AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 (ARPA)
Committee
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

February 8, 2022 – 6:30 P.M.

WATERTOWN TOWN HALL
TOWN MANAGER’S OFFICE
CONFERENCE ROOM, 2ND FLOOR
61 Echo Lake Road

1. Call Meeting to Order.
   Mary Ann Rosa called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance.
   Mary Ann Rosa led the pledge of allegiance.

Council Members
Mary Ann Rosa
Rachael Ryan

Community Members
Jean King
Alan Mickel

Watertown Staff
Mark A. Raimo – Town Manager
Susan Zappone – Assistant Town Manger/Finance Director
Vincent Caterino – Water and Sewer Superintendent (Alternate)
James Demarest Jr. – Deputy Fire Chief

Liaison to the State of Connecticut

Absent: Jonathan Ramsay
   Erik Markiewicz
   Joseph Seacrist – Economic Development Coordinator
   State Rep. Joe Polletta
3. Minutes.
   a. January 11, 2022

   Motion: Jean King seconded by Mark Raimo: I move to approve the January 11, 2022 meeting minutes.

   Motion passed unanimously

4. Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to be submitted to the Town Council for the use of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funding.

   Mark Raimo: Mr. Raimo talked about the change on the guidelines for the funds. In the new interim final ruling, which is not final yet with the federal government, has given us the okay to take the monies that were given to us anything under 10 million could be put into the general fund and could be used as seen fit. The exception is we cannot touch our tax base by using this money. The committee should discuss making a recommendation to the Town Council that they approve us to accept that as the way we are going to move forward with the funds and then ask for permission to re-charge the committee to come up with further ideas for them to take action.

   Projects discussed for the funds.
   - Purchase of the Greenburg property on Main Street to address parking issues.
   - The town received a bid for 37 DeForest Street (the old Town Hall) to use the money to develop the property.
   - The Fire Department will be coming to the Town Council about an ambulance service in town and to use the funds for upfront seeding.
   - To bring the Police radio system up to date.
   - From the Economic Development concept, a reinvestment project for the façade, sidewalks and streetscapes.
   - To do the next step in the process for the Police Station and Community Center.

   Discussion amongst the committee:
   - If the council re-charges the committee, the committee could do more investigating and getting the costs for the projects.
   - Project movement for the Police Station and Community Center moving forward.
   - Discussion on ways to inform the public and getting ideas.
Motion: Mark Raimo seconded by James Demarest: I make a motion to forward the following recommendations to the Town Council for use of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funding. That the Town of Watertown elect the standard allowance to spend on government services through the period of performance.

Motion passed unanimously

5. Adjournment.

Motion: Al Mickel seconded by Mark Raimo: I move to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:05 pm.

Motion passed unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

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Mary Ann Rosa

Approved: ____________________
Susan King, Clerk