

Debra Thompson

From: Will and Christy Ware <info@akcedarbox.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 2:05 PM
To: Bob Lynn; Assembly; Petersburg Chamber
Subject: Re: Cares Act Funding

Hi Bob,

Thanks for the reply. I have sat and thought about what your rationale is and have come to the conclusion that I don't envy your position. However, I keep coming up with the same additional response, and this is if we are saving this Care's Act money for a rainy day, let me assure you, it's raining...and hard! These funds are not only allocated for emergency response teams, or non profits, or future flexibility, but for helping to stabilize the economy of our community. I am not taking anything away from other entities, industries, or organizations that the Assembly has chosen to help. However, I am advocating on behalf of and asking for our Assembly to recognize our business community, who are the first responders to donating to nearly every financial need that this town presents. I'm advocating for the businesses that produce not just sales tax revenue to our community, but provide for the livelihood of many households. I'm advocating for the businesses who bring dollars that stay in our town that go way beyond sales tax. I'm advocating for our businesses that are working to keep their heads above water.

I know you're not suggesting that businesses are not as important as other options for use of the Cares Act funds. However, by not allocating resources to the local businesses with at least part of what this funding is intended to be utilized for, seems to be stating such.

Gunalcheesh.
Will Ware

On Sat, Aug 1, 2020 at 2:21 PM Bob Lynn <blynn@petersburgak.gov> wrote:

Thank you for the note.

I wish my crystal ball could look into the future and predict what might happen with this virus. The question I have is how to allocate the limited funds we have. If we allocate all right now and there is a shift in need then there is no chance to help on any other situation et. local businesses, day care, elderly, etc. If we keep some reserve for a period of time there is flexibility and that money could still go to the same sources. Not an easy decision.

bob

From: Will and Christy Ware <info@akcedarbox.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2020 5:36 PM
To: Assembly <assembly@petersburgak.gov>; pcoc@alaskan.com <pcoc@alaskan.com>; Liz Cabrera <lcabrera@petersburgak.gov>
Subject: Cares Act Funding

Good afternoon,

I want to say that I had an incredible call with Liz Cabrera today regarding the status of our local storefronts downtown today. She also took some time to explain where we are with Petersburg's Cares Act Funding in regards to our schools and hospital obligations.

I want to start by saying that I am full support of giving our schools the full funding they need to operate during this time. While we are experiencing low counts of the virus here locally at this time, the full protection of our children's physical and mental, and of course educational needs should be reflected in our Care's Act Budget. I have the same concern for our medical center.

However, I would also echo these same sentiments for our local small businesses. Small, brick and mortar storefronts are the backbone of every community, including Petersburg. I have spoken with a few of my fellow business owners here on mainstreet and find that, while they may not be vocal regarding their (our) dire situations, many businesses are uncertain if they will still have their doors open after this pandemic is over. While many of us have taken advantage of the PPP and/or the EIDL, it simply is not enough to ensure that we are going to be able to survive the long fall/winter and spring, especially in light of low revenue generation this summer. Bottom line, there is no security in knowing whether or not we have enough to make it. In the next week you will see some food vendor(s) closing as it no longer makes sense to stay open this summer.

In closing, I would be remiss if I didn't say how appreciative we are of the \$1000 grant given by the Borough earlier this Spring. It was immediately used to cover a portion of our rent for that month. I understand that came from the Borough coffers, and not the Care's Act funding. Can our local businesses expect the Assembly to continue to see local businesses as a priority and provide additional support from the Care's Act funding?

Gunalcheesh!

--

Will Ware
The Cedar Box
PO Box 1041
101 B Nordic Dr
Petersburg, AK 99833
907-772-2666
www.akcedarbox.com

--

Christy Ware
The Cedar Box
PO Box 1041
101 B Nordic Dr
Petersburg, AK 99833
907-772-2666
www.akcedarbox.com