



Town of Groton, Connecticut

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Town Clerk 860-441-6640
Town Manager
860-441-6630

Meeting Minutes

Town Council

Mayor Patrice Granatosky, Councilor David Atwater, Councilor Conrad F. Heede, Councilor Rachael Franco, Councilor Rich Moravsik, Councilor Lian Obrey, Councilor Juliette Parker, Councilor Rita Schmidt, and Councilor Joe Zeppieri

Wednesday, March 28, 2018

7:00 PM

Groton Senior Center

SPECIAL MEETING - FYE 2019 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Granatosky called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher read the roll call.

I. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Granatosky, Councilor Atwater, Councilor Franco, Councilor Heede, Councilor Moravsik, Councilor Obrey, Councilor Parker, Councilor Schmidt and Councilor Zeppieri

Also present were Town Manager John Burt, members of the Board of Education, and Superintendent of Schools Michael Graner.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Salute to the Flag was lead by RTM Moderator Syma Ebbin.

III. INTRODUCTION OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Town Councilors and Board of Education members introduced themselves.

IV. READING OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Town Clerk Moukawsher read the call for the Public Hearing that had appeared in The Day newspaper on March 16, 2018 and that was posted on the Town website.

V. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

a. Town Manager

b. Superintendent of Schools

Town Manager John Burt gave a brief overview of Town Operations for the FYE 2019 Proposed Budget.

b. Superintendent of Schools

Board of Education Chair Kim Shepardson Watson and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Graner gave a brief overview of the proposed Board of Education FYE 2019 Budget.

VI. OPENING OF PUBLIC HEARING

Sue Aberbach, 19 Tautog Street, presented herself as the President of the Circle of Friends of the Groton Public Library. She urged the Town Council to support the proposed Library budget.

Brendan Woolrich, 2 Gallup Street, urged the Town Council to support the Parks and Recreation proposed budget and the purchase of the beach grooming machine for Esker Point beach.

Jeff Cummings, 338 Colonel Ledyard Highway, advocated support for the Parks and Recreation proposed budget and the purchase of the beach grooming machine for Esker Point Beach.

John Watson, 215 Elm Street, urged the Town Council to support the Parks and Recreation proposed budget and the purchase of the beach grooming machine for Esker Point beach. Statement on file in the Clerk's office.

Pamela Tankard, 168 Indian Field, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Library budget.

Andrew Mierta, 11 Carol Court, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget.

Catherine Young, 14 Bushnell Street, stated that she is the Chair of the Economic Development Commission. She stated that the Economic Development Commission supports the proposed budget for the Office of Planning and Development Services. She urged the Town Council to support this budget.

Clare Rogers, 138 Payer Lane, Mystic, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget. Statement on file in the Clerk's office.

Fred Kent, 120 Warren Avenue, urged the Town Council to give serious examination to the management of our schools..

Daniel Gaiewski, 136 Ocean View Avenue, Mystic, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget. Statement on file in the Clerk's office.

Mitchell Shapiro-Albert, 31 Seguin Drive, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget. Statement on file in the Clerk's office.

Andrea Frickman, 61 Warren Avenue, Mystic, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget. Statement on file in the Clerk's office.

Rosanne Kotowski, 24 Ann Avenue, stated that she is a memeber of the RTM representing District 5. She stated that she would like the Town Council and RTM to pass the budget with a zero tax increase.

Jen Egan, 52 Brookview Court, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget.

Mike Whitney, 112 Deerfield Ridge Drive, announced that he is a RTM Representative from District 5 and that he is the Chair of the Education Committee. He urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget.

Katie Jones, 12 Rhonda Drive, Mystic, stated that she has two children with special needs in the Groton Public School system. She urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget.

Cindy Fan, 15 Denison Avenue, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget.

Judy Munro, 23 Ice House Lane, Mystic, urged the Town Council to restore support for the Mystic and Noank Library.

Portia Bordelon, 159 Shennecossett Parkway, stated that she is a RTM Representative for District 2. She encouraged the Board of Education to continue to fund and support children with special needs, IEP's, and 504's in the school district. She asked for an explanation of the budget codes in the proposed Board of Education budget.

Tim Pratt, 1288 River Road, Mystic, stated his support for the Town to continue to fund the Jabez Smith House Museum.

Lea Kennedy, 152 Cedar Road, Mystic, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget.

Gretchen Chipperini, 87 Phoenix Drive, urged the Town Council to not increase the property tax.

Francis Whitney, 112 Deerfield Ridge Drive, Mystic, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget.

Chris Regan, 20 Finlay Way, Stonington, stated that his family owns the Groton Shopping Plaza. He urged the Town Council to not keep raising taxes.

Naomi Greene, 20 Westwood, urged the Town Council to support the proposed Board of Education budget.

Kevin Trejo, 536 Shennecossett Road, urged the Town Council to be fair with everybody.

Natalie Billing, 15 Ashley Street, Mystic, urged the Town Council to decrease the proposed budget and review the proposed Board of Education budget.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Granatosky stated that there were no other speakers for the Public Hearing. She adjourned the Public Hearing at 8:40 pm.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher
Groton Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*

Brooke Myers, Office Asst., II