



Town of Groton, Connecticut

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

Meeting Minutes

Representative Town Meeting

Moderator Scott L. Newsome, Representatives Karin Adams, Robert Bailey, Jeanne Baker, Joe Baril, Alicia T. Bauer, Rafael Burgos, Jr., Clarence Casper, Bobbi Jo Cini, Christine Conley, Lynn Crockett Hubbard, Susan Deane-Shinbrot, Luanne E. DeMatto, Jim Evans, Thomas A. Frickman, Bob Garcia, Nancy Gilly, Matthew G. Longino, Jim Loughlin, Emily Maher, Brandon Marley, Jackie Massett, Lisa McCabe, Bruce A. McDermott, Roscoe L. Merritt, Jim Nault, Kathy Neugent, Lian Obrey, Juliette M. Parker, Richard J. Pasqualini, Jr., Carolann Quinn, Dutcha Slieker-Hersant, Joan Steinfeld, Irma J. Streeter, James L. Streeter, Archie Swindell, Patricia Wagner, Lori A. Watrous, Gary Welles, Ivy R. Williams, and Jonathan Wilson.

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

7:30 PM

Groton Senior Center

REGULAR MEETING

Moderator Scott Newsome called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Moderator Newsome, Rep. Adams, Rep. Bailey, Rep. Baker, Rep. Baril, Rep. Bauer, Rep. Burgos, Jr., Rep. Casper, Rep. Cini, Rep. Conley, Rep. Deane-Shinbrot, Rep. Evans, Rep. Frickman, Rep. Garcia, Rep. Slieker-Hersant, Rep. Gilly, Rep. Loughlin, Rep. Marley, Rep. McCabe, Rep. McDermott, Rep. Merritt, Rep. Nault, Rep. Neugent, Rep. Obrey, Rep. Parker, Rep. Pasqualini Jr., Rep. Quinn, Rep. Steinfeld, Rep. Streeter, Rep. Streeter, Rep. Watrous, Rep. Welles and Rep. Wilson
Members Absent: Rep. Hubbard, Rep. DeMatto, Rep. Longino, Rep. Maher, Rep. Massett, Rep. Swindell, Rep. Wagner and Rep. Williams

He stated that 33 members were present and a quorum was declared.

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Town Clerk Office Assistant II Michael Thorpe.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The members observed a moment of silence followed by the Salute to the Flag.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2016

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rep. Pasqualini, seconded by Rep. Parker. The vote on approval of the minutes carried 31 in favor, 2 abstentions. Abstaining: Reps. Evans and Wilson.

D. CITIZENS' PETITIONS

Robert Martin, 23 Pegasus Drive, Groton, asked the RTM to continue their efforts to ensure Groton residents do not see a tax increase.

E. RECEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS

Moderator Newsome stated that Reps. DeMatto, Hubbard, Massett, Swindell, Wagner and Williams notified the Town Clerk of their absence.

Memorandum from Director of Planning and Development, Jonathan Reiner, notified the RTM that the Planning Commission has scheduled a public hearing for June 29, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in Community Room 1 at the Town Hall Annex to receive comments on the draft 2016 Plan of Conservation and Development.

Moderator Newsome read the Town Council referral 2016-0105 Resolution for FYE 2016 Fourth Quarter Transfers and referred the matter to the Finance Committee. He requested that the

Committee report to the full RTM with their recommendations at the June 8th, 2016 regular RTM meeting.

F. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

1. Financial report

Town Manager Mark Oefinger reported that the Fund Balance as of April 30, 2016 was approximately \$9.1 million. He reported that the General Contingency amount for FYE 2016 was appropriated at \$550,000 and pending transfers of \$337,296 (wage adjustments for CILU and PBA contract settlements) and \$212,704 (4th quarter transfers) will reduce the Contingency balance to zero. The Capital Reserve Fund balance as of April 30, 2016 is \$409,170.

2. Monthly briefing

Town Manager Mark Oefinger highlighted items from the Town Manager's News. He noted that the Town of Groton signed a contract with Tanko Streetlighting Inc. to conduct an audit of the Town-owned street lights and municipal parking lot lights. He added that the Town could save approximately \$60,000 annually by updating to LED technology. He mentioned that Terry Ziegler was the winner of the 2016 Edith B. Nettleton Award for outstanding volunteer service. He stated that there is a Copp Park Hike for Connecticut Trails Day 2016. The Town of Groton Conservation Commission will be hosting the hike at 821 Gold Star Highway on Saturday, June 4th at 9:30 a.m. The hike will be guided, open to the public and free of charge. He stated that the accounting firm Blum Shapiro has scheduled an audit of the Town's financial statements for the year ending June 30, 2016. He talked about the annual 4th of July Parade and stated that if anyone were interested in participating, they should contact Jerry Lokken, Manager of Recreation Services. He also stated that there will be a Farmer's Market at Washington Park that will be held on Tuesdays from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. July through October.

G. REPORT ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

None.

H. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

None.

I. LIAISON REPORTS

None.

Rep. Maher arrived, 34 members present.

J. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. FINANCE - Chairman Quinn

Temporary Chairman Conley read the minutes of the meeting held on May 11, 2016. Minutes are on file.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Rep. Conley, seconded by Rep. Pasqualini and so voted unanimously.

2016-0069 FYE 2016 Contingency Transfers - Wage Adjustments

RESOLUTION FOR FYE 2016 GENERAL CONTINGENCY TRANSFERS

WHEREAS, the Town Charter provides for General Contingency transfers during the year, and

WHEREAS, during FYE 2016 budget deliberations, labor agreements for the CILU-Telecommunicators and AFSCME-Supervisors employees had settled and those wage increases were included in a department's FYE 2016 Budget, and

WHEREAS, during FYE 2016 budget deliberations, labor agreements/pay plans were not known

and were not included in a department's budget for the remaining employee groups: CILU-Clerical, United Steelworkers-Parks/Public Works, Police and Non-Union, and

WHEREAS, wage increases for two of those groups (CILU-Clerical and Police) are now known and should be incorporated into a department's FYE 2016 budget through a General Contingency transfer, and

WHEREAS, during budget deliberations additional funds were added to the General Contingency in anticipation of wage adjustments occurring during the fiscal year for a total Contingency appropriation of \$550,000, and

WHEREAS, before this transfer is applied, the General Contingency has a balance of \$550,000, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that \$337,296 be transferred from the General Fund Contingency function (#1074) to the following General Fund departments/functions and referred to the RTM for approval:

Voter Registration #1003	\$975
Town Clerk #1005	\$4,169
Information Technology #1011	\$8,427
Finance #1013	\$18,867
Public Safety #1024	\$224,266
Public Works #1035	\$13,228
OPDS #1046	\$15,417
Human Services #1051	\$11,814
Library #1063	\$26,240
Parks & Recreation #1064	\$13,893

A motion was made by Rep. Conley, seconded by Rep. Neugent, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & SERVICES -Chairman Conley

No meeting, no report.

3. EDUCATION - Chairman Neugent

No meeting, no report.

4. RECREATION - Chairman Wilson

No meeting, no report.

5. PUBLIC SAFETY - Chairman McDermott

No meeting, no report.

6. PUBLIC WORKS - Chairman Deane-Shinbrot

No meeting, no report.

7. RULES & PROCEDURES - Chairman Massett

No meeting, no report.

J. BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

Responding to Rep. Neugent, Moderator Newsome stated that any plans for the reserved nights for additional budget sessions will depend on what is completed at tonight's session. He stated that the membership will be notified of any changes in the Annual Meeting schedule.

K. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

L. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Rep. Wilson, seconded by Rep. Pasqualini and so voted unanimously. Moderator Newsome adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk
Clerk of the RTM*

Michael Thorpe, Town Clerk Office Assistant II