



CITY OF NEWARK CITY COUNCIL

City Administration Building, City Council Chambers

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Minutes Special Meeting Thursday, October 7, 2021 6:00 P.M

A. ROLL CALL

Mayor Nagy called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Council Members Collazo, Hannon, Freitas, and Vice Mayor Bucci were noted present.

B. CITY MANAGER REPORTS

1. American Rescue Plan Act ("ARPA") Work Session

City Manager Benoun gave the presentation (on file with City Clerk). He stated that the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) would allocate \$11.8 million to the City for eligible ARPA uses. The funding must be used by December 31, 2026.

Executive Team members presented proposals on how to use the funding per the ARPA rules.

Council Members Collazo and Freitas recused themselves from the meeting during proposals presented and funding discussion for Old Town Area projects. They were placed on hold in Zoom and returned to the meeting after the Old Town discussions were completed.

The Draft ARPA Funding Plan recommended by the Executive Team included:

Personnel Budget Restoration - \$3,952,000

One Year Operating Budget Restoration - \$905,000

Newark Family Resource Center and Bilingual Preschool/Promotores Training and Teen Program - \$1,343,000

Affordable Housing Project - \$1,500,000

Small Business Grants - \$1,500,000

Chamber of Commerce Assistance - \$280,000

Old Town Newark Business Assistance - \$150,000

Old Town Façade Improvements - \$100,000

Broadband Master Plan - \$200,000

Implementation of Broadband Master Plan - \$1,000,000

Community Development/Public Outreach Software - \$250,000
Non-Profit Agency Grants - \$300,000
Administrative Costs (consultants and staff costs) - \$100,000
Childcare & Recreation Program Scholarships - \$210,000
Total: \$11,800,00

City Manager Benoun stated that Projects not recommended on the ARPA Funding Plan could potentially be funded through other means.

Council Member Collazo recommended full time hours for the part time Promotores staff.

No one from the public requested to speak.

The City Council discussed the recommended plan and agreed it was a good blueprint.

City Manager Benoun stated that staff would return with an action plan at a future City Council meeting and that the ARPA plan would be revisited from time to time.

C. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Nagy adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Sheila Harrington, City Clerk