

Town of Willington
40 Old Farms Road, Willington CT
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Commission
Regular Meeting | April 18, 2022
1:30pm

THIS MEETING WAS HELD IN HYBRID FORMAT. THE RECORDING MAY BE VIEWED ON WWW.YOUTUBE.COM

1. Call to Order

C.Mailhos called the meeting to order 1:35pm

2. Members Present:

C.Mailhos	E. Wiecenski
T.Smith (via zoom)	S.Cobb
M. D’Amato (via zoom)	S. Hills(via zoom)
S.Fisher (via zoom)	J.Arpin (via zoom)
R.Campbell— <i>Not Present</i>	D.Latinsics
**Vacancy for Public Works Director	

3. Approval of Minutes:

E.Wiecenski made a motion to approve the minutes of April 4, 2022. Second by S.Cobb.

C.Mailhos noted the following corrections:

- ARPA 7: Need for updated pricing before the public hearing.
- ARPA 6: Need to add the word “requested”
- ARPA 17: Motion to combine the projects, but not for the “next” public hearing

E.Wiecenski noted the following correction:

- Need to reference who was via Zoom. SF, JA and MD were present via Zoom and S.Hills was absent.

All in Favor, Motion Passes with Proposed Corrections
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4. Correspondence:

None

5. Present to Speak:

None

6. New Business:

a. Loss of Revenue: Option for 4/30 Federal Report

D.Latinsics gave an overview of the reporting process with the US Treasury and the option for the Town to claim the full ARPA grant award as Loss of Revenue, which would be the most streamlined reporting option.

E.Wiecenski made a motion to use the loss of revenue with the \$10MM cap as the funding option. Second by C.Mailhos.

All in favor. Motion Passes with S.Hills abstention.

E. Wieceński made a motion that ARPA #9 and ARPA #12 be reported under the Loss of Revenue category. Second by C. Mailhos

All in favor. Motion Passes with S.Hills abstention.

b. Requests to be RECEIVED (no discussion)

E. Wieceński made a motion to Receive ARPA#28 and ARPA#30, second by S.Cobb.

All in favor. Motion Passes

c. Requests to be HEARD by ARPA Commission

ARPA#26- Forestry Plan for Mason Road Tract

K. Demers gave a presentation to the Commission about the proposed use of the funds and why the Conservation Commission felt this was an appropriate use of ARPA funds.

The Commission discussed the annual budget of the CC and what those operating funds are used for. Why those funds were not included in the annual budget request was also discussed.

S.Cobb Motion to Move to this project to the next Public Hearing. Second by E.Wieceński

All in favor. Motion Passes

ARPA#27- Building Materials for Park Structure Maintenance

K.Demers gave a brief explanation of the request and the work to be completed. She further explained why it was an appropriate use of ARPA funds vs. CIP funding.

S.Fisher asked who and how the bridge crossings have been designed/reviewed to ensure they are adequate.

E. Wieceński made a motion to move to this project to the next public hearing. Second by S.Cobb

All in favor. Motion Passes

ARPA#28- Technology Upgrades at the Senior Center

E. Dagata presented the project request. He indicated that the age of the machines has made them unusable to members at the Center. He further indicated that these upgrades would be implemented on the existing machines and would not require the purchase of new machines. The request would also include an upgrade to the building's wifi system, improve the copy/printing capabilities and to purchase 5 instances of Microsoft Office.

E.Wieceński had specific questions about internet security. Existing Town buildings are covered with the Town's current IT Support contract, but the Library and Senior Center are currently not covered.

The Commission members were generally supportive of the idea, provided the security issues had been addressed.

J.Arpin outlined how the computers at the Senior Center have been used over the last two years as COVID has necessitated increased technology use by everyone.

E.Wieczenski stated that given the specificity of the amount requested, she felt it would be prudent to allocate more than what was requested.

E.Wieczenski made a motion to approve ARPA#28 for \$3000. Second by S.Cobb

All in favor. Motion Passes.

Project Update: ARPA #7 AC for HMW Band Room (out of order)

C.Mailhos allowed Superintendent Stevens to give a brief update on ARPA #7 (given specific time constraints).

P.Stevens indicated that the quote came in under budget at \$14,900. He further explained that per policy he will still be obtaining additional quotes, but that the project would not come in at a cost above the \$14,900.

ARPA#30- Emergency Generator and Emergency Call Line at Button Hill

D.Berg and L. Bradley presented their project. They indicated that the request is for up to \$200k, but that they don't have all of their quotes as of yet for a final price. L.Bradley explained that currently, Button Hill does not currently have a reporting system to direct dial Emergency Services when Fire, Police or EMS are required. It was further explained that the proposal also included the installation of an emergency generator to run the facility during a power failure, which would be tied to the sites existing on site propane tanks. The facility currently does not have an alternative power source to provide water and heat to residents during a power failure.

J.Arpin clarified that these upgrades could not be included in CIP due to an agreement currently in place with the Town.

E. Wiezenski asked how ongoing/maintenance costs would be funded.

L.Bradley clarified how the ongoing costs would be covered.

E.Wieczenski made a motion to move to table ARPA 30 until additional information is received. Second by T.Smith.

All in favor. Motion Passes with J.Arpin abstention.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Updates on PREVIOUSLY FUNDED requests:

i. ARPA #3

S.Cobb indicated that they did find an ambulance that they would be purchasing from NH.

ii. ARPA #4

No New Updates

iii. ARPA #5

No New Updates

iv. ARPA #6

No New Updates

v. ARPA #10

No New Updates

vi. ARPA #11

May 5—dehumidifier to be installed

vii. ARPA #14

S.Hills gave a brief update on how the EDC plans to advertise the grant program and that the EDC is finalizing the qualifying criteria.

viii. ARPA #15

J.Arpin indicated that a draft job description was in review.

ix. ARPA #16

S.Cobb indicated that they'd been ordered, and price locked but that they wouldn't be available for several months.

b. Updates on requests PREVIOUSLY HEARD AND TABLED

i. ARPA #7-AC for HMS Band Room

P.Stevens indicated that the quote came in under budget at \$14,900. He further explained that per policy he will still be obtaining additional quotes, but that the project would not come in at a cost above the \$14,900.

ii. ARPA #8-Workout Pavilion at RRAC

Tabled

iii. ARPA #17-Lighting around walking track and RRAC

See ARPA 18 discussion

iv. ARPA #18-Draingage at RRAC

A.Humphreys provided a brief update on ARPA#17 and ARPA#18. He has been working with K.Acimovic to get a better understanding of what is feasible, the associated costs and if there were any potential alternatives. He indicated that K. Acimovic is working to prepare a cost estimate for the next meeting.

C. Mailhos indicated it would be helpful for the Recreation Commission to endorse which option they felt was appropriate.

S.Cobb felt it would also be helpful to understand what the priorities of each portion of the work were should all of the work not be able to be funded.

Moving forward, these projects will be treated as one discussion item.

v. ARPA #20- New Furnace at Fire House

No New Updates

vi. ARPA #21- Fuel Bank and HH Heading Expenses

No New Updates

vii. ARPA #22- Housing Fund for Residents in Need

J.Arpin indicated that she has been able to procure funding elsewhere and will be withdrawing her request.

viii. ARPA#23- Summer Camp Supplement

J.Arpin provided an update indicated that in working with C.Mailhos they've developed some new numbers that treats this year as a resuscitation year with the next 3 years as recovery years.

ix. ARPA#24- Campership Proposal

See ARPA 23 Discussion

c. Updates on requests PREVIOUSLY HEARD AND APPROVED TO MOVE TO PUBLIC HEARING

i. ARPA#13- Devices for Town staff and Senior Center

No Discussion

ii. ARPA#29- ARPA Commission Public Hearing Expenses

No Discussion

d. Requests to be CLOSED

i. ARPA#9- AC Units at Senior Center

D.Latinsics made a motion to close ARPA#9 in the amount of _____ and unencumber and return _____ to fund 19. Second by E.Wieczenski.

All in favor. Motion Passes.

ii. ARPA#12- TOB Air Purifiers

D.Latinsics made a motion to close ARPA#12 in the amount of _____ and unencumber and return _____ to fund 19. Second by E.Wieczenski.

All in favor. Motion Passes.

8.Opportunity to call a Public Hearing

The Commission determined it was not necessary to call a public hearing at this time.

9. Present to Speak

None

10. Adjourn

S.Cobb made a motion to adjourn. Second by E.Wieczenski.

All in favor. Motion Passes.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:11pm. The next Meeting is May 2, 2022