



Town of Groton, Connecticut

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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

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:54 p.m. by Mayor Streeter.

Members Present: Mayor Streeter, Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Sheets

Members Absent: Councilor Kolnaski and Councilor Watson

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher and Office Assistant Lori Watrous.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The Salute to the Flag was led by Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher.

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

2010-0158 Proclamation Honoring Edward S. Kolnaski

Read

The proclamation was read by Mayor 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

2010-0160 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of July 6, 2010 are hereby accepted and approved.

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

b. Administrative Items

2010-0152 Special Trust Fund Contributions

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

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

Pete Chappell - \$10.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous
Nicole Perkins - \$15.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous
Dennis Shields - \$10.00 - Animal Shelter Miscellaneous
George Marshall - \$100.00 - Social Services Discretionary
Edward Novicki - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
Noel O'Connell - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

Peter Stuart - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
 Patricia Sparkman - \$25.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
 Meredith Vasta and James Wood - \$50.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
 Johnson's Hardware and Supply Company - \$100.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
 Ann and David Mortimer - \$25.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
 Betsey Fox - \$100 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Anonymous Donation - \$247.63 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
 Susan Lamson and Sheldon Weinberg - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Simon and Alison Holt - \$100.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Stacey Sparks - \$20.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Sabine Moffett - \$25.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Mary Lou Brockett-Devine - \$100.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Bernard Boylan and Natalie Leventhal - \$25.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 James and Sherburne Stidfole - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Robert and Tina MacBain - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Paul Bates - \$25.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Pequot Cyclists - \$75.00 - Library Discretionary
 Susan and Renato Larese-Casanova - \$25.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
 Susan Decorte McMillin - \$250.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving
 Nancy D'Estang - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous
 Anonymouns Donation - \$50.00 - Arts Cafe Miscellaneous

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

2010-0146 Department of Education Youth and Family Services Funding

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

2010-0147 Department of Education Youth Services Enhancement Grant

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

2010-0150 Autism Speaks Grant

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

2010-0156 Reauthorization of Funds - Catherine Kolnaski to Fitch High School for Water Infiltration

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

2010-0157 Proposed Eagle Scout Project on Town-Owned Property, Route 1/Poquonnock Road

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

2010-0161 Authorization of Phase II School Design Committee Followup Studies

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 Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, 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 emails and a packet of information regarding the Mystic Streetscape Project.

Councilor Flax and Councilor Sheets attended Workshop Session 4 sponsored by the Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Community.

Councilor Flax attended a Groton Business Association meeting.

Councilor Johnson attended an Economic Development Commission meeting and some of the events for the Connecticut Senior PGA Tour.

Mayor Streeter and Councilor Monteiro attended the Thames Street Review Committee meeting.

Mayor Streeter attended the 90th birthday celebration for Edward Kolnaski.

b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting

The Town Clerk stated that the RTM will hold its next regular meeting on July 21, 2010.

c. Clerk of the Council

Town Clerk Moukawsher received the same emails as Councilors. She attended Workshop Session 4 sponsored by the Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Community.

d. Town Manager

The Town Manager stated that the Thames Street Review Committee will continue to meet every Thursday for the rest of the summer. He gave a brief update on the Mystic Streetscape Project.

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

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 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 a special Committee of the Whole meeting on June 20, 2010.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

X. NEW BUSINESS

2010-0146 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 11 YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES FUNDING

WHEREAS, crisis intervention, prevention and support programs and short-term counseling 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, now 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 11 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 Johnson, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

2010-0147

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 2011 YOUTH SERVICE BUREAU ENHANCEMENT GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING

WHEREAS, The State of Connecticut Department of Education offers Connecticut Youth Service Bureau Enhancement Grant Program Funding to enhance existing programs that provide direct services to at-risk youth in areas ranging from counseling to youth enrichment, outreach programs and positive youth development, and

WHEREAS, Groton Youth and Family Services has demonstrated its success in providing a youth development program, Groton SeaLegs, via Virtual Voyages, Inc., that will be further developed with FY 11 Enhancement Funding to serve additional at-risk Groton youth, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, or his designee, is authorized to apply for the State of Connecticut Department of Education for FY 11 Youth Services Enhancement Grant Program Funding in an amount to be determined by the Department of Education, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council reserves the right to withdraw this grant application pending receipt of further information about the SeaLegs program.

A motion was made by Councilor Peruzzotti, seconded by Councilor Sheets, that this matter be Adopted as Amended.

MOTION TO AMEND to add an additional paragraph at the end of this resolution to read "and be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town Council reserves the right to withdraw this grant application pending receipt of further information about the SeaLegs program." was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Flax.

VOTE on Motion to Amend carried unanimously.

The motion carried unanimously

2010-0150

Autism Speaks Grant

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO APPLY FOR A GRANT FROM AUTISM SPEAKS

WHEREAS, Groton Parks and Recreation offers various programs which assist children with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), and

WHEREAS, funding is available from Autism Speaks to expand services and programs for teens

with ASD, and

WHEREAS, Groton Parks and Recreation would like to collaborate with Groton Public Schools to offer a program at the district's three middle schools to assist students with ASD, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager, Mark R. Oefinger, or his designee, is authorized to apply for a one-time non-matching grant in the amount of \$10,000 from Autism Speaks.

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

Mayor Streeter is opposed to this resolution, stating that this may be a one time grant and he would not want to raise people's hopes in the event that the program is discontinued next year.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Votes: In Favor: 6 - Councilor Flax, Councilor Johnson, Councilor Monteiro, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Peruzzotti and Councilor Sheets
Opposed: 1 - Mayor Streeter

2010-0156 Reauthorization of Funds - Catherine Kolnaski to Fitch High School for Water Infiltration

RESOLUTION REAUTHORIZING FUNDS ORIGINALLY APPROPRIATED FOR THE KOLNASKI SCHOOL FOR FITCH HIGH SCHOOL

WHEREAS, in FYE 2008 the Town Council and RTM approved a supplemental appropriation of \$500,000 for the Kolnaski school, and

WHEREAS, unexpended funds in the amount of \$141,509.28 remain in account 50107 5862 and are no longer required for Kolnaski school, and

WHEREAS, the Town wants to engage an architectural firm to investigate and provide proposed schematic repair options to address a water infiltration issue at Fitch High School, and

WHEREAS, the Town intends to work with the Town Attorney to seek reimbursement from parties responsible for the water infiltration as appropriate, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the remaining balance of \$141,509.28 designated for the Kolnaski school be reauthorized to engage an architectural firm to start the analysis and determine the appropriate construction method to address the water filtration issue.

Refer to RTM.

A motion was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted and Referred to the Representative Town Meeting.

The motion carried unanimously

2010-0157 Proposed Eagle Scout Project on Town-Owned Property, Route 1/Poquonnock Road

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT ON TOWN-OWNED PROPERTY

WHEREAS, Nick Woviotis, a member of Boy Scout Troop 76 and a participant in the Sea Scouts program in Groton, has approached the Town of Groton with a proposed Eagle Scout project on Town-owned property located at Poquonnock Road/Route 1 adjacent to the Avery Memorial, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woviotis proposes to create a park-like setting that is more accessible to the public by creating paths and installing benches, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woviotis is reviewing the proposed project with the Environmental Planner and

Inland Wetlands Agency to assure its compliance with applicable regulations, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council authorizes the trail and bench project proposed by Nick Woviotis subject to approval by the Inlands Wetlands Agency and receipt of any appropriate permits for the project.

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

The motion carried unanimously

2010-0161

Authorization of Phase II School Design Committee Followup Studies

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATED WITH THE PHASE II SCHOOL MASTER PLAN

WHEREAS, the Phase II School Design Committee has requested the Town to authorize further study of the former King property and Claude Chester sites as a possible location for a single middle school, and

WHEREAS, suggested areas of study include the ability to accommodate the educational program, potential traffic, infrastructure impacts and costs, and the perceived social benefit of both sites, and

WHEREAS, Capital Improvement Program funds in the amount of \$75,000 were approved in FYE 2011 for tasks that include further definition of siting issues associated with Phase II School Design, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Phase II School Design Committee is authorized to pursue additional studies of the former King Property and Claude Chester sites in an effort to identify a preferred site for a single middle school.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously

XI. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 9:32 p.m. was made by Councilor Monteiro, seconded by Councilor Peruzzotti and so voted unanimously.

Attest:

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk
Clerk of the Council*

Lori Watrous, Office Assistant