



Pinellas County

Staff Report

File #: 22-1467A, Version: 1

Subject:

Municipal Services Taxing Unit funding for the Friends of Ridgecrest, Inc. for facility upgrades and maintenance equipment for the Tasker Beal Jr. Service Center.

Recommended Action:

Approval of the Municipal Services Taxing Unit funding request, in the amount not to exceed \$16,071.86, for facility upgrades and maintenance equipment for the Tasker Beal Jr. Service Center.

- The Tasker Beal Jr. Service Center is owned and operated by the Friends of Ridgecrest and serves as a community center in the Greater Ridgecrest community.
- The Center needs various improvements and maintenance equipment to allow for increased service delivery to the community.
- Funds will be used to purchase a lawn mower, edger, weed wacker, blower, pole saw, pressure washer, generator, office furniture, and installation of a security system, motion detectors, flood lights, smoke detectors, water fountains and internet for the facility.

Strategic Plan:

Foster Continual Economic Growth and Vitality

4.2 Invest in communities that need the most

Deliver First-Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.1 Maximize partner relationships and public outreach

5.4 Strive to serve the needs of all Pinellas County residents and customers

Summary:

The Tasker Beal Jr. Service Center is owned and operated by the Friends of Ridgecrest and serves as a community Center in the Greater Ridgecrest community. The Center is in need of various improvements and maintenance equipment to allow for increased service delivery to the community.

Funds will be used to purchase a lawn mower, edger, weed wacker, blower, pole saw, pressure washer, generator, office furniture, and installation of a security system, motion detectors, flood lights, smoke detectors, water fountains and internet for the facility. The equipment and upgrades to the facility will ensure the Center is able to better provide needed services to residents of the community in a safe, secure, and comfortable manner.

Background Information:

The Friends of Ridgecrest is a nonprofit organization that brings community members, faith organizations, and service providers together to ensure the needs of the Greater Ridgecrest community are met. The Friends of Ridgecrest owns and operates the Tasker Beal Jr. Service Center which provides space for groups to meet, houses a thrift store, and rents space to other service providers from the community to operate out of. The Friends of Ridgecrest has an annual operating

budget of \$11,000 and relies on CDBG dollars, MSTU funds, and other grants to make upgrades to the Tasker Beal Jr. Service Center.

Fiscal Impact:

The request for funding in the amount of \$16,071.86 is a one-time expenditure of budgeted MSTU Special Project funds. Funding is included in the General Government MSTU cost center within the General Fund and is consistent with amounts provided during FY22 budget development.

Staff Member Responsible:

Brian Lowack, Assistant to the County Administrator, County Administration

Partners:

Friends of Ridgecrest

Attachments:

MSTU Special Projects Funding Application

Tasker Beal Service Center Upgrades and Equipment Estimates