



# 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

**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**

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Tuesday, April 5, 2011

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

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#### REGULAR MEETING

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#### I. ROLL CALL

*The meeting was called to order at 8:07 p.m. by Mayor Streeter.*

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Sheets and Councilor Watson

Members Absent: Councilor O'Beirne, Jr.

*Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Director of Administrative Services Doug Ackerman, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.*

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

*The Salute to the Flag was led by Director of Administrative Services Doug Ackerman.*

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

##### 2011-0084 Proclamation Honoring Frederick W. Palm, Jr.

Read

*The proclamation was read by Councilor Watson.*

##### 2011-0089 Proclamation Declaring April Autism Awareness Month

PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

Read

*The proclamation was read by Councilor Monteiro.*

#### PUBLIC HEARING:

##### 2010-0192 Interlocal Dispatching Agreement with North Stonington

Heard at Public Hearing

*Mayor Streeter called a recess for the Public Hearing at 8:12 p.m.*

*The Notice of Public Hearing pursuant to a resolution passed by the Town Council was read by Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher.*

*Mayor Streeter called for citizen comments; there being none, he closed the Public Hearing at 8:13 p.m.*

#### IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

*Genevieve Cerf, 17 Crescent Street, noted that Superintendent of Schools Paul Kadri stated that if Phase II passes he could achieve a 0% increase in the school budget for FYE 2012. She feels that the proposed increase without Phase II makes no sense. Ms. Cerf stated that with current economic conditions, it is the wrong time for Phase II or any budget increase. She urged the Council to keep the school budget at a 0% increase.*

#### V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

*None.*

## VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

### a. Approval of Minutes

#### 2011-0083 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of March 15, 2011 are hereby accepted and approved.

**This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

### b. Administrative Items

#### 2011-0075 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby accepts contributions to the Town as follows:

Thomas and Theresa Ammirati - \$25.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous

Big Red Memorial Fund - \$35.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Wal-Mart - \$1,000.00 - Police DARE Miscellaneous

SECADD Inc. - \$450.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

John Lawrence - \$500.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Barbara Weeman - \$10.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Various Donations - \$376.81- Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Groton Utilities Matching Funds - \$1,380.08 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

**This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.**

### c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

#### 2010-0244 Southeast Area Transit (SEAT) Service Cut

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - No further action on the Consent Calendar.**

#### 2011-0078 Annual RTM Budget Meeting

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

#### 2011-0047 Reappointment of Barbara Block to Inland Wetlands Agency

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

#### 2011-0049 Reappointment of Jackie Massett to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

#### 2011-0050 Reappointment of Susan Vincent to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

#### 2011-0051 Reappointment of Margil Steinfeld to Planning Commission

**This Matter was Deleted from Referral List - Action to be taken on the Consent Calendar.**

### Passed The Consent Calendar

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar.

The motion carried unanimously

## VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

### a. Town Councilors

*Councilors received communications regarding the FYE 2012 budget, a Blight Ordinance, the Mystic Streetscape Project, the Thames Street Rehabilitation Program Ordinance, and the Phase II School Facilities Program Ordinance.*

*Councilor Kolnaski attended the Senior Center Computer Coordinating Council meeting.*

*Councilor Sheets and Councilor Flax attended the Code of Ethics Task Force meeting.*

*Councilor Watson attended a Board of Education Technology Night, where the newest technology was demonstrated.*

*Councilor Watson and Mayor Streeter attended the Judson Avenue Drainage Public Information meeting.*

*Councilor Peruzzotti attended a meeting with representatives from outside agencies to review their budget requests.*

*Councilor Johnson attended a Sister Cities International Committee meeting.*

*Mayor Streeter attended a Council of Governments meeting, a Groton Business Association breakfast, and an American Legion meeting. The Mayor and the Town Manager gave a presentation about Groton's current conditions to the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Streeter attended Par Four restaurant's 25th Anniversary celebration, the installation of officers at the Groton Elks Club, and the memorial service for Southeastern Connecticut's Regional Probate Judge, the Honorable Frederick W. Palm, Jr.*

**b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting**

*The next regular meeting of the RTM will be on April 13, 2011, at the Groton Senior Center.*

**c. Clerk of the Council**

*No report.*

**d. Town Manager**

*The Town Manager stated that Director of Parks and Recreation John Silsby has submitted his resignation letter, effective June 30, 2011. Mr. Oefinger stated that libraries throughout Connecticut will be capturing a "snapshot" of usage on April 13, 2011. He noted that a series of free small business workshops will take place at the Groton Public Library as follows: "Financing Your Business" on April 6, 2011, "Government Contracting" on May 23, 2011, and "Starting Your Business" on June 8, 2011. The Town Manager stated that the grand reopening of the Survival System Training Simulation Theatre will be on April 14, 2011, and noted that the Mystic Highway Bridge will be closed to all traffic and pedestrians until April 8, 2011.*

**e. Town Attorney**

*No report.*

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Peruzzotti**

*No meeting, no report.*

**b. Economic Development - Chairman Johnson**

*No meeting, no report.*

**c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski**

*No meeting, no report.*

**d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Sheets**

*Councilor Sheets stated that there was a brief meeting on March 22, 2011.*

**e. Finance - Chairman O'Beirne**

*No meeting, no report.*

**f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman Flax**

*Councilor Flax read the minutes of March 1, 2011, and March 22, 2011, both of which are on file in the Town Clerk's Office. He noted that individuals coming up for reappointment will be interviewed by the committee.*

**g. Public Safety - Chairman Monteiro**

*No meeting, no report.*

**h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Watson**

*No meeting, no report.*

**i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Streeter**

*Mayor Streeter stated that the resolutions on tonight's agenda are a result of the last Committee of the Whole meeting. He stated that budget discussions have begun and will continue throughout March.*

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None.*

**X. NEW BUSINESS****2011-0078 Annual RTM Budget Meeting**

RESOLUTION SETTING RTM BUDGET MEETING DATE ON THE 2011-2012 ANNUAL TOWN BUDGET

WHEREAS, Section 9.3.1 of the Groton Town Charter requires that the Town Council determine the date for the annual budget meeting of the Representative Town Meeting, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Annual Budget Meeting of the Representative Town Meeting will be held on Thursday April 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Groton Senior Center, Newtown Road, Groton, Connecticut.

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

*The Town Manager reminded Councilors that a concern had been raised about April 28, 2011, as it is the last day that the Council has to approve its budget per the Town Charter. He noted that May 2, 2011, is the City Election and Town Referendum and that the only alternate date for this meeting is May 3, 2011, the last day permitted by Charter.*

*The Town Clerk remarked that a date needs to be finalized tonight to allow time for notice of the meeting to be published.*

*Councilor Monteiro stated that last year the Council did not approve its budget until the day before the deadline set by the Charter.*

*Councilor Peruzzotti stated that the budget schedule specifies April 19, 2011 as the last day for the Council to discuss the budget; therefore there is ample time for an additional meeting before the April 28th deadline.*

**The motion carried unanimously**

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*A motion to approve Resolutions 2011-0047 Reappointment of Barbara Block to Inland Wetlands Agency, 2011-0049 Reappointment of Jackie Massett to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors, 2011-0050 Reappointment of Susan Vincent to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors, and 2011-0051 Reappointment of Margil Steinfeld to Planning Commission was made by Councilor Flax, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski and so voted unanimously.*

**2011-0047 Reappointment of Barbara Block to Inland Wetlands Agency**

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING BARBARA BLOCK TO THE INLAND WETLANDS AGENCY

RESOLVED, that Barbara Block, 142 Bay View Avenue, Mystic is reappointed to the Inland Wetlands Agency for a term expiring 12/31/12.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2011-0049 Reappointment of Jackie Massett to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors**

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING JACKIE MASSETT TO THE LEDGE LIGHT HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLVED, that Jackie Massett, 78 Brandegee Avenue, is reappointed to the Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors for a term expiring 11/10/12.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2011-0050 Reappointment of Susan Vincent to Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors**

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING SUSAN VINCENT TO THE LEDGE LIGHT HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLVED, that Susan M. Vincent, 1 New London Road, Mystic, is appointed as a member of the Ledge Light Health District Board of Directors for a term ending 11/10/2013.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2011-0051 Reappointment of Margil Steinfeld to Planning Commission**

RESOLUTION REAPPOINTING MARGIL STEINFORD TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION

RESOLVED, that Margil L. Steinfeld, 32 Valley Road, is reappointed to the Planning Commission for a term ending 12/31/15.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*None.*

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Monteiro and so voted unanimously.*

*Attest:*

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Council*

*Lori Watrous, Office Assistant*