

Regular Meeting of the American Rescue Plan Task Force
October 2, 2023 – 4:00 p.m.
City Hall West Meeting Room 1, 131 North Main Street Bristol CT 06010

Members Present: Mayor Jeff Caggiano, Michael Dumas, David Preleski, and Glenn Heiser, Howard Schmelder

John Smith, Mickey Goldwasser, Katie D'Agostino, Mark Peterson, Morgan Uργο and John Leone attended via Zoom.

Absent: David Maikowski, Thomas O'Brien, and Susan Sadecki.

Also present: Roger Rousseau, Diane Waldron and Justin Malley. Martha McCabe, UHY

1. Call to Order

Mayor Caggiano called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Public Participation

Mary Etter, BARC, spoke regarding BARC not receiving the CIF grant. BARC is currently working on two plans, modification to an existing building using ARPA funds, and raising funds to use the building as program and office space. The other option is modifications to the current building on Lake Avenue, but Mary prefers option one.

3. Approval of minutes of Regular Meeting – September 11, 2023

Commissioner Schmelder made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dumas "To approve the regular minutes from September 11, 2023" Motion approved.

4. Discussion with UHY Advisors

Martha reviewed the Project Summary and trackers.

Roger Rousseau spoke regarding Kern Park, the low bid was not the most responsible bid. The project will start and finish by the end of next spring. There are alternatives the Park Board may select which may cause the project to go over the \$300,000.

Justin Malley spoke regarding the traffic light on Route 6, the approval for the light is held up at the State level and adjourning properties.

Mayor Caggiano stated John Smith noted the Barnes Chapel needs additional ceiling repairs, in the amount of \$14,000-\$16,000. They have already expended their \$25,000 appropriation. This should go back to the City subcommittee for discussion.

5. Building Bristol Grant Program Update

Martha reviewed the Building Bristol tracker. Everyone was notified they need to draw funds by January 30, 2024. The subrecipients should have no problem with that deadline as UHY is working with them, however the beneficiaries don't seem to have as much activity, which is more concerning. They still must submit receipts and invoices for the matching grant.

6. Subcommittee Updates

Dave Preleski stated the business subcommittee met prior to this meeting to discuss Movia Robotics, with the discussion focusing on being consistent. The Committee is recommending to redact and terminate the grant contract with Movia Robotics, Inc and return the remaining grant amount of \$217,686.40 back to the City's unobligated ARPA contingency.

Commissioner Preleski made a motion seconded by Commissioner Dumas "To redact and terminate the grant contract with Movia Robotics, Inc and return the unadvanced portion to the unallocated funds." Motion approved.

Mayor Caggiano stated when a brand new business starts post COVID there is a barrier and if this was done a new grant period would open up for others to apply. Commissioner Schmelder questioned if an audit was done on their first advance, which Martha confirmed it was done and the City agrees with their findings.

Howard stated BARC has until January 31, 2024 to come up with their plans, and options that are within the scope of the original application.

7. Any other business

None

8. Adjournment

Commissioner Preleski made a motion seconded by Commissioner Heiser "to adjourn" at 4:37 p.m. Motion approved.

Jodi A. McGrane
Recording Secretary