



# Town of Groton, Connecticut

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Groton, CT 06340-4394  
Town Clerk (860)441-6640  
Town Manager  
(860)441-6630

## Meeting Minutes

### Town Council

**Mayor Harry A. Watson, Councilors Peter J. Bartinik, Jr., Natalie Burfoot Billing, Heather Sherman Bond, Catherine Kolnaski, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., Paulann H. Sheets, Thomas J. Skrmetti, and Elissa T. Wright.**

**Tuesday, May 18, 2004**

**7:30 PM**

**Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1**

#### REGULAR MEETING

*Mayor Harry Watson called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.*

#### I. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mayor Watson, Councilor Bartinik, Jr., Councilor Billing, Councilor Bond, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Sheets, Councilor Skrmetti and Councilor Wright

*Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Assistant to the Town Manager Lee Vincent, Town Clerk Barbara Tarbox, and Office Assistant Maegan Paquette.*

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

*The Salute To The Flag was led by Dr. Charles Moppett.*

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

##### **2004-0165 Proclamation Honoring Trudie Sheak**

**Read**

*The Proclamation was read by Councilor Bartinik.*

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

*Councilor Kolnaski commended Mayor Watson on the article he wrote published in the Mystic River Press.*

*40th District State Representative Edward Moukawsher, 48 West Elderkin Avenue, updated the Council on State budget items that may affect Groton including: the MME tax reimbursement from Pfizer and Electric Boat, the Hatchery approval, the proposed expansion of the sewer plant, and the option to postpone the Town's revaluation until 2006. He spoke about the option Groton will have to keep the local conveyance tax at 0.0050.*

##### **2004-0183 Extension of Conveyance Tax Increase**

##### **EXTENSION OF CONVEYANCE TAX INCREASE**

*Mayor Watson requested a referral to the COW for an extension of the local conveyance tax to remain at 0.0050.*

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

*Councilor Billing asked State Representative Moukawsher if it would be helpful for the Councilors to contact anyone at the State level regarding MME reimbursement. Rep. Moukawsher said it would be helpful and he will contact Councilor Billing with information.*

*Councilor Bartinik thanked Rep. Moukawsher for informing the Town Council regarding State issues that may affect Groton. He asked Rep. Moukawsher if there are any proposed reforms on binding arbitration laws.*

*Rep. Moukawsher said no sessions were conducted at the State level this past year and added that it is hard to get any movement on the issue one way or another.*

*Councilor O'Beirne asked if there is anything proposed to eliminate prevailing wage requirements.*

*Rep. Moukawsher noted there are strong arguments for it and against it. Currently nothing is proposed, the issue is similar to the binding arbitration laws: difficult to get any movement going.*

*Councilor Skrmetti asked if there are any serious proposals regarding property tax reform.*

*Rep. Mouskawsher said several proposals have been brought up at the State level but mostly for larger cities. He noted property tax is a problem and most of the reform proposals merely shift the burden onto others. He said property tax is something he will be looking at in the future, as there are many people concerned about the growing property tax burden on residents.*

*Councilor Bartinik noted that with income losses from the State many towns and cities have become dependent on property taxes to support themselves. Groton is a more fortunate Town because of the industry and business here, many other communities are not as fortunate.*

*Rep. Moukawsher noted that many large cities such as Bridgeport have very high mill rates and very little industry and business. That is one of the reasons the State cannot help reimburse smaller Towns as much as they used to because the State funds are going to larger cities.*

*Councilor Sheets gave a brief overview of how property taxes came to be instituted. She suggested looking at the wealthy to help support the education system as done in the early days of property taxes. She asked what happened to the "Millionaires Tax."*

*State Representative Moukawsher said the proposed "Millionaires Tax" would have been placed on residents who jointly made over \$500,000 per year. However, Governor Rowland has made it clear that he will veto any bill to increase taxes, instead the Governor is interested in adding more taxes to cigarettes and alcohol.*

*Mayor Watson thanked State Representative Moukawsher for attending the Town Council meeting and informing the Council of what is going on in Hartford.*

## VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

### a. Approval of Minutes

#### 2004-0173 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council of May 4, 2004 are hereby accepted and approved.

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

### b. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

#### 2004-0118 Establishment of Groton Juvenile Review Board

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

#### 2004-0158 Grant for Expanded DUI Enforcement

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

#### 2004-0160 Return Check Fee

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

#### 2004-0166 Appointment of Michael Meyer to the Housing Authority

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

#### 2004-0167 Authorization of Permanent School Building Committee for Fitch High School Project

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

#### 2004-0168 Authorization of Permanent School Building Committee for New Elementary School at King Property

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

**2004-0169 Authorization of Permanent School Building Committee for New Elementary School at Freeman Hathaway**

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

**2004-0170 Establishment of a Groton Long Point Committee**

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

**2004-0171 Introduction/Setting Public Hearing on Ordinance Dissolving First Taxing District**

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

**2004-0172 Introduction/Setting Public Hearing on Ordinance Dissolving Second Taxing District**

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

**2004-0174 Selection of Design Consultants for School Building Projects**

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

**c. Special Trust Fund Contributions****2004-0159 Contributions to Special Trust Funds**

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

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

Mystic Congregational Church - \$200.00 - Senior Center Discretionary  
 Connie Ringstad - \$60.00 - Dog Pound  
 John and Myin Comiskey - \$200.00 - Dog Pound  
 Various Donations - \$46.53 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program  
 J. Donald & Jean Simpson - \$30.00 - Social Services Discretionary  
 William May - \$50.00 - Social Services Discretionary  
 Donation in Memory of Ruth Ficken - \$10.00 - Senior Center Discretionary  
 Senior Center Performing Groups - \$70.00 - Senior Center Discretionary  
 Various Donations - \$23.00 - Jabez Smith House

This Matter was Adopted on the Consent Calendar.

**Passed The Consent Calendar**

A motion was made by Councilor Skrmetti, seconded by Councilor Bartinik, Jr., 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**

*Councilor Wright forwarded a letter she received requesting information on planning and development to Town Manager Mark Oefinger.*

*Councilor Kolnaski attended an open house for the Women's Center of Southeastern Connecticut.*

**2004-0184 Establishment of Charter Revision Committee**

ESTABLISHMENT OF CHARTER REVISION COMMITTEE

*Councilor O'Beirne noted it has been over fifteen years since the last Town Charter Revision and requested a referral to the COW to organize a Charter Revision Committee.*

*Councilor Billing volunteered and attended the Tour de Noank Race. She thanked Cindy Driscoll and the entire Parks & Recreation Staff who organized the event.*

**2004-0185 Mill Rates for Motor Vehicle Taxes and Personal Property Taxes Versus Real Estate Property Taxes**

## VERSUS REAL ESTATE PROPERTY TAXES

*Councilor Billing requested a referral to the Finance Committee to explore the possibility of setting different mill rates for automobile taxes versus property taxes.*

**2004-0186 Postponement of Revaluation to 2006**

## POSTPONEMENT OF REVALUATION TO 2006

*Councilor Billing requested a referral to consider postponing the Town's property revaluation until 2006. Mayor Watson referred it to the COW.*

**2004-0187 DEP Participation in King Property Environmental Assessment**

## DEP PARTICIPATION IN KING PROPERTY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

*Councilor Sheets spoke about Dr. Moppett's reports of contamination on the King Property and requested a referral to the Environmental Committee to consider asking the DEP to participate in an environmental assessment.*

*Discussion took place between the Councilors with support and opposition to making a referral. It was referred to the COW by Mayor Watson.*

*Councilor Bond announced a fund raiser walk May 22 at Esker Point Beach to help raise money for the family of a Town 5th grade teacher who passed away last September.*

*Mayor Watson's communications included e-mails received, the new "Support our Soldiers program," and thank-you letters and cards received in support of the new Eastern Point School. He also attended a mentors dinner called the "Power of an Hour", a tour of the cruise ship the "Maasdam", and the NE Resident Service Coordinators Conference at the Marriott where he gave the opening remarks.*

*Mayor Watson noted some items in the Social Service's newsletter including a Groton handicapped accessible task force to institute a handicapped friendly playground.*

**b. Representative Town Meeting**

*Town Clerk Barbara Tarbox noted the RTM finished the FY2005 Budget deliberation meetings on May 17, 2004. Director of Finance Sal Pandolfo will now be busy putting together the FY2005 Budget Report for the Town Council.*

**c. Clerk of the Council**

*Clerk of the Council Tarbox announced that Ron Chappell, long-time member and current Chairperson of the Shellfish Commission, recently resigned. One alternate member of the Shellfish Commission also recently resigned. She asked residents interested in serving on the Shellfish Commission to fill out an application at the Town Clerk's office in the Town Hall.*

*Clerk Tarbox received communications from Groton Long Point Association President Ed Bogdan which was distributed to the Town Council at the last COW Meeting.*

*She taught Parliamentary Procedure to approximately fifty-five students on May 12th at Town Clerk School in New Britain.*

*She responded to a complaint filed with the State Elections Enforcement Commission regarding the recent school referendum.*

*She noted the Land Records Department has been extremely busy, taking in over one-thousand pages of documents in a six day period.*

**d. Town Manager**

*Town Manager Mark Oefinger said the Town is currently collecting non-perishable items to ship to our soldiers in Iraq as part of the "Connecticut Supports Our Soldiers" program. Mr. Oefinger noted the website address residents can access to obtain a list of items requested for the care packages. There are over twenty-four collection sites now available in the area to drop the items off.*

*Mr. Oefinger said the Town Manager's Weekly Status Report included Notice of a Hearing concerning a proposed rate increase by Aquarion Water Company of Connecticut to be held on*

*Thursday, June 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the Town Hall Annex.*

*Due to the snow storm last December 5-7, 2003 the Public Works Department went over the budgeted dollar amount for snowplowing. Emergency Services Manager Joe Sastre and Public Works employee Lori Huckins were able to provide detailed documentation to the Federal Emergency Management Association (FEMA) and the Town should be receiving a check in the amount of approximately \$50,000.*

*Town Manager Oefinger was pleased to announce that a reception will be held at the Groton Senior Center on June 11th at 1:00 p.m. honoring the Center's accreditation by the National Institute of Senior Centers.*

*Mr. Oefinger said there are many items on the next COW Agenda to discuss, including Freedom of Information (FOI) with Sue Phillips, establishing district tax rates for FY2005, and the Conveyance Tax referral. He suggested and it was agreed upon by the Council to cancel the Group I and Group II meetings scheduled for prior to the next COW meeting.*

**e. Town Attorney**

*None.*

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Billing**

*No Meeting. No Report.*

**b. Economic Development - Chairman Bond**

*Chairman Bond noted the Committee met briefly on May 11, 2004, although a formal meeting was not held.*

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

*Chairman Kolnaski read the May 11, 2004 Committee Report, which is on file in the Town Clerk's office.*

**d. Environment & Recreation - Chairman Sheets**

*Chairman Sheets read the May 11, 2004 Committee Report, which is on file in the Town Clerk's office.*

**e. Finance - Chairman Wright**

*Chairman Wright read the May 11, 2004 Committee Report, which is on file in the Town Clerk's office.*

**f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman O'Beirne**

*Chairman O'Beirne read the May 11, 2004 Committee Report, which is on file in the Town Clerk's office.*

**g. Public Safety - Chairman Skrmetti**

*No Meeting. No Report.*

**h. Public Works - Chairman Bartinik**

*No Meeting. No Report.*

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

*Mayor Watson summarized the May 11, 2004 Meeting.*

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*None.*

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**2004-0118 Establishment of Groton Juvenile Review Board**

**RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR A JUVENILE REVIEW BOARD**

Public School Officials have voiced their support for a Groton Juvenile Review Board, and

WHEREAS, the goal of the Juvenile Review Board will be to divert identified youth from the juvenile justice system and provide assistance to local police in the handling of juvenile offenders through a coordinated community response, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Groton Department of Human Services has expressed the interest and ability, utilizing existing staff and resources, to accept referrals on behalf of the Juvenile Review Board and to maintain the confidential files, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Town Council authorizes staff to develop policies and procedures in connection with the Town Attorney, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council supports the formation of a Groton Juvenile Review Board, for which Groton Human Services will receive and process juvenile offense referrals and maintain the Board's confidential files.

**A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted as Amended.**

*Councilor Bond supports the concept of a Juvenile Review Board, however, she feels the town should institute some policies and procedures before the resolution is voted on by the Council. She suggested adding language to the end of the referral that the resolution is approved subject to a report of the policies. She referred to the Town of Ledyard instituting a Juvenile Review Board, yet they are creating an ordinance, to establish it.*

*Councilor Kolnaski said it is the intention to appoint a Rules Committee after the referral is voted upon, which has always been Council procedure.*

*Councilor O'Beirne feels this should be supported in order to begin the process of organizing a committee that can write the policies and procedures.*

*Councilor Sheets feels this was prematurely sent to the Town Council to vote on and suggested asking the Town Attorney his opinion.*

*Councilor Billing feels the Council does not have to be involved in every aspect of developing the rules and procedures.*

*Councilor Skrmetti supports this and agrees with Councilor Bond to add a slight change to the language. He feels the Town Attorney should be the one to review the policies and procedures.*

*Motion to Amend to add the language in the resolve, "and the Town Council authorizes the Staff to develop policies and procedures in connection with the Town Attorney" by Councilor Billing, seconded by Councilor Skrmetti.*

*Discussion ensued between the Town Councilors and Town Manager Mark Oefinger with reasons for support and opposition to the proposed resolution.*

*Motion to Move the Question was made by Councilor O'Beirne, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski. The Motion to Move the Question carried, 6 in favor, 3 opposed (Councilors Wright, Bond and Sheets.)*

*The Motion to Amend carried 7 in favor, 2 Opposed (Councilors Bond and Sheets.)*

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

**Votes:** In Favor: 7 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Bartinik, Jr., Councilor Billing, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Skrmetti and Councilor Wright  
Opposed: 2 - Councilor Bond and Councilor Sheets

*Councilor Sheets left the room at 9:10 p.m.*

**2004-0158**

**Grant for Expanded DUI Enforcement**

## ENFORCEMENT

WHEREAS, prevention of driving under the influence of alcohol during holiday weekends requires supplemental funding from outside the Town budget, and

WHEREAS, the Groton Town Police intend to conduct 20 additional vehicle detection patrols and two sobriety checkpoints, and

WHEREAS, the Connecticut Department of Transportation's Division of Highway Safety distributes federal grant funds for the reimbursement of overtime and related employee benefit costs, and

WHEREAS, the Town's 30% matching share of the costs of these efforts has already been provided in the regular budgets for the period from Memorial Day to Independence Day, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager may apply for a DUI enforcement grant sufficient to cover seasonal DUI enforcement spending for a total of \$18,700.

**A motion was made by Councilor Wright, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.**

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

**Votes:** In Favor: 8 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Bartinik, Jr., Councilor Billing, Councilor Bond, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Skrmetti and Councilor Wright  
Non-voting: 1 - Councilor Sheets

**2004-0160****Return Check Fee**

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN RETURNED CHECK FEES

WHEREAS, in September 1993 the Town Council authorized a \$15 fee to be charged on returned checks; and

WHEREAS, a recent survey demonstrates that based on returned check fees charged by area banks and surrounding municipalities, a higher fee is warranted;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Groton Town Council authorizes a \$20 fee to be charged on checks returned by a bank for non-payment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said policy shall take effect June 1, 2004.

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

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

**Votes:** In Favor: 8 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Bartinik, Jr., Councilor Billing, Councilor Bond, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Skrmetti and Councilor Wright  
Non-voting: 1 - Councilor Sheets

**2004-0166****Appointment of Michael Meyer to the Housing Authority**

## RESOLUTION APPOINTING MICHAEL B. MEYER TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY

RESOLVED, that Michael B. Meyer, 18 New London Road, Mystic, is appointed to the Groton Housing Authority for a term ending 7/31/06.

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

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

**Votes:** In Favor: 8 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Bartinik, Jr., Councilor Billing, Councilor Bond, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Skrmetti and Councilor Wright  
Non-voting: 1 - Councilor Sheets

**2004-0167 Authorization of Permanent School Building Committee for Fitch High School Project**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PERMANENT SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE PROJECT TO RENOVATE AND EXPAND FITCH HIGH SCHOOL

WHEREAS, a public referendum has been approved to renovate and expand Fitch High School and,

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut requires the appointment of an oversight committee for this project, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Permanent School Building Committee is hereby authorized to act as the Building Committee for this project.

**A motion was made by Councilor Skrmetti, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.**

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

**Votes:** In Favor: 8 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Bartinik, Jr., Councilor Billing, Councilor Bond, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Skrmetti and Councilor Wright  
Non-voting: 1 - Councilor Sheets

*Councilor Sheets returned to the meeting at 9:15 p.m.*

**2004-0168 Authorization of Permanent School Building Committee for New Elementary School at King Property**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PERMANENT SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE PROJECT TO CONSTRUCT A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AT THE KING PROPERTY

WHEREAS, elementary school facilities have been determined to be inadequate by the Groton Board of Education and, a public referendum has been approved to construct a new elementary school on the King property and,

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut requires the appointment of an oversight committee for this project, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Permanent School Building Committee is hereby authorized to act as the Building Committee for this project.

**A motion was made by Councilor Bond, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.**

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**2004-0169 Authorization of Permanent School Building Committee for New Elementary School at Freeman Hathaway**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PERMANENT SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE THE PROJECT TO CONSTRUCT A NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON THE FREEMAN HATHAWAY PROPERTY

WHEREAS, a public referendum has been approved to construct a new elementary school on the Freeman Hathaway property in the northeast area of Groton and,

WHEREAS, the State of Connecticut requires the appointment of an oversight committee for this project, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Permanent School Building Committee is hereby authorized to act as the

Building Committee for this project.

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

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**2004-0170 Establishment of a Groton Long Point Committee**

RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A COMMITTEE CONCERNING GROTON LONG POINT

WHEREAS, the Town Council and officials of the Groton Long Point Association have undertaken several meetings, along with extensive legal research, concerning the legal status of Groton Long Point, and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of all parties to assure that cooperative and supportive relations can exist between the two civic entities, for the benefit of all residents the Town of Groton, including Groton Long Point, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a special Committee on Groton Long Point shall be established, consisting of three members of the Town Council appointed by the Mayor and three members appointed by the Groton Long Point Association, such committee to be supported by appropriate staff from both entities.

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

*Councilor Sheets and Councilor Wright do not support this.*

*Councilor Bartinik said it is his hope that the three committee members (Councilors Bond, Billing, and Bartinik) can work out an agreement with the Groton Long Point Association as neither party wishes to institute any legal action.*

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

**Votes:** In Favor: 7 - Mayor Watson, Councilor Bartinik, Jr., Councilor Billing, Councilor Bond, Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr. and Councilor Skrmetti  
Opposed: 2 - Councilor Sheets and Councilor Wright

**2004-0171 Introduction/Setting Public Hearing on Ordinance Dissolving First Taxing District**

RESOLUTION INTRODUCING AND SETTING PUBLIC HEARING DATE ON ORDINANCE DISSOLVING THE FIRST TAXING DISTRICT

RESOLVED, a public hearing is hereby scheduled on the "ORDINANCE DISSOLVING THE FIRST TAXING DISTRICT" at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2004 in Community Room No. 1 at the Town Hall Annex, Groton Long Point.

**A motion was made by Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Referred for Information to RTM to the Representative Town Meeting, due back on July 14, 2004.**

*Assistant to the Town Manager Lee Vincent gave an overview into the history of how this area became a taxing district in the Town. He also spoke in detail of the process entailed to abolish the tax district and the reasons why this would be proposed.*

**The motion carried unanimously.**

**2004-0172 Introduction/Setting Public Hearing on Ordinance Dissolving Second Taxing District**

RESOLUTION INTRODUCING AND SETTING PUBLIC HEARING DATE ON ORDINANCE DISSOLVING THE SECOND TAXING DISTRICT

RESOLVED, a public hearing is hereby scheduled on the "ORDINANCE DISSOLVING THE SECOND TAXING DISTRICT" at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, June 15, 2004 in Community Room No. 1 at the Town Hall Annex, Groton Long Point.

**A motion was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Bartinik, Jr., that this matter be Referred for Information to RTM to the Representative Town Meeting, due back on July 14, 2004.**

The motion carried unanimously.

**2004-0174 Selection of Design Consultants for School Building Projects**

RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE SELECTION OF DESIGN CONSULTANTS FOR SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS

WHEREAS, three major school construction projects are being assigned to the Permanent School Building Committee simultaneously, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has been advised, and agrees, to take steps that would begin to advance all three projects promptly, and

WHEREAS, the Town's Department of Public Works has primary responsibility to provide for the design and completion of such projects, and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works, the Superintendent of Schools and the Manager of Facilities for the Groton Public Schools, have requested authorization to obtain consulting and design services for all three school projects by the means of Qualification Based Selection (QBS), now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager and the Department of Public Works may contract for design consultant services, including architects and related engineering services, for all three school projects that have been authorized by referendum, by the method known as Qualification Based Selection.

**A motion was made by Councilor Wright, seconded by Councilor Kolnaski, that this matter be Adopted.**

*Councilor Wright asked if this is Town Manager Oefinger's opinion on how to proceed. Town Manager Oefinger said all three projects should advance in the same time frame even though the school projects may be on different time frames with regards to the State. Mr. Oefinger feels it is important to have the same consultant for the two new elementary schools at the same time. Mr. Oefinger said going ahead with all three resolutions at the same time is his recommendation.*

The motion carried unanimously.

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*None.*

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*Motion to adjourn at 9:33 p.m. was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Bartinik, and so voted unanimously.*

*Attest:*

*Barbara Tarbox, Town Clerk, Clerk of the Council*

*Maegan Paquette, Office Assistant*