



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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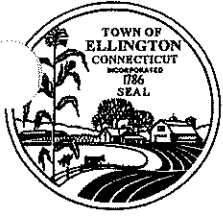
To: Board of Selectmen
From: Felicia LaPlante, Assistant Finance Officer/Deputy Treasurer October 13, 2022
Date: October 13, 2022
Subject: ARPA Project Recommendations – September 2022 Committee Meeting Recommendations

At the April 28, 2022 meeting of the Town of Ellington's American Rescue Plan Act Task Force, the members reviewed all submissions made prior to the April 21, 2022 project deadline. At that time, the Task Force identified several projects as a priority for the Town of Ellington.

The following is a summary of the projects identified for possible funding, approximate cost and priority assignments as of the April 28, 2022 meeting. The Priority One projects were approved at the May 5, 2022 BOS Meeting and required projects were sent to Town Meeting.

- **Priority One – \$3,800,000**
 - Vernon Pump Station - \$2,500,000
 - Crystal Lake Water Study - \$75,000
 - Crystal Lake Fire Department Truck - \$850,000
 - Police SUV - \$50,000
 - High School Track - \$230,000
 - Middle School Elevator Replacement - \$95,000
- **Priority Two – \$258,200**
 - EVAC Smart Board - \$8,200
 - DPW Pickup - \$45,000
 - DPW Staff Vehicles - \$70,000
 - Town Hall Parking Lot - \$110,000
 - EVAC Exhaust Removal System - \$25,000
- **Priority Three – \$1,162,000**
 - Senior Center Pavilion - \$100,000
 - Senior Center Fitness Center - \$60,000
 - Tedford Memorial Park Irrigation Upgrades - \$63,000
 - Ellington Historical Society Improvements - \$15,000
 - Infield Grooming Unit - \$24,000
 - BOE HVAC/Air Conditioning - \$900,000 (holding currently to explore grant opportunities)

During the September 19, 2022 ARPA Task Force meeting, the Task Force made a formal recommendation for Board of Selectmen consideration of the DPW Pickup in the amount of \$45,000, the DPW Staff Vehicles in the amount of \$70,000 and the Infield Grooming Unit in the amount of \$24,000. The Task Force has also made a formal recommendation to increase the High School Track to \$630,000. Please understand that any project individually totaling \$100,000 or greater will require the Board of Selectmen, if in support, to send to Town Meeting for approval.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT – COUNTY OF TOLLAND
INCORPORATED 1786

TOWN OF ELLINGTON

American Rescue Plan Task Force

BETSI FELDMAN
GARY MAGNUSON
DAVID OLENDER
TIFFANY PIGNATARO
KEN RADZIWON
LORI SPIELMAN
PETER WELTI

55 MAIN STREET – PO BOX 187
ELLINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06029-0187

American Rescue Plan Task Force

September 19, 2022

Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr. Meeting Hall and Zoom

MINUTES

Present: David Olender, Lori Spielman, Ken Radziwon, Betsi Feldman and Gary Magnuson

Members Absent: Peter Welty; Tiffany Pignataro

Others Present: Felicia LaPlante-Assistant Finance Officer; Brian Greenleaf, Director of Finance and Operations, Ellington Public Schools (EPS)

I. Call To Order

First Selectman Spielman called the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Task Force meeting to order at 4:16 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. June 13, 2022

MOVED (OLENDER), SECONDED (FELDMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 13, 2022 AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TASK FORCE MEETING.

III. New Business

A. High School Track Update

Extensive discussion was held regarding the High School Track. Mr. Radziwon stated that the Town received one bid, from Crafcro and their general contractor, Liberty Construction. Mr. Radziwon explained that during the pre-bid meeting there was discussion that the scope of the work to remove the synthetic surface may leave the Town in a precarious position since we do not have information on subsurface conditions. Only when the synthetic surface is removed will

the condition of the subsurface be known. Mr. Radziwon is bringing this to the Task Force's attention now, so that it can be reassessed prior to beginning this project. Mr. Radziwon has provided the Task Force with the current bid pricing from Liberty, as well as their options for multiple scenarios that may arise once the surface is removed [ATTACHED].

Based on the lack of cracking and settlement, it appears that the track's subsurface may be in good condition. However, Mr. Radziwon said that the Town should be cautious because the track is now thirty to thirty-five years old and it is best to be prepared for any of these scenarios once the surface is removed.

Liberty provided the cost of the removal, disposal and cleaning of the track, as well as two different scenarios; a 1.5 inch mill and overlay or a 3 inch full depth pavement replacement. In addition to the track there are two asphalt D-Zones which the Town was notified are undersized, causing athletes to currently start running in the grass and continue onto the runway surface for their high jump and pole vault event. Due to the substandard conditions, the coaches have suggested that the two D-Zones be extended and completed properly while the track is being renovated. Mr. Radziwon noted that this portion of the project is priced at \$200,550.00. There are additional features that would need to be included as well, including the concrete turf anchor curb at both Opt D-Zones, priced at \$38,000.

Mr. Radziwon explained the options and costs on his handout starting with the full replacement of the track, as well as the completion of both D-Zones costing approximately \$750,000. Originally the funds allocated for this project were \$230,000. The balance that would be necessary to complete the project this way would be approximately \$520,000. The options were broken down further into several situations. Mr. Radziwon also stated that the replacement of the existing track alone now requires an additional \$50,050 due to inflation from the original quote that the funding was based upon. Mr. Radziwon asked the Task Force to decide if they wanted to fund the delta, and if so, which delta would they like to fund. At this time Ms. LaPlante distributed the current ARPA submissions spreadsheet for review including the balances of funds after each category is used [ATTACHED].

Mr. Olender suggested possibly holding off on the replacement of the track if it is not necessary at this time. Mr. Radziwon stated that it would be a risk, as it is not known what the condition underneath is. Mr. Magnuson questioned if leaving some of the grass at the D-Zones would be beneficial to some of the other sports and coaches who may need that area to be grass.

Mr. Magnuson asked Ms. LaPlante where the funds could be taken from if not from ARPA. Ms. LaPlante answered that the Town has established an unassigned fund balance policy to increase its credit rating and in order to do that there needs to be a certain percentage in the balance of the fund and currently there is not enough in it to spend out of. Looking into the future Ms. LaPlante said this could potentially be put through Capital funds; however, that would push this project.

Ms. Feldman stated that this project cannot get started if the money to cover the entire project is not there in the beginning; however, short funding the project is not an option once it gets started. Ms. Feldman asked what the anticipated start date would be and Mr. Radziwon said it would be scheduled for the summer of 2023, in order to limit the impact to athletes.

Mr. Olender asked if the Town could apply for a Small Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant for the High School track project. Mr. Radziwon said yes; however, the Town

would have to wait for the next solicitation from the State which typically occurs during the summer.

Mr. Magnuson stated that the newly updated total of funds being requested for the track project is the approximate total of both Category Two and Three submissions, which were already agreed upon; these would be eliminated if the Task Force goes forward with using the funds for the track project. Mr. Magnuson asked everyone to keep in mind that this is only the first category of projects and there is a high probability of this situation reoccurring through this process.

Mr. Greenleaf discussed the EPS heating ventilation and air conditioning submission of \$900,000 currently on hold, stating that State funding may be available as a potential option to address some of the concerns originally brought forth to the Task Force. Mr. Greenleaf suggested the Task Force consider either of the approximately \$400,000 options for the High School track and D-Zone(s). Mr. Greenleaf also mentioned that if the opportunity to replace the track isn't done with ARP funds, it would need to be put into the Capital Improvements budget for next year.

Discussion continued regarding putting the revised project back out to bid. The original opening was for removal and replacement of the synthetic track, with far fewer companies bidding on this specific work. Mr. Radziwon stated that the proposed scope increase may be more attractive to potential bidders and thus increase the amount of potential bidders.

The Task Force agreed that it is very difficult to put out a dollar amount on this project. Mr. Greenleaf asked Mr. Radziwon if when this goes out to bid, there will be different levels based on the potential scenarios. Mr. Radziwon answered yes, there will be a base contract and then added alternates. Ms. Feldman suggested going out for the \$630,000 bid and hope for the best scenario once the project is started. Ms. LaPlante reminded the Task Force that any money allocated and not used will stay in the ARP fund balance.

MOVED (MAGNUSON), SECONDED (FELDMAN) AND PASSED (AYES: SPIELMAN, FELDMAN, RADZIWIN, MAGNUSON; ABSTAIN: OLENDER) TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN ALLOCATE \$630,000 OF ARPA FUNDS TO REPLACE THE HIGH SCHOOL TRACK PROJECT, INCREASING THE ORIGINAL ALLOCATION OF \$230,000 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TASK FORCE AND THE ASSISTANT FINANCE OFFICER/TREASURER.

IV. Unfinished Business

A. Status Updates for Priority One Projects

Ms. Spielman read through the Category One projects and there was no additional discussion.

B. Discussion of Priority Two and Three Recommendations

Ms. Spielman read through the Category Two submissions which included the Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corp (EVAC) Smartboard, Department of Public Works pickup truck replacement, staff vehicle, Town Hall parking lot upgrades and EVAC exhaust removal system. Ms. LaPlante said that Chief Hany is still waiting to hear back about the grant application submitted for the EVAC exhaust removal system. Mr. Greenleaf stated that he would be willing

to communicate with EVAC to discuss the EPS pricing for the smartboard, which may be considerably less than their requested amount of \$8,200.

MOVED (FELDMAN), SECONDED (OLENDER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN ALLOCATE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$115,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PICKUP TRUCK AND STAFF VEHICLES.

Discussion continued regarding the Category Three submissions. There were no updates regarding the Senior Center Pavilion and fitness center. Ms. LaPlante and First Selectman Spielman will reach out to Sheila Grady, Senior Center Director for more information. Ms. LaPlante will also follow up with Jaime Foster to confirm that the Town has not already received State funding for the Ellington Historical Society project. Discussion was also held regarding the purchase of the infield grooming unit prior to next season.

MOVED (OLENDER), SECONDED (FELDMAN) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ALLOCATE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,000 FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE INFIELD GROOMING UNIT.

Ms. LaPlante stated that the Robert Tedford Memorial Park upgrade items are things that will be coming up over the next few years. The only pricing that was provided was for the unirrigated fields. Ms. LaPlante will contact Dustin Huguenin, Director of Parks and Recreation for pricing on the remaining items.

Mr. Radziwon provided an update regarding the Vernon Pump Station project. Fuss and O'Neill has been working on the project and Mr. Radziwon stated that they are close to 75% done with the design phase.

V. Set Next Special Meeting Date

The next ARP Task Force meeting will be held on Monday, November 7, 2022 at 4:15 p.m. in the Nicholas J. DiCorleto, Jr. Meeting Hall.

VI. Other Business

There was no other business.

VII. Adjournment

MOVED (FELDMAN), SECONDED (MAGNUSON) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJORN THE MEETING OF THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TASK FORCE AT 5:19 PM.

Submitted by: 

Rebecca Einsiedel
Recording Secretary

Liberty Prices

Removal & Disposal of Existing Track	\$30,000.00
Cleaning the existing bituminous surface	\$9,350.00
Placement of new synthetic track & line Painting	\$240,700.00
1.5 " mill & overlay	\$121,000.00
3" full depth pavement replacement	\$240,000.00
Asphalt D-Zones	\$200,550.00
Concrete turf Anchor Curb at Opt D-Zones	\$38,000.00

Options

	Total Const Cost	Balance to be Funded by Additional ARPA Funds
Full Replacement, Dual D-Zones	\$749,250.00	\$519,250.00
Singular D-Zone, 3"	\$629,975.00	\$399,975.00
Dual D-Zone's, 1.5"	\$630,250.00	\$400,250.00
Singular D-Zone, 1.5"	\$510,975.00	\$280,975.00
Existing Replacement	\$280,050.00	\$50,050.00

TOWN OF ELLINGTON ELIGIBLE ARPA SUBMISSIONS

CATEGORY	SUBMISSION DETAILS	COST	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	HOLD
HVAC/Facilities	All Schools and Town Buildings	\$ 900,000			HOLD	\$ 900,000
Facilities/Upgrades	Senior Center Pavilion	\$ 100,000			\$ 100,000	
Agencies	Senior Center Fitness Center	\$ 60,000			\$ 60,000	
	EVAAC Smart Board	\$ 8,200		\$ 8,200		
	Robert Tedford Memorial Park Upgrades (irrigation \$63k, rest unknown)	\$ 63,000			\$ 63,000	
Negative Economic Impacts Caused by the Public Health Emergency						
	Ellington Historical Society Improvements	\$ 15,000			\$ 15,000	
Water/Sewer/Infrastructure Projects						
	Vernon Pumpstation	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 2,500,000			
	Crystal Lake Water study	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000			
Replace Lost Public Sector Revenue						
	Crystal Lake Fire Truck	\$ 850,000	\$ 850,000			
	Police SUV	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000			
	Pickup (45K) & Staff Vehicle (70K)	\$ 115,000		\$ 115,000		
	High School Track	\$ 230,000	\$ 230,000			
	Infield Grooming Unit	\$ 24,000			\$ 24,000	
	Town Hall Parking Lot	\$ 110,000		\$ 110,000		
	EVAAC Exhaust Removal System	\$ 25,000		\$ 25,000		
	Middle School elevator replacement	\$ 95,000	\$ 95,000			
Provide Premium Pay for essential workers						
TOTALS PER CATEGORY:		\$ 5,220,200	\$ 3,800,000	\$ 258,200	\$ 262,000	\$ 900,000

Total ARPA Awarded \$ 4,873,418.26
 Less - Priority 1 (3,800,000.00)
 \$ 1,073,418.26
 Less - Priority 2 (258,200.00)
 \$ 815,218.26
 Less - Priority 3 (262,000.00)
 \$ 553,218.26
 Less - Projects on HOLD (900,000.00)
 (Over) Under Spent \$ (346,781.74)