



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Agenda

Town Council

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

Mayor Rita M. Schmidt, Councilors Genevieve Cerf, Joe de la Cruz, Bruce S. Flax, Bob Frink, Rich Moravsik, Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Heather Bond Somers and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING - REVISED

I. ROLL CALL

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

2014-0184 Proclamation Recognizing West Side Middle School Class of 2014

Proclamation - TC

Recess for Public Hearing on:

2014-0157 Neighborhood Assistance Act Program

Referral

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

This is the portion of the Council Agenda where the Council welcomes comments from citizens. Each presentation should be limited to five (5) minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit written comments. Presentations should be related to matters pertinent to Groton. Town Councilors will only ask questions in order to clarify the speaker's presentation and can respond during the Responses to Citizens' Petitions portion of the Town Council meeting. Citizens should make their presentations from the lectern and state their names and addresses for the record.

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under Item VI (Consent Calendar) are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion of these items will take place, unless cause is shown prior to the time Council votes on the motion to adopt.

a. Approval of Minutes

2014-0185 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

Resolution - Consent

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of June 3, 2014 are hereby accepted and approved.

b. Administrative Items

2014-0175 Special Trust Fund Contributions

Resolution - Consent

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Rachel Scullion - \$100.00 - Library Miscellaneous

Aimee F. Allaire - \$4.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Marci Casey - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Sandra Champion - \$9.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Carl Conrad - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Nora Belle Lurched- \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Chinwe Erike - \$40.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
James Eskra - \$40.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Larry Grundy - \$15.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Elizabeth Hogan - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Lauren Huck - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Arnold Jordan, Sr. - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Pride Kelleles - \$6.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Heather King - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Lisa Knobloch - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Beverly L. Lavalley - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Amy Matteson - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Emily Nelson - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Katherine S. Nelson - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Nina Nelson - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Kathryn A. Roschmann - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Katy M. Stoddard - \$6.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Lawrence Taylor - \$1.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Merin Troutman - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Arianna Turello - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Katherine Wilhelm - \$40.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Jeanne M. Yellow Robe - \$2.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Marsha Zimmermann - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Katherine Zod - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Emily Burke - \$13.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Patricia Carrigan - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Eileen Cicchese - \$31.74 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Karen Colgan - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Jane W. Coutu - \$60.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Diane Darling - \$12.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Susan McMillan-Decorte - \$2,000.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Kelsey A. Fournier - \$200.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Mark Fournier - \$100.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Heather Frost - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Patricia W. Garcia - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Lillian Green - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Catherine Hoffman - \$35.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
SECADD, Inc. - \$500.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Arnold Jordan, Sr. - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
James Ledwidge - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Janet Ledwidge - \$12.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Eric Motin - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Emily Nelson - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Nina Nelson - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Knights of Columbus - \$300.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Daniel Pineault - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Barbara Strother - \$105.80 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Phyllis Walsh - \$190.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Wesley Williams - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Lillian Zabinsky - \$200.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Kirsti Zarn - \$52.91 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Mayra Zayas-Mendin - \$56.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Tony Medeiros - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Karl Salvati - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
First Church of Christ Scientist - \$50.00 - Library Miscellaneous

Robert and Phyllis Boggs - \$8.56 - Groton Utilities Assistance Program
 Darlene and Barbara Weeman - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Assistance Program
 Groton Utilities - \$122.78 - Groton Utilities Assistance Program
 Alpha Delta Kappa-Zeta Chapter - \$400.00 - Social Services Discretionary
 Charles Rogers - \$70.00 - Social Services Discretionary
 Lee Vincent - \$100.00 - Social Services Discretionary
 Bookmarks Book Club in memory of Elizabeth Colson - \$50.00 - Library Miscellaneous

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2014-0163	Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Revision	Referral
2014-0170	Connecticut State Library Construction Grant	Referral
2014-0173	Report on Town Attorney Caseload	Referral
2014-0177	FYE 2014 Suspense List	Referral
2014-0181	Referral of Town-Owned Properties to Planning Commission under CGS Section 8-24	Referral
2014-0182	Referral of LaValley Property Acquisition to Planning Commission under CGS Section 8-24	Referral
2014-0183	Resolution Authorizing the Town Manager to Sign an Agreement with the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association	Referral
2014-0187	Appointment of Jeff Zuliani to Parks and Recreation Commission	Referral

VII. COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

- a. Town Councilors
- b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting
- c. Clerk of the Council
- d. Town Manager

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Community Relations - Chairman de la Cruz
- b. Finance - Chairman Frink
- c. Personnel & Appointments - Chairman Flax
- d. Rules - Chairman Frink
- e. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Schmidt

IX. NEW BUSINESS

2014-0163	Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Revision	Referral
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RESOLUTION APPROVING A REVISED EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY FOR THE TOWN OF GROTON

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton's current Equal Employment Opportunity Policy was adopted in February 1979, readopted in September 1989, and administratively revised in August 2002, and

WHEREAS, since the last revision other social, religious, and personal preferences have been identified and legally prohibited from being considered as a reason not to employ a person or

persons, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council approves a revised Equal Employment Opportunity Policy (attached).

Legislative History

5/15/2014	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Personnel & Ap
6/3/2014	Town Council Personnel & Appointments Committee	Recommended for a Resolution	

2014-0170 Connecticut State Library Construction Grant Referral

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM THE CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY BOARD

WHEREAS, the Connecticut State Library Board Construction Grant Program provides grants for public library construction projects that create usable space and for projects that improve existing space, and

WHEREAS, the grant covers one-half of the total project cost, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Public Library is proposing a project involving an interior renovation and space repurposing to accommodate an expansion of the local history room to house Town Historian James Streeter's collection of Groton materials, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Public Library is also eligible for funding for maintenance projects that could include replacement of two roof top units; repair of floor surface in the video studio, reconstruction of the parking lot; and replacement of ceiling tiles throughout the building, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger is authorized to submit a grant application to the Connecticut State Library Board for a Groton Public Library project as described in this resolution.

Legislative History

5/20/2014	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of th
6/10/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	

Betty Anne Reiter, Director of Library Services, explained that Town Historian Jim Streeter has approached the Library to provide a home for his vast historical collection, which would more than double the Library's existing collection. The State Library has a construction grant program that the Library is eligible to apply for to make interior renovations and repurpose existing space to accommodate the collection. Ms. Reiter briefly reviewed her idea to relocate the computer lab. The local history room would require the proper environmental conditions for storage of the collection. The preliminary estimate for that project is \$370,000 and the state would provide 50% reimbursement. As a distressed community, Groton is also eligible to apply for maintenance costs. The Town has reviewed upcoming CIP projects as follows: In FYE 2016, the plan proposes the replacement of two rooftop units and repair of the floor surface in the video studio (\$260,000); in FYE 2017, reconstruction of the parking lot is planned (\$95,000). Finally, there is a need to replace ceiling tiles throughout the building (\$75,000). These maintenance items would bring the total budget to about \$800,000. A formal plan must be submitted to the State Library by August 29th and the Town would have to come up with matching funds within one year of the grant award in November.

The Town Manager explained that this item was brought to the Committee of the Whole instead of the Finance Committee because of the need to commit funds in the FYE 2016 budget. Time is of the essence as the Town does not want to wait until the space is completed to begin going through Mr. Streeter's collection. The Town Manager feels this is a tremendous opportunity for the community, which currently has no central depository for Groton history.

Councilor Watson expressed his support, as did Councilor Peruzzotti, noting a cost savings of \$200,000 if the projects are done together. In response to Councilor Moravsik, Ms. Reiter stated that she feels the Town is in a

good position to receive the grant. Councilor Flax stated this is a great opportunity, but he is wary of the cost. He suggested that the Town could store the collection until it can be displayed. Councilor Flax cannot support the \$400,000 investment without additional grants. Mayor Schmidt expressed her support for the project.

**6/10/2014 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a
the Whole Resolution**

Ms. Reiter noted that much of the collection will be digitized and available on line as part of this project. In response to Councilor Flax, the Town Manager explained that if the matching grant funding is not secured, the Town will not be in a position to accept the grant. Moravsik questioned the elevation of the portion of the building where these items will be stored.

2014-0177 FYE 2014 Suspense List

Referral

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE FISCAL YEAR 2014 SUSPENSE LIST

WHEREAS, State law requires that once a year a list shall be compiled of taxes that should be suspended, and

WHEREAS, the accounts which have been determined as uncollectible have been contacted at least nine times with no response, and

WHEREAS, placing uncollected items on the Suspense List helps avoid waste of money and staff time, and

WHEREAS, taxpayers remain liable for all amounts that are placed on the Suspense List, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the following amounts be added to the Suspense List as reported to the Town Council:

Town: \$533,526.50
Sewer District: \$853.63
Mumford Cove: \$5.81
Total: \$534,385.94

Legislative History

6/3/2014 Mayor Referred Town Council Committee of th

**6/10/2014 Town Council Committee of Discussed
the Whole**

Sal Pandolfo, Director of Finance, and Cindy Small, Tax Collector were present to address the Council. Mr. Pandolfo explained that once a year, by statute, the Tax Collector creates a list of accounts she deems uncollectable. The accounts will no longer be billed, but they are still valid and will be sent to the collection agency and the Department of Motor Vehicles.

**6/10/2014 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a
the Whole Resolution**

**2014-0181 Referral of Town-Owned Properties to Planning
Commission under CGS Section 8-24**

Referral

**REFERRAL OF TOWN-OWNED PROPERTIES ACQUIRED THROUGH TAX
SALE/FORECLOSURE TO PLANNING COMMISSION UNDER CGS SECTION 8-24**

RESOLVED, that the Town Council refers the following Town-owned properties and recommendations for disposition to the Groton Planning Commission, pursuant to CGS Section 8-24:

PIN 261917116969E, Conrad Street - Designate as Open Space
PIN 270017017868E, 1500 Gold Star Highway - Sell
PIN 169806380107E, Laurelwood Road/Poquonnock Road - Sell
PIN 169806381089E, Laurelwood Road - Sell
PIN 168912973189E, Toll Gate Road - Designate as Open Space
PIN 169812864158, 84 Central Avenue - Sell

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Revised Policy:

A) EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

1.0 Policy

It is the policy of the Town of Groton to provide equal employment opportunity without regard to race, color, sex (including pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, transgender status, gender identity, or expression), genetic information, age, physical disability, learning disability, mental disability, intellectual disability, religion, national origin, citizenship status, ancestry, marital status, civil union status, veteran status, political affiliation or any other criteria protected under applicable federal, state, or local law.

This policy applies to all areas of employment, including recruitment, advertising, hiring, training and development, classifying, referring, promotion, transfer, termination, layoff, compensation, and all other terms, conditions and privileges of employment in accordance with applicable federal and state laws.

Adopted: Town Council Resolution: February 20, 1979; September 5, 1989

Administratively Revised: August 2002