

Town of Corinth

ARPA Committee

April 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Committee members in attendance: John Haney, Steve Long, Anne Margolis, and Mike Pittman.

Public in attendance: Rick Cawley (Selectman, chair), Carl Demrow (Selectman), Nick Kramer (Selectman).

The meeting started promptly at 7:00 PM, with Long asking for a motion to approve the March 22, 2022 meeting minutes. Pittman made a motion to approve the meeting minutes and Haney seconded the motion, the motion carried.

Long initiated discussion regarding the scoring spreadsheet prepared and distributed to the Committee by Margolis. The scoring criteria were stated for the benefit of the public attendees and the Committee discussed the value of each criterion to the selection process. At the conclusion of the discussion, there was consensus that the cost criterion was not directly applicable at this stage of the process and would not be scored. The remaining criteria were deemed acceptable to the Committee.

A discussion was had regarding how to move forward with the scoring. It was decided that the first three criteria (eligibility, feasibility, and/or availability of alternative funding) would be reviewed as a group, as these are being used to eliminate projects. The Committee reviewed the suggested projects based on being eligible for funding based on the Treasury Department ARPA Guidelines. A consensus of eligible projects was reached, and the committee moved on to reviewing projects based on feasibility. The Committee discussed the idea of feasibility and decided that projects that required ongoing administration and/or required extended funding timelines were not feasible based on Treasury Department ARPA Guidelines. The suggested projects were reviewed for feasibility, and a consensus was reached. The Committee then reviewed the suggested projects based on alternative available funding. A consensus among the group was also reached for this criterion. At the conclusion of the Committee's review of the first three scoring criterion, 35 projects remained eligible for continued scoring.

At the conclusion of the group scoring, Demrow asked the Committee if it was possible to add a criterion for scoring projects based on minimizing or reducing future tax burden on Town residents. The Committee discussed the suggestion, and it was agreed that the new criterion would replace the cost criterion that was to be removed from scoring.

At this time, Long provided the Committee with additional information regarding the East Corinth Sewer/Water project (proposal for an initial survey of existing water and wastewater systems in the village) and a proposal from the Corinth Volunteer Fire Department for the purchase of equipment. The Committee reviewed the proposals and briefly discussed each one.

Long asked the Committee what was needed to prepare for the next meeting, which will be an informational meeting for the public. It was decided that Long would prepare the meeting warning and arrange advertising it. Long and/or Margolis will organize copies of the score sheet to share with meeting attendees. It was also decided that the results of the first three scoring criteria based on this evening's meeting would be shared at the public meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and was so moved. The meeting concluded at 9:20 PM.

ARPA Committee's next meeting will be Tuesday, April 26, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall.