



Town of Mars Hill

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

John L. Chandler
Mayor
Nicholas A. Honeycutt
Vice-Mayor
Robert W. Zink
Treasurer
Stuart L. Jolley
Clerk
Larry H. Davis
Secretary

MINUTES REGULAR MEETING Mars Hill Town Hall – Conference Room April 4, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

The Town of Mars Hill Mayor and Board of Aldermen met in regular session on Monday, April 4, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Mars Hill Town Hall.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor John Chandler; Aldermen Nicholas Honeycutt, Stuart Jolley, and Robert W. (Bob) Zink. Aldermen Larry Davis was absent.

STAFF PRESENT: Nathan R. Bennett, Town Manager; and Jamie Stokes, Town Attorney

OTHERS PRESENT: Johnny Casey, News-Record Sentinel

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor John Chandler. Mayor Chandler welcomed those in attendance.

Approval of the Agenda

Mayor Chandler asked the Board to review the proposed agenda for approval. Upon review of the agenda, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Bob Zink made a motion that the agenda be approved as presented.** Alderman Nicholas Honeycutt seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the agenda was approved unanimously. (Attachment A)

Approval of Minutes

Mayor Chandler then asked the Board to review the minutes of the special meeting for the rescheduled regular meeting held on March 14, 2022. There being no modifications to the minutes, **Alderman Zink made a motion that the minutes for March 14, 2022, be approved as presented by management.** Alderman Stuart Jolley seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the minutes were approved unanimously.

Old Business

Mayor Chandler then moved to address old business. There was no old business.

New Business

Mayor Chandler then moved to address new business.

American Rescue Plan Act – POLICY for ARPA/CSLFRF Administration

Mayor Chandler then asked Mr. Bennett to provide information regarding the proposed policies regarding the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. Mr. Bennett reminded the Board that the Town has received funding from the federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) as part of the federal government effort to assist local governments and their communities recover from the effects of COVID-19. Mr. Bennett advised that the U.S. Treasury requires that the local governments adhere to the provisions of the federal Uniform Grant Guidance and other related regulations in order to expend ARPA Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds(CSLFRF). Mr. Bennett advised that the Town must adopt and adhere to the provisions of the proposed policies as follows: (i.) ELIGIBLE PROJECT POLICY; (ii.) NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY; (iii.) RECORD RETENTION POLICY; and, (iv.) CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY. Mr. Bennett summarized the proposed policies and confirmed adoption will bring the Town in compliance with the requirements of the Uniform Guidance pursuant to information provided by the School of Government and the Land of Sky Regional Council consultant. Upon completion of discussion of the proposed policies, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Jolley made a motion to approve the proposed policies as follows: “ELIGIBLE PROJECT POLICY,” “NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY,” “RECORD RETENTION POLICY,” and, “CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY” for Expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds by North Carolina Local Governments as presented by management (Attachments B, C, D, & E, respectively).** Alderman Honeycutt seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously.

Woodhaven Wastewater Pump Station Project – Agreement for Engineering Services – McGill Associates

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide information regarding the proposed engineering services agreement for the Woodhaven Wastewater Pump Station Project. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that, as previously discussed, the two wastewater pump stations in the Woodhaven community are to be replaced and/or rehabilitated. Mr. Bennett advised that this project will be funded from ARPA-related funding. Mr. Bennett advised that the Town released a request for qualifications for engineering firms in early March and that the respondent, McGill Associates, has been determined the qualified engineer for this project. McGill Associates has submitted a proposal for the required project engineering services. Mr. Bennett advised the Board that McGill is an outstanding firm whom the Town has used many times in the past and he recommended approval of the proposed agreement for engineering services from McGill Associates for this project. Upon completion of discussion of the proposed agreement, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Jolley made a motion to approve the proposed “Agreement for Engineering Services” from McGill Associates as presented by management.** Alderman Zink seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously.

Town Manager Report – Nathan Bennett, Town Manager

Mayor Chandler then recognized Mr. Bennett to provide the Town Manager Report.

COVID-19 Response

Mr. Bennett provided the Board an update on the continuing Town response to the coronavirus and COVID-19 situation. The Town continues to be under the state and locally designated state of emergency in response to COVID-19. Mr. Bennett advised that the daily positive infection rate is currently less than 5% in Madison County and minimal community spread designation by the State. He further advised there have been no issues to note due to COVID with Town operations since the last Board meeting.

General Update

Mr. Bennett provided the Board with a general update of Town operations. He updated the Board on the Community Economic Revitalization and Recovery Initiative project that the Town is working in partnership with the N.C. Department of Commerce. The second meeting of the workgroup was March 22nd and the next meeting is April 26th at 5:30 at Town Hall. Mr. Bennett reviewed the meeting summary and invited Board members to attend if schedules allow.

Mr. Bennett advised the Board that the First Fridays' monthly downtown business event on Friday, April 1st appeared to be a success. The Town provided a large inflatable bounce house and games for the children's entertainment area. Mr. Bennett stated he hopes to continue to partner with the event organizers throughout the coming months. Mr. Bennett reminded the Board that the Madison County Racial Justice Coalition is sponsoring a workshop on April 6th at the Episcopal Church of the Holy Spirit on Bone Camp Road. Mr. Bennett advised that he, Alderman Zink, Fire Chief Nathan Waldrup, Police Chief Jon Clark, are scheduled to attend and other town officials may also attend if schedules allow. Mr. Bennett then reminded the Board that those recently re-elected officials must complete the state-required ethics training within one year of their election or re-election. Mr. Bennett advised that he will be registering those affected members through the N.C. League of Municipalities training program for the training that can be completed on-line and on-demand at their convenience. Mr. Bennett updated the Board on other items of interest to the Board.

Project Johnny - Economic Development Incentive Proposal

PRESENTATION – Mayor Chandler recognized Mr. Bennett to provide a presentation concerning the proposed economic development incentive for a pending project in the Town of Mars Hill identified by the N.C. Department of Commerce as Project Johnny. Mr. Bennett advised that the Madison County Economic Development Director has been working with the Company and the Commerce Department on this project since early 2021. The Company will be relocating an existing operation from another jurisdiction to Madison County at a location inside the Town of Mars Hill jurisdiction. The Company has pledged to create and maintain 40 full-time jobs with benefits and make real and business personal property improvements of at least \$3,380,000 over a proposed period of (5) years as an expansion of its current manufacturing and distribution facility. In light of this level of investment, the Commerce Department will provide a grant to the Company which requires a local match as part of the economic development incentive project. The proposal recommends Madison County and the Town of Mars Hill share in providing the local match over a seven (7) year period. The proposed agreement pledges an incentive grant of 65% of the total new ad valorem tax paid by the Company beginning in the 2023 tax year and continuing through the 2029 tax year. In order to qualify for the incentive grant, the Company must meet or exceed certain real and business property value property improvements and meet or exceed certain full-time job creation pursuant to the schedule providing for same in the legally binding economic development incentive agreement. If the Company fails to meet the established goals in any given year, then no incentive grant will be paid. Town Attorney Jamie Stokes advised the Board that she has reviewed the proposed document and found it to be compliant with the applicable statutes. Upon completion of discussion of the Company, the Company's obligations, the Town's obligations, and the proposed agreement, Mayor Chandler moved to the required public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING – Mayor Chandler then convened the public hearing to receive comments from the general public concerning the proposed economic development incentive agreement for Project Johnny, pursuant to notice duly published to the public. There being no comments from the public, Mayor Chandler closed the public hearing.

ACTION ITEM – Upon completing discussion of the proposed economic development incentive proposal for Project Johnny, Mayor Chandler called for a motion. **Alderman Honeycutt made a motion to accept and approve the execution of the “ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE AGREEMENT” for Project Johnny as proposed.** Alderman Jolley seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote by the Mayor, the motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

Mayor Chandler then moved to public comment. There were no comments from the public.

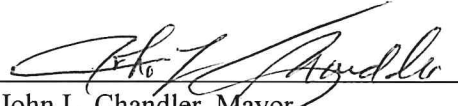
Closed Session (Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11)

There was no Closed Session.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the Board, Mayor Chandler called for a motion to adjourn. **Alderman Zink made a motion to adjourn.** Alderman Jolley seconded the motion. Upon a call for a vote on the motion by the Mayor, the motion to adjourn was unanimously approved.

Approved and authenticated this the 2nd day of May, 2022.


John L. Chandler, Mayor

ATTEST:



Nathan R. Bennett,
Town Manager





Town of Mars Hill

MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN

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Mayor
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AGENDA

REGULAR MEETING

Mars Hill Town Hall Conference Room

April 4, 2022, at 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order – *Mayor John L. Chandler*
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes: March 14, 2022 Regular Meeting
4. Old Business
5. New Business
 - a. **ARPA – POLICY** – Policies for Expenditure of American Rescue Plan Act Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds by North Carolina Local Governments
 - i. **ELIGIBLE PROJECT POLICY**
 - ii. **NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY**
 - iii. **RECORD RETENTION POLICY**
 - iv. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**
 - b. Woodhaven Wastewater Pump Station Project
 - i. Agreement for Engineering Services – McGill Associates
6. Town Manager Report – Nathan Bennett, Town Manager
 - a. COVID-19 Response Update
 - b. General Update
7. Project Johnny – Economic Development Incentive Proposal
 - a. **PRESENTATION**
 - b. **PUBLIC HEARING**
 - c. **ACTION ITEM:** Consideration of Economic Development Incentive for Project Johnny
8. Public Comment

[Policy: Each speaker shall be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes. The public comment period is not intended to require the Board of Aldermen or staff to answer any impromptu questions. The Board will not take action on an item presented during the public comment period. The Board may refer inquiries made during the public comment period to the Town Manager to address as appropriate. If necessary, the item may be placed on the agenda of a future meeting.]
9. Closed Session (*Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 – if needed*)
10. Adjourn

Mars Hill Town Hall

280 North Main Street • P.O. Box 368
Mars Hill, North Carolina 28754
Phone: (828) 689-2301 • Fax: (828) 689-3333

**ELIGIBLE PROJECT POLICY FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021
CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS BY TOWN OF MARS HILL**

WHEREAS the Town of Mars Hill, has received an allocation of funds from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of H.R. 1319 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP/CSLFRF); and

WHEREAS US Treasury is responsible for implementing ARP/CSLFRF and has enacted a Final Rule outlining eligible projects; and

WHEREAS the funds may be used for projects within these categories, to the extent authorized by state law.

1. Support COVID-19 public health expenditures, by funding COVID-19 mitigation and prevention efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, preventing and responding to violence, and certain public health and safety staff;
2. Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to households, small businesses, non-profits, impacted industries, and the public sector;
3. Replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic;
4. Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors; and,
5. Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet; and

WHEREAS the ARP/CSLFRF are subject to the provisions of the federal Uniform Grant Guidance, 2 CFR Part 200 (UG), as provided in the [Assistance Listing](#); and

WHEREAS US Treasury has issued a [Compliance and Reporting Guidance v.2.1 \(November 15, 2021\)](#) dictating implementation of the ARP/CSLFRF award terms and compliance requirements; and

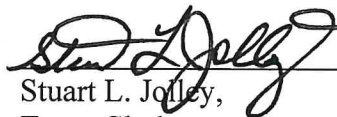
WHEREAS the Compliance and Reporting Guidance states on page 6 that

Per 2 CFR Part 200.303, your organization must develop and implement effective internal controls to ensure that funding decisions under the SLFRF award constitute eligible uses of funds, and document determinations.

BE IT RESOLVED that the governing board of the Town of Mars Hill hereby adopts and enacts the following Eligibility Determination Policy for ARP/CSLFRF funds, which shall apply to the operations of any program, activity, or facility that is supported in whole, or in part, by expenditures CSLFRF pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF award.

ADOPTED this the 4th day of April, 2022, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina.

ATTEST:


Stuart L. Jolley,
Town Clerk




John L. Chandler, Mayor

Eligibility Determination Policy for American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

This policy defines the permissible and prohibited uses of the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of H.R. 1319 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP/CSLFRF) funds. It also outlines the procedures for determining how Town of Mars Hill will spend its ARP/CSLFRF funds.

I. PERMISSIBLE USES OF ARP/CSLFRF FUNDING

US Treasury issued its [Final Rule](#) regarding use of ARPA funds on January 6, 2022. (The Final Rule is effective as of April 1, 2022. Until that date, a local government may proceed under the regulation promulgated by US Department of the Treasury in its [Interim Final Rule](#) or the Final Rule.) The Final Rule (and the Interim Final Rule) identify permissible uses of ARP/CSLFRF funds and certain limitations and process requirements. Local governments must allocate ARP/CSLFRF funds no later than December 31, 2024 and disburse all funding no later than December 31, 2026. Failure of an entity to expend all funds by December 31, 2026 will result in forfeiture of ARPA funds.

ARP/CSLFRF funds may be used for projects within the following categories of expenditures:

1. Support COVID-19 public health expenditures, by funding COVID-19 mitigation and prevention efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, preventing and responding to violence, and certain public health and safety staff;

2. Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to workers, households, small businesses, non-profits, impacted industries, and the public sector;
3. Replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic;
4. Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors; and
5. Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet; and

II. PROHIBITED USES OF ARPA FUNDING

The ARP/CSLFRF and US Treasury's Final Rule prohibit certain uses of ARP/CSLFRF funds. Specifically, ARP/CSLFRF funds may not be used for projects within the following categories of expenditures:

1. To make a deposit into a pension fund that constitutes an extraordinary payment of an accrued, unfunded liability (Note that routine contributions as part of a payroll obligation for an eligible project are allowed.);
2. To borrow money or make debt service payments;
3. To replenish rainy day funds or fund other financial reserves;
4. To satisfy an obligation arising from a settlement agreement, judgment, consent decree, or judicially confirmed debt restricting in a judicial, administrative, or regulatory proceeding (there is an exception to this prohibition if the settlement or judgment requires the Town of Mars Hill to provide services to respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency or its negative economic impacts or to provide government services, then the costs of those otherwise ARP/CSLFRF-eligible projects are allowed.);
5. For a project that includes a term or condition that undermines efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19 or discourages compliance with recommendations and guidelines in CDC guidance for stopping the spread of COVID-19;
6. In violation of the conflict-of-interest requirements imposed by the award terms and 2 CFR 200.318(c).
7. For any expenditure that would violate other applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

The Town of Mars Hill, and any of its contractors or subrecipients, may not expend any ARP/CSLFRF funds for these purposes.

III. PROCEDURES FOR PROJECT APPROVAL

The following are procedures for ARP/CSLFRF project approvals. All Town of Mars Hill employees and officials must comply with these requirements.

1. Requests for ARP/CSLFRF funding, must be made in writing using the ARPA Project Eligibility Worksheet, which includes all the following:
 - a. Brief description of the project
 - b. Identification of ARP/CSLFRF Expenditure Category (EC) (A list of ECs in in the Appendix to the [US Treasury Compliance and Reporting Guidance](#).)
 - c. Required justifications for applicable projects, according to the requirements in the Final Rule. Employees or any applicant seeking ARPA funding should review the [Final Rule](#) and [Final Rule Overview](#) prior to submitting a proposal.
 - d. Proposed budget, broken down by cost item, in accordance with the Town of Mars Hill's Allowable Cost Policy.
 - e. A project implementation plan and estimated implementation timeline (All ARP/CSLFRF funds must be fully obligated by December 31, 2024, and fully expended by December 31, 2026.)
2. Requests for funding must be submitted to the town manager for approval. All requests will be reviewed by the town manager for ARP/CSLFRF compliance and the finance officer for allowable costs and other financial review.
3. No ARP/CSLFRF may be obligated or expended before final written approval by the town manager. Budget amendments will occur after approval, and also require board approval.
4. If a proposal does not meet the required criteria, it will be returned to the requesting party for revision and resubmittal.
5. Following approval, employees responsible for implementing the project must conform actual obligations and expenditures to the pre-approved project budget. Changes in project budgets must be approved by the town manager and may require a budget amendment before proceeding. Any delay in the projected project completion date shall be communicated to the town manager immediately.
6. The town manager must collect and document required information for each EC, for purposes of completing the required Project and Expenditure reports.
7. The town manager must maintain written project requests and approvals, all supporting documentation, and financial information at least until December 31, 2031.

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY FUNDS BY TOWN OF MARS HILL**Recitals**

WHEREAS, the Town of Mars Hill has received an allocation of funds from the “Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund” or “Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund” (together “CSLFRF funds”), established pursuant to Sections 602 and 603 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (the “ARP/CSLFRF award”).

WHEREAS, CSLFRF funds are subject to the U.S. Department of Treasury (“Treasury”) regulations, including the Final Rule, the Award Terms and Conditions, and the Title VII implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 22.


WHEREAS, pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF Award Terms and Conditions, and as a condition of receiving CSLFRF funds, the Town of Mars Hill agrees to follow all federal statutes and regulations prohibiting discrimination in its administration of CSLFRF under the terms and conditions of the ARP/CSLFRF award, including, without limitation, the following:

- i. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d et seq.) and Treasury’s implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 22, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin within programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance;
- ii. The Fair Housing Act, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§ 3601 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or disability;
- iii. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under any program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance;
- iv. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 et seq.), and Treasury’s implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 23, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance; and
- v. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under programs, activities, and services provided or made available by state and local governments or instrumentalities or agencies thereto.


BE IT RESOLVED that the governing board of the Town of Mars Hill hereby adopts and enacts the following nondiscrimination policy, which shall apply to the operations of any program, activity, or facility that is supported in whole, or in part, by expenditures CSLFRF pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF award.

ADOPTED this the 4th day of April, 2022, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina.

ATTEST:


Stuart L. Jolley,
Town Clerk




John L. Chandler, Mayor

Nondiscrimination Policy Statement

It is the policy of the Town of Mars Hill to ensure that no person shall, on the ground of race, color, national origin (including limited English Proficiency), familial status, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subject to discrimination under any program or activity administered by the Town of Mars Hill, including programs or activities that are funded in whole or part, with Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds ("CSLFRF"), which the Town of Mars Hill received from the U.S. Department of Treasury ("Treasury") pursuant to Sections 602 and 603 of the Social Security Act, as added by Section 9901 of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2 (herein the "ARP/CSLFRF award").

I. Governing Statutory & Regulatory Authorities

As required by the CSLFRF [Award Terms and Conditions](#), the Town of Mars Hill shall ensure that each "activity," "facility," or "program"¹ that is funded in whole, or in part, with CSLFRF and administered under the ARP/CSLFRF award, will be facilitated, operated, or conducted in

¹ 22 C.F.R. § 22.3 defines "program" and "activity" as all operations of an entity, including local governments, that receive Federal financial assistance, and the departments, agencies, or special purpose districts of the local governments to which Federal financial assistance is distributed. "Federal financial assistance" includes, among other things, grants and loans of federal funds. "Facility" includes all or any part of structures, equipment, or other real or personal property or interests therein, and the provision of facilities includes the construction, expansion, renovation, remodeling, alteration, or acquisition of facilities.

compliance with the following federal statutes and federal regulations prohibiting discrimination. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- i. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d et seq.) and Treasury's implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 22, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin under programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance;
- ii. The Fair Housing Act, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§ 3601 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status, or disability;
- iii. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. § 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance;
- iv. The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 6101 et seq.), and Treasury's implementing regulations at 31 C.F.R. Part 23, which prohibit discrimination on the basis of age within programs or activities receiving federal financial assistance; and
- v. Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§ 12101 et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under programs, activities, and services provided or made available by state and local governments or instrumentalities or agencies thereto.

II. Discriminatory Practices Prohibited in the Administration of the ARP/CSLFRF Award

To ensure compliance with Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and Title 31 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 22, the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and other pertinent nondiscrimination authorities, the Town of Mars Hill shall prohibit, at a minimum, the following practices in its administration of CSLFRF pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF award:

1. Denying to a person any service, financial aid, or other program benefit without good cause;
2. Providing to a person any service, financial aid, or another benefit which is different in quantity or quality, or is provided in a different manner, from that provided to others under the program.
3. Subjecting a person to segregation or separate treatment in any matter related to the receipt of any service, financial aid, or other benefit under the program;
4. Restricting a person in the enjoyment of any advantages, privileges, or other benefits enjoyed by others receiving any service, financial aid, or other benefit under the program;
5. Treating a person differently from others in determining whether that person satisfies any admission, enrollment, quota, eligibility, membership, or other requirement or condition

which persons must meet to be provided any service, financial aid, or other benefit provided under the program;

6. Implementing different standards, criteria, or other requirements for admission, enrollment, or participation in planning, advisory, contractual, or other integral activities to the program;
7. Adopting methods of administration which, directly or through contractual relationships, would defeat or substantially impair the accomplishment of effective nondiscrimination;
8. Selecting a site or location of facilities with the purpose or effect of excluding persons from, denying them the benefits of, subjecting them to discrimination, or with the purpose or effect of defeating or substantially impairing the accomplishment of the objectives of Title VI or related acts and regulations;
9. Discriminating against any person, either directly or through a contractual agreement, in any employment resulting from the program, a primary objective of which is to provide employment;
10. Committing acts of intimidation or retaliation, including threatening, coercing, or discriminating against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by any pertinent nondiscrimination law, or because an individual made a complaint, testified, assisted, or participated in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing.

III. Reporting & Enforcement

1. The Town of Mars Hill shall cooperate in any enforcement or compliance review activities by the Department of the Treasury. Enforcement may include investigation, arbitration, mediation, litigation, and monitoring of any settlement agreements that may result from these actions. The Town of Mars Hill shall comply with information requests, on-site compliance reviews, and reporting requirements.
2. The Town of Mars Hill shall maintain a complaint log and inform the Treasury of any complaints of discrimination on the grounds of race, color, or national origin (including limited English proficiency covered by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and implementing regulations and provide, upon request, a list of all such reviews or proceedings based on the complaint, whether pending or completed, including the outcome. The Town of Mars Hill shall inform the Treasury if it has received no complaints under Title VI.
3. Any person who believes they have been aggrieved by a discriminatory practice under Title VI has a right to file a formal complaint with the Treasury. Any such complaint must be in writing and filed with the Treasury's Title VI Coordinator within one hundred eighty (180) days following the date of the alleged discriminatory occurrence.

4. Any person who believes that because of that person's race, color, national origin, limited English proficiency, familial status, sex, age, religion, or disability that he/she/they have been discriminated against or unfairly treated by Town of Mars Hill in violation of this policy should contact the following office within 180 days from the date of the alleged discriminatory occurrence:

Town Manager
Town of Mars Hill
PO Box 368
Mars Hill, NC 28754
828-689-2301

RECORD RETENTION POLICY: DOCUMENTS CREATED OR MAINTAINED PURSUANT TO THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 CORONAVIRUS STATE AND LOCAL FISCAL RECOVERY AWARD TO THE TOWN OF MARS HILL

WHEREAS the Town of Mars Hill, has received an allocation of funds from the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds of H.R. 1319 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP/CSLFRF); and

WHEREAS the funds may be used for projects within these categories, to the extent authorized by state law.

1. Support COVID-19 public health expenditures, by funding COVID-19 mitigation and prevention efforts, medical expenses, behavioral healthcare, preventing and responding to violence, and certain public health and safety staff;
2. Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency, including economic harms to households, small businesses, non-profits, impacted industries, and the public sector;
3. Replace lost public sector revenue, using this funding to provide government services to the extent of the reduction in revenue experienced due to the pandemic;
4. Provide premium pay for essential workers, offering additional support to those who have borne and will bear the greatest health risks because of their service in critical infrastructure sectors; and,
5. Invest in water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure, making necessary investments to improve access to clean drinking water, support vital wastewater and stormwater infrastructure, and to expand access to broadband internet.

WHEREAS the ARP/CSLFRF are subject to certain provisions regarding the retention of records as follows:

Retention of Records: The Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (“CSLFRF”) Award Terms and Conditions and the Compliance and Reporting Guidance set forth the U.S. Department of Treasury’s (“Treasury”) record retention requirements for the ARP/CSLFRF award.

It is the policy of the Town of Mars Hill to follow Treasury’s record retention requirements as it expends CSLFRF pursuant to the APR/CSLFRF award. Accordingly, the Town of Mars Hill agrees to the following:

- Retain all financial and programmatic records related to the use and expenditure of CSLFRF pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF award for a period of five (5) years after all CLFRF funds have been expended or returned to Treasury, whichever is later.
- Retain records for real property and equipment acquired with CSLFRF for five years after final disposition.

- Ensure that the financial and programmatic records retained sufficiently evidence compliance with section 603(c) of the Social Security Act “ARPA,” Treasury’s regulations implementing that section, and guidance issued by Treasury regarding the foregoing.
- Allow the Treasury Office of Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office, or their authorized representatives, the right of right of timely and unrestricted access to any records for the purpose of audits or other investigations.
- If any litigation, claim, or audit is started before the expiration of the 5-year period, the records will be retained until all litigation, claims, or audit findings involving the records have been resolved.

Covered Records: For purposes of this policy, records are information, regardless of physical form or characteristics, that are created, received, or retained that evidence Town of Mars Hill’s expenditure of CSLFRF funds on eligible projects, programs, or activities pursuant to the ARP/CSLFRF award.

Records that shall be retained pursuant to this policy include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Financial statements and accounting records evidencing expenditures of CSLFRF for eligible projects, programs, or activities.
- Documentation of rational to support a particular expenditure of CSLFRF (e.g., expenditure constitutes a general government service);
- Documentation of administrative costs charged to the ARP/CSLFRF award;
- Procurement documents evidencing the significant history of a procurement, including, at a minimum, the rationale for the method of procurement, selection of contract type, contractor selection or rejection, and the basis for contract cost or price;
- Subaward agreements and documentation of subrecipient monitoring;
- Documentation evidencing compliance with the Uniform Guidance property management standards set forth in 2 C.F.R. §§ 200.310-316 and 200.329;
- Personnel and payroll records for full-time and part-time employees compensated with CSLFRF, including time and effort reports; and
- Indirect cost rate proposals

Storage: Town of Mars Hill’s records must be stored in a safe, secure, and accessible manner. Wherever practicable, such records should be collected, transmitted, and stored in open and machine-readable formats.

Departmental Responsibilities: Any department or unit of the Town of Mars Hill, and its employees, who are responsible for creating or maintaining the covered documents in this policy shall comply with the terms of this policy. Failure to do so may subject Town of Mars Hill to civil and/or criminal liability. Any employee who fails to comply with the record retention requirements set forth herein may be subject to disciplinary sanctions, including suspension or termination.

The town manager is responsible for identifying the documents that Town of Mars Hill must or should retain and arrange for the proper storage and retrieval of records. The town manager shall also ensure that all personnel subject to the terms of this policy are aware of the record retention requirements set forth herein.

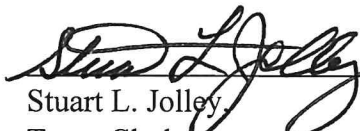
Reporting Policy Violations: The Town of Mars Hill is committed to enforcing this policy as it applies to all forms of records. Any employee that suspects the terms of this policy have been violated shall report the incident immediately to that employee's supervisor. If an employee is not comfortable bringing the matter up with the supervisor, the employee may bring the matter to the attention of the town mayor, who will take the matter to the full board if it involves the town manager. The Town of Mars Hill prohibits, any form of discipline, reprisal, intimidation, or retaliation for reporting incidents of inappropriate conduct of any kind, pursuing any record destruction claim, or cooperating in related investigations.

Questions About the Policy: Any questions about this policy should be referred to the town manager, who is in charge of administering, enforcing, and updating this policy.


BE IT RESOLVED that the governing board of Town of Mars Hill hereby adopts and enacts this **Record Retention Policy** for the expenditure of ARP/CSLFRF funds.

ADOPTED this the 4th day of April, 2022, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina.

ATTEST:


Stuart L. Jolley,
Town Clerk




John L. Chandler, Mayor

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY**APPLICABLE TO CONTRACTS AND SUBAWARDS OF TOWN OF MARS HILL
SUPPORTED BY FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

* * * * *

I. Scope of Policy

- a. **Purpose of Policy.** This Conflict of Interest Policy (“*Policy*”) establishes conflict of interest standards that (1) apply when Town of Mars Hill (“*Unit*”) enters into a Contract (as defined in Section II hereof) or makes a Subaward (as defined in Section II hereof), and (2) meet or exceed the requirements of North Carolina law and 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c).
- b. **Application of Policy.** This Policy shall apply when the Town of Mars Hill enters into a Contract to be funded, in part or in whole, by Federal Financial Assistance to which 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c) applies, or (2) makes any Subaward to be funded by Federal Financial Assistance to which 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c) applies. If a federal statute, regulation, or the terms of a financial assistance agreement applicable to a particular form of Federal Financial Assistance conflicts with any provision of this Policy, such federal statute, regulation, or terms of the financial assistance agreement shall govern.

II. Definitions

Capitalized terms used in this Policy shall have the meanings ascribed thereto in this Section II: Any capitalized term used in this Policy but not defined in this Section II shall have the meaning set forth in 2 C.F.R. § 200.1.

- a. “*COI Point of Contact*” means the individual identified in Section III(a) of this Policy.
- b. “*Contract*” means, for the purpose of Federal Financial Assistance, a legal instrument by which the Unit purchases property or services needed to carry out a program or project under a Federal award.
- c. “*Contractor*” means an entity or individual that receives a Contract.
- d. “*Covered Individual*” means a Public Officer, employee, or agent of the Unit.
- e. “*Covered Nonprofit Organization*” means a nonprofit corporation, organization, or association, incorporated or otherwise, that is organized or operating in the State of North Carolina primarily for religious, charitable, scientific, literary, public health and safety, or educational purposes, excluding any board, entity, or other organization created by the State of North Carolina or any political subdivision of the State (including the Unit).
- f. “*Direct Benefit*” means, with respect to a Public Officer or employee of the Unit, or the spouse of any such Public Officer or employee, (i) having a ten percent (10%) ownership interest or other interest in a Contract or Subaward; (ii) deriving any income or commission

directly from a Contract or Subaward; or (iii) acquiring property under a Contract or Subaward.

- g. “*Federal Financial Assistance*” means Federal financial assistance that the Unit receives or administers in the form of grants, cooperative agreements, non-cash contributions or donations of property (including donated surplus property), direct appropriations, food commodities, and other Federal financial assistance (except that the term does not include loans, loan guarantees, interest subsidies, or insurance).
- h. “*Governing Board*” means the Town Council of the Unit.
- i. “*Immediate Family Member*” means, with respect to any Covered Individual, (i) a spouse, and parents thereof, (ii) a child, and parent thereof, (iii) a parent, and spouse thereof, (iv) a sibling, and spouse thereof, (v) a grandparent and grandchild, and spouses thereof, (vi) domestic partners and parents thereof, including domestic partners of any individual in (ii) through (v) of this definition; and (vii) any individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the Covered Individual is the equivalent of a family relationship.
- j. “*Involved in Making or Administering*” means (i) with respect to a Public Official or employee, (a) overseeing the performance of a Contract or Subaward or having authority to make decisions regarding a Contract or Subaward or to interpret a Contract or Subaward, or (b) participating in the development of specifications or terms or in the preparation or award of a Contract or Subaward, (ii) only with respect to a Public Official, being a member of a board, commission, or other body of which the Public Official is a member, taking action on the Contract or Subaward, whether or not the Public Official actually participates in that action.
- k. “*Pass-Through Entity*” means a non-Federal entity that provides a Subaward to a Subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal program.
- l. “*Public Officer*” means an individual who is elected or appointed to serve or represent the Unit (including, without limitation, any member of the Governing Board), other than an employee or independent contractor of the Unit.
- m. “*Recipient*” means an entity, usually but not limited to a non-Federal entity, that receives a Federal award directly from a Federal awarding agency. The term does not include Subrecipients or individuals that are beneficiaries of the award.
- n. “*Related Party*” means (i) an Immediate Family Member of a Covered Individual, (ii) a partner of a Covered Individual, or (iii) a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of a Covered Individual, of a partner of a Covered Individual, or of an Immediate Family Member of a Covered Individual.
- o. “*Subaward*” means an award provided by a Pass-Through Entity to carry out part of a Federal award received by the Pass-Through Entity. It does not include payments to a

contractor or payments to a contractor or payments to an individual that is a beneficiary of a Federal program.

- p. “*Subcontract*” means mean any agreement entered into by a Subcontractor to furnish supplies or services for the performance of a Contract or a Subcontract. It includes, but is not limited to, purchase orders, and changes and modifications to purchase orders.
- q. “*Subcontractor*” means an entity that receives a Subcontract.
- r. “*Subrecipient*” means an entity, usually but not limited to a non-Federal entity, that receives a subaward from a Pass-Through Entity to carry out part of a Federal award; but does not include an individual that is a beneficiary of such award. A subrecipient may also be a recipient of other Federal awards directly from a Federal awarding agency.
- s. “*Unit*” has the meaning specified in Section I hereof.

III. COI Point of Contact.

- a. Appointment of COI Point of Contact. The town manager, an employee of the Unit, shall have primary responsibility for managing the disclosure and resolution of potential or actual conflicts of interest arising under this Policy. In the event that the town manager is unable to serve in such capacity, the mayor shall assume responsibility for managing the disclosure and resolution of conflicts of interest arising under this Policy. The individual with responsibility for managing the disclosure and resolution of potential or actual conflicts of interest under this Section III(a) shall be known as the “*COI Point of Contact*”.
- b. Distribution of Policy. The COI Point of Contact shall ensure that each Covered Individual receives a copy of this Policy.

IV. Conflict of Interest Standards in Contracts and Subawards

- a. North Carolina Law. North Carolina law restricts the behavior of Public Officials and employees of the Unit involved in contracting on behalf of the Unit. The Unit shall conduct the selection, award, and administration of Contracts and Subawards in accordance with the prohibitions imposed by the North Carolina General Statutes and restated in this Section III.
 - i. G.S. § 14-234(a)(1). A Public Officer or employee of the Unit Involved in Making or Administering a Contract or Subaward on behalf of the Unit shall not derive a Direct Benefit from such a Contract or Subaward.
 - ii. G.S. § 14-234(a)(3). No Public Officer or employee of the Unit may solicit or receive any gift, favor, reward, service, or promise of reward, including but not limited to a promise of future employment, in exchange for recommending,

influencing, or attempting to influence the award of a Contract or Subaward by the Unit.

- iii. G.S. § 14-234.3. If a member of the Governing Board of the Unit serves as a director, officer, or governing board member of a Covered Nonprofit Organization, such member shall not (1) deliberate or vote on a Contract or Subaward between the Unit and the Covered Nonprofit Corporation, (2) attempt to influence any other person who deliberates or votes on a Contract or Subaward between the Unit and the Covered Nonprofit Corporation, or (3) solicit or receive any gift, favor, reward, service, or promise of future employment, in exchange for recommending or attempting to influence the award of a Contract or Subaward to the Covered Nonprofit Organization.
- iv. G.S. § 14-234.1. A Public Officer or employee of the Unit shall not, in contemplation of official action by the Public Officer or employee, or in reliance on information which was made known to the public official or employee and which has not been made public, (1) acquire a pecuniary interest in any property, transaction, or enterprise or gain any pecuniary benefit which may be affected by such information or other information, or (2) intentionally aid another in violating the provisions of this section.

b. Federal Standards.

- i. Prohibited Conflicts of Interest in Contracting. Without limiting any specific prohibition set forth in Section IV(a), a Covered Individual may not participate in the selection, award, or administration of a Contract or Subaward if such Covered Individual has a real or apparent conflict of interest.
 - 1. Real Conflict of Interest. A real conflict of interest shall exist when the Covered Individual or any Related Party has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a Contract or Subaward. Exhibit A attached hereto provides a non-exhaustive list of examples of (i) financial or other interests in a firm considered for a Contract or Subaward, and (ii) tangible personal benefits from a firm considered for a Contract or Subaward.
 - 2. Apparent Conflict of Interest. An apparent conflict of interest shall exist where a real conflict of interest may not exist under Section IV(b)(i)(1), but where a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would find that an existing situation or relationship creates the appearance that a Covered Individual or any Related Party has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a Contract or Subaward.
- ii. Identification and Management of Conflicts of Interest.

1. Duty to Disclose and Disclosure Forms

- a. Each Covered Individual expected to be or actually involved in the selection, award, or administration of a Contract or Subaward has an ongoing duty to disclose to the COI Point of Contact potential real or apparent conflicts of interest arising under this Policy.
- b. Prior to the Unit's award of a Contract or Subaward, the COI Point of Contact shall advise Covered Individuals expected to be involved in the selection, award, or administration of the Contract or Subaward of such duty.
- c. If the value of a proposed Contract or Subaward exceeds \$250,000, the COI Point of Contact shall collect a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form contained in Exhibit C (for Contracts) and Exhibit E (for Subawards) from each Covered Individual and file such Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form in records of the Unit.

2. Identification Prior to Award of Contract or Subaward.

- a. Prior to the Unit's award of a Contract or Subaward, the COI Point of Contact shall complete the appropriate Compliance Checklist contained in Exhibit B (for Contracts) and Exhibit D (for Subawards) attached hereto and file such Compliance Checklist in the records of the Unit.

3. Management Prior to Award of Contract or Subaward

- a. If, after completing the Compliance Checklist, the COI Point of Contact identifies a potential real or apparent conflict of interest relating to a proposed Contract or Subaward, the COI Point of Contact shall disclose such finding in writing to the mayor and to each member of the Governing Board. If the Governing Board desires to enter into the proposed Contract or Subaward despite the identification by the COI Point of Contact of a potential real or apparent conflict of interest, it may either:
 - i. accept the finding of the COI Point of Contact and direct the COI Point of Contact to obtain authorization to enter into the Contract or Subaward from (a) if Unit is a Recipient of Federal Financial Assistance, the Federal awarding agency with appropriate mitigation measures,

or (b) if Unit is a Subrecipient of Federal Financial Assistance, from the Pass-Through Entity that provided a Subaward to Unit; or

ii. reject the finding of the COI Point of Contact and enter into the Contract or Subaward. In rejecting any finding of the COI Point of Contact, the Governing Board shall in writing document a justification supporting such rejection.

b. If the COI Point of Contact does not identify a potential real or apparent conflict of interest relating to a proposed Contract or Subaward, the Unit may enter into the Contract or Subaward in accordance with the Unit's purchasing or subaward policy.

4. Identification After Award of Contract or Subaward.

a. If the COI Point of Contact discovers that a real or apparent conflict of interest has arisen after the Unit has entered into a Contract or Subaward, the COI Point of Contact shall, as soon as possible, disclose such finding to the mayor and to each member of the Governing Board. Upon discovery of such a real or apparent conflict of interest, the Unit shall cease all payments under the relevant Contract or Subaward until the conflict of interest has been resolved.

5. Management After Award of Contract or Subaward.

a. Following the receipt of such disclosure of a potential real or apparent conflict of interest pursuant to Section IV(b)(ii)(4), the Governing Board may reject the finding of the COI Point of Contact by documenting in writing a justification supporting such rejection. If the Governing Board fails to reject the finding of the COI Point of Contact within 15 days of receipt, the COI Point of Contact shall:

i. if Unit is a Recipient of Federal Financial Assistance funding the Contract or Subaward, disclose the conflict to the Federal awarding agency providing such Federal Financial Assistance in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.112 and/or applicable regulations of the agency, or

ii. if Unit is a Subrecipient of Federal Financial Assistance, disclose the conflict to the Pass-Through Entity providing a Subaward to Unit in accordance with 2 C.F.R. § 200.112

and applicable regulations of the Federal awarding agency and the Pass-Through Entity.

V. **Oversight of Subrecipient's Conflict of Interest Standards**

- a. **Subrecipients of Unit Must Adopt Conflict of Interest Policy.** Prior to the Unit's execution of any Subaward for which the Unit serves as a Pass-Through Entity, the COI Point of Contact shall ensure that the proposed Subrecipient of Federal Financial Assistance has adopted a conflict of interest policy that satisfies the requirements of 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c)(1), 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c)(2), and all other applicable federal regulations.
- b. **Obligation to Disclose Subrecipient Conflicts of Interest.** The COI Point of Contact shall ensure that the legal agreement under which the Unit makes a Subaward to a Subrecipient shall require such Subrecipient to disclose to the COI Point of Contact any potential real or apparent conflicts of interest that the Subrecipient identifies. Upon receipt of such disclosure, the COI Point of Contact shall disclose such information to the Federal awarding agency that funded the Subaward in accordance with that agency's disclosure policy.

VI. **Gift Standards**

- a. **Federal Standard.** Subject to the exceptions set forth in Section VI(b), a Covered Individual may not solicit or accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from a Contractor or a Subcontractor.
- b. **Exception.** Notwithstanding Section VI(a), a Covered Individual may accept an unsolicited gift from a Contractor or Subcontractor of one or more types specified below if the gift has an aggregate market value of \$20 or less per source per occasion, provided that the aggregate market value of all gifts received by the Covered Individual pursuant to this Section VI(b) does not exceed \$50 in a calendar year:
 - i. honorariums for participating in meetings;
 - ii. advertising items or souvenirs of nominal value; or
 - iii. meals furnished at banquets.
- c. **Internal Reporting.** A Covered Individual shall report any gift accepted under Section VI(b) to the COI Point of Contact. If required by regulation of a Federal awarding agency, the COI Point of Contact shall report such gifts to the Federal awarding agency or a Pass-Through Entity for which the Unit is a Subrecipient.

VII. Violations of Policy

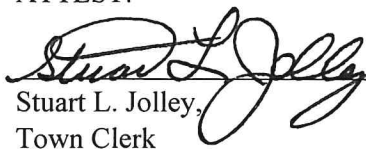
- a. Disciplinary Actions for Covered Individuals. Any Covered Individual that fails to disclose a real, apparent, or potential real or apparent conflict of interest arising with respect to the Covered Individual or Related Party may be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, an employee's termination or suspension of employment with or without pay, the consideration or adoption of a resolution of censure of a Public Official by the Governing Board, or termination of an agent's contract with the Unit.
- b. Disciplinary Actions for Contractors and Subcontractors. The Unit shall terminate any Contract with a Contractor or Subcontractor that violates any provision of this Policy.
- c. Protections for Whistleblowers. In accordance with 41 U.S.C. § 4712, the Unit shall not discharge, demote, or otherwise discriminate against an employee in reprisal for disclosing to any of the list of persons or entities provided below, information that the employee reasonably believes is evidence of gross mismanagement of a federal contract or grant, a gross waste of federal funds, an abuse of authority relating to a federal contract or grant, a substantial and specific danger to public health or safety, or a violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a federal contract (including the competition for or negotiation of a contract) or grant: (i) a member of Congress or a representative of a committee of Congress; (ii) an Inspector General; (iii) the Government Accountability Office; (iv) a Treasury or other federal agency employee responsible for grant oversight or management; (v) an authorized official of the Department of Justice or other law enforcement agency; (vi) a court or grand jury; or (vii) a management official or other employee of the Unit, a Contractor, or Subcontractor who has the responsibility to investigate, discover, or address misconduct.

* * * * *

BE IT RESOLVED that the governing board of the Town of Mars Hill hereby adopts and enacts this conflict of interest policy that shall apply when the Town of Mars Hill enters into a Contract to be funded, in part or in whole, by Federal Financial Assistance to which 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c) applies, or (2) makes any Subaward to be funded by Federal Financial Assistance to which 2 C.F.R. § 200.318(c) applies.

ADOPTED this the 4th day of April, 2022, by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen for the Town of Mars Hill, North Carolina.

ATTEST:


Stuart L. Jolley,
Town Clerk



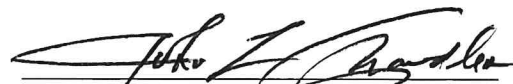

John L. Chandler, Mayor

EXHIBIT A

Examples

<i>Potential Examples of a “Financial or Other Interest” in a Firm or Organization Considered for a Contract or Subaward</i>	<i>Potential Examples of a “Tangible Personal Benefit” From a Firm or Organization Considered for a Contract or Subaward</i>
<p>Direct or indirect equity interest in a firm or organization considered for a Contract or Subaward, which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Stock in a corporation.- Membership interest in a limited liability company.- Partnership interest in a general or limited partnership.- Any right to control the firm or organization’s affairs. For example, a controlling equity interest in an entity that controls or has the right to control a firm considered for a contract.- Option to purchase any equity interest in a firm or organization.	<p>Opportunity to be employed by the firm considered for a contract, an affiliate of that firm, or any other firm with a relationship with the firm considered for a Contract.</p> <p>A position as a director or officer of the firm or organization, even if uncompensated.</p>
<p>Holder of any debt owed by a firm considered for a Contract or Subaward, which may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Secured debt (e.g., debt backed by an asset of the firm (like a firm’s building or equipment))- Unsecured debt (e.g., a promissory note evidencing a promise to repay a loan).<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Holder of a judgment against the firm.	<p>A referral of business from a firm considered for a Contract or Subaward.</p>
<p>Supplier or contractor to a firm or organization considered for a Contract or Subaward.</p>	<p>Political or social influence (e.g., a promise of appointment to an local office or position on a public board or private board).</p>

EXHIBIT B

COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST FOR OVERSIGHT OF CONTRACT CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Town of Mars Hill (“*Unit*”) has adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy (“*Policy*”) that governs the Unit’s expenditure of Federal Financial Assistance (as defined in Section II of the Policy). The Policy designates the town manager as the “COI Point of Contact.” The Policy requires the COI Point of Contact to complete this Compliance Checklist to identify potential real or apparent conflicts of interest in connection with proposed Contracts (as defined in Section II) and file the Checklist in the records of the Unit.

Instructions for Completion

1. The COI Point of Contact shall complete Steps 1 through 5 of the Checklist below.
2. If the value of the proposed Contract exceeds \$250,000, the COI Point of Contact shall collect a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form from each Covered Individual.
3. If the COI Point of Contact identifies a potential real or apparent conflict of interest after completing this Compliance Checklist, the COI Point of Contact shall report such potential conflict of interest to the mayor and to each member of the Governing Board.

Definitions.

1. *Covered Individual.* Each person identified in Section 1 of this Checklist is a “Covered Individual” for purposes of this Compliance Checklist and the Policy.
2. *Immediate Family Member* means, with respect to any Covered Individual, (i) a spouse, and parents thereof, (ii) a child, and parent thereof, (iii) a parent, and spouse thereof, (iv) a sibling, and spouse thereof, (v) a grandparent and grandchild, and spouses thereof, (vi) domestic partners and parents thereof, including domestic partners of any individual in (ii) through (v) of this definition; and (vii) any individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the Covered Individual is the equivalent of a family relationship.
3. *Related Party* means (i) an Immediate Family Member of a Covered Individual, (ii) a partner of a Covered Individual, or (iii) a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of a Covered Individual, of a partner of a Covered Individual, or of an Immediate Family Member of a Covered Individual.

Step

1

Identify the proposed Contract, counterparty, and the subject of the Contract.

Name of Contract:

Name of Counterparty

Subject of Contract:

2

Identify all individuals involved in the selection, award, or administration of the Contract. These individuals are “Covered Individuals”. Ensure that each Covered Individual has been provided with a copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy.
Public Officials
Employees
Agents

3

Identify whether any Covered Individual has a (i) financial or other interest in, or (ii) tangible personal benefit from the firm considered for a Contract. [If the estimated Contract amount exceeds \$250,000, ensure that each Covered Individual files a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form with the COI Point of Contact.]
Public Officials
Employees
Agents

Any identified interest in Step 3 is a potential “real” conflict of interest.

4

Identify whether any Related Party has a (i) financial or other interest in or (ii) tangible personal benefit from the firm considered from a Contract. If the estimated Contract amount exceeds \$250,000, ensure that each Covered Individual files a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form with the COI Point of Contact.
Public Officials – Related Party
Employees – Related Party
Agents – Related Party

Any identified interest in Step 4 is a potential “real” conflict of interest.

5

Any identified interest in Step 5 is a potential “apparent” conflict of interest.

Identify whether a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would find that an existing situation or relationship creates the *appearance* that a Covered Individual or any Related Party has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a Contract? If yes, explain.

Public Officials

Employees

Agents

COI Point of Contact: _____

Signature of COI Point of Contact: _____

Date of Completion: _____

EXHIBIT C

**CONTRACT CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM
FOR OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS**

The Town of Mars Hill (“*Unit*”) has adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy (“*Policy*”) that governs the Unit’s expenditure of Federal Financial Assistance (as defined in Section II of the Policy). The Policy designates the town manager as the “COI Point of Contact.”

The COI Point of Contact has identified you as an official, employee, or agent of the Unit that may be involved in the selection, award, or administration of the following contract: _____ (the “*Contract*”). To safeguard the Unit’s expenditure of Federal Financial Assistance, the COI Point of Contact has requested that you identify any potential real or apparent conflicts of interest in the Firm considered for the award of a Contract. Using the Exhibit A to the Policy as a guide, please answer the following questions:

1. Do you have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

2. Will you receive any tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

3. For purposes of Question 3(a) and 3(b), your “Immediate Family Members” include: (i) your spouse and their parents, (ii) your child, (iii) your parent and any spouse of your parent, (iv) your sibling and any spouse of your sibling, (v) your grandparents or grandchildren, and the spouses of each, (vi) any domestic partner of any individual in (ii) through (v) of this definition; and (vii) any individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with you is the equivalent of a family relationship.

a. Do you have an Immediate Family Member with a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

- b. Do you have an Immediate Family Member that will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

4. Do you have any other partner with a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

5. Will any other partner of yours receive any tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

6. Does your current or potential employer (other than the Unit) have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract or will such current or potential employer receive a tangible personal benefit from this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

7. Benefits to Employers

- a. Does a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any of your Immediate Family Members have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

- b. Will a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any of your Immediate Family Members receive a tangible personal benefit from this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

-
- c. Does a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any partner of yours have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

- d. Will a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any partner of yours receive a tangible personal benefit from this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

8. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that you have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

9. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that any Immediate Family Member of yours has a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

10. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that your current or potential employer (other than the Unit) has a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

11. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that any current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any of your Immediate Family Members has a financial or other

interest in a firm considered for this Contract or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

12. Does any existing situation or relationship create the appearance that any current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any other partner has a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Contract or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Contract?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

* * * * *

Sign Name: _____

Print Name: _____

Name of Employer _____

Job Title: _____

Date of Completion: _____

* * * * *

EXHIBIT D

COMPLIANCE CHECKLIST FOR SUBAWARD OVERSIGHT

The Town or Mars Hill (“*Unit*”) has adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy (“*Policy*”) that governs the Unit’s expenditure of Federal Financial Assistance (as defined in Section II of the Policy). The Policy designates the town manager as the “COI Point of Contact.” The Policy requires the COI Point of Contact to complete this Compliance Checklist to identify potential real or apparent conflicts of interest in connection with proposed Subawards (as defined in Section II) and file the Checklist in the records of the Unit.

Instructions for Completion

1. The COI Point of Contact shall complete Steps 1 through 5 of the Checklist below.
2. If the value of the proposed Subaward exceeds \$250,000, the COI Point of Contact shall collect a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form from each Covered Individual.
3. If the COI Point of Contact identifies a potential real or apparent conflict of interest after completing this Compliance Checklist, the COI Point of Contact shall report such potential conflict of interest to mayor and to each member of the Governing Board.

Definitions.

1. *Covered Individual.* Each person identified in Section 1 of this Checklist is a “Covered Individual” for purposes of this Compliance Checklist and the Policy.
2. *Immediate Family Member* means, with respect to any Covered Individual, (i) a spouse, and parents thereof, (ii) a child, and parent thereof, (iii) a parent, and spouse thereof, (iv) a sibling, and spouse thereof, (v) a grandparent and grandchild, and spouses thereof, (vi) domestic partners and parents thereof, including domestic partners of any individual in (ii) through (v) of this definition; and (vii) any individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with the Covered Individual is the equivalent of a family relationship.
3. *Related Party* means (i) an Immediate Family Member of a Covered Individual, (ii) a partner of a Covered Individual, or (iii) a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of a Covered Individual, of a partner of a Covered Individual, or of an Immediate Family Member of a Covered Individual.

Step

1

Identify the proposed Subaward, Subrecipient, and the subject of the Subaward.

Name of Contract:

Name of Counterparty

Subject of Subaward:

2 Identify all individuals involved in the selection, award, or administration of the Subaward. These individuals are “Covered Individuals”. Ensure that each Covered Individual has been provided with a copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy.

Public Officials

Employees

Agents

3 Identify whether any Covered Individual has a (i) financial or other interest in, or (ii) tangible personal benefit from the firm considered for a Subaward. [If the estimated Subaward amount exceeds \$100,000, ensure that each Covered Individual files a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form with the COI Point of Contact.]

Public Officials

Employees

Agents

4 Identify whether any Related Party has a (i) financial or other interest in or (ii) tangible personal benefit from the firm considered from a Subaward. If the estimated Subaward amount exceeds \$100,000, ensure that each Covered Individual files a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form with the COI Point of Contact.]

Any identified interest in Step 3 is a potential “real” conflict of interest.

Public Officials – Related Party

Employees – Related Party

Agents – Related Party

5

Identify whether a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts would find that an existing situation or relationship creates the *appearance* that a Covered Individual or any Related Party has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a Subaward? If yes, explain.

Public Officials

Employees

Agents

Any identified interest in Step 5 is a potential “apparent” conflict of interest.

COI Point of Contact: _____

Signature of COI Point of Contact: _____

Date of Completion: _____

EXHIBIT E

SUBAWARD CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

FOR OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES, AND AGENTS

The Town of Mars Hill (“Unit”) has adopted a Conflict of Interest Policy (“Policy”) that governs the Unit’s expenditure of Federal Financial Assistance (as defined in Section II of the Policy). The Policy designates the town manager as the COI Point of Contact.

The COI Point of Contact has identified you as an official, employee, or agent of the Unit that may be involved in the selection, award, or administration of the following subaward: _____ (the “Subaward”). To safeguard the Unit’s expenditure of Federal Financial Assistance, the COI Point of Contact has requested that you identify any potential real or apparent conflicts of interest in the Firm considered for the award of a Subaward. Using the Exhibit A to the Policy as a guide, please answer the following questions:

1. Do you have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

2. Will you receive any tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

3. For purposes of Question 3(a) and 3(b), your “Immediate Family Members” include: (i) your spouse and their parents, (ii) your child, (iii) your parent and any spouse of your parent, (iv) your sibling and any spouse of your sibling, (v) your grandparents or grandchildren, and the spouses of each, (vi) any domestic partner of any individual in (ii) through (v) of this definition; and (vii) any individual related by blood or affinity whose close association with you is the equivalent of a family relationship.

a. Do you have an Immediate Family Member with a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

b. Do you have an Immediate Family Member that will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

4. Do you have any other partner with a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

5. Will any other partner of yours receive any tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

6. Does your current or potential employer (other than the Unit) have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward or will such current or potential employer receive a tangible personal benefit from this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

7. Benefits to Employers

a. Does a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any of your Immediate Family Members have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

b. Will a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any of your Immediate Family Members receive a tangible personal benefit from this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

-
- c. Does a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any partner of yours have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

- d. Will a current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any partner of yours receive a tangible personal benefit from this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

8. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that you have a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

9. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that any Immediate Family Member of yours has a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

10. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that your current or potential employer (other than the Unit) has a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

11. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that any current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any of your Immediate Family Members has a financial or other

interest in a firm considered for this Subaward or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

12. Does any existing situation or relationship create the *appearance* that any current or potential employer (other than the Unit) of any other partner has a financial or other interest in a firm considered for this Subaward or will receive a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for this Subaward?

Yes _____ No _____ Unsure: _____

If the answer is Yes or Unsure, please explain:

* * * * *

Sign Name: _____

Print Name: _____

Name of Employer _____

Job Title: _____

Date of Completion: _____

* * * * *