

telephone: 860-526-0013 facsimile: 860-526-0004 web page: chesterct.org

Chester ARPA Committee Meeting

Agenda for Tuesday March 8, 2022, 7pm, ZOOM

Call to Order

Seating of Committee Members

Approval of Meeting Minutes from 2/8/2022

Audience of Citizens

Old Business

Action Items from the February 8th meeting

COMPLETED

Bill Bernhart will compile the minutes for this first meeting.

Create committee home base - Google Email address, Drive folders, Forms, etc., OR Town equivalent. **Jenny Watrous** is creating an interim solution on the home page for our agenda, minutes, documents, etc.. **Charlene** will look into this with the town's IT contractor, CT-COMP

Michael Cressman's current state document is an attachment to minutes. **Charlene** will supply existing documentation of these (tabled) proposals

Michael Cressman's document on Eligible Use Categories is an attachment to the minutes

Susan to send list of Chester businesses that received funding applied for under PPP.

Kris and Susan to summarize Education, PPP, and Library funds received under other ARPA programs, outside of SLFRF.

Create form for funding request/proposal submission with criteria (Steve Cline and Michael Cressman). Bill Bernhart to send examples to Steve and Michael Kris Pollack - Create spreadsheet for logging submissions, status, ARPA funding approved, remaining. Integrate proposal form and logging spreadsheet. Bill Bernhart to send example to Kris Pollack

Charlene to provide the 2 page summary provided by Ed for the WPCA project. Is there time-phasing? Work it as a beta procedurally.

Create communications plan - Town website page, town-wide email, social media (Susan Wright)



Create process and methods for soliciting, reviewing, and approving proposals for vote at town meeting. (on Hold). **Bill Bernhart** will draft a process flow, work with others.

Charlene to get a ruling on the required procedure for processing tabled items. The meeting moderator will need to facilitate processing to achieve Committee goals. **Charlene** will look into clarification of the actual process required (for tabled items to come before town meeting). Is this a legal issue or a point of order? Can we use WPCA as example to test the required process?

Susan and Kris to provide some clarification regarding SLFRF and other ARPA funding sources

OPEN or not known?

Charlene will work on getting someone to transcribe future minutes. **Jon Joslow –** Chester EDC to reach out to other area EDC's on impact to small businesses, for example Old Lyme, Clinton

New Business ARPA Proposal Submissions

Approved at Town Meeting 12/15

- Proposal for a Contribution Not to Exceed \$10,000 to the Shoreline Food Kitchen & Pantries for Purchase a Refrigerated Food Truck
- Proposal for a Contribution Not to Exceed \$70,000 for Purchase of a Fire Boat

Complete - Review and Move Forward to BoS and BoF

- Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) Proposal to Repair or Replace Aging Sanitary Sewer (\$98,480)
- ARPA Proposal for IT Updates to Chester Town Hall and Meeting House (\$60,000)

Also Tabled at Town Meeting 12/15/21, Will these be resubmitted under the new process

- Town Hall Generator (\$120,000)
- Tri-Town Youth Services Bureau (\$44,820) Have Essex and Deep River approved?
- Chester Public Health and Social Services (\$50,000)



New Proposals Received?

- Have any more been received as a result of publishing the process and form?
- Proposal for an ARPA Social Services Fund (ARPA-SSF) (\$100,000)

Discussion

- Police Body & Car Cameras (\$40,750) and Supporting IT Infrastructure (\$80,000).
 - Note that purchase of body cameras has been approved by BoS & BoF under emergency declaration to meet mandate deadline of July 1, 2022. Solutions for supporting IT Infrastructure are being studied. Should ARPA funding be used for Infrastructure and to cover Camera purchase? Should an ARPA funding request(s) be generated? Several towns are using ARPA funds for this purpose.
- Chester Public Health and Social Services Landscape.
 - How can we best meet the spectrum of need in Chester using ARPA funding to create/support infrastructure while meeting the requirements for ARPA funding accountability and the confidentiality requirements of some service programs?
 - Should we create a unified proposal that allocates funds separately to public health and social services or create multiple proposals?

<u>Audience of Citizens</u> Adjournment

Join Zoom Meeting

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Dial by your location

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