



TOWN OF LAKEVILLE
Town Administrator's Office

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January 6, 2022

TO: Select Board

FROM: Ari J. Sky, Town Administrator

SUBJECT: Designation of ARPA Proceeds for COVID Response

At its June 28, 2021, meeting, the Select Board voted to accept funding awarded to the Town under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). To date, the Town has received \$605,037 from the U.S. Treasury and has been awarded another \$544,555 through Plymouth County. An additional \$605,037 is due to be provided by the Federal government in 2022, along with an unspecified amount by Plymouth County.

Eligible uses for ARPA proceeds are defined broadly in the Act. The U.S. Department of Treasury released a Final Rule today that further clarifies potential uses. The Rule lists the following eligible activities:

1. Replace lost public sector revenue;
2. Support the COVID-19 public health and economic response;
3. Provide premium pay for eligible workers performing essential work, and;
4. Invest in water, sewer or broadband infrastructure.

The final rule appears to greatly simplify the replacement of lost revenue by allowing for a “standard allowance” of up to \$10 million, but not to exceed the total award, to account for revenue loss. We are investigating this change further, as it could have significant implications for the disposition of the Town’s ARPA proceeds.

To date, the Select Board has authorized the use of ARPA proceeds to perform a feasibility study to review the provision of potable and irrigation water to Town facilities and parks. This study is likely to carry additional funding implications that will be clarified as the project takes shape.

In addition to these items, there is a significant need in the current environment to provide testing and vaccination opportunities. Town staff has developed plans to offer booster vaccinations and PCR testing, utilizing Fire Department personnel working on a paid detail rate, and we have ordered an inventory of rapid tests for Town personnel.

As developed by the Federal government, ARPA is intended to provide resources for jurisdictions to meet their COVID-related funding needs through the end of 2024. I therefore

respectfully request that the Select Board authorize the designation of up to \$100,000 in ARPA funding for COVID vaccination, testing and mitigation activities. This funding designation will allow the Town to provide necessary prevention and mitigation services for our staff and the general community. My intention is to utilize the Plymouth County allocation, given the reimbursement structure.

Thank you for your consideration.

Cc: M. O'Brien
T. Hassett