

Western Connecticut Council of Governments

April 22, 2021 at 12:25 pm

Videoconference

Call-in Information: 929-436-2866, Meeting Id: 632-336-1237

Agenda

1. Meeting call to order: Hon. Rudy Marconi, Chairman
2. Public Participation:
3. Action Items:
 - a. Approval of February 18, 2021 Minutes Attachment 3a, pp. 1-3
 - b. LOTCIP Adjustment Attachment 3b, p. 4
 - c. Quarterly Financial Report Attachment 3c, pp. 5-6
4. Information Items:
 - a. Extension of gubernatorial Executive Orders
 - b. ARP funding use (regional broadband)
 - c. Water testing (regional approach, PA 12-197) Attachment 4c, p. 7
 - d. State and federal update
 - e. Regional services update
5. Other Business:
6. Next meeting:
7. Adjournment

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Western Connecticut COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS



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INTERIM Council Minutes

for the 02/18/2021 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..... Mayor Joe Cavo
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, Victoria Ricks, Patty Payne, Charles Vidich, Cricket Carpenter and Executive Director Francis Pickering. Stamford Mayors Chief of Staff Michael Pollard, Rick Schreiner, and Alex Dashev from HARTransit, Kathryn Faraci from CTDOT, Kim Morton from Norwalk Transit, Tracey Alston from Eversource, Meg Haffner from the Kennedy Center, Ellen Graham from Senator

Blumenthal's office, Victoria Vetre from SLR Consulting, David Monastersky from CIRMA, CTDOT Director of Government Relations and Policy Pam Sucato, Harry Carey, and Jessica Vonashek were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:23 pm by Chairman Rudy Marconi.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Tracy Alston from Eversource gave an update on the availability of more energy assistance programs for customers. She requested municipalities assistance promoting these programs. Jayme Stevenson suggested Eversource create an informational video to help promote these programs. Lynne Vanderslice asked for a public meeting with Eversource to help promote these programs.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of 01/21/2021 Minutes: After review and on a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson and seconded by Wilton First Selectman Lynne Vanderslice, the minutes of the 01/21/2021 meeting were unanimously approved.

Executive Session: Council members attended a break-out for Executive Session. Upon their return, a motion made by Bethel First Selectman Matt Knickerbocker and seconded by Sherman First Selection Don Lowe to consent to resolve and/or settle any claims as recommended by Council. This motion was unanimously approved.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Update on Strategic Vision and Planning Project WestCOG Executive Director Francis Pickering gave an update on the WestCOG Strategic Vision and Planning Project. Francis will provide Council members a short survey and participation by all eighteen municipalities is strongly encouraged. The March COG meeting will be compressed as it will be combined with a workshop led by our Strategic Vision and consultant Camion.

UCONN Circa Resilient CT: Victoria Vetre, from SLR Consulting, gave an update on the progress made on the Resilient CT CIRCA project during January, in which four regional workshops were completed with over 100 registrants. The next steps are to incorporate the workshop feedback into the Climate Change Vulnerability Index and Zones of Shared Risk and to incorporate heat and wind factors. Another round of workshops will be held in May. If you have any questions about the workshop or about the work being completed, please contact WestCOG staff members.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Rudy Marconi asked Municipalities' if anyone was having issues with getting an adequate amount of salt for clearing the roads.

ADJOURNMENT

The next COG meeting will be held on Thursday, March 18th. On a motion made by Darien First Selectman Jayme Stevenson and seconded by Bridgewater First Selectman Curtis Read, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 2:20 pm.

INTERIM MINUTES SUBJECT TO FINAL APPROVAL BY THE COG MEMBERS

WestCOG LOTCIP Program
04/22/2021 Adjustment

Municipality	Project	Amount	Status
Available funding (FY2014-2021), net of administrative costs		\$83,530,440	
Bethel	Sidewalks Phase 2	(\$1,676,200)	1. Pre-Application
Bethel	TOD Pedestrian & Streetscape, Phase 1	(\$1,500,000)	2. Application pending
Brookfield	Streetscape Phase 4	(\$3,050,000)	2. Application pending
Brookfield	Streetscape Phase 5	(\$404,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Brookfield	US 202 Streetscape Phase 3	(\$1,360,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Brookfield	US 202 Streetscape, Phase 1 (Four Corners)	(\$798,351)	5. Construction complete
Danbury	White Street & Locust Avenue	(\$2,650,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Darien	Noroton Avenue & West Avenue	(\$1,200,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Darien	Noroton Avenue-Ledge Avenue Intersection	(\$1,650,000)	2. Application pending
Greenwich	Davis Avenue over Indian Harbor	(\$3,500,000)	4. Under construction
Greenwich	Frontage Road & Delavan Avenue	(\$1,300,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Greenwich	Glenville Road & Brookside Drive	(\$1,750,000)	1. Pre-Application
Greenwich	Sound Beach Avenue over Cider Mill Brook	(\$3,900,900)	3. CTF, in final design
New Canaan	Park Street Sidewalks	(\$980,000)	2. Application pending
New Canaan	Richmond Hill Road Sidewalks	(\$630,000)	2. Application pending
New Canaan	Talmadge Hill Railroad Station	(\$860,000)	2. Application pending
New Fairfield	Downtown Sidewalk Improvements	(\$1,020,600)	1. Pre-Application
New Fairfield	Route 39 & Saw Mill Road (Candlewood Corners Drainage)	(\$553,981)	5. Construction complete
New Milford	East Street-Elm Street Intersection	(\$356,000)	1. Pre-Application
New Milford	Pumpkin Hill Road-Still River Drive Intersection	(\$634,800)	2. Application pending
New Milford	Still River Drive & Pickett District Road Roundabout	(\$1,219,175)	5. Construction complete
New Milford	Wellsville Avenue over East Aspetuck River	(\$1,148,534)	5. Construction complete
New Milford	Wellsville Avenue Sidewalks	(\$1,120,800)	2. Application pending
Newtown	Toddy Hill Road over Curtis Pond Brook	(\$2,247,047)	5. Construction complete
Norwalk	East Wall St-Landmark Square Streetscape Improvements	(\$1,521,600)	3. CTF, in final design
Norwalk	Hamilton Avenue & Dr Martin Luther King Jr Drive	(\$600,000)	2. Application pending
Norwalk	South Norwalk Pedestrian and Streetscape Improvements	(\$2,069,045)	3. CTF, in final design
Ridgefield	Ligi's Way Combined Use Path	(\$2,810,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Sherman	Wakeman Hill Road & Tandem Lane	(\$750,000)	1. Pre-Application
Stamford	360 Degree Video Detection	(\$2,500,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Stamford	Atlantic Street-Main Street Intersection	(\$2,460,400)	2. Application pending
Stamford	Fiber Optic Trunk Cable	(\$5,411,892)	5. Construction complete
Stamford	Greenwich Avenue & Pulaski Street	(\$2,750,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Stamford	Lower Atlantic Street Corridor Improvements	(\$3,157,400)	2. Application pending
Stamford	North State Street Multimodal Gateway	(\$3,772,200)	1. Pre-Application
Stamford	Richmond Hill Ave-West Main St-Fairfield Ave	(\$3,578,000)	2. Application pending
Stamford	Shippan-Harbor-Magee Roundabout	(\$2,830,000)	1. Pre-Application
Stamford	Strawberry Hill Avenue & Rock Spring Road Intersection Improvement	(\$1,820,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Stamford	West Main Street (Route 1) & West Avenue	(\$2,000,000)	4. Under construction
Weston	Lyons Plain Road Pavement Rehabilitation	(\$1,596,000)	1. Pre-Application
Weston	Pedestrian Safety Improvements	(\$1,850,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Weston	Valley Forge Road Pavement Rehabilitation	(\$1,101,600)	1. Pre-Application
Westport	Compo Road South (Route 136) Sidewalk Improvements	(\$1,239,200)	3. CTF, in final design
Westport	Main Street (Route 57) & Compo Road North (Route 136)	(\$850,000)	3. CTF, in final design
Westport	Riverside Avenue Roadway and Sidewalk Improvements	(\$925,200)	3. CTF, in final design
Wilton	Pedestrian Walkway, Wilton Train Station	(\$1,409,840)	3. CTF, in final design
Wilton	Wilton Town Bridges	(\$2,077,200)	2. Application pending
	Total COG-Endorsed Funds (including requested adjustments)	(\$84,589,965)	
	Remaining Balance	(\$1,059,525)	
	Endorsed/Available	101.3%	

TAG: Recommended 4/13/2021

COG: Considered 4/22/2021

(1) Adjustment: Project added

Western Connecticut Council of Governments
Quarterly Financial Report - Operating Statement
March - 2021

(Unaudited)

	Current Month Mar 2021 Actual	Year to Date at 3/31/21	Annual Budget Approved June 2020	Projected at 6/30/2021
REVENUES				
State/Federal/Local Grants	\$ 163,197	\$ 1,489,266	\$ 2,183,286	\$ 2,082,407
Local Dues	\$ 25,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000
Misc./Interest Income	\$ 97	\$ 1,030	\$ 15,000	\$ 1,400
TOTAL:	\$ 188,294	\$ 1,690,296	\$ 2,498,286	\$ 2,383,807
EXPENSES				
DIRECT CONTRACT EXPENSE: (Reimbursable through contracts)				
Project Consultants	\$ 50,942	\$ 506,871	\$ 887,634	\$ 792,545
Other Direct Costs	\$ 1,232	\$ 16,507	\$ 43,169	\$ 30,000
PERSONNEL EXPENSE:				
Salaries (Direct & Indirect)	\$ 79,801	\$ 712,806	\$ 939,419	\$ 941,798
Pension	\$ 6,133	\$ 55,197	\$ 73,600	\$ 74,000
Payroll Taxes	\$ 7,861	\$ 65,218	\$ 79,670	\$ 87,000
Fringe Benefits	\$ 6,947	\$ 68,704	\$ 106,110	\$ 96,000
GENERAL OVERHEAD EXPENSE:				
Rent	\$ 8,727	\$ 86,811	\$ 102,495	\$ 102,495
Utilities	\$ 1,858	\$ 17,157	\$ 37,505	\$ 37,505
Audit/Payroll & Legal Services	\$ 242	\$ 28,532	\$ 49,350	\$ 49,350
Other Professional Services	\$ 501	\$ 1,380	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,000
Service Agreements	\$ 956	\$ 9,096	\$ 13,195	\$ 13,195
Reproduction	\$ 17	\$ 311	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,000
Office Supplies	\$ 100	\$ 998	\$ 10,000	\$ 2,500
Conf/Travel/Mtg. Expense	\$ 20	\$ 159	\$ 3,310	\$ 1,500
Membership Dues/Subscriptions	\$ 905	\$ 8,489	\$ 11,650	\$ 11,650
Postage	\$ -	\$ 509	\$ 1,000	\$ 800
Commercial Liability Insurance	\$ 1,831	\$ 16,481	\$ 19,500	\$ 29,974
Lease (postage machine)	\$ 242	\$ 726	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000
Recruitment	\$ -	\$ 397	\$ 1,000	\$ 500
Misc.	\$ 340	\$ 615	\$ 7,000	\$ 1,500
Depreciation	\$ 1,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000
Capital Expense	\$ 2,450	\$ 5,937	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,000
Due back to State*(adj for BFO)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
Contingency	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,179	\$ 2,000
TOTAL	\$ 172,105	\$ 1,611,901	\$ 2,498,286	\$ 2,370,312
SURPLUS/<DEFICIT>	\$ 16,189	\$ 78,395	\$ -	\$ 13,495

**Financial Notes of Interest*: (1) Negative revenue variances can be the result of fluctuations in the timing of consultant invoices on various projects, and do not indicate a 'lack' of or underbilling of revenue sources. Variances may fluctuate on both the expense and revenue sides as well due to changes in staffing and timing of expenses. (2) Surplus "total" amounts partially reflect we are invoicing our grants at a burden, fringe and overhead (BFO) rate that may be too high, and at fiscal year end may owe money back to grantors at the conclusion of our annual audit. (See 'Due back to State')

Western CT Council of Governments
Balance Sheet
March 31, 2021
ASSETS

Current Assets

Bank of America Checking	\$ 1,277,490.36	
Bank of America Money Market	101,531.09	
Union Savings Checking	155,987.44	
CT STIF	715,817.24	
Petty Cash	400.00	
Accounts Receivable	167,511.62	
Prepaid Liability Ins Premiums	10,855.47	
Prepaid Service Agreements	957.64	
Pre-paid Heating Oil	672.00	
Prepaid Meeting Fees	325.00	
Prepaid Dues/Subscriptions	1,801.33	
Prepaid Security Deposits	4,245.00	
Total Current Assets		2,437,594.19

Property and Equipment

Fixed Assets	206,838.58	
Allowance for Depreciation	(101,934.80)	
Total Property and Equipment		104,903.78

Other Assets

Total Other Assets		0.00
Total Assets	\$	2,542,497.97

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities

Due to CTDOT	\$ 4,068.31	
Deferred Rev-Local Dues	100,000.00	
Danbury Rte 37 Study	845.37	
Deferred Rev-LOTICIP	79,840.53	
Deferred Rev-Build Grant	100,000.00	
Deferred Rev-FY20-21 OPM RSG	40,815.03	
Deferred Rev-Health Depts	39,798.81	
Accrued Vacation	47,007.22	
Accrued Pension	21,171.59	
AFLAC Products-post tax	(46.27)	
Total Current Liabilities		433,500.59

Total Liabilities		433,500.59
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Capital

Fund Balance-Restricted	2,031,129.57	
Net Income	77,867.81	
Total Capital		2,108,997.38
Total Liabilities & Capital	\$	2,542,497.97

1174

P.A. 12-197

PUBLIC ACTS

Substitute House Bill No. 5514

Public Act No. 12-197

AN ACT CONCERNING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

pp. 4, Sec. 7. Subsection (f) of section 19a-37 of the 2012 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective October 1, 2012):

(f) The local director of health may require a private residential well to be tested for [radionuclides] arsenic, radium, uranium, radon or gross alpha emitters, when there are reasonable grounds to suspect that such contaminants are present in the groundwater. For purposes of this subsection, "reasonable grounds" means (1) the existence of a geological area known to have naturally occurring [radionuclide] arsenic, radium, uranium, radon or gross alpha emitter deposits in the bedrock; or (2) the well is located in an area in which it is known that [radionuclides] arsenic, radium, uranium, radon or gross alpha emitters are present in the groundwater.