## **NEWS RELEASE**

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## Town Council to Hold Public Hearing on American Rescue Plan Act Funds

The Town of Vienna is among communities nationwide that will soon benefit from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). On March 11, 2021, the U.S. Congress passed the ARPA, authorizing relief funds to support state, local and tribal governments in responding to the impact of COVID-19 on their communities.

Because the amount that Vienna will receive, \$17.1 million, exceeds one percent of the FY2022 operating budget of \$43.2 million, the Town Council is required by law to hold a public hearing to gather input on how the funds should be used. The public hearing will take place during the regular Town Council meeting on Monday, Aug. 30 at 8 p.m. at the Vienna Town Hall.

ARPA funds can be spent only for the following purposes:

- Respond to the public health emergency or its negative economic impacts;
- Provide premium pay to essential workers or grants to employers of essential workers;
- Provide government services to the extent of any revenue reduction resulting from the pandemic; and
- Make necessary capital investments in water, sewer, and/or broadband infrastructure.

The public is encouraged to share their thoughts now by emailing <a href="mayor@viennava.gov">mayor@viennava.gov</a> or <a href="mayor@viennava.gov">finance@viennava.gov</a>. Community members may also sign up to speak in person at the public hearing at the Town Hall, or to register to speak at the hearing via Zoom: <a href="https://bit.ly/tcpubhearing">https://bit.ly/tcpubhearing</a>.