



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

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Town Clerk 860-441-6640  
Town Manager  
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## Meeting Minutes - Draft

### Town of Groton Resource Recovery Authority

Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Dean Antipas, Kathryn M. Brown-Tracy, Bruce S. Flax, Catherine Kolnaski, Deborah B. Monteiro, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Rita B. Schmidt, and Paulann H. Sheets

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Tuesday, September 22, 2009

8:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

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#### SPECIAL MEETING

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#### I. Roll Call

Members Present: Mayor Watson, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Brown-Tracy, Councilor Flax, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr. and Councilor Sheets  
Members Absent: Councilor Schmidt

*Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Assistant to the Town Manager Lee Vincent and Executive Assistant Nicki Bresnyan.*

*Mayor Watson called the meeting to order at 8:36 p.m.*

#### II. Approval of Minutes

##### 2009-0233 Approval of Minutes (Groton Resource Recovery Authority)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING GROTON RESOURCE RECOVERY AUTHORITY MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Groton Resource Recovery Authority meeting of August 12, 2008 are hereby accepted and approved.

**A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Votes:** In Favor: 5 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr. and Councilor Sheets  
Abstain: 3 - Councilor Antipas, Councilor Brown-Tracy and Councilor Flax

#### III. Public Comment

*None.*

#### IV. Communications

*None.*

#### V. Old Business

*None.*

#### VI. New Business

##### 2009-0224 Single Stream Recyclables Processing Agreement

**Discussed**

*Gary Schneider, Director of Public Works, explained that SCRRRA will cease its Flanders Road recycling operation at the end of October. Mr. Schneider described an agreement with Willimantic Waste Paper Company, Inc. for recyclables handling that would result in single stream collection. Municipally sponsored collection programs would be eligible for a \$5.00 per ton payment that would be prorated back to political subdivisions (City, Mystic Fire District, Noank Fire District, and Groton Long Point). The small number of Town residents served by private haulers would not be eligible for the rebate.*

*Discussion followed on details of the plan. There is no minimum required. Some contractors may choose not to drive to Willimantic and try to take recyclables to Preston, but the Authority has increased inspections for contaminated deliveries. There may be opportunities for smaller haulers to work with larger haulers to transfer loads. Recycling containers will be designated by the individual haulers.*

**RESOLUTION FOR CONVERSION TO SINGLE STREAM RECYCLABLE PROCESSING**

*WHEREAS, the Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resource Recovery Authority (SCRARRA) will close their recycling processing facility on Flanders Road as of October 31, 2009, and*

*WHEREAS, SCRARRA has reached an agreement with Willimantic Waste Paper (WWP) to dispose of certain recyclable materials from the Town of Groton, through a single stream recycling system, and*

*WHEREAS, single-stream recycling is widely understood to be more efficient and ecologically sound than prior recycling systems, and*

*WHEREAS, waste haulers, including the Town of Groton, will receive payments for each ton of materials delivered to WWP, now therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, that the Town Manager may execute the Single Stream Recyclable Processing Agreement with WWP for a term effective November 1, 2009 through October 31, 2014, and be it*

*FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Groton will make pro-rated pass-through payments to its political subdivisions in proportion to the tonnage of recyclables that the subdivisions deliver to WWP pursuant to this agreement.*

**A motion was made by Councilor Sheets, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried unanimously**

**2009-0225**

**Future Use of the Material Recycling Facility**

**Discussed**

*Gary Schneider, Director of Public Works noted that once SCRARRA abandons the recycling facility, the Town has six months to tell SCRARRA whether or not to level the building.*

*Mr. Schneider is asking for Town Council authorization to reuse the building to store catch basin cleanings. The Town will ask SCRARRA to leave the scale and dormer/shed structure. The office space is proposed for demolition and will not need to be replaced in the future. The facility can also be used as a temporary debris storage area. Discussion followed on the costs associated with retaining the building.*

**RESOLUTION REGARDING TOWN USE OF A RECYCLING FACILITY ON FLANDERS ROAD**

*WHEREAS, Southeastern Connecticut Regional Resources Recovery Authority (SCRARRA) has leased, from the Town of Groton, a building at the Town's Flanders Road Transfer Station since July 1, 1997, and SCRARRA will cease its use of that building and facility on October 31, 2009, and*

*WHEREAS, the lease provides that ownership and control of the premises revert to the Town of Groton, with SCRARRA being obligated to raze all structures on the leased premises at the request of the Town of Groton, and*

*WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works has surveyed the leased premises and finds that the main building would serve the Town well for the storage of disused electronic items and for the dewatering of cleanings from storm water catch basins until those materials can be taken to*

*appropriate final disposal, and*

*WHEREAS, the building to be retained is structurally sound, and a new equivalent facility would cost an estimated \$600,000, now therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, that the Town of Groton shall retain, for purposes designated by the Director of Public Works, the building on Flanders Road known as the Recycling Facility, and be it*

*FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Manager may proceed to require SCRRRA to demolish the attached office building and restore the grade level as provided for in the lease agreement with SCRRRA.*

**A motion was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Flax, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2009-0226**

**Setting Rates for Transfer Station Activities**

**Discussed**

*Gary Schneider, Director of Public Works, described the proposal to establish a fee to drain the fluids from lawnmowers and gas powered equipment if residents bring them to the solid waste facility not drained.*

*RESOLUTION APPROVING FEES FOR TRANSFER STATION SERVICES*

*WHEREAS, unwanted lawnmowers and other gasoline powered equipment may be left at the Flanders Road Residential Transfer Station provided that such machines be drained of all fluids, and*

*WHEREAS, it is difficult for many residents to complete the removal of petroleum and other fluids in a safe and environmentally sound manner, and*

*WHEREAS, it would be a service and convenience of value to residents for Public Works personnel to drain gas and oil from small machines and assure the proper disposal of such fluids as a stormwater best management practice and in compliance with standards of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, now therefore be it*

*RESOLVED, that pursuant to the authority of the Groton Resource Recovery Authority, the Town Manager may establish a drainage service fee of \$5 (five) dollars per unit for those units that are not drained before delivery to the Transfer Station.*

**A motion was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Monteiro, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously**

**VII. Adjournment**

*A motion was made by Councilor Sheets, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m.*

*The motion carried unanimously.*