

Town of Wallingford, Vermont
American Rescue Plan Committee of the Select Board
Minutes of the Meeting of October 25, 2022

The meeting was convened at 6:35 PM. Present as Members of the Committee were: Jim Bagnall, Bob Allen, Bruce W. Dobbins, Peg Soule, Anne Awad.

Cecile Betit, a member of the public was present.

There were no suggestions for addition or deletion to the Agenda.

The minutes of the meeting of September 27, 2022 were unanimously approved.

Public Comment; Cecile Betit was in attendance and spoke to the idea of a survey of all residents, businesses, and government leaders regarding emergency access and cell phone reception throughout town. We had previously discussed and agreed that it was an issue but needed an application in order to respond. Cecile has agreed to develop, prepare, and send out a survey and to provide the results to the Committee and the Select Board (and elected state officials), with a cost of approximately \$300. She was provided with an ARPA application and agreed to submit by the deadline of 11/1. The Committee agreed that the funding of the survey would yield results that would cost money to address but that the survey results would be valuable in seeking long term solutions to the problem.

There was general discussion about how to manage the process of ranking applications to develop our recommendations to the Select Board. Peg Soule, Chairperson, provided general updates on applications that have been received via the Town Administrator. She noted that The TA had sent emails to all applicants that asked for completion of their applications.

The Committee reviewed each application to identify missing components in order to be ready for a detailed evaluation and and formal ranking at our upcoming meetings in November and December.

There was discussion about how to proceed to come to a final ranking that would help us develop our recommendations to the select Board. It was discussed and decided that each member should use the matrix and develop their own ranking of all applications received. Those rankings will be merged into a committee ranking. Each application would then be discussed. Peg Soule will send an email to all Committee Members asking that they do this prior to our November meeting on November 15, 2022.

The meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:21 PM.

The next meeting will be posted for November 15, 2022, 6:30 PM, at Town Hall.