

# American Rescue Plan Act Funding

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FINAL PROPOSAL  
TOWN OF SOUTHBURY  
APRIL 7, 2022

# Affordable Housing

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## Pierce Hollow Village Project – \$1,500,000

There is a considerable need for senior affordable housing in Southbury. The members of Pierce Hollow Village have been striving to build a senior affordable housing complex at the Southbury Training School property. This 1.5 million dollars will show Southbury's commitment to affordable housing and help them gain access to the funding necessary to build the complex as grants have now become available. The Town believes in the importance of affordable housing in Southbury and hopes this use of the ARPA money will help the Pierce Hollow Village concept become a reality.

# Social Services

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## Grants for Southbury Nonprofit Organizations - \$200,000

The Town will be setting up a grant program that will be available to all Southbury nonprofit organizations. Nonprofits will have the opportunity to obtain funding for projects and services to help the community. These grants will help organizations such as the Southbury Food Bank, Needy Fund, Fuel Bank, VFW and the Women's Club better serve Southbury residents and provide increased assistance to those in need.

# Parks & Recreation

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## Splash Pad & Pickle Ball Courts - \$346,679

The ARPA Task Force received input from the community about the need for increased recreation activities in Town. The addition of a splash pad provides families a safe and fun space in the summer to bring their children to play and enjoy the outdoors.

Pickle ball has become a popular activity for residents of all ages, and the community has expressed a need for courts in Town. Stand alone pickle ball courts will provide a space dedicated to the sport that residents will be able to enjoy.

# Public Safety

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## Police Body Cameras - \$300,000

Due to recent State legislative changes, Police departments are now required to utilize body worn cameras and dashboard cameras to increase transparency and accountability. The Town has decided to use the ARPA money for this new requirement to help balance the budget as this unexpected expense has not been reserved for in advance.

# Public Safety

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## Police & Fire Department Radios - \$1,545,369

The Police & Fire Department radios are at end of life and in need of replacement. The Town has partnered with NORCOMCT to purchase Motorola digital radios and communication system at a competitive price after going out to bid. These radios are essential for emergency operations in Town and need to function properly for public safety.

# Public Safety

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## Security Cameras for Town Buildings - \$100,000

The Town currently lacks a proper security system for its municipal buildings which poses a safety risk to employees and residents. This funding will be used to determine the best locations for security cameras in Town buildings and purchase and install the cameras.

# Public Safety

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## Communication Dispatch Software - \$125,000

The Police Department currently uses a dispatch software that is outdated and has been failing to properly serve the communication needs of police, fire and emergency services. The Town will be purchasing a new software system, NexGen, that the State and a majority of Connecticut municipalities utilize. This new software will help the Police Dispatch Department operate more efficiently with improved functionality.



# Economic Development

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## Town Property Feasibility Studies - \$50,000

The Town currently owns properties with potential for development that need to be studied to determine the feasibility of constructing commercial or municipal buildings. An on-call engineering firm will assist with conducting studies on the feasibility of development.

# Technology

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## New Accounting Software - \$150,000

The Town is working diligently to improve operations and incorporate technology, eliminating paper waste and manual processes. The current accounting system in the Fiscal Office impedes the Town's ability to increase efficiencies due to its flawed functionality and lack of capabilities for automation. This funding will purchase Oracle NetSuite for Government, a new accounting software that is user-friendly with automated processes and includes the functions the Fiscal Office needs to streamline operations.

# Technology

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## Audio Visual System for Town Hall Meeting Room - \$100,000

The Town's audio visual system for streaming and recording meetings is outdated and does not function properly. There have been issues with the streaming not working during meetings which has caused problems with transparent public communication. The Town will purchase a new audio visual system to improve the ability for boards and commissions to communicate effectively with the public and make meetings more accessible to residents with increased remote capabilities.

# Technology

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## Town Phone System - \$100,000

The Town has an old and outdated phone system that is past end of life, and it is difficult to obtain parts and replacements as the phones are not manufactured or serviced anymore. There is a need for improved technology to move Town operations forward. This funding will purchase a voiceover IP phone system with increased capabilities for remote work and service to residents.

# Infrastructure

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## Bridge Repair and Replacement - \$675,000

The State of Connecticut has rated Heritage Road Bridge in poor condition. The Town budgeted 1 million dollars to repair Heritage Road Bridge and Flood Bridge Road Bridge. The ARPA funds enables the Town to repair these bridges without impacting the mill rate.

# Infrastructure

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## Fire Department 3 Bay Garage - \$350,000

The Southbury Volunteer Fire Department has requested a new 3 bay garage for storage of vehicles and equipment. The Fire Department lacks adequate space for storage, and the Fire Chief has expressed the need for an additional building to help them alleviate their space issues.

# Infrastructure

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## Stormwater Drainage Repairs - \$250,000

The Town has experienced an increase in failing pipes that have closed roads and caused need for costly emergency repairs. This funding will be used towards fixing the stormwater infrastructure to prevent future pipe failure emergencies.