



**GARDINER CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**



Meeting Date	12/01/2021	Department	City Manager
Agenda Item	4.e) Consideration of additional ARPA requests from Kennebec County		
Est. Cost			

Background Information

At the Gardiner City Council meeting dated 9/22/21, Gardiner City Council approved the Acting City Manager's request to apply for Kennebec County ARPA funds for the following items or projects:

- 1) Purchase a new ambulance for Gardiner (approximate cost: \$350,000)
- 2) Fund the McKay Park project (approximate costs range from \$165,000 - \$190,000)
- 3) Add funding to the Cobbossee Corridor Trail project (please note that no estimated costs for this project yet. It may be prudent to wait until a second round of applications).

In addition to the approved projects above, Ms. Davis would like to apply for funds to:

- 1) Purchase 4 CPR machines that will cost \$64,167. Please see Chief Sieberg's documentation on these machines attached.
- 2) Upgrade the city's communications infrastructure. The cost for this improvement will be \$118,000. Please see Chief Sieberg's memo attached.

Requested Action	"I move to approve Acting Manager Davis' request to add additional requests for Kennebec County ARPA funding to purchase 4 CPR machines at a cost of \$64,167 and to upgrade the city's communications infrastructure at a cost of \$118,000."
City Manager and/or Finance Review	The Acting City Manager approves the above action.
Council Vote/ Action Taken	
Departmental Follow-Up	

City Clerk Use Only	1 st Reading _____	Advertised _____	EFFECTIVE DATE _____
	2 nd Reading _____	Advertised _____ w/in 15 Days	
	Final to Dept _____	Updated Book _____	Online _____



CITY OF GARDINER FIRE & RESCUE DEPARTMENT



Chief Richard Sieberg

November 22, 2021

The Gardiner Ambulance is seeking assistance for the purchase of four CPR machines. The total startup cost is \$64,166.38. This cost includes four CPR machines, four spare batteries, four vehicle battery chargers, one desk top battery charger, and a two year service contract. This will place a CPR machine on both front line ambulances, our spare/call back ambulance, and Chief's vehicle.

Gardiner Ambulance is a small regional ambulance service in central Maine. Operating with four medics per shift, we staff two ambulances 24/7 providing ALS throughout 8 communities spanning 250 square miles with a population of around 25,000. Averaging 3,000 calls annually, often our crews are stretched very thin. Some of our responses are well over 20 minutes with many transports approaching 45 minutes. Cardiac arrests place a huge strain on our limited resources. Having a CPR machine available on each ambulance would be like having an extra provider on scene.

Evidence based medicine has shown uninterrupted compressions during a cardiac arrest greatly enhance the odds of saving a life. New technology has now made this an obtainable standard of care through the use of CPR machines. As with all lifesaving equipment the cost is high. Funding assistance using County APRA money will provide the heavy lift needed to place a CPR machine on each Gardiner ambulance and Chiefs vehicle.

A patient in cardiac arrest is very high acuity, requiring many advanced life support skills be performed. The key element for a successful outcome during a cardiac arrest is getting chest compressions started early, and maintaining them uninterrupted. A CPR machine allows both of these objectives to be met. Currently chest compressions are performed manually. Maintaining the needed 100 – 120 compressions per minute is an extremely labor intensive task. Providers take turns performing compressions every two minutes, with some arrests lasting an hour or more, this can be very exhausting, which ultimately results in the CPR not being as effective.

Introducing a CPR machine will greatly reduce the physical demands placed on the providers, and more importantly provide the needed continuous high quality lifesaving compressions for our patients. Allowing our Medics to concentrate on treatments to reverse the arrest, rather than just compressions really can make a difference on the outcome. Administering CPR during transport is a very dangerous situation for the providers. A CPR machine will allow the

providers to remain safely seat belted while the patient receives much higher quality compressions than could be provided manually in a moving ambulance.

Our mission is and always has been to provide the highest quality advanced life support for all who call us. Funding assistance from Kennebec County will help us carry out our mission and meet our goals.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R F Sieberg', written in a cursive style.

Richard F. Sieberg
Gardiner Fire/Ambulance Chief

City Communications Infrastructure

- **Upgrade the Public Works/Waste Water repeater system to match Police and Fire.**
 - The current repeater is 20 years old and is a stand-alone. Replacement parts are no longer available. It does not meet critical communications specs.
 - Portable radio coverage throughout downtown is very spotty with in building coverage nonexistent.
 - All City Services rely on the two way radio system. Cell phones are not an efficient means of directing crews in the field.
 - ARPA funding could provide a path to upgrade the public works/waste water repeater system.
 - **\$54,000.00 is the cost to replace the repeater at Libby Hill, add a repeater to the site at the fire station for simulcasting. Included in this cost is a combiner which allows everyone to use the same antenna system.**
 - Once all City Services have the same base stations keeping spare parts on site becomes much more affordable, insuring less potential downtime due to equipment failure. All base stations will be P25 Phase II compliant which is the current standard for critical communications.
- **Enhancing the Microwave Path from Libby Hill to the Fire Station.**
 - The Microwave Path functions as the critical control point for the whole system, linking the site at the fire station to the main site at Libby Hill. If the microwave path stops working so does the downtown repeaters; virtually eliminating portable radio coverage throughout downtown.
 - Currently the microwave shoots from Libby Hill to the Public Works Garage. It then goes via the internet to the fire station. Topography prohibits a direct path between the Fire Station and Libby Hill site. The internet connection is a third party connection subject to interruptions in service and monthly fees. The site at Public Works is not secure or hardened.
 - Placing a microwave site at the water tank on Windsor Street in Randolph will allow us to move away from relying on the internet.
 - ARPA funding could provide the funding needed to complete this important infrastructure upgrade.
 - **\$20,000.00 is the cost of moving existing equipment from the Public Works garage to the Windsor Street water tank in Randolph, add a second microwave to shoot from the water tank to the fire station.**
 - Creating a closed secure system independent of the internet meets current industry standards for point to point critical communications.
 - Having a closed secure microwave system provides enhanced monitoring and control of the entire City communications system.
- **Replace old non-compliant Base Stations and Police Portable Radios**
 - The Base Station radios at the Communications Center were purchased when we first moved to State Police. They are not P25 capable and finding replacement parts is a challenge.
 - Police Department has several 15 year old portable radios that need to be replaced. Batteries are getting harder to get and replacement parts are no longer made.

- Having all base stations in the City the same model allows a cache of spare parts to be maintained.
- Replacing the 10 portable police radios will have PD and FD with the same equipment. This makes sharing and possible group purchasing in the future easier.
- **\$44,000.00 is the cost of replacing the two base stations at dispatch and the 10 portable radios.**