

# Chester ARPA Committee Meeting

## Minutes for Tuesday July 12, 2022, 7pm, ZOOM

### **Call to Order at about 7:07**

### **Seating of Committee Members**

- In attendance were Charlene Janacek, Bill Bernhart, Allison Abramson, Michael Cressman, Kim Megrath, Steve Cline, Jon Joslow. Absent were Susan Wright, Mike Jordan, Andrew Gardner.
- Also in attendance were James Grzybowski (CHC), Art Christianson (American Legion), John Guskowski (Zoning Enforcement Officer), and Mandy Carroll (Chester Merchants)

### **Approval of Meeting Minutes from 06/14/2022**

- Motion to approve by Allison Abramson, seconded by Steve Cline, approved, with Charlene Janacek abstaining.

### **Proposal status summary**

- Bill Bernhart presented the ARPA proposal as listed on the town website, noting that \$472,000 of ARPA proposals have been approved at town meeting, \$169,500 moving to town meeting. This represents about half of Chester's allocation. \$225,844 of proposals are in process by BoS, BoF, and the ARPA Committee. \$379,196 remains unrequested.

### **Agenda change**

- A motion was made by Jon Joslow to move the discussion regarding the going forward status of the ARPA Committee ahead of review of ARPA proposals, seconded by Kim Megrath, approved by majority with nay votes by Steve Cline and Michael Cressman.

### **Going Forward Committee Status**

- After lengthy discussion with input from all attending Committee members Kim Megrath summarized with a motion and the Committee voted to dissolve and cease operations. The ARPA process will now involve submission of proposals to the Selectmen's office, possible review by a subcommittee of the BoF for ARPA eligibility, BoS disposition and BoF vote to send a proposal and associated ARPA funding disbursement to Town Meeting for citizen approval.
- Charlene, as First Selectwoman thanked the Committee members for their

service in creating the ARPA process and form and their hard work in moving many proposals forward to Town Meeting.

### **ARPA Proposals Review and Disposition**

- The following proposals were reviewed with the authors but no action was taken since the Committee was no longer in operation. The Committee thanks the authors for their efforts in drafting their funding requests. The Board of Selectmen assumes responsibility for further action on open proposals as well as soliciting any additional proposals from town and community.
  - Chester Hose Company Radio Community Infrastructure (Chief James Grzybowski) \$136,894
  - Online Permitting automation (Zoning Enforcement Officer John Guskowski) \$20,000
  - Chester War Memorial Upgrade (American Legion Post 97, Art Christianson) \$25,000
  - Chester Merchants Group (Mandy Carroll, Facilitator) \$15,000

### **Audience of Citizens**

- There were no comments.

### **Adjournment at about 8:48 PM.**

- Collectively motioned to adjourn, seconded by Michael Cressman, and approved unanimously.