AVON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES February 3, 2022

<u>I.</u> <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting by Chairman Polhamus. Members present: Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico. A quorum was present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Polhamus.

III. PUBLIC HEARING: None

IV. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: January 6, 2022

January 20, 2022 Special Meeting

Ms. Ausiello inquired about the Public Safety Communications System presentations not being attached to the draft January 6, 2022 meeting minutes on the Town's web site. Mr. Polhamus responded that the presentations will be attached to the final set of minutes in addition to a new update on the Communications System sent out through the Town's web site.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the minutes of the January 6, 2022 Meeting as drafted

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept the minutes of the January 20, 2022 Special Meeting as drafted.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus and Weber voted in favor. Mr. Indomenico abstained. Motion passed 4-0-1.

V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE

Jim Speich, Town Council Representative for the Avon Volunteer Fire Department (AVFD), provided an update regarding the AVFD Facility Study; we have completed three visits by the consultants, one by Paul Bishop, Project Leader with CGR who interviewed AVFD Board of Directors, Officers, Town Officials, and viewed all of the facilities; Jim Harrington with CGR and a very experienced Chief out of western New York spent time with Assistant Chief Joe Speich and Fire Chief Bruce Appell talking about operations, equipment, organization, training, operating procedures, response, and ISO; architects toured all AVFD facilities with the Director of Public Works, Chief Appell, Gina Kline-AVFD Board President, and himself; the overall observations were that the AVFD is experiencing typical growth issues, facilities are outdated, size issues with apparatus, concern with gear placement, stations haven't gone through complete refurbishment,

the property across from Company #3 was evaluated, and station placement analysis will be done. He noted that February will be a working time for the consultant; hoping to have the study completed by mid-year. He added that the facilities are aging, never gone through a refurbishment; there are issues with the ladder truck. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Speich responded that CGR will look at response times, where apparatus should be placed, and do we have the right number of people. Mr. Speich reported that he joined the Town staff team working on the Communications System Replacement Project and he will be creating an evaluation matrix as the new Motorola proposals come in related to installation, maintenance, and costs.

Erin Dawson, 50 Oak Bluff, had a suggestion related to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Chairman Polhamus asked Ms. Dawson to wait until we get to that item on the agenda.

VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL

Mrs. Maguire thanked everyone involved in the recent COVID-19 test kit distribution event as it ran very smooth and the location was great; a shout out to Public Works who worked hard with the snowstorm last weekend; she noted the national blood shortage resulting in cancelled surgeries and gave a shout out to the Avon Senior Center, Avon Lions Club, and American Red Cross who held a blood drive last Friday with about 49 donors and the drive ran smoothly. She noted that she will be asking Town Council to amend the agenda this evening related to appointments to the Board of Finance and Registrar of Voters.

Ms. Ausiello echoed Mrs. Maguire's remarks regarding the COVID-19 test kit distribution event, snowstorm; thank you to everyone working hard at the Town.

Mr. Weber reported that he attended his first Eagle Scout Ceremony as a Town Council member and noted that Representative Eleni Kavros-DeGraw was also in attendance; it was a nice ceremony and he appreciates how these young men are making an impact around Town.

Mr. Indomenico recognized Public Works for their efforts related to winter storm preparation; he is looking forward to Spring and having more to do and more to talk about.

Chairman Polhamus echoed remarks regarding the second COVID-19 test kit distribution event; there has been so much transition in January and gave a shout out to Town staff who has been wonderful and helping new appointees become familiar with things they should know; the Acting Town Clerk has attended virtual meetings to swear in new members; the Director of Recreation and Parks has a whole new Committee; the Assistant Town Manager has been great with the Avon Clean Energy Commission; the Town Engineer with the Avon Water Pollution Control Authority; and the Director of Planning and Community Development with the Planning and Zoning Commission; and the Town Manager. He has heard from Board/Commission members that Town staff is doing a great job. He is looking forward to the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) presentations and a recording will be made available following this meeting with an opportunity for the public to provide comment to Town Council.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

21/22-28 FY 22/23 Budget Development

The Town Manager noted that this Saturday, February 5th is the Town Council's Budget Workshop which will be held virtually and begins at 8:00 a.m.; we will go through the entire Town Manager's proposed budget and various department heads will present.

21/22-46 American Rescue Plan Act:

a) Presentations by Town Departments

Chairman Polhamus reported that we will receive a number of presentations tonight; a lot of these projects are things we would probably have a difficult time doing during normal budget years; we have the ability to catch up on maintenance and road work and the opportunity to jump forward with projects that would have been historically difficult for us.

Ruth Checko, Director of Recreation and Parks, provided a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). She noted that many of the department's capital budget requests have not moved up the queue for quite a while; their suggested priority projects address the hurdles they face before and after the pandemic and improve amenities heavily used over the past two years; the Avon Senior Center was used for summer camp in 2020; when the Senior Center re-opened in June 2021, program space was again limited. Their first priority project is for a multipurpose room attached to the Avon Senior Center with approximately 1,728 square feet and a capacity of 75 people; program offerings could be expanded as the Recreation and Parks Department does not currently have its own facility. She highlighted Creative/Art Program Offerings, Athletic/Fitness Offerings, and Educational/Enrichment Programs. She noted other potential uses including Adventure Camp shelter, home base for 1-day bus trips, and space for adaptive and inclusive programs. The next few priority projects make needed improvements to the Senior Center: HVAC Replacement Project and Renovate Senior Center Bathrooms; the HVAC system is 33-years old with a life expectancy of only 15 years; the Senior Center is a cooling center in the summer and a warming center in the winter; and air quality inside in a building is important to people's health; the bathrooms on the Senior Center side are not currently ADA accessible and original to the In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Ms. Checko responded that the multipurpose room ceiling height will be dependent on utilities and HVAC equipment but shall be possible to offer recreation programs in that space. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Ms. Checko responded that the Program Specialist would organize the program offerings but instructors would be paid of out of the Special Revenue Funds and not affect the General Fund. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Ms. Checko responded that HVAC and utility estimates related to a multipurpose room have been included with the Senior Center HVAC Replacement Project. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Ms. Checko responded that the multipurpose room would be approximately 1,700 square feet and hold a capacity of 75 people; we would not need a variance as the property line is not near a residence. She noted that this space will be enough for their needs; we have access to the school gymnasiums and cafeterias; we need a space to consistently offer programming for the age groups we are not hitting during the day in addition to Town staff training/orientation; it is ideal and an incredible opportunity. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Ms. Checko responded that the Countryside Park Renovation Project is approximately 2,000 square feet with a capacity of 35 people; programs are currently happening in the Community Room or the schools with a larger capacity; a custodial rate on a weekend is \$48 per hour and not affordable to run a sewing program

or preschool class for that reason; we can support youth basketball at the schools due to greater participation over a longer period of time. In response to an inquiry from Mr. Indomenico, Ms. Checko responded that regarding multipurpose room use, first priority would be given to the Recreation and Parks Department programs, second priority would be given to the Avon Senior Center programs, and then look at policies where the community can rent the space but not for long running programs, similar to the Library Community Room use. Ms. Checko added that she does not foresee the Town investing in a Community Center with a gym/track/art rooms/lounges because of all the other private opportunities that residents have for other recreation; this space would be big enough and a huge benefit. The next priority project is a Playscape at Sycamore Hills; we are receiving \$60,000 from the State Bond Commission; an additional \$15,000 is needed. Another priority project is Sycamore Hills Pool Repairs; the weirs are no longer adjustable. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Ms. Checko responded that this work would take place in the fall and completed by spring 2023. Another priority project is Renovate Buckingham Baseball Field; the contractor's estimate is \$83,400; we need an additional \$43,400; it is a high school varsity baseball field, used by Babe Ruth, Little League's older players, and American Legion. Another priority project is Renovate Tennis and Basketball Court with the addition of two Pickle Ball Courts; athletic lighting is an option with an estimate of \$193,000; there is root invasion so all trees behind the courts would be removed. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Ms. Checko responded that any lighting would be controlled by wireless operation similar to the Avon Middle School tennis courts where we have had no neighborhood complaints; the timer would always shut off at 10:00 p.m. Another priority project is Shade Shelters at the Pool and Renovate Pavilions at Fisher Meadows. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Ms. Checko responded that there is nothing wrong with the existing pavilions; we would like them to match, roofs are ready to be replaced. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Ms. Checko responded that use is by drop-ins in addition to reservations for use. Mr. Weber added that they provide shelter for storms and rain and get used quite frequently in the spring and fall; a place in Town that a lot of people from outside of Avon come; it is a chance to freshen up the look. The next priority project is Town-wide Lightning Detection System; this was initiated as part of the Fisher Meadows Expansion Plan; the hub would be located at Avon Middle School and each park and school ground would have a detector with either a strobe or siren followed by all clear signal; batteries are replaced every few years and not included in the estimate of \$65,000; a formal recommendation was made to the Town Manager; it is a good investment for the Town. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Ms. Checko responded that there are golf courses in the area using this type of system and will investigate usage by other municipalities. Mr. Weber noted that this was initially a thought at Fisher Meadows because the concern was that when there are athletes and games there, a lot of times it is "drop and go" and when storms roll in the lack of shelter was concerning because you could not fit under the pavilions safely and no lightning rod currently there; this would be an opportune time with potential pavilion renovations. Mr. Weber noted that the University of Hartford has a similar system installed, strobe only; it alerts very easily and when the lightning time has passed athletes are safe to return to play. The last priority project is Sycamore Hills Band Stand, a pre-fab kit on a concrete slab with electricity and lighting, to be used for entertainment, a place to show our movies, etc.; a great asset to Sycamore Hills. Mrs. Maguire commented that these are some great ideas; activity space is always needed and the multipurpose room would get a tremendous amount of use; it makes it a real center of Avon with along with the Senior Center and Community Room; thrilled about the Sycamore Hills Playscape; and the pool is in desperate need of repair; there are so many projects, but some great ones have been picked. In response to a question from Mrs. Maguire, Ms. Checko responded that the Avon

Middle School was chosen for the hub location for the Lightning Detection System because of its central location and its elevation; the sensor would be located on the roof. In response to a question from Mrs. Maguire, Ms. Checko responded that parking at Sycamore Hills if all of these projects came to fruition would be managed by scheduling events accordingly at the Pool, the Pavilion, and the Senior Center/Community Room; the Senior Center and Recreation and Parks Department share an activities' calendar. Chairman Polhamus commented that a big part of the spirit of ARPA is healing from COVID and getting people together and outside; great presentation. He added that we have talked about other improvements at Buckingham, i.e. basketball courts, etc. and inquired about not having that project on this list. Ms. Checko responded that project is pretty large and we aren't at the design phase yet, thus premature for ARPA. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, the Town Manager responded that he believes the Town can use ARPA funding for designs, architectural work, and engineering studies. Mr. Weber inquired about outdoor bathrooms at Sycamore Hills. Ms. Checko responded that we rely on one port-a-potty and when the Pool is open bathrooms are opened. Mr. Weber inquired what a small bathroom facility would look like. Ms. Check responded that depending on the event(s) being held at Sycamore Hills more port-a-potty units would be brought in; a bathroom facility creates potential maintenance and vandalism issues; attendants would be required to open the Pool bathroom or Senior Center/Community Room bathrooms. Mrs. Maguire noted the decorative port-a-potty area at the Avon High School turf field. In response to an inquiry from Ms. Dawson, Ms. Checko responded that Fisher Meadows is in a flood way, as well as a flood zone, so anything you put there that area becomes a raging river during a flood; you do not want anything there that will damage an existing structure; we could probably add swings and a slide there versus a playscape. Chairman Polhamus thanked Ms. Checko for her presentation.

Chairman Polhamus commented that, in general, this is an idea generating activity and will be posted on the Town's web site to solicit feedback from the community and Town Council will talk through next steps on this.

Jim Speich, 14 Yorkshire Lane, inquired about deadlines and timelines for the ARPA funding as it will be hard to find contractors as everyone throughout the State of Connecticut will be going through this. Chairman Polhamus responded that the funds have to be committed by December 31, 2024 and spent by December 31, 2026. Mr. Speich shared that he is familiar with a lightning detection system in New Jersey where his grandsons play baseball; a flashing lights go off with a horn and once the storm clears you wait thirty minutes before you resume; it works well and is a great idea.

Elizabeth Ferry, Interim Director of Technology, Avon Public Schools, provided a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). Ms. Ferry thanked the Town Council for the time to present tonight. She noted that over the last two years technology and its use in public schools has exponentially increased; and the requests being put forth tonight will not only benefit the school district but also the community at large. She noted that the MR46 Access Points will increase and upgrade the networks inside the school buildings; prior to the pandemic they had a multi-year plan to provide every student with a device and when the pandemic hit it turned into a multi-month plan and quickly shifted to a 1:1 platform in the district where every students from K-12 have a device assigned to them and it put a strain on their wireless infrastructure. She added that the MR76 Access Points would provide outdoor access points around the school buildings. She noted that with the BenQ Interactive Panels there are still thirty classrooms/resource rooms

that have outdated Smartboards, over 12-15 years old; the new panels are interactive, germ-resistant, and a very powerful instructional tool; and allow to record lessons and streaming across the building for meetings. She noted that with the Security Camera Storage Servers there are currently just over 280 security cameras across the district and with more movements due to mask breaks, etc. volume capacity fills up quickly. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Ms. Ferry responded that after school hours and on the weekends there is a community WiFi that is accessible to anybody that is within range of the school building. Chairman Polhamus noted the Roaring Brook School playground where there is currently no cell phone service that would have access to the community WiFi. Ms. Ferry offered to provide a Smartboard demonstration to Town Council at some point; they are phenomenal tools for our teachers and students and takes learning to the next level.

Myles Altimus, Director of Operations, Avon Public Schools, provided a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). He reported that the first project is for Variable Air Valve (VAV) Boxes; a continuation of last year's project at Avon High School; these boxes control the air flow in the classrooms; some are currently over thirty years old and parts are no longer available. He noted that air ventilation is a key mitigation component of COVID-19. He reported that the second project is Districtwide Library Carpet Replacement; some carpets are over thirty years old; this would include all libraries in the five school buildings. He noted that the Town Manager will be speaking to the Avon High School RTU Replacement Project. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Altimus responded that the carpet replacement project was submitted as a capital improvement project and would be done in phases; the ARPA funding would allow us to get it done much faster; we react on an as needed basis right now with the VAV Boxes and would like to get them replaced because of the importance of ventilation. In response to a question from Mrs. Maguire, Mr. Altimus responded that he does not have the factory life expectancy on the VAV Boxes handy but they would prefer to be proactive prior to them failing; it is very disruptive to do repairs in a classroom and would lack air flow in the room during that time unless weather permits windows to be open.

Glenn Grube, Library Director/Town IT Committee Chairman, provided a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). He noted that the Town does not employ any dedicated IT staff for the municipal side; there is an IT Committee that consists of senior municipal staff; Cooperative Systems provides us with desktop, server, and network support 24/7, 365 days through e-mail and phone and also onsite at Town Hall one day per week for training, troubleshooting, and deploying hardware. He reported that the first proposal for ARPA funding is for a hardware refresh; currently, the hardware is owned and maintained by Cooperative Systems and we pay a monthly fee; the plan would be to replace with equipment we would own; currently all of the Town's data is about 5 TB (terra-byte); 1 TB of data would also be moved off the network into the cloud when we move our e-mail server to a cloud hosted solution. He reported that the second proposal for ARPA funding is for Office 365 migration; on-premises email servers are a prime target for hackers and less secure than one run by Microsoft Office; we would pay for Office 365 for as long as you use it per user per month; all Town staff would be on the same and latest version of Microsoft Office which is not currently the case. In response to a question from Mr. Indomenico, Mr. Grube responded that Microsoft Teams could potentially replace GoToMeeting resulting in a small savings; our video-conferencing accounts have been in high demand. Chairman Polhamus commented that these are great ideas. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Grube responded that we could certainly add appointed officials,

specifically, Planning and Zoning Commission as G1 users for Office 365. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Grube responded that additional switches would be needed if we buildout the fiber network in addition to the core switches; pricing provided is manufacturer suggested retail price (MSRP) so there may be discounts available when we are ready to purchase. Ms. Ausiello requested a summary table showing current versus new costs related to the hardware refresh.

Terri Wilson, President, Avon Historical Society (AHS), reported on the Schoolhouse No. 3 Project; it is the Town's oldest building and will be 200 years old in 2023; it moved from Country Club Road to Route 44 around 1982 and leased to the AHS for 99 years by the Town in order to turn it into a museum/office/archive storage space; it needs a lot of upgrades and does not have an HVAC system; in 2019 \$30,000 in CIP funding was allocated; the Brian Jones Paleoindian site opened up a huge opportunity for them; in 2023 State legislature is requiring that a Native American curriculum be available to the schools; renovations started in 2019, paused in 2020, restarted in 2021; the AHS has raised funding as well; total renovation cost of approximately \$110,000. The AHS's request is for ARPA funding of approximately \$75,000 to finish the renovation; we are shovel in; it would help with windows, exterior siding installation, exterior doors, security system, and HVAC; a private donor has recently come forward to offer funding to assist with the mounting of new exhibits; there are two potential grant opportunities from nonprofits in Boston but would like to see the structure under construction. She added the AHS is a 47-year old non-profit started in December 1974 in time for the bicentennial in 1976; their mission is to publish, display, utilize and preserve the heritage of our Town. She noted that they would like to open Schoolhouse No. 3 in 2024, the 50th anniversary for the AHS and 200th anniversary for the first students who went through that school. She added that if there is any funding left, the Pine Grove Schoolhouse on West Avon Road is on the national registry for historical places and is the Town's oldest building on its original spot, leased to the AHS in 1975. Mrs. Maguire commented that these are great historic Town buildings and brings people to Town; the additions are necessary and important. Mr. Weber thanked Ms. Wilson for the wonderful story. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Ms. Wilson responded that the Pine Grove Schoolhouse will have its grand re-opening on June 5th; the building is setup inside as a schoolhouse of 1900 and that is what we envision it to be, a visitor centered schoolhouse site free to the public on Sunday afternoons. In response to an inquiry from Ms. Dawson, Ms. Wilson responded that there are 20,000 artifacts that were found at the Brian Jones Paleoindian site; they will be housed at UConn for research; the AHS is seeking a grant to 3D print image 15-20 artifacts; the vision is a storyboard; the Institute of American Indian Studies in Washington, CT is a partner of theirs and have a Paleoindian site that is a bit later than ours and we can borrow some of their things.

The Town Manager, on behalf of the Farmington Valley Health District as its Board Chairman, reported that the Health District is a very unique organization covering ten towns and serves about 100,000 residents; each town pays a per capita grant; it is not a direct recipient of ARPA funding; the Board has created a Committee to identify priorities for the Health District and will be asking the member towns to keep the Health District in mind as they look at other priorities. Chairman Polhamus commented that we all have so much to be thankful for with regards to the Health District over the last few years; he anticipates Avon contributing to the Health District.

Alan Rosenberg, Director of Social Services, reported that their project request is to increase access to behavioral health care services for local Avon families; during the pandemic Avon Youth

Services fielded a number of increased calls from families requesting behavioral health care services for youth due to increased signs of anxiety and depression; Statewide 2-1-1 has also reported a sharp increase in these types of needs and as a result the State will be rolling out a new lifeline 9-8-8 number in July 2022 specifically for providing mental health crisis and suicide response; our Youth Services Department consists of one professional and would have difficulty meeting this demand; ARPA funding would allow us to explore additional local and regional options through non-profits to assist in providing these services to the community and to assist families facing difficulty with accessing mental health needs due to health insurance issues; this is an important project and of the highest priority in terms of addressing the difficulties we have come to know from the pandemic. In response to a question from Mrs. Maguire, Mr. Rosenberg responded that the amount being requested is \$120,000 but could be significantly lower depending on per diem participation but could not be determined until the program is in place. Ms. Ausiello asked if this is an area that we can involve the Farmington Valley Health District to fund hand in hand with Social Services. The Town Manager responded that we could take what the Town Council would have appropriated for a certain program in Avon and granting that to the District and perhaps contracting with an outside provider. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Rosenberg responded that in some cases it would be direct service as well as working as a conduit to make sure people are directed to the proper services in a proper way. Ms. Ausiello feels very strongly about using ARPA funding for this request. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Rosenberg responded that the funding request of \$120,000 would get two regional non-profits on board to meet these needs.

The Town Manager noted that there is Fiber Buildout Project; a very high value project but not ready for tonight; it will be on the agenda for March. Chairman Polhamus suggested that Town Council prioritize these projects for discussion in March as well. He asked the Town to consider ARPA funding for two studies – the first one for sustainability/clean energy future of Avon with regards to the Avon Clean Energy Commission and the second one for connectivity throughout Town.

The Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager provided a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). The Town Manager noted that these requested projects have some history of discussion with the Council and also high priority and would have been funded in the FY 23 capital budget requests were it not for ARPA funding. He noted that it might be a good idea to get funding appropriated for these now so we can get moving on these projects. He noted that with Pavement Management, the Director of Public Works is confident that he can spend down about \$1.5 million per year; we may request another appropriation in FY 24 and may move into a bond authorization or something similar. The Assistant Town Manager noted that Deepwood Drive/New Road Drainage is currently the highest priority for drainage improvements; the project would also put something in place between New Road and the Farmington River. The Assistant Town Manager noted that regarding the Building #1 Flood Prevention, the Avon Room serves as meeting space for Town staff, Boards/Commissions, and other community groups and organizations; there is also a large file storage area for Town departments; the space is important to our operations. The Town Manager concluded that the request now is to do a supplemental appropriation for each project presented and if approved would go before the Board of Finance at the end of the month and we could move forward. Ms. Ausiello sought clarification regarding the funding being requested with these six projects. The Assistant Town Manager responded that

\$1,260,000 covers the six projects and related appropriation requests; the \$4,140,000 does not contemplate the \$1 million being recommended in the capital budget.

b) Supplemental Appropriation: Pavement Management, \$500,000

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 21/22 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Intergovernmental, American Rescue Plan Act Grant Revenue, Account #50-0330-44037 in the amount of \$500,000.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Paving-ARPA, Pavement Management-ARPA, Account #50-4825-53455 in the amount of \$500,000.00, for the purpose of allocating funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act towards making road improvements as identified in the October 6, 2021 Pavement Management Plan prepared by the Beta Group.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

c) Supplemental Appropriation: AHS RTU Replacement-Phase II, \$320,000

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 21/22 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Intergovernmental, American Rescue Plan Act Grant Revenue, Account #50-0330-44037 in the amount of \$320,000.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, BOE CIP Facilities, AHS RTU Replace Phase II-ARPA, Account #50-4859-54603 in the amount of \$320,000.00, for the purpose of allocating funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act towards the completion of Phase II of the Avon High School Rooftop Unit Replacement Project.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

d) Supplemental Appropriation: Deepwood Drive/New Road Drainage, \$275,000

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 21/22 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Intergovernmental, American Rescue Plan Act Grant Revenue, Account #50-0330-44037 in the amount of \$275,000.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Town CIP Facil./Drainage Imp., Drainage Improvements-ARPA, Account #50-4830-53041 in the amount of \$275,000.00, for the purpose of allocating funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act towards the completion of immediate

repairs to the drainage system that flows from Deepwood Drive to New Road to the Farmington River.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

e) Supplemental Appropriation: Sycamore Hills Pool Repair, \$100,000

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 21/22 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Intergovernmental, American Rescue Plan Act Grant Revenue, Account #50-0330-44037 in the amount of \$100,000.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Town CIP-Facilities, Sycamore Hills Pool Repairs-ARPA, Account #50-4829-53329 in the amount of \$100,000.00, for the purpose of allocating funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act towards the completion of repairs to the main pool at Sycamore Hills Recreation Area.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

f) Supplemental Appropriation: Building #1 Flood Prevention, \$50,000

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 21/22 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Intergovernmental, American Rescue Plan Act Grant Revenue, Account #50-0330-44037 in the amount of \$50,000.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Town CIP-Facilities, Building #1 Flood Prevention-ARPA, Account #50-4829-53457 in the amount of \$50,000.00, for the purpose of allocating funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act towards making improvements to Town Hall Building #1 in order to prevent future instances of flooding.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

g) Supplemental Appropriation: Sycamore Hills Playscape, \$15,000

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council hereby recommends that the Board of Finance amend the FY 21/22 Budget by increasing:

REVENUES

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Intergovernmental, American Rescue Plan Act Grant Revenue, Account #50-0330-44037 in the amount of \$15,000.00 and increasing:

APPROPRIATIONS

American Rescue Plan Act Grant, Town CIP-Facilities, Sycamore Hills Playscape Replace-ARPA, Account #50-4829-53456 in the amount of \$15,000.00, for the purpose of allocating funding received through the American Rescue Plan Act towards the replacement of the existing playscape at Sycamore Hills Recreation Area.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

21/22-57 Avon Free Public Library Courtyard: Conceptual Design

Glenn Grube, Library Director, reported that we have been working with a landscape architect on concepts for the courtyard; he described the conceptual design; the Library Board is pleased with the direction this project is going; there is some money left from the HVAC Project which was used for the conceptual drawing and would use for the construction design and hopefully enough to cover the basic surface of the courtyard; he anticipates the Library participating in a cost-sharing where Library Board reserves or Friends of the Library assist with funding for plantings and furniture, as well as donors interested in donating trees for this project. Mrs. Maguire commented that this design is beautiful and would be a real attraction. Mr. Grube noted that we intend to reincorporate all of the donor memorial bricks in this design. Chairman Polhamus commented that the conceptual design looks great. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Grube responded that there is good Wi-Fi coverage outside on the courtyard.

Town Council gave consensus to move forward from a conceptual design to a more detailed construction design and get pricing for what this project will cost.

21/22-58 Approval of Real Estate Tax Refunds, \$31,392.62

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council approve real estate tax refunds to Jonathan Bailey \$5,226.43; National Link \$5,500.62; Varun Jain \$7,296.65; Ping Liu & Yonghui Xu \$4,258.80; Cheryl A. Reynolds \$3,045.54; Judith E. Root \$2,272.06; and Silvio Brighenti Family LLC \$3,792.52.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-59 Resignation: Board of Finance (R – 12/31/2023)

The Town Manager reported that Tom Harrison served as Chair of the Board of Finance for twenty-six years and also served on the Inland Wetlands Commission prior to that. Mrs. Maguire commented that Tom is an outstanding gentleman and will be weird to go to the Town Meeting and not have him presenting for the Board of Finance; he had a way of being so eloquent when he spoke and will miss his mentorship.

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Tom Harrison from the Board of Finance.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-60 Appointment: Committee on Aging (D - 12/31/2025)

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint David Pena to the Committee on Aging to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-61 Appointment: Committee on Aging (D - 12/31/2025)

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Heather Satlof to the Committee on Aging to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-62 Appointment: Water Pollution Control Authority (D – 12/31/2025)

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council re-appoint Chris Roy to the Water Pollution Control Authority with a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-63 Appointment: Building Code Board of Appeals (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 21/22-63 Appointment: Building Code Board of Appeals (D – 12/31/2023) to the March 3, 2022 meeting.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-64 Appointment: Depository of Town Funds (12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Bank of America, N.A.; Bank of New York Mellon; Charles Schwab Bank, SSB; Citizens Bank; Connecticut State Treasury's Short-Term Investment Fund; KeyBank, N.A.; Liberty Bank; Northwest Community Bank; People's United Bank; Santander Bank, N.A.; TD Bank, N.A.; US Bank; and Webster Bank, N.A. as the Town's Depository of Town Funds with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-65 Appointment: Plainville Area CATV Advisory Council (R – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint James Beaudoin to the Plainville Area CATV Advisory Council to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-66 Appointment: Plainville Area CATV Advisory Council - BOE Vacancy

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 21/22-66 Appointment: Plainville Area CATV Advisory Council – BOE Vacancy to the March 3, 2022 meeting.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-67 Appointment: Central Regional Tourism District (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 21/22-67 Appointment: Central Regional Tourism District (D – 12/31/2023) to the March 3, 2022 meeting.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-68 Appointment: North Central Regional Mental Health Board (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Mary-Jane Eisen and Ani Gisnarian to the North Central Regional Mental Health Board with terms expiring on December 31, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-69 Appointment: Constable (R – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Weber, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Len DelGallo Jr. as Town Constable to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-70 Appointment: Town Council Representative-VNA (12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That Town Council table agenda item 21/22-70 Appointment: Town Council Representative-VNA (12/31/2023) to the March 3, 2022 meeting.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-71 Appointment: Youth Services Advisory Board (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Deborah Sacks – Parent/Community Member to the Youth Services Advisory Board to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023. Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-72 Appointment: Youth Services Advisory Board (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Nathalie Caso – Parent/Community Member to the Youth Services Advisory Board to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023. Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-73 Appointment: Youth Services Advisory Board (D – 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Ms. Ausiello, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Julie Tacinelli – Parent/Community Member to the Youth Services Advisory Board to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023. Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-74 Appointment: Zoning Board of Appeals (D – 12/31/2025)

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council table agenda item 21/22-74 Appointment: Zoning Board of Appeals (D – 12/31/2025) to the March 3, 2022 meeting.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council add item 21/22-75 Appointment: Board of Finance (R -12/31/2023) to the agenda.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Weber, Polhamus, and Indomenico voted in favor.

21/22-75 Appointment: Board of Finance (R - 12/31/2023)

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mr. Weber, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Brian Loveless to the Board of Finance to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2023.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council add item 21/22-76 Resignation: Registrar of Voters (R - 12/31/2024) to the agenda.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Indomenico, Weber, and Polhamus voted in favor.

21/22-76 Resignation: Registrar of Voters (R - 12/31/2024)

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Kerry Ladouceur as a Registrar of Voters.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Weber, Indomenico, and Polhamus voted in favor.

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council add item 21/22-77 Appointment: Registrar of Voters (R – 12/31/2024) to the agenda.

Mmes: Ausiello, Maguire, Messrs: Indomenico, Weber, and Polhamus voted in favor.

$\underline{21/22-77}$ Appointment: Registrar of Voters (R – $\underline{12/31/2024}$)

On a motion made by Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Mrs. Maguire, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council appoint Maria Mozzicato as a Registrar of Voters to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2024.

Mmes: Ausiello, Maguire, Messrs; Polhamus, Indomenico, and Weber voted in favor.

XI. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS

Misc. A: Purchasing Update: The Town Manager noted that the Avon Clean Energy Commission endorsed the concept as presented with CT Green Bank; and Diversity Equity and Inclusion Training will soon be offered to CRCOG towns to participate in.

<u>Misc. B:</u> <u>Construction Update:</u> The Town Manager noted that with the Public Safety Communications System Project we are working through a template with the three options: standalone, a campus system for the State, or part of the State network; demolition work is taking place at 503 West Avon Road and it will be turned into a grassy field.

Misc. C: Forest Management Grant: The Town Manager reported that with the Assistant Town Manager's great work we were able to get a grant for \$10,000; timber harvesting is done for the health of the forest; we will match the grant and be able to update our Forest Management Plan; he will have Ferrucci and Walicki attend a future meeting.

Misc. D: MIRA: The Town Manager reported that we can put this off for a while; the situation continues to evolve; the consensus among the Farmington Valley Collaborative towns is stick with MIRA for the time being, there will be an increase in the TIP fee which will be discussed at Council's budget workshop.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION: Pending Claim/Litigation

The Town Manager reported that an update was provided to Council in their meeting packet which did not require any further discussion in Executive Session at this time.

XII. ADJOURN

On a motion made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Mr. Indomenico, it was voted:

RESOLVED: That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 10:20 p.m.

Mmes: Maguire, Ausiello, Messrs: Polhamus, Weber, and Indomenico voted in favor.

Attest: Jennifer Worsman, Clerk



Recreation and Parks ARPA Project Suggestions

Summer of 2020 we ran our summer camp at the Avon Senior Center.



Multipurpose Room at Sycamore Hills

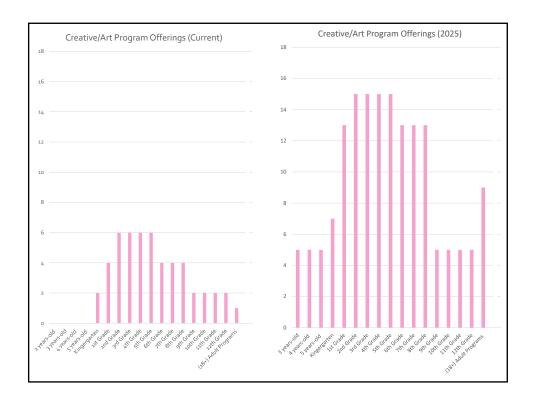
Design \$50,000
Construction
\$530,000

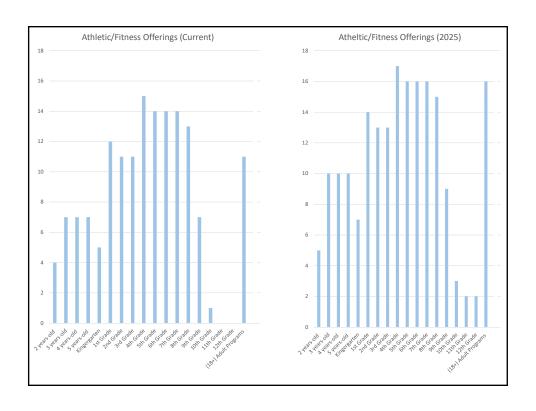


Multipurpose Room at Sycamore Hills

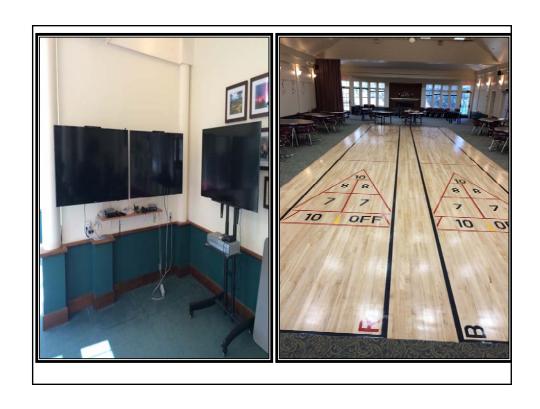
Design \$50,000
Construction
\$530,000







18 -	Educational / Enrichment Programs (Current)		Educational/Enrichment Programs (2025)
16 -		_ 16 _	
14 -		_ 14 -	
12 -		_ 12 -	-
10 -		_ 10 -	-
8 -		_ 8 -	
6 -		_ 6 -	
4 -		_ 4 -	
2 -		_ 2 -	
2 yearso		3400 46	



Senior Center HVAC Replacement Project

Estimate: \$121,600



Renovate Senior Center Bathrooms

Estimate:
Design \$5,000
Construction
\$200,000













New Playscape at Sycamore Hills \$60,000 State of CT \$15,000 ARPA



Sycamore Hills Pool Repairs Estimate: \$100,000



Renovate Buckingham Baseball Field Estimate: \$83,400

\$40,000 in CIP FY 22 \$43,400 ARPA



Renovate Tennis and Basketball Court, add Pickle Ball Courts Estimate: \$630,000 (\$405,000 ARPA)

Optional Athletic Lighting \$193,000





Town-wide Lightning Detection System Estimate: \$65,000



Sycamore Hills Band Stand Estimate: \$122,200







Avon Public Schools

Technology Requests for ARP Funds
February 3, 2022



Request Objectives



- Address WiFi connectivity issues both inside and outside school buildings.
- Interactive panels will replace current outdated boards in instructional classrooms and resources rooms. These panels will increase engagement and promote collaboration across all grade levels.
- Provide additional data storage space for the security camera servers.



WiFi Network Expansion



Item Requested	Quantity	Total Cost	Justification
MR46 Access Points (Indoor Use)	123	\$133,701.00	 The increased number of user devices in the schools has added additional congestion to the wireless infrastructure. Replace access points that are using older technology and are out of support by the manufacturer as well as adding additional capacity in areas with poor WiFi coverage.
MR76 Access Points, Antennas and Licences (Outdoor Use)	8	\$12,320.00	 Expand the outdoor WiFi coverage surrounding the schools to allow staff & student devices to remain connected when holding classes outside or during a building evacuation. Areas planned for coverage include main entrance areas, playground areas, football and field hockey fields at AHS.



Interactive Displays and Security Camera Servers

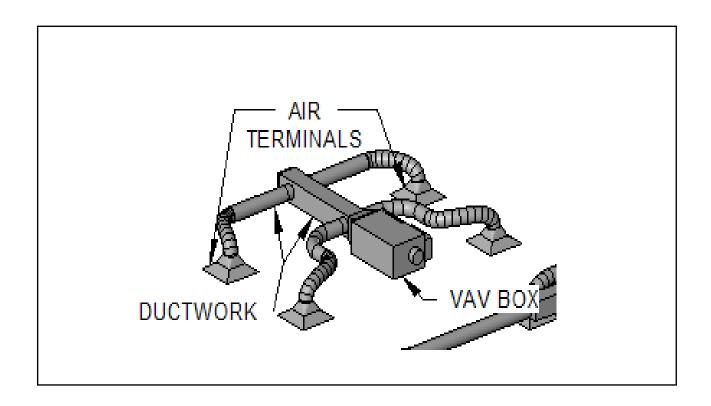


Item Requested	Quantity	Total Cost	Justification
BenQ Interactive Panels	30	\$66,000.00	 Continue replacement project of outdated projectors and Smartboards that was initially funded in 2020-2021. New panels will provide an interactive device which will allow teachers and students to participate in person, remote and hybrid learning more effectively.
Security Camera Storage Servers	5	\$22,620.00	 Add additional capacity in each school to store video from the security cameras. As additional cameras are added to the system, the current servers occasionally are unable to process the high volume of data when many cameras record at the same time.

<u>Variable Air Valve Box</u>

- Part of the HVAC system
- Regulates the volume of the air to the room by opening or closing the damper
- Estimated cost is \$5,200-\$5,600 per box
- No parts available for older VAV boxes

Total Cost <u>\$341,000</u>







DW-Library Carpet Replacement

- Carpets are aged and showing wear & tear
- Carpets cannot be cleaned as well as new ones, harboring bacteria, germs, etc.
- Library spaces are where students congregate and sit on the floor, especially in grades PK-6

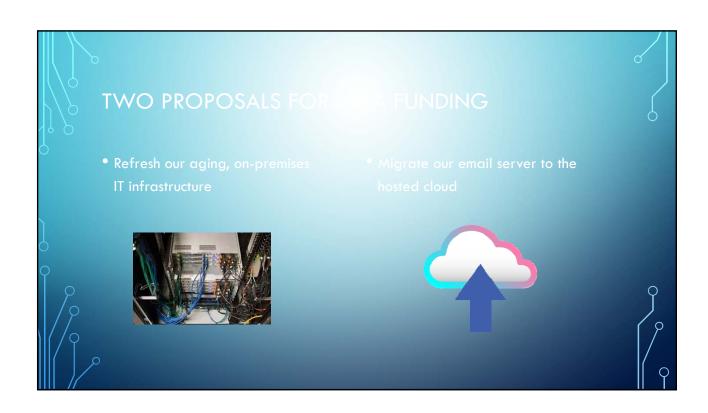
Total Cost Phase I

\$280,000





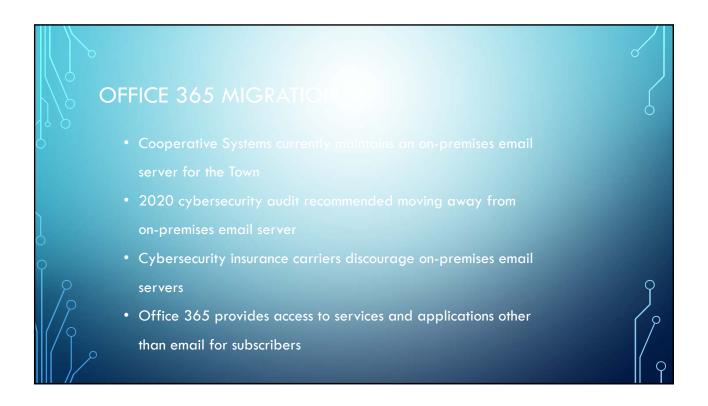














COSTS Office 365 is scalable; we can add and drop mailboxes on a monthly basis as staffing needs change Microsoft recently changed pricing for business customers; government pricing has not changed yet, but likely to in the near future Current estimate: Project cost for planning, mailbox migration, hybrid conversion: \$25,000 70 G1 accounts @ \$8 per month for \$6,720 annually 130 G3 accounts @ \$20 per month for \$31,200 annually Contingency of \$9,600 annually for potential price increase Total of \$25,000 in one-time costs, at least \$38,000 in recurring costs annually



The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

Project Requests

Avon Town Council February 3, 2022

Summary of Requests

Pavement Management	\$ 500,000
AHS RTU Rpl. Phase II	\$ 320,000
Deepwood Drive/New Road Drainage	\$ 275,000
Sycamore Hills Pool Repair	\$ 100,000
Building #1 Flood Prevention	\$ 50,000
Sycamore Hills Playscape	\$ 15,000
Total	\$ 1,260,000
Remaining ARPA Funds	\$ 4,140,000

Pavement Management

Request: \$500,000

- To be supplemented by \$1,000,000 in ARPA funding proposed in FY22/23 capital budget.
- Will allow DPW to begin work as soon as the pavement plants open in the spring.
- Anticipate improvements to Old Mill Road, Yorkshire Lane, High Ridge Road, Forge Drive, Northgate, Anvil Drive, Brownstone Drive and Wyngate Road this year (per 10/6/2021 Pavement Management Plan, prepared by the Beta Group).

AHS RTU Replacement Phase II

Request: \$320,000

- Continuation of 2021 project
 - Phase I \$796,379 (50% reimbursed by Eversource)
 - Phase Ia \$19,843 (BOE operating budget)
- Phase II includes:
 - Band Room air conditioner
 - · Auditorium air conditioner
 - · Locker Room air conditioner
- Total Project Cost = \$738,032 (after reimbursement)

Deepwood Drive/New Road Drainage

Request: \$275,000

- We have been experiencing more frequent and intense storm events over the past decade which force us to design and make immediate improvements to remedy wash outs, etc.
- Funding is requested to make more immediate repairs to the system that flows from Deepwood Drive to New Road to the Farmington River. This system has been problematic for over a decade.



Sycamore Hills Pool Repair

Request: \$100,000

- Main pool in need of repairs
 - Crack in lap lane area and wall
 - Stairs in round section of pool need replacement
 - Return-inlets need replacement
 - · Drain work needed



Building #1 Flood Prevention

Request: \$50,000

- Avon Room sustained flood damage during Hurricane Ida.
- \$30,000 available in the operating budget to replace drywall, flooring, and kitchen cabinets.
- Engaged Fuss & O'Neill to study Nod Brook and the Avon Room and make recommendations to prevent future flooding.
- Report recommends a flood resistant door or barrier, removal of silt from the brook itself and the installation/ reconstruction of a retaining wall.





Sycamore Hills Playscape

Request: \$15,000

- Total project cost is \$75,000. Balance of \$60,000 to be contributed by State Bond Commission.
- Project would remove existing playscape components and replace with a modest sized ADA accessible playscape.





Summary of Requests

Pavement Management \$ 500,000 AHS RTU Rpl. Phase II \$ 320,000 Deepwood Drive/New Road Drainage \$ 275,000 Sycamore Hills Pool Repair \$ 100,000 Building #1 Flood Prevention \$ 50,000 Sycamore Hills Playscape \$ 15,000 Total \$ 1,260,000 **Remaining ARPA Funds** \$ 4,140,000