

Hazard Mitigation Commission

Town Hall

April 19, 2016

7:30 pm

Selectmen's Meeting Room

Second Floor

Present: Chair Hank Graver, Town Health Director Dennis Johnson, Stephen Kops

Absent: Allyn Brown, Town Environmental Planner Kevin Magee

Guests: Eugene Livshits, Representative for SCRCOG, grant update

Call to Order/Determination of Quorum

At 7:42 pm, Chair Hank Graver opened the meeting without a quorum to review information from Guest Speaker Eugene Livshits, representative from the CT South Central Regional Council of Governments (SCRCOG).

Mr. Livshits reviewed the history of a SCRCOG FEMA grant to hire a consultant to organize a Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Guilford, Milford, East Haven and Meriden received FEMA grant funds before the SCRCOG plan, which was approved by FEMA in 2014. Guilford's FEMA mitigation plan expires in 2017 and must be updated now to be included in the Regional Mitigation Plan with the SCRCOG consultant and to receive FEMA funding on its own. The Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan for fiscal year 2016 had been submitted by SCRCOG to include several towns and cities, as well as, the scope of work in the planning process, capability and risk assessments, hazard mitigation strategies, Plan maintenance process, Plan adoption and approval.

Chair Graver explained the HazMC process of determining Guilford's mitigation strategies' list. Mr. Livshits advised that if a SCRCOG consultant was hired, that person would determine which strategies could be accomplished by more than one municipality to be funded by a grant. The HazMC mitigation plan will expire before the SCRCOG Plan is adopted. The grant would be used to update the current plan.

Discussion reviewed the Community Rating System which has ten levels that communities must document to be included in the system. Kevin Magee will be reviewing criteria to determine if Guilford is eligible. Staff are needed to conduct the documentation. If eligible, residents could apply to save from 15 to 25% on their homeowner's insurance coverage.

Discussion reviewed questions regarding local flood areas and potential for grants. At the May HazMC meeting, Gemma Febris, CT Deputy Hazard Mitigation Officer, will provide information on this topic.

Mr. Livshits advised that a representative from Guilford can hold a position on the SCRCOG hiring panel for the consultant. The state also has public meetings for input. Each municipality would pre-authorize projects funded by the SCRCOG grant and SCRCOG would administer development of the regional plan.

Since the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan sub-applications from SCRCOG are due April 29, 2016, Guilford must submit the intention to be included by April 22. The First Selectman Joe Mazza may have responded. He will be contacted. A Special Meeting may be needed to pursue this matter.

The meeting closed at 8:45 pm.

*The next regular meeting will be the third Tuesday, May 17, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Anderson Castellano
Recording Secretary