



# 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, October 7, 2014

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

#### REGULAR MEETING

#### I. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Schmidt, Councilor Cerf, Councilor Flax, Councilor Frink, Councilor Moravsik, Councilor Watson and Councilor Antipas

Members Absent: Councilor de la Cruz and Councilor Peruzzotti

*Also present were Town Manger Mark Oefinger and Town Clerk Betsy Moukawsher.*

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

*The Salute to the Flag was led by RTM member Jean Claude Ambroise.*

##### Suspension of the Rules

*A motion to suspend the rules to consider appointing Dean Antipas to fill the vacancy left by Councilor Somers' resignation on the Town Council was made by Councilor Watson, seconded by Councilor Moravsik and so voted unanimously.*

##### Appointment to the Town Council

*Councilor Watson made a motion to appoint Dean Antipas to fill the vacancy, seconded by Councilor Flax and so voted unanimously.*

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

##### 2014-0270 Proclamation Honoring Salvatore Pandolfo

Read

*The proclamation was read by Councilor Frink.*

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

*Jean Claude Ambroise, 1639 Shennecossett Parkway, Groton, explained that the Groton/Mystic Youth Football and Cheerleading Organization is hosting an event during the Super Bowl on November 16th at Poquonnock Plains Park. The club is seeking help from the Town of Groton to assist with temporary lighting at PQ Park for the event and the replacement of the current scoreboard. The organization received a generous donation from a local business in the community and has procured a new scoreboard but needs assistance with installation.*

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

*Councilor Watson explained that when the park was built in 1994, it was agreed to not have lights installed at the park. He recalled that there have been a couple of events in the past where temporary lights were used. The Town Manager recalled that there was an understanding regarding lights, and suggests that a letter could be sent to adjacent property owners with a notice that the Town Council intends to discuss allowing temporary lighting for this event.*

#### VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

##### a. Approval of Minutes

##### 2014-0268 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

accepted and approved.

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

*Mayor Schmidt highlighted the generous contributions by citizens and expressed her appreciation.*

**b. Administrative Items**

**2014-0260 Special Trust Fund Contributions**

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS**

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

Lee Vincent - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary  
Anonymous - \$55.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Ramona Aquino - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Christa Barber - \$12.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Robert and Phyllis Boggs - \$7.76 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Ella Giglio - \$9.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Elisa Giommi - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Dennis and Diane Haines - \$35.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Theresa Hazel - \$10.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Donald Mosher - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Maria Leticia Navarro - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Physical Therapy of Mystic LLC - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Thomas Powden - \$50.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
John and Eleanor Ralls - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Kelly Ann Richardson - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Jeanne Schneider - \$15.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Stebbins Real Estate - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Emily Thomas - \$5.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
J.Tiimarch - \$2.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Barbara Weeman - \$20.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
City of Groton - \$1,639.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Armand and Nancy Morin - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
Daniel Untied - \$25.00 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
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  
Nora Belle Du Rocher - \$20.00 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  
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 Knoblock - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
Beverly 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 S. Nelson - \$10.00- Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Nina Nelson - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Kathryn A. Roschmann - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Katy M. Stoddard - \$6.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Lawrence Taylor - \$1.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Merin Troutman - \$10.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 ArianTurello - \$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 - \$20.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Katherine Zod - \$5.00 - Parks and Recreation Revolving  
 Noank Rowing - \$3,000 - Parks and Recreation Revolving

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

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

**2013-0248 Presentation by Town's Actuary**

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

**2014-0233 Councilor Cerf FOI Complaint**

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

**2014-0261 Preliminary Results of Operations - FYE 2014**

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

**2014-0262 Groton Education Foundation Grants - Senior Center**

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

**2014-0266 Establishment of a Committee to Investigate Procurement of the USS Groton Sail and Planes**

**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 Frink attended the Permanent School Building Committee and noted that they need two members. He attended City/Town Highway Budget meeting, the Town Athletic Fields presentation, and the Town/City/RTM/BOE Liaison Committee meeting where playing fields were discussed.*

*Councilor Moravsik attended the City/Town Highway Budget meeting; two meetings regarding procurement of the Groton Sail and the Pirate Invasion in Mystic.*

*Councilor Watson attended two Groton Sail meetings, the City/Town Highway Budget meeting, that he chaired, the Town/City/RTM/BOE Liaison Committee meeting and Sal Pandolfo's retirement party.*

*Councilor Flax attended the Town/City/RTM/BOE Liaison Committee meeting, a Golf Advisory meeting and Sal Pandolfo's retirement party.*

*Councilor Cerf attended a BOE School Administrator contract negotiations meeting and the Town/City/RTM/BOE Liaison Committee meeting, where members discussed community involvement. She met the new Planning Director Jonathan Reiner at the Economic Development Commission meeting, where Groton Business member Susan Bailey suggested that the Groton merchants could sponsor the requested banners for display in Downtown Mystic. She attended a*

*few workshops with Client First, had a communication from Pamela Delaney regarding an automobile issue, reviewed email correspondence from Kathy Nugent and Nancy D'Estang, and attended Sal Pandolfo's retirement party.*

*Councilor Antipas thanked the Town Council for the appointment to the Town Council. He expressed his humbled sentiments and vowed to do his best as a Town Councilor.*

*Mayor Schmidt attended several Groton Sail meetings, a presentation at L & M on the rising cost of paramedics, a COG meeting, a Chamber of Commerce meeting, Sal Pandolfo's retirement party, and the Veterans' Passing of the Flag ceremony at Academy Point in Mystic. She received an email from Pamela Delaney regarding car registration, a couple of emails regarding the change in Shellfish laws regarding leases, an email from Mary Kelly regarding Animal Control, and an email suggesting that additional telephone information for various Town personnel be made available on the town website. She also heard from a resident who encouraged that the Old Mystic Bridge repairs be completed and an email regarding repairs to Route 1. She stated that the town will contact the State regarding the Route 1 road repairs.*

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

**c. Clerk of the Council**

**d. Town Manager**

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

*No meeting, no report.*

**b. Finance - Chairman Frink**

*No meeting, no report.*

**c. Personnel & Appointments - Chairman Flax**

*The committee tried to meet but they lacked a quorum.*

**d. Rules - Chairman Frink**

*No meeting, no report.*

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

*The Committee of the Whole met twice and discussed the items on tonight's Agenda.*

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**2014-0262 Groton Education Foundation Grants - Senior Center**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE GROTON EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

WHEREAS, the Groton Educational Foundation provides "mini-grants" to fund unique projects based on ideas from teachers or other educators in Groton, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Senior Center and Claude Chester Elementary School provide intergenerational education experiences for students and seniors, and

WHEREAS, grant funds could be used for two programs entitled "Play is More Fun with Friends" and "Amazing Adaptations with Animal Embassy," now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that Town Manager Mark R. Oefinger or his designee may apply for two grants in the amounts of \$500.00 and \$625.00 from the Groton Educational Foundation.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**2014-0266      Establishment of a Committee to Investigate Procurement of the USS Groton Sail and Planes**

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE PROCUREMENT OF THE USS GROTON SAIL AND PLANES

WHEREAS, the Naval Sea Systems Command has notified the Town that the sail and fairwater planes of the former USS Groton (SSN-694) are available for custody transfer and exhibit, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council would like to explore the possibility of taking advantage of this unique opportunity for the Groton community, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council supports the establishment of an initial committee comprised of representatives of the Town, City, and Navy to investigate the procurement of the USS Groton sail and planes, and be it further

RESOLVED, that Mayor Schmidt and Councilors Harry Watson and Rich Moravsik are appointed to the committee.

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

**The motion carried unanimously**

**X.      OTHER BUSINESS**

*Town Manager reminded the Council of the upcoming Groton Fall Festival to be held at Poquonnock Plains Park on Saturday October 11th. He stated that 120 vendors will have displays and that free parking will be available at Ella T. Grasso Technical School. He announced that Cindy Landry will be the Acting Director of Finance until Sal Pandolfo's successor is hired. He noted that the new Director of OPDS, Jonathan Reiner, started working for the Town earlier this month.*

*The Town Clerk announced that absentee ballots are available for the November 4, 2014 election. She also requested that the Town Council receive email notifications of future RTM business instead of metered mail. All Councilors agreed that this would be acceptable. Lastly, the Clerk mentioned board and commission vacancies and encouraged interested people to apply at the Town Clerk's office.*

**XI.      ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. was made by Councilor Watson, and so voted unanimously.*

*Attest:*

*Betsy Moukawsher, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Council*