



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

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

## Meeting Agenda

### Town Council

*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, September 16, 2014

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

### REGULAR MEETING

#### I. ROLL CALL

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

- |           |                                                                                                 |                   |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 2014-0245 | Proclamation Honoring Carol Pratt and the 20th Anniversary of the "Welcome to Groton" Show      | Proclamation - TC |
| 2014-0255 | Proclamation Honoring the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States | Proclamation - TC |

#### 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

- |           |                                    |                      |
|-----------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2014-0253 | Approval of Minutes (Town Council) | Resolution - Consent |
|-----------|------------------------------------|----------------------|

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of September 2, 2014 are hereby accepted and approved.

##### b. Administrative Items

- |           |                                  |                      |
|-----------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2014-0243 | 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:

Lee Vincent - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary  
Joseph and Susan Bennett - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Bonnen - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Juliet Cafara - \$100.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Felton Clayton - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Richard Davies - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Penelope Dawley - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Robert and Judith Elwood - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Lora Feldman - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Jean and Frederik DeGrooth - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Hickety Family LLP - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Philip Hulsizer - \$150.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Jean Kennedy - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Gloria and Robert Kenyon - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Nancy Kolb - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Donna Lane - \$5.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Adrienne and Bill Loweth - \$2,000.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Michael Mahoney - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
William Martin - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Barbara McNeil - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Pauline and Kevin Robillard - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Robert and Gisela Solt - \$5.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Nidia and Bernard Somers - \$3.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Fitch Class of 1954 - \$400.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Aimee Allaire - \$4.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Benjamin Anderson \$24.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Marcy 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 Du Rocher - \$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. - \$15.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Pride Kelledees - \$6.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Heather King - \$10.00 Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Lisa Knobloch - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Beverly L. Lavallee - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Eric Martin - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Rebecca Martin - \$50.00 - 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  
Chelsea Groton Bank - \$160.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous  
Pfizer Foundation Matching Gifts Program - \$50.00 - Library Miscellaneous  
Barbara Sawyer - \$75.00 - Library Miscellaneous

**c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List**

2014-0211	Line Clearance Trimming and Removals, Sandy Hollow Road	Referral
2014-0223	Rubino Driveway Apron, River Road	Referral
2014-0235	Lease of Town Equipment to Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRRA)	Referral
2014-0239	North Stonington Road Bridge	Referral
2014-0240	Reallocation of CIP Funds for Boiler Replacement at Water Pollution Control Facility	Referral
2014-0251	Spicer Park Dock Replacement	Referral
2014-0252	West Shore Avenue Paving Project, Groton Long Point	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

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## IX. NEW BUSINESS

2014-0211	Line Clearance Trimming and Removals, Sandy Hollow Road	Referral
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RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CL&P LINE CLEARANCE TRIMMING AND REMOVALS ON SANDY HOLLOW ROAD

WHEREAS, on January 19, 1999, by resolution, the Town Council designated Sandy Hollow Road as a Scenic Road according to Town Ordinance #200, Town Code Sec. 13.5-121 to 13.5-124, and

WHEREAS, the Scenic Road Ordinance prohibits the removal of trees except for good cause determined by the Council after a public hearing, and

WHEREAS, Connecticut Light and Power (CL&P) has a planned program to clear around power lines, which has been reviewed by the Town's Tree Warden, and

WHEREAS, on September 2, 2014 the Town Council held a public hearing on the proposed tree trimming/removal program, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes CL&P's line clearance trimming and removals on Sandy Hollow Road.

Legislative History

7/17/2014 Mayor Referred Town Council Committee of th

8/19/2014 Town Council Committee of Discussed  
the Whole

*Councilors expressed their desire to have an influence on the method and design of the trimming. They conveyed their dissatisfaction with recent trimming projects in Town.*

*The Town Manager explained that the Town Council needs to set a public hearing for any improvements on designated Scenic Roads by Ordinance 13.5 of Article V.*

8/19/2014 Town Council Committee of Motion  
the Whole

*to schedule a public hearing*

9/2/2014 Town Council Heard at Public Hearing

*Mayor Schmidt called a recess for the Public Hearing at 7:32 p.m.*

*The Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to a resolution passed by the Town Council was read by Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher.*

*Susan Stotts, an arborist for CL&P, stated that CL&P would like to perform routine trimming along Sandy Hollow Road. Clearance around the power lines would be fifteen feet overhead, eight feet along the side, and ten feet below. She noted that smaller trees will be removed to prevent future problems, but no mature trees will be taken down.*

*Discussion ensued regarding different ways of tree trimming which included: one side trimmed entirely; removing all trees near power lines; trimming everything above the lines; an "apple bite," and removing smaller trees before they become a problem.*

*Councilor Watson raised a Point of Order stating that the Public Hearing is a forum for the public to voice its concerns, not for back and forth discussion.*

*Ridley Bancroft, 18 Beach Road, GLP, is concerned about new trees being removed.*

*In answer to Councilors, Ms. Stotts stated that CL&P works closely with Groton's Tree Warden and all work performed by contractors is reviewed. She noted that notifications were sent out to residents, but no responses were received. Ms. Stotts remarked that she tries to strike a balance between healthy trees and reducing the risk of power outages.*

*Councilor de la Cruz stated that tree trimming is done to prevent power outages during storms. He believes that CL&P should do whatever they need to do.*

*There being no further comments, Mayor Schmidt closed the Public Hearing at 7:47 p.m.*

9/9/2014 Town Council Committee of Discussed  
the Whole

9/9/2014 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a  
the Whole Resolution

2014-0223 Rubino Driveway Apron, River Road Referral

RESOLUTION CONCERNING INSTALLATION OF A DRIVEWAY APRON ON THE RUBINO PROPERTY, RIVER ROAD

WHEREAS, on January 19, 1999, by resolution, the Town Council designated River Road as a Scenic Road according to Town Ordinance #200, Town Code Sec. 13.5-121 to 13.5-124, and

WHEREAS, the Scenic Road Ordinance prohibits alterations or improvements on scenic roads except for good cause determined by the Town Council after a public hearing, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton Road and Drainage Standards require the installation of a driveway apron to protect the edge of pavement from vehicles accessing property on River Road owned by Michael Rubino, which is the site of a proposed dock, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council held a public hearing on the proposal on September 2, 2014 and after thoughtful consideration agreed that a driveway apron is not necessary in this location, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council determines that it is not necessary for Mr. Rubino to construct a driveway apron to access his property on River Road and therefore no finding is necessary under the Scenic Road Ordinance.

**Legislative History**

**8/19/2014 Town Council Committee of Discussed  
the Whole**

*The Town Manager explained that the Town Council needs to set a public hearing for any improvements on designated Scenic Roads by Ordinance 13.5 of Article V. The purpose of the public hearing is for the Town Council to hear comments and concerns regarding Mr. and Mrs. Rubinos's request to install a bituminous concrete apron off River Road on to their adjacent property. This project is proposed in conjunction with their permit to build a dock on the Mystic River.*

**8/19/2014 Town Council Committee of Motion  
the Whole**

*to schedule a public hearing*

**9/2/2014 Town Council Heard at Public Hearing**

*Mayor Schmidt called a recess for the Public Hearing at 7:48 p.m.*

*The Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to a resolution passed by the Town Council was read by Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher.*

*Keith Neilson, Docko Incorporated, noted that the driveway apron will be installed on a parcel of land at the bend of River Road and the intersection of Bindless Road. Permits for a dock on the property have already been obtained. The apron will allow the property owner to park one or two vehicles off the street while boating. Ten feet of the area designated for the apron is on Town owned property, the rest is owned by the Rubinos. According to the Town Manager, the Town is requiring the installation of the driveway apron.*

*Joellen Anderson, 215 Plant Street, representing Avalonia Land Conservancy Inc., remarked that access to the dock could develop into an environmental concern. She stated that it is important to have runoff near the river and a pervious material would be preferred. Ms. Anderson noted that Avalonia Land Conservancy Inc. owns the property that abuts the Rubinos, and the last survey on town records is dated 1965.*

*Mr. Neilson stated that he would record the recent A2 survey on Town Land Records. He noted that he is willing to discuss the construction of the apron with Public Works to determine a suitable material.*

*The Town Manager stated that the apron is to protect the edge of the roadway. He will discuss treatment alternatives with Director of Public Works Gary Schneider.*

*Mr. Neilson noted that the permit for the dock from Army Corps of Engineers is valid for another three years and the permit from Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is valid for another four years.*

*There being no further comments, Mayor Schmidt closed the Public Hearing at 8:09 p.m.*

**9/9/2014 Town Council Committee of Discussed  
the Whole**

**9/9/2014 Town Council Committee of Recommended for a  
the Whole Resolution**

**2014-0235 Lease of Town Equipment to Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRA) Referral**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OF TOWN EQUIPMENT TO SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT REGIONAL RESOURCES RECOVERY AUTHORITY (SCRRA)

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRRA)

provides the service of grinding woody vegetation to its member towns, and

WHEREAS, there is sometimes the need to transport excess chipped material from towns' transfer stations, and

WHEREAS, SCRRRA has offered to transport the excess material to other member towns or other regional food waste recycling sites using a piece of Town-owned equipment known as a "walking floor trailer," and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has reviewed the terms of SCRRRA's proposal and is supportive of a regional solution to the issue of chipped wood, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the lease of the Town's walking floor trailer to SCRRRA under the terms outlined by SCRRRA in its April 29, 2014 letter to Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger.

Legislative History

8/20/2014	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of th
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

**2014-0239 North Stonington Road Bridge Referral**

**AUTHORIZATION TO USE SETTLEMENT FUNDS FOR AN ENGINEERING ANALYSIS OF THE NORTH STONINGTON ROAD BRIDGE**

WHEREAS, the North Stonington Road Bridge has been closed since May 2012 due to severe deterioration, and

WHEREAS, on March 31, 2014 the Town Council authorized a settlement agreement whereby Alfred Benesch & Company (formerly James P. Purcell Associates, Inc.) paid the Town of Groton \$90,000 to settle a claim related to engineering inspection work previously conducted on the bridge, and

WHEREAS, representatives from the Town of Groton and Town of Stonington have discussed how to proceed with the bridge project and agreed that it should move forward is possible, and

WHEREAS, it is proposed that the settlement funds be used to hire a consulting engineering firm to completely analyze the bridge abutments and beam pockets, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council, with the concurrence of the Stonington Board of Selectmen, authorizes the use of settlement funds associated with the North Stonington Road bridge to hire a consulting engineering firm to conduct a complete analysis of the bridge.

Legislative History

8/26/2014	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of th
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

**2014-0240 Reallocation of CIP Funds for Boiler Replacement at Water Pollution Control Facility Referral**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REALLOCATION OF \$382,972 FROM ACCOUNT**

NUMBER 50100 5572B (WPCF RENOVATIONS) TO A NEW FYE15 CIP PROJECT, WPCF BOILER REPLACEMENT

WHEREAS, there are funds in the amount of \$382,972 remaining from a Water Pollution Control Facility FYE 2010 Capital Improvement Program project [9)E) Facility Renovations totalling \$1.9 million], and

WHEREAS, the previously authorized project has been completed under budget and the remaining funds are sufficient to undertake the replacement of the existing boiler, and

WHEREAS, reallocation of the funds will allow the bid specifications, bidding, award and procurement of the materials to allow construction to begin at the end of the heating season in March of 2015 along with other benefits, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, to reallocate \$382,972 from account number 50100 5572B (WPCF Renovations) to a new FYE15 CIP project for the Water Pollution Control Facility Boiler Replacement.

Refer to RTM.

Legislative History

8/21/2014	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of th
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

**2014-0251 Spicer Park Dock Replacement Referral**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A NEW DOCK SYSTEM AT SPICER PARK

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Department has proposed the purchase of a replacement dock for Spicer Park using funds from the Community Boating Account and Special Needs Donations, and financing a portion of the purchase using the Capital Reserve Fund, which is anticipated to be repaid over a two-year period, and

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2014 the Town Council authorized the donation of the old Spicer Park dock to the Noank Rowing Club, with the understanding that proceeds from the dock will be donated to the Town and applied to the purchase of a new dock, and

WHEREAS, the new proposed replacement system is an 80' x 12' modular dock with an additional adaptive feature that allows for greater accessibility for users, and

WHEREAS, the total cost for the dock and installation is \$61,000 and there are \$54,000 in funds currently available leaving a balance of \$7,000 to be financed using the Capital Reserve Fund, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes a new FYE15 CIP project for the Spicer Park Dock Replacement.

Refer to RTM.

Legislative History

9/3/2014	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of th
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

2014-0252      **West Shore Avenue Paving Project, Groton Long Point**      **Referral**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO PERFORM THE RESURFACING OF WEST SHORE AVENUE

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department was requested by the Town Council to submit a cost proposal for resurfacing West Shore Avenue, which was placed out to bid by the Groton Long Point Association, and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Department submitted a cost proposal that included labor, equipment and subcontractor cost to CME Associates, that Association's engineer of record, and

WHEREAS, the cost proposal has shown that Public Works performing the work is cost competitive with the bids received by the Groton Long Point Association, and

WHEREAS, the only charges to the road maintenance and rehabilitation bond will be for materials and subcontractors, further reducing the amount charged to the bond authorization, and

WHEREAS, discussions with officials of the Groton Long Point Association have been supportive of the Department performing the work in the spring of 2015, and

WHEREAS, this action supports the Council's desire of cooperation between all subdivisions of the Town, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Public Works Department of the Town of Groton to perform the resurfacing of West Shore Avenue for the Groton Long Point Association.

Legislative History

9/4/2014	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of th
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	
9/9/2014	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**