



Office of the Town Manager

Frank Cassidy

STAFF REPORT

Warrenton Town Council

Carter Nevill, Mayor

Heather Sutphin, Ward 1

William Semple, Ward 2

Brett Hamby, Ward 3

James Hartman, Ward 4 Vice Mayor

Jay Heroux, Ward 5

Paul Mooney, At Large

David McGuire, At Large

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| Council Meeting Date: | August 8 th , 2023 |
| Agenda Title: | Affordable Housing |
| Requested Action: | Consider a proposed plan for allocation of the remaining ARPA funds |
| Department / Agency Lead: | Town Manager |
| Staff Lead: | Frank Cassidy |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Councilman Jay Heroux has proposed the issuance of "Request for Information on Affordable Housing." Councilman Heroux has circulated the item amongst the Town Council for feedback and discussion. Staff is putting forth this proposal for discussion amongst the Town Council for direction.

BACKGROUND

At the July 11th, 2023, Regular Town Council Meeting, The Town Council met to discuss the allocation of the remaining \$278,597 of American Rescue Plan Act funds not previously allocated. The agenda item titled Beneficial use of funds was spearheaded by Councilmen David McGuire.

The Town Council heard from multiple constituents including representatives from Habitat for Humanity and Community Touch.

The Town Council directed staff to "Dedicate the remaining unappropriated ARPA funds to affordable housing and accessibility initiatives focused on the best use of these funds for maximum benefit, requiring collaboration with existing entities and initiatives, including but not limited to Habitat for Humanity and the First Baptist Church, which will meet all of the requirements for distribution."

This Policy direction from the Town Council requires staff to establish a process to review and distribute the funds.

One council member, Mr. Jay Heroux created a Request for Information (RIF) with a proposed option for the process to review and distribute the funds.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Consider the proposal for the issuance of the allocation of the remaining ARPA funds. Provide Direction to staff on continuing with this proposal, modifying this proposal, or creating a different proposal to ensure the disbursement of funds.

Service Level/Policy Impact

Affordable housing is a component called out in Plan Warrenton, 2040. This plan will help to work towards items:

H-1: Ensure equitable, attainable housing opportunities across residents of all ages, incomes, and abilities by catering to the needs of a diverse community, including young families, professionals early in their careers, essential workforce, and those entering retirement.

H-3: Preserve existing neighborhoods and promote infill that supports the character and heritage of Warrenton.

Fiscal Impact

Allocation of ARPA funds and the subsequent reporting as well as the staff time required to create and implement the program.

Legal Impact

No Legal impact has been identified at this time.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Affordable Housing Program