ORDINANCE NO. 15974

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 113 - 2023

INTRODUCED BY

DECEMBER 6, 2023

AN ORDINANCE

Repealing Ordinance 15938 passed on August 16, 2023 by administering the grant through the Bureau of Building Standards and Safety and creating proper accounts as required under the grant and The legislation amended the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Two-Million-Dollars ($2,000,000.00) grant funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to address housing related hazards including radon remediation, asbestos abatement, and electrical and plumbing repairs.

The 2023 Federal Healthy Homes Production Grant is a reimbursable grant which will be spent over the course of 42 months to fund repairs up to $10,000 per home for 135 qualified Allentown homeowners and tenants/landlords. Additionally, it is requested to amend the 2023 General Fund budget to create two (2) new fully grant funded positions in the Department of Community & Economic Development's (DCED) , Bureau of Building Standards & Safety, Community Housing program and provide supplemental grant funding to two (2) existing positions. The funds for these positions were awarded as a grant from the Federal Healthy Homes Production (HHP).

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That the Mayor is authorized to accept and expend on a reimbursable basis the Two Million Dollar ($2,000,000) HUD Healthy Homes grant (PAHHP0110-23) and that page 197 of the General Fund budget be amended by adding the following positions:

Program Manager – 10N ($62,270)
Construction Project Manager – 13N ($71,019)

SECTION TWO: That the Mayor is directed to establish and maintain any and all accounts and records as are necessary to make such transfers as may be required to expend and account for said HUD – HHP Funds in accordance with the approved Consolidation Plan, appropriate Federal law, and HUD regulations.

SECTION THREE: That Council of the City of Allentown authorizes the appropriation of the 2023 HHP reimbursable grant in the amount of $2,000,000.00 over the course of 42-months (September 1, 2023 – March 1, 2027) in the following manner:

Department of Community and Economic Development

Bureau of Building Standards & Safety
Office of Community Housing Development

000-09-0903-0003-02 Permanent Wages.....	$ 562,337.28
000-09-0903-0003-12 FICA.....	.$ 48,701.18
000-09-0903-0003-14 Pension.....	$,60,000.00
000-09-0903-0003-16 Insurance.....	$,60,000.00
000-09-0903-0003-34 Training & Professional Development.....	$ 39,081.00
000-09-0903-0003-46 Other Contract Services	$ 1,116,880.54
000-09-0903-0003-68 Operating Materials & Supplies	$ 61,000.00
Total	$ 2,000,000.00

That City Council authorizes the reimbursement of $2,000,000.00 over the course of 42 months into the General Fund from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development into revenue account:

000-5240	Other Grants and Miscellaneous	$2,000,000.00

SECTION FOUR: That this Ordinance will take effect ten (10) days after final passage.

SECTION FIVE: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

	Yea	Nay
Candida Affa	X	
Ce-Ce Gerlach	X	
Cynthia Y. Mota	X	
Santo Napoli	X	
Natalie Santos	X	
Ed Zucal	X	
Daryl Hendricks, Pres.	X	
TOTAL	7	0

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was passed by City Council on December 20, 2023 and signed by the Mayor on December 22, 2023.

CITY CLERK

- What department or bureau is this bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?

  Department of Community & Economic Development, Community Housing Development

- Summary and facts of the bill

  Resolution #30513 granted permission for the Community Housing program to apply to a U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Notification of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for the fiscal year 2023 Healthy Homes Production (HHP) grant. The City of Allentown was selected as a recipient of this funding. This ordinance appropriates the new Federal Healthy Homes Production reimbursable grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in the amount of $2,000,000.

- Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:
  a. What does the bill do? What are the specific goals or tasks the bill seeks to accomplish?

     This legislation requests City Council's permission to accept and access HUD's HHP funding. The 2023 Federal Healthy Homes Production Grant totals $2,000,000 over the course of 42 months to fund repairs up to $10,000 per home for 135 qualified Allentown homeowners and tenants/landlords. Housing-related hazards include radon remediation, asbestos abatement, as well as electrical and plumbing repairs. These repairs will improve the quality of Allentown housing and strengthen neighborhoods.

  b. What are the benefits of doing this?

     The funds address multiple housing-related hazards in a comprehensive fashion to help 135 vulnerable low to moderate income residents by preventing injuries and diseases and improving their overall quality of life.

  c. How does this bill relate to the City's vision/mission/priorities?

     This work corresponds with our Vision 2030 plan to improve the quality of the Allentown housing stock as well as increase the quality of healthy, safe and affordable housing.

- Financial impact – Please include the following in your explanation:
  a. Cost (initial and ongoing)

     The Federal Lead Grant is a reimbursable grant. All monies must be expended before they can be received into revenue account 000-5240. This grant will 100% fund salary and benefit expenses for two new positions; Program Manager 10N ($62,270) & Construction Project Manager 13N ($71,019). The grant will also off-set General Fund costs for two (2) existing positions: Staff Accountant (15N) and Program Director (14N), thereby reducing the City's salary expense for the Staff Accountant by an additional 1% ($919) and Program Director by an additional 25% ($19,048).

New Position: Program Manager, 10N ($62,270/year, $20,756/2023)

New Position: Construction Project Manager,13N ($71,019/year, $23,673/2023)

Supplement General Fund personnel costs by providing partial grant funding for two (2) current positions:
Staff Accountant 15N – 1% (General Fund savings $919/year)
Program Director 14N – 25% (General Fund savings $19,048/year)

b. Benefits (initial and ongoing)

The quantity of healthy and affordable housing stock in Allentown will be increased by 135 homes. The residents living in these units will benefit from a healthier living environment from work that they might not be able to afford without this grant.

- Priority Status – Are there any deadlines to be aware of?

The contract will be to complete 135 homes in 42 months. Period of performance: September 1, 2023 - March 1, 2027.

- Why should Council unanimously support this bill?

The Healthy Homes Production (HHP) grant helps vulnerable Allentown residents reach their full potential by preventing injuries and diseases and lowering healthcare costs by fixing older housing, preserving affordable housing and improving communities.