Karla F. Boyce
Monroe County Legislator
District 5

Fred Ancello
Monroe County Legislator
District 6
Matthew Terp  
Monroe County Legislator  
District 8

Paul Dondorfer  
Monroe County Legislator  
District 9

Sean M. Delehanty  
Monroe County Legislator  
District 11

George J. Hebert  
Monroe County Legislator  
District 15

Kathleen A. Taylor  
Monroe County Legislator  
District 19

Mike Zale  
Monroe County Legislator  
District 20