

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

TO: Honorable Town Council Members

FROM: Karl F. Kilduff, Town Manager

DATE: September 1, 2021

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

1. Council Business:

- ARPA Funding – As a follow-up to our workshop, I am collecting additional information and refining the cost for potential projects to aid the Council in our next discussion to develop a draft plan to utilize ARPA funding in Clinton. Additionally, CCM will be providing guidance to cities and town regarding the initial reporting requirements to Treasury under the program in the lead up to an October 31, 2021 deadline.

2. CCM:

CCM does not have a Legislative Committee meeting scheduled during the summer months while the General Assembly is out of session. Their next regularly scheduled meeting is in September.

As I noted previously, Policy Committees are starting their process to develop consensus positions on legislation CCM will be seeking to impact in the session. The Land Use, Housing and Community Development Committee held its first meeting which included a recap of the last session, prior policies that were to be advocated for and member feedback for categories. The policy approach to affordable housing generated the greatest degree of interest from the membership and will be discussed at future committee meetings to determine a policy position for CCM. It seems likely that this Policy Committee will meet several times in advance of bringing its suggestions to the whole Legislative Committee for approval.

3. River COG:

The Council of Governments will meet again on September 22, 2021.

4. 9 Town Transit:

The Board of 9 Town Transit met on August 20, 2021. The primary business items for the 9 Town Transit board are related to the merger with Middletown Area Transit as discussions with the DOT and the nature of their future funding commitments remain on-going while the agreements to merge the districts are finalized.

Educational and marketing materials are being prepared to better educate local leaders and riders from Middletown Area Transit of the new organization.

5. Miscellaneous:

- SHIPP Grant – The Town received a grant from the Connecticut Port Authority under the Small Harbor Improvement Projects Program. The primary thrust of the \$40,000 grant was to update the Harbor Management Plan for the Harbor Management Commission. As a result, the major piece to implement the grant is to engage a consultant to prepare a plan update. I am in the process of preparing a Request for Proposals to help the Harbor Management Commission solicit a consultant. At present, I am waiting on feedback from the Commission on a draft RFP.
- Regional Housing Plan – The Regional Housing Plan to be prepared by River COG will have a kickoff meeting on August 31. The plan will respond to a state mandate that every town have an affordable housing plan in place by June 1, 2022. To date, an electronic survey has been available to collect information for the municipalities that are participating in the project (which includes Clinton).
- Fire Department Report – As a follow-up to the presentation given to the Town Council regarding the Fire Department's facilities, I did meet with Chief Manware and Mike Neff to discuss next steps. This is another large topic that will benefit from a Council discussion focused only on this concern. There are a number of moving pieces and we need the benefit of Council direction before heading down a given path. We are pulling together additional information to help the Council in a future discussion.
- Future DOT Paving – Conn DOT is getting ready to mill and resurface Route 145 in Clinton, Westbrook and Deep River. At this point, the exact timing of the project is unknown as well as how the project will be phased. We are waiting on additional information from the Dot and their selected contractor.