



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

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

## Meeting Minutes

### Town Council Committee of the Whole

*Mayor James L. Streeter, Councilors Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Paulann H. Sheets, and Harry A. Watson*

Tuesday, October 26, 2010

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

#### SPECIAL MEETING

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

*Mayor Streeter called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.*

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Watson  
Members Absent: Councilor Kolnaski and Councilor Sheets

*Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger and Executive Assistant Nicki Bresnayan.*

#### 3. Calendar and Communications

*None.*

#### 4. Approval of Minutes

##### 2010-0221 Approval of Minutes (Committee of the Whole)

##### RESOLUTION ACCEPTING COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council Committee of the Whole meetings of October 12, 2010 and October 16, 2010 are hereby accepted and approved.

**A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Flax, to adopt.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

##### 2010-0021 Labor Negotiations (2010 Standing Referral)

**A motion was made by Mayor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that the members of the Town Council, together with Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Manager of Labor Relations Joyce Sauchuk and Town Attorney Eileen Duggan go into executive session at 6:03 p.m. for the purpose of discussing strategy and/or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining with the Telecommunicators bargaining unit. This action is taken without prejudice to the Council's right to discuss these matters in a private meeting pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes §1 200(2).**

**The motion carried unanimously**

*Councilor Sheets arrived at 6:05 p.m. and joined the executive session.*

*The executive session concluded at 6:31 p.m.*

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Sheets and Councilor Watson  
Members Absent: Councilor Kolnaski

##### 2010-0172 FYE 2012 Budget

**A motion was made by Mayor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Sheets, that the members of the Town Council, Town Manager Mark Oefinger, and Attorney Eileen Duggan go into executive session at 6:32 p.m. pursuant to General Statutes Section 1-200 (6) (E) for the purpose of discussion related to correspondence and draft documents regarding fiscal year 2011-12 budget process that are protected by the attorney-client privilege.**

The motion carried unanimously

*The executive session concluded at 7:03 p.m.*

2010-0223

**Use of Fitch High School Baseball Field by New England Collegiate Baseball League**

A motion was made by Mayor Streeter, seconded by Councilor Watson, that the members of the Town Council, Town Manager Mark Oefinger, and Attorney Eileen Duggan go into executive session at 7:05 p.m. pursuant to General Statutes Section 1-200 (6) (E) for the purpose of discussion related to a draft document regarding potential upgrades and utilization of the Fitch High School baseball field for a summer collegiate baseball league team.

The motion carried unanimously

*The executive session concluded at 7:40 p.m.*

2010-0224

**Mystic and Noank Library Study Committee**

**Recommended for a Resolution**

*Town Manager Oefinger reminded the Council of last week's discussion with the Stonington Board of Selectmen that included the suggestion to set up a committee to develop a formula to reconcile the funding issue with the Mystic and Noank Library. No formal action was taken at that meeting.*

*The Director of the Mystic and Noank Library has suggested Anne Shipley and herself, Lois Hiller, to serve on the committee. Mayor Streeter indicated he would develop a list of names for the Council's consideration.*

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Monteiro, to establish a committee to review the issue of the funding of the Mystic and Noank Library with one objective to achieve a formula for appropriate funding from the Towns of Groton and Stonington.

The Town Manager noted this is a joint committee with Stonington. Groton's appointments would be from the Town Council, RTM and citizens at large. Discussion followed on the number of appointments. The consensus of the Committee was to appoint one Town Councilor, two RTM members, and one citizen at large, with the Stonington representation to be determined by Stonington.

The motion carried unanimously

2010-0222

**2011 Rates for Shennecossett Golf Course and Amendment to Regulations for Parks and Recreation Facilities**

**Discussed**

*John Silsby, Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced staff and members of the Golf Advisory Board and Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Silsby described the process for setting and adopting rates for the golf course. Staff, the Golf Advisory Board, and the Parks and Recreation Commission are recommending a zero percent increase in fees and rates for the golf course for 2011. They are also proposing a three month payment plan for season passes that includes an associated administrative fee. The Regulations for Parks and Recreation Facilities will need to be amended to address the proposed payment plan. Mr. Silsby noted that e-marketing efforts have been very successful and will continue.*

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Sheets, that this matter be Recommended for a Resolution.

*Councilor O'Beirne feels the golf course should be self-supporting as opposed to getting a subsidy from the Town. He asked if a minimal increase was considered. Mr. Silsby noted a decrease in 2010 season passes and the attempt to regain them. Todd Goodhue feels the zero increase is the best chance to maximize revenue. Councilor Flax feels the golf course should generate revenue not just break even. He expressed concern that the course is selling itself short by having lower fees than inferior courses. Discussion followed on the impact of rate increases on the number of players and the impact of weather on revenues.*

The motion carried unanimously

2010-0211

**Adoption of 2011 Town Council Regular Meeting Schedule**

Recommended for a Resolution.

The motion carried unanimously

**2010-0212 Adoption of 2011 Committee of the Whole Regular Meeting Schedule**

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Recommended for a Resolution.

The motion carried unanimously

**2010-0213 Adoption of 2011 Group I Regular Meeting Schedule**

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Recommended for a Resolution.

The motion carried unanimously

**2010-0214 Adoption of 2011 Group II Regular Meeting Schedule**

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Recommended for a Resolution.

The motion carried unanimously

**2006-0100 Thames Street Rehabilitation Study**

Discussed

*A presentation by the Thames Street Review Committee has been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, November 9th at 6:00 p.m.*

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m.*

*The motion carried unanimously.*