



Daniel V. Jerram
First Selectman

March 8, 2021

Regina Wexler, Chairman
New Hartford Board of Finance
Town Hall - 530 Main Street
New Hartford, CT 06057

Dear Ms. Wexler and Board of Finance members:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Selectman to update you on a specific request for funding from the Farmington Valley Health District – our regional provider of health services.

Farmington Valley has been on the front lines of the Covid-19 fight providing contact tracing and vaccination services to the towns of the Farmington Valley since the beginning of the pandemic. They have also provided much needed consulting services to area school districts helping them maintain services during this uncertain time. Organization and administration of Covid-19 related expenses was not expected - nor was it included - when they drafted their fiscal 20/21 budget. Suffice to say, their budget – which we fund annually (fiscal 20/21 appropriation was \$43,453) is in the red. They have asked for our support with a supplemental appropriation of \$7,980.

As you're aware, the Town of New Hartford received \$47,508 in Covid-19 "relief" funding in January 2021 to address funding shortfalls created by the pandemic (received as "revenue"). Further, the Board of Finance is permitted by State Statute to supplement any "department" of the town once with up to \$20,000 without a "town meeting." This unanticipated revenue could be used to fund the additional expense.

At the Board of Selectmen's regular meeting on February 23, 2021, the Selectmen voted unanimously to recommend a supplemental appropriation of up to \$10,000 to be added to the "Health, Sanitation and Welfare" department – specifically within the Farmington Valley Health District appropriation line. Approval of these funds will allow the staff of the Health District to continue operations and provide more vaccination clinics so that more New Hartford residents can get the vaccine locally.

I hope the Board will consider and approve this request at your March 9, 2021 meeting.

Thanks,

Dan Jerram
First Selectman – Town of New Hartford
Member of Board of Directors – Farmington Valley Health District

