

Michael Borg
Town Manager



TOWN OF NORTH ATTLEBOROUGH
43 South Washington Street
North Attleborough MA 02760
508-699-0100

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: Tuesday, March 26, 2024
TO: Town Clerk Pat McNielly
FROM: Michael Borg *MWJ 26 MARCH 2024*
CC: Linda Catanzariti Town Accountant
Chris Sweet Tax Collector/Treasurer
RE: **Measure 2024-080- Authorization to Transfer \$5,000.00 from ARPA Funds to the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative to support Police Details at the Annual Downtown Block Party**

Measure 2024-080- Authorization to Transfer \$5,000.00 from ARPA Funds to the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative to support Police Details at the Annual Downtown Block Party

Purpose and Justification:

Purpose:

The purpose of this measure is to allocate \$5,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Non-Entitlement Unit (NEU) funding to support the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative's Annual Block Party. This allocation aims to restore funds lost due to the recent enactment of 9C cuts by the Governor, which reduced the previously earmarked Commonwealth contribution from \$10,000 to \$5,000. The provision of these funds is critical for ensuring the success of this highly anticipated event, which significantly contributes to the local economy and community spirit.

Justification:

Economic Boost: The Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative's Annual Block Party is not just a festive event; it is a major economic catalyst for the town. By drawing in large crowds, the event supports local businesses, increases sales, and promotes North Attleborough as a vibrant community. The ARPA funds will ensure that this economic boost is not compromised.

Alignment with ARPA Objectives: The allocation of ARPA funds to support the block party aligns with the ARPA's guidance to support economic development initiatives. Investing in community events like the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative's Annual Block Party stimulates local economies, promotes small business growth, and contributes to the overall recovery and development of the community post-pandemic.

Restoration of Earmarked Funds: The Commonwealth had recognized the value of this event through an initial earmark of \$10,000, which was intended to defray the costs

associated with police details and other essential services for the event. The recent 9C cuts have halved this earmark, threatening the event's success.

Promotion of North Attleborough's Image: The annual block party not only serves the immediate economic and social interests of North Attleborough but also significantly contributes to the town's reputation as one of the best towns in Massachusetts. Supporting this event reaffirms the town council's commitment to maintaining and enhancing this reputation.

The Town Council met on March 25, 2024, and on behalf of the Town Council, a motion was made by Vice- President Simmons to approve Measure 2024-080- Authorization to Transfer \$5,000.00 from ARPA Funds to the Downtown North Attleborough Collaborative to support Police Details at the Annual Downtown Block Party.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Slobogan.

Motion carried. 8-0 UNANIMOUS