

**AVON TOWN COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 7, 2022**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Avon Town Hall, in the Selectmen's Chamber as well as 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:** March 3, 2022

One correction to the March 3, 2022 minutes was noted as follows:

On page 3, under item 21/22-28, the motion was made by Mrs. Maguire, seconded by Ms. Ausiello.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the minutes of the March 3, 2022 Meeting as amended.

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

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council amend the agenda to add item 21/22-102 Resignation: Inland Wetlands Commission under New Business.

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

**V. COMMUNICATION FROM AUDIENCE** - None

**VI. COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL**

Mr. Weber noted that it is great to have the entire group back together again in-person. He thanked Town and Board of Education staff for their hard work with the budget. He noted dates for the following events: April 23<sup>rd</sup> – Earth Day Clean-Up (rain date of April 24<sup>th</sup>), April 30<sup>th</sup> – Bike Collection for Kids from 9 am to 2 pm, and May 4<sup>th</sup> – Cinco de Mayo Town Council Bike Ride at 5:30 p.m. He added that he has thoroughly been enjoying the Unearthing History series sponsored by the Avon Free Public Library.

Ms. Ausiello echoed Mr. Weber's sentiments regarding the budget process.

Mrs. Maguire noted a few upcoming pasta dinner fundraisers with the Lions Club on April 22<sup>nd</sup> and the Boy Scouts on April 30<sup>th</sup>. She commended the whole budget process thus far and thanked staff for their hard work; next up are the town meeting and referendum.

Mr. Indomenico commented that it's been a long week of meetings, nice to see the budget process moving forward and appreciates the work everyone has put into it.

Chairman Polhamus noted that Governor Lamont stopped at Town Hall a few weeks ago and conversed with Town staff and thanked them for their hard work through the pandemic. He noted that there is a Bike to School Day on May 4<sup>th</sup>. With regard to the war in Ukraine, he recognized a number of people in our community who are putting aside their time to raise money; from the Ukraine solidarity signs to events by several local business owners; it leaves a good impression of Avon and shows how caring and selfless the people in Avon are. He noted the great work done with the budget thus far and thanked staff; we will get a lot done and set ourselves up for a bright future.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **20/21-72 CT Green Bank Solar Municipal Assistance Program (MAP): Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) for Roaring Brook School and Avon High School**

Carrie Firestone, Chair, Avon Clean Energy Commission, reported that they have spent a lot of time pouring through information from CT Green Bank, asking questions, talking to people from the Board of Education and one another; we were able to get a good sense of what this whole picture will look like and our Commission voted unanimously to send the project forward to the Town Council; thank you to everyone in the community, especially the CT Green Bank, and Town staff; it will be an exciting new project in Town and hopefully the beginning of many more projects to come. She noted that the Commission looks forward to working with the Town Council on creating a comprehensive energy plan for the Town and hopefully bringing in the notion of sustainability and the idea of resiliency as we move forward long term; short term we could use your help as for the next few months the Commission is going to be focusing specifically on the convergence of multiple word crises which is having an impact on energy costs and energy in general; we would like to focus at the community level helping members of the community learn about the programs, incentives, and ways individuals, families, and businesses can conserve energy; we are looking at this as energy conservation as an act of patriotism; we are going to host some interesting forums with the Avon Free Public Library; and on Saturday May 14<sup>th</sup> from 1-4 p.m. at the Avon Congregational Church we are partnering with the Church and multiple organizations as well as businesses to put together a family friendly environmental festival. She noted that the Commission has a lot of energy and is excited about things to come over the next few months; please help spread the word and would love to have the Town and the Town Council partner with this festival to make it a real community effort. She noted that the Commission is looking at what has transpired during the pandemic and what were some of the missing pieces, where we could have done better; a few examples are with regard to caring for our vulnerable populations and how do we make our community more resilient and ready for whatever is to come. She requested, on behalf of the Commission, that when the Council is looking at American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects to think about how these allocations fit into the greater context of where we are in this crisis together and also look at the projects through a lens of clean energy and sustainability as well as equity. She noted that the Commission is available to talk through that going forward. She welcomed any visitors to their Commission meetings and they are really excited about what's to come. She expressed thanks for giving her some time. Chairman Polhamus noted that it is great to hear from Chairs of the individual commissions and hopes that's

something we can continue on a more regular basis. He noted that the Town Council is on board with the Commission sponsoring the upcoming festival and as far as ARPA projects we'll talk more about that when we get to the item on the agenda tonight.

### **a) Presentation**

Emily Basham, Senior Manager, CT Green Bank, and Mackey Dykes, VP of Financing Programs, CT Green Bank, made a brief presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). Ms. Basham thanked Chair Firestone for her complimentary remarks and the Commission's support. Mr. Dykes noted that the Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) would be for a 20-year term. He noted that the blue squares are where they are proposing to add solar on the roof of the Avon High School and the Roaring Brook School would be adding new solar panels to the newer parts of their roof. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Mr. Dykes responded that at the end of the twenty years there are three options: a purchase option, come take the system down at our cost, or extend the PPA for five years. In response to a question from Mrs. Maguire, Ms. Basham responded that there were structural considerations when reviewing the other school sites. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Dykes responded that any damage to the panel or system is on us, we monitor the system 24/7; if there is a roof leak caused by solar we work with the roof warranties; if it is normal roof wear and tear it would be the responsibility of the Board of Education to fix and added costs to remove any solar panels. In response to a question from Mr. Indomenico, the Town Manager responded that they only cost involved with this plan to the Town is buying the power at the agreed upon rate for the next twenty years. Mr. Weber noted there is no escalator cause. Chairman Polhamus thanked CT Green Bank for their presentation.

### **b) Approve Resolution**

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

**WHEREAS** the Avon BOE and the Municipality (collectively the "Buyer") intend to enter into power purchase agreements with CEFIA Solar Services Inc. (the "Seller"), a subsidiary of the Connecticut Green Bank, pursuant to which Seller will install renewable energy systems at the following properties:

Avon High School	510 West Avon Road Avon, CT 06001
Roaring Brook School	30 Old Wheeler Lane Avon, CT 06001

These properties are owned by the Municipality and administered by the Avon BOE, and Seller will sell the electricity generated by such systems to the Buyer over twenty (20) years at the following rates per kWh (the "PPA Obligations"), as more particularly described in that certain Power Purchase and License Agreement by and between Seller and Buyer (the "PPA"), the substantive form of which is attached hereto and made part hereof, subject to final modification and negotiation:

Avon High School	\$0.082 per kWh
Roaring Brook School	\$0.088 per kWh

**BE IT RESOLVED:** that the Buyer be and hereby is authorized and empowered, acting jointly through the Town Manager of the Municipality and the Superintendent of the Avon BOE, in accordance with the requirements of any applicable charter, bylaws, ordinance, or code, to obtain

the PPA Obligations pursuant to, and upon the terms and conditions contained in the PPA;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the Town Manager of the Municipality and the Superintendent of the Avon BOE, acting jointly, be and hereby are authorized and empowered and directed to do all things that may be necessary or appropriate to obtain and consummate the PPA Obligations, including execute the PPAs, and all such other agreements, instruments, documents associated with the PPAs, as Seller shall reasonably require, with all such additional terms and conditions as such Town Manager and Superintendent shall determine to be necessary, useful or required in furtherance of or in order to give effect to the purpose or intent of the resolutions set forth herein; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that any acts of the Town Manager of the Municipality and the Superintendent of the Avon BOE, acting jointly on behalf of the Buyer taken prior to the date hereof which would have been authorized by the foregoing resolutions, be, and they hereby are, individually and collectively ratified, confirmed, adopted and approved.

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

### **21/22-28**     **FY 22/23 Budget Development**

The Town Manager reported that we had the public hearing, the budget workshop, and the Board of Finance has decided on a budget to refer to the Town Meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup> which adjourns to the referendum. Council agreed to hold the Annual Budget Meeting which is scheduled for Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Avon High School auditorium which will also be livestreamed. Chairman Polhamus noted that Kershwin Singh will be the moderator at the Town Meeting.

### **21/22-46**     **American Rescue Plan Act:**

Chairman Polhamus noted that our objective is to aim to find projects that help all those in Town, equitable in that sense, to relieve capital budget stresses in future years; this is something that will continue to be on the agenda and we will be soliciting more input from other boards and the public.

Members of the Towpath Condominium Association Board were present to discuss their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) request. Maura Donahue, Board Treasurer, made a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). Ms. Donahue noted that they did recently obtain a credit line to assist with part of this project, Towpath qualifies for ARPA funding as a privately-owned infrastructure project; they are asking for \$600,000. Mr. Indomenico asked how this is different than him coming in as a homeowner and telling the Council that his septic system is failing and asking for money to replace. Ms. Donahue responded that you can ask for assistance. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Ms. Donahue responded that there are 57 units and this project has to be approved by a majority vote and it didn't get approval until this year. Ms. Ausiello noted that there are quite a few rentals and investor owned properties there and for those people it is certainly not considered a hardship for them to pay the additional association fees. Ms. Donahue noted that it is hurting the people living there who cannot afford it. Ms. Ausiello suggested the Association going to the State or DEEP; it is a hard ask; she appreciates the presentation and her heart goes out to those for whom it truly is a hardship. Chairman Polhamus noted that at a \$1 million that is 20% of the total amount of ARPA funds received and at \$600,000 it is about 10%; it is a huge amount of money for one specific property, it is not equitable, and not fair to anybody else in Town who has a failing septic system. He noted that sewer connection fees are something that a lot of people have problems with in Town, it stalls the progress of getting

sewers put in throughout Town. He noted that he shares sympathy but it is a huge ask. The Town Manager recognized that this has been going for years. Ms. Donahue noted that the as-built is a Town record and would pinpoint where the septic systems are and could be replaced at a much lower cost, but the Town does not have the as-built so the only alternative is to connect to the sewer. She noted that the Town Engineer is very aware of the situation. The Town Manager responded that this is a technical issue that can be worked out with the Engineering Department; if the Council wants to benefit a private condominium association, then get ready for Hunter's Run, Lakeview, and Secret Lake; we have a much longer history with Lakeview who needs some very significant reclamation. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Ms. Donahue responded that homeowner association dues cover maintenance which is lacking due to the septic system issue. Mr. Weber noted that funds could have been set aside, over the last 18 years, to begin to rectify or explore options for this versus an immediate emergency. He believes in public and civic hardships in organizations that benefit all residents in Town but this is not one he can stand behind; every resident shall manage their own property and not look towards an American Rescue Plan when 18 years of budgeting should have foreseen that.

Robin Pomper, Secretary, Towpath Homeowners Association Board, noted that the unit owners are fed up with what is going on, we cannot afford it in our budget, we are a low-income community, in 2007 the unit owners voted no because they couldn't afford it; we have finally convinced the unit owners that this has to be done; any amount you can give them would be appreciated; they have a line of credit; the complex is in the DEEP jurisdiction and was informed yesterday about the Clean Water Fund and Towpath will look into it. Ms. Ausiello commented that perhaps a community bank can help with a long-term loan and she is aware that the Board has reached out to Representative Exum. She noted that we want to use the ARPA funds to benefit the community at large; she understands it is a hardship. Ms. Pomper commented that the banks won't let them raise their dues because they are already high. She has dealt with this issue for over twenty years; we are coming to ask for help. Chairman Polhamus asked if the Town could offer support in helping find correct avenues for funding. The Town Manager commented that the Engineering Department stands ready to help with technical assistance; this issue is no surprise to anyone and should have been taken care of a long time ago; talk with our Engineering Department and we are happy to help chase down any outside grant opportunities, we have experience with the Clean Water Fund program. He noted that we have \$5.4 million of ARPA funding with a lot of priorities; if Council follows his recommendations it would leave about \$327,000 and doesn't address other issues to deal with, i.e. Farmington Valley Health District and other community partnerships that have been talked about in principle. The Association Board thanked Council for the opportunity to listen to us. Chairman Polhamus commented that we will help however we can; we will talk with Representative Exum.

#### **a) Fiber Buildout Project Presentation**

The Town Manager reported that this project was quickly identified as a kind of project that Council has been considering; it is strategic and avoids cost in both the near and long-term and will realize benefits in the future. Tom Kline, Senior Network Admin-Avon Public Schools, and Glenn Grube, Library Director/IT Committee Chair, made a presentation (which is attached and made part of these minutes). Mr. Kline noted that the project would run fiber between the Landfill, down Huckleberry Hill Road, Chevas Road, Country Club Road, to Avon High School and tie into the other school buildings and the Library and stretch back into the Town Hall. He noted that each

strand of glass fiber can do ten gigabits per second or more; the base fiber connectivity is a gig and can go higher depending on the equipment; file storage, file transfer, internet access, security systems, cameras, and telephones can happen on one strand back to the Town Hall; this would be our dedicated fiber connection; Avon Public Schools have used fiber for the last ten years and are halfway through a five-year contract; one gigabit per building and at the height of the pandemic with virtual classes we were just touching the one gigabit between the school buildings; today the bandwidth between the school buildings is about 300-500 megabits per second for general daily usage. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Mr. Kline responded that the life span in terms of volume we can have 96 bidirectional paths with 96 gig of bandwidth connectivity. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Kline responded that the fiber would be installed via pole attachments; it is in the lower set of cables on the poles. He noted that part of this plan is to support radio connections back to the Police Department and to the State versus leasing with a recurring cost. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Grube responded that Library security camera footage is stored locally at the Library. Mr. Kline added that schools store it locally in the building. Mr. Grube noted that another benefit of storage is being able to back up data from one site to another for backups of virtual servers and other municipal and school data. Mr. Grube reviewed the current costs and project benefits. He noted that digital signage could be used at different Town sites and virtual meetings would be easier at other sites too. He added that we are looking to attach to about 320 poles. In response to a question from Ms. Ausiello, Mr. Kline responded that the public WiFi at the Board of Education is to put the WiFi transmitters on the outside of the building so people can choose it after hours without getting in the building; the core is at the Avon High School and would need the fiber connection to tie back from the other schools; the access points are the actual hardware. In response to a question from Mr. Indomenico, Mr. Kline responded that we will use about 48 of the 96 fiber strands for this project. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, Mr. Kline responded that we should do it all together now given how the trunks feed from one facility to the next; the estimate is a few months old. He noted that it will be six to eight months before the order is delivered. Mrs. Maguire commented that it is an important project and prepares us for the future. The Town Manager noted that this is a transformative project. In response to a question from Mr. Weber, Mr. Kline responded that project installation could be completed within one year, depending on supply issues. The Town Manager commented that the next step would be supplemental appropriation approval for the project. He noted that ARPA funds need to be committed by end of December 2024 and spent by end of December 2026. Council thanked Mr. Grube and Mr. Kline for their presentation.

#### **b) Continue Discussion re: Project List**

Chairman Polhamus noted that the Board of Education projects on the ARPA list are projects that they were counting on happening. Susan Russo, Business Manager, Avon Public Schools, commented that carpets in the libraries are very old and stained and spaces that students are sitting on; if this does not get funded through ARPA, it will be a FY 24 capital budget request. She noted that readers' and writers' workshops take place in the libraries with students sitting together on the carpet; the replacement request is especially given COVID and concerns on germs and sanitation; a new carpet is much easier to clean with improved technology quality. Chairman Polhamus noted that the total ask of ARPA funds from the Board of Education is about 20% of the total and is a fair number. Ms. Russo commented that work would begin as soon as this summer or sooner where applicable. Mr. Indomenico commented that every Board of Education request in this ARPA process is something that if not included as such it would have been included in the capital

budget request for the coming year. Ms. Russo responded that the exception to that is the variable air valves as using ARPA funds would allow us to utilize the new air system and have variable air controls throughout the whole building at the Avon High School. Mr. Weber noted that there are lot of funds and a lot of needs, when we balance what we have tried to do in the process of hearing these requests with a lot of discussion and trying to be judicious about balancing them between forward facing projects of which all residents will get to enjoy some of the replacement of infrastructure and 80% to the Town and 20% to the Board of Education is a good guidepost; this takes it off the capital budget and places a need that is directly in line with what ARPA is for and benefits our students. Mrs. Maguire agreed.

Town Council gave consensus to have the Town Manager's Office proceed with preparing supplemental appropriations for the following projects through ARPA: BOE IT Improvements (includes MR46 WiFi Access Points, MR76 WiFi Access Points, BenQ Panels, and QNAP Security Camera Server), Avon High School Variable Air Volume Units, Board of Education Districtwide Library Carpet Replacement, Town Office 365 Implementation, and Town Technology Refresh. The Town Manager noted that we are ahead of the game with ARPA; a lot of communities are not quite out of the gate yet. Chairman Polhamus acknowledged the letter received from Gifts of Love and will be kept in mind while going through this process. Discussion with this agenda item will continue at the next meeting.

**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 May 5, 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 Mr. Polhamus, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council appoint Erin Dawson as the Town's representative on the Central Regional Tourism District, 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)**

The Town Manager noted that Nancy Scheetz is the Executive Director with the Farmington Valley VNA; the primary contact is Jennifer Bennett at the Senior Center; the Council should feel comfortable eliminating the Town Council representative and just having that be a staff function.

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

**RESOLVED:** That Town Council remove agenda item 21/22-70 Appointment: Town Council Representative-VNA (12/31/2023).

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. Polhamus, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council appoint Michele O'Connor to the Zoning Board of Appeals, to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

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

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

**21/22-87      Municipal Solid Waste & Recycling Disposal Overview and Recommendation**

The Town Manager recognized the Assistant Town Manager and the Director of Public Works for their hard work on this item. He noted that Materials Innovation and Recycling Authority (MIRA) was supposed to run as a trash to energy plant except the energy part dropped off around 2020 due to the lack of capital investment infrastructure and has essentially been operating as a transfer station; there was a push to get DEEP more involved but the State was not interested in capitalizing the plant at around \$330 million. He noted that we pay for every pull from Avon's transfer station and tip at MIRA; this is governed by the Town's ordinance. He added that our options with MIRA's contract are to sign onto a 5-year amendment with a tip fee of \$111 or year-to-year basis at \$116 or if we act by April 8<sup>th</sup> we can pull out from MIRA and do an RFP to find a lower cost alternative; our recommendation is the third option. Ms. Ausiello inquired if there are any trash to energy options. The Assistant Town Manager responded that we have an RFP document that has been vetted by the Town Attorney as well as our Insurance Agent of Record; we have a list of vendors identified by the Director of Public Works as well as advertised on the State's web site and in a legal notice in the Courant. Mrs. Maguire inquired what our neighboring towns are doing. The Assistant Town Manager responded that each town has a different impact as we all handle our trash differently. Mr. Weber commented that the topic of converting waste to energy should be being handled at the State level. Ms. Ausiello inquired about composting options. The Assistant Town Manager responded that West Hartford has done a lot of waste reduction activities.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve to opt-out of the Town of Avon's Tier-1 Long Term Municipal Solid Waste Management Agreement (MSA) with MIRA, effective June 30, 2022.

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

Town Council gave consensus for the Town Manager to conduct a procurement process to secure a contract with a refuse and recycling disposal site for waste from the Town's Transfer Station only, effective July 1, 2022, as well as develop recommended amendments to Chapter 51 of the Town Code of Ordinances, "Solid Waste." The Town Manager noted that these items will be on Council's May meeting agenda.

**21/22-88      Temporary Waiver of Permit Requirement and Disposal Fee for Brush at Landfill/Transfer Station**

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



**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council temporarily waive the fee for residential brush disposal at the Landfill/Transfer Station on the following Saturdays: April 23, 2022, April 30, 2022, May 7, 2022, and May 14, 2022.

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

Mr. Weber inquired if it might be possible to offer this waiver twice a year and could Council approve a blanket resolution for future waivers. Chairman Polhamus recommended future discussion regarding the potential waiver extension on a permanent recurring basis.

**21/22-89      Appropriation from Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditure Fund (CNREF):  
Document Imaging Services for Assessor & Building Departments, \$38,456**

The Town Manager noted that this is for the Building Department and Assessor's Office; a total of 330,000 documents and 70,000 street cards that we want to digitalize; we will use the permit fees from the Avon Village Center Project to pay for this service which will still have a remaining balance of \$200,000. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, the Assistant Town Manager responded that once scanned the documents can be destroyed according to the State records retention schedule. In response to a question from Mrs. Maguire, the Assistant Town Manager responded that a scanned document could be e-mailed to a person requesting property information. Mrs. Maguire noted that it might be nice to know who is requesting something; it is a great idea.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council favorably recommends to the Board of Finance an appropriation not to exceed \$38,456.00 from Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditure Fund, Other Financing Sources, Unassigned Fund Balance, Account #03-0390-43913 to Capital & Nonrecurring Expenditure Fund, CNREF: Town, Document Imaging Services, Account #03-4930-53453, for file digitization in the Building and Assessing Departments.

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

**21/22-90      Supplemental Appropriation: West Avon Road Sidewalk Replacement Project,  
STEAP Grant, \$128,205**

Chairman Polhamus expressed thanks and appreciation to Town staff for their hard work on securing funds through a STEAP grant for this project.

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

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

**REVENUES**

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Intergovernmental, STEAP Grant, Account #02-0330-43404 in the amount of \$128,205.00 and increasing:

**APPROPRIATIONS**

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Town CIP-Facilities, West Avon Road Sidewalk Replace (STEAP), Account #02-4829-53403 in the amount of \$128,205.00, for the West Avon Road sidewalk replacement project.

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

**21/22-91**      **Supplemental Appropriation: West Avon Road Sidewalk Replacement Project, Community Project Funding Program, \$424,000**

The Town Manager noted that this project runs along the east side of West Avon Road to the intersection of Scoville and includes the leg that runs up Country Club Road on the south side of the Library to West Avon Road.

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**

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Intergovernmental, Community Project Funding, Account #02-0330-43405 in the amount of \$424,000.00 and increasing:

**APPROPRIATIONS**

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Town CIP-Facilities, West Avon Road Sidewalk Replace (CPF), Account #02-4829-53413 in the amount of \$424,000.00, for the West Avon Road sidewalk replacement project.

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

**21/22-92**      **Land Protection Assistance Grant from Lower Farmington River & Salmon Brook Wild & Scenic Committee**

**a. Acceptance of Grant Award**

Chairman Polhamus noted that last year we also received a grant from the Lower Farmington River & Salmon Brook Wild & Scenic Committee. He noted that this grant would allow for clearing of the trail south from Fisher Meadows down to the Farmington town line.

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept the grant award of \$3,000 from the Lower Farmington River & Salmon Brook Wild & Scenic Committee, in accordance with Section 4.3.2(l) of the Town Charter, to be used towards the clearing of a section of trail in Fisher Farms.

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

**b. Supplemental Appropriation, \$3,000**

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

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

**REVENUES**

General Fund, Intergovernmental, DEP / Farmington River Trail, Account #01-0330-43323 in the amount of \$3,000.00 and increasing:

**APPROPRIATIONS**

General Fund, Parks, Services – Other, Account #01-5201-52189, in the amount of \$3,000.00, for the purpose of funding the clearing of a section of trail in Fisher Farms.

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

**21/22-93 Supplemental Appropriation: Sycamore Hills Playscape (ARPA), \$60,000**

Chairman Polhamus expressed thanks and appreciation to Representative Eleni Kavros-DeGraw for her hard work with securing these funds for the Town.

On a motion made by Mr. Indomenico, 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**

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Intergovernmental, DEEP-Urban Act Grant, Account #02-0330-43331 in the amount of \$60,000.00 and increasing:

**APPROPRIATIONS**

Capital Projects Fund (Facil & Equip), Town CIP-Facilities, Sycamore Hills Playscape Replace, Account #02-4829-53456 in the amount of \$60,000.00, for the replacement of the existing playscape at Sycamore Hills Recreation Area.

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

**21/22-94 Supplemental Appropriation: Natural Resource Inventory and Management Plan, \$10,000**

The Town Manager provided a brief overview regarding the Natural Resource Inventory and Management Plan; our harvester has done an inventory of our major open space areas indicating the natural environment, kinds of trees, invasive species, etc. He noted that they do recommend frequent timber harvests to keep the environment healthy. Monies generated from the timber harvest go back into the Forest Park Management Special Revenue Fund. Chairman Polhamus requested a future presentation once the Natural Resource Inventory and Management Plan gets updated.

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

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

**REVENUES**

Forest Park Management Fund, Intergovernmental, Cooperative Forestry Assistance Grant, Account #04-0330-43410 in the amount of \$10,000.00 and increasing:

**APPROPRIATIONS**

Forest Park Management Fund, Parks, Natural Resource Management Plans, Account # 04-5201-53919, in the amount of \$10,000.00, for the purpose of conducting a Natural Resource Inventory and Management Plan.

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

**21/22-95 Approve Resolution: Explanatory Text for Annual Town Meeting, May 2, 2022**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Clerk or his designee be, and s/he hereby is, authorized and directed to prepare and distribute an explanatory text with respect to the proposed budget for the Town for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, as recommended to the Town by the Board of

Finance, in accordance with the requirements of the Charter of the Town and Section 9-369b of the Connecticut General Statutes.

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

**21/22-96**     **Set Poll Hours: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Town Meeting Referenda**  
**May 11, 2022, June 1, 2022 (if necessary), June 22, 2022 (if necessary)**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve the extension of the polling hours of the Town Meeting Referendum from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on May 11, 2022, June 1, 2022 (if necessary), and June 22, 2022 (if necessary).

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

**21/22-97**     **LoCIP Authorization**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to apply for a LoCIP grant in the amount of \$111,172.

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

**21/22-98**     **Supplemental Appropriation: LoCIP Funds, \$2,184**

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

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

**REVENUES**

Local Capital Improvement Program Fund, Intergovernmental, Local C.I.P., Account # 11-0330-43365 in the amount of \$2,184.00 and increasing:

**APPROPRIATIONS**

Local Capital Improvement Program Fund, Town CIP-Facil./Road Overlay, Road Overlay, Account # 11-4831-53003 in the amount of \$2,184.00 for the purpose of recording the revenue and expenditure appropriations up to the level of actual State grant funding.

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

**21/22-99**     **Approval of Motor Vehicle Tax Refund, \$1,687.58**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council approve a motor vehicle tax refund to Porsche Leasing LTD in the amount of \$1,687.58.

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

**21/22-100**     **Resignation: Board of Education (R – 12/31/2025)**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Katie Kapisak from the Board of Education.

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

**21/22-101 Appointment: Board of Education (R – 12/31/2025)**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council appoint Elizabeth Sommerkorn to the Board of Education to fill a vacancy with a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

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

**21/22-102 Resignation: Inland Wetlands Commission**

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

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council accept with regret the resignation of Jed Usich from the Inland Wetlands Commission.

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

**XI. TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT/MISCELLANEOUS**

**Misc. A: Purchasing Update:** The Assistant Town Manager noted that with the AVFD Master Plan, we are waiting for the completion of the baseline assessment report followed by visits with CGR to discuss the report and come up priority areas of focus for recommendation and a final report by early May.

**Misc. B: Construction Update:** No highlights were provided.

**Misc. C: Old Farms Road Projects:** The Town Manager noted that Larry Baril, Town Engineer will attend Council’s May meeting to provide a presentation regarding these ongoing projects. He added that we are estimating there will be a Town match of about \$4.7 million which will require a referendum. In response to a question from Chairman Polhamus, the Town Manager responded that in his time we have not had a road project go to referendum. Mr. Weber commented that the Town needs to our due diligence to inform our residents and show them what this will look like.

**Misc. D: Fire Apparatus:** The Town Manager noted that we are waiting for the Avon Volunteer Fire Department to come up with specifications which will drive the cost and then we can discuss best financing options.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Collective Bargaining / Real Estate

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 Mr. Indomenico, seconded by Ms. Ausiello, it was voted:

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council adjourn the meeting at 10:01 p.m.

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

Attest: Jennifer Worsman, Clerk



### Town of Avon

**Emily Basham**, Senior Manager, CT Green Bank  
**Mackey Dykes**, VP of Financing Programs, CT Green Bank  
**Allen Sabins**, Managing Partner at CSW Energy



## Connecticut Green Bank



Help ensure Connecticut's energy security and community prosperity by realizing its environmental and economic opportunities through clean energy finance and investments.



Support the Governor's and legislature's energy strategy to achieve cleaner, cheaper and more reliable sources of energy while creating jobs and supporting local economic development



Less work. More benefits.  
Now even easier for towns and cities.

- Makes it even easier for municipalities to access renewable energy and achieve energy savings using the Green Bank Solar PPA
- Provides technical assistance support that simplifies every step of the process



## Avon Project Milestones



Milestone	Date
Program Introduction	March 2021
<b>Desktop Review of Town Addresses</b>	April 6 2021
ACEC presentation – Initial Review	April 21 2021
<b>Site visits</b>	April 29 2021
Town Council presentation – Initial Review	May 6 2021
Town signed Letter of Intent	May 7 2021
Incentive application for project	June 2021
<b>Incentive Awards</b>	August 2021
<b>Green Bank RFP for construction partner</b>	Oct 14 2021
RFP Bidder site visits	September 2021
<b>Green Bank RFP selection and final pricing</b>	December 2021
ACEC & Town Council presentation – Final Review	Feb/March 2022
BOE & Town Council presentations – Final Review	March/April 2022
PPA Execution	April 2022

## Green Bank Solar PPA *BOEs and Municipal*



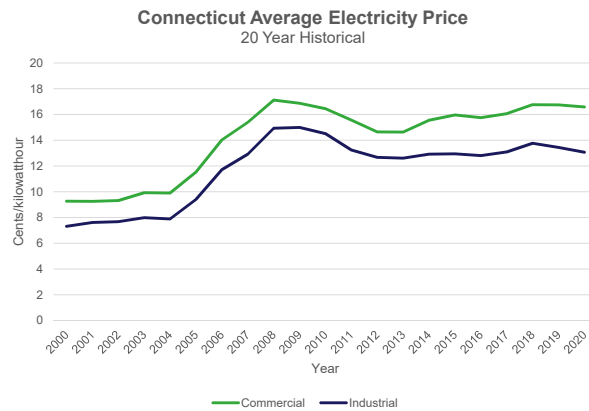
- |                         |                        |              |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| ▪ Ashford               | ▪ Ellington            | ▪ Newtown    |
| ▪ Bethany               | ▪ Essex                | ▪ Orange     |
| ▪ Bloomfield            | ▪ Fairfield            | ▪ Portland   |
| ▪ Branford              | ▪ Falls Village        | ▪ Ridgefield |
| ▪ Bridgeport            | ▪ Hampton              | ▪ Salisbury  |
| ▪ Chaplin               | ▪ Harwinton (regional) | ▪ Union      |
| ▪ Coventry              | ▪ Lebanon              | ▪ Voluntown  |
| ▪ Darien                | ▪ Manchester           | ▪ Woodbridge |
| ▪ Deep River (regional) | ▪ Mansfield            |              |
| ▪ Eastford              | ▪ New Fairfield        |              |
| ▪ Easton                | ▪ New Haven            |              |



## Power Purchase Agreement (PPA)



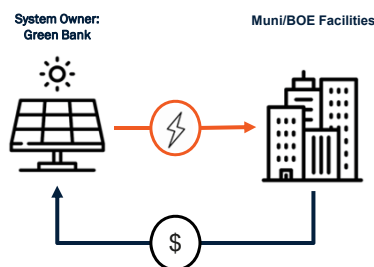
## Connecticut Electric Rates



	2000 Rate	2020 Rate	Average Annual Increase	Total Increase
Commercial	9.27	16.6%	2.8%	44.1%
Industrial	7.32	13.1%	3.3%	44.0%

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration  
[https://www.eia.gov/electricity/data/state/avgprice\\_annual.xlsx](https://www.eia.gov/electricity/data/state/avgprice_annual.xlsx)

## What is a Power Purchase Agreement ("PPA")?



**Contract between Seller**  
(generates electricity)  
and Buyer (purchases  
electricity)

**Green Bank is Seller:**  
Oversees development,  
construction, & asset  
management

**Municipality is Buyer:**  
Purchases electricity  
from solar installed on  
property

## What are the Benefits of a PPA?



The value of solar PV comes from electricity cost savings!



9

\*Representative project for illustrative purposes only

## What are the Benefits of a PPA?



No upfront costs	Lock in low electricity rate
Positive cash flow	No operations & maintenance costs
Preserve capital & credit lines	Managed by a third-party solar system owner



10

# Avon

## Avon High School

Project Details	
Project size (kW DC)	354
Estimated Annual Production (kWh)	377,651
Effective Utility Rate	\$0.106
Savings Feasibility	
Final PPA Rate	\$0.082
% Discount to Utility	22%
% Solar Offset to Utility	23%



## Roaring Brook School



Project Details	
Project size (kW DC)	181
Estimated Annual Production (kWh)	193,686
Effective Utility Rate	\$0.123
Savings Feasibility	
Final PPA Rate	\$0.088
% Discount to Utility	28%
% Solar Offset to Utility	45%



13

## Total Savings & Benefits



*Final PPA rates provide discount to utility rates*

Avon	Effective Utility Rate	PPA Rate	% Discount	First Year Savings	Avg Annual Savings	Term Savings
Roaring Brook School	\$0.123	\$0.088	28%	\$6,779	\$11,087	\$221,736
Avon High School	\$0.106	\$0.082	23%	\$8,977	\$16,339	\$326,787
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$15,756</b>	<b>\$27,426</b>	<b>\$548,523</b>



**\$11,413,089** Lifetime public health value created



**9,444** Tons CO2 emissions reduced, which equals:



**141,665** Tree seedlings grown for 10 years



**1,863** Passenger vehicles driven for one year or **21,531,703** miles

14

## Next Steps



Review final PPA proposal	Q1 2022
Execute PPA	April 2022
Onboard Contractor Partner	Q1 – Q2 2022
Contractor Engineering & Final Design	Q2 – Q3 2022
Town Permitting & Review	Q2 – Q3 2022
Project Construction	Q3 – Q4 2022

15



Questions?



# Thank you!

Contact:

Emily Basham, Senior Manager, CT Green Bank

[Emily.Basham@ctgreenbank.com](mailto:Emily.Basham@ctgreenbank.com)

860-258-7839

<https://www.ctgreenbank.com/solarmap-townsandcities>

## Appendix

## Avon Electric Rates

### Calculating “Effective” Utility Rate



- “Effective” Utility Rate is the calculation of all the line items on the Eversource bill that are charged on a kWh basis (not the kW charges) because those charges will be offset with the addition of solar
- “Effective” utility rate is used as a more accurate utility rate to compare to the PPA rate and show the savings of a project

#### Total Charges for Electricity

<b>Supplier</b>		
CONSTELLATION NEWENERGY		
Service Reference: 449961004		
Generation Srvc Chrg**	47232.00kWh X \$0.07150	\$3,377.09
Subtotal Supplier Services		\$3,377.09
<b>Delivery</b>		
(DISTRIBUTION RATE: 037)		
Service Reference: 449961004		
Prod/Trans Dmd Chrg	146.30KW X \$3.82000	\$558.87
Trans Enrgy Chrg On-Pk	14976.00kWh X \$0.02381	\$356.58
Trans Enrgy Chrg Off-Pk	32256.00kWh X \$0.00535	\$172.57
Distr Cust Srvc Chrg		\$270.00
Distribution Dmd Chrg	252.30KW X \$8.86000	\$2,235.38
Electric Sys Improvements***	252.30KW X \$0.48000	\$121.10
Revenue Adj Mech On-Pk	14976.00kWh X \$-0.00011	-\$1.65
Revenue Adj Mech Off-Pk	32256.00kWh X \$-0.00011	-\$3.55
Prod/Trans CTA Dmd Chrg	146.30KW X \$-0.07000	-\$10.24
FMCC Delivery Chrg On-Pk	14976.00kWh X \$0.02893	\$433.26
FMCC Delivery Chrg Off-Pk	32256.00kWh X \$0.00649	\$208.34
Comb Public Benefit Chrg*	47232.00kWh X \$0.00675	\$318.82
Subtotal Delivery Services		\$4,660.48

## Avon High School

### Energy Savings



Savings		
Term Savings	\$	326,787
Average Annual Savings	\$	16,339
First Year Savings	\$	8,977
Operations & Maintenance Cost Included		

Model and Finance Assumptions		
System Size	kW	354
Solar Energy Generated		377,651 kWh
Annual Solar System Degradation		0.64%
Solar Energy PPA Price		\$0.082 /kWh
Solar Energy Escalator		0.00%
Utility Energy Price		\$0.10577 /kWh
Utility Energy Escalator		2.00%

## Roaring Brook School

### Energy Savings



Savings		
Term Savings	\$	221,736
Average Annual Savings	\$	11,087
First Year Savings	\$	6,779
<i>Operations &amp; Maintenance Cost Included</i>		

Model and Finance Assumptions		
System Size	kW	181 kW
Solar Energy Generated		193,686 kWh
Annual Solar System Degradation		0.64%
Solar Energy PPA Price		\$0.088 /kWh
Solar Energy Escalator		0.00%
Utility Energy Price		\$0.12300 /kWh
Utility Energy Escalator		2.00%



# Towpath ARPA funding request, town of Avon

Septic to town sewer project, decades of review, delays to lack of funding, HOA approval of expenditure in March of 2022, for line of credit /loan

THE ASK: assistance from ARPA funds

**Towpath Condo Association,  
It's owners of 57 units & Board  
of Directors. April 7, 2022**

1

## Town Awareness.

- Septic issues, since 2004, documents sent for 2004, 2007 known history and health concerns, Avon Water Pollution Control knowledge since 2004
- FVHD involved, communication ongoing, on recent call
- DEEP on alert, communication ongoing, on recent call
- Farmington Valley Watershed Association on alert

No record of AS BUILT on file, giving us only one option: town sewer

2

## ARPA- and Why Towpath?

The U.S. Department of the Treasury recently released [updated guidance](#) on how communities can use their American Rescue Plan Act Local Fiscal Recovery (LFR) Funds. The Interim Final Rule offers an expanded interpretation regarding the types of sewer, water, and broadband infrastructure projects that qualify for funding, “allowing for a **broad range of necessary investments in projects that improve access to clean drinking water, improve wastewater and storm water infrastructure systems**, and provide access to high-quality broadband service” ([Treasury.gov](#)).

### ARPA INTERIM FINAL RULE

#### HIGHLIGHTS ON USE OF FUNDS FOR SEWER & WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

- Because municipalities have a broad range of water and sewer infrastructure needs, the **Interim Final Rule provides wide latitude to identify investments in water and sewer infrastructure that are of the highest priority for your community**, [which may include privately-owned infrastructure projects](#).

- 

- Funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024, but **recipients have until December 31, 2026 to complete projects using LFR funds**.

[Based on our analysis, ARPA is designed to assist a project such as Towpath septic to sewer](#)

## The Towpath Issue: Septic failures

- ✓ 3 buildings = weekly pumping due to failure, 54K + per year
- ✓ Weekly pumping on going since November of 2004!!! (documentation sent)
- ✓ Funding septic diverts from much needed maintenance
- ✓ **No record of AS BUILT on file, precluding Towpath from replacing failed septic systems.**

**FVHD:** history: called multiple times : overflow impacting soil, potential impact to Farmington River, and surrounding ponds (i.e. Sconsett Pond)

FVHD may issue a mandate for permanent solution, as pumping weekly is a temporary “fix”

**DEEP:** conversations underway, seeking their support

**Financial IMPACT:** Towpath represents affordable housing for Avon, units well below town average ( i.e., avg cost of condo in Towpath, 85K)

Many retirees, fixed to low - income residents/owners/ renters with children reside at Towpath

## The solution:

### connection to town sewer system

*WE need a Positive outcome for the Town, citizens, FVHD, Farmington River, DEEP*  
For Decades, Towpath has had engineers & the town involved in reviewing a plan to convert septic systems to town sewer, to no avail, due to lack of funding!

- ❖ 2021 ARPA: TARGET Specifies septic and sewer upgrades
- ❖ Towpath is ready, with engineering companies reviewing
- ❖ Towpath is a community at risk, health issues, Farmington River watershed concerns, FVHD reports, Citizen complaints, property values declining, panic selling a concern, impact on 57 units, approximately 120 residents, and far reaching health issues to surrounding waterways, neighbors, etc.

5

## Megson, Heagle & Friend, LLC

Engineering firm, drawing up a plan that is a pump to gravity system for Towpath

*( lower units need a pump up the driveway, due to land constraints )*

Farmington River  
across from Old  
Farms Rd



Aerial view

Pump system  
Required Due to  
Gravity

6



# View of river, ski pond



Across  
From  
Towpath

7

## Public-facing impact: Health issues : children, pets, residents

health issues, Farmington River watershed concerns, FVHD reports, Citizen complaints, Towpath and surrounding residents, and far-reaching health issues to surrounding waterways, neighbors, Rails to Trails path etc.

*\*i.e. children carry in on shoes, adults as well, dogs with parasites, (YES, an owner's dog has this) SPREADING the GERMS \*SOIL contamination is on going, ARPA, in place due to COVID 19 health concerns, can benefit the greater public for the town of Avon in assisting in funding this septic to sewer project as it impacts a far greater population than just Towpath residents*

8

# Risks:

## COMMON STAGES OF SEPTIC SYSTEM FAILURE

The **process from septic installation to the development of hardpan soil** includes the following:

You install or have a septic system handling the waste from your home.

Over the course of time, salt in the waste -water begins to bond with the soil around your drain field and creates a waterproof barrier (known as hardpan).

Waste -water then builds up around the drain and leach field, unable to escape or drain through the soil below, because "hardpan" is blocking it.

At this stage, waste- water drainage has become greatly reduced, causing drains in your home to slow down, back up or even worse: stop working altogether.

As soon as your drain field floods because waste -water cannot escape through the hardpan soil, the aerobic bacteria (air-dependent organisms in the dirt that clean the waste out of the water) can no longer get air and die / drown.

The above causes even less drainage, which forces liquefied sewage to float to the surface. (i.e.- Wet spots on your lawn and foul septic odors lingering on your property and emitting from household drains.)

**NEWSFLASH: this is ongoing since 2007**

9

# Project is Shovel Ready

*Project end results:*

*Affordable housing development will remain, enhance property values*

*Sewer conversion will reduce HOA expense by 20% for low income residents*

*Low Income residents will not be burdened with a project they cannot fund*

*Will demonstrate actual benefits to citizens impacted by COVID19 by enriching living situation, overall health situation, improve environmental risks*

This project is exactly why ARPA funding is available! Help us help the community at large with Clean water, safe rivers and ponds and no more overflow!

10

# Milestones

Engineering plans , 3 acceptable bids will be shared

Cost estimates of \$1,000,000 to 1,300,000

Towpath ASK. \$600,000, or approximately \$10.5k per unit

Towpath budget strain, and savings of 50K per year can assist in the cost of this project

Additional much needed projects can now benefit as well

11

# Thanks!

Towpath unit owners, renters, abutters,

Towpath Board of Directors, April 7,2022

# **Town-wide Fiber Optic Network Build Out**

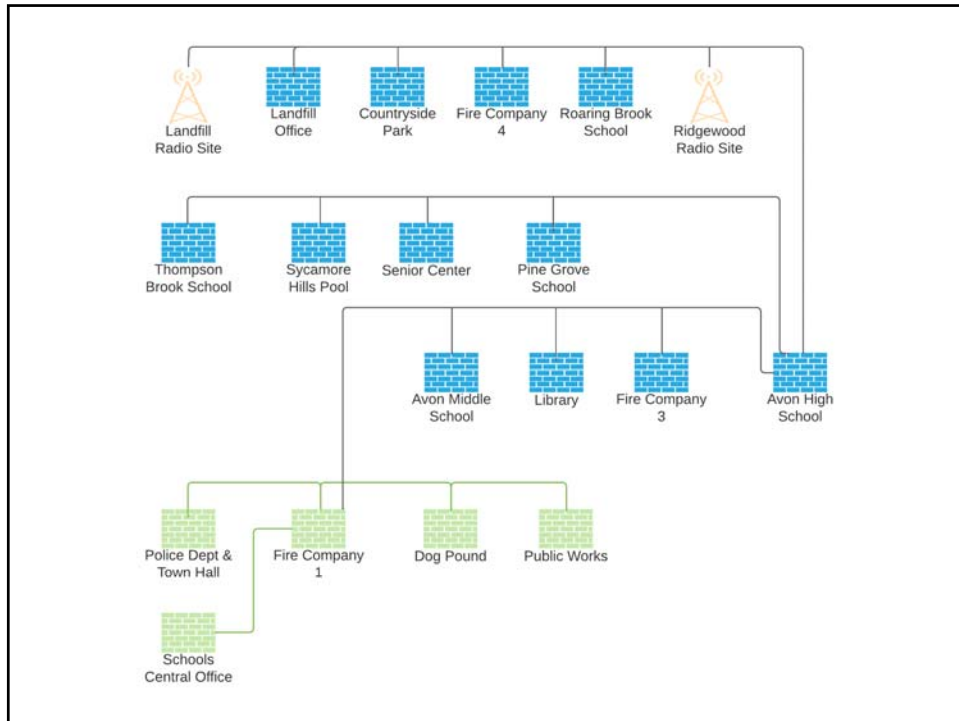
*ARPA Project Request*

**Avon Town Council  
April 7, 2022**

## **Project Proposal**

- Link the following Town and Board of Education facilities via a fiber optic network:
  - Avon Police Department/Town Office Complex
  - Department of Public Works/Animal Control Facility
  - Fire Companies 1, 3, and 4
  - AHS, AMS, TBS, PGS, RBS, Central Office
  - Avon Senior Center
  - Sycamore Hills Pool
  - Avon Free Public Library
  - Countryside Park Building
  - Transfer Station Office
  - Landfill Radio Site
  - Ridgewood Radio Site





## What is fiber optic internet?

- Commonly called fiber internet or just “fiber.” Allows transmission of information in the form of light rather than electricity.
- A broadband connection that can reach virtually unlimited speeds with low lag time.
- Fiber optic cables are not as susceptible to severe weather as other types of cable, minimizing outages
- More secure, dedicated connection between points.
- Allows for sharing/consolidation of technological resources between buildings.
- Easily increase capacity in the future without improvements to the fiber infrastructure.



## Current Costs

### Current Annual Costs:

Pool, Senior Center, & Landfill Comcast Phone & Internet	\$6,000
AVFD Company 1, 3, & 4 Comcast Phone & Internet	\$15,357
Board of Education Leased Fiber Connection	\$64,320
Future Radio Site Leased Fiber (avoided future cost)	\$27,600

**TOTAL ANNUAL COST** **\$113,277**

**Proposed Project Cost** \$791,000

**Break Even** 7 years

**NEW Operating Cost – Annual License Renewal (year 6)** \$5,500

## Project benefits

- General sharing of internet connectivity between buildings
- File sharing and replication between buildings; disaster recovery
- Connectivity for security cameras, electronic locks
- Public Wi-Fi
- Phone system sharing
- Reduces reliance on commercial providers
- Reduction/consolidation of operating costs
- Future benefits that are unknown at this time; preparation for technological advances

## What's included in the project budget?

Pole Attachment Application	\$17,000
Fiber Installation	\$598,000
IT Networking Hardware*	\$111,000
IT Network Installation Services	\$15,000
Traffic Control	\$50,000
<b><u>TOTAL</u></b>	<b><u>\$791,000</u></b>

\*Note: Beginning in Year 6, the Town's networking hardware will require an annual license renewal estimated at \$5,500. This would be requested in the Town's operating budget. The Board of Education already owns the specified hardware. Licensing is already included in the BOE's budget.