

TEMPORARY RESOLUTION NO. 48-22

PERMANENT RESOLUTION NO. 54-22

A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE CERTAIN EXPENDITURES IN CONNECTION WITH BUSINESS MEETINGS, TRAININGS, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

WHEREAS, government entities may not make expenditures of public monies unless they are for a valid public purpose, and two main criteria demonstrate whether an expenditure is for a public purpose: First, the expenditure is required for the general good of all inhabitants (which includes but is not limited to the promotion of health, safety, welfare, morals, security, prosperity, and contentment); second, the primary objective of the expenditure is to further a public purpose, even if an incidental private end is advanced; and

WHEREAS, general fund or other expenditures (and other sourced expenditures, such as grant expenditures, if in compliance with rules, regulations, terms and conditions) of simple food or refreshments in connection with business meetings and trainings are permitted; and

WHEREAS, the general good obtained from the expenditure is efficient operations and attendance of employees at the business meetings or trainings, and while an incidental private end is advanced with simple food purchases, the primary objective is to further a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, certain community engagement activities, documented at the departmental level, may also require a purchase of simple food or refreshments for the general good of all inhabitants and to further a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, the Ohio Attorney General indicated in Opinion 82-006 that because the determination of what constitutes a proper public purpose is primarily a legislative function, such decisions "...must be made in accordance with the procedural formalities governing the exercise of legislative power. Specifically, the decision must be memorialized by a duly enacted ordinance or resolution and may have prospective effect only,";

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, STATE OF OHIO,

SECTION 1. That Lancaster City Council approves general fund or other expenditures (or other sourced expenditures if in compliance with rules, regulations, terms, and conditions) of simple (de minimis) food or refreshments in connection with business meetings or trainings, including but not limited to conferences, staff meetings, seminars, and Personnel Department sponsored trainings.

SECTION 2. The payment for such expenditures noted in Section 1 shall be supported by an agenda, attendance records, and/or summary of the meeting or training –and- shall be processed within the normal, customary process.

SECTION 3. That the Lancaster City Council similarly approves expenditures from public funds for simple, de minimus food or refreshments, including candy, for community engagement activity, as long as the community engagement is summarized with expected costs and intended results (a one-page evaluation of the community engagement, those expected to attend, the expected costs, and the envisioned results of the engagement) prior to the purchase of the food or refreshments -and- as long as the Mayor or his designee approves the expenditure prior to its purchase and notes approval of the community engagement summary. (This documentation serves in the place of an agenda and summary of a meeting or training, as an agenda or summary of that nature would not be available.)

SECTION 4. That this resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: 4/11/22 after 3rd reading. Vote: Yeas 8 Nays 0

Date Approved: 4/11/22

Clerk: Jeresa Lee Somdy

[Signature]  
President of Council

Offered by: [Signature]

[Signature]  
Mayor

Second by: Don M. M. Daniel

Requested by Finance Committee