



Racine County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council

Intergovernmental Cooperation Council Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 31, 2022

5:00 pm – 6:30 pm

Village of Union Grove Municipal Center
925 15th Avenue, Union Grove
Auditorium

Members Present:

Jim Dobbs, Village of Caledonia
Ernie Rossi, Village of Elmwood Park
Mark Schall, Village of North Bay
Jean Jacobson, Town of Norway
Ed Chart, Village of Rochester
Steve Wicklund, Village of Union Grove
Don Houston, Village of Waterford
Jonathan Delagrave, Racine County
Jeff Lang, Town of Burlington
Jeannie Hefty, City of Burlington
Sam Stratton, Town of Dover
Mike Rosenbaum, Village of Sturtevant
Douglas Nelson, Village of Yorkville

Excused:

David DeGroot, Village of Mount Pleasant
Cory Mason, City of Racine
Kari Morgan, Village of Raymond
Tom Hincz, Town of Waterford
Susan Sanabria, Village of Wind Point

Designees Present:

Maureen Murphy, Village of Mount Pleasant
Paul Vornholt, City of Racine
Doug Schwartz, Village of Raymond
Brian Graziano, Village of Wind Point

Guests Present:

Carina Walter, City of Burlington

- City of Racine – City of Burlington
- Villages of Caledonia - Elmwood Park - Mount Pleasant - North Bay - Raymond, Rochester – Sturtevant - Union Grove – Waterford - Wind Point - Yorkville
 - Town of Burlington – Dover – Norway - Waterford

RCICC

Racine County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council

Rachel Naber, Town of Burlington
Kathy Kasper, Village of Caledonia
Kerry Bennett, Village of Union Grove
Scott Meier, County Board Supervisor
Jody Spencer, County Board Supervisor
Marlo Harmon, County Board Supervisor
Nick Demske, County Board Supervisor
Jenny Trick, RCEDC
Travis Richardson, Racine County
Andrew Goetz, Racine County
M.T. Boyle, Racine County and RCICC staff

- I. County Executive Delagrave called the meeting to order at 4:59 pm.
- II. Introductions
- III. Approval of the May 26, 2022 minutes

Action: Approve the minutes from the May 26, 2022, meeting.

Motion passed. Moved: Chair Jean Jacobson Seconded: President Ed Chart

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays

- IV. Welcome from County Board Supervisor Scott Maier

Supervisor Maier gave a warm welcome to County District 16, including Union Grove and Yorkville. Supervisor Maier described current and future projects that will lead to more growth to the area. He invited all in attendance to a few notable upcoming events, including Super Saturday with the Kiwanis Club this weekend and the famous Pumpkin Chucking on October 15, 2022 at the Fairgrounds.

- V. Report by the County Executive

1. Chapter 980 Placements

Jonathan Delagrave described the difficulties and issues of Chapter 980 placements. Currently, there are 5 individuals in the court process to be placed within Racine County. The Wisconsin Department of Corrections is responsible for the supervision of placing offenders in their home county. Discussion ensued. Mr. Delagrave stated that the RCICC may want to weigh in and/or advocate for change with State legislation by adopting a

- City of Racine – City of Burlington
- Villages of Caledonia - Elmwood Park - Mount Pleasant - North Bay - Raymond, Rochester – Sturtevant - Union Grove – Waterford - Wind Point - Yorkville
- Town of Burlington – Dover – Norway - Waterford



Racine County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council

resolution. To that end, he will aim to have resolution options and recommendations for the RCICC to examine and possibly vote on by the next meeting.

2. Update on 911 Infrastructure

Racine County Communications Director Jackie Bratz presented an update on the 911 Communications Center and future infrastructure needs. We are well into the joint dispatch contract that commences in 2011 and is complete at the end of 2029. Each year another 10% of the costs returns to the county budget, from the participating municipalities, placing full budgetary costs on the county.

The current county communication system is analog, and most equipment is end of life, making it challenging to locate replacement parts for some of the existing critical equipment. We are now faced with needing to transition to a digital communication system, that comes at a price tag of roughly \$20-25 million. The County plans to assume this significant investment, and Director Bratz has been working with fire and police chiefs for both solutions and possible supplemental funding options. Bratz explained that some parts of the system are owned by different municipalities; therefore, it's important that the municipalities and the RCICC weigh in on the replacement plan. Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) will be lobbying the State to use 6B surplus funds to upgrade the State's 911 system. The County Executive will be talking to other counties, other 911 dispatch centers, and Motorola, together with other stakeholders, have a report back to the RCICC by the next meeting. At that time, he may ask the RCICC to send a communication to the State advocating for any needed legislative or budgetary changes.

3. Update on ARPA Funds

The County Executive explained the necessity of funding County mandated services and the many community needs and subsequent asks that he has received in regard to the ARPA funds. His priority for the use of ARPA funds includes mental health services, which may include the consolidation of County services and other mental health partnership under one roof.

4. New PlayRacineCounty.com Youth Sports Hub

Racine County's Senior Project Manager M.T. Boyle gave an overview of a new Racine County project: PlayRacineCounty.com. Youth sports have always played an important

- City of Racine – City of Burlington
- Villages of Caledonia - Elmwood Park - Mount Pleasant - North Bay - Raymond, Rochester – Sturtevant - Union Grove – Waterford - Wind Point - Yorkville
- Town of Burlington – Dover – Norway - Waterford

RCICC

Racine County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council

role in the community, and now more than ever, kids need to be active, especially coming out of COVID. Racine County wants to promote youth fitness by centralizing the search for the various sports programs, leagues, camps, and training opportunities into one website. A few highlights of the site include buttons for each sports, a brief description of each offering including a targeted age group, direct links to the various websites, a calendar that the community can add special events or registrations, and a news section that can highlight special interests. Due to overall shortages, both sports officiating and lifeguard training and employment opportunities are included. Lastly, this site will house all the information regarding the upcoming Second Annual Youth Sports EXPO on February 4, 2023. The expected go-live date for the website is mid-October.

VI. Racine County Economic Development Corporation and GreaterRacineCounty.com presentation (Executive Director Jenny Trick)

Racine County Economic Development Corporation's Executive Director Jenny Trick gave a comprehensive overview of the state of Racine County on various key economic and social indicators. A few key metrics include: the aging population and concerning number of retirements without an equal influx of young people; ethnicity and the region's population; education, and the labor force that reflects a Racine County unemployment rate of 4.2% and the State rate of 2.9%, which indicates full employment which makes it difficult for business to fill open positions. Director Trick drew a comparison to Kenosha in labor force growth – Racine County grew 10%, Kenosha grew 38%. For employment by industry, education and health services increased the most over other industries such as manufacturing.

Racine County benefitted from two recent land use and housing studies which showed that the housing market is undersupplied and in demand. Racine County could absorb 400 single houses and 500+ multi-families. The housing data reflected that current inventory has not improved, total listings down, and housing affordability is eroding. The rental market is also woefully behind in the need for multi-family housing, and compared to Kenosha, rent rates are low.

Racine County has enjoyed some significant projects: the Granary in Union Grove, Tivoli Green in Mount Pleasant, and an overall 2,500 units added since 2019. Net new construction is strong especially in Caledonia, Mount Pleasant, and Sturtevant. Director Trick also mentioned several new or ongoing economic development and expansion projects, including: InSinkErator's new headquarters, Ashley Capital's development in Sturtevant and Mount Pleasant, Foxconn's multiple buildings, Hillwood and Land and Lakes in Mount Pleasant, , Crescent Electric and BRP in Sturtevant, and Lavelle in Burlington. Since 2017, \$1.2 billion has been invested in Racine County in announced

- City of Racine – City of Burlington
- Villages of Caledonia - Elmwood Park - Mount Pleasant - North Bay - Raymond, Rochester – Sturtevant - Union Grove – Waterford - Wind Point - Yorkville
- Town of Burlington – Dover – Norway - Waterford

RCICC

Racine County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council

projects. Water and sewer services, especially along the I94 corridor, are enormously helpful to economic development; and for potential investors and developers, municipal transparency and informational support throughout the process is key. Racine County is already enjoying the next boom area.

VII. NG911 PSAP Grant Program – Designated PSAP Resolution (Communications Director Jackie Bratz and Data and Performance Analytics Director Travis Richardson)

Data Analytics and Performance Director Travis Richardson gave an informational overview of a Federal grant opportunity up to \$400K to use for advanced dispatch training. As the Racine County Communications Center is the only Public Service Answering Point (PSAP) in Racine County, the County Board resolution designating a PSAP is only a formality. Director Richardson will send letter of support to municipalities by end of September. Grant due in October.

VIII. Discussion of Annual Fee (RCICC Treasurer/Secretary and Town of Norway Chairman Jean Jacobson)

Chair Jacobson explained that the RCICC will charge small fee to cover some expenses. She had requested that this item be placed on the agenda because municipalities are all finalizing their 2023 budgets. Chairwoman Jacobson asked for a decision on the amount of the annual fee today. Discussion was held. President Chart made a motion and Dobbs seconded to have the fee set at \$200 at first to get fund built up and \$100 in subsequent years. Mike Rosenbaum suggested to vote on just the \$200 fee for now and reevaluate the fee next year. Motion was for an ask for each municipality to contribute.

Action: Approve the first-year fee for the municipalities to contribute to the RCICC is \$200 to be paid by each municipality in the 2023 budget and this fee will be reevaluated for the 2024 budget.

Motion passed. Moved: President Chart Seconded: President Dobbs

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays

IX. Discussion of Future Meeting Dates and Times

A list of dates for the next two years was distributed. A change of date to the fifth Wednesday, if possible, in the meeting months of November, January, March, May, August, and a move to a

- City of Racine – City of Burlington
- Villages of Caledonia - Elmwood Park - Mount Pleasant - North Bay - Raymond, Rochester – Sturtevant - Union Grove – Waterford - Wind Point - Yorkville
- Town of Burlington – Dover – Norway - Waterford

RCICC

Racine County Intergovernmental Cooperation Council

5:00 pm start, with a rotating meeting place, was reflected in the list and will be noted in the bylaws in the future.

X. Roundtable

The County Executive invited any municipality to speak during this agenda item.

The County Executive asked interested municipalities to give updates on the ARPA funding to their respective boards in November, December, or January.

County Executive Delagrave mentioned that 80% of the County budget was complete and he tried to leverage monies with municipalities where possible. He added that he is in discussions with other Counties with County Executives to bring other ideas to the State to tie levy limits to another funding mechanism other than new construction. He will present any findings or ideas to the RCICC and possibly ask to lobby for a change.

Norway – Chair Jacobson told the members to keep eye on State legislation for upcoming affordable housing issues. She reminded the members that is important to collaborate with each other for greater impact.

No other municipalities spoke.

XI. Items for Future Meetings

None were mentioned.

XII. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for November 30, 2022 at 5:00 pm at the Rochester Village Hall, 300 W. Spring Street, Rochester.

XIII. Adjournment

Action: Adjourn the meeting of August 31, 2022 at 6:12 pm

Motion passed. Moved: President Ed Chart Seconded: President Rosenbaum

Vote: All Ayes, No Nays

- City of Racine – City of Burlington
- Villages of Caledonia - Elmwood Park - Mount Pleasant - North Bay - Raymond, Rochester – Sturtevant - Union Grove – Waterford - Wind Point - Yorkville
- Town of Burlington – Dover – Norway - Waterford