

Town of Willington

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Commission

40 Old Farms Road
Willington, CT 06279

October 17, 2022
Meeting Minutes

1. Call Meeting to Order

C.Mailhos called the meeting to order at 1:34PM

2. Roll Call

R.Campbell	T.Smith
T.Sposato	E.Wieczenski
C.Mailhos	M.D'Amato
J.Arpin	S.Fisher
S.Hills (absent)	S.Cobb (absent)

3. Approval of Minutes

a. 10/3/22

R.Campbell made a motion to approve the minutes of 10/3/22, Second by T.Smith.

All in Favor. Motion Passes Unanimously

4. Correspondence

5. Present to Speak

Phil Stevens addressed the Commission and indicated that the AC Band room project could be closed and that all bills had been paid. He further stated there would be funds returned to the Town as the project was under budget. He spoke to a request he received regarding the submission of three new requests to the ARPA Commission which would have a more direct impact to students. These projects included a playground resurfacing, new recess equipment and additional educational opportunities.

E.Wieczenski made a motion to add ARPA-22 to the "Projects to Close" list. Second by T.Smith

All in Favor. Motion Passes Unanimously

6. New Business

E.Wieczenski made a motion to receive ARPA 40 and ARPA 41. Second by T.Smith

All in Favor. Motion Passes Unanimously

a. RECEIVE & HEAR new submissions

i. ARPA-40 - Miscellaneous Library Structure Improvement Projects - \$81,250.00

The applicants gave a brief presentation and overview of the project and held a general discussion with the Commission related to specific questions about the various projects proposed. It was agreed that the applicant would provide additional information to clarify the questions raised by the Commission prior to sending such a project to Public Hearing.

ii. ARPA-41 - Stove For Senior Center - \$6,000.00

E.Dagata spoke to the request and the issues associated with the current stove and safety concerns related to its ongoing use at the Senior Center. He further explained why the replacement stove was appropriate and presented information and costs to have a new stove supplied to the Center.

The Commission then held a general discussion about establishing a deadline for receiving new ARPA project applications. It was agreed that November 1 would be the deadline.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Updates on PREVIOUSLY FUNDED requests *(No discussion necessary if there are no updates.)*

- i. ARPA-3 -Second Ambulance (WFD1) / Approved on 3/21/22 for \$100,000. Ambulance purchased and in service. \$22,813.66 available to spend or return when the project closes.
- ii. ARPA-5- SCBA Air Packs (WHFD) / Approved on 3/21/22 for \$235,000. Air Packs ordered for \$113,338.35. \$23,661.65 available to spend or return when the project closes.
- iii. ARPA-6 - Generator for DPW (DPW) 11/7 BOS Meeting will discuss and possibly approve vendor.
- iv. ARPA-7 - AC for HMS Band Room (BOE) - Waiting for final bills to be paid. Total Appropriated (\$20,000) - Total Expenditure (\$11,550) = Amount to return to ARPA (\$8,450)
- v. ARPA-10 - TOB Meeting Room Equipment - Mics & speakers (BOS) / Approved at Town Meeting on 8/3/21 for \$28,500. \$26,474.02 available to spend or return when the project closes.
- vi. ARPA-13 - Devices for town staff and Senior Center (BOS) / Approved at 5/24/22 Public Hearing for \$46,000. \$8,144.11 balance available to spend or return when the project closes. Town devices have been set up. Still waiting on parts for Wi-Fi upgrade & Network closet refresh.
- vii. ARPA-14 - Small Business and Nonprofit Assistance Program (EDC) / EDC has closed the first round of applications for the BRIG program.

M.D'Amato gave a brief update to the Commission and indicated that a total of 17 businesses would be receiving grant awards. The contracts had been reviewed by the Town Attorney and were in the process of being completed between the Town and recipient.

- viii. ARPA-15 - Senior Center Coordinator Position (WHS) / Town and Union negotiating salary. \$34,379 was appropriated for this based on projections at the time. Position has not been filled to date. Position has been officially posted, closes 10/20.
- ix. ARPA-16 - Radios for FD Use (WHFD & WFD1) / Ordered, waiting for delivery and final invoices. Will come in just under the \$235,000 budget.
- x. ARPA-17/18 - Walking track improvements at RRAC (Drainage & lights) (WPRC) - \$220,000 / Approved at 8/1/22 meeting. Project planning has begun.
- xi. ARPA-20 - New Furnace for Fire House (WHFD) \$20,000 / Approved at 8/1/22 meeting, p.o. issued so the project can move forward.
- xii. ARPA-21 - Fuel Bank and HH Heating. Approved \$25,000 to assist residents in need.
- xiii. ARPA-23 - Summer Camp Supplement / Approved on 5/22 for \$36,238. Year 1 of the program has been completed. \$14,558.12 available for Year 2 supplement.
- xiv. ARPA-26 - Forestry Plan for Mason Road Tract (WCC) / Approved on 5/24/22 for \$2,800. Forest Management Plan expected to be completed in Fall of 2022.
- xv. ARPA-27 - Building materials for park structure maintenance (WCC) / Approved on 5/24/22 for \$3,500. These funds may take several years to spend.
- xvi. ARPA-28 - Technology upgrades at the Senior Center (WSC) \$3,000 / Approved on 8/1/22.
- xvii. ARPA-29 - ARPA Commission Public Hearing Expenses (ARPA) (prior ARPA-28) / Approved on 5/24/22 for \$2,000. To date \$796.48 has been spent to hold 3 Public Hearings.
- xviii. ARPA-30A - Direct Emergency Call Line at Button Hill (WHA) \$53,000 / Approved at 8/1/22 meeting.
- xix. ARPA-31 - Historical Society Archival Storage (WHS) - \$15,000 / Approved at 8/1/22 meeting.

- xx. ARPA-33 - Flags, Grave Markers and Monument Repair (WVF) - \$6,500 / Approved at 9/19/22 meeting.
- xxi. ARPA-34 - Storage Box at DPW for Evictions (DPW) - \$6,500 / Approved at 8/1/22 meeting. 11/7 BOS Meeting will discuss and possibly approve vendor.

b. **Updates on PREVIOUSLY HEARD requests** *(No discussion necessary if there are no updates.)*

- i. ARPA-39 - Repair of Library Building Structure (WPL) \$27,600 - Waiting to go to Public Hearing.

c. **Updates on requests heard at PUBLIC HEARING** *(No discussion necessary if there are no updates)*

- i. ARPA-32 - Retention Bonuses for Town Employees (BOS) - \$32,250 / *Heard at Public Hearing on 7/11/22. Requested that the Board of Selectmen call a Town Meeting to allow the townspeople to vote on it.*

E. Wiczenski gave an update on this project and indicated that there were sincere concerns with sending this project request to a Town Meeting. She felt there was an opportunity for conversations related the performance of individual Town employees to become the subject of the discussion and as such did not feel it was appropriate to send. Based on that, the Board of Selectmen would be developing alternatives to this request moving forward.

- ii. ARPA-36 - Retention Bonuses for Fire Department Employees (WFD1) - \$17,000 / *Heard at Public Hearing on 7/11/22. ARPA Commission requested that the Board of Selectmen call a Town Meeting to allow the townspeople to vote on it.*

d. **Projects to CLOSE**

- i. ARPA-37 - 2022 John Deere Skid Steer (DPW) - \$68,000 / Approved at 8/1/22 meeting. \$67,283 has been encumbered to make the purchase. Item was delivered on 9/12 and invoiced for \$67,283 leaving \$717 to be returned.

E. Wiczenski made a motion to close ARPA-37 and return \$717 to Fund 19. Second by M.D'Amato.

All in Favor. Motion Passes Unanimously
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- ii. ARPA-7 - AC for HMS Band Room: (added to agenda)

The Commission held a discussion concerning the closing of this project. D. Latinscics indicated that she did not have the necessary invoices as of yet so the project could not officially be closed. No action was taken.

e. **Funding Request Submissions - POSSIBLE ACTION**


8. Present to Speak

None

9. Adjourn

E. Wiczenski made a motion to adjourn, seconded by R. Campbell.

Meeting adjourned at 2:46PM

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WILLINGTON, CT
2022 OCT 31 P 12:20

TOWN CLERK