

American Rescue Plan Act
March 28, 2022 – Regular Meeting
via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Dave Koji, Vice Chair Greg Barden, Jack Faski, Chuck Maynard, Stan Soby.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marge Mlodzinski.

OTHERS PRESENT: First Selectman Andreas Bisbikos, Consultant Stacy Farber from UHY Certified Public Accountants.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Dave Koji called this meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Motion by: D. Koji

to add the municipal request to fund the hybrid meeting equipment under Item 4.

C. Maynard

to amend the motion to place the hybrid equipment request under Item 7.

Second by: S. Soby

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

Motion by: D. Koji

to add discussion about holding a Special Meeting for the gift card company presentation under Item 7.

Second by: G. Barden.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

3. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No comments were received.

4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES OF MARCH 14, 2022

Motion by: J. Faski

to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022, Regular Meeting, as read.

Second by: G. Barden.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

5. ARPA COMMITTEE FINAL RECOMMENDATION VOTE FOR APPLICABLE BUSINESS APPLICATIONS. AFTER FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS, APPLICATIONS TO BE PASSED TO BOS FOR FINAL FUNDING DECISION.

Chair Koji noted that the ARPA regulations do not allow ARPA funds to be used to pay loans, other debts incurred prior to March 2021 and payment of back taxes are not allowed at any time. UHY will check applications as well.

The members reviewed the following business applications:

Classy Nails

Red Rose

RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2022 MAR 29 AM 9:58
Stacy Farber
STACY.FARB@UHY.COM

Tim's Bistro
Carefree
Carefree

Avery
Motion by: G. Barden
to further review this application
Second by: S. Soby.
Vote: Unanimous to approve for further review.

Briteway Electric
Cuts Unlimited
Driving Range
Herman's Diner
Reliable Auto

SkyDog Kites
Motion by: G. Barden
to further review this application
Second by: S. Soby.
Vote: Unanimous to approve for further review.

Subway
Twisted Dog

Member votes are recorded on the application and available to the public.
With the exception of SkyDog Kites and Avery, the above applications were approved by this committee to be sent to the Board of Selectmen for final approval. The two applications held back for further review will not lose their "place in line".

6. DISCUSS NON-PROFIT FUNDING CAP

Discussion followed about placing a cap for non-profit organizations.

Motion by: J. Faski
to set the individual non-profit cap up to \$50,000 and up to \$250,000 for the category total.
Second by: G. Barden.
Vote: Unanimous to approve.

The non-profit applications will be reviewed by this committee and S. Farber from UHY to be on the next meeting agenda for a vote.

7. REVIEW CURRENT ARPA STANDING

- **BUSINESSES**
 - \$952,068 OF \$1M RECOMMENDED OR FORECASTED
 - 42 UNIQUE BUSINESSES
- **NON-PROFITS**
 - \$338,668 SUBMITTED
 -

- TOWN DEPARTMENTS
 - \$30,000 FOR ARPA CONSULTANT (BOS APPROVED)

7.1 \$74,197.30 FOR HYBRID MEETING EQUIPMENT (BOS APPROVED)

- (PURCHASING ORDER HAS BEEN SIGNED)

Motion by: C. Maynard

to approve the Town's request for hybrid meeting equipment in the amount of \$74,197.30.

Second by: J. Faski.

Vote: Unanimous to approve.

- PHASE A
 - 1) PARK & REC - PLAYGROUND (OUT TO BID), IRRIGATION (OUT TO BID), TENNIS COURT (CONTRACTED) PICKLEBALL (CONTRACTED), STRATEGIC PLANNER (ESTIMATE 800K)
 - 2) GIFT CARDS (WORKING WITH UHY) - WAITING FOR EXACT ESTIMATE.
 - 3) POLICE STATION EXPANSION - THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED OF THE FIRST SELECTMAN TO SIGN ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR STEPHEN JAGER ASSOCIATES LLC TO CONCEPTUALIZE FLOOR PLANS FOR THE PROPOSED RENOVATION AND EXPANSION OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT. WAITING FOR EXACT ESTIMATE.
 - 4) YOUTH CENTER (REFURBISH VS. REBUILD CURRENT SENIOR CENTER) - KNOCKDOWN COST (\$40K), WAITING FOR FURTHER ESTIMATES.
- PHASE B
- PHASE B OPPORTUNITIY (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)
 - TOWN HALL REVIEW
 - YOUTH CENTER REVIEW
 -
 - FIRE DEPARTMENT REVIEW

All of the above were discussed with First Selectman Bibiskos who is reviewing the various projects for possible alternate funding and waiting for estimates .

- DIRECT TO CITIZENS

7.2 GIFT CARDS

First Selectman Bibiskos has contacted a gift card company to give a presentation to this committee. Rather than have a Special Meeting the consensus was to have the presentation at the April 11, 2022, meeting. During discussion G. Barden asked about funds for economic development. Selectman Bibiskos stated that the cards will only be able to be spent in town and that will be reinvesting in the town. The cards also have a ninety day expiration date so any lost or not used cards will not be lost dollars.

8. BRIEFLY TOUCH UPON THE END-TO-END PROCESS

1. ARPA SENDS RECOMMENDATIONS TO BOS
2. BOS MAKES FINAL FUNDING DECISIONS
3. ANDREAS (FS) TO NOTIFY ALL BUSINESSES OF BOS FUNDING APPROVAL OR DENIAL. ANDREAS (FS) WILL COMMUNICATE TO SAID BUSINESSES THAT THEY MUST SIGN THE BUSINESS AGREEMENT AT THE FIRST SELECTMAN'S OFFICE
The business agreement will be renamed the attestation agreement.
4. AFTER THE BUSINESS SIGNS THE BUSINESS AGREEMENT, ANDREAS (FS) WILL THEN INFORM COLCHESTER FINANCE TO CUT A CHECK FOR THE APPROVED FUNDING AMOUNT.
5. COLCHESTER FINANCE WRITES AND SENDS THE CHECK TO THE BUSINESS
6. UHY RECORDS THE CHECK INFORMATION ON THE ARPA TRACKING SHEET
7. UHY FOLLOWS UP WITH THE BUSINESS TO OBTAIN RECEIPTS AND/OR SPENDING VERIFICATION *and if there are left over funds, a request to the Town will be required to spend the additional funds.*

9. DISCUSS NEXT STEPS

The next steps will be assessing the non-profit and additional business applications, and the presentation from the gift card company at the April 11, 2022 meeting.

10. CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No comments were received.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by: J. Faski
to adjourn the meeting.

Second by: G. Barden.

Vote: Unanimous to adjourn.

Chair Koji adjourned the meeting at 6:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Jane Slade
Clerk