

**Regular Council Meeting: Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2021, 10 am**

**\*\*\*\* ALL ATTENDEES ATTENDED REMOTELY \*\*\*\***

Meeting access was remote only, consistent with provisions specified in Executive Order No. 7B.

**Web: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/946025621>**

**Phone: Dial-in: 1 (646) 749-3112 Access Code: 946-025-621**

Name	Representing
Joseph Ganim, Mayor (Ken Flatto, Proxy)	Bridgeport
David Bindelglass, First Selectman	Easton
Brenda Kupchick, First Selectwoman (Tom Bremer, Proxy)	Fairfield
Ken Kellogg, First Selectman, Chairman	Monroe
Laura Hoydick, Mayor	Stratford
Vicki Tesoro, First Selectman	Trumbull
Matthew Fulda, Executive Director	MetroCOG
Patrick Carleton, Deputy Director	MetroCOG
Colleen Kelleher, Finance Director	MetroCOG
Meghan Sloan, Planning Director	MetroCOG
Donna Hamze	CCM
Meg Haffner	Kennedy Center
John Wardzala	Kennedy Center
Eileen Lopez-Cordone	UI
Paula Anthony	Berchem Moses
Nick Bamante	Berchem Moses
Ira Bloom	Berchem Moses
Mario Cappola	Berchem Moses
Doug Lamonte	Berchem Moses

## Minutes

### I. Call to Order

The MetroCOG Board meeting was called to order by the chair, First Selectman Kellogg at 10:12am.

First Selectman Kellogg performed a roll call, board members present were:

Mr. Flatto proxy for Mayor Ganim, Bridgeport

First Selectman Bindelglass, Easton

Mr. Bremer Proxy for First Selectwoman Kupchick, Fairfield

First Selectman Tesoro, Trumbull

Mayor Hoydick, Stratford

Staff present were:

Mr. Fulda, Executive Director

Mr. Carleton, Deputy Director

Ms. Kelleher, Finance Director

Ms. Sloan, Planning Director

Members of the public present were:

Meg Haffner, Kennedy Center

Donna Hamzy, CCM

John Wardzala, Kennedy Center

Eileen Lopez-Cordone, UI

### II. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

### III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

#### a. January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

A motion to approve the January 28<sup>th</sup> minutes was made by First Selectman Bindelglass and seconded by Mayor Hoydick. The motion carried unanimously.

### IV. Presentations

#### a. Donna Hamzy (CCM): Proposed changes to state zoning statutes (SB 1024)

Ms. Hamzy provided an overview of pending legislation regarding zoning regulations in SB 1024.

Ms. Hamzy briefly explained the bill's proposals in regard to economic development corridors, traffic standards, parking standards, transit hubs, training for land use planning and zoning commissioners, and DPH authority.

First Selectman Bindelglass acknowledged that Easton had issues with community septic systems and clarified that the bill would give jurisdiction to DPH assuming they would be more responsive.

Ms. Hamzy noted that CCM supports a DPH jurisdiction increase that allows DPH to

establish regulations.

Mayor Hoydick expressed concern over a lack of local control and noted that she was not in support of this bill.

First Selectman Kellogg echoed Mayor Hoydick's concerns and commented that he hoped all 169 municipalities were being represented.

First Selectman Tesoro also expressed concern and noted that the municipalities should determine how the towns were developed and felt the bill took it one step too far.

b. Mario Coppola (Berchem Moses PC): Introduction

Mr. Coppola introduced himself and his Berchem Moses colleagues. He thanked the board for selecting Berchem Moses and announced he was available for questions.

Mr. Fulda commented that since Berchem Moses was hired their first project was for an EPA loan and the detailed packet they prepared put MetroCOG in a good place for future loans.

First Selectman Bindelglass and First Selectman Tesoro endorsed Berchem Moses.

The Berchem Moses attorneys introduced themselves and explained their relevant work experience.

Mr. Flatto welcomed Berchem Moses and confirmed that Bridgeport had also utilized the firm.

V. Other Business

a. Financials

Ms. Kelleher explained the financials and noted that projections were made through the end of the year. MetroCOG was currently within budget.

b. Household Hazardous Waste RFI, Municipal Solid Waste, Backyard Composting

Mr. Fulda commented that the RFI was complete and MetroCOG was looking into what they could do on a regional basis to benefit municipalities and save money in the long term.

There was a brief discussion regarding backyard composting and textile recycling.

Mayor Hoydick and First Selectman Kellogg both agreed that the issue of separating glass from recycling needed to be addressed.

c. Regional On-call Services (engineering design, construction inspection, site plan review, drainage design, etc)

Mr. Fulda explained that the RFQ was released on March 17<sup>th</sup> and proposals were due on April 21<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Fulda noted that based on the number of questions received he expected a large number of proposals.

First Selectman Kellogg noted that this was a great step forward and inquired if a list would be available by May.

Mr. Fulda believed that a list would be available by the end of May and MetroCOG was following the federal QBS process. Staff will have the process documented and on file.

d. Regional Assessor Coordination Meeting (Quarterly)

Mr. Fulda explained there was a push from OPM to create five reevaluation zones. They are encouraging regular meetings with assessors to discuss best practices. Mr. Fulda noted that OPM was not regionalizing assessment.

e. Regional 5G report

Mr. Fulda explained that WestCOG created a 5G report and presented it at an Advance CT Meeting. There was a request for MetroCOG to put together a similar report and a draft was expected in the next few weeks.

First Selectman Tesoro requested the report when it became available noting some concerned citizens in Trumbull.

f. FY22 Employee Health Benefits

Mr. Fulda explained that MetroCOG should be receiving renewal quotes in the next few weeks and based on the projections the increase should be minimal.

h. Next Meeting Dates:

- i. April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021
- ii. May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**VI. Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bremer and seconded by Mayor Hoydick. The meeting was adjourned at 11:15am.

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First Selectman Vicki Tesoro  
MetroCOG Secretary