



# 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 Rita M. Schmidt, Councilors Dean Antipas, Genevieve Cerf, Joe de la Cruz, Bruce S. Flax, Bob Frink, Rich Moravsik, Deborah L. Peruzzotti and Harry A. Watson**

Tuesday, February 17, 2015

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

### REGULAR MEETING

#### I. ROLL CALL

*The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by Mayor Schmidt.*

*Also present were the Town Manager, Mark Oefinger, and the Town Clerk, Betsy Moukawsher.*

Members Present: Mayor Schmidt, Councilor Cerf, Councilor Flax, Councilor Frink, Councilor Moravsik, Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Watson and Councilor Antipas  
Members Absent: Councilor de la Cruz

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

*The Salute to the Flag was led by Councilor Frink.*

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

*None.*

*Councilor de la Cruz arrived at 7:40 pm.*

Members Present: Mayor Schmidt, Councilor Cerf, Councilor de la Cruz, Councilor Flax, Councilor Frink, Councilor Moravsik, Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Watson and Councilor Antipas

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

*None.*

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

*None.*

#### VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

##### a. Approval of Minutes

##### 2015-0038 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of February 3, 2015 are hereby accepted and approved.

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

##### b. Administrative Items

##### 2015-0027 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

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

Fitch Class of 1954 - \$400.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Aimee Allaire - \$4.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Benjamin Anderson - \$24.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Marc Casey - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Sandra Champion - \$9.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Marilyn Coffey - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Carl Conrad - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Michael Courter - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Nora Belle Durocher - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Judith Dunn - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Juan Duran - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Chinwe Erike - \$40.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
James Eskra - \$40.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Larry Grundy - \$15.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Margaret Harrison - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Elizabeth Hogan - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Lauren Huck - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Arnold Jordan, Sr. - \$15.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Pride Kelleles - \$6.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Heather King - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Lisa Knobloch - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Beverly I. Lavalley - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Eric Martin - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Rebecca Martin - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Amy Matteson - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Emily Nelson - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Katherine A. Roschmann - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Penelope Simmons - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Katy M. Stoddard - \$6.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Jennifer Stone - \$25.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Lawrence Taylor - \$1.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Merin Troutman - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Arianna Turello - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Johanna Ward - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Katherine Wilhelm - \$40.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Jeanne M. Yellow robe - \$2.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Marsha Zimmermann - \$30.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Katherine Zod - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Emily Burke - \$13.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Patricia Carrigan - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Eileen Cicchese - \$31.74 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Karen Colgan - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Jane W. Coutu - \$60.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Diane Darling - \$12.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Susan Decorte-Mcmillan - \$2,500.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Kelsey A. Fournier - \$200.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Mark Fournier - \$100.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Heather Frost - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Patricia Garcia - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Lillian Green - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Catherine Hoffman - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Secadd Inc. - \$500.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Arnold Jordan, Sr. - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
James Ledwidge - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Janet Ledwidge - \$12.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Heather Main - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Elizabeth Marshall - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Andrew Milnarik - \$25.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Eric Motin - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Emily Nelson - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Nina Nelson - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Knights of Columbus - \$300.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Daniel Pineault - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Joanne Spellane - \$25.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Barbara Strother - \$105.80 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Phyllis Walsh - \$190.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Wesley Williams - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Lillian Zabinsky - \$400.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Neil Zabinsky - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Kirsti Zarn - \$52.81 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Mayra Zayas-Mendin - \$56.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Marsha Zimmermann - \$25.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Noank Rowing - \$3,000.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Arthur and Jean Jerbert - \$40.00 - Groton Utilities Assistance Program  
 Anne-Marie Quagliaroli - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Assistance Program  
 Fred and Gail Yeo - \$150.00 - Groton Utilities Assistance Program  
 City of Groton - \$864.33 - Groton Utilities Assistance Program  
 Dr. and Mrs. Albert Chiang in memory of Mrs. Freda Kateley - \$120.00 - Library Miscellaneous  
 Old Mystic Fire Department - \$57.00 - Social Services Discretionary  
 Lee Vincent - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary  
 Annette and Theodore Ainslie - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Ann Aulabaugh - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Robert and Phyllis Boggs - \$12.49 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Charles Dautre - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 David and Deborah Downes - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Geoffrey Fairbairn - \$100.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 John Hamilton - \$100.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Lisa Money penny - \$100.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 John and Anne Potter - \$30.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Donald and Charlotte Quigley - \$30.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Virginia Richards - \$30.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Sara Stapleton - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Barbara Weeman - \$13.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 Pfizer United Way Campaign - \$24.00 - Library Miscellaneous  
 Mystic Photography Group - \$25.00 - Library Miscellaneous

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

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

**2014-0340 Building 114 - Request for Financial Incentive**

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

**2015-0028 Master Municipal Agreement for the Readjustment, Relocation, and/or Removal of Utility Facilities**

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

**2015-0035 Authorization to Prepare a Bond Ordinance for Fishtown Road Pump Station Rehabilitation/Effluent Pump Station Refurbishment**

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

**2015-0036 Public Hearing on Small Cities Community Development Block Grant 2015 Application**

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

**2015-0037 Resolution in Support of a Groton-New London Airport Development Zone**

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

**2015-0039 Telecommunicators Collective Bargaining Agreement**

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 Moravsik, to adopt the Consent Calendar, including all the preceding items marked as having been adopted on the Consent Calendar. The motion carried unanimously

**VII. COMMUNICATIONS & REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)****a. Town Councilors**

*Councilor Antipas attended the Town Council Finance Committee meeting that was held at 6:00 pm this evening.*

*Councilor Cerf attended the Town Council Finance Committee meeting earlier this evening and the Client First meeting on February 5, 2015. On January 23, 2015, she attended the meeting where the committee finished interviewing consultants to conduct a market analysis.*

*Councilor Flax attended the BOE/Town & City Councils/RTM Liaison Committee meeting. He reported that he received a call from an Ashby Street resident regarding snow plowing.*

*Councilor Frink attended the Legislative Policy interviews, interviewing consultants to conduct a market analysis on January 23, 2015. He reported that they have selected a top running firm to perform that analysis. He attended a Economic Development Commission meeting on February 5, 2015, the School Facility Initiative Task Force meeting on February 12, 2015. He also attended the Town Council Finance Committee meeting this evening.*

*Councilor Moravsik attended the Town Council Finance Committee meeting this evening.*

*Councilor Watson attended the Town Council Finance Committee meeting this evening, the BOE/Town & City Councils/RTM Liaison Committee meeting, and the School Facility Initiative Task Force meeting on February 12, 2015,*

*Mayor Schmidt reported that she attended a meeting at L & M in reference to the cost of paramedics. She attended the School Facility Initiative Task Force meeting on February 12, 2015, the February 11, 2015 RTM meeting, and she received calls regarding snow plowing and some personal situations.*

*Councilor de la Cruz reported that he attended the School Facility Initiative Task Force meeting on February 12, 2015,*

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

*The Clerk of the RTM reported that the RTM met on February 11, 2015 and referred one item to the Finance Committee. The RTM will meet to discuss that referral at their March meeting.*

**c. Clerk of the Council****d. Town Manager**

*The Town Manager reported that a parcel of property that the Town Council had been interested in submitting for an Open Space application was not available at this time. He explained the Grand List that Mary Gardner forwarded to the Council. The report shows a drop due to the buildings that Pfizer tore down. Approximately \$1.8 million or a 2.1% reduction is a direct result of the loss of those buildings. He commented on the snow removal budget and detailed the trouble communities are experiencing with salt deliveries. He anticipates that there will be a request for a fourth quarter transfer to cover the budget shortfalls for snow removal and salt stores. He discussed with the Council potential items for the next Committee of the Whole meeting.*

*Representatives from the Poquonnock Bridge Fire Department are scheduled to attend to discuss PIOLT funds. A referral from Parks and Recreation with some suggested changes for golf course rates at Shennecossett, mooring fees for the Mystic River, and the Sisiky Property will also be on the agenda. He asked if there was any desire to put the Open Space application back on the agenda, referring to a few properties, including the 13.5 acre Shepherd of the Sea property.*

*Councilor Cerf asked that the Open Space application be added to the next COW agenda so that they can thoroughly discuss the properties.*

*In response to Councilor Cerf's question, the Town Manger read the invitation to an Oscar Awards Night hosted by Windham Falls.*

## VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### a. Community Relations - Chairman de la Cruz

*No meeting, no report.*

### b. Finance - Chairman Frink

*Chairman Frink reported that the Finance Committee met this evening and that he will give his report at the next meeting.*

### c. Personnel & Appointments - Chairman Flax

*No meeting, no report.*

### d. Rules - Chairman Frink

*No meeting, no report.*

### e. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Schmidt

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

### 2014-0340 Building 114 - Request for Financial Incentive

RESOLUTION APPROVING A TWO-YEAR FIXED ASSESSMENT AGREEMENT FOR THOMAS GREEN FOR FORMER PFIZER BUILDING 114

WHEREAS, the Groton Town Council, on February 10, 1999, established by resolution its Financial Incentive Policy, which provides that the Town may offer tax and other financial incentives to encourage quality development when the Town Council deems such action to be in the best interest of the community, and

WHEREAS, the purchase and proposed improvements of the property at 23 Eastern Point Road by Thomas Green will revitalize the Building 114 complex which has been vacant for more than three years and is deteriorating, and

WHEREAS, as a result of current and future investments totaling over \$2 million it is anticipated that Mr. Green will create space for small to mid-sized biotech, therapeutic or pharmaceutical companies and create jobs, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council considered different scenarios for a two-year program for a Fixed Assessment Agreement as follows:

WHEREAS, the Town Council held a public hearing concerning the requested Fixed Assessment Agreement and considered different scenarios for a two-year program, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council grants to Thomas Green a 100% Fixed Assessment Agreement in Year 1 and a 100% Fixed Assessment Agreement in Year 2, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger may enter into an agreement with

the property owner/developer to assure that all terms and conditions of the granted financial incentives will be met.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2015-0028**

**Master Municipal Agreement for the Readjustment, Relocation, and/or Removal of Utility Facilities**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN A MASTER AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT FOR READJUSTMENT, RELOCATION, AND/OR REMOVAL OF UTILITY FACILITIES

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation has revised the Master Agreement for the Readjustment, Relocation, and/or Removal of Utility Facilities on Highway Projects, and

WHEREAS, in order for the Town to be reimbursed for the readjustment, relocation, and/or removal of utility facilities on highway projects by the Connecticut Department of Transportation, a revised agreement must be signed by an officer of the Town who is authorized to execute the agreement and bind the municipality, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Mark R. Oefinger, Town Manager, is authorized to execute the Master Agreement between the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation and the Town of Groton for the Readjustment, Relocation, and/or Removal of Utility Facilities on Highway Projects.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2015-0035**

**Authorization to Prepare a Bond Ordinance for Fishtown Road Pump Station Rehabilitation/Effluent Pump Station Refurbishment**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PREPARATION OF A BOND ORDINANCE AND OTHER RESOLUTIONS FOR FISHTOWN ROAD PUMP STATION REHABILITATION/EFFLUENT PUMP STATION REFURBISHMENT

WHEREAS, the Town Council has reviewed a proposal to rehabilitate the Fishtown Road pump station and refurbish the effluent pump station at the Water Pollution Control Facility, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council considers it appropriate to present the project to the Town's voters in a bond referendum, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town staff and the Town bond attorney are authorized to prepare a bond ordinance to be introduced by the Town Council, along with other resolutions as necessary.

**A motion was made by Councilor Moravsik, seconded by Councilor Watson, that this matter be Adopted.**

*In response to Councilor Cerf's comments, the Town Manager assured the Town Council that details for all the costs involved with this project will be included in the explanatory text.*

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2015-0036**

**Public Hearing on Small Cities Community Development Block Grant 2015 Application**

RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SMALL CITIES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT 2015 APPLICATION

RESOLVED, that the Town Council will hold a public hearing on the Town of Groton's Small Cities Community Development Block Grant 2015 Application on Tuesday, March 3, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall Annex, Community Room 1.

A motion was made by Councilor Cerf, seconded by Councilor Moravsik, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

**2015-0037 Resolution in Support of a Groton-New London Airport Development Zone**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A GROTON-NEW LONDON AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT ZONE

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council expresses its support for the creation of a Groton-New London Airport Development Zone.

A motion was made by Councilor Frink, seconded by Councilor Moravsik, that this matter be Adopted.

*Councilor Cerf explained that she had voted against this resolution in Committee of the Whole because she had concerns with the sequence of events. She believes that the Council should not go to the Legislators before getting approval from the State Department of Economic Development. The Town Manager explained that the purpose of this resolution is to show support for the legislation that is being purposed on behalf of Groton. He went on to say that the boundary for the Airport Zone must be delineated in order to finalize the economic assessment which is what the DECE is looking for.*

The motion carried unanimously

**2015-0039 Telecommunicators Collective Bargaining Agreement**

RESOLUTION APPROVING GROTON TELECOMMUNICATORS ASSOCIATION/UNITED ELECTRICAL LOCAL 222, CONNECTICUT INDEPENDENT LABOR UNION LOCAL 86, INC., AFFILIATED WITH UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO AND MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA, COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton and the Groton Telecommunicators Association/United Electrical Local 222, Connecticut Independent Labor Union Local 86, Inc., Affiliated with United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, reached a tentative agreement on a successor collective bargaining agreement for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018, and

WHEREAS, the bargaining unit membership voted to approve the agreement, and

WHEREAS, approval is recommended by the Town's negotiators, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Groton Town Council hereby approves agreement and the expenditure of funds necessary to implement the agreement between the Town and the Groton Telecommunicators Association/United Electrical Local 222, Connecticut Independent Labor Union Local 86, Inc., Affiliated with United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2018.

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

The motion carried unanimously

**X. OTHER BUSINESS**

*None.*

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion to adjourn at 7:59 pm was made by Councilor Watson and so taken.*

*Attest:*

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Council*