

APPROVED Council Minutes

for the 09/17/2020 Regular Meeting
Videoconference

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

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel..... First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker
Bridgewater..... First selectman Curtis Read
Brookfield..... First Selectman Steve Dunn
Danbury Absent
Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson
Greenwich..... Absent

New Canaan..... First Selectman Kevin Moynihan
New Fairfield First Selectman Pat Del Monaco
New Milford..... Mayor Pete Bass
Newtown First Selectman Dan Rosenthal
Norwalk..... Absent
Redding..... First Selectman Julia Pemberton

Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi
Sherman..... First Selectman Don Lowe
Stamford Mayor David Martin
Weston..... First Selectman Chris Spaulding
Westport..... First Selectman James Marpe
Wilton..... First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice

OTHERS ATTENDING

WestCOG staff members in attendance were Mike Towle, Kristin Hadjstylianos, Todd Fontanella, Nicole Sullivan, Kristin Floberg, Kevin Mahoney, Nick Trabka, Tucker Beckett, Victoria Ricks, and Executive Director Francis Pickering. Rick Schreiner and Alex Dashev from HARTransit, Lori Hammill from Norwalk Transit, Kathryn Faraci from CTDOT, Tracey Alston and Samantha LaBonne from Eversource, Greenwich Planning and Zoning Chairman Margarita Alban, Jennine Lupo, Andrea Rynn, and Westport Operations Director Sara Harris were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:33pm by Chairman Rudy Marconi.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of August 20, 2020 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Brookfield First Selectman Steve Dunn and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the minutes of the 8/20/2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

Motion for Immediate Relief to PURA: After a discussion and review by WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker, a motion was made to submit a letter of support to PURA docket 20-08-03 in support of Ridgefield's, Newtown's, and New Fairfield's motion for immediate relief. The motion was amended to submit furthermore a separate letter asking PURA to address disruptions to Internet service under its authority. The motion as amended was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Regional Service Update: WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering gave an update on regional services projects. WestCOG staff are in the process of finalizing and executing contracts with selected consultants for the Strategic Visioning and Planning, the Regional Waste Management, and Regional Animal Control projects. The Municipal Modernization project will conclude work by the end of the year.

Public Safety Study: WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle gave an update on the Public Safety Study. The initial phase is complete and WestCOG has moved into the implementation phase. Municipalities interested in joining the study should contact WestCOG Deputy Director Mike Towle.

MS4 Mapping Project: WestCOG GIS Analyst Tucker Beckett gave an update on the MS4 Mapping Project. WestCOG has received survey responses from 11 of the municipalities, and they are all over 50% complete with their storm water mapping. To complete this project, field work is still needed, and Tucker will be reaching out to the towns to coordinate this process in the next month.

Task-Based Transportation Engineering Consultant Selection: WestCOG Senior Project Manager Kevin Mahoney gave an update on the Task-Based Transportation Engineering initiative. The panel comprised staff from four municipalities and WestCOG has completed its task and selected consultants for Design Phase and Construction Phase assignments. The purpose of this effort was to develop a list of consultants that municipalities can engage for project assignments without having to go do a project-specific, qualification-based procurement. WestCOG will provide written guidance on how a municipality can avail themselves to any of the selected consultants.

OTHER BUSINESS:

WestCOG members requested Francis Pickering to coordinate a roundtable discussion with all of the committee chairs of the Planning and Zoning committees in the WestCOG region to work together to develop a joint position on the proposed changes by the state legislature regarding planning and zoning.

WestCOG members also requested WestCOG to extend an invitation to Nick Simmons to speak about broadband at a future COG meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The next COG meeting will be held on Thursday, October 15th. On a motion made New Canaan First Selectman Kevin Moynihan and seconded by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 1:31pm.