

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

January 16, 2018

City Council

STAFF

Karen McWilliams, Historic Preservation Planner
Brad Yatabe, Legal

SUBJECT

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 003, 2018, Appropriating Prior Year Reserves in the General Fund and the Recreation Fund and Authorizing the Transfer of Appropriations in the Recreation Fund to the General Fund for the James Ross Proving-Up House Restoration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance, unanimously adopted on First Reading on January 2, 2018, appropriates previously received grant funds of \$16,080 received from the Cache la Poudre Heritage Alliance and unanticipated revenue of \$3,357 from the Fort Collins Historical Society for the restoration of the James Ross Proving-Up House. The total new appropriation is \$19,437. The grant is matched by Historic Preservation funds of \$32,847 and Recreation Department funds of \$27,000 from prior year reserves. The Ross Proving-Up House is the only "proving-up" or "filing" house associated with the 1862 Homestead Act still in existence in Larimer County. In preparation for its restoration, the building was moved last fall to a permanent location at The Farm at Lee Martinez Park, 600 North Sherwood Street.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on Second Reading.

ATTACHMENTS

1. First Reading Agenda Item Summary, January 2, 2018 (w/o attachments) (PDF)
2. Ordinance No. 003, 2018 (PDF)

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council

January 2, 2018

STAFF

Karen McWilliams, Historic Preservation Planner
Brad Yatabe, Legal

SUBJECT

First Reading of Ordinance No. 003, 2018, Appropriating Prior Year Reserves in the General Fund and the Recreation Fund and Authorizing the Transfer of Appropriations in the Recreation Fund to the General Fund for the James Ross Proving-Up House Restoration.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to appropriate previously received grant funds of \$16,080 received from the Cache la Poudre Heritage Alliance and unanticipated revenue of \$3,357 from the Fort Collins Historical Society for the restoration of the James Ross Proving-Up House. The total new appropriation is \$19,437. The grant is matched by Historic Preservation funds of \$32,847 and Recreation Department funds of \$27,000 from prior year reserves.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Recognized as a Fort Collins Landmark by Ordinance No. 080, 2017, the James Ross Proving-Up House is the only known existing “proving-up” or “filing” house in Larimer County. Built in 1890, this one room home was inhabited by the Ross family of five for nearly eight years in order to satisfy the 1862 Federal Homestead Act requirements. The building has additional significance for its association with the James Ross family. In addition to his accomplishments as a homesteader and early businessman, Ross’ son William, who was born in the house, became the President of UNC in Greeley, and is the namesake for the William Ross Library; and was the great-grandfather of former Senator Wayne Allard and Kermit Allard, CPA in Fort Collins. At the Farm at Lee Martinez Park, the proving-up house will be used to explain early pioneer life, the Homestead Act, agriculture, and the history of water and irrigation in our region.

The singular goal for the project is to restore the James Ross Proving-Up House to its original appearance as closely as possible, as documented through forensic evidence and a circa 1950s historic photograph.

The work will include removal of existing non-original brick chimney remnants and repairing the roof framing as needed. Traditional wood shingles will be installed. The trim and clapboard siding will be removed where needed and repaired or replaced. Rafters, floor joists, studs and ceiling joists will be sistered or replaced. Lead abatement, if needed, will be done to ensure a safe environment. Completing the exterior work is the repair or the wood buck door, and repair and re-glazing with restoration glass of the two windows’ jambs, frames and sills. Interior work includes the removal of electric wiring and equipment, plaster repair/replacement, flooring repair/replacement, case and base trim rehabilitation, and installation of a wood stove, pipe and stone base.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

The City benefits by a \$19,437 in grant and other funds which supports this initiative. No additional funds need to be appropriated as the restoration project will utilize \$32,847 of Historic Preservation Division funds and \$27,000 in Recreation Department funds, from the departments' 2017 budgets

ATTACHMENTS

1. Final Grant Contract (PDF)

COPY

ORDINANCE NO. 003, 2018
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
APPROPRIATING PRIOR YEAR RESERVES IN THE GENERAL FUND
AND THE RECREATION FUND AND AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER
OF APPROPRIATIONS IN THE RECREATION FUND TO THE GENERAL
FUND FOR THE JAMES ROSS PROVING-UP HOUSE RESTORATION

WHEREAS, in 2017 the City was awarded a grant of \$16,080 from the Cache la Poudre Heritage Alliance, as well as received additional unanticipated revenue from the Fort Collins Historical Society of \$3,357, for the restoration of the James Ross Proving-Up House, for total unanticipated revenue in 2017 of \$19,437; and

WHEREAS, the grant is matched by Historic Preservation funds of \$32,847 to be appropriated from General Fund reserves and Recreation Department funds of \$27,000 to be appropriated from Recreation Fund reserves, for a total project cost to be appropriated of \$79,284, including the grants; and

WHEREAS, the James Ross Proving-Up House is the only known existing “proving-up” or “filing” house in Larimer County and has historical significance; and

WHEREAS, the James Ross Proving-Up House will be located at the Farm at Lee Martinez Park and will be used to explain early pioneer life, the Homestead Act, agriculture, and the history of water and irrigation in our region; and

WHEREAS, the goal for the project is to restore the Ross House to its original appearance as closely as possible, as documented through forensic evidence and a circa 1950s historic photograph, which will include both exterior and interior work; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 9 of the City Charter permits the City Council to appropriate by ordinance at any time during the fiscal year such funds for expenditure as may be available from reserves accumulated in prior years, notwithstanding that such reserves were not previously appropriated; and

WHEREAS, City staff have determined that the appropriations as described herein are available and previously unappropriated in the General Fund and the Recreation Fund; and

WHEREAS, the appropriations described herein serve the public purpose of preserving the City’s historic heritage; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 10, of the City Charter authorizes the City Council to transfer by ordinance any unexpended and unencumbered appropriated amount or portion thereof from one fund or capital project to another fund or capital project, provided that the purpose for which the transferred funds are to be expended remains unchanged; the purpose for which the funds were initially appropriated no longer exists; or the proposed transfer is from a fund or capital

project in which the amount appropriated exceeds the amount needed to accomplish the purpose specified in the appropriation ordinance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby makes and adopts the determinations and findings contained in the recitals set forth above.

Section 2. That there is hereby appropriated from prior year reserves in the Recreation Fund the sum of TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$27,000) for transfer to the General Fund and appropriated therein for the James Ross Proving-Up House Restoration Project.

Section 3. That there is hereby appropriated from prior year reserves in the General Fund the sum of FIFTY-TWO THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY-FOUR DOLLARS (\$52,284) in the General Fund for the James Ross Proving-Up House Restoration Project.

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading, and ordered published this 2nd day of January, A.D. 2018, and to be presented for final passage on the 16th day of January, A.D. 2018.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Passed and adopted on final reading on the 16th day of January, A.D. 2018.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk