

**Board of Selectmen Special Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 4, 2023
at 6:00 PM
Via Zoom Only**

Present: Board of Selectwoman Julia Pemberton, Selectwoman Peg O'Donnell, Selectman Michael Thompson, Finance Director Jim Sanders; Bob Moran (videographer); Alice Smith (minute taker). Other members of the public present.

1. Julia Pemberton called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.
2. No Public comment.
3. **Discussion and possible action on American Rescue Plan Act proposals for project funding: Non-profit, Municipal, and Board of Education.**

J. Pemberton began describing a variety of items proposed for the remainder of the ARPA funds. The original amount of ARPA funds given to the town was the sum of \$2,695,000. A total of \$1,679,000 has already been allocated and approved by the voters.

The amount remaining is \$1,000,000. The total requests for funding in this last round are: \$530,000 from outside entities; \$930,000 for the town's expenditures.

Requests broken down:

--For the town's Capital Expenditures, \$930,000; for John Read Middle School Library Commons Modernization, \$175,000; for the Zalmon Read Barn capital repairs at the Redding Historical Society, \$80,000; for the Granite Church, \$250,000; for the West Redding Fire Department's pumper truck, \$50,000; AEDs at 6 outside locations in town for \$16,000. This is \$460,000 over budget.

After much discussion about the items, the Selectman did some cutting and deleting.

A motion was made to appropriate \$930,000 of ARPA funds for town capital expenditures and send to a town vote. M. Thompson. P. O'Donnell. No discussion. Unanimous.

With \$70,000 left in the budget, the Selectmen deliberated as to where those funds would be directed.

A motion was made to appropriate \$40,000 for capital repairs for the Zalmon Read Barn at the Redding Historical Society, \$16,000 for AEDs and \$14,000 for the JRMS Library Commons Modernization Project, a total of \$70,000, and send to a town vote. P. O'Donnell. M. Thompson. No discussion. Unanimous.

4. Set the date for a Special Town Meeting to Vote on Projects Proposed for ARPA Funding

A motion was made to set a meeting date for a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, May 23, 2023 at 7:30 pm at the Redding Community Center to vote to use the remaining ARPA Grant funds for the following purposes: \$930,000 for Town of Redding Capital Expenditures; \$16,000 for AEDs for the town; \$40,000 for capital repairs for the Zalmon Read Barn at the Redding Historical Society; and \$14,000 for the John Read Middle School Library Commons Modernization project. P. O'Donnell. M. Thompson. No discussion. Unanimous.

5. No Public comment

6. Board member comments:

P. O'Donnell thanked the ARPA committee, Jim Sanders and Julia Pemberton for shepherding this process. She hopes the public agrees with the decisions and those who did not receive funds, that they had some light shined on their causes/organizations.

J. Pemberton thanked all the applicants who applied and wished we had more money to distribute.

M. Thompson thanked the ARPA committee for their work.

Motion to adjourn at 7:06 pm. P. O'Donnell. M. Thompson. No discussion. Unanimous.

Submitted by Alice Smith