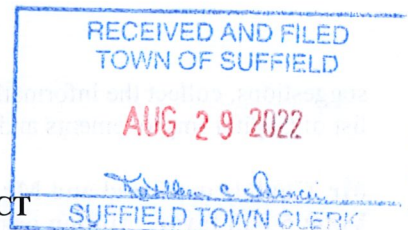


MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN COMMISSION
MARCH 31, 2022
5:00 P.M.

Town Hall Meeting Room, 83 Mountain Road, Suffield CT
Hybrid Meeting



Present: First Selectman Colin Moll, Michael Stevens, Brian Kost, Mel Chafetz and Tom Frenaye

First Selectman Moll called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Public Comment

None

Approval of the minutes from the March 22, 2022 Special Meeting of the American Rescue Plan Commission

M. Stevens motioned and **T. Frenaye** seconded to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2022 Special meeting of the American Rescue Plan Commission. **Vote: 5-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussion and approval of ARPA Funds

First Selectman Moll gave a brief update on what was discussed at the March 22, 2022 Special Meeting, including plans to reach out to Suffield Community Aid to determine if they had a need. After being contacted, it was determined there is no need, which means the proposed allocation of \$100K will need to be directed elsewhere.

Discussion ensued amongst the members with regard to the response by Suffield Community Aid as well as the overall impact of COVID and the best way to reach all residents with the funds being provided to the town. Recent actions taken by our neighboring towns were debated and included the use of donation fund accounts and the administrative cost involved. **Mr. Kost** provided a quick overview of the town's existing donation accounts. **Mr. Frenaye** pointed out that a new account could be set up if necessary. **Mr. Chafetz** pointed out that Youth Services would be an area to consider. This idea was discussed and it was suggested that \$100K could be allocated in year one (1) to a Youth Services Fund and another \$100K would be allocated to the same fund in year two (2.)

Allocation proposed for 1st year (FY 2022-23) - \$2.1M:

- \$500K COVID Health Costs reimbursement
- \$750K Beneski Field
- \$100K Pumper Truck (down payment)
- \$650K Pavement Management
- \$100K Proposed Youth Services Fund (will need to be established)

Allocation proposed for 2nd year (FY 2023-24) - \$2.5M:

- \$750K Pumper Truck
- \$1M Parks and Recreation Enhancements
- \$100K Youth Services Fund
- \$650 To be determined (TBD) Capital Improvements

Mr. Frenaye expressed his concerns with regard to a lack of public input on the subject. He feels the commission is looking at things from an "insider" view and he would like to be able to ask for the public's view as well. **Mr. Stevens** suggested that instead of allocating \$650K to a category entitled "To be determined Capital Improvements" they should instead solicit ideas from the public on how to spend the TBD funds. Discussion ensued as to the best way to solicit

suggestions, collect the information, review and summarize. Also included in the discussions were the top items on the list of Capital Improvements and the importance of each.

Mr. Chafetz motioned and Mr. Kost seconded to approve the FY 2022-23 allocation list as presented this evening. Vote: 5-0 in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

M. Chafetz motioned and B. Kost seconded to adjourn at 5:40 p.m. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristen O. Lambert
Recording Secretary