

CRCOG Municipal Services Committee
Virtual Meeting
Tuesday, June 18, 2024
12 pm
Minutes

Members and Alternates

Peter Souza, Chair
Al Schwapp
Jon Colman
Justin LaFountain
Bob Skinner
Mark Walter
Jim Drumm
Jana Robertson
Jonathan Luiz
Jennifer Kaufman
David Porter
Lauren Rhines
Andy Cirioli
Tom Fitzgerald
Tom Roy
Megan Massa
Peter Tanaka

Town/Organization

Windsor
Bloomfield
Bloomfield
Bloomfield
Canton
Columbia
Coventry
Coventry
Glastonbury
Mansfield
Marlborough
Newington
Plainville
Simsbury
Simsbury
Tolland
Willington

CRCOG Staff

Kim Bona
Matt Hart
Robyn Nichols
Caitlin Palmer
Elizabeth Sanderson
Kyle Shiel
Erik Snowden
Pauline Yoder

CRCOG
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Guests

Katie Shelton
Tom Roy

CT Green Bank
Town of Simsbury

1. Call to Order/Introductions

Chairperson Mr. Peter Souza called the meeting to order at 12:02 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes:

- **May 21, 2024, Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Jon Colman made a MOTION to accept the minutes from the May 21, 2024, meeting. Mr. Tom Fitzgerald SECONDED the MOTION and it CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Reports from the Chair and Staff

- **Committee Chair**

Chairperson Souza thanked CRCOG staff for inviting Titan Energy to last month's MSC meeting. He found it to be informative and is looking forward to the upcoming reverse auction for electricity suppliers.

- **Executive Director**

Mr. Hart thanked all who attended CRCOG's Annual Meeting on June 5th at Bldg 4 in Manchester; it was a great meeting!

Mr. Hart announced that CRCOG has hired its first Economic Development Coordinator, Kim Bishop. She will be overseeing the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) and coordinating with the federal EDA to help bring in additional federal and state grant money. Mr. Hart congratulated Andy Cirioli, Plainville Assistant Town Manager, on his election as President of Connecticut Town and City Managers Association (CTCMA) and thanked him for stepping up to serve in this important role.

- **Chief Operating Officer**
- **Other**

Ms. Kim Bona stated the Treated Road Salt bid is closing on June 24th – results will be posted by the end of day on June 25th. She will be issuing the Snowplow Blades bid on the 26th – please send quantities to Ms. Bona if you have not already done so. Finally, she stated that the CRPC is still accepting new members to participate in the Electricity Consortium reverse auction this fall. Those interested must submit the required paperwork to Ms. Bona no later than July 31st.

4. Business Items

- **CT Green Bank: Solar MAP Program Overview** (*Katie Shelton, CT Green Bank*)

Chairperson Souza welcomed Mr. Katie Shelton to the meeting and introduced her to the committee. Ms. Shelton provided a background on CT Green Bank and gave an informative and well received presentation on the Solar MAP Program. The presentation may be viewed here: [Solar MAP](#). Discussion followed.

- **CCSWA Update** (*Tom Roy, CCSWA Vice Chair Town of Simsbury; Matt Hart; Robyn Nichols*)

Mr. Souza welcomed Mr. Tom Roy to the meeting. Mr. Roy provided an update to members on the status of the Central Connecticut Solid Waste Authority (CCSWA). CCSWA has been dormant over the past several years and redoubled efforts to get back up and running. CCSWA has updated its bylaws and ordinance and is looking for more member towns to join; currently, 14 towns make up CCSWA. Through CRCOG, CCSWA received a Regional Waste Authority grant in the amount of \$600,000 which will be used over the next three years of operation. CCSWA will be issuing an RFI to gain insight regarding options on organics and food waste recycling; an RFP will follow. Mr. Roy explained that CCSWA is also working with DEEP and announced that DEEP will be issuing approximately \$15mm in grants for waste-related infrastructure and CCSWA will be looking at opportunities to apply for some of this funding. Discussion followed.

Mr. Souza expressed the importance of member discussion during these meetings. He encouraged members to speak and ask questions during these meetings; member engagement is important.

- **Municipal Trainee/RPIP Discussion** (*Matt Hart; Pauline Yoder*)

Mr. Hart stated CRCOG was awarded RPIP grants for Regional Building Inspection, Assessment, and Animal Control Services, but unfortunately has struggled to get these programs implemented. An idea to help reconfigure would be initiating a potential trainee model for those new to the field/s. Once they are trained, they can move on to continue work in municipalities. Ms. Pauline Yoder spoke more to this, stating it would consist of building someone up versus someone who is already qualified would require amending the original RPIP agreement, per OPM. Since these programs have not actually started, OPM suggested CRCOG return the funding and start over with a new application focused on the trainee model. She stated this will also allow time for CRCOG to get firm commitments from towns that wish to participate in these programs. Discussion followed.

5. Municipal Information Sharing

6. Future Agenda Items

- **Stormwater Management and/or Waste Management**
- **CRCOGWhat, CRCOGWho, CRCOGWhy Campaign**
- **Public Safety Recruitment and Retention**
- **Other?**

7. Adjournment

With no further business, Chairperson Souza entertained a motion to adjourn at 1:07 pm.

The next CRCOG Municipal Services meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17, 2024.