



# CITY OF FERNLEY

## CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: April 7, 2021

**REPORT TO:** Mayor and City Council  
**REPORT FROM:** Daphne Hooper, City Manager  
**REVIEWED BY:** Brandi Jensen, City Attorney  
**REVIEWED BY:** Denise Lewis, City Treasurer

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

Yes:  No:

**CURRENTLY BUDGETED:**

Yes:  No:

**FUND/ACCOUNT:**

220-480-800 Project #: 2020.002.2

**ACTION REQUESTED:**  Consent  Ordinance  Resolution  Motion  Receive/File

**AGENDA ITEM: Staff Report (For Possible Action): For Possible Action: Possible approval for the City of Fernley to fund the 2021 Fernley STEM Festival in the amount not to exceed \$3,000.00 to cover the cost of the VFAIRS Platform using the COVID-19 CARES Act Funds.**

**Agenda Item Brief:** Due to COVID-19 restrictions and safety guidelines, the Fernley STEM Festival will need to go virtual this year during the week of May 24, 2021. Fernley STEM will use the online platform VFAIRS at the cost of \$10,000. Fernley STEM has raised \$7,000 from local businesses and volunteer community. Fernley STEM is requesting financial assistance from the City of Fernley in the amount of \$3,000 to cover the cost of the VFAIRS Platform. The City has COVID-19 CARES Act Funds available. If approved by Council, the COVID-19 funds will be utilized for this request.

**Recommended Motion:**

**“I approve the City of Fernley to fund the 2021 Fernley STEM Festival in the amount not to exceed \$3,000.00 to fund the cost of the VFAIRS Platform using the COVID-19 CARES Act Funds.”**

**Business Impact (per NRS Chapter 237):**

- A Business Impact Statement is Attached.
- A Business Impact Statement is not required because this is not a rule (term excludes vehicles by which legislative powers are exercised under NRS Chapters 271, 278, 278A, or 278B).

**See attached report for background, analysis, alternatives.**

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Council may not approve the proposed request for funding, request more information, or propose a different funding amount.

**BACKGROUND:**

Due to COVID 19 restrictions and safety guidelines, the Fernley STEM Festival will need to go virtual this year during the week of May 24, 2021. We felt that the students and community should not miss another educational opportunity caused by restrictions. We had 1,300 attendees at last year's event, and we want to keep that momentum going!

We will do this by using an online platform called VFAIRS. This online platform will create a place for participants to go during a set time frame that will allow them to "click" into different rooms that will be occupied by local businesses and educational institutions. These "rooms" will either have a live person there to interact with participants or a video that will demonstrate how STEM technology interacts with their organization.

This year's theme for the video will be "Coping with COVID and using STEM" in their organization.

The cost of this platform will be \$10,000 for the initial participant levels. We anticipate that the main users will be the Fernley community. It is possible that our numbers will grow since we will tell other communities in Northern Nevada that this will take place and they can participate as well. We have already raised \$7,000 from the local business and volunteer community. We are hoping that the City of Fernley can help us with the additional \$3,000 to cover the cost of the VFAIRS platform. If the Virtual Festival numbers go beyond the initial platform setup, the Fernley STEM Council is prepared to cover those costs through their additional resources.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

N/A

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS:**

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

If approved by Council, the COVID-19 CARES Act Funds will be utilized to fund this request.

**ATTACHMENTS:**