

Regular Council Meeting: Thursday, May 27th, 2021, 10:40 am (after GBVMPO meeting)

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

Web: <https://zoom.us/j/98509167881> **Meeting ID:** 985 0916 7881

Phone: 1 929 205 6099 **Access Code:** 985 0916 7881

Name	Representing
Joseph Ganim, Mayor (Ken Flatto, Proxy)	Bridgeport
David Bindelglass, First Selectman	Easton
Brenda Kupchick, First Selectwoman (Jackie Bertolone Proxy)	Fairfield
Ken Kellogg, First Selectman, Chairman	Monroe
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
Kyle Talente	RKG
Eileen Lopez-Cordone	UI
Lynn DiGiovanni	Luchs

Minutes

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, First Selectman Kellogg at 10:40am.

II. Public Participation

There was no public participation.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

a. March 25th, 2021

A motion to approve the minutes was made by First Selectman Bindelglass and seconded by First Selectman Tesoro. A roll call vote was taken:

Ms. Bertolone, Fairfield – abstained

First Selectman Kellogg, Monroe – yes

First Selectman Tesoro, Trumbull – yes

Mr. Flatto, Bridgeport – yes

First Selectman Bindelglass, Easton – yes

The motion carried unanimously with one abstention.

IV. Presentations

a. Kyle Talente (RKG): Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Draft Implementation Strategies.

Mr. Fulda introduced Mr. Talente from RKG.

Mr. Talente explained that he was at the meeting to present the CEDS's findings, opportunities, implementation strategies and priorities.

Mr. Flatto understood that developing the CEDS was a long term process but inquired if Economic Development Directors were met with.

Mr. Carleton explained the outreach process. RKG met with Economic Development Directors throughout the Region.

Mr. Flatto suggested meeting with all of the Region's Economic Development Directors as a group.

V. Action Items

a. MetroCOG FY2022 Employee Health Benefits

First Selectman Kellogg noted that benefits were discussed at the last meeting. MetroCOG staff made the recommendation to move from POS to Choice.

Mr. Fulda explained that the move would lower the premiums. With the addition of an employee and spouse to the network, there would be little increase overall.

VI. Other Business

a. Financials

Ms. Kelleher explained that final projections have been made and she expects that MetroCOG will end the year with a surplus.

First Selectman Kellogg inquired what the fund balance goal was.

Mr. Fulda explained that \$100,000 was added last year and the goal was \$50,000.

b. Municipal On-Call Engineering RFQ

Mr. Fulda announced that with the help of Mr. Kulacz, the engineering firms have been grouped into areas of expertise. MetroCOG should be moving forward with the interviews in the next few weeks.

First Selectman Kellogg is looking forward to hitting the ground running next fiscal year.

c. Regional Hazardous Waste RFI

Mr. Fulda explained that there were no responses but MetroCOG would reissue the RFI in the next week or so and do direct outreach to agencies and firms.

d. Office of Early Childhood – Home Visitation Program

Mr. Fulda explained that MetroCOG would be the first region to receive universal home visitation for newborns, up to three visits. Mr. Fulda offered to facilitate a meeting with the Commissioner of Early Childhood Development.

e. ARPA Regional Initiatives

First Selectman Kellogg noted there was a lack of clarity on the rules and would defer the topic to the next meeting.

f. EPA Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Supplemental Funding – Transfer from City of Bridgeport

Mr. Carleton explained that there was an existing RLF in Bridgeport. MetroCOG would take over the process which consists of a significant amount of admin time. EPA is reviewing the final letters.

Mr. Fulda noted that there would be more money to leverage projects in the region.

VII. Next Meeting Dates:

- i. June 24th, 2021
- ii. July 29th, 2021

Mr. Fulda introduced the topic of hybrid meetings moving forward and explained that if the board wished, MetroCOG would like to request better technology.

First Selectman Kellogg noted that there is pending legislation and that under the current rules remote meetings were always allowed. He concurred that it made sense to offer a video option.

First Selectman Tesoro noted that the world has changed and concurred that video was an option that should be offered.

First Selectman Kellogg requested that Mr. Fulda schedule a fully remote special meeting the following week.

VIII. Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by First Selectman Tesoro and seconded by First Selectman Bindelglass. The meeting was adjourned at 11:36.

First Selectman Vicki Tesoro
MetroCOG Secretary