

ARPA Minutes 2/9/23

Attendance: Clrs Dave Adams, Gus Steeves, Mike Marketti; Charlie Diaz, George Chenier, Peg Dean, Mike Brunelle, Rachael Carney, Abi Theberge.

Mapping Upgrades: NearMap/GIS presentation (Conducted in chambers by Zoom; Rachael Carney hosting and Drew Erhard presenting). Erhard said New England is his firm's big customer base, and they overfly the state annually in spring. Has ability to measure building sizes; some areas are 3D & provide by subscription. Searchable for specific addresses, intended for internal use only, with various detail layers and can target specific kinds of properties. Ability to include permits, etc on properties depends on town's software, looking at "change detection" capability over time. Overall= \$5k/year, with add-ons=\$2500/yr (including public access).

Carney said she's looking at that program plus a new GIS (CAI Tech) = \$11k/year for 3 yrs. Eric agreed, saying the current MapGeo GIS is "very difficult to work with;" they've sent zoning updates and the firm hasn't yet added them, image dates vary 2013-22, among other issues. Carney will seek best price for 3 yrs. Postponed for more info.

Henry St lights: Brunelle checked supply, found it's 240V and can handle new lights; might be able to get PARC grant in 2025. Seeking \$120-130K. Chenier recalled council voted years ago to shut those lights off. Dean's seeking a One Stop grant; will know if we can apply in spring with results in fall with goal of extending playing season. Recommended approval/

Meeting room recording equipment: Diaz got 3 quotes from state bid list firms; Ockers was best at \$25,864 including SD cards. Plans to do three rooms – Rice, McCann, GAR Hall. Department just used the last of the Charter funds. Recommended approval.

Slum/Blight survey: Was already approved by Council; this just changes funding source.

Adams summarized ARPA fund use as: Total so far = \$3.8M. Biggest uses = \$1.7M infrastructure, \$1M low-moderate income issues, \$406K police & fire. Some discussion of low-income/senior needs for utility costs, home needs, senior/community center programs.