

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Honorable Town Council Members

FROM: Karl F. Kilduff, Town Manager

DATE: August 16, 2023

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

1. Council Business:

- STEAP Grant – I am completing a STEAP grant application for funding toward replacing the hand-held “subscriber units” used by the Fire Department. The grant is due on August 18, 2023. The expected notice of awards is November.
- ARPA Funding – Following the ARPA approval at the Special Town Meeting, work has begun to set projects in motion that were waiting for final approval. For example, the grant that will fund the majority of replacing the EV charging station at Town Hall is in place and our match from ARPA is ready to go once we finalize the grant and take delivery of the charger. Design contracts were signed for all of the Park & Recreation projects for the design work can get going on all of them. Payment was also approved for Gilead to receive their ARPA funds that will support a rent subsidy program for their residents to continue living in Clinton while their former group home is rebuilt.

2. River COG – special meeting 8/23

The River COG did not have a regularly scheduled meeting for August. However, a special meeting will take place later in August to take action on additional funding that has been given to all Councils of Governments in the State budget. The COG will also hold a small group meeting to discuss potential regional projects that could be funded with State funds. The State increased the Regional Services grant to Councils of Governments.

3. CCM Legislative Committee

The Connecticut Conference of Municipalities is not holding any Legislative Committee meetings during the summer months as the General Assembly is not in session.

4. Miscellaneous:

- DOT Wrong Way Signage – The DOT intends to install additional signage in the Exit 63 South on-ramp to alert wrong way drivers. It is the only Clinton exit to receive this treatment. Other exits in the regional are also planned to receive a treatment to prevent drivers from entering off ramps and driving on the highway in the wrong direction. If a wrong way vehicle is detected, flashing red lights will illuminate. Notifications will also be sent to the DOT and the State Police.

The design of the project is expected to be complete in October 2023 with a tentative bid date of December 2023.

- 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 – A number of hiring processes are in-process or soon to start. We are in-process to find a new department director for Human Services following David Melillo's retirement. An IT position remains unfilled and we are still recruiting candidates for interviews. Two more positions have also been posted – the budgeted part-time Economic Development Coordinator to support the EDC's focus in a support role or conducting business outreach interviews and WPCC Clerk.