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*By Linda Amerighi at 11:54 am, Apr 23, 2024*

**Sharon ARPA Advisory Committee**

**April 17, 2024 Special Meeting Minutes**

Video recording of meeting:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/0/folders/1fYacl5DzT14KhRLqyWNnuf6JFib0hmQi>

The Sharon ARPA Advisory Committee held a special meeting at 5:30 pm on April 17, 2024.

The meeting was held at via Zoom.

**Committee Attendees:**

Jill Drew

Donna DiMartino

Tom Bartram

Meghan Flanagan

Barbara Prindle

Tom Casey

**Other Attendees:** First Selectman Casey Flanagan

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.
2. The proposed agenda was approved.
3. Approval of April 4, 2024 minutes, previously circulated.
4. There are no new applications

Jill explained that the meeting was called to review the Board of Selectman's proposal to spend \$70,000 of ARPA funding to improve the IT system for the town, with a goal of qualifying the town's systems for CIRMA cybersecurity insurance. The town needs to upgrade its server, firewall, network applications, and cabling to improve security, to take advantage of higher connection speeds, and to create more efficient and resilient systems to improve disaster recovery options and maintain business continuity.

First Selectman Casey Flanagan explained that he met with five vendors, three of which submitted complete proposals. After reviewing the proposals, the Selectman have chosen a vendor for the project. Casey gave an overview of the components of the upgrade plan and noted that the funding proposal includes a contingency amount because some unforeseen expenses may arise as the project gets underway. Not included in this proposal is an upgrade of the wiring and permanent installation of hybrid meeting equipment in the Chapin Meeting Room. The town is waiting for the vendor's estimate before deciding whether to go ahead with that project.

A motion was made by Tom Casey and seconded by Barbara Prindle to allocate up to \$75,000 of ARPA funds to the improvement of the IT systems within the Town Hall. All present approved. There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

The next meeting will be held Thursday, May 2 at 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna DiMartino,

ARPA Committee member