



**NECCOG**

Northeastern Connecticut Council of Governments

Ashford - Brooklyn - Canterbury - Chaplin - Eastford - Hampton - Killingly - Plainfield -  
Pomfret - Putnam - Scotland - Sterling - Thompson - Union - Voluntown - Woodstock

Results through Regionalism

# Meeting Minutes

## January 2025 Regular Meeting

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January 24, 2025 - 9:00 am Canterbury Town Hall & ZOOM

Representation from the following towns: Ashford, Canterbury, Chaplin, Eastford, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Scotland, Thompson, Union.

### 1. Open Meeting - 9:04 Maureen Nicholson, Madam Chair

- a. Welcome remarks
- b. Previous Minutes approved
  - Motion made by Kevin Cunningham, second by Patti George.
- c. Public Participation-
  - Kathleen Krider - ([kathleen.krider@accessagency.org](mailto:kathleen.krider@accessagency.org)) Access Agency- [Housing crisis](#) addressing financial coaching and education. Please reach out to discuss how the allocated funds are being used to support each town municipality.
  - CT State Representative Pat Boyd and Ct State Senator Mae Flexer -The appropriation process begins on February 5th, with Governor Ned Lamont presenting the state budget. Written testimony addressing concerns should be submitted. There is ongoing discussion about early voting, with municipalities expressing the need for additional support and resources to effectively implement and manage the process.

### 2. Program Updates Report -

- a. Transportation Rural Improvement Program Trip
  - Required 20% match. Distressed Municipalities and Public Investment Communities are exempt. In-kind services will be an acceptable match. Must be municipal funds.
  - \$2M Project cap introduced
  - DEADLINE 4 PM Friday February 7, 2025.
- b. Safe Streets for ALL-
  - The Kickoff Meeting was held in November of 2024. Monthly meetings currently with BETA during data gathering phase.
- b. CPRG - Central Mass & Northeastern CT Region Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Comprehensive Climate Action Plan Process. (CCAP) - Survey completed and results to be analyzed.
- c. Active Transportation Grants – Guidelines updated to include bike racks only, not supporting materials for construction or labor.
- d. OPM Parcel/ CAMA Grant/ GIS
  - 2024GL parcel updates have been completed for Brooklyn and Hampton. New town clerk maps have been scanned for Eastford, Scotland, and Union, and mapping updates for these communities are in progress.
  - Beta versions of the 2023 building and elevation layers are available for download on the CT Geodata Portal. These services will be posted on our viewer once the finalized versions are made available.
  - The work plan must be submitted to OPM by March 31.

### **3. Director's Report ( [Full Report](#) )**

- a. Animal Control
  - The major Eastford case involving 20 animals has been settled, and all animals have been relocated. The Woodstock case has concluded, and we're awaiting the judge's decision. The latest Woodstock case is ongoing, with 140 animals currently in care.
- b. Transit District
  - WRTD visited the location to discuss operations. During the no-fee holiday season, ridership rose by 30% compared to last December. Building repairs are stalled as contractors have not yet been approved.
- c. Regional Town Administrator
  - We are reviewing over 20 applicants, there are several that seem qualified for the position. Expecting interviews to take place in late January and early February.
- d. Regional Revaluations
  - The contract, after minor adjustments, is ready for approval and signing, and is on this month's agenda. Reminder: Two payments are due July 1, 2025, for towns that participated in both the previous and current contracts, due to the state's pull-forward.
- e. Outreach
  - Monthly appearances on WINY resumed on October 9, 2024. The Director's regular time will be the first Friday of each month at 9 a.m.
  - The Director to continue meeting with towns individually.
- f. Other
  - Thanks to Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz for speaking
  - The Black Dog Annual Meeting was a success, and NECCOG has rebooked the same venue for December 2025.

### **4. Discussion and Action Items**

- a. Approval for Regional Revaluation Program Contract with Vision Government Solutions-  
Motion to approve as presented made by Allan Cahill second by Patti George.
- b. Legislative Priorities & Strategic Initiatives 2025 -
  - Municipalities to send emails to representatives advocating for support on key legislative priorities and strategic initiatives for 2025.
- c. Regional Hazardous Waste options-
  - Towns to develop a rotating system that allows residents to participate in regional hazardous waste programs, ensuring more frequent opportunities for all communities to take part.
- d. STEAP Grant
  - Towns to reach out for letters of support, February 20th deadline.
- e. STIP Actions and Amendments
  - i. Package 1.10.25  
Motion to approve as presented made by Kevin Cunningham second by David Eaton.
- f. Regional Referrals - None for Consideration
- g. Other Agenda Items (requires 2/3 vote)

### **5. CEO Roundtable**

- Fuel Bulk Purchase via Municipal Shared Bid: Joint public bid for bulk fuel procurement by municipalities, offering price lock-ins to ensure cost stability.
- Pistol Permitting Signatures: Selectmen opt not to sign pistol permits; propose the state take on the responsibility of signing and processing permits instead.
- Early Voting Staffing & Resource Support: Coordination of additional staffing and resource allocation for early voting periods to ensure smooth operations and adequate voter assistance.

### **6. Adjourn- 10:56**

Motion to adjourn made by Kevin Cunningham second by David Eaton.