

**ARPA Committee Meeting
Town of St Johnsbury
August 15, 2022**

Committee members in attendance: Chad Whitehead, Frank Empsall, Ken Hammer, Jenna O'Farrell, Adam Kane, Joe Kasprzak, Nick Anzalone, Scott Beck, Patrick Shattuck, Scott Campbell.

Members of the public: Representatives from HCH Enterprises

Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

- **Open Meeting/Agenda Amendments:** Meeting opened 12:00pm. No agenda amendments.
- **Public Comment:** None.
- **HCH Enterprises – Public Outreach Plan**

Review of the Draft Press Release with HCH. Recommendation that the press release discuss the total award of \$2.1M of which \$1.6 M remains unobligated. First paragraph needs to indicate that as the Final Rule was developed, the original ARPA limitations were lifted and the funds are now much more flexible and eligible to be used on any general governmental service. HCH will make revisions the Press Release and Chad will distribute to the full Committee before finalization and release.

The committee reviewed the draft survey documents and identified that the topics should be more general for feedback. Discussed adding a question in upfront in the survey such as "What is your top priority project for the Town of St Johnsbury" followed by the ranking of general topics. Following the broad data collection during the Final Friday event, the focus groups could review topics in more detail.

- **LVRT Riverfront Extension Matching Funds Request:.**

The Committee reviewed the request for the LVCT Riverfront Extension Project to include a request of \$236,000 in funds to access an approximately \$1.5 M in Federal funds already secured for the project. The project ranked highest in the surveys completed by the Committee members and is supported in the Town Plan, the VCDP Community Visit, Regional Planning documents, State priorities. On a motion by Adam and second by Frank the board approved supporting the application for \$236,000 for the Project and advancing it to the Select Board by a vote of 9 in favor and 1 opposed.

- **Other Business:**

none.

- **Adjourned:** 12:40pm

Respectfully submitted,
Chad Whitehead, Committee Member