



# 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 Heather Bond Somers, Councilors Dean G. Antipas, Bruce S. Flax, Bill Johnson, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Deborah L. Peruzzotti, Rita M. Schmidt, James L. Streeter, and Harry A. Watson**

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Tuesday, April 3, 2012

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 7:35 p.m. by Mayor Somers.*

Members Present: Mayor Somers, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Flax, Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Schmidt, Councilor Streeter and Councilor Watson

Members Absent: Councilor Johnson and Councilor O'Beirne, Jr.

*Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds Wes Greenleaf, Permanent School Building Committee Chairman Enrico DeMatto, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.*

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

*The Salute to the Flag was led by Enrico DeMatto.*

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

##### 2012-0092 Proclamation Honoring Catherine Kolnaski

Read

*The proclamation was read by Councilor Streeter.*

#### 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

##### 2012-0104 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of March 20, 2012 are hereby accepted and approved.

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

##### b. Administrative Items

##### 2012-0097 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

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

Charles Rogers - \$25.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Lee Vincent - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Dale McKay in memory of Margaret Frase - \$100.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous

James and Carol Case in memory of Margaret Frase - \$25.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous

Patrick and Loretta Michaud in memory of Margaret Frase - \$25.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous  
Louise Flynn in memory of Margaret Frase - \$25.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous  
Marion Sullivan in memory of Margaret Frase - \$25.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous  
John and Marion Sullivan in memory of Margaret Frase - \$50.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous  
City of Groton - \$377.87 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Theodore and Annette Ainslie - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Marie Andersen - \$5.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Maria and Johnny Armaos - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
June Barrack - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Katherine and James Bodle - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Robert and Phyllis Boggs - \$9.20 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program (GAP)  
Raymond and Virginia Bousquet - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program (GAP)  
Dale Brazee - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Julia Campisi - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Edward Card - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Felipe and Irene Castro - \$5.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Andrew Ciminera - \$5.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Elizabeth Colson - \$15.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Timothy and Allyn Donnah - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Henry and Patricia Durham - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Joan Feeney - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Martine Flory - \$5.03 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Jackson Foley - \$150.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Lynne Griffin - \$200.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Richard Grudzinski - \$100.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Charles and Rosemary Hall - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
John Hamilton - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Darrell and Dorothy Haynes - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Paul and Dorothy Huber - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Raymond Hudson - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Stanley Kapolowicz - \$5.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Charles and Janet Kepner - \$15.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Armand and Nancy Morin - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Linwood and Barbara Navarro - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Patricia Pearce - \$30.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Richard and Melinda Richardson - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Roberta and Mona Szegda - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Sadie Tremblay - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Joyce Turgeon - \$30.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Tomie Tylenda - \$2.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Gail Tyler - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Kathleen and David Vanner \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Watrous Properties - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Barbara Weeman - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
James White - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Michael White - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Xavier Wiggins - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Anne Wimsey - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Rosa Wyeth - \$2.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
TVCCA (Energy Assistance Program) - \$3,000 - Social Services Discretionary  
Vincent Juliano - \$30.00 - Library Miscellaneous  
Susan Decorte McMillan - \$250.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
J. L. Becke - \$50.00 - Library Miscellaneous

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

*The Mayor thanked contributors and made a correction.*

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

**2011-0249 Economic Development Commission Goals**

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

**2012-0083 Department of Education Youth and Family Services Funding**

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

**2012-0084 Department of Education Youth Services Enhancement Grant**

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

**2012-0085 Supportive Housing Program Grant**

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

**2012-0062 Groton Heights School Reuse Task Force Final Report**

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

**2012-0086 Allocation of CIP Funds to Poquonnock Bridge Fire Department for Grant Local Match**

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

**2012-0087 West Side Middle School Portable Classroom Unit**

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

**2012-0088 Carl C. Cutler Middle School Portable Classroom Units**

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

**2012-0089 Mary Morrisson Asbestos Floor Tile Removal**

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

**2012-0090 Fitch High School Roof Replacement**

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

**2012-0102 Application for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for Highway Garage**

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

**2012-0103 Amended Agreement Regarding Fitch High School Baseball Field**

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

**2012-0107 Letter of Support for Raised Bill No. 66, An Act Concerning Economic Development**

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 Schmidt, 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 attended a celebration honoring Catherine Kolnaski, participated in the Mystic Irish Parade, and received emails regarding the revaluation and the Board of Education budget.*

*Councilor Watson announced that a Town Council/Board of Education/RTM Liaison Committee meeting will be held on April 4, 2012.*

*Mayor Somers rode along with the driver who delivers Meals on Wheels to local senior citizens, and attended the Elks Club installation ceremony for new officers.*

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

*The Town Clerk noted that the next RTM meeting will be held on April 11, 2012, at the Senior Center.*

**c. Clerk of the Council**

*The Town Clerk stated that absentee ballots are available at the Town Clerk's Office for the Republican Presidential Preference Primary for those citizens that are registered with the Republican party. Ms. Moukawsher also mentioned that all Town offices will be closed on Good Friday, April 6, 2012.*

**d. Town Manager**

*The Town Manager noted that the Council will resume its budget discussions on April 5, 2012. He also highlighted items from the weekly status report.*

**e. Town Attorney**

*No report.*

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS****a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Schmidt**

*A report for the meeting held on March 27, 2012, will be presented at the next Town Council meeting.*

**b. Economic Development - Chairman Johnson**

*No meeting, no report.*

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

*No meeting, no report.*

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

*No meeting, no report.*

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

*No meeting, no report.*

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

*No meeting, no report.*

**g. Public Safety - Chairman Streeter**

*A report for the meeting held on March 27, 2012, will be presented at the next Town Council meeting.*

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

*No meeting, no report.*

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

*The resolutions on tonight's agenda are a result of the Committee of the Whole meeting. Mayor Somers noted that the Permanent School Building Committee will oversee consolidation of the middle schools.*

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None.*

**X. NEW BUSINESS****2012-0083 Department of Education Youth and Family Services Funding**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FYE 2013 YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES FUNDING

services will benefit at-risk Groton youth and their families and

WHEREAS, funding is available from the State of Connecticut Department of Education to supplant a portion of the salaries of Groton Youth and Family Services Counselors who provide intervention and prevention services for at-risk Groton youth, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, or his designee, is authorized to file an application with the State of Connecticut Department of Education (DOE) for FYE 13 municipal youth services funding in an amount to be determined by the DOE and to amend contractual agreements for such funding to ensure continuation of short-term counseling, crisis intervention and prevention and support programs for Groton youth and families.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0084**

**Department of Education Youth Services Enhancement Grant**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER OR HIS DESIGNEE TO APPLY TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FYE 2013 YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING

WHEREAS, The State of Connecticut Department of Education offers Enhancement Grant program funding to municipally-based Connecticut youth services programs for supplies and related expenses connected with programs and activities which directly and indirectly benefit Groton youth and families in areas such as youth enrichment, outreach programs, general support and positive youth development, and

WHEREAS, Groton Youth and Family Services has demonstrated its success in providing youth enrichment, outreach programs, general support and positive youth development, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, or his designee, is authorized to apply for and contract with the State of Connecticut Department of Education (DOE) for FYE 2013 Youth Services Enhancement Grant program funding in an amount to be determined by the DOE.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0085**

**Supportive Housing Program Grant**

RESOLUTION APPROVING TVCCA/HUD SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM GRANT

WHEREAS, homelessness is being addressed on several fronts by numerous programs but remains an ongoing problem for Groton and neighboring communities, and

WHEREAS, homeless persons with disabilities and homeless families in which at least one member is disabled require extensive counseling, support and case management services, and

WHEREAS, the Supportive Housing Program, operated by TVCCA as the grantee of record with the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, provides funding to enable agencies and municipalities to provide counseling, support and case management services via participation in the Housing Collaborative Network, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, to enter into an agreement with Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. to accept grant funding in the amount of \$9,000 (or such an amount to be specified) to conduct a Supportive Housing Program in Groton for the period of February 1, 2012 through January 31, 2013 and to utilize said funding to supplant a portion of the salaries and related fringe benefits of selected Groton Human Services staff, who shall provide counseling, support and case management services to the

specified Groton client population via participation in the Housing Collaborative Network.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0062**

**Groton Heights School Reuse Task Force Final Report**

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE REPORT OF THE GROTON HEIGHTS SCHOOL REUSE TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, the Town Council established the Groton Heights School Reuse Task Force in September 2007 to determine the statutory and other limitations on the Groton Heights property; inventory community needs that could be accommodated at Groton Heights; make a recommendation as to whether or not the property should be permanently disposed of as surplus or reused to meet other public needs or leased to an outside concern; and recommend a plan to solicit reuse proposals for Town Council review; and

WHEREAS, starting in October 2010 the Task Force met numerous times, received public input, and conducted a community-wide survey regarding the school and its potential demolition or reuse, and

WHEREAS, the Task Force presented its final report and recommendation to the Town Council on February 28, 2012, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council thanks the Groton Heights School Reuse Task Force members for their effort and accepts the final report of the Task Force.

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

*Councilor Streeter stated that after the Council finishes its budget deliberations, the Committee of the Whole should discuss these recommendations.*

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0086**

**Allocation of CIP Funds to Poquonnock Bridge Fire Department for Grant Local Match**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUNDS TO SERVE AS THE MATCHING LOCAL FUNDING TO OBTAIN FEDERAL GRANT FUNDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE TOWN'S FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE RADIO SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton has allocated \$165,000 in the FYE 2011 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) and \$165,000 in the FYE 2012 Capital Improvement Program to improve and re-design the Town's radio system serving all of the fire and ambulance services serving the Town of Groton to meet narrow banding requirements of the Federal Communications Commission, and

WHEREAS, this project to upgrade and narrow band the fire/ambulance radio system began with a partnership between the Town and Groton's Fire Departments approximately five years ago and has been funded by the Town of Groton Federal grants awarded to five of Groton's Fire Districts, and

WHEREAS, on behalf of all of the fire and ambulance services in Groton the Poquonnock Bridge Fire District applied for and received \$748,896 in FEMA Assistance to Firefighter Grant funds toward the total project cost of \$936,120 to complete the radio system upgrade, and

WHEREAS, the Assistance to Firefighter Grant requires a twenty percent match of local funding in the amount of \$187,224 to receive the grant funds, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes \$187,224 of the available \$330,000 in CIP funds to

serve as the local match in order for the Poquonnock Bridge Fire District to receive \$748,896 in federal grant funding to complete the upgrade to the fire/ambulance radio system operated by the Town of Groton.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0087**

**West Side Middle School Portable Classroom Unit**

RESOLUTION ON WEST SIDE MIDDLE SCHOOL PORTABLE CLASSROOM UNIT

WHEREAS, the Groton Board of Education has determined that a portable classroom unit is needed at West Side Middle School to provide space for a projected increase in enrollment due to consolidation of middle schools from three to two, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council authorizes the Groton Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the proposed project to install one double portable classroom (two classrooms) at West Side Middle School, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Permanent School Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the proposed project to install one double portable classroom (two classrooms) at West Side Middle School, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council hereby authorizes the preparation of drawings and specifications for the proposed project to install one double portable classroom (two classrooms) at West Side Middle School.

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

*Mayor Somers stated that the Permanent School Building Committee has been appointed to oversee this project. Its meetings will be open to the public.*

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0088**

**Carl C. Cutler Middle School Portable Classroom Units**

RESOLUTION ON CARL C. CUTLER MIDDLE SCHOOL PORTABLE CLASSROOM UNITS

WHEREAS, the Groton Board of Education has determined that two portable classroom units are needed at Carl C. Cutler Middle School to provide space for a projected increase in enrollment due to consolidation of middle schools from three to two, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council authorizes the Groton Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the proposed project to install two double portable classrooms (four classrooms) at Cutler Middle School, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Permanent School Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the proposed project to install two double portable classrooms (four classrooms) at Cutler Middle School, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council hereby authorizes the preparation of drawings and specifications for the proposed project to install two double portable classrooms (four classrooms) at Cutler Middle School.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0089**

**Mary Morrisson Asbestos Floor Tile Removal**

RESOLUTION ON MARY MORRISSON ASBESTOS FLOOR TILE REMOVAL

be abated and replaced at Mary Morrisson Elementary School, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council authorizes the Groton Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the proposed project to remove and replace all asbestos containing floor tile in Mary Morrisson Elementary School, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Permanent School Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the proposed project to remove and replace all remaining asbestos containing floor tile in Mary Morrisson Elementary School, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council hereby authorizes the preparation of drawings and specifications for the proposed project to remove and replace all remaining asbestos containing floor tile in Mary Morrisson Elementary School.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0090**

**Fitch High School Roof Replacement**

RESOLUTION ON FITCH HIGH SCHOOL ROOF REPLACEMENT

WHEREAS, the Groton Board of Education has determined that the roof over the south-west area of Fitch High School must be replaced, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council authorizes the Groton Board of Education to apply to the Commissioner of Education and to accept or reject a grant for the proposed project to remove and replace roofing material on the south-west area of Fitch High School, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Permanent School Building Committee is hereby established as the building committee with regard to the proposed project to remove and replace roofing material on the south-west area of Fitch High School, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council hereby authorizes the preparation of drawings and specifications for the proposed project to remove and replace roofing material on the south-west area of Fitch High School.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2012-0105**

**Referral to Planning Commission Under CGS 8-24 of TVCCA Lease of 38 Central Avenue**

RESOLUTION REFERRING TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION A PROPOSED LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PREMISES AT 38 CENTRAL AVENUE

WHEREAS, the Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA) has provided daycare programs and other needed social services to Groton residents in cooperation with the Town of Groton, and

WHEREAS, TVCCA currently leases from the Town of Groton the premises at 36 and 40 Central Avenue where TVCCA operates children's programs, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council desires to enter into a lease with TVCCA for 38 Central Avenue for daycare purposes, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council refers the proposed lease of Town property at 38 Central Avenue to the Groton Planning Commission, pursuant to CGS 8-24.

A motion was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted and Referred to the Planning Commission.

The motion carried unanimously

**2012-0106 Public Hearing on TVCCA Lease of 38 Central Avenue**

RESOLUTION SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING ON A PROPOSED LEASE OF TOWN PROPERTY TO TVCCA

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council will hold a public hearing as per CGS Sec. 7-163e on a proposed lease of Town-owned premises at 38 Central Avenue to the Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA) on Tuesday, May 1, 2012, at 7:30 p.m., at Town Hall Annex, Community Room 1.

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

The motion carried unanimously

**2012-0098 Approval of Lease with TVCCA for a Daycare Center at Former Community Policing Building**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH TVCCA FOR THE PREMISES AT 38 CENTRAL AVENUE

WHEREAS, the Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA) has provided daycare programs and other needed social services to Groton residents in cooperation with the Town of Groton, and

WHEREAS, TVCCA current leases from the Town of Groton the premises at 36 and 40 Central Avenue where TVCCA operates children's programs, and

RESOLVED, that Mark R. Oefinger, Groton Town Manager, may execute a lease of the premises at 38 Central Avenue to TVCCA for daycare purposes for a term ending April 30, 2017.

**Tabled**

*The Town Manager stated that prior to signing a lease with TVCCA, it must be referred to the Planning Commission; and, by State statute, a public hearing must be held when the Town wishes to lease to an entity it has not leased to previously.*

*By consensus the Council deferred this resolution to a later date.*

**2012-0102 Application for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for Highway Garage**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO SUBMIT A FEMA HAZARD MITIGATION GRANT APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) through the Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security offers grants to mitigate or eliminate damage resulting from natural disasters, and

WHEREAS, the Department of Public Works is proposing a hurricane retrofit of the Highway Garage to achieve structurally adequate conditions to withstand a Category 3 hurricane so that the building can house Public Works personnel and equipment and act as the main Public Works operation center for recovery operations during a hurricane event, and

WHEREAS, the estimated total cost of the project is \$315,000 and the FEMA grant will reimburse 75% of those costs or \$236,000, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger is authorized to submit an application for a FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant for the Highway Garage.

**Adopted.**

*Councilor Flax will not support the matching funds portion of this resolution, as it is not a necessity.*

*Councilor Schmidt is in favor, and remarked that it is critical to have all resources available during an emergency situation.*

*Councilor Streeter concurs with Councilor Flax. He believes this will be the first of many buildings being brought up to Level 3 Hurricane standards.*

*The Town Manager stated that the ability to fix vehicles and equipment during an emergency situation is important, as replacements for that equipment may not be readily available. He encouraged the Council to support this resolution.*

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

**Votes:** In Favor: 5 - Mayor Somers, Councilor Antipas, Councilor Peruzzotti, Councilor Schmidt and Councilor Watson  
Opposed: 2 - Councilor Flax and Councilor Streeter

**2012-0103****Amended Agreement Regarding Fitch High School Baseball Field****RESOLUTION ON AMENDED AGREEMENT REGARDING FITCH HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL FIELD**

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton ("Town"), the Groton Board of Education ("BOE") and the Bristol Collegiate Baseball Club, Inc., ("Corporation") entered into an Agreement in 2011 which, in part, addressed improvements to the Fitch High School Baseball Field; and

WHEREAS, a dispute arose between the parties regarding unpaid invoices associated with the improvements and the Corporation's responsibility for same, and

WHEREAS, a draft amended Agreement has been prepared in the interest of resolving outstanding issues and to allow the Corporation to continue utilizing Fitch for the purposes defined in the original agreement, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the Town Attorney, on the Town's behalf, to send the amended contract to the Corporation with a time limit for the Corporation to respond.

**A motion was made by Mayor Somers, seconded by Councilor Streeter, that this matter be Adopted.**

*The Town Manager noted that the Team has been asked to reply by April 9, 2012.*

**The motion carried unanimously****2012-0107****Letter of Support for Raised Bill No. 66, An Act Concerning Economic Development****RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A TOWN COUNCIL LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR RAISED BILL NO. 66, AN ACT CONCERNING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

WHEREAS, the Economic Development Commission has recommended to the Town Council Economic Development Committee that the Town Council send a letter of support to the State General Assembly for Raised Bill No. 66, An Act Concerning Economic Development, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council Economic Development Committee has reviewed Raised Bill No. 66 and concurred with the recommendation that the Town Council support the bill, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes a letter of support be prepared on the Council's behalf.

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

The motion carried unanimously

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*None.*

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion to adjourn at 8:18 p.m. was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Antipas and so voted unanimously.*

*Attest:*

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Council*

*Lori Watrous, Office Assistant*