

**To: Ancram Town Board**  
**From: Art Bassin**  
**Date: September 10, 2021**



- 1. Financial Report** – Another normal financial month. We still expect to end the year with over \$1.4 million in cash, compared to our normal \$800,000.
- 2. 2022 Tentative Budget** – We will hold our Tentative Budget public hearing at 6.45 on 9/16. Taxes for 2022 are budgeted to come in about \$4,000 under 2021 levels at about \$747,500. The 2022 Tentative Budget Overview and the Budget itself have been previously circulated as Background Material for the public hearing.
- 3. Town Hall ASHP** – We have received an estimate of \$33,000 for two Bosch packaged ASHPs, installed and current units removed, with a 6 month lead time on the units. We are still waiting for estimates on the larger generator and electric upgrades needed to support the Bosch ASHPs. Total project looks like it may be coming in around \$100,000, not \$200,000, and indications are we will be able to use the \$71,000 NYSERDA grant for this solution.
- 4. Marijuana Law** – We will consider local laws opting out of smoking lounges and retail sales. If we decide to proceed to opt out of either smoking lounges or sales, or both, we will plan to do a public in October and pass the appropriate law at the October town board meeting.
- 5. Edmunds** – We will consider a proposal from Edmunds to upgrade our systems, network reliability and security. As Bonnie suggested, we invited Edmunds to send a representative to our 9/16 meeting to explain the proposal and respond to questions. Edmunds has indicated they will have a representative at our meeting.
- 6. Radar Speed Sign Permit** – We received the permit from NYS DOT last week, and have ordered the two new radar speed signs that will be placed on poles on 82 coming into Ancram and Ancramdale. No delivery date yet for the new signs.
- 7. NYS Deferred Compensation Plan** – We will consider a resolution to join the NYS Deferred Compensation Plan, so eligible town employees can participate in the program. There is no cost to the town to join this program.
- 8. American Rescue Plan Act** – Our first report will be due 10/31 based on actions we have taken through 9/30. So far, our only spending under ARPA has been the \$5500 we have awarded to ANHNA for labor to assist in their weekly food distribution efforts. As I reported last month, about \$102,000 of the \$152,000 in ARPA funding will be classified as “revenue loss” and can be used for anything a town can normally use funds for. We have allocated \$30,000 to expanding broadband in Boston Corner, \$40,000 for a van to support the ANHNA food distribution program, and \$11,000 a year for labor to support the ANHNA food distribution program. The work to expand fiber in Boston Corner has started and should be done this week or next.
- 9. Building Department Clerk & Planning/ZBA Deputy Clerk** – We are advertising for someone to replace our Building Department clerk who will be leaving the area in early November, and for a deputy Planning Board clerk to handle increased workloads. Please let me know if you are aware of anyone who might be interested in either position.
- 9. Cyber Risk Insurance** – Our insurance agent notified us last week that the company we had applied to for cyber risk insurance last month has exited this line of insurance, so we will not be getting cyber risk insurance from that company. The reason given for them withdrawing from this kind of insurance is there have been too many cyber risk/ransomware incidents involving municipalities in recent months. We have asked our agent to provide alternative cyber risk insurance options for us to consider.