

MINUTES OF THE 8 APRIL 2020
SCCOG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
Via ZOOM

Present: Mark Nickerson, Fred Allyn, III, Mike Uργο, Tom Sparkman
Staff: James Butler, Amanda Kennedy

Chairman Nickerson opened the meeting at 8:00 a.m.

1. Executive Director Suggestion Regarding FY 2021 SCCOG Dues

The Executive Director stated that he had suggested to the Chairman the suspension or significant reduction of SCCOG member dues for the next fiscal year. The Chairman asked him to place it on the agenda for Executive Committee discussion. The Executive Director stated that the SCCOG collects around \$157,000 a year in dues, with the smallest member Borough of Stonington paying around \$550, and the largest member Norwich paying a little over \$22,000 in dues to the SCCOG. He said he believed the loss of this revenue could be covered by the SCCOG's Reserve funds, and with some belt-tightening measures during the year. He said that in light of what the towns are facing in pandemic related costs and anticipated reductions in revenue, he believes this sends the right message. He stated that an amendment to the budget would be needed if the SCCOG agreed with his suggestion.

MOTION: To recommend to the full SCCOG the suspension or significant reduction in SCCOG member FY 2021 dues as recommended by the SCCOG Executive Director (Sparkman, Allyn)

Discussion ensued. Mr. Allyn said he agreed the purpose of the recommendation and that he would support it, as every little bit of reduction in expenditures would help SCCOG towns recover after this health emergency. Mr. Uργο cautioned that this could lead to a situation in ensuing years where new CEOs or members of Councils/Board of Selectmen/Boards of Finance why the COG is now asking for a restoration of dues or an increase in dues if we only reduce them now. Mr. Sparkman said he was glad he made the motion, but after discussion believes that the SCCOG dues should not be reduced.

The motion was then voted upon with three opposed and one in favor (Allyn). Motion defeated.

2. FY 2018 TIP/STIP Amendments

The Executive Director explained that this project would fund CTDOT's Transportation Demand Management efforts, including CT Rides, operating in the Greater Hartford and New London areas.

MOTION: To recommend to the full SCCOG the approval of the FY 2018 TIP/STIP amendment (Sparkman, Uργο). So voted unanimously.

3. Discussion Pertaining to Conduct of April 15 SCCOG Meeting

The Executive Director stated he had been asked by Mike Caplet, DEMHS Region 4 Coordinator, to discuss with the SCCOG on their weekly conference call later this morning the possible negotiating/securing of hotel rooms if needed for first responders on a regional basis. He also said on the conference call he would remind SCCOG CEOs to respond to the survey of transportation assets for RESF 1 by the April 9th deadline.

4. Other

Mr. Urgo raised the issue of the Governor's discussion of voting in the upcoming primaries, and potentially combining budget voting with voting in the election.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

James S. Butler, Executive Director