

Town of Willington

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Commission

40 Old Farms Road

Willington, CT 06279

July 11, 2022

SPECIAL Meeting Minutes

Hybrid Meeting via Zoom and in person at the TOB, Common Room

1. Call Meeting to Order

C. Mailhos called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

2. Roll Call

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

3. New Business

- a. *Request to be RECEIVED by ARPA Commission (Administrative action/no discussion)*
 - i. *ARPA-39 – Repair of Library Building Structure - \$27,600.00 for Willington Library Board of Directors SUBMITTED 6/24/22*

S. Cobb made a motion to receive the Willington Library BOD submission, second by J. Arpin.

All in Favor. Motion Passes

- b. *Requests to be HEARD by ARPA Commission (Presentation & discussion)*
 - i. *ARPA-39 – Repair of Library Building Structure (LBD) - \$27,600.00*

K. Caldwell presented the Library Board's submission, which included fixing the HVAC units on the roof, replacing the framing of the basement back door, cleaning/caulking/resealing the building brickwork, fixing the exterior, replacing the covering of the foundation that has fallen off and then adding a secondary exit from the Director's office in case of emergency. D. Linares inquired if the Library can submit additional requests for other Library items.

4. Public Hearing – Funding Request Submissions for Public Input

- a. *ARPA-17/18 - Walking track improvements at RRAC (Drainage & lights) (WPRC) - \$196,979*

J. Colangelo from the Willington Parks & Rec Commission presented the WPRC's submission for the walking track improvements at the River Road Athletic Complex and how better lighting could positively affect the residents, as well as how fixing the drainage of the park was necessary. Various residents spoke in support of this proposal.

- b. *ARPA-20 - New Furnace for Fire House (WHFD) \$20,000*

Chief T. Snyder spoke about the new furnace for the Willington Hill fire house to replace the current furnace that has been in place for an estimated 50 years, as well as the necessary parts that would be needed. Discussion was had on the amount of ARPA funding that has been utilized for emergency

services and the replacement of the furnace.

c. ARPA-28 - Technology upgrades at the Senior Center (WSC) \$2,441.07

E. D'Agata presented the proposal for the technology upgrades at the Senior Center, explaining what equipment was needed and how it would be utilized to better benefit the seniors for their use.

d. ARPA-30A - Direct Emergency Call Line at Button Hill (WHA) \$53,000

Willington Housing Authority Representative D. Berg explained the need for a direct emergency call line at Button Hill for senior housing. The call line would be used for seniors in an emergency who may have fallen and need help or who are having a medical emergency and cannot easily contact emergency services. Discussion was had on the purpose and use of the emergency call line.

e. ARPA-30B - Emergency Generator at Button Hill (WHA) \$77,000

Willington Housing Authority Representative D. Berg explained the need for an emergency generator at Button Hill for emergency purposes. D. Berg explained senior housing is not eligible for CIP funding which is why they are requesting ARPA funding.

f. ARPA-31 - Historical Society Archival Storage (WHS) \$15,000

M. Masinda spoke about funding for the Historical Society for archival storage and explained the benefits of the project, such as updated lighting. Residents spoke in favor of this submission.

g. ARPA-32 - Retention Bonus Plan (BOS) - \$32,250

First Selectwoman Wiczenski discussed the retention bonus plan proposal from the Board of Selectmen in regards to employee recognition and employee retention. Various residents spoke about the retention bonus plan and inquired if this item could go to town meeting for further discussion and approval.

h. ARPA-33 - Flags, Grave Markers and Monument Repair (WVF) - \$6,500

E. D'Agata discussed the flags, grave markers, and monument repair proposal submitted by the Willington Veterans Foundation and how it would be beneficial to the Town. Residents spoke in favor of this submission. E. D'Agata confirmed that the Foundation had filed the 501c3 paperwork and was awaiting confirmation.

i. ARPA-34 - Storage Box at DPW for Evictions (DPW) - \$6,000

DPW Director Sposato explained about the need for an additional storage box at the DPW garage for evictions. Discussion continued on the need and usage of a storage box.

j. ARPA-35 - Bring URCommunityCares.org to Willington (WHS) - \$6,000.00

Human Services Director J. Arpin explained the proposal for URCommunityCares.org and how these services could further benefit the residents of Willington.

k. ARPA-36 - Employee Retention Bonuses for Fire Department Employees (WFD1) - \$17,000.00

Willington Fire Department #1 Chief Alex Moore discussed the employee retention plan proposal for Willington Fire Department #1. Chairman Mailhos inquired about the number of employees included and if they were officers in the Department. Chief Moore stated all of the employees, part-time or per diem were included in the request. Various residents spoke and discussion was held on volunteers receiving funding and if the personnel being included in this proposal were affected by COVID. Discussion continued on if this proposal could be voted on by the ARPA Commission or should be forwarded to a town meeting.

1. ARPA-37 - 2022 John Deere Skid Steer (DPW) - \$68,000.00

DPW Director Sposato explained the proposal for the 2022 John Deere Skid Steer and how this could benefit the DPW greatly with their work. Residents asked various questions in regards to the machine and its use.

m. ARPA-38 - Installation of Perimeter/Key Location Traffic Cameras (BOS) - \$220,000.00

First Selectwoman Wiczenski explained the proposal for the installation of perimeter/key location traffic cameras at various locations in town that was brought forth to the Board of Selectmen by a resident. She explained that there are still questions regarding this potential installation and there is a need for clarification of information. M. Makuch further explained the proposal as he had submitted it to the BOS. Various residents spoke and discussion continued on the traffic cameras proposal.

5. Funding Request Submissions – POSSIBLE ACTION

This item will be added to the ARPA Commission meeting for Monday, July 18th for 1:30pm.

6. Present to Speak

R. Tulis spoke about the audio quality via Zoom.

9. Adjourn

E. Wiczenski made a motion to adjourn. Second by S. Fisher.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03pm.

RECEIVED
WILLINGTON, CT.

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TOWN CLERK