

Capitol Region Council of Governments
241 Main St., Hartford, CT 06106
Phone: (860) 522-2217 FAX: (860) 724-1274

Municipal Services Committee Special Meeting
Tuesday, July 26, 2022
12 Noon

* Meeting access is remote only, consistent with provisions specified in Executive Order No. 7B. This meeting was recorded. Audio is available at: www.crcog.org

DRAFT UNTIL APPROVED

Members and Alternates

Peter Souza, Chair
Stanley Hawthorne
Steph Bahramian
Brandon Robertson
Grace Tiezzi
Bob Bessel
Bob Skinner
Mark Walter
John Elsesser
Larry Niland
Courtney Lindberg
Ray Carpentino
Maria Capriola
David Nourse
Fred Presley

Town/Organization

Windsor
Bloomfield
Bloomfield
Avon
Avon
Canton
Canton
Columbia
Coventry
Glastonbury
Manchester
Rocky Hill
Simsbury
Southington
Wethersfield

CRCOG Staff

Cheryl Assis
Kimberly Bona
Maureen Goulet
Matt Hart
Aaliyah Miller
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG
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Guests

Rashi Akki
Andrew Ferguson

Ag-Grid
Ag-Grid

Chairperson Mr. Peter Souza called the meeting to order at 2:01 pm.

1. Adoption of Minutes: June 21, 2022

Mr. Souza requested a motion to adopt the minutes. Mr. Bob Skinner made a motion to adopt the July 26, 2022, Municipal Service Committee minutes as presented. Ms. Grace Tiezzi seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Public Comment

No public comment.

3. Food Waste Digester and Repackaging Plant, Rashi Akki, Ag Grid Energy, Owner

Mr. John Elsesser provided some background on Ag Grid Energy, stating that Ag-Grid Energy has begun construction of an anaerobic digester has begun on a large dairy farm (Hytone Farm) in the town of Coventry, and the town plans on constructing a repackaging plant next. Mr. Elsesser introduced Ms. Rashi Akki to the committee.

Ms. Akki and Mr. Andrew Ferguson presented to the committee on the project at Hytone Farm. To view the presentation, please [click here](#).

Lengthy discussion ensued.

4. Regional Organics Collection and Recycling

Mr. Bob Bessel explained that at this time, conversation is very preliminary. He has talked to town council, along with the town of Simsbury and Avon, regarding the possibility of collecting and transporting compostable material. He stated there is a common carrier for the three towns that take most of the waste, but there is a lot of information and data that still needs to be gathered and researched.

Ms. Tiezzi explained that regional efforts much remain cognizant of the fact that municipalities all handle trash differently.

Discussion followed.

5. Staff Reports

Mr. Hart provided the following updates to the committee:

- RPIP applications: four applications (ACO, inspection services, economic development, assessment) are in the final stages and process for submission.
- IIJA: CRCOG has hired two staff members (Elizabeth Sanderson and Kyle Shiel) who will work on IIJA projects and other special projects.
- FIRE/EMS: CRCOG will invite consultants and member towns to September MSC meeting to talk about studies and experiences.

- Building Inspection Services: CRCOG is very close to advertising for building official positions. (1 per diem, 1 FTE, 2 PTE).
- Fair Rent Commission: At a previous meeting it was asked if creating a regional entity was a possibility. Mr. Hart stated CRCOG has reached out to its attorney and will have a legal opinion regarding this matter at the September MSC meeting.

6. Municipal Information Sharing

None.

7. Adjournment

With no further business, Chairman Souza entertained a motion to adjourn at 3:09 pm and the motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting of the Municipal Services Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, 2022.