Western Connecticut COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



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INTERIM Council Minutes

for the 6/25/2019 Regular Meeting

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

Chairman Jayme Stevenson - Vice Chairman Rudolph Marconi Treasurer Lynne Vanderslice - Secretary Julia Pemberton

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel..... Selectman Rich Straiton

Bridgewater..... Absent

Brookfield..... First Selectman Steve Dunn

Danbury Absent

Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevensor

Greenwich...... First Selectman Peter Tesel

New Canaan Selectman Sandy Dennies

New Fairfield First Selectman Pat Del Monaco

New Milford..... Mayor Pete Bass

Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal

Norwalk..... Absent

Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton

Absent Ridgefield.....

Sherman..... Absent

Stamford Chief of Staff Michael Pollard

Weston First Selectman Chris Spaulding Westport First Selectman James Marpe

Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice

OTHERS ATTENDING

WestCOG staff members in attendance were Kristin Hadjstylianos, Kevin Mahoney, Patty Payne, Mike Towle, Kendra Beaver, Chad Schroeder, Victoria Ricks and Executive Director Francis Pickering. Kristyn Groton from CT Rides, Max Freeman from CCM, Patrick Santoso from Axiomatic, Alex Dashev of HARTransit, Rick Schreiner of HARTransit, as well as Sam Sojka from Eversource were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

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

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sam Sojka spoke regarding Eversource's new phone app and Kristin Groton spoke regarding CTRides

FEATURED PRESENTATION:

Patrick Santoso, co-founder of Axiomatic, presented the status of the Municipal Modernization Project. The next step in the process is a technology survey that will be sent out to each municipality looking to identify processes that work well in your municipality and what processes need improvement.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of May 16, 2019 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the minutes of the 5/16/2019 meeting were unanimously approved. Abstentions were made by Bethel Selectman Rich Straiton

Fiscal Year 2019–2020 Budget: Wilton First Selectman and Treasurer, Lynne Vanderslice gave an overview of the 2019–2020 Budget. On a motion made by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and seconded by Weston First Selectman Chris Spaulding, the Fiscal Year 2019–2020 Budget was unanimously approved.

Regional Services Spending Plan: Francis Pickering provided an overview of the Regional Services Grant Spending Plan. On a motion made by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal the Regional Services Grant Spending Plan was unanimously approved.

Regional GIS-CAMA Adjustment: Executive Director Francis Pickering requested an adjustment of funds for an additional \$25,000 for the Regional GIS/CAMA Portal. On a motion made by Stamford Chief of Staff Michael Pollard and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the adjustment was unanimously approved.

National Park Service: Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program: Senior Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview of the Letter of Support for the Newtown Bike and Trail Application. On a motion made by Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal and seconded by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass, the letter of support was unanimously approved.

LOTCIP Adjustment: Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney presented an increase on a LOTCIP project commitment Stamford Strawberry Hill Avenue & Rock Spring Road project from \$1,750,000 to \$1,820,000 and an addition of the New Milford Pumpkin Hill Road–Still River Drive Intersection project in the amount of \$634.800. On a motion made by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and seconded by

Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton, members unanimously recommended to approve the changes to the project list.

BUILD Grant Letter of Support: Senior Planner Kristin Hadjstylianos provided an overview of the application and letter of support for the BUILD Grant Application. On a motion made by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice and seconded by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass, the letter of support was unanimously approved.

Hudson to Housatonic Partner Agreement: Executive Director Francis Pickering provided an overview of the Hudson to Housatonic Partner Agreement. On a motion made by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton and seconded by Weston First Selectman Chris Spaulding the agreement was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Rail Crossing Noise Mitigation Options: Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney provided an overview of the staff-prepared New Canaan Branch Line Train Horn memorandum. Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton shared her experience on this subject, which involved a study, extensive public outreach and coordination with CT DOT Commissioner and MNR leaders over a two-year period. In conclusion, no alternative to locomotive horns (i.e., Quiet Zones and Wayside Horns) was considered viable. Chairman Jayme Stevenson asked for continued evaluation of train horn noise mitigation measures and interest in the demonstration of wayside horns offered by CT DOT.

ADJOURNMENT

The next COG meeting will be held on Friday, July 19th, 2019 at 10am. On a motion made New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and seconded by Redding First Selectman Julia Pemberton, meeting was unanimously adjourned at 1:40pm.