

# Town of Franklin

355 East Central Street  
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OFFICE OF THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

December 15, 2023

To: Town Council  
From: Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator  
Amy frigulietti, Deputy Town Administrator

**Re: Resolution 23-71: Town Council Acceptance and Approval of ARPA Funds**

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We are asking the Town Council to consider an final application to Norfolk County for further ARPA awards in the total amount of \$1,359,000 for the following projects:

- Mental Health Clinician for the Police Department - \$559,000

To fund a third Mental Health Clinician at the Police Department, as well as fund all three Mental Health Clinician (and associated expenses) positions through December 31, 2026. Approximately one-third of all calls for service to the PD are mental health related. The Town is working on a pilot program for three years to see if we can address the mental health issues in town with greater community level response and meet people where they are and connect those to services and help reduce the calls for service.

- Sewer Capital Projects - \$500,000

Start the rehabilitation of older asbestos cement (AC) and vitrified clay (VC) sanitary sewer pipe by cured-in-place pipe lining and cured-in-place spot repairs throughout the Pond Street Area sewershed. Continue the Town's efforts to remove I&I from the sewer system, while repairing the structural integrity of older pipes in the system.

- Franklin Food Pantry - \$100,000

To be expended on client food, household products and personal care items. The Pantry will use these monies over the course of the next three years of eligibility under APRA rules through 12/31/26.

- SAFE Coalition - \$100,000

To establish a sustainable mental health and housing program to meet the needs of the residents of Franklin.

- YMCA Bernon Family Branch - \$100,000

To provide 400 Franklin teens ages 13-17 with a free Y membership for 6 months and engage them in free programs to encourage connection, engagement and healthy living after many teens are continuing to struggle from the pandemic. The funds will also go towards smaller and more targeted innovative and unique programs to address mental health, nutrition and socialization programs that have affected numerous youth from the pandemic.

This award will allocate the remaining 20% of the Town's County allocation. With this final vote, all "ARPA County" funds will be allocated. In 2024, the Town will seek a report from the County on any other unspent funds from the rest of Norfolk County and put Franklin in a position.

We also wanted to announce that "ARPA Direct" funds will be allocated toward the following projects:

- \$1 million in lost hotel tax money will go toward the reconstruction of Baron Road; and
- \$420,000 will go toward the replacement and construction of the High School Visitor Bleachers and the Pisani Field soundsystem. These commitments also alleviate these projects off the capital plan.

When we have time, I will work to produce a comprehensive report on all ARPA funds to augment the presentations we have given over the past few years. See the Town's [website for previous work](#). With these "ARPA Direct" commitments the Town will have approximately \$150,000 left in funds to allocate next year. However, some expenses still need to be determined for our accounting consultant, reporting and procurement for the above projects. I am withholding any commitments to those monies until I get factual bids and to ensure any ancillary expenses are accounted for with federal money.

ARPA funds can be allocated through December 31, 2024 and must be contracted with any service provider. Funds can be spent through December 31, 2026, but must be allocated and contracted with by the end of 2024. The US Treasury continues to modify the rules around ARPA, including reporting, and the Town should maintain a small amount to compensate for any additional requirements.

All in all, this is the end of federal stimulus money as currently authorized by Congress.



## TOWN OF FRANKLIN RESOLUTION 23-71

### TOWN COUNCIL APPROVAL OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) FUNDS

The Franklin Town Council on behalf of the Town of Franklin hereby accepts the receipt of ARPA Funds from and/or through Norfolk County, MA, approves the expenditure of funds for the below-listed purposes, and authorizes the Town Administrator to execute any and all documents and/or to take any and all other action required for Town to receive said funds.

Mental Health Clinician Pilot Program	\$559,000
Sewer Capital Project	\$500,000
Franklin Food Pantry	\$100,000
SAFE Coalition	\$100,000
YMCA Bernon Family Branch	\$100,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,359,000</b>

This resolution shall become effective according to the provisions of the Town of Franklin Home Rule Charter.

DATED: \_\_\_\_\_, 2023

VOTED: \_\_\_\_\_

UNANIMOUS: \_\_\_\_\_

A TRUE RECORD ATTEST:

YES: \_\_\_\_\_ NO: \_\_\_\_\_

ABSTAIN: \_\_\_\_\_ ABSENT: \_\_\_\_\_

RECUSED: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Danello, CMC  
Town Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Glenn Jones, Clerk  
Franklin Town Council