



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

## Meeting Agenda

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk 860-441-6640  
Town Manager 860-441-6630

### Representative Town Meeting

*Moderator Kevin Power, Representatives Jean-Claude Ambroise, Joe Baril, Nancy E. Barnhart, Peter J. Bartinik, Jr., Alicia Bauer, Nancy E. Beckwith, Christopher J. Burns, Michael Collins, Nancy M. Congdon, Warren T. Cooper, Syma Ebbin, Peter Fairbank, Nancy E. Gilly, Patrice Granatosky, Dolores Harrell, Keith L. Hedrick, Damon Q. Helme, Lynn Crockett Hubbard, Michael Dean Johnson, Rosanne E. Kotowski, Elizabeth Luck, Jackie Massett, Carole McCarthy, Karen F. Morton, Scott Newsome, Dana C. Parfitt, Richard J. Pasqualini, Jr., Kristen L. Powers, Don Pratt, Betty A. Prochaska, Sandry Ramos-Morales, John F. Scott IV, Jack Sebastian, Dana S. Semeraro, Jennifer Smuts, Joan Steinfeld, Irma Streeter, Mark Svencer, Archie C. Swindell, and Robert A. Warn*

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Wednesday, July 21, 2010

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex-Community Room 1

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### Regular Meeting

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- A. ROLL CALL
- B. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG
- C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 3, 2010 and MAY 19, 2010
- D. CITIZENS' PETITIONS

This is the portion of the RTM agenda where the RTM welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to ten minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be limited to matters pertinent to Groton. The Moderator, or members through the Moderator, shall ask questions only in order to clarify the speaker's presentation. Responses may be given by the Moderator and/or by the Town Manager. Citizens should make their presentations from the lectern and state their names and addresses for the record.

- E. RECEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS
  - F. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER:
    - 1. Financial report
    - 2. Monthly briefing
  - G. LIAISON REPORTS
  - H. COMMITTEE REPORTS
    - 1. FINANCE
      - a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Bartinik
    - 2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES
      - a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Pratt
    - 3. EDUCATION
      - a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Swindell
- 2010-0105      Change in Previously Authorized Board of Education  
CIP Project

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATION FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES FOR THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, Superintendent of Schools Paul Kadri requested that the Town Council consider a change in a previously authorized Capital Improvement Program project for enhancing educational technologies related to video furnaces, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kadri feels that a contracted, Web-based software and hosting solution would better meet the current and future needs of the school district, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the FYE 2009 CIP #5F-1 Educational Technologies-Video Furnace for \$73,000 be closed and those funds be transferred to the General Fund, and be it further

RESOLVED, that \$73,000 is appropriated from the General Fund's unreserved, undesignated fund balance to the Board of Education account #10800 - Education Services.

Refer to RTM.

Legislative History

<b>4/22/2010</b>	<b>Mayor</b>	<b>Referred</b>	<b>Town Council Committee of the W</b>
<b>4/27/2010</b>	<b>Town Council Committee of the Whole</b>	<b>Discussed</b>	

*The Town Manager explained a request from Superintendent of Schools Paul Kadri to "re-purpose" funding that was approved in 2009 for video furnaces in the schools. The new proposal, which is similar to a subscription service, would accomplish the same goal, but by using a third party host for the videos. Although the proposal does not meet the current definition of a capital improvement project, the dollars have already been allocated and it may be appropriate for the Council to consider the request.*

*Councilor O'Beirne expressed his opposition to the proposal and feels this is a prime example of jumping on the latest technology before thinking it out. He suggested that the CIP funds be zeroed out and the Superintendent be asked to include it in his budget request next year along with an adequate analysis. The Councilors asked that Mr. Kadri be invited to a meeting to further explain his request.*

<b>5/25/2010</b>	<b>Town Council Committee of the Whole</b>	<b>Recommended for a Resolution</b>
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*Paul Kadri, Superintendent of Schools, explained that the video furnace project came about as a means to provide professional development and remote access for students. A video furnace is the conduit for providing video content and is a significant ongoing investment. Groton Public Schools subsequently researched other options and considered a system similar to YouTube that would work with the smart boards being used in the classrooms. The solution provides YouTube capability as well as the ability to push video. The hardware and software costs are about \$85,000. \$73,000 was allocated in the CIP. Continuing with the video furnace technology would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. The video furnaces that have been purchased will be sold or used until their useful life is depleted. Maintenance contracts on the units have not been renewed.*

*Councilor O'Beirne expressed skepticism about spending money on the latest technology when there are significant cost decreases and capability increases over time. He prefers to wait until there is a proven track record before spending money. Mr. Kadri stated the technology is not new or sophisticated. The payment covers hosting services for the equipment and better connectivity speed, as well as development of the security architecture, administration, and management services. Although the concept of a private video housed location is new, the technology is not.*

*Councilor Flax asked why YouTube can't be used and Mr. Kadri stated because of security concerns. Groton Public Schools already have video production capabilities and it would take about a year and a half to create a decent video warehouse. The \$85,000 is a one time investment with an ongoing yearly service fee of a couple of thousand dollars per year.*

*Councilor O'Beirne asked why these funds are not included in the regular budget since this does not qualify as a CIP project. Mr. Kadri suggested this project is consistent with the "communications" project previously approved. If Groton Public Schools had to pay for the project, the money would come out of the computer replacement fund. Discussion followed on funding options.*

5/25/2010	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Motion	
<i>to cancel the current CIP project and make a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$73,000, to be funded by the money in the Capital Reserve Account.</i>			
<i>Discussion followed. Councilor Sheets discussed the legal definition of capital improvement</i>			
6/1/2010	Town Council	Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken	
6/1/2010	Town Council	Adopted and Referred	Representative Town Meeting
<i>Councilor O'Beirne stated that he will be voting against this resolution as he believes that it is an improper use of CIP funds.</i>			
6/4/2010	Representative Town Meeting	Referred	RTM Education Committee

**4. RECREATION**

**a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Warn**

**5. PUBLIC SAFETY**

**a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Parfitt**

**6. PUBLIC WORKS**

**a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Collins**

**2010-0135 River Road Repairs**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PERMITTING AND DESIGN OF REPAIRS TO RIVER ROAD

WHEREAS, a section of River Road was damaged during the March 2010 rain event effectively dead-ending the road for vehicular traffic, and

WHEREAS, no funds are currently appropriated to permit, design and repair the road, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has estimated the cost of permitting and design work at \$75,000, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a supplemental appropriation of \$75,000 be appropriated from the Capital Reserve Fund Balance as a FYE 2011 road project.

Legislative History

6/1/2010	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of the W
6/8/2010	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	

*The Town Manager noted that there was extensive damage to a 150' section of River Road as a result of the March storm. The road has been dead-ended at the northern end of the road. Repairs will be difficult and require significant permitting. Director of Public Works Gary Schneider described the damage. The Town has provided some pedestrian access, but it is unknown what is remaining structurally to support vehicular traffic. Mr. Schneider explained that the Town does not have the expertise to do this type of bridge reconstruction. Staff has met with an engineering firm, Purcell Associates, that could be engaged to conduct a study to determine if the road can be opened to alternating one-way traffic. Purcell Associates could also be involved in permitting issues involved in removing asphalt and possibly gravel from wetlands. The proposal is to hold neighborhood meetings and enter into agreements with property owners as necessary to effect repairs. Because River Road is a scenic road, a public hearing will be required to make any repairs. This is considered a major project by FEMA that is reimbursable at 75%. Mr. Schneider is requesting a supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$75,000 for engineering work. If the funding is not approved, the project would go into the regular Capital Improvement Funding cycle delaying the work until summer of 2011. This is estimated to be a six to nine month project after permitting. Another supplemental appropriation will be*

*necessary for construction which is estimated to be around \$500,000. This request must also be approved by the RTM.*

6/8/2010	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	
6/15/2010	Town Council	Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken	
6/15/2010	Town Council	Adopted and Referred	Representative Town Meeting
6/17/2010	Representative Town Meeting	Referred	RTM Public Works Committee

## **7. RULES & PROCEDURES**

### **a. Chairman's notes on the business of the Town - Chairman Scott**

#### **I. OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **J. ADJOURNMENT**