



NOTICE OF MONTHLY MEETING

DATE: Thursday, December 8th, 2022
TIME: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
LOCATION: HYBRID via Zoom and In-Person at NHCOCG, 59 Torrington Road, Suite A-1, Goshen, CT

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83523565307?pwd=WjJIT3BURk9mQ1lHdFEvaTY5S3BqQT09>

Meeting ID: 835 2356 5307

Passcode: 876737

Dial In Option - 1 305 224 1968

AGENDA

(Chairman Henry Todd; Vice Chairman Mike Criss; Secretary Charlie Perotti; Treasurer Tom Weik)

- 10:00 AM Call to Order and Opportunity for Public Comment. **Henry Todd, Chairman.**
- 10:05 AM Report of the Executive Director, **Rob Phillips**
- Update on NHCOCG Office Space/Relocation
- 10:10 AM Potential Pooling of Opioid Settlement Funds in the Region for Greater Impact and General Update on Rural Health Resources Coordination, **John Simoncelli, Greenwood's Counseling and Leo Ghio, RHR Consultant**
- 10:25 AM Outlook for the Upcoming 2023 Legislative Session and Emerging Priorities, **Mike Muszinski CCM and Betsy Gara, COST**
- 10:45 AM Report of the NHCOCG Legislative Committee, **Mike Criss, Chairman**
- Review of NHCOCG's Legislative Priorities
 - Breakfast Event with Area Legislators
- 10:55 AM Economic Development Update, **Emily Hultquist**
- 11:05 AM Transportation Planning Update, **Kathryn Faraci**
- STIP Amendment – New Project to Provide Funding for Bridge 00906 in Washington – Rehab due to poor condition rating. *(Attachment A)*
- 11:15 AM DEMHS Update, **John Field, DEMHS Region 5 Coordinator**
- 11:25 AM **Municipal Forum:** Information Sharing Round Table

11:55 AM Administrative Items:

- a) **ACTION** - Approval of Meeting Minutes for November 10th, 2022 (*Attachment B*)
- b) **ACTION** - Approval of Financial Statement for October (*Attachment C*)

12:00 PM Other Business as Raised by Members and Adjournment.

ATTACHMENT A

Requested Changes to CTDOT FY 2021 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) In the Northwest Hills Region

STIP Amendments #8 - #10 (10-27-22) – New Projects to provide funding for Bridge 00906, constructed in 1957 and reconstructed in 1988, is in poor condition and requires rehabilitation. The reinforced concrete cast-in-place deck is driving the poor condition rating. Throughout the underside of the deck there are concrete repair patches, map cracking, deep spalling with exposed and debonded rebar, hollow areas, and heavy efflorescence at the deck ends. The superstructure is rated a 5 and is exhibiting significant rusting and section loss, especially at the beam ends, and needs to be addressed. The PE phase includes a PD/FD split.

<u>Proj#</u>	<u>AQCd</u>	<u>Rte/Sys</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Phase</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Tot\$(000)</u>	<u>Fed\$(000)</u>	<u>Sta\$(000)</u>	<u>Loc\$(000)</u>	<u>Comments</u>
0150-0137	X6	US 202	WASHINGTON	NHS - REHAB BR 00906 o/ SHEPAUG RIVER	PD	2023	610	488	122	0	NEW PROJECT
0150-0137	X6	US 202	WASHINGTON	NHS - REHAB BR 00906 o/ SHEPAUG RIVER	FD	2024	418	334	84	0	NEW PROJECT
0150-0137	X6	US 202	WASHINGTON	NHS - REHAB BR 00906 o/ SHEPAUG RIVER	CON	FYI	6,700	5,360	1,340	0	NEW PROJECT

ATTACHMENT B



MINUTES OF THE NHCOC MEETING November 10, 2022

Members or Representatives in Attendance:

Barkhamsted, Donald Stein
Canaan, Henry Todd
Cornwall, Gordon Ridgway
Hartland, Magi Winslow (absent)
Kent, Jean Speck
Morris, Tom Weik
Norfolk, Matt Riiska
Roxbury, Patrick Roy
Sharon, Brent Colley (absent)
Warren, Greg LaCava
Winchester, Josh Kelly

Burlington, Douglas Thompson (absent)
Colebrook, Christopher Johnstone
Goshen, Todd Carusillo
Harwinton, Michael Criss
Litchfield, Denise Raap
New Hartford, Dan Jerram
North Canaan, Charles Perotti (absent)
Salisbury, Curtis Rand (absent)
Torrington, Elinor Carbone
Washington, Jim Brinton

Others in Attendance: Leo Ghio, Rural Healthcare Resource Coordinator, Tim Walberg from Eversource, Andrew Bolger from SHFA, Jacqueline Kozin and Jessica Vargas from CTPL Authority (remotely), and Dr. Jeffrey Kitching from EdAdvance,

NHCOC Staff: Robert Phillips, Emily Hultquist, Kathryn Faraci, and Sarah Better

Tim Waldron introduced himself as the new Community Relations Specialist from Eversource. He is assigned to the northern portion of the region while Daniel Davis is assigned to the southern portion.

Selectman Riiska shared the issues the town is currently handling due to the 8,200 gallons of oil spilled on Route 44. Due to the quick response the spill did not impact any local waterways. Selectman Riiska thanked all the municipalities in the region for their assistance and support.

Call to Order - Chairman Todd called the meeting to order at 10:0AM.

Report of the Executive Director - Robert Phillips shared that he and Emily Hultquist attended the CCM conference last week. One of the largest sessions was on the infrastructure funding. There were also discussions on the State's workforce. They also attended a meeting with UCONN and CRCOG regarding the public work force development and filling of jobs in Connecticut. The NHCOC was awarded \$15,000 under the Foundation for Community Health Grant and we have also engaged in a grant writer for the Health Resources and Services Administration grant (HRSA) which is a \$1.2 million grant over four years. Due to payment delays from the CTDOT, the NHCOC is providing \$75,000 to the RITS providers upfront to assist

them in maintaining their current operations. NHCOC will be undergoing a DEHMS desk review to ensure that all our files are current. REPT meeting will be held on November 14, 2022, and the TEEX training will be held at the Litchfield Inn on November 15th on the topic of Crisis Leadership.

Northwest Hills Housing Market & Market Trends – Andrew Bolger, from the Connecticut Housing Finance Authority provided a PowerPoint presentation on their campaign to assist in providing employment for individuals who are recovering from mental illness or substance abuse. Homelessness rates have increase by 13% within the Northwest Hills COG region.

CT Paid Leave Program – Jacqueline Kozin and Jessica Vargas provided a PowerPoint presentation on the updates to the Connecticut Paid Leave Program.

Recent Activities and Program Updates at EdAdvance – Executive Director Dr. Jeffrey C Kitching provided a brief overview of the services that EdAdvance provides to the Northwest Hills communities. The company provides transportation services to over 46,000 students and currently has 150 vans in operation and employs approximately 110 drivers. EdAdvance also provide support to municipal Boards of Education. He meets monthly with each of the School Superintendents to discuss any issues or areas where they can be of assistance. A copy of their annual report was provided to all attendees.

Economic Development Update – Emily Hultquist stated 100% of the region has affordable housing plans thankful to Jocelyn Ayer for all of her hard work. The NHCOC is working in collaboration with her agency and continuing to sit on the Regional Housing Council. A micro-meeting of the EDC was held this morning in tandem with the Northwest Hills Chamber of Commerce Economic Forecast. Next meeting will be in January. It was suggested that we survey the municipal EDCs and that is in preparation for updating our Comp. Economic Dev. Strategy. Regarding Broadband, our team has been out to meet with many of you regarding a regional coalition on broadband and we have a substantial portion of the region that is interested in presenting a united front in bringing money into the region for broadband. We are continuing to monitor the activities of the private companies and their activities in the various communities of the region. There are a couple of Brownfields Redevelopment Revolving Loan Funds in CT one with NVCOC which some communities in the Northwest Hills may have used. But now the CRCOC Revolving Loan fund is also available to all our communities. CRCOC's Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund is now open to all municipalities that belong to a COG that does not have a Brownfield Program. We recently extended our RLF cooperative agreement for 2 more years and as part of the extension, we added in all the towns that are members of Northwest Hills COG, West COG, SCRCOC, River COG, SECCOC, and NECOC. Applications are available on our website and if anyone has questions, call at 860-724-4211 or email mgoulet@crcoc.org. Currently, our Brownfields Assessment program is not available outside of the Sustainable Knowledge Corridor, but we will revisit when we extend that agreement.

DEHMS Update – CT DEHMS continues to replace personnel/positions lost to retirement. Training and orientation of new employees continues. Personnel continues to administer, facilitate, and assist local municipalities with Emergency Management Performance Grant program (EMPG). The current priority is to complete the 2018 EMPG documentation and assure municipalities receive their entitled reimbursement funds upon completion of paperwork. In accordance with State Statutes public and private school districts are required to submit their All Hazards Safety and Security Plans by November 1st. DEHMS continues to work with the CT's State Department of Education to assure all schools adhere to these Statutes. The Drill Logs are due July 1st. DHEMS Region 5 Office responded to the Town of Norfolk for a gasoline tanker accident on November 5th. They continue to work with and support the Town, the cleanup contractors and the many other State agencies working the incident. Norfolk has declared a local State of Emergency. CT IMT West has been activated and is assisting the Emergency Operations Center with planning, documentation, and possible reimbursement of costs. CT DEHMS Region 5 and School Security personnel performed an Active Shooter

Table-Top Exercise for Northwestern Regional #7 High and Middle School. The exercise participants included Barkhamsted and Winchester government, law enforcement, Winchester first responders, Winchester public schools, Gilbert school and Explorations. There will be upcoming training on Crisis Leadership on November 15, 2022, and AWR 148 Leadership/Management during Rural School Events on November 16, 2022. CERT Day was recently held at the CT Fire Academy. There were 135 CERT members attending the event. The event included medical services, fire service, drones, animal rescue, etc. The CT Department of Administrative Services and DEHMS recently worked to update the State Cyber Security Plan and implement Election Security protocol. An operational plan was created and implemented on election day.

Municipal Forum – Selectman Johnston mentioned the town’s need for inland/wetland Planning and Zoning Enforcement Officer. Selectman Speck stated that the Medic 4 contract is coming to an end June 30, 2023, and Trinity is not looking to renew.

Administrative Items

- a) ACTION - Approval of Minutes from October 20, 2022. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Selectman Criss and second by Selectman LaCava and passed unanimously.
- b) ACTION – Approval of Financial Statements for July, August and September. Motion was made by Selectman Criss and second by Selectman Stein. Motion passed unanimously.
- c) ACTION – Approval of the 2023 NHCOC Meeting Schedule. Motion to approve was made by Selectman Todd and seconded by Selectman Stein. Motion passed unanimously.

Other Business and Public Comment – none

The meeting adjourned at 12:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

NHCOC staff

ATTACHMENT C

NORTHWEST HILLS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS						
Oct-22						
	ORIGINAL	BUDGET	AMENDED	EXPENDED	EXPENDED	
OVERHEAD COSTS	BUDGET	AMENDMENTS	BUDGET	THIS MONTH	TO DATE	UNEXPENDED
Audit (Fiscal Services)	10,800				0.00	10,800.00
Cleaning Service/MSW Disposal	2,000			180.00	615.00	1,385.00
Dues, Subscript., Publications	3,000			60.00	474.00	2,526.00
Insurance (Bonds/Office/Property)	15,000	3,028.00			18,028.00	-
Miscellaneous	3,500			234.99	1,430.58	2,069.42
Office Supplies	2,500			264.36	1,104.65	1,395.35
Postage	700				11.60	688.40
Printing Services/Repro.	1,000				0.00	1,000.00
Rent	34,028			2,099.00	10,495.00	23,533.00
Equip. Maintenance, Repairs	5,000			1,805.82	3,152.73	1,847.27
Telephone, Computer, Fax & Internet	5,500			1,156.83	2,883.39	2,616.61
Travel & conference	6,000			1,058.44	1,516.26	4,483.74
Utilities	7,500			358.34	862.28	6,637.72
Contingency	5,000	3028			0.00	1,972.00
STAFFING						
Salaries	374,450			31,332.36	124,944.84	249,505.16
Employee Benefits	102,307			7,138.20	27,052.80	75,254.20
Payroll Expenses	30,477			2,543.99	10,127.51	20,349.49
CONSULTANTS & OTHER SERVICES						
Transit Planning - NWCTD **	15,000				0.00	15,000.00
Regional Engineer (LOTICIP)*	1,002				0.00	1,002.00
Regional Transportation Planning**	1				0.00	1.00
Housatonic River Commission	1,330				0.00	1,330.00
EDA Planning Partnership	20,000				0.00	20,000.00
Consultant Contingency **/ Other	8,834				0.00	-
CAPITAL AND NON-REOCCURRING						
Medical Deductible Contingency	-				0.00	-
Equipment	1				0.00	1.00
OPERATING BUDGET SUB TOTAL	654,930	6,056.00	660,986.00	48,232.33	202,698.64	458,287.36
Passthrough***				102,174.74	248,809.31	
TOTAL				150,407.07	451,507.95	
Revenue Received This Month	2,012.16					
Revenue Received To Date**	550,861.33		Revenue Received to Date		550,861.33	
Balance of Awarded Revenue	366,797.41		Expended to Date		451,507.95	
Total Revenue	917,658.74		Operating Account Balance		99,353.38	
Note: There are separate checking/savings accounts for: NW Hills Fuel Bank, Prescription Assistance Program, Public Works, N2N						
*Carryover from FY 21-22 for defined purposes.						
**Includes FY 21-22 carryover						
***Passthrough includes: DEMHS, CERT, Geer, HHW, HRC						

NORTHWEST HILLS COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS						
Oct-22						
	ORIGINAL	BUDGET	AMENDED	RECEIVED	RECEIVED	NOT
	BUDGET	AMENDMENTS	BUDGET	THIS MONTH	TO DATE	RECEIVED
INCOME						
Regional Service Grant (OPM-SGIA)	262,002.00				0.00	262,002.00
ConnDOT Transportation (HPR)	135,000.00				0.00	135,000.00
ConnDOT Transit	23,625.00				0.00	23,625.00
ConnDOT LOTCIP	12,500.00				0.00	12,500.00
ConnDOT RITS	10,000.00				24,999.00	-14,999.00
Municipal (Local) Dues	89,860.00				81,157.60	8,702.40
Town Fee for Service	1.00				0.00	1.00
Regional Housing Council Dues	1.00				0.00	1.00
Housatonic River Commission Dues	2,800.00				0.00	2,800.00
Foundation For Community Health	7,290.00				0.00	7,290.00
N2N (Berkshire Taconic)	1,500.00				0.00	1,500.00
DEMHS Region 5 Coordination by COG	12,000.00			2,000.00	2,000.00	10,000.00
DEMHS Region 5 Fiduciary	23,000.00				0.00	23,000.00
Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan - DEMHS					0.00	0.00
Department of Housing	1.00				0.00	1.00
EDA-Partnership Planing	60,000.00				30,000.00	30,000.00
EDA-CARE**					149,307.36	-149,307.36
Miscellaneous	200.00				625.00	-425.00
Bank Interest	150.00			12.16	43.63	106.37
Previous Year Accounts Receivable					0.00	0.00
Carryover funds FY 21/22	15,000.00				0.00	15,000.00
OPERATING BUDGET SUB TOTAL	654,930.00	0.00	654,930.00	2,012.16	288,132.59	366,797.41
Passthrough****					89,359.80	
TOTAL				2,012.16	377,492.39	
				TSB Certificate of Deposit #1	47,865.07	
				TSB Certificate of Deposit #2	48,086.49	
				TSB Certificate of Deposit #3	60,342.77	
				NCB Certificate of Deposit	217,838.12	
				STIF NHCOG General Fund	359,325.19	
****Passthrough includes: DEMHS, CERT, Geer, HHW, HRC				Total Rainy Day Funds	733,457.64	