

Resolution #20-0283
Resolution Book, Volume 2, Page 136

**RESOLUTION PRIORITIZING USES OF POTENTIAL FEDERAL AND STATE
CORONAVIRUS RELIEF FUNDING**

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has devastated the U.S economy; and

WHEREAS, the projected impact of the resulting economic recession on local government revenues will see sales taxes, occupancy taxes, and other general purpose revenues plummet during the last quarter of the current fiscal year and well into next fiscal year; and

WHEREAS, recent federal coronavirus relief legislation, including the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, has not provided any direct financial assistance to local governments with populations under 500,000 to offset revenue shortfalls resulting from the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, to balance the proposed FY 2021 budget, the Mayor and City Council employed austere measures including no merit pay for employees, no supplemental pay for public safety personnel, a delay in increasing the minimum hourly rate, elimination of 24 vacant positions, limited equipment replacements, and the use of nearly \$10 million in general fund and economic development reserves; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council are working with the National League of Cities to ensure future federal relief legislation includes direct, flexible assistance to local governments of any size; and

WHEREAS, State legislation has not provided direct financial assistance to cities and towns, only indirectly through counties if the counties agree to distribute a portion of those funds; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council seek to prioritize how the City would utilize any new federal assistance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winston-Salem that the City would allocate any new federal and state assistance according to the following priorities:

1. Minimize the use of the \$10 million in general fund and economic development reserves used to balance the FY 2021 budget.
2. Provide for a 2% merit pay adjustment for all City employees.
3. Increase the minimum hourly rate to \$14.
4. Restore the 2% public safety supplemental pay adjustment for sworn police officers and certified firefighters.
5. Provide for the replacement of additional critical equipment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution will be effective upon adoption.