

**MINUTES OF THE  
HVCEO  
MEETING OF OCTOBER 18, 2002  
AT BROOKFIELD, CT TOWN HALL**

**MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES IN ATTENDANCE**

Bethel..... First Selectman Judy Novachek  
Bridgewater..... Alternate Robert Brown  
Brookfield..... First Selectman Martin Foncello  
Danbury..... Mayor Mark Boughton and Alternate Dennis Elpern  
New Fairfield.... First Selectman Peggy Katkocin  
New Milford..... Mayor Robert Gambino  
Newtown..... First Selectman Herbert Rosenthal, Chairman  
Redding..... First Selectman Natalie Ketcham  
Ridgefield..... First Selectman Rudy Marconi  
Sherman..... First Selectman Arthur von Plachecki

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Lewisboro, NY Supervisor Thomas Herzog, Selectman Fred Standt of Brookfield, Lynn Waller of Danbury, Richard Schreiner of HART, Holly Burbank of Metropool, Steve Bull, Harry Carey and Bill Maxwell of the Greater Danbury Chamber, Sue Manning, George Breitweiser, George Walker and James Bellano of HVEDP, Ron Jones and one other person from the HVTC, Camille Acquanita, Andrew Carrier and Jonathan Chew of the HVCEO staff, and 7 other persons were in the audience.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Herbert Rosenthal at 12:35 P.M.

**TRAFFIC IMPACTS OF A CASINO  
IN THE GREATER DANBURY AREA**

A PowerPoint presentation was made by study author Georges Jacquemart of BF&J Inc. Chairman Rosenthal noted that in addition to HVCEO, this study's financial sponsors included the Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce, the Housatonic Valley Tourism Commission and the Housatonic Valley Economic Development Partnership, all of which had representatives at the meeting.

Statistics, graphs and videos were used to document that casino placement in Danbury near Exits 1 and 2 would clog 1-84. As a key portal for Connecticut, this would have statewide economic impact. It was also documented that during peak conditions state and local roads in Ridgefield would also be severely impacted.

The presentation was followed by a question and answer session. A similar presentation to the Town of Ridgefield and to the Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce will follow. There was discussion that the HVEDP may undertake a study of the economic impacts of a casino if needed.

**PROPOSED LETTER TO GOVERNOR ROWLAND  
SUPPORTING REPEAL OF CT GAMING LAWS**

On a motion made by Rudy Marconi and seconded by Bob Gambino, this item was approved for the Chairman's signature.

**PROPOSED LETTERS TO AREA AGENCIES  
TO REQUEST TAKING A STAND AGAINST THE CASINO**

On a motion duly made and seconded, again by Rudy Marconi and Bob Gambino, this item was approved for the Chairman's signature.

**COST SHARING FORMULA REVISION AND  
ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR PERKINS COIE LEGAL  
SERVICES TO OPPOSE CASINO DEVELOPMENT**

There was a discussion of the current agreement, the proposed revision, and the use of legal services to date. Then on a motion made by Rudy Marconi and seconded by Peggy Katkocin, the revised agreement with a maximum spending amount of \$20,000 was unanimously approved, except that Natalie Ketcham abstained from this vote.

**REPORT ON CCM 10/1612002 STATEWIDE FORUM ON CASINOS**

Chairman Herbert Rosenthal provided a review of the meeting.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

Deputy Director Andy Carrier reviewed two items, for a change to Route 35 traffic study costs and then for funding of signal mast arm inspections to be incorporated into the current WSA signal coordination study. On a motion made by Bob Gambino and seconded by Marty Foncello, the Route 35 Study amendment was unanimously approved. Then on a motion made by Peggy Katkocin and seconded by Marty Foncello, the mast arm inspection amendment was also unanimously approved.

**OLD BUSINESS, NEW BUSINESS**

It was noted that the CT Transportation Strategy Board will visit Danbury on Monday, November 25, 2-.30-4:30 P.M., to receive final input from officials and residents before it makes its recommendations (Branch Line rail, 1-84, etc.) to the Legislature. This hearing will be held at the Greater Danbury Chamber of Commerce, 39 West Street, Danbury.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Then on a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 P.M.