



Town of Rockport, Maine

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Town Manager's Report & Update April 21, 2021

SBA Grant for Shuttered Venue Operators

Brian Dancause is working with Drew Webber and Megan Brackett on a grant application for the Opera House that would provide 45% of lost revenue. Below are the details for your information:

Instead of applicants requesting a specific amount, the SBA will award grants of 45% of an entity's "2019 gross earned revenue" or \$10 million, whichever is less. (In other words, SBA will calculate grant awards based upon financials included in grant application.)

Instead of an application deadline, the SBA will award funds based upon the following priority schedule:

- First Priority (first 14 days of grant awards): Entities that suffered 90% or greater revenue loss between Apr and Dec 2020.
- Second Priority (next 14 days): Entities that suffered 70% or greater revenue loss between Apr and Dec 2020.
- Third Priority (beginning 28 days after 1st and 2nd Priority awards are made): Entities that suffered 25% or greater earned revenue loss between one quarter of 2019 and the corresponding quarter of 2020.
- Supplemental (available after all Priority periods have passed): Recipients of 1st, 2nd and 3rd Priority awards who suffered 70% or greater revenue loss for most recent quarter (as of 4/1/2021 or later).

The Rockport Opera House will not be eligible to receive funds until Third Priority period, as it is a government-owned eligible entity.

That said, we are putting together the required application materials and begin completing the online application so we can get in the queue, as the SBA will process applications and award funds on a first-come, first-served basis according to the priority list above.

The application portal opened on April 8 but has been down since April 9. The SBA "aims to reopen the application portal by end of this week."

Community Project Funding

Midcoast Economic Development District (MCEDD) is submitting a Community Funding Project Funding request to Representative Pingree's office. This community funding project (also known as a Congressional earmark previously) would equip and update police departments in the MCEDD region. Chief Gagne requested funds to purchase electronic ticketing equipment for the three police cruisers in Rockport. This would automatically send tickets to the state court system without the officer having to do it manually within the statutorily required five days.

Marge Jones Recreation Fields

The Public Works Department has begun re-shingling the dugout roofs for the three baseball and softball fields. The only expense will be for materials which will be funded from the Recreation Department account.

Candidates for Local Elected Offices

There are four candidates for two Select Board positions:

Eric Boucher

Robert Duke

Chris Hart

John Strand

There are two candidates for two Library Committee positions:

Helen Shaw

Marsha Steinglass

There is one candidate for one School Board position:

Marcia Dietrich

There are no candidates for three Budget Committee positions