Northern Middlesex Council of Governments
40 Church Street, Suite 200
Lowell, MA 01852

Minutes of Meeting: October 17, 2018

The October 17, 2018 meeting was held at the Tewksbury Country Club, 1880 Main Street, Tewksbury, Massachusetts. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. with Chair Pat Wojtas presiding. The following were in attendance, as indicated in Attachment #1:

Councilors

- Pat Wojtas, Chair, Chelmsford Board of Selectmen
- S. George Zaharoolis, Chelmsford Alternate
- Tami Drstiliaris, Dracut Board of Selectmen
- Philippe Thibault, Dracut Alternate
- Jerry Frechette, Lowell Planning Board
- Chuck Walkovich, Pepperell Planning Board
- Jay Kelly, Tewksbury Board of Selectmen
- Rick Reault, Tyngsborough Board of Selectmen
- Steven O’Neill, Tyngsborough Planning Board
- Darrin Wizst, Westford Planning Board
- James Silva, Westford Alternate

Staff

- Beverly Woods, Executive Director
- Jay Donovan, Assistant Director
- Carmen Bellerose, Financial Officer
- Justin Howard, Transportation Program Manager

I. Minutes of Meeting: September 19, 2018

The minutes were distributed to all Councilors for review. Based on a motion made by Jerry Frechette and seconded by Jay Kelly, the Council voted to approve the minutes of the September 19, 2018 meeting.

II. Executive Director’s Report

The Executive Director’s Report was previously distributed to the Councilors for review. Upon a motion made by Phil Thibault and seconded by Jerry Frechette, the Council voted unanimously to accept the Executive Director’s Report as presented. The report is included as Attachment #2.
III. Financial Report and Warrant

Carmen Bellerose presented the Financial Report and the Warrant for review and signature. Based on a motion made by Rick Reault and seconded by Tami Dristiliaris, the Financial Report and Warrant were unanimously approved. The Financial Report is included as Attachment #3.

IV. Old Business

1. Resolutions to Provide Matching Funds for Transit Planning Contracts

Beverly Woods explained that NMCOG has two annual contracts for transit planning services that require the allocation of matching funds each year. She requested that the Council approve one resolution allocating $27,439 in assessment funds to match $109,754 in FTA Section 5303 funds, as required in NMCOG’s contract with MassDOT, and one resolution committing $15,000 to match $60,000 in federal funding for NMCOG’s ongoing contract with Lowell Regional Transit Authority.

Based on a motion made by Rick Reault and seconded by Darrin Wizst, the Council voted unanimously to approve both resolutions.

2. Project Referrals

Beverly Woods stated that the only project currently under MEPA review is the Lowell Area Gas Modernization Project in Lowell, Chelmsford and Tewksbury. The project involves the replacement of portions of an existing natural gas pipeline system with a larger diameter pipeline for the usage of in-line inspection (ILI) equipment and to comply with forthcoming federal regulatory requirements. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) are due at MEPA by November 9th. A comment letter will be available for review at the next Council meeting.

3. Other Old Business

There was none.

V. New Business

1. Community Reports

There were none.

2. Other New Business

Beverly Woods noted that the Council’s usual meeting schedule would place the next meeting on the Wednesday evening prior to Thanksgiving. The Council agreed that unless an urgent matter arises, there is no need to hold a November meeting. Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12th, 6:00 p.m. at the Middlesex Meeting House on Concord Road in Billerica.
VI. Announcements

There were none.

VII. Adjournment

Following a motion made by Rick Reault and seconded by Steven O’Neill, the Council voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

CLERK’S CERTIFICATE

I certify that this is a true copy of the Minutes of the meeting of October 17, 2018.

Attest: __________________________

Stephen Themelis, Clerk