



# TOWN COUNCIL – AGENDA REQUEST FORM

THIS FORM WILL BECOME PART OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION USED BY THE COUNCIL AND PUBLIC

Please submit Agenda Request Form, **including back up information**, 8 days prior to the requested meeting date. **Public Hearing requests must be submitted 20 days prior to requested meeting date to meet publication deadlines** (exceptions may be authorized by the Town Manager, Chairman/Vice Chair).

## MEETING INFORMATION

Date Submitted: September 1, 2021  
Submitted by: Town Councilor Nancy Murphy  
Department:  
Speakers: Nancy Murphy

Date of Meeting: September 9, 2021  
Time Required: 20 minutes  
Background Info. Supplied: Yes:  No:

## CATEGORY OF BUSINESS (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Appointment:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recognition/Resignation/Retirement:	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Public Hearing:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business:	<input type="checkbox"/>
New Business:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nonpublic:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>

## TITLE OF ITEM

American Rescue Plan Act Funds for Private Well Owners Discussion

## DESCRIPTION OF ITEM

Discussion and proposed consideration to use American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 funds for private well owners.

## REFERENCE (IF KNOWN)

RSA:	Warrant Article:	_____
Charter Article:	Town Meeting:	_____
Other:	N/A	

## EQUIPMENT REQUIRED (PLEASE PLACE AN "X" IN THE APPROPRIATE BOX)

Projector:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Grant Requirements:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Easel:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joint Meeting:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Seating:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other:	<input type="checkbox"/>
Laptop:	<input type="checkbox"/>	None:	<input type="checkbox"/>

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name:	<u>Nancy Murphy</u>	Address	_____
Phone Number	_____	Email Address	<u>nmurphy@merrimacknh.gov</u>

## APPROVAL

Town Manager: Yes  No:  Chair/Vice Chair: Yes  No:

Hold for Meeting Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved: August 19, 2021

Posted: August 20, 2021

Ms. Martin then shared that they are on track to have everything finalized and turned back over by the end of August so that they can do the MS1 and submit it on time to avoid any delays.

### Public Hearing

#### **1. Public Hearing – Acceptance of American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funds**

*Submitted by Finance Director Thomas Boland*

The Town Council will hold a public hearing to consider the acceptance and expenditure of up to \$2,773,229 from the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds distributed by the State of NH through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15. The funds will be expended in accordance to the guidelines set forth in the ARPA.

Town Manager Paul Micali began by stating that this was the money approved by President Biden back in March for Covid relief in communities, and there have been many seminars in the state to determine what the money can and cannot be spent on. Finance Director Thomas Boland then shared that all the municipalities in the state, minus larger communities such as Nashua and Manchester who received their own separate funding, were granted money from this funding. If accepted by the town, this funding would be received in two payments, with 50% available almost immediately and the other 50% to be delivered in approximately one year from now. There are five available categories of allowable uses for these funds, in which Mr. Boland has summarized: to support public health expenditures, to address negative economic impact caused by the public health emergency, to replace lost public sector revenue, to provide premium pay for essential workers, and lastly to invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure. If the town chooses to accept these funds, they are subject to federal reporting requirements and the town will also have to make a report of expenditures every October until the funds are spent. Mr. Micali then shared that the school has their own separate funding from this, but MVD is included in this funding and does not have their own separate funding. Chairman Koenig asked if the reporting requirements are of concern, in which Mr. Boland stated that this is standard and the requirements are perfectly understandable to ensure the town is in accordance with the guidelines for the funding.

Chairman Koenig opened the public hearing for public input at 7:48 pm. No public input was given.

Chairman Koenig closed the public hearing at 7:49 pm.

**MOTION made by Vice Chair Rothhaus and seconded by Councilor Harrington to accept and expend up to \$2,773,229 from the Local Fiscal Recovery Funds distributed by the State of NH through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, pursuant to RSA 31:95-b and Charter Article 8-15, and authorize the Town Manager or his proxy to sign any necessary documents. MOTION CARRIES 7-0-0**

### Legislative Updates from State Representatives

Legislative Update from Rep. Jeanine Notter:

My fellow Merrimack Residents,

As the senior member of the Merrimack Delegation, I am pleased to report that we passed a budget that will help our town to thrive and flourish. From tax cuts to increasing education funding, the budget is jam packed with reforms and policies that will benefit every single citizen of our town.



# Memo

TO: Town Council

FROM: Town Manager Paul T. Micali

DATE: July 7, 2021

RE: **American Rescue Plan Act 2021**

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The use of American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA) is prescribed in the Treasury Department's guidelines (below), ARPA Funds have to be spent by 2024. The Town will receive two payments of \$1,386,614 for a total of \$2,773,229. While reviewing the guidelines set forth I have come up with a potential list of what the Town can spend the ARPA Funds on:

1. Screenings Building WWTF
2. Revenue shortfalls (at this time however it appears that overall the net revenue of the Town for fiscal year 2020-21 is a positive so these funds cannot be used.)
3. Stormwater Drainage projects

## USE OF LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS

According to the U.S. Treasury, the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds provide eligible local governments with a substantial infusion of resources to meet pandemic response needs and rebuild a stronger, and more equitable economy as the country recovers. Recipients may use these funds to:

- **Support public health expenditures**, by, for example, funding COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, and certain public health and safety staff
- **Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency**, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, impacted industries, and the public sector
- **Replace lost public sector revenue**, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic
- **Provide premium pay for essential workers**, offering additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors
- **Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure**, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet

Within these overall categories, recipients have **broad flexibility** to decide how best to use this funding to meet the needs of their communities.