AGENDA

The public may view the meeting live at https://mansfieldct.gov/video. Additionally, a video recording of the meeting will be available on YouTube at "MANSFIELD CONNECTICUT STREAMING CHANNEL" the day after the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   A. 02.28.2022 TC Minutes
      03.09.2022 TC Minutes - Special Meeting
4. PUBLIC HEARINGS
   A. Proposed Uses of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Allocation
      Public Hearing Notice - ARPA Funding Allocation
5. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COUNCIL
6. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER
7. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
8. CONSENT AGENDA
9. OLD BUSINESS
   A. COVID 19 Update (Item #7A, 02.28.22 Agenda)
      AIS - COVID 19 Update
      EHHD COVID-19 report 3-7-22
      EHHD COVID-19 report 3-11-22.docx
   B. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding / Investment Deliberation (Item #7D, 02.28.22 Agenda)
      AIS - ARPA Funding Deliberations
      ARPA Proposed Funding Plan Presentation - Public Hearing (March 14, 2022)
      American Rescue Plan Act - Proposed Uses of Funds
10. NEW BUSINESS
A. Town of Mansfield Proposed Voter Redistricting Plan  
   AIS - Town of Mansfield Proposed Voting Redistricting Plan  
   Proposed Redistricting Maps  

B. Proposed Capital Improvement Program Adjustments FY 21/22  
   AIS - Proposed Capital Improvement Program Adjustments FY 21/22  
   C. Bradshaw-Hill Proposed Capital Improvement Program Adjustment FY 21/22  

C. New School Building Construction Update  
   AIS - New School Building Construction Update  

11. EXECUTIVE SESSION  
   A. Strategy and Negotiations with Respect to Pending Claims or Litigation, in accordance with CGS §1-200(6)(B)  

12. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES  

13. DEPARTMENTAL AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS  

14. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS  
   A. Z. Anglin 02.25.22  
   B. E. Wassmundt 02.28.22  
   C. K. Kelly 02.28.22  
   D. Press Release - Mansfield Lifts Mask Mandate 03.01.22  
   E. E. Wassmundt 03.09.22  
   F. B. Coleman 03.10.22  

15. FUTURE AGENDAS  

16. ADJOURNMENT
MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER
   Mayor Moran called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:01 p.m. on Zoom.

2. ROLL CALL
   Present: Ausburger, Berthelot, Bruder, Coleman, Fratoni (late arrival noted below), Kochenburger, Moran, Schurin, Shaiken

3. OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
   [Fratoni arrived]
   Zach Anglin, Storrs Road, spoke in favor of lifting the mask mandate. (Statement attached)
   Mr. Aylesworth read into the record a statement from Betty Wassmundt, Old Turnpike Road, including input about in-person meetings and concerns about the contract with the Mansfield Discovery Depot. (Statement attached)

4. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER
   Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth presented and discussed his written report. The report is available online at www.MansfieldCT.gov and is on file with the Town Clerk. In response to councilor questions and comments, Mayor Moran and Mr. Aylesworth discussed the funding for crosswalk projects and Mr. Carrington discussed the need for contracted tree services.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS
   Mayor Moran reported meeting with DOT and UConn regarding pedestrian safety projects. She noted that today was Matt Hart’s first day as the Executive Director of CRCOG.
   Mr. Ausburger, in response to an email received from Mr. Aylesworth, provided several pieces of critical feedback regarding marketing efforts for the Helping Hands program and inquired as to why The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) hasn’t been offered in several months.
   Director of Planning, Linda Painter, answered and clarified several points regarding Helping Hands marketing efforts.
   Mr. Coleman encouraged people to participate in restaurant week and asked why two motions he proposed on February 14th regarding the mask mandate and in-person meetings were not on the agenda.
   Mayor Moran noted that both items were on tonight’s agenda.
   Mr. Coleman began speaking regarding the minutes of the Town Council and the Council Rules of Procedure Rule 2(h).
Mr. Shaiken raised a **point of order** stating that the portion of the agenda for Council reports is for Councilors to report the official business that they have conducted as Councilors since the last Council meeting and that Mr. Coleman’s present topic has been referred to the Personnel Committee and is not on the Council’s agenda for discussion. Mayor Moran **ruled** that Mr. Coleman could make a brief statement.

Mr. Coleman stated his request that the minutes follow Rule 2(h) and he will not approve the minutes tonight because they do not follow Rule 2(h).

Ms. Berthelot thanked Ms. Painter and her staff for their work on the Helping Hands program and suggested that more outreach needs to be done by the Town.

Mr. Shaiken requested the Helping Hands program to be on the next agenda so the public and the Council are prepared for a discussion on the topic.

Mr. Shaiken reported the first meeting of the Reapportionment Committee occurred two weeks ago. Officers were chosen and the State Department of Education’s attorney gave a presentation. He added that the Committee is formed to decide how to handle Mansfield’s slight underrepresentation on the Region 19 Board of Education as determined by the recent census and that a referendum on the Committee’s recommendation will eventually be held.

Mr. Bruder thanked the Library staff for all the work they do to provide a place for families to visit together.

Mr. Aylesworth stated that any characterization of the Planning and Development staff as not making every effort on the Helping Hands project is incorrect. The staff in the Planning Department care deeply, have shown tremendous commitment, are short staffed and are working well outside of work hours. In no way should anyone think that staff is just going through the motions and doing the bare minimum.

Mr. Coleman requested the minutes be pulled from the consent agenda.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**
   A. **Appointments to Town Committees**
   B. **FY 2022-2023 Budget Review Calendar (Item #6B, 02.14.22 Agenda)**

Mr. Shaiken **moved** and Mr. Schurin seconded to approve the consent agenda. Motion **passed** with all in favor.

Motions adopted by consent:
- Move, effective February 28, 2022, to appoint Nicole Pedersen to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for a term ending 9/1/2023; to appoint Berdakh Utemuratov to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee for a term ending 9/1/2024; to appoint Alexander Eitland to the Agriculture Committee as an alternate for a term ending 10/13/2023; to appoint Denise Kegler to the Mansfield Advocates for Children as a parent representative for a term ending 6/30/2023; to appoint Jaclyn LaPointe to the Mansfield Advocates for Children as a parent representative for a term ending 6/30/2024; to appoint Michael Accorsi, Gina DeVivo Brassaw, and Kathy Fratoni to the Affordable Housing Committee for terms ending 1/1/2026; to appoint Aida Gradascevic to the Affordable Housing Committee for a term ending 1/1/2024; and to appoint Joe
Emenheiser from an alternate member to a full member of the Agriculture Committee for a term ending 10/13/2023.
- Move, to adopt the *2nd Revised* Proposed Budget Review Calendar for FY 2022/2023 as presented by staff.

C. Approval of Minutes
Mr. Shaiken **moved** and Ms. Berthelot seconded to approve the February 14, 2022 regular meeting minutes and the February 15, 2022 special meeting minutes. Mr. Shaiken stated that the issue of Rule 2(h) as described in the Rules of Procedure was referred to the Personnel Committee for consideration and that Ms. Chaine is currently following the direction of the Mayor, previous Mayor and Councils in regards to details of debate in the minutes. Mr. Shaiken urged the Council to adopt the minutes as they are an accurate reflection of the meetings based on the procedure the Council has been following.

Motion **passed** with Berthelot, Bruder, Kochenburger, Moran and Shaiken in favor, Coleman against, and Ausburger, Fratoni, and Schurin abstaining.

7. OLD BUSINESS
A. COVID 19 Update (Item #7A, 01.24.22 Agenda)
Robert L. Miller, Director of Health, Eastern Highland Health District (EHHD), provided the Council with an update on COVID-19 in Mansfield including information about local case trends and vaccination rates. A significant decline and downward trend has been observed over the last six weeks. In response to Councilor questions, Mr. Miller stated that the data indicates it is reasonable to lift the mask mandate at this time.

B. Status of Local Authorities Relative to Mandating Masks and Face Coverings (Item #8A, 02.14.22 Agenda)
Mr. Aylesworth stated that now is the right time to rescind the mask mandate based on the new metrics.

Mr. Shaiken **moved** and Mr. Ausburger seconded to express formal support for the Town Manager to rescind the existing indoor face covering mandate for public spaces in Mansfield effective tomorrow.

Mr. Shaiken stated that the only way to battle the pandemic regardless of politics is to follow the advice of our Director of Health and the CDC. Schools, teachers and parents will need a week or two to work out new procedures and adjust.

In response to Councilor questions, Mr. Miller indicated that it is essential that individuals who choose to or are recommended by health care providers to continue to wear a mask be supported.

Motion **passed** unanimously.
C. Resuming Council and Council Committees In-Person Meetings (Item #7A, 01.10.22 Agenda)
Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded to have the Town Council and Council Committees resume hybrid or in-person meetings beginning on March 14, 2022. For Council Committees, the decision to hold the meeting in person or virtually will be up to the committee Chair.

Mr. Shaiken asked the Town Manager to explore whether any mitigation strategies are recommended such as unvaccinated persons testing negative before attending a public meeting and expressed his strong opinion that remote participation for Councilors, staff and the public continue to be made available.

Motion passed unanimously.

D. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding/Investment Deliberation (Item #1, 02.15.22 Agenda)
Mr. Aylesworth presented a brief summary of the progress made to date and a list of possible projects to complete with ARPA funding.
Councilors discussed whether to identify preferred projects before or after a public hearing.

Mr. Bruder moved and Ms. Berthelot seconded, effective February 28, 2022, to schedule a public hearing on the Town of Mansfield’s proposed uses of its American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding allocation for Monday, March 14, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. If a change in public date is needed, the Town Manager is authorized to revise the date provided Council members are polled and available on the new date, and the Town Clerk is advised of the new date prior to the deadline for advertising the public hearing.

Mr. Bruder commented that the input from a public hearing will help the Council move forward through the process.

Motion passed unanimously.

8. NEW BUSINESS
A. Human Rights Commission Annual Report
Glenn Mitoma, Chair of the Mansfield Human Rights Commission (HRC), and Jane Fried, HRC member, provided the Council with an update on the activities of the HRC. In addition to reviewing the report, maternity care at Windham Hospital and Title VII were discussed.

B. Service Agreement between Mansfield Discovery Depot and the Town of Mansfield
Mr. Aylesworth provided a brief background of the longstanding service agreement between the Town and the Mansfield Discovery Depot (MDD) and stated that staff completed a full cost accounting of services to ensure the current contract recovers the Town’s actual cost for services.
Mr. Kochenburger raised concerns over cyber security as it relates to providing IT services to the MDD.
Ms. Berthelot stated the importance of the Town’s support of the MDD dating back to the 1970s when the Town began its relationship with the MDD in recognition of the important role childcare plays in the lives of working women and in the lives of the children who receive care.
Mr. Coleman raised concerns over the Town’s liability as a landlord and responsibility for major repairs.
Mr. Ausburger questioned whether Mansfield taxpayers have been footing the bill for non-residents attending the daycare.
Ms. Berthelot indicated that most people who utilize the daycare live or work in Mansfield and that MDD is unique in that it’s open year round and all kids get a solid meal while they’re there.

Ms. Berthelot moved and Mr. Shaiken seconded to authorize the Town Manager to execute the attached service agreement between the Town of Mansfield and the Mansfield Discovery Depot for the period July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2025.

Ms. Berthelot stressed the importance of the relationship between the Town and the MDD, that the MDD provides children a quality education regardless of status, and urged the Council to support the contract.

Mr. Shaiken commented that the current agreement effectively ends whatever subsidy the Town was giving now that a cost analysis has been completed, the Town should continue to send a strong message that we support the MDD, and capital improvements are outside of the agreement and will be discussed at a later time.
Mr. Coleman stated he would support a three year contract if it were retroactive so prices could be adjusted sooner.
Mr. Kochenburger asked to make a friendly amendment to remove item number 3 from the agreement. Councilors debated the need for the amendment.

Mr. Shaiken moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded to enter executive session to discuss the Town’s cyber security and to invite Ryan, Jaime (if available), and Charmaine. Motion passed unanimously.

*The executive session ended and Council resumed meeting in public session.*

Mr. Kochenburger moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded to amend to take out the IT support for at least 30 days or to limit subject to review.

Councilors debated the proposed amendment.

Mr. Kochenburger proposed to amend his motion to say that the town has noted that shared services with IT may create potential problems and that this is an issue that will
continue to provide if that’s the desire but that will be an issue that will be flagged and reviewed quickly.

Mayor Moran asked Mr. Kochenburger to restate his proposed amendment to his motion.

Mr. Kochenburger stated his amendment was on three to add either to the main clause the Council provide the following information technology services that MDD subject to the Town’s need to terminate this option after further review.

Mayor Moran asked Mr. Kochenburger to state his proposed amendment as a motion.

Mr. Kochenburger stated the Town should provide the following information technology services to the MDD with the provision that the Town reserves the right to terminate portions of this service as required or is necessary for IT security and insurance or subject to the provision that the Town reserves the right to terminate this particular section or ask to terminate in full or in part that’s necessitated by the Town’s cyber security needs.

Ms. Chaine requested the motion be written into the chat for clarity.
Ms. Moran confirmed that Mr. Kochenburger is withdrawing his original motion to amend with agreement from Mr. Ausburger.

Mr. Kochenburger moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded to amend the motion by adding the Town shall provide the following information technology services to the MDD with the provision that the Town reserves the right to terminate in part or in whole these technology services depending on the Town’s cyber security needs.

Councilors debated the need for the amendment.

Motion to amend passed with Ausburger, Coleman, Fratoni, Kochenburger and Schurin in favor and Berthelot, Bruder, Moran and Shaiken against.

Mr. Coleman moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded to amend the permanent contract to the original contract term of three years retroactive from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2024.

Mr. Coleman stated his concern about the rate of inflation and the financial impact to the Town over time.

Motion to amend failed with all against except Ausburger, Coleman and Fratoni who voted in favor.

Original motion as amended passed with all in favor except Coleman and Fratoni who voted against and Ausburger who abstained.
9. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES
Mr. Schurin reported that the Personnel Committee met earlier today and discussed the Rules of Procedure, Personnel Committee charge and the Personnel Appeals Board. Ms. Berthelot reported that the Committee on Committees held a special meeting and those recommended for appointment were appointed during the Council’s consent agenda. The Town still needs more Affordable Housing Committee members.

10. DEPARTMENTAL AND ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS
None.

11. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS
B. L. Medeiros (02.14.22)
C. Resident Emails re: Brookside Lane (02.17.22 - 02-22-22) – Mr. Coleman reported he conducted a site visit and wants to show photographs. Mayor Moran asked this to wait for a future meeting.
D. J. Lowe (02.15.22)
E. D. Keane (02.21.22)
F. J. DeWolf (02.24.22)
G. T. Kollars (02.25.22)
H. A. Guyette (02.26.22)

12. FUTURE AGENDAS
• Helping Hands Program
• Brookside Lane
• Pedestrian Safety at Mansfield Middle School
• Town Road Paving Plan

13. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Bruder moved and Mr. Ausburger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Antonia Moran, Mayor    Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk
CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL
Mayor Moran called the special meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. She explained that the meeting was called by Mr. Coleman, Mr. Ausburger and Mr. Fratoni in accordance with the Council’s Rules of Procedure. A public hearing will be held regarding the use of ARPA funds on Monday, March 14, 2022.

Present: Ausburger, Berthelot, Bruder, Coleman, Fratoni, Kochenburger, Moran, Schurin, Shaiken

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

OLD BUSINESS
1. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding/Investment Deliberation (Item #7D, 02.28.22 Agenda)
Mr. Coleman stated that he believes his membership on the Mansfield Downtown Partnership (MDP) Board of Directors is a conflict of interest and he will recuse himself from any discussion involving the MDP.
Mr. Aylesworth briefly reviewed the existing options for ARPA-funded projects.
At the request of Mayor Moran, Mr. Coleman explained that he called the special meeting to discuss the proposals line by line. Mayor Moran denied the request for line by line review absent the input from the public regarding which projects they want to see completed.
Mr. Coleman stated his intent to discuss the Mansfield Middle School water project.
In response to Council inquiry, Attorney Deneen confirmed that when a document is shared during a Council meeting it ought to be filed with the Town Clerk.
Mr. Aylesworth, Superintendent Kelly Lyman, and Allen Corson, Facilities Director, discussed the potential MMS water project and answered Councilor questions.
Mayor Moran asked that the document presented by Mr. Coleman be included in the next Council packet and any further questions be provided to staff so they have time to prepare the information responsive to the inquiries.

ADJOURNMENT
Seeing no new information on the potential projects and no further questions, Mr. Shaiken moved and Ms. Berthelot seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:59 p.m.
In support of his motion, Mr. Shaiken stated that the Council wants public input regarding preferred projects before requesting staff to research and prepare further project details.
Mr. Coleman opposed the motion to adjourn and stated there is a great deal of work to do. The motion passed with all in favor except Mr. Coleman who voted against.

Antonia Moran, Mayor     Sara-Ann Chaine, Town Clerk
The Mansfield Town Council will hold a public hearing at 7:00 PM at its regular meeting on March 14, 2022 regarding the Town of Mansfield’s proposed uses of its American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding allocation.

At this hearing, persons may address the Town Council and written communications may be received. Information regarding the request is on file and available at the Town Clerk’s office: 4 South Eagleville Road, Mansfield and is posted on the Town’s website (mansfieldct.gov).

Dated at Mansfield, Connecticut this 4th day of March 2022.

Sara-Ann Chaine
Town Clerk
Subject Matter/Background
Robert L. Miller, Director of Health, Eastern Highland Health District will provide the Council with an update on COVID-19 in Mansfield.

Attachments
1) EHHD COVID-19 reports
Eastern Highlands Health District COVID-19 Update  
DATE: 3/7/2022  TIME: 7:30 AM  COMPLETED BY: A. Bloom

TOWN LEVEL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN</th>
<th>Andover</th>
<th>Ashford</th>
<th>Bolton</th>
<th>Chaplin</th>
<th>Columbia</th>
<th>Coventry</th>
<th>Mansfield</th>
<th>Non-student</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>Tolland</th>
<th>Willington</th>
<th>EHHD Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Cases</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>397</td>
<td>844</td>
<td>1,769</td>
<td>2,565</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>1,963</td>
<td>693</td>
<td>10,027</td>
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<tr>
<td>Change from last week</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>(8)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two week change</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>(18)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>Deaths</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>(31)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONNECTICUT TOTALS (March 3, 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Case count</th>
<th>Change from last week</th>
<th>Change from two weeks</th>
<th>Current hospitalizations*</th>
<th>Two week change in hospitalizations</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>724,401</td>
<td>2,447</td>
<td>6,337</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>-154</td>
<td>10,515</td>
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</table>

Data Sources: CTDSS and CT DPH; cumulative town counts as of 3/3/2022; reporting period for two week town level case counts is 2/13/2022 through 2/26/2022. *Current (net) number of hospitalizations; it is not a cumulative count. ++ Scotland case count likely lower than actual positive cases due to residents using Baltic, North Windham and Hampton as a mailing address.

EHHD residents who received COVID-19 vaccine*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN</th>
<th>Andover</th>
<th>Ashford</th>
<th>Bolton</th>
<th>Chaplin</th>
<th>Columbia</th>
<th>Coventry</th>
<th>Mansfield</th>
<th>Non-student</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>Tolland</th>
<th>Willington</th>
<th>EHHD Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated pop.</td>
<td>3,236</td>
<td>4,255</td>
<td>4,884</td>
<td>2,239</td>
<td>5,379</td>
<td>12,407</td>
<td>25,487</td>
<td>1,672</td>
<td>14,618</td>
<td>5,864</td>
<td>80,041</td>
<td>3,631,470</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % of pop.</td>
<td>2,456</td>
<td>3,074</td>
<td>3,957</td>
<td>1,566</td>
<td>4,175</td>
<td>9,684</td>
<td>22,199</td>
<td>1,055</td>
<td>12,086</td>
<td>3,916</td>
<td>64,126,80</td>
<td>79%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % of pop.</td>
<td>2,313</td>
<td>2,872</td>
<td>3,729</td>
<td>1,458</td>
<td>3,927</td>
<td>9,126</td>
<td>20,948</td>
<td>1,017</td>
<td>11,446</td>
<td>3,717</td>
<td>60,553</td>
<td>72%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 5-11</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>41%</td>
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<td>34%</td>
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<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % 5-11</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>31%</td>
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<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 12-17</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
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<td>Fully vaccinated % 12-17</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>71%</td>
<td>72%</td>
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<td>63%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 18-24</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>91%</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % 18-24</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 25-44</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>83%</td>
<td>94%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>91%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % 25-44</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>83%</td>
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<td>77%</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % age 45-64</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>64%</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Connecticut immunization registry CT DPH as of 3/2/2022; *Vaccination data for Mansfield includes current 3/2/2022 data from UCONN (https://coviddashboard.uconn.edu/). ++Downward changes are likely due to de-duplication & re-assignment of cases to different towns associated with UConn student residency changes. **At this time the state vaccination numbers are not broken down into the same age groups as the town level data and cannot be reported here. NOTE: census estimates for 65 and older is likely low, resulting in 100% rates based on actual number of vaccines provided to this age group.

Preventing Illness & Promoting Wellness for Communities In Eastern Connecticut  
Andover • Ashford • Bolton • Chaplin • Columbia • Coventry • Mansfield • Scotland • Tolland • Willington
### EHHD TOWN LEVEL CASE RATES FEBRUARY 13, 2022– FEBRUARY 26, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Total Cases 2 weeks</th>
<th>Case Rate</th>
<th>Total Tests</th>
<th>% Positive</th>
<th>Previous Case Rate</th>
<th>Previous % Positivity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andover</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashford</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>18.5</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolton</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>2.6</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplin</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>8.3</td>
<td>19.1</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coventry</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>337</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansfield</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>775</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>10.9</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland +</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>13.8</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tolland</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>384</td>
<td>9.7</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willington</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>8.5</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: case rates are per 100,000 population; + Scotland case counts likely lower than actual due to residents using Baltic, North Windham and Hampton as a mailing address.

### EHHD Positive COVID-19 Cases by Week March 2020 through Feb. 26, 2022

NOTE: All counts by town are cumulative and include confirmed cases and antigen-positive cases; counts can change from previous weeks due to the state reassigning a case to a different town once further information is gathered on the case, or due to lab reporting delays.
Eastern Highlands Health District COVID-19 Update
DATE: 3/11/2022  TIME: 8:00 AM  COMPLETED BY: A. Bloom

TOWN LEVEL DATA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN</th>
<th>Andover</th>
<th>Ashford</th>
<th>Bolton</th>
<th>Chaplin</th>
<th>Columbia</th>
<th>Coventry</th>
<th>Mansfield</th>
<th>Non-student</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>Tolland</th>
<th>Willington</th>
<th>EHHD Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative Cases</td>
<td>417</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>846</td>
<td>1,775</td>
<td>2,571</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>1,969</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>10,052</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change from last week</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(0)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two week change</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>(7)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deaths</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>(31)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CONNECTICUT TOTALS (March 10, 2022)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of cumulative cases</th>
<th>Change from last week</th>
<th>Change from two weeks</th>
<th>Current hospitalizations*</th>
<th>Two week change in hospitalizations</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>729,354</td>
<td>4,953</td>
<td>7,400</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>-93</td>
<td>10,615</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Sources: CTDSS and CT DPH; cumulative town counts as of 3/10/2022; reporting period for two week town level case counts is 2/20/2022 through 3/5/2022.
*Current (net) number of hospitalizations; it is not a cumulative count. **Scotland case count likely lower than actual positive cases due to residents using Baltic, North Windham and Hampton as a mailing address.

EHHD residents who received COVID-19 vaccine*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN</th>
<th>Andover</th>
<th>Ashford</th>
<th>Bolton</th>
<th>Chaplin</th>
<th>Columbia</th>
<th>Coventry</th>
<th>Mansfield</th>
<th>Non-student</th>
<th>Scotland</th>
<th>Tolland</th>
<th>Willington</th>
<th>EHHD Totals</th>
<th>Connecticut Totals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated pop.</td>
<td>3,236</td>
<td>4,255</td>
<td>4,884</td>
<td>2,239</td>
<td>5,379</td>
<td>12,407</td>
<td>25,487</td>
<td>1,672</td>
<td>14,618</td>
<td>5,864</td>
<td>80,041</td>
<td>3,631,470</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % of pop.</td>
<td>2,462 76%</td>
<td>3,080 72%</td>
<td>3,967 81%</td>
<td>1,569 70%</td>
<td>4,175 78%</td>
<td>9,694 78%</td>
<td>22,310 88%</td>
<td>1,059 63%</td>
<td>12,090 83%</td>
<td>4,021 69%</td>
<td>64,427 80%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % of pop.</td>
<td>2,319 72%</td>
<td>2,878 68%</td>
<td>3,739 77%</td>
<td>1,460 65%</td>
<td>3,933 73%</td>
<td>9,152 74%</td>
<td>21,027 83%</td>
<td>1,019 61%</td>
<td>11,456 78%</td>
<td>3,723 63%</td>
<td>60,706 76%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 5-11</td>
<td>26% 34% 49%</td>
<td>34% 41% 45%</td>
<td>34% 41% 45%</td>
<td>23% 34% 40%</td>
<td>34% 42% 47%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % 5-11</td>
<td>23% 30% 44%</td>
<td>27% 38% 41%</td>
<td>27% 38% 41%</td>
<td>21% 37% 31%</td>
<td>31% 38% 40%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 12-17</td>
<td>58% 69% 74%</td>
<td>77% 58% 66%</td>
<td>79% 75% 47%</td>
<td>75% 60% 70%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % 12-17</td>
<td>56% 65% 71%</td>
<td>73% 56% 63%</td>
<td>75% 46% 73%</td>
<td>54% 67% 67%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 18-24</td>
<td>77% 68% 75%</td>
<td>62% 72% 68%</td>
<td>91% 66% 94%</td>
<td>33% 84% 88%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % 18-24</td>
<td>69% 61% 71%</td>
<td>54% 67% 63%</td>
<td>87% 57% 86%</td>
<td>30% 80% 88%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 25-44</td>
<td>77% 68% 90%</td>
<td>68% 80% 83%</td>
<td>94% 52% 85%</td>
<td>86% 83% 91%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % 25-44</td>
<td>73% 62% 83%</td>
<td>63% 73% 78%</td>
<td>85% 50% 80%</td>
<td>77% 77% 80%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Received 1st dose COVID vaccine % 45-64</td>
<td>78% 74% 77%</td>
<td>68% 77% 81%</td>
<td>87% 72% 84%</td>
<td>72% 80% 95%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fully vaccinated % 45-64</td>
<td>74% 71% 73%</td>
<td>64% 74% 78%</td>
<td>82% 70% 80%</td>
<td>68% 76% 87%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data Source: Connecticut immunization registry CT DPH as of 3/9/2022; *Vaccination data for Mansfield includes current 3/9/2022 data from UCONN (https://coviddashboard.uchc.edu/); +Downward changes are likely due to de-duplication & re-assignment of cases to different towns associated with UConn student residency changes. **At this time the state vaccination numbers are not broken down into the same age groups as the town level data and cannot be reported here.
NOTE: census estimates for 65 and older is likely low, resulting in 100% rates based on actual number of vaccines provided to this age group.

Preventing Illness & Promoting Wellness for Communities In Eastern Connecticut
Andover • Ashford • Bolton • Chaplin • Columbia • Coventry • Mansfield • Scotland • Tolland • Willington
### EHHD TOWN LEVEL CASE RATES FEBRUARY 20, 2022 - MARCH 5, 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Total Cases 2 weeks</th>
<th>Case Rate</th>
<th>Total Tests</th>
<th>% Positive</th>
<th>Previous Case Rate</th>
<th>Previous % Positivity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andover</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashford</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>13.4</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolton</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8.8</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>5.9</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chaplin</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>5.2</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coventry</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>329</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9.8</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mansfield</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>6.7</td>
<td>690</td>
<td>3.8</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scotland +</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>20.8</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>13.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tolland</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7.3</td>
<td>354</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>9.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willington</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>3.4</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** case rates are per 100,000 population; + Scotland case counts likely lower than actual due to residents using Baltic, North Windham and Hampton as a mailing address.

---

### EHHD Positive COVID-19 Cases by Week March 21, 2020 - March 5, 2022

**NOTE:** All counts by town are cumulative and include confirmed cases and antigen-positive cases; counts can change from previous weeks due to the state reassigning a case to a different town once further information is gathered on the case, or due to lab reporting delays.
Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary

To: Town Council
From: Ryan J. Aylesworth Town Manager
CC: Municipal Department Heads
Date: March 14, 2022
Re: American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding/Investment Deliberations

Subject Matter/Background
Following a staff presentation and comments offered by the public as part of the March 14 public hearing, the Town Council will continue its deliberations of the recommendations recently made by the Town Manager relative to potential uses of the Town’s ARPA allocation.

Financial Impact
The direct financial implications of the various proposed uses/investments of ARPA funds are summarized in the presentation and ARPA project summary descriptions prepared by the Town Manager.

Legal Review
The Town Attorney has been periodically consulted to ensure that proposed uses of the funding are consistent with the eligible uses as prescribed by the ARPA statute and associated rules promulgated by the U.S. Treasury.

Attachments
1) American Rescue Plan Act Presentation – March 14, 2022 Public Hearing
2) American Rescue Plan Act – Proposed Uses of Funds
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING:
TOWN COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS

Mansfield Town Council Meeting
March 14, 2022
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) - OVERVIEW

- **$1.9 trillion in funding** to individuals, schools, businesses, and areas suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic.

- The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, a part of ARPA, delivers **$350 billion to state, local, and Tribal governments** to support their response to and recovery from COVID-19.

- Of that total at the national level, **CT municipalities are slated to receive $2.55 billion** ($1.56 billion to general government / $995 million to schools).

- **The Town of Mansfield will receive a total allocation of ~ $7,543,000** that is disbursed via two equally sized “tranches” ($3.771 million that was received in the summer of 2021; $3.771 million that we anticipate receiving in the summer of 2022).
ELIGIBLE USES OF ARPA FUNDING

- **Support public health response:** Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare and certain public health and safety staff

- **Address negative economic impacts:** Respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, and nonprofits, or impacted industries and re-hiring of public sector workers

- **Replace public sector revenue loss:** Use funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic

- **Premium pay for essential workers:** Offer additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure

- **Water, sewer and broadband infrastructure:** Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, invest in wastewater and stormwater infrastructure and provide unserved or underserved locations with new or expanded broadband access
INELIGIBLE USES OF ARPA FUNDING

- Funds may **not** be used for *deposits into a pension fund*
- Funds may **not** be used for *debt service or replenishing financial reserves*
- Funds may **not** be used for a *program, service, or capital expenditure that conflicts with or contravenes the statutory purpose of ARPA*
- Funds may **not** be used in a manner that constitutes a *violation of the conflict-of-interest requirements contained in the Award Terms and Conditions, including any self-dealing or violation of ethics rules*
TOWN DELIBERATIVE PROCESS (TO DATE)

- During early-summer 2021, municipal departments prepared proposals for ARPA funding to address priority needs (as identified by staff)

- In summer 2021, the Town published a web-based survey designed to solicit community feedback relative to priority ARPA investments.
  - The survey garnered roughly 400 responses from community members

- This community feedback was shared with the Town Council as part of its initial ARPA discussions/deliberations in September 2021.

- Survey findings suggest strong community support for a wide range of eligible uses of the funding
  - Financial assistance to small businesses and social services agencies
  - Replacing lost municipal revenue
  - Improving high-speed internet access
Q1: Please rank the following potential eligible uses of ARPA funds in order of importance where the top item is the highest priority use and the bottom item is lowest priority use.

Score

- Replacing municipal revenues that were lost due to the pandemic
- Upgrading municipal facilities to reduce energy consumption
- Expansion of municipal water or sewer systems
- Improving access to high-speed internet to residents
- Funding support to social services
- Funding support to local businesses
- Provide premium pay for essential workers
TOWN DELIBERATIVE PROCESS (TO DATE) – CONT’D

- Responses also indicated a strong preference for using ARPA funding to support municipal projects, initiatives and/or services (as opposed to those administered by private organizations in the community).

- In the ensuing weeks, Town staff consulted extensively on ARPA funding possibilities and the Town Manager ultimately presented initial ARPA funding recommendations to the Town Council in November 2021.

- Town Council subsequently engaged in high-level deliberations on ARPA funding proposals during the months of December, January & February.

- A public hearing to solicit additional feedback on the Town Council’s preliminary ARPA funding proposals was scheduled for March 14, 2022 and the thoughts and opinions shared by resident will help inform the Council’s deliberative process in the weeks ahead.
AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING: PROPOSED FUNDING/INVESTMENTS
REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS (1 OF 4)
SUPPORTING PUBLIC HEALTH RESPONSE

- Municipal Facility Upgrades (incl. design work as needed) - $969,500
- Fire/EMS Apparatus & Equipment Upgrades - $415,000
- Human/Social Services Mobile Outreach - $60,000
- Enhanced Funding for Human Services Programs - $150,000
- COVID-19 Direct Response Efforts - $20,000

TOTAL - $1,614,500

*All Projects/Investments Capable of being Completed in < 1 Year*
REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS (2 OF 4)

ADDRESSING NEGATIVE ECONOMIC IMPACTS

- Funding Support for Area Social Service Agencies - $350,000
- Funding for Affordable Housing Activities - $500,000
- Local Business Relief, Downtown Marketing, 4-Town Economic Vitality - $400,000
- Direct Financial Assistance to Economically Distressed Individuals - $150,000
- Broadband Digital Inclusion Initiative - $300,000
- Hunting Lodge Road Neighborhood Plan - $150,000
- Arts Relief Fund - $75,000
- Parks & Rec Master Planning & Improvements to Open Space Assets - $850,000
- Eagleville Green Project Support - $750,000 (funding for this project is $15 million in total)

TOTAL - $3,525,000
REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS (3 OF 4)

REPLACING REVENUE LOSS

- Municipalities are able to compute revenue loss by comparing actual revenue to an alternative amount representing what could have been expected to occur in the absence of the pandemic OR a “standard allowance” amount equal to $10 million or 100% of the municipality’s total ARPA allocation (whichever is less)

- The final federal rule issued by the U.S. Treasury enables municipalities to claim considerably higher revenue losses than was permitted under the interim rule, and municipalities have greater flexibility in how these funds are ultimately used (“general government services” = any service traditionally provided by a government (w/ a few exceptions explicitly identified by the Treasury)

- Recommendation: Allocate $1 million to replace lost revenue for 2020 & 2021, program an additional $25,000 for MCC financial consulting services and $100,000 for installation of additional EV charging stations

TOTAL - $1,125,000
REVISED RECOMMENDATIONS (4 OF 4)
WATER, SEWER & BROADBAND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Public Water System Extension to Mansfield Middle School - $1,250,000
  - Water is presently provided to MMS via private system (drilled wells)
  - Connecting to public water system would help alleviate ongoing water quality issues (i.e., coliform bacteria) and improve security (i.e., public water system is under constant monitoring and unlikely to be tampered with)
  - Would include upgrades to existing interior plumbing/piping ($250,000) to eliminate concerns about lead solder joints
  - Would require at least 1:1 matching funds from other sources (i.e., DWSRF, IJIA)
  - Project has long been viewed as advantageous to pursue, by Facilities Department and MBOE leadership, but, there was not previously a federal funding stream to make pursuing it cost-effective

TOTAL - $1,250,000 (overall project budget = $2,750,000)
# SUMMARY OF PROPOSED INVESTMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible Funding Use Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Public Health Response</td>
<td>$1,614,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing Negative Economic Impacts</td>
<td>$3,525,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacing Revenue Loss</td>
<td>$1,125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, Sewer &amp; Broadband Infrastructure</td>
<td>$1,250,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,514,500</strong></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town of Mansfield ARPA Allocation</th>
<th>$7,543,000</th>
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<tr>
<td>Residual/Contingencies</td>
<td>$28,500</td>
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NEXT STEPS

- March 14, 2022 (tonight): Public Hearing to Obtain Resident/Stakeholder Input on Town Council Preliminary ARPA Funding Plan
- Late-March/Early-April 2022: Town Council Finalizes ARPA Funding Plan (at least partial)
- April 30, 2022 (deadline): Town Submits Initial “Project and Expenditure Report” Required of all ARPA State and Local Fiscal Relief Fund Recipients for its first “tranche” (~$3.77 million) of federal funding
- Spring/Summer 2022: Commencement of ARPA-funded projects/initiatives and ongoing Council/staff deliberation on funding priorities as needed
PUBLIC COMMENTS
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Overview
The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 is a sweeping federal rescue package designed to facilitate the United States' recovery from the devastating economic and health effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- ARPA includes $1.9 trillion in funding to individuals, schools, businesses, and areas suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program, a part of the American Rescue Plan, delivers $350 billion to state, local, and Tribal governments across the country to support their response to and recovery from the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Of that total at the national level, CT municipalities are slated to receive $2.55 billion ($1.56 billion to general government / $995 million to schools).
- The Town of Mansfield will receive a total allocation of ~ $7.543 million disbursed via two equally sized “tranches” ($3.771 million in 2021; $3.771 million in 2022).
  - This amount does not include ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) fund allocations received by Mansfield Public Schools ($754,781) or Regional School District #19 ($835,051)
- A municipality must obligate all (100%) of its ARPA funds for eligible uses by December 31, 2024. Additionally, a municipality must have spent all of its ARPA funds on eligible uses by December 31, 2026. Funds that were not obligated by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026 must be forfeited back to the U.S. Treasury.

Eligible Uses of ARPA Funding
The Coronavirus SLFRP provides substantial flexibility for municipalities to meet local needs within the following four separate eligible use categories:

- **Support public health response**- Fund COVID-19 mitigation efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare and certain public health and safety staff
- **Address negative economic impacts**- Respond to economic harms to workers, families, small businesses, and nonprofits, or impacted industries and re-hiring of public sector workers
- **Replace public sector revenue loss**- Use funds to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic
- **Premium pay for essential workers**- Offer additional support to those who have and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure
- **Water, sewer and broadband infrastructure**- Make necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, invest in wastewater and storm water infrastructure and provide unserved or underserved locations with new or expanded broadband access

Ineligible Uses of ARPA Funding
The Coronavirus SLFRP does, however, impose multiple restrictions/prohibitions on use of ARPA funds. These include:

- Funds may not be used for **deposits into a pension fund**
- Funds may not be used for **debt service or replenishing financial reserves**
- Funds may not be used for a **program, service, or capital expenditure that conflicts with or contravenes the statutory purpose of ARPA**
TOWN OF MANSFIELD DELIBERATIVE PROCESS (TO DATE)

In August/September of 2021, the Town published a web-based survey designed to solicit public feedback relative to priority ARPA investments in our community. This community feedback was shared with the Town Council as part of its future deliberations. The survey was open for approximately one month and garnered roughly 400 responses from community members. Survey findings suggest strong community support for a wide range of eligible uses of the funding, including financial assistance to small businesses and social services agencies, replacing lost municipal revenue, and improving high-speed internet access. Responses also indicated a strong preference for using ARPA funding to support municipal projects, initiatives and/or services as opposed to projects, initiatives, and/or services administered by private organizations in the community. In the ensuing weeks, Town staff consulted extensively on ARPA funding possibilities and the Town Manager ultimately presented initial ARPA funding recommendations to the Town Council in November 2021. The Town Council subsequently engaged in deliberations on ARPA funding proposals on multiple occasions in December, January and February. A public hearing to solicit additional feedback on the Town Council’s preliminary ARPA funding proposals is scheduled for March 14, 2022. The Council will then continue its deliberative process in the weeks ahead.

PROPOSED USES OF ARPA FUNDS (SORTED BY ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY)

Based on a careful review and consideration of the information, feedback, and recommendations that have been submitted to the Town administration and Council for consideration relative to ARPA funding, the Town Council is presently contemplating the following uses of the federal funds.

**Supporting Public Health Response ($1,614,500)**

- Mansfield Public Library Facility Improvements ($353,000): The biggest component of this proposed project is upgrades to the library’s Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system. The facility’s current system is nearing the end of its useful life. We have problems with maintaining proper air balance and good humidity in the high humidity months. We are able to keep within the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) standards at the high end but it would be better if we could improve to get to the middle of the standard range. These upgrades will also provide public health benefits with respect to reducing potential for spread of airborne viruses.

  The proposed funding also includes a wireless access pavilion. The new exterior pavilion will improve the library’s ability to support workforce development and community resilience. This 14’X24’ pavilion will be equipped with tables and chairs, and an electrical charging station for devices such as phones and laptops. Patrons can sit socially distanced while accessing library Wi-Fi, borrow laptops or Chromebooks, and access staff assistance as needed. The pavilion will be available for use during daylight hours except in the depths of winter. Community members may access internet resources and receive professional staff assistance with activities such as processing government application forms and searching the internet for information, including...
education, health, and workforce development sites. The pavilion will also be available when the library is not open, allowing people to work independently on their own schedule. With a Wi-Fi-accessible outdoor shelter, patrons can more comfortably work on their own, or receive assistance from staff, as we plan regular instructional sessions for our patrons.

The Mansfield Library wireless access pavilion will add to the library’s already robust community services. This investment in our community will make a difference by offering safe support and resources to the citizens of Mansfield and the surrounding area in a convenient and accessible space.

Finally, proposed funding includes the installation of quiet study pods. In order to improve its support of workforce development and continuing education, library leadership proposes the purchase of two self-contained study pods for installation in the main library building. These pods will provide quiet study space, with motion-activated ventilation and lights to ensure safety, and sound blocking materials to ensure privacy. This will increase the ability of community members to access library resources in a quiet, safe environment, while having the opportunity to receive professional staff assistance with activities such as processing government application forms and searching the internet for information, including education, health, and workforce development sites. There are currently no designated quiet study spaces in the library.

- Mansfield Community Center Facility (MCC) Improvements ($91,500): The following facility upgrades are proposed at the Mansfield Community Center to support an improved public health response:
  - **Providing alternative programming** with use of computer laptops, microphones, cameras and video screens for instructors in providing virtual programming options to assist in containing and mitigating COVID-19 and other viruses.
  - Replace 4-foot cubicle divider walls with 6-foot partitions for separation of five close-work spaces in the MCC administrative office suite to contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses. The project would also improve work efficiency and privacy needs. Funding estimates include installation charges.
  - **Replace shared microphones** and synchronize with two receiver bases with individual microphones for instructor use. Currently, fitness instructors share head/body microphones. Individual use microphones would help contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses.
  - **Acquisition of two 20’X40’ canvas event tents** (pole, cross cable or pagoda). Allows for continuation of community programs and associated revenue during pandemics and serves as an option to help contain and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses. Tents can be used for programming for all age groups and utilized a minimum of nine months of the year. Tents could be shared with other departments when not in use by the Parks & Recreation Department.
  - **Installation of Wi-Fi service at two town parks** (Bicentennial Park and Southeast Park) actively used by families.
  - **HVAC, air balancing and ductwork upgrades**
  - **Additional facility upgrades to the Mansfield Community Center** that improve member/guest experiences (i.e., installation of dedicated kiosk registration station, digital daily sign-in system, enhanced outdoor seating area).
• **Mansfield Municipal Offices (Town Hall) HVAC Upgrades ($45,000):** The existing HVAC equipment/system in the Council Chambers (the Town’s primary hearing room/Emergency Operations Center) is outdated and inadequate. **This project would entail updating the current equipment in the Council Chambers to include better filtration of air and better control of the HVAC equipment.** The current system has a design flaw in the placement of its hot water coil that can cause freeze-ups, and it is past its useful life. The HVAC is a standalone unit. It would benefit the air quality of the Chambers to update to a state-of-the-art system.

• **Fire Station 307 Upgrades to Sleeping Quarters and Lockers ($130,000):** The Town’s primary fire station, Fire Station 307, presently offers personnel inadequate sleeping quarters, bathrooms, and locker room facilities. The plan for the upstairs room would allow for better separation of the sleeping quarters. In times of a pandemic, such as now, sleeping two or three people together increases the potential to pass contagions between one other. **This project would take the current space allocated for sleeping and change the separation of rooms such that the larger multi-people rooms would be converted into separated (single occupant) sleeping spaces.** The project would include removing some walls and installing new walls, and the furnishings would be updated. With respect to the downstairs, **funding would be used to construct proper locker room spaces as locker units are presently located in communal hallways/corridors adjacent to administrative spaces. These funds would be used to add conditioned air with exhaust to improve indoor air quality.**

• **DPW Garage Sleeping Quarters and Restroom Upgrades ($200,000):** The Public Work Department spends up to 48 hours away from their homes and families addressing weather-related events including hurricanes and blizzards. The existing sleeping facilities at the DPW Garage are inadequate especially in light of the pandemic. Prior to the pandemic, it was common for up to 20 people to sleep in approximately 300 square feet of area. In order to accommodate the crew during the pandemic, workers were split up amongst five different facilities throughout Town, most of which do not have shower facilities. The locker room and shower area at the DPW garage was constructed in the 1980s where an all-male crew was common. At this time, co-ed crews are becoming more commonplace and as such, reconfigured facilities become necessary. **The proposed project includes extending the existing building on its southeast-facing wall approximately 25 feet. Within this expansion and reconfiguration, individual shower stalls, women’s restroom, and additional sleeping quarters would provide facilities to accommodate a co-ed crew.** This reconfiguration will also allow for office space for the Roads Foreman. The existing septic system is a cesspool and non-compliant by the public health code. With the proposed expansion, the septic system would be relocated and upgraded for code compliance and improve effluent water quality.

• **Municipal Facilities Schematic Design Project ($150,000):** This will represent the next phase of a project that began with a comprehensive needs assessment and programmatic use study of 12 different municipal facilities (being funded in FY 21/22 using CIP funds). More specifically, the findings of this needs assessment (ongoing) will guide the prioritization of necessary upgrades to municipal facilities to ensure that facilities are effectively meeting the current and projected future needs of the Town. Facilities that will be the focus of this conceptual design and cost estimation project include Town Hall, Mansfield Senior Center, Department of Public Works (DPW).
Garage, DPW Maintenance Shop, Animal Shelter, and Fire Stations. Cost estimation services will include construction, and other cost factors (i.e., engineering/design work needed to prepare construction level drawings, land acquisition, and site work) that need to be considered for the purpose of establishing an appropriate project budget for a bond referendum. The total estimated project cost is approximately $225,000, proposing that 25% ($75,000) be paid from the Town’s CIP/capital budget.

- Fire & Emergency Services Apparatus and Equipment Upgrades ($415,000): The Mansfield Fire & Emergency Services uses a three-year cycle for replacement/upgrading of the department’s ambulances. The ambulances are the workhorses of the department, responding to approximately 60 to 65% of the overall calls for service in the community as well as mutual aid to our surrounding communities. Ambulance 707 is scheduled for replacement in FY 2023/2024 budget cycle. Ambulance 707 is a 2013 GMC with 117,680 miles on the vehicle. With the age of the vehicle coming up on 10 years, there is a need per the schedule for replacement. As with any vehicle, the repair maintenance and costs increase as the vehicle gets older. Ambulance 707 has cloth seats which makes it very difficult to decontaminate after emergency responses. Also, the patient compartment is outdated and there are areas that are not ergonomically friendly for the Firefighter/EMT teching the call and offering patient care. Finally, Ambulance 707 is a van-style chassis that is two-wheel drive which makes it difficult to operate during the winter season.

This request would also provide funding to replace equipment used on emergency medical calls for service including defibrillators, CPR LUCAS devices and stair chair devices that are carried on ambulances and emergency vehicles. The plan is to also replace defibrillators placed in town buildings that have reached their life expectancy. In addition to emergency vehicles, defibrillators are mandated by state law in schools, fitness centers and other public buildings. This equipment is part of the American Heart Association's chain of survival for cardiac arrest victims. CPR LUCAS devices, stair chairs, and other equipment would be replaced as they meet the end of their service life. Finally, the proposed funding would be used to replace/upgrade extrication equipment on Squad 307. The existing extrication equipment is outdated and cumbersome. The goal is to replace/upgrade to the latest technology including going from power/fuel-operator to battery-operator. This will decrease the Fire Department's repair and maintenance costs because the unit will be powered by battery and not require a small engine to power the unit for operations. Also, the new unit is lighter in weight which will reduce potential firefighter injury. Finally, the new unit will allow for more flexibility because the unit will not require hydraulic attachments to operate.

- Human/Social Services Mobile Outreach ($60,000): Human Services, in cooperation with the Mansfield Board of Education (MBOE), is proposing to purchase a van and materials needed to offer mobile human/social service outreach and positive youth development services to Mansfield families. With transportation identified among key barriers to accessing services, this vehicle would allow both the MBOE and Human Services to bring the services directly to the locations most in need of these services and programs. This would include, but not be limited to: (1) sign-up for social services and entitlement programs; (2) educational materials; (3) psycho-social presentations; (4) mental health and wellness services; (5) adventure-based and positive youth development programs, and; (6) information and referral services.
• Enhanced Funding for Human Services Programs ($150,000): The feedback from the ARPA Community Input Survey indicated public support for enhanced investment in the area of human/social services. For the purposes of this discussion, monies specifically being recommended for allocation to "external" social service organizations are reflected in the "Addressing Negative Economic Impacts" funding area (see below). The funds recommended in this section would be allocated by the Town of Mansfield’s Human Services Department. Part of what this would include is expanded nutrition programming for seniors who are most at risk for food insecurity and social isolation. Enhanced nutrition programming would include development of a grab-and-go lunch/dinner program, expansion of café to four days weekly, and monthly community educational dinners. It would also expand transportation options to enable access to health care and town services and programs. Additional improvements to the program would include electronic/touchless registration and payment for all services and programs, assistance with tutoring seniors in the area of technology, adding an additional part-time on demand driver to increase transportation availability, providing some part-time per diem staff to assist with food programs at the senior center so we can expand our fresh prepared and café program to meet demand, and covering the costs associated with additional part-time per diem mental health services and programs at the senior center.

Additionally, this funding would be used to support the Mansfield Farms to Family (MFFP) program, which was created to broaden access to the fresh, local food sources in our community. To date, this has been accomplished by connecting 15 identified households with local farms through a sponsored CSA share program, and serving an estimated additional 100 households during the growing season with four or more food box distributions each to include fresh produce and dairy. The participating Mansfield residents have reported they enjoy the variety, the high-quality products from local CSA’s, and the increased access to healthier fresh foods. Many have also stated they would not have the ability to participate in a CSA share without this program and are grateful for the opportunity. The project supports the local economy by purchasing goods directly from local farm businesses while providing increased access to fresh produce for households who would otherwise encounter prohibitive economic barriers to this service. The following outlines the projected MFFP costs associated with this effort over the next two fiscal years:
  o $20,000: Purchase of 50 Partner Shares (up to $400 each) among five local participating farms with CSAs programs.
  o $20,000: Purchase of in-season, locally grown produce to assemble into bags/boxes to be distributed to Mansfield households. (Approximately 800 bags/boxes distributed to 100 Asset-Limited Income-Constrained Employed (ALICE) households four times per year). Each bag/box will include approximately a $30 value of local produce including a gallon of milk. This would also include a flyer highlighting the farms where the food was produced.
  o $10,000: For the purchase of 400 certificates or vouchers to locally grown farm stands or markets which would allow patrons the choice to choose fresh produce. Each certificate or voucher would be a $25 value.
  o $2,000: reusable bags/boxes, printing, paper and marketing costs.
  o $22,500: Project Coordinator (Consultant - 1099) for 10 hours per week x $25 per hour x 45 weeks per year for a two-year period.
  $600: Van rental $19.95 plus .59 cents per mile (approximately 20 miles round trip $11.80), $20 for replenishing gas, $11 for insurance, or approximately $35 delivery fee from local farm if delivery available.
• **COVID-19 Direct Response Efforts ($20,000):** Funding support for the acquisition and distribution of test kits, PPE, associated personnel costs, public education, and other items/activities specifically related to the ongoing public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Addressing Negative Economic Impacts ($3,525,000)**

- **Funding Support for Area Social Service Agencies ($350,000):** In recent months, the Town Council expressed a desire to see a robust portion of the Town of Mansfield’s ARPA allocation be programmed for funding support to area social service agencies that are presently providing valuable services to residents of our community. This desire seemed to be shared by the community at large based on the results of the ARPA Community Input Survey that was administered in late-summer. Recipients/award amounts should be informed by formal recommendations transmitted to the Town Council by the Mansfield Human Services Advisory Committee. Organizations to be awarded funds will also need to be held accountable for the use of the funds and the application process should establish clear/measurable objectives for how the allotted funding will be used to maximize benefit to the community.

- **Funding for Affordable Housing ($500,000):** This funding will help with the implementation of the Town’s newly adopted Affordable Housing Plan through creation of more affordable/workforce housing units in Mansfield, and increasing access to a high opportunity community. The Affordable Housing Plan identifies several strategies for increasing access to affordable and workforce housing in Mansfield, including the creation of a housing trust fund (which the Town Council recently approved). Funding could be used for a variety of initiatives to assist low- and moderate-income residents, including down payment assistance, mortgage assistance for homeowners who fell behind during the pandemic, and creation/construction of affordable/workforce units. Potential projects include: acquisition of land to facilitate development of affordable/workforce housing; contribution to the Eagleville Green project to help leverage other funds; and acquisition/renovation/sales of units to income-qualifying families.

- **Local Business Assistance, Marketing and Economic Vitality ($400,000):** Many local businesses have experienced an economic hardship as a direct result of the pandemic. In some cases this has manifested itself in loss of revenue from a declining customer base, an inability to recruit or retain employees, and/or the need to put off previously developed plans for business launch/expansion. Furthermore, we are aware that UConn’s decision to delay the return of students to its Storrs campus resulted in additional economic hardship to local businesses that rely heavily on college students as part of their core customer base. With this in mind, the Town has been actively collaborating with the Mansfield Downtown Partnership to begin development a process and framework for how ARPA funding support could best be used to help local businesses through these unprecedented times. One objective of this allocation is to provide one-time relief for Mansfield businesses. Possibilities include: 1) direct grant to businesses through an application process (first come, first served) (individual awards would be capped, i.e., $10,000); 2) personal property tax credit relief, which would provide a direct financial benefit to eligible business without changing the tax rate (and this benefit would go directly to the business owners instead of the landlord/property owner in the case of a leased space); 3) façade improvement grants; 4) providing
technology to vendors at the Mansfield Farmers Market to allow them to accept credit card payments, SNAP payments, and "Farm Bucks"; 5) payment of food service license fees, and; 6) property owner relief akin to what was extended via the "Hart Lift" program administered by the Hartford Chamber of Commerce. This proposal also includes **funding for the Four Town Action Plan for Economic Vitality** that was completed in 2020. A steering committee and several subcommittees are working on implementation of some of the key initial initiatives. Marketing of the region is a key focus. The towns of Coventry, Tolland and Bolton have indicated an intention to put money into their respective FY22-23 budgets for implementation. The funding requested would supplement their efforts. The funding would be invested in a website/landing page for the four towns, a logo, and other marketing tools. This would also complement the grant application submitted in recent months by the four towns for $200,000 in FEMA funding to assist in implementation of the action plan.

- **Direct Financial Assistance to Economically Distressed Individuals ($150,000):** The Town's Planning and Development Office has recently seen staggering utility bills provided as documentation of residency for the Helping Hand program, and ARPA funds may be a reasonable means for us to directly aid economically distressed residents in the short-term. The Department of Housing also specifically precluded the Town from providing any type of mortgage assistance in addition to the rental assistance they removed from our portfolio. Per the ARPA final rule, eligible uses under this category include but are not limited to the following (as well as covering certain associated administrative expenses born by the Town in the course of administering this assistance):
  - Rent
  - Rental arrears
  - Utility costs or arrears (can be made through direct payments/bulk payments to utility providers to assist multiple consumers at one time)
  - Reasonable accrued late fees (not already included in arrears)
  - Mortgage payment assistance
  - Financial assistance to allow a homeowner to reinstate a mortgage or to pay other housing related costs related to a period of forbearance, delinquency or default,
  - Mortgage principal reduction
  - Facilitating mortgage interest rate reductions,
  - Counseling to prevent foreclosure or displacement
  - Relocation expenses following eviction or foreclosure, such as rental security deposits, application/screening fees
  - Assistance to households for delinquent property taxes to prevent tax foreclosures on homes
  - Emergency assistance for individuals experiencing homelessness, including individual-level assistance as well as group services such as expansion of existing shelter options, including transitional shelters

- **Digital Inclusion Initiative ($300,000):** The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the critical importance of broadband access. The Town of Mansfield has relied on technology to work, learn, receive a wide range of services (health, government, and business), and continue social and emotional connections. Digital access was a vital component of maintaining the wellbeing, livelihoods and daily lives of Mansfield's residents. Unfortunately, in many cases, members of our community were literally disconnected from vital services and opportunities during the pandemic. Whether it was
lack of sufficient broadband service, unreliable personal devices, confusion about how to operate technology, or websites that were difficult to navigate, these barriers isolated many of our residents. While in-person interactions are again more accessible, the reality is that the pandemic has accelerated our society’s reliance on Internet based resources across all sectors. Our businesses, our employers, our schools, our governments, our medical providers, and our social groups are continuing to use technology more than ever before. Digital access is not a luxury—we now know post-pandemic that all citizens need reliable and robust online access.

Our proposal leverages ARP funding to expand broadband for Mansfield’s residents by reducing barriers to digital access through:

- Affordable, reliable, and sufficiently robust Internet access.
- Internet-enabled devices that meet the needs of the user.
- Digital literacy training and support.
- Accessible and participatory online access to local government meetings, activities/programming, and services for inclusive use of broadband access.
- Applications and online content designed to enable and encourage self-sufficiency, participation, and collaboration.

The goal of this project is to promote digital equity for citizens of Mansfield. Digital Equity is a condition in which individuals and communities have the information technology capacity needed for full participation in our society, democracy and economy. Digital Equity is necessary for civic and cultural participation, employment, lifelong learning, and access to essential services.

Staff in the Information Technology Department have furnished a detailed project funding request and associated justification. Please see separately enclosed document.

- Hunting Lodge Road Neighborhood Plan ($150,000): The Hunting Lodge Road neighborhood is one of just a few pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods in Mansfield. Its proximity to UConn, affordable and senior housing, open space and trails as well as access to public transportation provides the foundation to create a diverse and sustainable community. This neighborhood has experienced significant conversion of single-family housing to rental housing primarily marketed to students, which has in many cases reduced investment in housing upgrades and declining exterior property maintenance. The availability of sewer and water infrastructure makes this area prime for redevelopment. The rental/homeowner imbalance and loss of a civic anchor with the closing of Goodwin School further threaten the stability of this neighborhood. To ensure that future development/redevelopment meets neighborhood needs and aligns with the goals outlined Mansfield’s 2015 POCD, a comprehensive neighborhood plan for the Hunting Lodge Road area, as well as associated regulatory tools and design standards, will need to be developed to restore stability to this area. The neighborhood plan will involve extensive community outreach to build consensus around desired development patterns and identify needed investments. This planning is needed to position the Town for future grant applications to fund neighborhood improvements.

- Arts Relief Fund ($75,000): This represents funding support to local arts organizations. The Connecticut Arts Alliance has suggested a few ways including partnering with regional arts council (Cultural Coalition represents Mansfield) or local...
community foundation to re-grant funds to Mansfield, or provide direct grants to local arts organization. The Alliance is suggesting that 1% of a community's ARPA funds go toward arts, and this proposed amount roughly equates to that. This would include both direct relief to artists/organizations as well as support of public art. Such an expansion would potentially assist artists outside of Mansfield, but also offer public benefits. Public art could be part of beautification efforts in different commercial areas as well as the new school. One possible geographic focus area is the Four Corners. Town officials recently learned that street trees cannot line the sidewalk in front of the proposed Standard multi-family housing development project (proposed by Haven Communities) due to the potential for root intrusion into the sewer pipe. It may be possible to substitute public art pieces for trees in the interest of promoting quality aesthetics. Public art could also be used to enliven public spaces in Downtown as well as other areas, which appears to be consistent with several of the recommendations flowing from the work recently completed by a strategic planning consultant focusing on the Downtown area.

- **Parks & Recreation Master Planning and Improvements to Open Space Assets ($850,000)**: Mansfield has a unique park system that needs improvement and study in order to meet future needs. It is common for municipalities to conduct a facility study and master plan for parks in order to create a strategic plan to prioritize improvement projects and determine needs for future use. This funding would support the hiring of a consulting firm that specializes in this field to guide the creation a master plan (with stakeholder input) for Mansfield's park system and building upon the Mansfield 2020 vision of community wellness, outdoor activity and environmental stewardship. The remainder of the proposed funding (~$750,000) would then be used to fund investments in priority enhancements to existing recreation and/or parks/open space assets as identified in the master plan.

- **Eagleville Green Project Funding Support ($750,000)**: Eagleville Green is a proposed 42-unit mixed-income multi-family residential project located at 113-121 South Eagleville Road. As of November 15, 2021, 74% of the proposed units would be designated affordable, with the remaining units available to be rented at market rate. As currently presented, the project would include 22 units affordable to households at 50% of median income, 7 units affordable to households at 60% of median income, and 2 units affordable to households at 80% of median income, with the remaining units being market rate. The overall project budget is in excess of $14 million, and applications for project funding are currently pending with the Connecticut Department of Housing, the Connecticut Housing Finance Agency, and a newly propped up program (being funded by the state with federal funds) called the CT Communities Challenge Grant program being offered through the CT Department of Economic and Community Development. The proposed use of ARPA funding ($750,000) would specifically support the replacement of existing sewer main and installation of a new main to connect to the pump station at Wright's village. The Assistant Town Engineer has identified an alternative design that would allow for elimination of the on-site pumping station, which would reduce the applicant’s initial construction costs for on-site infrastructure and on-going operational costs; however, redesign of the on-site sewer system would be required. The alternative design would result in a deeper installation depth in South Eagleville Road as well as a longer pipe run due to the depth change. While the public improvements would be more costly than the original design, the

\[1\] The affordability levels are subject to change based on requirements of potential funding agencies such as the Connecticut Department of Housing and the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority.
alternative design would also support future connections to properties located across the street from the subject property (108-128 South Eagleville Road, including Oakwood Apartments). Additionally, one of the issues noted by CTDOH in its initial review of the application for state bond funds is the minimal funding committed to the project by non-state agencies. The proposed funding would present significant leverage and help to make the project more competitive.

**Replacing Revenue Loss ($1,125,000)**

- Municipalities are able to compute revenue loss by comparing actual revenue to an alternative amount representing what could have been expected to occur in the absence of the pandemic or a “standard allowance” amount equal to $10 million or 100% of the municipality’s total ARPA allocation (whichever is less). The final federal rule issued by the U.S. Treasury enables municipalities to claim considerably higher revenue losses than was permitted under the interim rule, and municipalities have greater flexibility in how these funds are ultimately used (“general government services” = any service traditionally provided by a government) with only a few exceptions explicitly identified by the Treasury. The current recommendation is to allocate $1 million in ARPA funds to replace lost revenue. The lion’s share of this would go to the General Fund to replenish funds that were transferred to the Parks & Recreation Fund over the last two years to cover operating deficits exacerbated by COVID-19. An additional $25,000 is being recommended to retain a qualified financial consulting firm to work with the Parks & Recreation Department on a financial sustainability action plan for the Mansfield Community Center. Finally, an additional $100,000 is being recommended for the installation of additional electric vehicle (EV) charging stations (combination of Level 2 and Level 3) at various municipal facilities that would be available for use by employees and residents. To the extent any other ARPA funding priorities identified by the Council may subsequently be deemed as incompatible with an eligible use category articulated in the final rule, it is possible to utilize the revenue loss replacement approach to authorize funding for these purposes.

**Water, Sewer & Broadband Infrastructure ($1,250,000)**

*Public Water System Extension to Mansfield Middle School* ($1,250,000): Currently, Mansfield Middle School is served by three drilled wells. This is considered a small water system with the State. There are frequent problems with the system, with most of these being water quality issues. Having the school served by a community system by extending the public water system is prudent. It would also provide the added safety with constant monitoring of water quality by the utility company. This would also alleviate ongoing security concerns regarding the potential for someone to tamper with the current system. The Town’s Facilities Department is also recommending that upgrades to existing interior plumbing/piping be undertaken concurrently with this project with the goal of eliminating potential future water quality issues/concerns associated with possible deterioration of any existing lead solder in pipe joints. The total estimated project cost – inclusive of upgrades to interior piping/plumbing that are estimated to be approximately $250,000 – is $2.75 million. As such, it would be necessary to mobilize an additional $1.5 million (which could come from a variety of sources, including cost support from CT Water, assessments on property owners in the immediate area, or grant funding from one of the programs being established via the recently enacted
Bipartisan Infrastructure Law) in order to complete the project. This project has long been viewed by Town/MBOE staff as advantageous to pursue, but, there was not previously a federal funding stream to make it cost-effective to pursue.

### SUMMARY OF PROPOSED INVESTMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Eligible Funding Use Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Public Health Response</td>
<td>$1,614,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing Negative Economic Impacts</td>
<td>$3,525,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacing Revenue Loss</td>
<td>$1,125,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water, Sewer &amp; Broadband Infrastructure</td>
<td>$1,250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$7,514,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Town of Mansfield ARPA Allocation                     | **$7,543,000** |
| Residual/Contingencies                                | $28,500    |

### REMAINING PROCESS/PROCEDURE

- **Mid-March 2022:** Public Hearing to Obtain Resident/Stakeholder Input on Town Council Preliminary ARPA Funding Plan
- **Late-March/Early-April 2022:** Town Council Finalizes ARPA Funding Plan
- **April 30, 2022:** Town Submits Initial “Project and Expenditure Report” Required of all ARPA State and Local Fiscal Relief Fund Recipients for its first “tranche” (~$3.77 million) of federal funding
- **May 2022:** Development and Finalizations of Implementation Policies and Procedures Relative to ARPA-Funded Programs
- **Spring/Summer 2022:** Commencement of ARPA-Funded Projects/Initiatives/Services
- **Remainder of 2022:** Ongoing Town Council Deliberation Relative to Use Unobligated ARPA funds (i.e., monies appropriated via the second “tranche” of federal funds)
Town of Mansfield
Agenda Item Summary

To: Town Council
From: Ryan J. Aylesworth, Town Manager
CC: Anne Greineder and Vera Ward, Registrars of Voters
Date: March 14, 2022
Re: Town of Mansfield Proposed Voting Redistricting Plan

Subject Matter/Background
Redistricting is mandated by the state and federal government every 10 years. The State did not finish their deliberations until 2/15/2022. We received notice following that date. We are required to redistrict to accommodate the State’s new guidelines which are to redistrict most of current District 3 to a new Assembly District 50. (AD 48 is no longer in Mansfield). We cannot change what the State has dictated. Most of the change for us will be putting a part of the current District 3 (that which is not designated for AD 50) into District 4. There may be minor adjustments made to even out Districts 1, 2, and 4. Congressional District 2 and State Senate District 29 remain the same, encompassing all of Mansfield.

Legal Review
We are required to submit our plan for Redistricting to the Town Council for their approval. We are required to submit that approved plan to the State as of 3/16/2022. We received notice last week of this date.

Financial Impact
None

Recommendation
If the Town Council approves of the proposed redistricting plan as presented by the Registrar of Voters, then the following motion is in order

Move, effective March 14, 2022, to approve the proposed redistricting plan for the Town of Mansfield as presented by the Registrar of Voters.

Attachments
1) Proposed redistricting maps (working copies)
Before redistricting

---

After redistricting

----- no change

AD = Assembly district
Subject Matter/Background
Attached please find the March 7, 2022 correspondence from the Director of Finance recommending an adjustment to the Capital Projects Fund. In the Proposed Capital Improvement Program Adjustments for FY 21/22, we are adjusting the appropriations for the Grapple Truck using the savings from the purchase of mowers and attachments that came in under budget. For FY 21/22, we are requesting the approval to transfer the remaining funds needed for the Grapple Truck.

Financial Impact
This adjustment will allow DPW to purchase the Grapple Truck in accordance with their needs without requesting additional funding outside of their current budget.

Recommendation
If the Town Council agrees with the Finance Committee’s acceptance of the budget adjustments, the following motion would be in order:

Move, effective March 14, 2022, to approve the adjustments to the Capital Projects fund, as presented by the Director of Finance in her correspondence dated March 7, 2022.

Attachments
1) C. Bradshaw-Hill Proposed Capital Improvement Adjustment FY 21/22
MEMO

To: Ryan Aylesworth, Town Manager
From: Charmaine Bradshaw-Hill, Director of Finance
Date: March 7, 2022
Subject: Proposed Capital Improvement Program Adjustments for FY 21/22

In FY 21/22 capital improvement budget, we budgeted an additional $40,000 for the purchase of a Grapple Truck for Public Works, bringing the total project to $174,957. Due to supply and demand issues across the region, additional funding of $19,150 is needed to complete the purchase. We can fund this additional appropriation from our Mowers and Attachments project where the cost of replacement equipment has come in less than budgeted. The requested transfer below will cover the additional costs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>Funding Adjustment</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grapple Truck</td>
<td>19,150</td>
<td>Increase appropriation for the purchase of a Grapple Truck, funding coming from Mowers &amp; Attachments project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mowers &amp; Attachments</td>
<td>(19,150)</td>
<td>Reduce appropriation and transfer to Grapple Truck project.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total: $</td>
<td>-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Should the Finance Committee agree with this recommendation the following motion is below:

Move, effective March 14, 2022, to recommend to the Town Council to approve the adjustments to the Capital Projects fund, as presented by the Director of Finance in her correspondence dated March 7, 2022.
To: Town Council  
From: Ryan J. Aylesworth, Town Manager  
CC: Randy Walikonis, Chairman School Building Committee; Superintendent Kelly Lyman, Mansfield Public Schools  
Date: March 14, 2022  
Re: New School Building Construction Update

Subject Matter/Background
Randy Walikonis, Chairman of the School Building Committee as well as other appropriate parties from the School Building Committee, Mansfield Public Schools, and the Town’s project manager, will provide the Council with an update on construction progress for the new elementary school building.
Hello Council members,

Today, the CDC released guidance removing recommendations for universal masking in community settings in counties outside of high risk zones. As I'm sure you have seen, Tolland county is currently in the "low risk" zone, where the CDC recommends masking should be a personal decision based on individual risk levels.


In addition, Mansfield yesterday exited the "red zone" on the Connecticut state Covid tracker. This means that the case rate has dropped below 15 cases per 100,000 residents. At 10 cases per 100,000 residents, the town will drop into the "yellow zone". Mansfield averaged 10.9 cases per 100,000 residents over the last week.


I expect you know all of this information by now. I am writing to urge that you make public a decision-making framework listing the conditions that will cause each of you to move to eliminate the school mask mandate. I don't know if the CDC's removal of mask recommendations or the state's change in town emergency status will shift your stances because you have not broadcast whether they will or not. As elected officials exercising power, I think it is incumbent on you to clearly explain why conditions require that you use force and when you will stop using that force. Please consider doing so.

Respectfully,
Zach Anglin
Good Afternoon,

It is past time to open up the council meetings; hold meetings in person in council chambers.

Regarding the M. Discovery Depot, do not do a contract out so far as proposed; at the most, do a contract for 3 years commencing at the retroactive date proposed. It is past time for this council to recognize that former councils have made serious mistakes which continue to be financial burdens on the citizens. Getting involved with this daycare project is but one serious mistake. It is time to extricate the town. Look carefully at the grant this town manages for MDD. I urge you to give MDD notice that this town will not apply for the grant again. MDD serves many towns; perhaps one of them will take over the grant and some of the other work Mansfield provides to MDD. Under no circumstance should a new contract allow for this town to apply for any other grants. You are responsible for judicious spending of my tax money; there is no justification for using my money to subsidize a private corporation. Start now to disentangle this town from MDD.

Give good thought to spending the federal money. Provide information to the public as to possible projects and then listen to the citizens.

It is past time for this council to do something about Parks & Rec and the money that project costs the citizens.

Betty Wassmundt
I am a citizen of Mansfield and I would like to voice my opinion on the mask mandate. I understand that the March 10 meeting will be the decision to continue or not. I am very much opposed to keep a mask mandate. It serves no purpose at this time and should be discontinued. As my daughter from another state pointed out if this is continued, we will be the only people in the country with a mask mandate. I urge you to stop this and stand up and do the right thing. Thank you for your consideration. Sincerely, Kathleen Kelly
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Mansfield Lifts Mask Mandate Effective March 1

MANSFIELD, CT February 28, 2022– Effective at 12:01 AM on March 1, the Town of Mansfield is lifting the requirement (which was initially imposed via an Emergency Order put into place last August) for masks to be worn in public spaces.

The Connecticut legislature and Governor enacted legislation at the start of its session that extended the authorities granted in Executive Order 13A for municipalities to enact local mask requirements intended to control the spread of COVID-19. At its February 14 business meeting, the Council voted to authorize the Town Manager to extend the Town of Mansfield’s existing universal mask mandate. In the subsequent weeks, positivity rates have continued to decline sharply.

This past Friday, the Centers for Disease Control announced the release of “COVID community level metrics” that it is encouraging state and local governments to follow when determining the merits of imposing mask restrictions. Classifications are issued at the county level, and the municipalities within Eastern Highlands Health District (EHHD) are currently classified as “low” under these new metrics, which is the most favorable classification available. The implications of these new metrics were discussed at the regularly scheduled February 28 Council meeting, and the Council subsequently voted in support of lifting the local mandate.

“The Town of Mansfield was proactive in establishing an indoor mask mandate late last summer to protect our residents, visitors and business owners,” says Town Manager Ryan Aylesworth. “We believe wearing a mask in public spaces helped prevent the spread of the virus this fall and winter, and many residents expressed strong words of support and appreciation for this practice in our community.

“The COVID-19 pandemic has been an ongoing struggle for an extensive period of time, and, after overcoming many challenges through shared sacrifice and strict adherence to public health guidance, this marks an important step in regaining greater normalcy in our daily lives,” says Mr. Aylesworth.
The mandate had required that masks or cloth face coverings be worn by all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, in all indoor public spaces, meeting spaces, private indoor businesses and all places of employment except when eating and drinking. Dropping the masking requirement allows for greater personal choice. Public health authorities stress, however, that the emergence of a new COVID variant could trigger a change in guidance. According to EHHD, the new “COVID community level metrics” uses metrics more closely aligned with significant outcomes from COVID-19 infection, rather than infections alone, to help inform individuals and communities about recommended prevention strategies. This new tool utilizes hospitalizations, hospital bed capacity, and new infections as the primary indicators used to determine whether a community is designated as a “high, medium, or low” community.

###
Dear council members and Town Manager;

About tonight's meeting, I hope the Town Manager has provided each of you with much more detailed information than what has been provided to me, a citizen. As I read through the information provided, I don't know how you could make an informed decision about any one of the proposed expenditures or, even ask a cogent question given the material as presented in tonight's packet.

I was going to attend tonight's meeting but, given the weather and the fact that I could not speak intelligently to much that is proposed, likely I will not. I will watch the meeting live and will be very interested in your questions and comments.

You have a public hearing coming up about these expenditures. Since there is so much material to cover, I request that you, for this public hearing, suspend your rules and allow any person who has taken the time to review and think about this material to have more than 5 minutes to present to the council.

Thank you.

Betty Wassmundt
**Subject Matter/Background**

On February 28, 2022, the council voted to approve a contract between the Town of Mansfield and the Mansfield Discovery Depot. The contract contains a financial arrangement between the Town of Mansfield and the Mansfield Discovery Depot. A Town Councilor that also serves on the board of directors of the MDD voted in favor of the contract and participated passionately in discussions and deliberations leading up to the vote.

Councilor Coleman also serves on the board of directors of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, raised his concerns about possible conflicts of interest in his capacity as a town counselor and as a member of the board of directors of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership with the Mansfield Board of Ethics and the town attorney on March 3, 2022. Coleman hasn’t heard back from the town attorney but did get a response from the Board of Ethics.

Brian,

Thanks for the response. Basically, it would be ethically wrong if you as a member of the Mansfield Downtown Partnership were voting as a member of this group on a request to the Mansfield Town Council. As I see, you represent the Town Council on the Mansfield Downtown Partnership, and you would need to recuse yourself in requests to the Town Council.

We can have the Mansfield Board of Ethics review my statement here at our next meeting if necessary.

I am also copying in Mayor Moran as she was highly involved in the development of the Ethics Provisions.

Regards, John

A discussion about this issue between the chair of the Committee on Committees and the town attorney in a February 10, 2022, COC meeting support that a conflict of interest may have occurred.

View at minute 31 forward.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40-mRqdU83s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=40-mRqdU83s)

Recommendation: Rescind the vote made by the Town Council on February 28, 2022 in favor of the contract between the Town of Mansfield and Mansfield Discovery Depot due to a conflict of interest. Table the issue until a full legal opinion has been rendered.

Motion: Move effective March 14, 2022, to rescind the vote made by the town council during the regular meeting on February 28, 2022, regarding the contract between the Town of Mansfield and the Mansfield Discovery Depot.
Motion: Move effective March 14, 2022 to table the issue and bring forth the original motion from the February 28th Town Council meeting, requesting the approval of the contract between the Town of Mansfield and the Mansfield Discovery Depot, at a subsequent meeting after the rendering of a legal opinion on conflict of interest,