

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING
JUNE 13, 2022 - 5:00 PM
ZOOM MEETING

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88937341476?pwd=ZUNCTGI0TEpscG56RGdyNm1vdTdXZz09>

Webinar ID: 889 3734 1476

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US: +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 669 900 6833

1. Call to Order
2. Citizens Comments
3. Final Recommendation Vote for ARPA Business/Municipal Applications for the Following –
 - 3.a Avery/AJ

Town of Colchester ARPA Recovery Funding Request Application			
<small>Directions: Please fill in all fields. Once completed, either print and drop off this application to the First Selectman's office located at 137 Norwich Ave., Colchester, CT 06415, or have a copy and email to ARPA@ColchesterCT.gov. If you have questions please email ARPA@ColchesterCT.gov. Please include any additional documentation you feel would help in the application process. Submit only one project per application (submit multiple applications if you have multiple projects).</small>			
<small>Important: Applicant must demonstrate that the funding use directly addresses a negative economic impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency.</small>			
Applicant Background Information			
Applicant Name:	Peter Edward Raber, Jr.	Date Prepared:	01/24/22
Applicant email:	praber1971@gmail.com	Applicant Phone:	860-908-7123
Department / Business / Establishment Name:	Avery Production Solutions d/b/a AJ's Comics		
Project Details			
Project Title:	Repayment/Expansion	Anticipated Start Date:	ASAP
Total Funding Request Amount:	25,000	Anticipated Length of Time to Complete Project:	2-4 months
On a scale of 1 (Not Urgent) to 10 (Very Urgent, how urgent is this request)? Please explain:	8 While the need to expand product is not as urgent, the need to repay debt in order to implement expansion is.		
Project Description (How will the funds be used?)			
The funds will be used to pay debt incurred during the day-to-day operations of AJ's Comics. The debt occurred during the initial onset of COVID into our society, and we have been struggling to maintain flow and a steady stream of product since.			
Once the debt has been paid back, AJ's Comics can commit fully on expanding the product line of all our inventory, including comics, games, puzzles, cards, statues and other various hobby collectibles.			
Justification (Please describe how your request addresses a negative impact to COVID-19.)			
The debt occurred once COVID-19 affected our society and forced shutdown and/or truncation of many businesses across the country as well as our town, specifically.			
Since that time, we have been struggling with payments and juggling priorities of payments from month-to-month. Even though, at this time we are now back to full operation, we still have over a year of truncated operating hours that we are never able to get back and lost revenue that will never re-materialize.			
With the influx of these funds from ARPA we would be able to reverse that negative impact and course correct our business in order to allow it to continue positively for years to come.			

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Gayle Furman
GAYLE FURMAN
TOWN CLERK

Briefly explain the positive impact your project will have on the community.

The positive impact will be immediately felt as we will be able to bring in a wide variety of hobby products that are not found in this particular region of the state, which will, in turn, allow for an increased influx of sales tax revenue for the state.

The longer positive impact is it will allow AJ's Comics to remain open and be a viable, vibrant, robust place for this and neighboring communities to congregate and acquire all their hobby needs, which people need in order to utilize in their downtime away from the daily worklife.

Describe the impact to your department / business / establishment if ARPA funds are NOT approved.

If ARPA funds are not approved, then the store will eventually have to close and much needed income for employees, as well as the state in regards to sales tax revenue, will be lost and the community at large will suffer.

Budget Overview (How will the ARPA funding be spent?)
(If more space is needed, please attach additional spreadsheet)

Budgeted Item / Service	Budgeted Amount	Notes
bills to Penguin Rantenthouse	\$2,786	bills for Marvel comics already received/will receive
bills to Lunar Distribution	\$1,172	bills for DC comics already received/will receive
bills to Diamond Comics	\$3,654	bills for independent comics already received/will receive
bill to Paypal	\$6,581	bill for comics/supplies purchased from various vendors and BCW
purchases of comic collections	\$2,000	future purchases of collections to expand catalog in-store and on-line
Funko Pop purchases	\$1,250	future purchases of Funko Pops for in-store and on-line purchases
card/card product purchases	\$2,000	future purchases of card/card products and supplies for in-store purchases
comic supplies purchases	\$2,000	future purchases of comic supplies for in-store purchases
games/puzzles purchases	\$1,500	future purchases of games and puzzles for in-store and on-line purchases
various unrealized expenses	\$2,057	various unforeseen expenses
	\$	
TOTAL	\$25,000	

4. Non-Profit Cap
5. Municipal Project Discussion
6. Citizens' Comments
7. Adjournment

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