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## **INTERIM** Council Minutes

### for the 5/18/2017 Regular Meeting

Held at the Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Association  
27 Governor Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877

Chairman Jayme Stevenson - Vice Chairman Susan Chapman  
Secretary David Gronbach - Treasurer Patricia Llodra

#### MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel..... Alternate Second Selectman Rich Stralton  
Bridgewater..... Absent  
Brookfield..... First Selectman Steve Dunn  
Danbury..... Alternate City Planner Sharon Calitro  
Darien..... First Selectman Jayme Stevenson  
Greenwich..... First Selectman Peter Tesel  
  
New Canaan..... First Selectman Robert Mallozzi  
New Fairfield..... Absent  
New Milford..... Mayor David Gronbach  
Newtown..... First Selectman Patricia Llodra  
Norwalk..... Mayor Harry Rilling  
Redding..... First Selectman Julia Pemberton  
  
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi  
Sherman..... Absent  
Stamford..... Mayor David Martin  
Weston..... First Selectman Nina Daniel  
Westport..... First Selectman James Marpe  
Wilton..... First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice

#### OTHERS ATTENDING

Stamford Chief of Staff Michael Pollard, John Suggs of the Westport Transit District, Norwalk Transit CEO Kimberly Morton, Richard Schreiner and Harrison Wenchell of HARTransit, and WestCOG staff members Francis Pickering, Patricia Payne, Robert Sachnin, Carl Zimmerman, Elizabeth Esposito, Nicole Sullivan and Jonathan Chew. Interns Matt Lametta, Rebecca Agababizan, Alex Burns, and Angelo Bochanis of Weston and interns Liam Riebling, Katie Jasminski, Lucy Briody, and Brandon Wong of Ridgefield. Ellen Graham of Senator Blumenthal's office and Lauren Elliot from the Town of Greenwich.

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by Chairman Jayme Stevenson, a quorum was present.

## OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment

## FEATURED GUEST

Francis Pickering introduced Patrick Santoso, founder and Principal of Axiomatic LLC. He noted that Axiomatic has been undertaking a study for WestCOG to assess regionalization potential for municipal Computer Assisted Mass Appraisal (CAMA), tax billing and collections systems, as well as related business practices and IT resources.

Mr. Santoso summarized his firm's "Draft Existing Conditions and Initial Recommendations Report" to the council. He stated that full integration of regionalized real property CAMA does not appear to be feasible. However, that several related areas do offer potential for collaboration and savings. He then reviewed the following promising areas:

- Regional GIS Parcel Website
- Automated Deed Integration
- Personal Property E-File
- GIS Parcel Map Updates
- User Group for Permitting Implementation
- Data Sharing and Knowledge Base
- E-File Exemptions

There were then questions, answers, and considerable discussion. Mr. Santoso was then thanked for his work on the "Draft Existing Conditions and Initial Recommendations Report".

## ACTION ITEMS

**Approval of 4/20/2017 Minutes:** After review and on a motion made by First Selectman Patricia Llodra and seconded by First Selectman Rudy Marconi the minutes of the meeting of 4/20/2017 were unanimously approved, with abstentions by Second Selectman Rich Straiton, City Planner Sharon Calitro, and Mayor Harry Rilling.

**UPWP Signatory Authorization:** Francis Pickering addressed this topic, reviewing the "Authorizing Resolution for an Agreement between WestCOG and CTDOT to Fund HVMPO and SWRMPO

Transportation Planning for FY2018 and Fy2019.” After discussion, a motion was made by First Selectman Rudy Marconi and seconded by Mayor Harry Rilling, the UPWP Signatory Authorization was unanimously approved.

**Summer Meeting Schedule:**

It was unanimously agreed upon that the July 20, 2017 meeting will be canceled.

**FY17-18 WestCOG Budget Approval:** First Selectman Patricia Llodra presented the draft budget, commenting upon the attached “FY17-18 WestCOG Draft Budget Operating Expense Summary and Revenue Source Summary.” A motion was not made, it was agreed to revisit and vote on the “FY17-18 WestCOG Draft Budget Operating Expense Summary and Revenue Source Summary” at the June 15, 2017 meeting.

**Approval of FY15-16 WestCOG Audit:** WestCOGs Senior Financial Manager Patty Payne then reviewed the “Independent Auditor’s Report” by the firm Henry, Raymond & Thompson, LLC. There was discussion. Then on a motion made by First Selectman Patricia Llodra and seconded by First Selectman Nina Daniel, the FY15-16 Audit was unanimously accepted.

**MOU for a Regional Election Monitor:** Francis Pickering reviewed the “Memorandum of Understanding Between the Office of the Secretary of State and WestCOG for a Regional Election Monitor.” This is an update of the current agreement.

There was discussion. Then on a motion made by First Selectman Rudy Marconi and seconded by First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the MOU for a Regional Election Monitor was unanimously approved.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

**State Matching Grant Program via State Statute 13b-38bb:** As previously reviewed at the MPO meeting, the program is entitled “State Matching Grant Program for Elderly and Demand Response Transportation” and has been in place since 2006. It provides matching funds for the transportation of seniors and persons with disabilities in each municipality.

**Update on Local Road Accident Reduction Program (LRARP):** As previously reviewed at the MPO meeting, the program seeks to fund highly effective safety improvements and applies to local roads. Applications are assessed by CTDOT using their benefit-cost analysis. The target program cap is \$500,000 at 90% for the construction phase, with the remainder as the municipal responsibility.

Applications are due to the COG on May 22nd, with additional TAG discussion on priorities scheduled for the June 6th TAG meeting. Submissions for this competitive program are capped by CTDOT at two per Council of Governments regions.

**OPM Responsible Growth and TOD Planning Grants:** As previously reviewed at the MPO meeting, the grant category offers funding of up to \$2 million for advancing state and local goals for responsible growth and TOD. As a result of the most recent grant cycle Danbury, New Canaan and Westport received TOD planning grants.

**Legislative Update:** Francis Pickering noted that there was nothing new to report.

**State Budget Update:** Francis Pickering noted that there was nothing new to report.

**CEDS Project Solicitation:** WestCOGs Associate Planner Elizabeth Esposito addressed this topic, noting much success in the project. The CEDS Strategy Committee will be accepting comments and prioritization of projects to be included in the CEDS plan.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS / ADJOURNMENT**

Other business regarding possible regional programs for electric cars.

Jayne Stevenson then stated that the next WestCOG meeting will be held on June 15, 2017 at the office of the Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Association. Then on a motion made by First Selectman Patricia Llodra and seconded by First Selectman Rudy Marconi, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.