

Town Council Meeting- ARPA FUNDS

Town of Greensboro

10.13.21

In attendance: Town Clerk/Treasurer Tammy Kelledees, Mayor Kevin Reichart, Comm. Brandon Cunningham, Comm. Robert Harrison.

The Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Reichart at 6:07 p.m. on October 13, 2021.

ARPA Funds

Comm. Cunningham started the conversation stating that he thinks the ARPA funds should be placed into a separate account. It was suggested at the MML conference that he attended this week. They also suggested to do an in-house audit since there is a lot of gray area for what the funds can and cannot be used for.

Comm. Harrison suggested helping the Greensboro Volunteer Fire Company out with some of the ARPA Funds. They had to purchase new/more breathing apparatuses because of COVID. They also were unable to have their annual tractor pulls and carnival because of the COVID restrictions. Their two biggest fundraising events had to be cancelled. Comm. Cunningham would like to help with fire company as well as some of the small businesses in town.

Mayor Reichart, Comm. Cunningham and Harrison are all in agreeance that a lot of the funds should be used to camera the water/sewer lines and see what needs to be fixed and then pave the roads that would need replacing after fixing what is underneath the roads. We cannot use the money to pave roads alone. Comm. Harrison thinks the town should leave a large chunk out to go towards the I&I. Everyone agrees.

The Commissioners would also like to help those non-profits and churches that were affected by COVID. Mayor Reichart would like to save some for all the events in town.

Comm. Harrison thinks that with the town helping local businesses/nonprofits it will help bring a good rapport between the town and its residents. Comm. Cunningham thinks that we should help homeowners if they need help with stormwater management. Comm. Harrison wanted to know if we lost revenue due to COVID with people being unable to pay their bills. Mrs. Kelledees told him that surprisingly people were still making payments and when residents started to receive their COVID relief checks they were coming in to make payments on their bills.

Comm. Harrison thinks that with the Kinnamon's development coming in and the ARPA funds combined that we should look into having all roads paved. He thinks it would help with all the negativity in town. Mayor Reichart asked if it would be a good idea to take out a loan to pave all the roads. Comm. Harrison and Cunningham both stated that we would get a better discount/deal if we did all the paving at one time. Mrs. Kelledees would like to do one RPF for the whole project, it would be completed in phases. Comm. Cunningham brought up that we spend a lot of money with Underground Construction last year, he wanted to know if we would be able to reimburse ourselves for that. Mrs. Kelledees stated that anything from March 2020- September 2021 was eligible. Comm. Harrison would like to see these funds

put back into the budget. Comm. Harrison also mentioned that we replaced the pump at the East Lift Station.

The commissioners brought up the local sports teams. Basketball, soccer and little league teams might have been affected since COVID. Mrs. Kelledeas asked about the AMP program at CCTC. They are doing a lot of work for us for Whoville with no labor cost to us so we should think about giving back to them.

Comm. Cunningham stated that the money should be presented at a meeting and if they cannot send a representative for each business/non-profit, they should forfeit the money. Mayor Reichart thinks we should make a point to go out to the community, such as going to a practice, and presenting it to them there and take a photo. Comm. Harrison thinks that we should use the Fire Dept. Community Hall to present all the checks to those in our community. Mrs. Kelledeas thinks we should contact the newspaper to get good publicity.

Mrs. Kelledeas asked what the timeline for this should be. Mayor Reichart would like to get a list together of everything they agreed on to give to the two commissioners that were unable to make it to tonight's meeting and then present it to the town to make sure we are being transparent. The Commissioners think that regardless of the election outcome, the two current council members should still participate in this since they were a part of the decision making. Comm. Cunningham thinks that we should have the plan ready to go within the next two weeks before the election. Comm. Harrison asked when the next round of ARPA Funds would come in and it will be July of 2022.

Mayor Reichart would like to use some of the funds to replace and update the parks and park equipment. Comm. Harrison asked if there were any improvements that are needed at Town Hall and also the Meeting Hall. Mrs. Kelledeas said she was working on a grant to give Main Street a face lift. Comm. Cunningham said that the funds could be used for any HVAC work; Mrs. Kelledeas suggested getting the system cleaned out at Town Hall. Comm. Harrison suggested getting the heating upgraded at the Meeting Hall since fuel prices are going up. It would save us money in the long run.

Comm. Harrison and Mayor Reichart suggested updating the audio and visual at the meeting hall. Mayor Reichart suggested upgrading the security at all of our buildings. Comm. Cunningham thinks we should look into Motorola for our cameras. Comm. Cunningham also brought up the incident that happened with the police station window. Mrs. Kelledeas is looking to get quotes for the glass replacement and going to see how much it would be to make them bulletproof.

Comm. Cunningham suggested giving the employees who worked through the pandemic a bonus. Mayor Reichart said that public works worked staggered shifts, three days on two off but still got paid for their forty hours. They were compensated since they didn't work as much as the police department and Town Hall. Comm. Cunningham wants the employees to know that they appreciated their work through the pandemic.

The commissioners discussed what could be done to the parks. Comm. Cunningham suggested turning the Jesse Sutton Park into a dog park. The mayor suggested updating the Cedar Lane Park with a small play area for kids. The mayor asked the other commissioners, would want to give some to the Lion Club for their baseball park. Comm. Cunningham agreed but would like to see documentation for what the funds are going towards.

Comm. Harrison suggested helping residents with their water/sewer bills. He thinks the towns people would appreciate it. Comm. Cunningham suggested that we have the residents/owners come to the town office to fill out a paper to apply for the relief money. The commissioners think that rental properties should not be included. The credit should go to the homeowners. The School Street apartments should also be included. Comm. Harrison would like it noted on the bill that the COVID relief credit was applied to their bill so there is no confusion.

Mayor Reichart asked for a motion to move the meeting to closed session. Comm. Harrison made a motion. Comm. Cunningham seconded the motion. All in favor, moving to closed session at 8:11PM.

Closed session adjourned at 8:54PM

Mayor Reichart asked for a motion to approve offering employment to the two public works candidates. Comm. Cunningham made a motion. Comm. Harrison seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion approved.

Mayor Reichart asked for a motion to adjourn the workshop meeting at 8:55PM. Comm. Harrison made a motion. Comm. Cunningham seconded the motion. All in favor meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Samantha Geib.