

OFFICE OF THE
FIRST SELECTMAN

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Lynne A. Vanderslice
First Selectwoman

Joshua S. Cole
Second Selectman

Kimberley Healy
Selectwoman

Basam Nabulsi
Selectman

Ross H. Tartell
Selectman

TOWN HALL
238 Danbury Road
Wilton, CT 06897

BOARD OF SELECTMEN REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday May 17, 2022
Held Electronically

PRESENT: First Selectwoman Lynne Vanderslice, Joshua Cole, Kimberley Healy, Basam Nabulsi, Ross Tartell

GUESTS: Michael Wrinn-Director Planning & Land Use Management, Chris Burney-Director Facilities and Energy Management, Captain Tom Conlan, Frank Smeriglio-Director Publics Works/Town Engineer, CFO Dawn Norton

A. Call to Order

Ms. Vanderslice called the meeting to order at 7:38pm.

B. Public Comment

None.

C. Executive Session

- Interview – Sadiqua Azad, Candidate for Conservation Commission
Motion move by Mr. Tartell, seconded by Mr. Cole to go into Executive Session for an Interview with Sadiqua Azad to discuss her interest in serving on the Conservation Commission. Motion carried 5-0.

Out of Executive Session and back in Regular Session at 8:10pm.

D. Consent Agenda

Motion made by Mr. Cole seconded by Ms. Healy and carried 5-0 to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- Minutes
 - Board of Selectmen Regular Meeting – May 2, 2022
- Refunds
 - As per Tax Collector's Memo dated May 10, 2022

E. Discussion and/or Action

1. Update on Town Grant Applications

Ms. Vanderslice gave an update on the following grant applications listed below and reviewed in attached memo:

- Neighborhood Assistance
- Congressional Directed Spending
- Communities Challenge Grant

*Minutes have not been reviewed by this Board and may be subject to revision in future minutes.

2. Requests for ARPA and Infrastructure Funds for Municipal Buildings – Chris Burney
Ms. Vanderslice and Mr. Burney reviewed the requests for ARPA and Infrastructure Funds for municipal buildings (see attached memo from the First Selectwoman and presentation). Discussion followed.

Captain Tom Conlan reviewed the request for funds for the Emergency Communications System. After review, motion moved by Mr. Cole to authorize the First Selectwoman to execute the contract for the Emergency Communication System Bid with Motorola in the amount of \$4,080,000 subject to town counsel review. Motion seconded by Mr. Tartell and carried 5-0.

Motion moved by Mr. Nabulsi to fund through ARPA for \$3,097,000 and set aside \$240,000 funds as a contingency for the project. Motion seconded by Mr. Cole and carried 5-0.

Frank Smeriglio reviewed requests for the design for the berm project and drainage project at Cider Mill and WHS areas. After discussion, motion moved by Mr. Nabulsi to use \$173,000 of ARPA funds for the Stantec Proposal option 1 and \$293,000 of ARPA funds for drainage maintenance in the Cider Mill and WHS areas. Motion second by Ms. Healy. After further discussion, motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Vanderslice recommended holding aside \$150,000 from the infrastructure fund for repair costs at Cider Mill and Middlebrook related to electrical damage due to an Eversource surge and potentially not reimbursed by insurance or Eversource.

Remaining requests to be discussed at the June 6, 2022 BOS meeting.

3. Affordable Housing Plan
Michael Wrinn presented an updated draft Affordable Housing Plan. After review motion made by Mr. Nabulsi to approve the plan as supplied by Mr. Wrinn. Motion seconded by Mr. Cole and carried 5-0.
4. Financial Report – Dawn Norton
CFO Dawn Norton noted revenue and expenses for fiscal 2022 are on budget.
5. Approval to Defer October 1, 2022 Revaluation to October 1, 2023 – Dawn Norton
Ms. Norton requested approval, consistent with 2022 HB5167 to defer October 1, 2022 Revaluation to October 1, 2023. Motion moved by Mr. Tartell to defer the October 1 2022 Revaluation to October 1, 2023. Motion seconded by Ms. Healy. After further review motion carried 5-0.
6. Discussion and Prioritization of ARPA and Infrastructure Funds Requests
Further discussion to be held at the June 6, 2022 BOS meeting.
7. Appointment – Possible Candidate to Conservation Commission
Motion moved by Ms. Healy to appoint Sadiqua Azad as a member of the Conservation Commission. Motion second by Mr. Tartell and carried 5-0.

F. Public Comment
None.

G. Selectmen's Reports

1. First Selectman
 - Ms. Vanderslice updated the board about Connecticut Economic Development Week that took place May 9-13, 2022 and noted that she participated in two

seminars ran by Advanced CT. She noted that development activity is kicking up in the town

- Ms. Vanderslice discussed resident questions regarding the Annual Town Meeting and adjourned vote process.

2. Selectmen

Ms. Healy

Ms. Healy shared her comments regarding the election/voting process. Reminded residents of upcoming League of Women Voters Open House and Town wide Clean-Up Day.

Mr. Tartell

Mr. Tartell shared his comments regarding the election/voting process. He noted the Historical Society's recognition of architect Bob Faesy, the Wilton Conservation Land Trust's chestnut trees and the Police Department's work during a recent rally in town.

Mr. Cole

Mr. Cole shared his comments regarding the election/voting process.

Mr. Nabulsi

None.

- H. Executive Session to Discuss Board and Commission Appointments and Reappointments
Motion made by Mr. Tartell, seconded by Mr. Cole to go into Executive Session to Discuss Board and Commission Appointments and Reappointments and an update on the Town Administrator search. Entered Executive Session at 9:52pm.

Out of Executive Session and back in Regular Session at 10:27pm.

I. Adjournment

There being no further business, motion to adjourn meeting at 10:27pm. Motion moved by Mr. Tartell, seconded by Ms. Healy and carried 5-0.

Jacqueline Rochester

Recording Secretary

Taken from Video

To: Board of Selectmen

From: Lynne Vanderslice

Date: May 16, 2022

RE: ARPA and Infrastructure Requests

Attached is a spreadsheet with the ARPA and Infrastructure requests. Highlighted in green are recommendations related to previously designated priorities, the emergency communications system and WHS field mitigation. The following are comments in advance of the meeting:

- ***Emergency Communication System:*** The recommendation for the system, net of the federal grant, is \$3,097,000 plus a potential contingency drawdown of up to \$240,000. The request is based on the requirements of the State's emergency communication system, under the terms of the State's contract and priced as of February 25, 2022 with a guarantee until May 25, 2022.
You may remember in September 2021, we received an estimate with a price range of \$3,675,091 to \$4,224,354. The low range was expected needs at the September pricing. The high range was Motorola's recommended budget to account for what wasn't known in September.
The difference between the estimated price and the final price is additional required equipment and price increases.
Tom Conlan will be at our meeting to discuss further. We are hoping to lock in the February 25th pricing. As such we may need second meeting early next week to continue discussions.
- ***WHS Drainage and Mitigation:*** We submitted an application to Congressman Himes for a Congressional Directed Spending Grant for the cost of Option 3 plus maintenance. Although we won't know if the grant will move forward or ultimately be awarded, we are encouraged by the positive response our application received. As we await a decision, we think it is necessary to do some mitigation in advance of the summer storms. As such we recommend the Town move forward with the recommended berm work estimated at \$173,800 and maintenance work estimated at \$292,875. The recommended drainage work would be completed with the grant funding if approved. If not approved, we would need to recommend alternative funding.
- ***Municipal Buildings:*** Chris Burney will be at our meeting to discuss. Regarding Ambler, we will want to have a more in-depth discussion about Ambler Farm's Yellow House with representatives of Friends of Ambler Farm present. We hope to hold that discussion in June. You will note we intend to submit grant applications to the State's Neighborhood Assistance Program for window replacements at Ambler Farm's Yellow House and Town Hall. Under the program, businesses that donate to approved applications for energy conservation, for which both of these qualify, receive state tax credits equal to 100% of their donations. This will be discussed further at our meeting.

- ***Hold backs:*** Approximately \$269,000 of turf and track cleanup costs related to Tropical Storm Ida are awaiting approval and reimbursement from FEMA. Until those funds are received, I recommend we hold back an equivalent amount in the Infrastructure Fund. The recent power surge, which resulted in damage to the Cider Mill and Middlebrook electrical systems, is expected to result in costs of at least \$300,000, half of which is expected to be incurred during this fiscal year. A claim has been filed with the insurance carrier and Eversource. Since a determination hasn't been made as to if and how much will be reimbursed and because the BOE does not expect to be able to fund the current year's incurred costs through their budget, I recommend we hold back an equivalent amount in the Infrastructure Fund until we have more information about reimbursements.
- ***Potential Grants Impact Disbursements:*** We are working on an October submission for the State's Community Challenge Grant. The submission would be for a \$1 million grant to partially fund the Schenck's Island Merwin Meadows Plan. The Town would be required to provide a \$500,000 match. Approximately \$685,000 of requests, as indicated, qualify as matched spending.

INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES PROJECT	FUNDING ALLOCATION			NOTES
		AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN	INFRASTRUCTURE FUND-net of commitments	
AVAILABLE FUNDING	\$ 6,600,000	\$ 5,400,000	\$ 1,200,000	
PRIORITIZED				
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM-BID COST	\$ 4,080,000	\$ 3,097,000		Net of \$983,000 Congressional grant
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM-HOLD BACK AS CONTINGENCY	\$ 240,000	\$ 240,000		Add'l \$60,000 contingency in FY2023 operating budget. Overall @ 7.4%
DRAINAGE UPGRADES-WHS COMPLEX-Berm only	\$ 173,700	\$ 173,000		
DRAINAGE UPGRADES-WHS COMPLEX-Berm and Drainage	\$ 986,300			Applied for Congressional grant
SUBTOTAL	\$ 5,480,000	\$ 3,510,000	\$ -	
BALANCE AVAILABLE TO PRIORITIZE		\$ 1,890,000	\$ 1,200,000	
NOT PRIORITIZED				
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS				
REPLACE TOWN HALL COLUMNS AND STEPS	\$20,000 to \$250,000			
RADIANT CEILING HEAT FOR TOWN HALL AREAS WITHOUT INSULATION	\$ 50,000			
LIGHT UPPER COMSTOCK PARKING LOT AND PATH TO COMSTOCK	\$ 25,000			
REPLACE EXTERIOR SIDING ON P&G BARN AT MERWIN	\$ 20,000			
TOWN HALL WINDOW REPLACEMENTS	\$ 60,000			Application-Neighborhood Assistance Grant
TOWN HALL INTERIOR REDESIGN-redesign inefficient space to allow for relief of overcrowding in the Town Hall Annex	TBD			
REGIONAL FIRING RANGE CONTRIBUTION	TBD			
POSSIBLE RENOVATION OF 7 NEW STREET	\$ 120,000			
TRANSFER STATION-CONVERSION TO 100 YARD DUMPSTERS-TO ALLOW FOR OPERATIONAL COST SAVINGS	\$ 300,000			
SUBTOTAL	\$595,000 to \$825,000			
AMBLER FARM-REQUIRED				

INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES PROJECT		FUNDING ALLOCATION		NOTES
		AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN	FUND-net of commitments	
AMBLER YELLOW HOUSE-LEAD ABATEMENT INTERIOR/EXTERIOR OF HOUSE PLUS SOIL	\$150,000 to \$400,000			Note: \$50,000 assigned at end of FY2021 & available to offset the cost
AMBLER YELLOW HOUSE-WINDOW REPLACEMENTS	\$ 55,000			Application-Neighborhood Assistance Grant for Windows Historical Grants
REPLACE SIDING ON THE NORTH SIDE OF HOUSE	\$ 20,000			
	<u>\$225,000 to 475,000</u>			
SUBTOTAL				
CONSERVATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS				
SIMM MASTER PLAN				
CONSTRUCT PARKING LOT	\$ 170,000	\$ 170,000		Community Challenge Grant- can pre-spend
DESIGN AND CONSTRUCT PLAY AREA	\$ 250,000			Community Challenge Grant- can pre-spend
PARKS AND TRAILS				
REPAVE QUARRY HEAD ACCESS ROAD	\$ 57,000			Community Challenge Grant- can pre-spend
DOWN TREE REMOVAL-TOWN FOREST	\$ 6,000			
TRAILS-BOARDWALKS, STABLIZATION, PARKING	\$ 44,000			
INVASIVES REMOVAL AND RESTORATION	\$ 50,000			
	<u>\$ 577,000</u>			
SUBTOTAL				
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS				
DRAINAGE STUDY AND REPAIRS-MB	\$ 705,000			Community Challenge Grant- can pre-spend
NEW TURF FIELD-DESIGN	\$ 200,000			
NEW TURF FIELD-CONTRIBUTION	\$ 500,000			
REPLACE AGED 5+ PLAYGROUND	\$ 250,000			
	<u>\$ 1,655,000</u>			
SUBTOTAL				

INFRASTRUCTURE PRIORITIES PROJECT		FUNDING ALLOCATION INFRASTRUCTURE		NOTES
		AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN	FUND-net of commitments	
PLANNING AND ZONING RECOMMENDATIONS				
AMENITIES MASTER PLANNING	TBD			
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS RECOMMENDATIONS				
DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE-Cider Mill & WHS Area	\$ 292,875	\$ 292,875		
DREDGE CIDER MILL POND	\$ 754,875			
SUBTOTAL	\$ 1,047,750			
FIRST SELECTWOMAN RECOMMENDATIONS				
REPLACE WORN BENCHES IN WILTON CENTER ALONG THE RIVER	\$ 9,000			Community Challenge Grant- can pre-spend
REPLACE SCHENCK'S PICNIC TABLES	\$ 6,000			Community Challenge Grant- can pre-spend
HOLDBACKS				
HOLD BACK UNTIL FINAL FEMA APPROVAL IS RECEIVED	\$ 268,000		\$ 268,000	
HOLD BACK UNTIL RESOLUTION OF CIDER MILL & MIDDLEBROOK ELECTRICAL ISSUES	\$ 150,000		\$ 150,000	
SUBTOTAL	\$ 433,000			
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEMBER RECOMMENDATIONS				
TOTAL PRIORITIZED		\$ 462,875	\$ 418,000	
BALANCE AVAILABLE	\$ 2,209,125	\$ 1,427,125	\$ 782,000	
BALANCE REQUESTED, NOT PRIORITIZED	\$4,532,750 to \$5,012,750			