



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Minutes

Town Council Committee of the Whole

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

Mayor Bruce Flax, Councilors Dean G. Antipas, Diane Barber, Joe de la Cruz, Greg Grim, Karen F. Morton, Bonnie Nault, Deb Peruzzotti, and Harry A. Watson

Tuesday, June 28, 2016

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Flax called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Mayor Flax, Councilor Grim, Councilor Morton, Councilor Nault, Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Watson

Members Absent: Councilor Barber, Councilor Antipas and Councilor de la Cruz

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

3. **Calendar and Communications**

Town Manager Oefinger noted that the CT Submarine Trail subs are scheduled to be "deployed" to their various locations on July 5th, after they appear in the July 4th parade.

4. **Approval of Minutes**

2016-0172 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 meeting of June 14, 2016 are hereby accepted and approved.

A motion was made by Councilor Morton, seconded by Councilor Watson, to adopt.

The motion carried unanimously

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None.

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

2016-0169 Adoption of Ordinance on School Facilities Initiative

Discussed

A public hearing was held on the ordinance on June 21st, and the Council must now decide whether or not to move forward with the November referendum.

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

The Town Manager noted that the Town Council received positive responses from both the Town Planning Commission and the City of Groton Planning and Zoning Commission on the CGS Section 8-24 referrals.

The motion carried unanimously

2016-0170 Authorization to Use a Description of the Ordinance for the School Facilities Initiative in the Notice of Adoption

Discussed

Town Manager Oefinger explained that the Town Council may authorize the Town Attorney to

prepare a description of the ordinance to be used in the notice of adoption rather than the full text, if so desired.

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

The motion carried unanimously

2016-0171 West Side Renovation Project

Discussed

Town Manager Oefinger explained that the school facilities initiative is one project for the purpose of the referendum, but each part of the project requires a separate grant application to the state. The Town Council must establish a building committee, authorize the preparation of schematics and drawings, and authorize filing of the grant application for each school.

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

The motion carried unanimously

2016-0174 Cutler Renovation Project

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

The motion carried unanimously

2016-0175 Consolidated Middle School Project

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

The motion carried unanimously

2015-0178 Noank School Public Gardens Task Force Semiannual Report

Discussed

Councilors received a copy of the resolution and guiding document establishing the Noank School Public Gardens Task Force. Councilor Watson noted that the agreement states the public gardens will be cost neutral. Town Manager Oefinger noted that if there were no agreement in place, the Town would still be cutting the grass at the site. The Task Force will reimburse the Town for any water costs. The Town will not mow around the Christmas trees that have been planted, as they are considered part of the gardens that are to be maintained by the Task Force. Councilor Nault feels the group should do their own mowing. She requested a referral to look at the maintenance costs to the Town, noting the cuts to the Parks and Recreation Department budget. The Town Manager recommended having a discussion with the Task Force before making any changes to the agreement. Councilor Peruzzotti suggested that when the Task Force makes major changes to the plan, such as planting Christmas trees, they should report it to the Town Council first. The consensus was to invite the Task Force to a Committee of the Whole meeting for a discussion.

2015-0184 Aquarion Water Tower - Northeast Academy Property

Discussed

Town Manager Oefinger noted that the Aquarion Water Tower proposed for the Northeast Academy Elementary School site has received site plan approval. They now need to formally request a permanent easement for the tower and a temporary construction easement, and the Town Manager expects they will do that shortly.

2016-0176 Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program - Additional Roads for Calendar Year 2016 - City of Groton

Discussed

Mayor Galbraith has indicated that one of the roads scheduled for repaving this year (Poquonnock Road) was bid within budget, but there are no funds for contingency. Ten percent of the project cost is \$17,901. Mayor Galbraith is requesting authorization to use funds remaining in

a FYE 2013 CIP project in the amount of \$29,000. By using the CIP money first, the City will use \$11,099 less of road bond money that will then be available for other projects.

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

The motion carried unanimously

7. Consideration of Committee Referral Items as per Town Council Referral List

None.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Mayor Flax questioned whose responsibility it is for plantings in front of the bookstore in downtown Mystic and Town Manager Oefinger stated he would check.

9. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

The motion carried unanimously.