



GBRC

Greater Bridgeport Regional Council
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Minutes Regular Meeting Greater Bridgeport Regional Council

Friday, March 22nd 2:00 pm
Greater Bridgeport Regional Council, Conference Room
Bridgeport, Connecticut

Name	Representing
Thomas A. Herrmann, First Selectman, GBRC Chairman	Easton
Steve Vavrek, First Selectman	Monroe
John Harkins, Mayor	Stratford
Timothy Herbst, First Selectman	Trumbull
Brian Bidolli, Executive Director	GBRC
Meghan Sloan, Transportation Planner	GBRC

Minutes

I. Call to Order

This was a regular meeting of the GBRC. It was called to order by First Selectman Herrmann, Chairman, at 2:10 pm. A quorum was declared.

II. Public Participation

First Selectman Herrmann asked if there was anyone from the public who wanted to address the GBRC. Hearing none, the GBRC proceeded to the next item.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on February 22nd, 2013 were reviewed. A motion was made by First Selectman Herbst and seconded by Mayor Harkins to accept the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Communications and Announcements

1. FY 2013 Unified Work Program Status/Financial Report

Mr. Bidolli explained the UPWP to the Council. The Barnum Station Feasibility Study is nearing completion. The completed study will be tied into the Regional TOD project. Mr. Bidolli discussed the legislative bus tour, which is anticipated to coincide with GBT's Earth Day celebration and announcement of the consultant selection for the project. Mayor Harkins suggested reaching out to Senator Murphy.

First Selectman Vavrek commented on the availability of bus service in Monroe. Mr. Bidolli mentioned that he recently saw that GBT was planning on offering two trips a day to the Town, and asked if there had been any survey of work hours. First Selectman Vavrek is working with Marsha Aarons at CT Works on the project and is also planning job fairs.

Mr. Bidolli highlighted the Community Capital Fund project and provided the Council with examples of the Economic Development profiles in process of development. Ms. Sloan commented that any photos of economic development projects or town features would be helpful.

Mr. Bidolli mentioned the availability of funding for feasibility studies, such as the Lafayette Circle Study. These funds require a 20% match. He suggested that members consider joint transportation planning and land use studies, which typically cost between \$150,000 and \$200,000.

Mr. Bidolli presented the financial report to the Council, and mentioned that a full detailed breakdown of grants would be ready in April.. First Selectman Herrmann asked if the Personnel and Operations statement included an allocation of overhead costs to projects and grants. Mr. Bidolli explained that this would be done in the future.

First Selectman Herrmann asked for clarification on the availability of certain funds. Mr. Bidolli explained that there was a two year contract, any additional funds not remaining would be reappropriated in three years. Mr. Bidolli referred to the UPWP for project cost and task breakdowns.

2. CTAC/Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mr. Bidolli explained the Regional Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Force Account Labor Summary Record to the Council. This form documents the staff time match provided by each town. Mr. Bidolli requested that finance managers review the form to make sure that the format is acceptable.

Mr. Bidolli explained the table of potential savings on flood insurance premiums by participation in the CRS Program.

3. Regional GIS Program

Mr. Bidolli provided a demonstration of the GeoCortex software. Documents could be attached to each parcel – such as the assessor’s card, permits and clerks maps. A separate viewer could be developed for each town, with advanced options for town staff and a simpler interface for the public. Mr. Bidolli provided the Council with budgetary details on the GIS project.

Mr. Bidolli also mentioned that the GBRC was planning on surveying town departments on the types of software used, to analyze opportunities for future savings and efficiencies.

4. Legislative Update

Mr. Bidolli discussed the boundary study required under P.A. 12-1 (Special Session) and the possibility of a county boundary framework for regions as proposed in HB 6629. Members shared their thoughts on merging. Mr. Bidolli explained the process and the pros and cons of merging.

At 2:50, Mayor Harkins made a motion to go into an Executive Session. First Selectman Herbst seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. At 3:25, the Executive Session was completed.

V. Action Items

1. DECD-Waterview Avenue

First Selectman Herbst made a motion to approve the resolution to allow for DECD funding of \$450,000 for Waterview Avenue. Mayor Harkins seconded the motion.

Other Business

Having no further business, the Council adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectively submitted,



John Harkins, Mayor,
GBRC Secretary