



Draft Minutes
 Regular Meeting
 Greater Bridgeport Regional Council

Thursday, December 5, 2013
 Greater Bridgeport Regional Council Conference Room
 Bridgeport, Connecticut

Name	Representing
Bill Finch, Mayor	Bridgeport
Adam Dunsby, First Selectman	Easton
Mike Tetreau, First Selectman	Fairfield
Steve Vavrek, First Selectman	Monroe
John Harkins, Mayor	Stratford
Timothy Herbst, First Selectman	Trumbull
Thomas A. Herrmann (outgoing Chair)	Easton
Brian Bidolli, Executive Director	GBRC
Meghan Sloan, Senior Transportation Planner	GBRC
David Zuber, CPA	David Zuber/GBRC Auditor

Minutes

I. Call to Order

This was a regular meeting of the GBRC. It was called to order by Mayor Harkins (the current Secretary) at 2:12 pm. A quorum was declared.

Mayor Finch made a motion to take the meeting out of order. The motion was seconded by First Selectman Vavrek. Action Item V.1 was moved to Item II on the agenda.

II. Action Item: Election of Officers

A motion was made by First Selectman Vavrek and seconded by Mayor Harkins to nominate the following slate of officers:

Timothy Herbst, Chair

John Harkins, Vice Chair

Mike Tetreau, Secretary

Mayor Finch asked that the matter be discussed by the Council. Mayor Finch explained that during the difficult time facing the Council and because of the preference to merge with the South west region, he would prefer a Chair from a coastal municipality with rail service and interstate highway access. Mayor Finch commented that the Town of Trumbull is not a coastal municipality and does not have rail access. Due to commerce concerns, he thought that a Chair from a municipality with the features above could more strategically represent the Region.

First Selectman Vavrek mentioned that First Selectman Herbst and he have spent a lot of time in bringing elected officials from down-state to the table to discuss the merger. He emphasized that the slate of officers as presented does a lot for member towns and that First Selectman Herbst has some time to serve as Chair.

Mayor Finch responded that Bridgeport disagrees with the decision and that it was not a good idea.

First Selectman Herbst highlighted that the Town of Easton is not a coastal town, does not have a deep water harbor and does not have interstate highway access, but that the outgoing Chair is from Easton.

First Selectman Tetreau suggested that if Mayor Harkins served as Chair the Council could be in a good position with the South west region and would ensure that Stratford was not left out.

Mayor Harkins expressed his support for First Selectman Herbst's appointment as Chair. Due to time constraints, Mayor Harkins stated that he could only serve as Vice-Chair.

As there was no more discussion, the Council voted on the slate of officers as presented. The motion passed, with four members in favor and two opposed.

First Selectman Herbst thanked Mr. Herrmann for all of his efforts as Chair and welcomed First Selectman Dunsby to the Council. Mr. Herrmann commented that the GBRC was second to none in the state and that it had a bright future. Mr. Bidolli expressed his appreciation of all the work

Mr. Herrmann had done as Chair. Mr. Herrmann expressed his appreciation of Mr. Bidolli and commented that he stood out in the public sector.

First Selectman Herbst proceeded to lead the meeting as Chair.

III. Public Participation

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

IV. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the Council meeting held on October 24, 2013 were reviewed. A motion was made by Mayor Harkins and seconded by First Selectman Tetreau to accept the minutes. First Selectman Dunsby abstained from the vote. The motion passed 5 to 0.

V. Action Items

DECD Brownfields GIS Project: Mr. Bidolli explained the brownfields project and the purpose of the resolution. A motion was made by First Selectman Vavrek and seconded by First Selectman Tetreau to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

Route 110 Study: Mr. Bidolli explained the purpose of the Route 110 study and the resolution. A motion was made by Mayor Harkins and seconded by First Selectman Vavrek to approve the resolution. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Communications & Announcements

Mr. Bidolli began to update the Council on the FY 2013 Work Program and Financial Report. The Monroe and Easton parcel work can begin. There is a need to meet with Fairfield departments on the GIS project, and to develop a framework to implement the application and maintain the parcel data.

Mr. Bidolli addressed the revised schedule of the Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan update. He understood the urgency of getting the plan delivered to DEEP and in FEMA's queue for review as soon as possible. First Selectman Tetreau emphasized the urgency of having an adopted plan in place.

Mr. Bidolli provided an overview of discussions previously held concerning regional consolidation alternatives. Mayor Finch stressed that he cared about the GBRC and the agency. He has always advocated a merger with the South west region.

Mr. Bidolli presented an additional resolution to the Council regarding Regional Consolidation Alternatives. Mr. Bidolli explained that the language in the resolution would allow for the Greater Bridgeport Region to remain a standalone region, if the merger with the South west and Housatonic Valley regions was not supported by their Council. By motion made by Mayor Harkins and seconded by First Selectman Tetreau, the resolution was unanimously approved.

At 2:48, Mayor Finch left the meeting.

Mr. Bidolli also provided updates to the Council regarding the Regional TOD Program and the Nutmeg Network.

David Zuber, CPA entered the meeting to provide an explanation of the financial statements and audit. He explained costs as split out by projects. First Selectman Dunsby confirmed that the financial reports are filed with OPM and are required by the State.

VII. Other Business

There was no additional business to discuss.

VIII. Adjourn

Having no further business, Mayor Harkins made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by First Selectman Dunsby. The meeting adjourned at 3:04 pm.

Respectively submitted,

Mike Tetreau, First Selectman
GBRC Secretary