

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Honorable Town Council Members

FROM: Karl F. Kilduff, Town Manager

DATE: October 4, 2023

Please find my report concerning various items of interest to the Town Council and community.

1. Council Business:

- STEAP Grant Award – As I noted earlier, we were informed that the Town's \$500,000 STEAP grant application to support replacement radios for the Fire Department was awarded. The next step in the grant process will be executing a grant agreement with the State. After the grant is signed, the Town will have the ability to move forward.
- Possible Peddling Ordinance Change – I am work with the Town Attorney regarding any possible change to our current ordinance. The topic requires more legal evaluation. Based on a survey I asked CCM to perform, there weren't comparable towns that restrict soliciting by specific days (holidays). There were only restrictions by time of day.

2. River COG

The River COG met on September 27, 2023. Some highlights of that meeting that were of relevance to Clinton included:

- Recycling Presentation – the Capitol Region COG presented their piggy-back bid for a vendor that will recycle textiles. The vendor will pay \$100-120 per ton for textiles that are collected.
- HUD Housing Grant – The COG intends to apply for a HUD grant that will help fund planning around removal obstacles to the production and preservation of affordable housing.
- Economic Development District – With the completion of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), the COG is taking the next steps with a goal of being acknowledged by the federal government which will open the door to potential future funding for economic development activities in the region. The COG will now file with the Governor a request to be a State Economic Development District. Following that approval an application will be made to the Federal Economic Development Agency. The By-Laws of the COG will be amended to create an Economic Development District Committee too.
- Regional Solid Waste – There is still no answer from DEEP on the award of a grant to help evaluate regional options with the end of the MIRA project.

3. CCM Legislative Committee

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities Legislative Committee will meet again later in October. Policy ideas from the membership are being discussed for possible inclusion at this time.

4. Miscellaneous:

- Gas Company Rate Increase – The Town was put on notice that the Southern Connecticut Gas Company will be filing for a rate increase before PURA on November 1, 2023.
- Façade Program Update – Final approval to start work on the Grand Apizza façade project was finally secured from SHPO. The tenant of the building has been given permission to proceed with the project.
- Union Contract Negotiations – Negotiations remain on-going with the Police Union as the last union contract to be settled as well as negotiating the terms of their pension agreement which was left unresolved for several years.
- Hiring – interviews will be scheduled for potential candidates to serve as the director for Human Services. I have a WPCC clerk candidate for consideration at the meeting on October 3. Still in the pipeline are filling an IT position and the part-time Economic Development Coordinator to support the EDC's focus in a support role of conducting business outreach interviews. A Public Works Truck Driver has been advertised for the general public to apply.