Joint American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Committee Joint Meeting with Board of Selectmen
September 12, 2022 – Special Meeting
Via Zoom

ARPA MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Dave Koji, Vice Chair Greg Barden, Jack Faski, Marge Mlodzinski. Stan Soby.

ARPA MEMBERS ABSENT: Jen Cox, Denise Mizla.

BOS MEMBERS PRESENT: First Selectman Andreas Bibiskos, Selectmen Rosemary Coyle, Jason LaChapelle, Debbie Bates, Denise Turner.

OTHERS PRESENT: UHY Consultants Stacy Farber, Claire Collins, Parks & Recreation Director Tiffany Quinn, Fire Chief Steven Hoffman, Colchester Collaborative for Children (C3) Early Childhood Coordinator Cindy Praisner.

1. **CALL TO ORDER - ARPA Committee**
   Chair Dave Koji called this joint ARPA Special Meeting to order at 5:35 pm.
   CALL TO ORDER - Board of Selectmen
   First Selectman Andreas Bibiskos called this joint BOS Special Meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

2. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**
   Deanna Bouchard stated her support for the skate park and C3, and questioned the need for for more apparatus for the fire department and the catch basins for the fire department parking lot that could be done by town road crew. D. Bouchard also questioned the submission of the parking lot application as the deadline was earlier.

   First Selectman Bibiskos noted that the application had been submitted months before but was an updated cost estimate. Chair Koji also noted that there was not a deadline for municipal applications and the update had been requested due to fluctuations in prices.

3. **MUNICIPAL DEPARTMENT HEAD ARPA APPLICATION INTERVIEWS**
   3.a Tiffany Quinn – Parks & Recreation
   - Tennis Courts - $297500
   - Field Irrigation - $250794
   - Skate Park - $99000

   Director Quinn reviewed the application for a concrete based tennis court with a ten year warrantee vs the asphalt that has no warrantee and the price has increased significantly. The concrete is similar to that used in parking garages. The fencing will be reused. J. Faski said the price of asphalt has come down recently and he would like to see a comparison for the asphalt vs concrete including maintenance costs. T. Quinn will look into an additional quote for concrete and asphalt comparison with maintenance estimates.

   Selectman LaChappelle said if the schools are replacing their tennis courts perhaps a combination estimate or cost sharing for use of the park court should be looked into.

   T. Quinn and First Selectman Bibiskos had another meeting to attend and left at this time. The skate park and field irrigation will be on the next meeting agenda.

   3.b Fire Chief Steven Hoffman – Fire Department
   - Catch basin/new parking lot (Do not have application)
   - New Apparatus Equipment

   The request is $184,500 for new apparatus to replace antiquated hand tools such as

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axes, hooks. The old equipment will be sold and Chief Hoffman will review the list to possibly cut it back.

- 800 Mhz Radio System Upgrade - $37,500
Chief Hoffman explained the radio system that will allow broader communication between other police and fire departments. This request is for the tower upgrade not radios.

- Company #2 roof - $40,000
Company #2 roof has been approved by the Board of Selectmen as an emergency situation. Chair Koji recorded the vote as a yes or no on the application for ARPA members. The vote was a unanimous yes for approval by those present. No motion.

3.c Cindy Praisner – C3
- Family Empowerment $17,918
C. Praisner explained this request is for a Family Empowerment Facilitator who works eight hours a week and is the backbone of all the programs serving 82 families. There are 99 sessions with two parttime people giving support to these families. Discussion followed noting that the demand is there and C3 works with Social Services.

4. **BOS FOR APPROVAL OF THE ARPA MUNICIPAL COMMUNITY SURVEY AS AN AMENDMENT TO THE MUNCIPAL ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDATION PROCESS.** No action taken.

5. **CITIZENS' COMMENTS**
D. Bouchard thanked the committee for a great session by having the department heads available for questions to clarify application requests.

6. **ADJOURNMENT – ARPA Committee**
Motion by: J. Faski
to adjourn this Special Joint meeting.
Second by: S. Soby.
Vote: Unanimous to approve by those present.
Chair Koji adjourned this meeting at 6:42 pm.

ADJOURNMENT – Board of Selectmen
Motion by: R. Coyle
to adjourn this Special Joint meeting
Second by: J. LaChappelle.
Vote: Unanimous to approve by those present.
This meeting was adjourned at 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk