

Board of Selectmen
TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD, NH
Public Hearing

July 28, 2021

5:50 PM in the Jon McKeon Meeting Room, Town Offices

Chairman Gary Winn opened the Public Hearing at 5:50PM. Also in attendance were Selectboard members Fran Shippee, and Kelli Hanzalik, Town Administrator Alissa Thompson, and Town Admin Assistant Jim Barey.

Winn opened discussion on the American Rescue Plan Act funds to be accepted and expended in the amount of \$189,854.68. Winn explained these funds were coming from the State of New Hampshire and Chesterfield has been awarded the first half of the funds. Winn continued, noting that these funds may only be used for specific purposes such as support of public health expenditures, addressing negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, replacing lost public sector revenue, providing premium pay for essential workers, and investing in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure.

Barbara Girs asked if this was being reimbursed in the future or the past. Winn and Thompson responded that it can be used in either scenario.

Winn stated the biggest point is that while the Board of Selectmen are not looking to expend these monies at this point, there must be a Public Hearing to officially accept the funds, noting that the board has two years to expend it appropriately. Winn continued, stating that if the funds were not used by the town in that time, they would be returned to the state to be redistributed among other towns.

The board discussed the possibilities for where to expend these funds, noting that there may be an avenue for enhancing and repairing facilities for the Parks and Recreation department.

Jeff Scott asked if there were strings attached to accepting the funds. Thompson noted there are some bookkeeping necessary but other than that there were no other conditions. Girs stated that with Covid-19 resurging, there might be multiple options for utilizing these funds.

Winn stated it would behoove the town to accept this money instead of allowing it be redistributed to other towns in the state.

Gary Winn moved that the Town of Chesterfield accept their portion of the American Rescue Plan Act funds to the amount of \$189,854.68 to be deposited into a non-interest-bearing checking account to be set up by the Town Treasurer. In the event that the second half is forthcoming, the town will accept and deposit it in the same manner. The motion was seconded by Kelli Hanzalik and passed unanimously.

Thompson noted that the money has already been deposited.

Girs recommended buying microphones for future meetings and hearings from those funds as the public cannot hear the board discussion easily in the current meeting room. Winn noted that the board will make every effort to be heard more clearly in the back of the room.

Gary Winn moved to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Fran Shippee and passed unanimously.

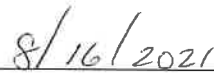
Respectfully submitted,

Jim Barey
Board of Selectmen Secretary

Approved by:



Gary Winn, Chairman



Date



Fran Shippee, Vice-Chair



Date

Kelli Hanzalik

Date