



# 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, Greg Grim, Rich Moravsik, Karen F. Morton, Bonnie Nault, Deb Peruzzotti, and Harry A. Watson*

Tuesday, August 8, 2017

6:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

#### REGULAR MEETING

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

*Mayor Flax called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.*

2. **ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Mayor Flax, Councilor Barber, Councilor Grim, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Morton, Councilor Nault and Councilor Moravsik  
Members Absent: Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Watson

*Also present were Town Manager John Burt and Assistant to the Town Manager Nicki Bresnayan.*

3. **Calendar and Communications**

*Mayor Flax received a call regarding the Town's lack of a noise ordinance, which he will discuss with the Town Manager.*

4. **Approval of Minutes**

**2017-0194 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 July 18, 2017 and July 25, 2017 are hereby accepted and approved.

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

The motion carried unanimously

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*Councilor Nault asked for a referral on the exterior of the Shennecossett Golf Course Club House and Mayor Flax agreed.*

6. **NEW BUSINESS**

**2017-0005 Pending Litigation (2017 Standing Referral)**

A motion was made by Mayor Flax, seconded by Councilor Moravsik, that the members of the Town Council Committee of the Whole, Town Manager John Burt, Tax Assessor Mary Gardner, Finance Director Cindy Landry and Town Attorney Eric Callahan go into executive session at 6:04 p.m. pursuant to General Statutes Section 1-200 (6) (B) for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations related to pending litigation and/or pending claims concerning the tax appeal filed by Odd Fellows Home of Connecticut, Inc. d/b/a Fairview. At the appropriate time, the attorneys for Odd Fellow Home of Connecticut, Elliot Kaiman and James Rosenman, will also be invited into executive session.

The motion carried unanimously

Discussed

*The executive session ended at 8:05 p.m.*

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**2017-0190 Police Department - Update**

**Discussed and Recommended no action taken**

Chief L. J. Fusaro was present to review with the Council the status of body worn cameras; establishment of a task force on police training curriculum; policy updates; narcotics work; the traffic accident investigation team; the transition to new firearms; the police radio system; and options for the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD)/Record Management System (RMS) systems. Chief Fusaro responded to questions from Councilors. Monitoring and being proactive on the issue of carbon monoxide problems with Ford police vehicles.

**2017-0192 Enterprise Information Management System - Update****Discussed and Recommended no action taken**

Assistant to the Town Manager Nicki Bresnyan and Manager of Information Technology Brian Hancock were present to update the Council on the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) System initiatives including the Enterprise Information Management System (EIMS), Agenda.NET agenda management software, electronic agenda packet distribution, the Public Safety IT Master Plan, and the IT Steering Committee.

Mayor Flax asked for information on the status of the 2016 initiatives and the overall Master Plan, which Ms. Bresnyan stated she would provide to him.

**2017-0173 Participation in Joint Action Lawsuit Against Pharmaceutical Companies****Discussed and Recommended no action taken**

Town Manager Burt provided some background on the firm undertaking this lawsuit and noted that Pfizer has a minor connection to opioids. The Town Manager does not feel that the lawsuit will be helpful, and he does not recommend that the Town participate. Councilors concurred.

**2017-0193 Hiring Freeze****Discussed**

At the last Town Council meeting it was suggested that the Town have a hiring freeze. Town Manager Burt developed a draft proposal that would require the Town Manager and Mayor to sign off on filling vacant positions. He noted that the two enterprise funds should be excluded from the hiring freeze. Councilor Grim suggested including discretionary spending. Town Manager Burt has had discussions with the Director of Finance and would prefer to enact something like that internally. Discussion followed on the Town Council signing off by consensus (rather than the Mayor) and not through a formal resolution process. Councilor Grim read a revised draft resolution.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**7. Consideration of Committee Referral Items as per Town Council Referral List****2016-0178 Groton Heights School/Bill Memorial Library Land Swap**

**Recommended for Deletion**

**8. OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion was made by Councilor Nault, seconded by Councilor Barber, to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.*

*The motion carried unanimously.*