

Town of Paxton 697 Pleasant Street Paxton, MA 01612

American Rescue Plan Act Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 21, 2022

Meeting Location: John Bauer Senior Center 17 West Street, Paxton, MA 01612

Members Present: Heather Munroe, Julia Pingitore, Cindy Love, Travis Thibault,

Larissa Kennedy, Jeff Olson

Meeting called to order at 10:14am.

• Motion (HM) seconded (JO) to approve the meeting minutes from July 20, 2022. Unanimous, all in favor.

Update on current projects

- Travis Thibault West St Water Main Engineering has an amendment to add an additional application fee of \$1,500.00 which will bring the total of this project to be \$131,000.00. This is still under the voted budget of \$140,000.00 so no action needed from ARPA Committee. The Phase 2 and 3 Design will be completed in the next month or so and then we can apply for MASSWORKS.
- **Cindy Love** More food will be purchased for the food pantry.
- **Heather Munroe** Consider allowing families who previously applied for Household Assistance in previous Fiscal Years to apply again in the new Fiscal Year.
- Committee agrees, no motion needed for this consideration
- **Julia Pingitore** Electronic signs still have outstanding electronics work and touch ups to be done. Leave the outstanding project funds for these bills.
- **Travis Thibault** Fuss and O'Neil have started the MS4 Stormwater Engineering, this will be a 6-8 month task.
- **Heather Monroe** We will reach out to the library for any updates on the Library Internet project.
- Travis Thibault The process for the Water Tower Generator has been started by RJ McDonald, this project could be under budget.
- **Julia Pingitore** The Board of Health did appoint a Public Health Nurse and these funds could be beginning to be expended soon.
- **Heather Munroe** The Tree Removal project is open for receiving bids for the next two weeks. This should be ready to bring before the Selectboard's October 11th meeting for approval.
- Heather had to leave meeting
- **Julia Pingitore** No update on the Fire Truck. The contract is signed, hopefully production can begin early next year.

Consideration of expanding assistance to households

- **Julia Pingitore** Currently the approved uses of the Assistance to Households project are for fuel assistance and providing warm clothing. Should we consider opening this up for wider purposes, have fewer parameters, give discretionary decisions to one person or a small group?
- Motion (TT) seconded (JP) to give discretionary decision making for approving Assistance to Households funds to a 3 person subcommittee of Heather Munroe, Cindy Love and Jeff Olson. Unanimous, all in favor.

New Business

• **Julia Pingitore** – A future Selectboard meeting agenda will include an ARPA discussion requested by a resident; ARPA Committee is encouraged to attend.

The next ARPA Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 10:00am.

• Motion (TT) seconded (JO) to adjourn the meeting at 11:03am. Unanimous, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Larissa Kennedy, on behalf of the American Rescue Plan Act Committee