

American Rescue Plan Working Group
Council Chambers, Newtown Municipal Center
3 Primrose St Newtown Ct
Monday, December 12th 2022

Minutes

Present: Ed Schierloh, Sandy Roussas, Charles Gardner, Matthew Mihalcik & Michele Ku (joined at 6:52pm)

Also Present: First Selectman Dan Rosenthal & Finance Director Bob Tait

Call to Order: Dan Rosenthal called the meeting at 6:31 pm

Vote Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: Ed Schierloh mad a motion to approve the minutes from November 29th, 2022. Seconded by Sandy Roussas. All in Favor, motion passes (4-0)

Old Business:

Discussion and Possible action

1. Consideration of Remaining Requests for Funding

- a. Ed Schierloh moved that we make a recommendation to the Board of Selectman to start the appropriation process for \$20,000 to fund Fairfield Hills Campus Safety Improvements. Seconded by Charles Gardner. Mr Rosenthal presented the supplemental sheet, costs have come in lower than originally budgeted for at \$50,000. He also mentioned that if we didn't used ARP funds it would be funded from the operating budget. All in favor, motion passes (4-0)
- b. Ed Schierloh moved that we make a recommendation to the Board of Selectman to start the appropriation process for \$240,000 to fund Public Works 6-wheel 8 ton Dump Truck. Seconded by Sandy Roussas. Ms Roussas asked what another potential funding source would be. Mr Rosenthal said that it would be saved for over multiple years and then funding from capital non-recurring. Ms Roussas asked if there is any though the trucks might be cheaper if we waited. Mr Rosenthal said no costs continue to increase as well as wait times for vehicles and equipment. Mr Gardner asked how many plow trucks are in the fleet. Mr Rosenthal said there are (12) 6-wheel trucks, (6)10-wheel trucks and (9) 550s in the plow fleet. The truck being replaced is 24 years old which is the oldest in the fleet and suffers from serious body/frame rot. The model was discontinued many years ago and certain parts are no longer available. Ms Roussas mentioned that this seems to be a need to have very a nice to have item in the fleet. Mr Schierloh mentioned that it is also have a safety concern. Mr Rosenthal mentioned that the public works fleet manager does a good job repairing trucks as he can but the salt is so corrosive there is only so much that can be done. There are also 4 trucks listed in poor condition in the fleet but have better bodies on the trucks. All in favor, motion passes (4-0)
- c. Sandy Roussas moved to approve the \$175,000 for Board of Fire Commissioners for discussion purposes. Seconded by Charles Gardner. Ms Roussas reviewed the requests by each department and asked if there is an equitable way to fund all 5 departments. She mentioned some of the projects look more like safety concerns than nice to have items, exhaust system,

roof repairs and paving projects but it leaves some departments without funding. Ms Roussas asked if the items costs been verified. Mr Rosenthal did not know but offered to have Public Works look at the paving projects and see if there is a way that Public Works can help offset some of the cost. Mr Rosenthal also mentioned that the Town has not traditional helped the departments with infrastructure costs in the past as the departments own their own buildings. Mr Rosenthal also mentioned that the Town does fund the purchase of some fire apparatus for each department. Ms Roussas asked if there are other funding sources for some of the requests. Mr Gardner mentioned that New Milford received a grant for an exhaust removal system. Michele Ku agreed with Mr Gardner that we should look at the requests on a need-based approach like we have with other request vs right sizing requests. Ms Roussas motioned to table to request for further research, review and discussion of Board of Fire Commissioners. Ed Schierloh Seconded, All in Favor (5-0)

Voter Comments: None

Adjournment: Ed Schierloh moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:29 pm. Seconded by Sandy Roussas, 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					
					12/12/2022
ARP award amount		7,674,294			
Possible Uses:					
line	General Government:			Recommended	Approved
1	Fairfield Hills - Replace Water Distribution System	1,500,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
2	Fairfield Hills Campus Safety Improvements	50,000			
3	Edmond Town Hall Building Improvements	125,000	✓	9/22/2022	✓
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	✓	7/28/2022	✓
8	Transfer Station Site Improvements	200,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
9	Municipal Building Improvements	100,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
10	Sandy Hook Side Walks				
11	section #1 - Glen Road	215,000	✓	9/22/2022	✓
13	Public Safety:				
14	Fire Commission Fire Suppression Tank Repair	50,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
15	Fire Company Grants (4 x \$15,000); NUSAR (\$15,000);	90,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
16	Ambulance (\$15,000)				
17	Board of Fire Commissioners (5 x \$25,000) + \$50,000 (training)	175,000			
18	Recreation & Leisure:				
19	Parks & Recreation Truck with lift gate	90,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
20	Treadwell Park Disc Golf Course	40,000			
21	Dickinson Park New Pavilion (Refurbishment)	150,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
22	Dickinson Park New Pavilion (Refurbishment) - add'l amount	50,000	✓	9/22/2022	✓
23	Bike Park at Fairfield Hills	75,000	✓	9/22/2022	✓
24	The Art Walk at Fairfield Hills	50,000			
25	Health & Welfare:				
26	Housing Stalization Fund	20,000	✓	9/22/2022	✓
27	Senior/Community Center 14 passenger bus	90,000	✓	5/9/2022	✓
28	COVID supplies/expenses	40,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
29	Child/Youth Enrichment Fund (Newtown Human Services Dept.)	20,000	✓	7/28/2022	✓
30	Community Center:				
31	Community Center Generator (75,000)	passed			
32	Community Center Outside Storage Building	75,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
33	Community Center Patio	155,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
34	Community Center Outdoor Spray Features (200,000)	passed			
35	Community Center/Senior Center Handicap Doors	16,000	✓	4/11/2022	✓
36	Education:				
37	Hawley School HVAC/Ventilation project	2,500,000	✓		✓
38	Student Tutoring Support Program (Newtown Human Services Dept.)	100,000	✓	7/28/2022	✓
39	BOE information technology licenses to address				
40	Function Wide:				
41	Reimburse the Town Medical Self Insurance Fund				
42	for COVID Expenses (since 3/3/2021)	325,000	✓	1/27/2022	✓
Amount Available after Appropriated		1,198,294			appropriated
Sum of grey highlight =		555,000			6,476,000
✓ Recommended by the ARP Working Group. To go through the Town appropriation process (BOS/BOF/LC)					
✓ Appropriated by Legislative Council					

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 respectfully request 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.

Fairfield Hills ARPA Funds Request – Building Security

Goal: Securing buildings, installing or repairing fences to continue making the buildings less able to be accessed by trespassers. It is common knowledge that people access the buildings without permission on a regular basis.

It has been suggested by a resident who was startled by persons hiding behind bushes, that the brush be removed surrounding buildings, especially Cochran House, Kent House and Norwalk Hall.

Plan:

- Upon obtaining funding for the estimated necessary linear footage of fencing and gates, quotes will be obtained for items and installation.
- Public Works anticipates that they should be able to do brush trimming around Kent House, Cochran House and Norwalk Hall.
- Quotes will be requested for securing necessary open/unlocked windows and doors (expect it to be fewer than ten openings).

Noted Areas of Concern

Building	Side of building (from front)	Details	
Cochran	Left side	Door may need to be secured	door
	Front left side of building, front of wing	Window open	window
	Front of building, left interior area	missing fence, estimated 40 ft.	40
	Front of building, center interior area	missing fence, estimated 24 ft.	24
	Front of building, right interior area	missing fence, estimated 20 ft.	20
	Front of building, right corner	missing fence, estimated 90 ft.	90
	Right side of building, area to the left	missing fence, estimated 30 ft.	30
	Right side of building, area to the right	missing fence, estimated 30 - 40 ft.	40
	Back of building, area to the left	missing fence, small section	10
	Back of building, area to the right	open window	window
	Back of building, area to the right	In corner of wing, door may need to be secured.	door
	Back of building, area to the right	Clear brush all around the building to provide visibility to the building.	brush
Norwalk	Right side	repair fence	10
	Front of building, right side	open window	window
	all around building	Clear brush all around the building to provide visibility to the building.	brush
Kent	Back of building, left side	3 sections of fence	30
	Back of building, extension right side	repair fence	10
	Front of building, left side	repair fence	10
	all around building	Clear brush all around the building to provide visibility to the building.	brush
		estimated ft. of fence to be installed	314
		Window securing	3
		Door securing	2

Quote:

Purchase and install an estimated 350+ linear feet of 6' high chain link fence with three gates for vehicular access.

Due to the estimated timeline to either renovate Kent and Shelton Houses, or for CIP funds to be available to remediate and demolish certain buildings, it is recommended that the town purchase fencing vs. renting.

Based on an estimate of 350 linear feet of fencing and three vehicle gates, it is expected that the fencing will cost approximately \$15,000.

It is estimated that **\$20,000** will cover the gaps in fencing and securing of windows and doors that was noted in examining the buildings.