ITEM # 146-23 HISTORICAL SOCIETY FUNDING



**To:** Caroline Pelletier, Interim Town Manager

From Jessica Maloy, Finance Director
Re: ARPA Funding\_Historical Society

**Date:** July 26, 2023

During the FY24 budget process, the Historical Society's funding was inadvertently reduced to zero. The Historical Society met with the Town Council in February, prior to the start of the budget process, and discussed their operations and funding requests from the Town.

During the FY24 budget process (mid-March), staff instituted a "new" Outside Service Agency Request Form for all Non-Profit Agencies that were asking the Town for funding in FY24.

Any agencies that did not submit a form were excluded from consideration in the FY24 budget. It was unbeknownst to staff at the time that the Historical Society had met with Council to request this funding in person, back in February.

Staff is recommending that Council consider funding the Historical Society \$10,000 for FY24 out of ARPA funds, with the understanding that a form will be filed for FY25.

Currently, Council has appropriated \$771,873.30 of the \$905,068.14 ARPA Funds awarded, including \$20,000 to Meetinghouse Arts and \$1,500 to the Farmer's Market which are two other outside service agencies. This leaves \$133,194.84 to be appropriated over the next seventeen months.