

Disclaimer: These interim minutes of the Western Connecticut Council of Governments (“WestCOG” or “COG”) are released and “available for public inspection” and “posted” on WestCOG’s website, in accordance with C.G.S. §1-225(a). Said interim minutes are subject to review and approval by the COG members, after which time the final approved minutes will be available and posted in accordance with laws. Accordingly, the interim minutes may contain inaccuracies and do not reflect the final action of the COG.

INTERIM Council Minutes

for the 12/17/2020 Regular Meeting
Videoconference

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

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Bethel..... Absent
Bridgewater..... First Selectman Curtis Read
Brookfield..... First Selectman Steve Dunn
Danbury..... Absent
Darien..... First Selectman Jayme Stevenson
Greenwich..... Selectman Lauren Rabin

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, Patty Payne, Charles Vidich, and Executive Director Francis Pickering. Rick Schreiner and Alex Dashev from HARTransit, Kathryn Faraci from CTDOT, Meg Haffner from the Kennedy Center, Ellen Graham from Senator Blumenthal’s office, Greenwich Planning and Zoning Chairman Margarita Alban, Westport

Operations Director Sara Harris, David Murphy from Milone and MacBroom, and Stamford Mayor's Chief of Staff Michael Pollard were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:29pm by Chairman Rudy Marconi.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public comments.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of November 19, 2020 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe seconded by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass, the minutes of the 11/19/2020 meeting were unanimously approved.

Annual Dues: After review by WestCOG Director Francis Pickering, and on a motion made by Weston First Selectman Chris Spaulding and seconded by Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson, the 2021 Annual Dues was unanimously approved, with an abstention made by Stamford Mayor David Martin.

Legislative Priorities: After review by WestCOG Director Francis Pickering, a motion was made by New Milford Mayor Pete Bass and seconded by Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe to table the approval of the 2021 Legislative Priorities until the January 21st COG Meeting. It was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

UCONN Circa Resilient CT: David Murphy from Milone and MacBroom gave an update on the Resilient CT CIRCA project, which is a project to develop resilience planning framework and assessments, develop implementation plans, assess flood risk, evaluate adaptation options, and engage stakeholders in New Haven and Fairfield counties to address vulnerabilities to future climate change and sea level rise.

Regional Service Update: WestCOG Director Francis Pickering gave an update on the regional service projects that WestCOG staff are currently working on. The Public Safety Study is in the implementation phase and will be wrapping up soon. The Municipal Modernization Project will be completed by December 31st. The Animal Control, Waste Management and Strategic Vision and Planning Projects are still in the data collection phase.

Draft Audit: WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering gave an overview of the draft audit. It will be approved at the January 21st COG meeting.

Development Trends in CT: WestCOG Senior GIS Analyst Nick Trabka, GIS Analyst Tucker Beckett and Planner Kristin Floberg gave an update on the residential location analysis and the housing trends analysis that was presented at the October and November COG meetings. The focus of this update was looking at population density trends on developable lands in our region.

OTHER BUSINESS:

There was no other business discussed.

ADJOURNMENT

The next COG meeting will be held on Thursday, January 21st. On a motion made Sherman First Selectman Don Lowe and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 1:29pm.

INTERIM MINUTES SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL BY THE COG MEMBERS