

RESOLUTION 23 - 51, 2023
COLUMBIA TOWNSHIP, HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO

AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OHIO URBAN FORESTRY GRANT PROGRAM, AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS AS REQUIRED, AND DISPENSING WITH THE SECOND READING

WHEREAS, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (“ODNR”), Division of Forestry, is soliciting applications from government agencies and nonprofit organizations for a new Urban Forestry Grant Program intended to benefit the quality of life in urban communities that have disadvantaged populations with established forestry programs; and

WHEREAS, Funds provided by the United States Dept. of Agriculture Forest Service are intended to be invested in local and community forestry programs to achieve the goal of tree purchase, installation, and long-term care for areas with a sparse tree canopy. The over-arching goal is to invest in the creation and expansion of urban forests which provide communities with clean air and water, increased property values, and reduced stormwater runoff, erosion, and energy demands; and

WHEREAS, Columbia Township has an existing, well established forestry program on Township-owned property, and, through landscaping permits, on certain Ohio Dept. of Transportation-owned property within Township limits; however, the Township does not have dedicated funding for professional staff or contractors to conduct an urban forest management plan, risk mitigation, proactive maintenance, or other urban forestry activities and must rely on grants or similar one-time funding opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Township wants to seek funding through the new ODNR Urban Forestry Grant Program to develop a multi-year urban community forestry program that is sustainable to generate a long-term impact on the community’s tree cover; and

WHEREAS, the federal grant funds will be on a reimbursement basis, require that at least a portion of the funds be used for tree planting, and require that the eligible activities must meet various federal and national industry standards as described in the grant application (attached); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees, upon majority vote, hereby dispenses with the requirement that this Resolution be read on two separate days, and hereby authorizes the adoption of this Resolution upon its first reading.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Columbia Township, Hamilton County, Ohio, for the benefit and welfare of Columbia Township and its citizens:

Section 1: The Administrator is hereby authorized to apply to the Ohio Urban Forestry Grant Program for funds as described above.

Section 2: The Administrator is authorized to enter into any agreements as may be necessary and appropriate for obtaining this financial assistance.

Passed September 12, 2023

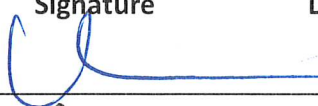

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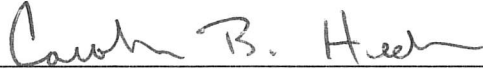
Motion to accept Resolution made by: Mrs./Mr. Mr. KUBICKI

Seconded by Mr./Mrs. LAMAR

VOTE:

TRUSTEE

	Voting	Signature	Date
David Kubicki	yes		12/12/2023
Brian Lamar	yes		12/12/2023
Susan Hughes			12/12/2023

ATTEST:  12/12/2023
Caroline Heekin, Fiscal Officer

APPROVED as to form: _____
Township Legal Counsel