

NEWS RELEASE

November 15, 2021

First Selectman's Office

Town of Ellington

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Ellington, CT – At its regular meeting on Monday, November 8, 2021, the Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to establish an American Rescue Plan Fund Task Force to review the submissions of ideas and proposals regarding the use of the American Rescue Plan funds. The Town of Ellington's total allotment of these funds is \$4,873,418.

There are five categories of eligible uses for the funds: supporting public health expenditures; addressing negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency; replacing lost public sector revenue; investing in water, sewer and broadband infrastructure; and providing premium pay for essential workers. There is an official submission form available at Ellington Town Hall and online at www.ellington-ct.gov for those who wish to offer suggestions and input on which of these areas should be pursued.

The newly-created Task Force will be the first step in reviewing these ideas, which are being submitted by Town Departments, Boards & Committees and residents of the community. Membership of the group will include a member of the Board of Selectmen, a member of the Board of Finance, a resident, an Ellington business owner, a non-profit representative, the Finance Officer/Treasurer, and the Director of Public Works/WPCA Administrator. Individuals who wish to serve on this Task Force as the resident, business owner and non-profit representative members may complete a Statement of Interest form, available at Town Hall and on the Town website. Appointments will be made at future Board of Selectmen meetings, and more news on the disbursement of these funds will be posted on the Town website as well. Upon review and discussion of the received proposals, the Task Force will present their recommendation(s) to the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen; a Town Meeting will be called for consideration of expenditures over \$100,000.

The funds must be specifically designated for an approved project(s) by December of 2024; municipalities have until December of 2026 to spend the money, and all expenditures must be consistent with the final guidelines set by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and any applicable State guidance.