



Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2014

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Walker at 9:00 a.m. and a quorum was noted - Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Pomfret, Putnam, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson, Union, and Woodstock

Mr. Walker recognized Mr. Hallbergh to introduce the new Town Manager for Killingly - Sean Hendricks. Mr. Hallbergh noted that Mr. Hendricks began working for the Town on Monday the 22nd of April.

The **March Minutes** were moved for consideration - Mr. Brodeur of Eastford asked that they be amended to reflect that Eastford was present at the meeting - the March 2014 minutes will reflect his correction. Motion by Mr. Syme and second by Mr. Gray - passed as corrected.

Public Participation - Mr. Baer from the Town of Thompson asked that the minutes be posted in the manner prescribed by the FOIA and that they be forwarded to the Town Clerk in Thompson for posting on the Town's website. The Director noted that this would be fully addressed.

The Director raised an issue with Item 3 (which was mis-marked and should have been Item 2) asking that it be removed due to a possible complication with the current paramedic contract and NECCOG's vendor. He stated that a request for guidance from NECCOG legal counsel had not yet been received. The Director asked that if the organization's attorney saw no issue with the support letter going forward - that he would like to send such a letter. On a motion from Mr. _____ and a second from Mr. _____ the suggested course of action was agreed to by the Council. Motion by Mr. Hallbergh and second by Mr. Gray - passed as discussed.

The **Director's Report** covered the following: **Economic Development**, a preliminary or planning meeting will be held in May regarding the new Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and the DECD is assisting with the plan and potential funding assistance; **Transportation**, still waiting on CONNDOT regarding the Brooklyn sidewalk construction and a meeting will be held in two weeks to discuss future projects; **Transit**, Sunday service will be restored shortly both for the deviated fixed route and elderly/disabled riders; **Emergency Planning**, the most recent memorandum of understandings need to be put together by each town and sent to WINCOG for processing; **Property Tax Reform**, a handout detailing two pending legislative bills was distributed and the Director noted that neither probably would pass - however, they are probably the basis for the 2015 debate; **Route 169**, meeting (four selectmen and numerous citizens attended) with Senator Chris Murphy held at the Brooklyn UCONN Extension Office to discuss the status of NECCOG's Route 169 Management Plan update and to discuss opportunities to protect and market the byway; **Animal Services**, the program had a litter of puppies - 11 total, that will be available for adoption. Ms. Nicholson asked if projects could still be added to the Natural Disaster Mitigation Plan - the Director responded that such additions could be made.

Regional Referrals - Mr. Hallbergh asked and the Director noted he would comply that in the future all such referrals come with background material and a written report to better understand what was being voted on by the Council. The following Regional Referrals, which were tabled at the March meeting, were passed unanimously after it was reported and determined that the proposed changes contained no regional impacts of significance.

- a. **Town of Hampton** - proposed revisions to its zoning regulations governing activities in the Business Zone and deletion of a Business-Industrial Zone (not in use) as well as miscellaneous changes regarding signs;

access management; accommodation of non-vehicular traffic; landscaping of parking lots; building height; buildable area; nonconforming lot; definitions; consideration of architectural elements in site plans and special permits.

b. Town of Plainfield - Proposed Zone Text Amendments for the Agri-Tourism - Sections 1.2, 7.21.1 and 12 and Commercial Agricultural Buildings - Sections 1.2 and 12.44

Motion by Ms.Nicholson and second by Mr. Hallbergh to pass as presented with a finding of no significant regional impact - passed unanimously.

Overview of **Proposed Bylaws** for NECCOG - the Director provided a brief overview of the document. He noted that it was a complete re-write and based on statute. He did note the two standing committees and that the Human Services Coordinating Council was mandatory and that the Economic Development Committee was optional. Motion by Ms.Nicholson and second by Mr. Hallbergh to pass as presented with a finding of no significant regional impact - passed unanimously.

NECTD Budget - There was no discussion except that Mr. Walker noted that only the four voting members of the District were allowed to vote on this matter. Motion by Mr. Ives second by Mr. Brodeur - item passed unanimously.

NECCOG Work Plan and Budget - The Director noted that the document had been reviewed by the Executive Committee and that all of the programs/projects contained in the document are currently being provided. He also stated that the budget contained two additional positions for NECCOG - a general program person and a part-time administrative assistant. He further noted that the emphasis going forward was to solidify the organization in its new context of 16 towns and become current on all required plans. Motion by Mr. Brodeur and second by Ms.Nicholson to pass as presented - passed unanimously.

CEO Issues Roundtable:

- ▶ Mr. Piper asked if any of the other towns had experience with the usage of processed human waste on agricultural fields.
- ▶ Mr. Syme asked about the Regional Human Services Coordinating Council and how such a group would be managed given the large number of potential participants. The Director responded that the MORE Commission is looking into the logistics - but that it is far too early in the process to know exactly how it will work.
- ▶ Mr. Brodeur asked about the covering of containers at his transfer station and if others had similar issues.
- ▶ Mr. Falzarano asked about what other towns do relative to Saturday hours. The response was mixed with no town currently providing Saturday hours - also some concern raised regarding the growing practice of closing on Fridays.
- ▶ Mr. Sirpenski discussed and asked for others experience with archeological reviews
- ▶ Mr. Brodeur asked if it was possible to provide Transit buses for the dental fair going on in Hartford. Director said he would look into the possibility.
- ▶ Mr. Zambo stated that Ashford was coming on to its 300 Anniversary and was curious as to how long in advance the planning had been.
- ▶ Mr. Filchak reported that the State has finally enacted Wind Regulations and that he had copies for those interested in reviewing them. He also stated that a one-year Paramedic Intercept RFP will be issued in the next week or so. Additionally, that the Revaluation Program is coming to end of its first cycle and we need to determine who will be participating in the next cycle.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:03