

NOVEMBER 15, 2002 MINUTES
HVCEO MEETING
HELD AT BROOKFIELD, CT TOWN HALL

Chairman Herbert Rosenthal of Newtown

Vice Chairman Martin Foncello of Brookfield; Secretary-Treasurer Natalie Ketcham of Redding

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES IN ATTENDANCE

Bethel..... First Selectman Judy Novachek
Bridgewater Absent
Brookfield..... First Selectman Martin Foncello
Danbury..... 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

Doctor Patrick Broderick, Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Danbury Hospital, Jay Annis of the Brookfield Recreation Enhancement Council, Dennis DiPinto of the Brookfield Park and Recreation Department, Alison Fulton of the Housatonic Coalition Against Substance Abuse, Richard Corona of Conn DOT, Richard Schreiner and Charles Langley of HART, Danbury Traffic Engineer Abdul Mohamed, Doron Dagan of Luchs Consulting, James Bellano of HVEDP, Lynn Waller of Danbury, Redding Police Chief Doug Fuchs, George Blake, Andrew Carrier and Jonathan Chew of the HVCEO staff.

CALL TO ORDER AND PUBLIC COMMENT

The meeting was called to order by Chair Herbert Rosenthal at 12:35 P.M. No public comment was offered.

MINUTES FROM MEETINGS OF 9/20/2002 AND 10/18/2002

On a motion made by Marty Foncello and seconded by Rudy Marconi, the minutes of the meetings of 9/20/2002 and 10/18/2002 were unanimously approved.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 9/2002 AND 10/2002

On a motion made by Robert Gambino and seconded by Judy Novachek, the financial statements for 9/2002 and 10/2002 were unanimously approved.

PROPOSED MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR FY2004

An attachment to the agenda reviewing past annual budgets and dues rates was discussed. Jon Chew noted that the Personnel Committee voted 5/9/2002 that the GIS Manager position be upgraded to full time, and that to fund the upgrade without diminishing HVCEO's other programs it would recommend to HVCEO that dues for FY2004, a determination made in December and usually a 3% annual increase, be requested at 7% for this one year, with a return to the usual 3% for FY2005.

It was explained that other fiscal pressures upon HVCEO include the fact that census results have created a new federal transportation region in Connecticut, with funds now split 11 ways rather than 10, HVCEO to loose 10 to 20K. Also, the elimination of the HRRR Deputy Director position means HRRR will pay less of shared overhead, HVCEO to lose about 5K. It was also noted that the state grant of \$45,000 from OPM was moved off budget and is also at risk.

The goal is to have GIS services full time while also retaining some funds for consultant activities such as anti-casino attorneys (Danbury and regional), Enhancement grant project planning (New Fairfield, Newtown, Redding), traffic studies (Bethel, Ridgefield, Sherman) Candlewood zoning studies, (Brookfield, Danbury, New Fairfield, New Milford, Sherman), FERC services (Bridgewater, Lillinonah communities), web site development, etc.

Personnel Committee members Herb Rosenthal and Rudy Marconi then reviewed their earlier recommendation on this matter. This was followed by a general discussion of the status of GIS in the Region. Then on a motion made by Natalie Ketcham and seconded by Judy Novachek, with an abstention by Dennis Elpern, it was voted unanimously to approved the 7% membership dues increase for FY2004.

TRANSPORTATION PROJECT STATUS REPORT

Andy Carrier presented this report, issued twice annually, to keep members updated on all Conn DOT activity in their municipality. Questions were raised on certain projects and discussion followed.

PROPOSED TIP AMENDMENTS

Andy Carrier presented the amendments, which are in the form of additional information required by Conn DOT and FHWA as part of the previously adopted Transportation Improvement Program. The Financial Plan now to accompany the TIP shows a total obligation of funding for FY2003-05 at \$100,062,089. Then on a motion made by Judy Novachek and seconded by Art von Plachecki, it was voted unanimously to approve the TIP amendments.

CREATION OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2003 OFFICERS

As required by the bylaws, a committee for this task is needed. There was discussion, after which it was agreed that Art von Plachecki, Judy Novachek and Peggy Katkocin would serve on this committee. They will meet on 1/1 7/2003 just before the January HVCEO meeting.

MUNICIPAL RESPONSES TO NEW STANDARDS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCH

Remarks were made on this topic by Patrick Broderick, M.D., Chairman of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Danbury Hospital. He noted that new state dispatch rules go into effect 7/1/2004, and offered to assist any town as it plans to upgrade its response capability. It is clear that the system needs to be designed differently in different towns, he said.

There was then a discussion of the upgrade process, comparison of approaches, also questions and answers. Dr. Broderick was then thanked for the courtesy of his visit.

PRESENTATION OF HVEDP- GREATER DANBURY CHAMBER REGIONAL WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SURVEY

A PowerPoint presentation on this subject was made by HVEDP Director James Bellano. The views of

business leaders towards expected regional business trends, job skill training needs, recruiting practices and other business factors were summarized.

**PRESENTATION OF BROOKFIELD STILL
RIVER VALLEY BIKE PATH ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

An overview of this project was presented by Jay Annis of the Brookfield Recreational Enhancement Council. The goal was to have HVCEO members familiar with this Brookfield project prior to the setting of regional grant priorities on 2/21/2003. Members discussed this project.

**PRESENTATION OF DANBURY MAIN
STREET SOUTH ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

An overview of this project was presented by Danbury's project designer Doran Dagan of Luchs Consulting. The goal was to have HVCEO members familiar with this Danbury project prior to the setting of regional grant priorities on 2/21/2003. Members discussed this project.

LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR 12/13/2002 MEETING

Members then reviewed the draft legislative agenda for 2003, to be presented to the area's legislative delegation at a breakfast meeting at the Danbury Holiday Inn on 12/13/2002. There was discussion, after which changes were made to the order of items and to the text of the affordable housing item.

UPDATE ON ANTI-CASINO ACTIVITIES

Members discussed this topic. The upcoming 11/16/2002 meeting in Danbury was cited. Then Rudy Marconi noted that the casino traffic impact study will be presented to an evening audience in Ridgefield on 11/18/2002. Also, that many elected officials from towns in nearby New York State had been invited. Dennis Elpern noted that the Carbide/Dow building itself remained outside of the area now rezoning and thus at risk.

**PROPOSED CRITERIA FOR
RANKING ENHANCEMENT APPLICATIONS**

Deputy Director Andy Carrier reviewed an agenda attachment on this topic. Total possible points for an application is 100, with applications due at the HVCEO office on 1/31/2003, after which they will be ranked at the HVCEO meeting on 2/21/2003, with the ranked applications then to be transmitted to Conn DOT.

There was discussion by member of the draft criteria. Natalie Ketcham provided a written list of comments on the proposed criteria. Reference was made to the HVCEO's 1997 Growth Guide Map displayed in the room for this discussion. There was considerable additional debate. Then a revised draft of scoring criteria was agreed to. Then on a motion made by Art von Plachecki and seconded by Peggy Katkocin, the revised draft was unanimously approved for use by staff.

ADJOURNMENT

Then on a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 P.M.