

Regular Meeting of the American Rescue Plan Task Force
March 14, 2022 – 4:00 p.m.
City Hall Council Chambers, 111 North Main Street Bristol CT 06010

Members Present: Mayor Jeff Caggiano, Cindy Bombard, Eric Clemons, Donna Osuch, Susan Sadecki, Howard Schmelder, David Maikowski, David Preleski, John Smith, Glenn Heiser and Mickey Goldwasser. Orlando Calfe and Mark Peterson (joined 5:30 pm) were present on Zoom.

Absent: Michael Dumas and Thomas O'Brien

Also present: Diane Waldron, Robin Manuele, Raymond Rogozinski, Dawn Nielsen and Justin Malley (Zoom)

1. Call to Order

Mayor Caggiano called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

2. Public Participation

Michael Petosa, Great Bristol Labor Federation, 30 Walnut Street spoke regarding City employees who may be entitled to a premium pay for working during the pandemic. He would like this looked into so some of these funds could be allocated to show appreciation to public employees.

3. Approval of minutes from the February 28, 2022 meeting.

Commissioner Schmedler made a motion seconded by Commissioner Smith "To approve the minutes from the February 28, 2022 meeting." Motion approved.

4. Discussion with UHY Advisors N.E. LLC.

Jack gave an overview of the application and review process. A total of 145 applications were received that totaled over \$80 million of project requests for the City's \$28 million funding. The Task Force was divided into three subcommittees to review the requests, Non Profit, Business and City. The subcommittees held several public meetings to evaluate the projects and requested further information from the applicants when needed. Jack commended the Task Force for their work in the process they used to evaluate the projects. He is working with over a dozen communities, and often references the City of Bristol as a best in practice for other communities to follow. Currently the totals for the subcommittees are approximately \$7.1 million for the non-profits, \$11.8 million for the City, and \$5.4 million for the businesses, with an estimated total of \$24.3 million.

UHY suggests identifying a group of projects to be funded from the revenue loss category which has less reporting requirements.

UHY will work with the Comptroller to finalize the exact Treasury categorization for each approved project. The City may need additional information about the project. UHY will work with Purchasing and Corporation Counsel to specify the information required from applicants and incorporate the requirements within the contract. UHY will conduct a meeting with successful

applicants to describe the process required going forward including the necessary documentation and contract, how the City will report to Treasury, and how monitoring will occur.

Commissioner Schmedler questioned if a public hearing was required once the awards are made to let the public have input. Jack stated opportunities have been made for public input, but he doesn't see it as a requirement in the guidelines. Mayor Caggiano stated it was no easy task to get from \$84 million to \$24.3 million of projects. Commission Goldwasser praised UHY for their assistance in the process as well.

5. Subcommittee Updates

- a. Share priority projects
- b. Discuss outstanding questions on projects

Mayor Caggiano stated the goal was to get to \$24 million now and to preserve \$4 million for future projects.

Each of the sub-committees reported on their work to get to this point and their priority projects.

Donna Osuch highlighted the following projects for the nonprofit subcommittee:

- Bristol Hospital - \$1.1 million project for the airflow in the operating room, there is a lag time for ordering
- Environmental Learning Centers of CT - Accessible Trail for \$1.25 million projects to create a trail for all including wheelchairs, walkers, and strollers
- St. Vincent DePaul Triage Center - \$750,000 to renovate the first floor for a triage center
- Prudence Crandall Center - \$350,000 to create a center in Bristol for domestic violence
- Bristol Early Childhood - \$275,000 to preserve those programs within the community

John Smith reviewed the City projects, of which four have previously been approved and include UHY, Marketing, BBHD, and Assistance to Households.

John discussed the Barnes Chapel projects, which there are two. The City of Bristol owns the Chapel and needs to make sure it remains a viable structure under the City's assets. There is a contract agreement between the West Cemetery Association, which John is looking into the details to determine who is responsible for major repairs and maintenance.

Dave Preleski stated the business subcommittee focused on business expansion and job creation highlighting the Rowley Spring project for \$360,000.

John questioned the \$100,000 for the Bristol Sports Armory, Dave stated this is for scholarships for their programs and to hire people. John stated the City of Bristol, Bristol Boys and Girls Club and now this organization all provide similar services and we should avoid duplication of efforts.

6. Consider projects to approve funding through full board.

Cindy would like to have a presentation on the Bristol in Demand A Collaborative Workforce Development Training Program project to the full board. The project encompasses of the entire

City and the \$4.2 may be lowered once the project is finalized. Commissioner Maikowski questioned if it was available to residents outside of Bristol. Cindy explained it was free for Bristol residents and if spots were available it could be offered at a tuition rate for non-residents. The partners for this project are the American Jobs Centers, Capital Workforce, and Department of Labor. Commissioner Schmelder questioned where money would come from in the future and that he would like to see the paperwork on this project before the presentation.

Commissioner Calfe expressed his hesitation on the parking structure project. Ray Rogozinski explained the design concept of the parking structure. The budget is based off of the design of the parking structure in the back of the Police Department for 150 spots. Desmond Inc., which specializes in parking garages, confirmed the budget can support the parking structure for 180 spots.

Commissioner Smith made a motion seconded by Commissioner Schmelder to approve the following City projects. Commissioner Calfe opposed the parking garage project. Motion approved.

City of Bristol	Bristol City Hall Renovation - HVAC Upgrades/Improvements	\$3,700,000
City of Bristol	Centre Square Public Parking Structure	\$5,221,000
City of Bristol	Brownfield Revolving Loan/Grant Program	\$250,000
City of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services	Kern Park Site Planning & Improvements	\$300,000
City of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services	Veterans Memorial Boulevard Site Improvements	\$300,000
City of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services	Rockwell Park Site Improvements	\$400,000
City of Bristol	Downtown/Centre Square Infrastructure	\$150,000
City of Bristol IT	Network Switch Replacement	\$300,000
City of Bristol Parks, Recreation, Youth and Community Services	Pine Lake Outdoor Adventure Park Improvements	\$275,000
West Cemetery Association's Carlyle F. Barnes Chapel	Repair of Elevator/Lift's ADA Access to Lower level	\$10,000

Commissioner Osuch made a motion seconded by Commissioner Goldwasser to approve the following Non Profit projects. Commissioner Goldwasser abstained from the Exchange Club project, and Commissioner Schmelder abstained from the Immanuel Lutheran project. Motion approved.

Bristol Boys & Girls Club	Bristol Boys & Girls Outdoor Expansion Project	\$600,000
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Bristol Child Development Center (Bristol Preschool Child Care Center)	BCDC Expansion of Services and Improvements	\$275,000
Bristol Brass and Wind Ensemble, Inc.	Bristol Brass and Wind Ensemble - Sustaining Cultural Enrichment of the Greater Bristol Community	\$20,500
Prudence Crandall Center, Inc.	Bristol Community Outreach & Services Office	\$350,000
The New England Carousel Museum	The Carousel Museum, We Make Bristol's Merry-Go-Round!	\$20,000
Wheeler Clinic, Inc.	Bristol Family Health and Wellness Center (FWWC)	\$400,000
Bristol Health	Bristol Hospital Operating Room - Air Flow, Temperature and Humidity System Replacement/Redundancy Upgrade	\$1,100,000
Shepard Meadows Equestrian Center, Inc.	Equine-Assisted Services - Horsemanship, Learning and Therapy	\$250,000
St. Vincent De Paul Mission of Bristol, Inc.	St. Vincent De Paul Mission of Bristol Triage Center	\$750,000
IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL	Immanuel Lutheran School facility improvements to reduce COVID 19 transmission	\$145,000
Veterans Strong Community Center, Inc.	Technology Reboot	\$6,000
Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut, Inc	Accessible Trail at the Harry C. Barnes Memorial Nature Trail	\$1,250,000
Beulah A.M.E. Zion Church	"A Healthy Church" environment to worship	\$10,000
Bristol Historical Society	Re-Opening Plan for the Bristol Historical Society (BHS)	\$5,000
Bristol Chorale	Bristol Chorale Moving Forward	\$20,000
Wheeler Clinic, Inc.	Wheeler Clinic School-Based Behavioral Health Services	\$50,000
Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut, Inc.	HVAC and Air Handling System at the Harry C. Barnes Memorial Nature Center	\$175,000
Exchange Club of Bristol Connecticut Incorporated	Bristol Mum Festival	\$1,980.00
St. Joseph School	Touchless Bath Fixtures for St. Joseph School	\$55,000
Grace Baptist Church	Replace/Upgrade gym heating unit	\$104,000

The Family Center(DBA) Imagine Nation, A Museum Early Learning Center	Healthy Classroom Connections	\$31,000
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Commissioner Preleski made a motion seconded by Commissioner Goldwasser to approve the following Business projects. Motion approved.

Rowley Spring and Stamping	Invest in new capital and equipment to broaden operational capabilities	\$360,000
Firefly Hollow Brewing Company	Firefly Hollow Brewing Company	\$14,500
Novo Precision LLC	Fiberoptic Splicing Project	\$25,000
Bristol Tool Works LLC	Machinery Acquisition	\$82,000
Miller Foods, Inc DBA Oma's Pride	Oma's Pride Bristol Kitchen	\$100,000

7. Any other business
None

8. Adjournment

Commissioner Bombard made a motion seconded by Commission Maikowski "to adjourn" at 5:44 p.m.

Jodi A. McGrane
Recording Secretary