



Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2017

Meeting was convened by mr. Syme at 8:30 am

A **quorum** was noted with Ashford, Canterbury, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Scotland, Sterling, Thompson and Woodstock in attendance

The **Pledge of Allegiance** was conducted.

On a motion by Mr. Walker to accepted the **Minutes** as presented and a second by mr. Gray the previous meeting minutes were adopted with one abstention - Mr. Piper

Public Participation

A resident from Killingly expressed concern that the Animal Services Program has grown too large and that his town is being "short-changed." He further went on to ask how the town and donators to the Animal Services program can be assured that any such donations are being kept with the program and not used for general NECCOG activities.

The Executive Director responded that the facility has not been full in more than a year and that soon, because of a special grant, the facility will be expanded in terms of its ability to house animals. He went on to describe that NECCOG holds all donations to the Animal Services Program in a separate account (which is even broken down by individual animal) used exclusively for Animal Services and that nothing from that program goes into other NECCOG programs.

Other Agenda Items (requires 2/3 vote) - a unanimous vote was realized on a motion by Mr. Piper and a second by Mr. Beausoleil to adopt the modified agenda.

Director's Report - John Filchak, Executive Director

- The Director discussed the status of the Veteran's Transportation Initiative and Plainfield Transit Addition - noting that no change has occurred in either. RFPs regarding Maintenance and Video Surveillance were issued and responses have now been received. These will be reviewed and the selection process will move forward.
- Crumbling Foundations was discussed in terms of the status of various bills pending before the Legislature. The Director discussed many of the elements that the coalition is trying to gain passage. The primary goal is to et immediate relief for the homeowners now in danger of their foundation collapsing.
- The Director discussed RPIP Grant Implementation for the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care II, HHW Facility and Animal Shelter Modifications
- The Director discussed tourism and NECCOG's growing role in assisting member towns.
- The Director also discussed the upcoming Freedom of Information Conference and urged members to attend and spread the word about it.

Discussion and Actions

1. **2015-16 Audits - NECCOG and NECTD** - On a motion from Mr. Walker and a second from Mr. Griffiths the Audits were accepted as presented.
2. **Resolution 17-3-1 for New Bank Signers** - On a motion from Mr. Brodeur and a second from Mr. Piper the new signers were approved. The new signers are: Rick Ives, Allan Walker, Art Brodeur and John Filchak.

3. **Regional Referrals:** Motion by Mr. Walker to Block Vote, second by Mr. Piper items approved as having no regional impacts

- a. Town of Voluntown, Zoning Regulation Text Amendments, Sections 5A, 6, 7, 8
- b. Town of Mansfield, - Multi Family Housing Extension

3. **5310 Operation Applications** - Motion by Mr. Walker to accept each grant application as presented, seconded by Mr. Brodeur - passed unanimously

- a. NECCOG Application under the Federal 5310 Program to secure OPERATION FUNDS to transport Veteran's for medical needs.
- b. Putnam Taxi - Federal 5310 Program - TRADITIONAL GRANT APPLICATION – CAPITAL FUNDS
- c. Willington Senior Center - Federal 5310 Program - TRADITIONAL GRANT APPLICATION – CAPITAL FUNDS

Selectmen's Roundtable

- Governor's Budget was discussed and its significant adverse impacts to towns if passed as now configured. Mr. Syme noted that he is looking at a \$856 K decrease. Mr. Piper stated that his town could be looking at a 5 mill increase and Mr. Baldwin did not believe his budget could pass given the current numbers from Hartford.
- Fracking was briefly discussed and the growing concern amongst residents.
- Regional Tourism and NECCOG's Role was discussed and how NECCOG could assist towns in being more of a presence on the State's website and related social media.
- Mr. Griffiths discussed the possibility of using Transit to provide rides for tours associated with the Town's conservation Commission - the Director stated that this type of service is most likely a "charter" service and not something that Transit does and one that is highly regulated by the FTA.
- NECCOG/NHCOG Joint Letter

Executive Session (possible) - discussion regarding the future and possible purchase of 125 Putnam Pike - motion by Mr. Walker and second by Mr. Brodeur to go into Executive Session for the stated purpose of a possible land acquisition and to invite the Killingly Town Manager and the NECCOG Executive Director to participate - voted unanimously.

Following the Executive Session on a motion from Mr. Piper and a second from Mr. Sweet the Executive Director was authorized to spend up to \$10,000 to further evaluate 125 Putnam Pike for possible purchase.

Adjourn - 10:04 am