

American Rescue Plan Working Group  
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center  
3 Primrose St Newtown Ct  
Thursday July 28<sup>th</sup> 2022

Minutes

**Present:** Ed Schierloh, Erica Sullivan, Charles Gardner, Michele Ku & Matthew Mihalcik

**Also Present:** First Selectman Dan Rosenthal, Finance Director Bob Tait & Director of Human Services Natalie Jackson

**Call to Order:** Dan Rosenthal called the meeting at 6:33 pm

**Vote Comments:** None

**Announcements:** None

**Old Business:**

Discussion and Possible action

1. Education/Tutoring Support Program

- a. Ms Jackson from DHS spoke with United Way they are not going to be able to help administer the tutoring program. Though through discussion DHS, Finance Department and school district will be able to administer the program.
- b. Ed Schierloh moved that we make a recommendation to the Board of Selectman to start the appropriation process for \$100,000 to establish a tutoring program under the Newtown Department of Human Services. Seconded by Erica Sullivan. All in favor, motion passes (5-0)
- c. Ed Schierloh moved that we make a recommendation to the Board of Selectman to start the appropriation process for \$20,000 to establish a child/youth enrichment fund to supplement the United Way ALICE enrichment funds under the Newtown Department of Human Services. Seconded by Erica Sullivan. All in favor, motion passes (5-0)

2. Public Works Heavy Equipment

- a. There was a memo from back in June from Tim Whelan regarding the request for the Public Works heavy Equipment. Ed Schierloh moved that we make a recommendation to the Board of Selectman to start the appropriation process for \$300,000 Public Works Department front end bucket loader. Seconded by Matt Mihalick. Ms Ku wanted to note that she is against the use of ARP funds for trucks and equipment that should be in the operating budget. Mr Rosenthal noted that ARP funds can be used for general government which the trucks/equipment fall under. Ms Sullivan believes that the trucks should have been brought up earlier than when they are at their end of their useful life. Motion was called for a vote (4 Yes-1 No) motion passes.

3. Parks & Recreation Bicycle Playground

- a. Tabled until next meeting

4. Additional Recommended Appropriations

**Voter Comments:** None

**Adjournment:** Ed Schierloh moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 pm. Seconded by Charles Gardner, All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew Mihalcik

**These minutes are subject to approval by the American Rescue Plan Working Group  
at the next meeting**

Town of Newtown					
the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP)					
ARP Working Group Worksheet					
					7/12/2022
ARP award amount (50% received; balance July/Aug 2022)		7,674,294			
Possible Uses:			Recommended	Approved	
line	General Government:				
1	Fairfield Hills - Replace Water Distribution System	1,500,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
2	Fairfield Hills Campus Safety Improvements	50,000			
3	Student Tutoring / Rental Assistance	100,000			
4	Public Works:				
5	Multi-purpose Building Roof	190,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
6	Public Works 6 Wheel 8 Ton Dump Truck	240,000			
7	Public Works Front & Bucket Loader	300,000			
8	Transfer Station Site Improvements	200,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
9	Municipal Building Improvements	100,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
10	Public Safety:				
11	Fire Commission Fire Suppression Tank Repair	50,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
12	Fire Company Grants (4 x \$15,000); NUSAR (\$15,000);	90,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
13	Ambulance (\$15,000)				
14	Recreation & Leisure:				
15	Parks & Recreation Truck with lift gate	90,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
16	Treadwell Park Disc Golf Course	40,000			
17	Dickinson Park New Pavilion (Refurbishment)	150,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
18	Bike Park at Fairfield Hills	85,000			
19	Edmond Town Hall Building Improvements	150,000			
20	The Art Walk at Fairfield Hills	50,000			
21	Sandy Hook Side Walks				
22	section #1	215,000			
23	section #2	525,000			
24	Health & Welfare:				
25	Senior/Community Center 14 passenger bus	90,000	✓	5/9/2022	✓
26	COVID supplies/expenses	40,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
27	Community Center:				
28	Community Center Generator (75,000)	passed			
29	Community Center Outside Storage Building	75,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
30	Community Center Patio	155,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
31	Community Center Outdoor Spray Features (200,000)	passed			
32	Community Center/Senior Center Handicap Doors	16,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
33	Education:				
34	Hawley School HVAC/Ventilation project	2,500,000	✓		✓
35	BOE information technology licenses to address				
36	covid 19 pandemic recovery	In Capital &			
37	BOE crome books for distance learning	non-recurring			
38	Function Wide:				
39	Reimburse the Town Medical Self Insurance Fund for COVID Expenses (since 3/3/2021)	325,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
Total Proposed Uses		7,326,000			appropriated
Amount Available after Proposed Uses		348,294			5,571,000
✓ Recommended by the ARP Working Group. To go through the Town appropriation process (BOS/BOF/LC)					
✓ Appropriated by Legislative Council					

## Proposal for ARPA Funding to Provide Academic Support to Newtown Schools via Tutoring

~ Newtown Department of Human Services ~

\$100,000 in ARPA Funds to go to the establishment of a tutoring program under the Department of Human Services (DHS)

A Newtown student will be eligible for up to 16 sessions of tutoring per calendar year. No cap on number of children in a household served.

Rough estimate of potential children served: \$65 per hour (average), 16 sessions → \$1,040 per student, 99 children

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Student identified by teacher, school staff, or parent driven → tutoring would benefit current learning needs
- Family meets income requirement- ALICE

### PROCESS:

- School staff provides family of Identified child with information about the ALICE Tutoring Program through DHS. {DHS to create materials outlining program for distribution to identified families}
- Family reaches out to DHS to complete application and verify financial need
- DHS provides family with list of potential tutors
- Family is responsible for contacting potential tutors, selecting tutor, and scheduling sessions

List of tutors will be created with the support of BOE

Deborah Mailloux-Petersen, Director of Pupil Personnel, will reach out to staff at all schools requesting for staff interested in providing before/after hour tutoring to be in touch with her. She will create a list including: Staff interested in providing tutoring before/after hours in school (\$60 per hour) and staff also open to providing tutoring homebased (\$70 per hour). Deb is considering best time for initial reach out—prior to school start vs. first week.

### PROGRAM SPECIFICS TO BE DETERMINED:

- System to verify tutoring session has occurred
- System for tutor to submit "invoice" to DHS → tutor will be paid directly by Town
- Tutors will be created as vendors in municipal finance system (W9). Billing/payment cycle to be considered with Town Finance Department
- System to track impact (*Dashboard Reporting* similar as proposed by UW)

**ADDITIONAL DATA FOR ARPA COMMITTEE:**

**Newtown Households Qualifying for Energy Assistance thru DHS (additional households applied directly thru Community Action):**

- 2021/2022 EA Season: 161 Household, 31 of which have children in the home  
(\*\*total applications for 20/21 was 126- an increase of 35 households this year)

**Salvation Army financial requests last FY**

- 55 households, 28 of which has children in the home

**2022 Holiday Basket Program thru Newtown Fund:**

- 92 households served—39 households with children:
  - 82 children
  - 109 adults
  - 56 seniors

(247 individuals total)

<b>ADDITIONAL DHS REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION: \$5K PER YEAR FOR ALICE ENRICHMENT FUND</b>
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- Provides up to \$300 per child, for up to 3 children in family per calendar year (ie. art, dance, SAT prep, camp, swim lessons....)
- Directly tied to Mental Health in children
- Compliments academic support
- Historically \$10,000 annually from United Way, administered by DHS → allows opportunity for greater impact. Current funds are exhausted each year
- Enrichment activities often the first cut from a family's budget in time of need



# ALICE Enrichment Fund

United Way's ALICE Enrichment Fund helps qualified families receive assistance for enrichment activities for their children to explore their interests and build skills outside of school: play a sport, take an art class, or enroll in music lessons.

ALICE Enrichment Fund Threshold: Household Survival Budget	
Household Composition	Household Annual Income
1 adult, 1 child	\$42,264
1 adult, 2 children	\$43,109
1 adult, 3 children	\$43,971
1 adult, 4 children	\$44,850
2 adults, 1 child	\$69,372
2 adults, 2 children	\$70,788
2 adults, 3 children	\$72,204
2 adults, 4 children	\$73,648

For more information, visit  
[WWW.UWWESTERNCT.ORG/ALICEENRICHMENTFUND](http://WWW.UWWESTERNCT.ORG/ALICEENRICHMENTFUND)



United Way  
of Western Connecticut

Tim Whelan  
Fleet Foreman

203-270-4300  
203-426-9968 Fax



**TOWN OF NEWTOWN**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**  
4 Turkey Hill Road  
Newtown, CT 06470

To: Bob Tait

From: Tim Whelan

Re: Justification for ARP funding

Date: May, 23 2022

Public works has requested ARP funding to replace 2 ageing assets.

The first request is to replace a 1998 Ford L9500 6 wheel 8 ton dump truck/plow truck. This truck is an everyday used vehicle. Typical uses are in-house drainage jobs, paving, road sweeper and road grader support. It would also be used as a front line plow truck in the winter. We would spec out a heavy duty application that would serve our needs for 15 to 20 years. This 24 year truck is our oldest and suffers from serious frame/body rot and parts availability. This model was discontinued many years ago and certain parts are unavailable.

The second request is to replace our front bucket loader. This loader is our primary machine that loads and unloads our fleet as well as all the contractors we hire throughout our season. This loader is also responsible for loading our trucks with salt sand in the winter as well as stockpiling our salt and sand products. Used with our screening plant it recycles old materials to make new materials for various road jobs as well as supporting the everyday duties at the transfer station. This 16 year old front bucket loader has 29,000 operating hours; it suffers from very expensive repair costs, and frame/body rot due to years loading and stockpiling winter salt. This machine is the backbone of our operation. We would expect 15 to 20 years of service from this loader.