**Selectboard Special Meeting re:**

**American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA)**

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 13th, 2023

Selectboard Members Present: Josie Henry, Jim Hokenberg, and Elliot Knight

Public Present: Sandy Sturgeon, Terry Tatro, Alton Bruso, Paul Fortin, and XXXX

Minutes:

Josie Henry called the meeting to order at 6:08pm.

* Members of the board and public exchanged introductions
* Elliott Knight read through each proposal summary, along with the ARPA Advisory Committee’s recommendation regarding each.
* Board members went through the proposals one at a time, then turned to the public to provide input and ask questions on each.
* Board members and the public were generally in agreement with the recommendations put forth by the advisory committee.
* Questions were generated for several proposals that will be pursued by the board within the coming weeks.
* Some proposals were thought to need updating given alternative grant funding opportunities, awards, and planning and design changes. Board members agreed to follow-up on them individually.
* The Alburgh Family Clubhouse’s funding request for $100,000 was discussed. Board members agreed it was a good project to expend funds on. The exact amount of support was not decided yet as it is competing with several other projects.
* Good discussion took place regarding the criteria used by the ARPA Advisory Committee and elements the board members and public thought were important such as greatest impact to residents and likelihood of success.
* Final proposals that were not part of the advisory committee list that were discussed were: the cemeteries and 317 South Main, the property owned by the town through tax sale that was being held for Alburgh Rescue to build its headquarters. Alburgh Rescue is no longer interested in building on that property so alternative options were discussed.
* The cemetery discussion focused on the numerous requests submitted for cemetery repairs from the various cemetery associations and how a fair allocation could be made to all for maintenance and repair, given the variations in size.
* Board members thanked the public for their participation and outlined next steps: engage submissions for follow-up information, prepare a final list of proposed projects to present at town meeting. No decision was made on whether additional public input, via a vote of some sort, would be pursued.

At 8:45pm, Elliot Knight motioned to adjourn the meeting, Jim Hokenberg seconded, all in favor, so moved.