



Town of Groton, Connecticut

45 Fort Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Town Clerk (860)441-6640
Town Manager
(860)441-6630

Meeting Minutes

Representative Town Meeting

Representatives Jeff Armstrong, Joe Baril, Tom Barnhart, Lori Bartinik, Alicia Bauer, Genevieve Cerf, Wayne Chiapperini, Michael Collins, Joe delaCruz, Luanne DeMatto, Susan Dowling, Shirley Dunbar-Rose, George Edwards Jr, Robert Garcia, Patrice Granatosky, Dolores Harrell, Barbara Hoelck, David Miner, Nancy Mitchell, Deborah Monteiro, Matt Morton, Scott Newsome, Nora Patterson, Darcy Peruzzotti, Kevin Power, Don Pratt, Rita Schmidt, Jack Sebastian, Jennifer Smuts, Eleanor Steere, Fritz Stein, Joan Steinfeld, Irma Streeter, Mark Svencer, George Swift, Patty Thunberg, Cheryl Tilney, Tom Vivirito, Robert Walker Sr, and Elizabeth Weil.

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

7:30 PM

Senior Center

Regular Meeting

A. ROLL CALL

*Moderator Shirley Dunbar-Rose called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.
25 members were present and a quorum was declared.*

Members Present: Rep. Baril, Rep. Barnhart, Rep. Bauer, Rep. Collins, Rep. DeMatto, Rep. Dowling, Rep. Dunbar-Rose, Rep. Miner, Rep. Mitchell, Rep. Monteiro, Rep. M. Morton, Rep. Power, Rep. Pratt, Rep. Schmidt, Rep. Sebastian, Rep. Smuts, Rep. Steere, Rep. Stein, Rep. Steinfeld, Rep. Svencer, Rep. Swift, Rep. Thunberg, Rep. Tilney, Rep. Vivirito and Rep. Walker, Sr.

Members Absent: Rep. Armstrong, Rep. Bartinik, Rep. Cerf, Rep. Chiapperini, Rep. delaCruz, Rep. Edwards, Jr., Rep. Garcia, Rep. Granatosky, Rep. Harrell, Rep. Hoelck, Rep. Newsome, Rep. Patterson, Rep. Peruzzotti, Rep. Streeter and Rep. Weil

Also present were Town Manager Mark Oefinger, Assistant to the Town Manager Lee Vincent, Town Clerk Barbara Tarbox and Assistant Town Clerk Sally Whitney.

B. MOMENT OF SILENCE AND SALUTE TO THE FLAG

The members observed a moment of silence followed by the Salute to the Flag led by Rep. Miner.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 9, 2005

*A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rep. Pratt, seconded by Rep. Walker.
Rep. Mitchell requested a correction on page three under Liaison Reports that Rep. Mitchell gave the report for Economic Development Strategic Planning Steering Committee.
The vote on approval of the minutes as corrected carried unanimously.*

D. CITIZENS' PETITIONS

None

E. RECEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS

Moderator Shirley Dunbar-Rose reported the resignation of Debra Dickey from District Three on March 15, 2005. She announced the following changes: Rep. Pratt will be the Chairman of the Community & Economic Development Committee replacing Rep. Dickey; Rep. Power will be Chairman of the Recreation Committee due to the fact that Rep. delaCruz has a change in his working hours. She reported that at the caucuses held before this meeting the following individuals were elected: Alicia T. Bauer and John Nugent were elected to fill the District Three vacancies; Tom Barnhart was elected to fill the District Four vacancy. She has appointed Rep. Nugent to Community & Economic Development, and Reps. Bauer and Barnhart to Health and Social Services. She transferred Rep. Streeter to Finance to represent District Three. The Moderator received a letter from Wil Langdon concerning the retaining wall on Route 1 across from the Chipperini property, the Mystic Downtown Streetscape Project construction and

costs, and selection of a Project Manager for the School Building Committee. She also received the Town Manager's response to Mr. Langdon.

She received a letter from Edward Ettinger, urging the RTM to cut the spending increases in Groton; Mr. Ettinger included e-mails to the Town Council from several members of the Groton Good Government PAC.

She received a letter from the Library Board requesting that the RTM maintain the current level of services for the next fiscal year.

The Moderator reported that Reps. Harrell, Hoelck, Streeter and Weil were unable to attend.

F. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER:

1. Financial report

Mr. Vincent reported no changes to the General Contingency Balance since the February meeting but informed the members that Fourth Quarter transfers for FYE 2005 are in process and should be referred to the RTM at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Vincent provided a status report on the Willow Point quiet zone for train whistles. The effective date has been postponed again and is now set for June 24, 2005.

He distributed the Senior Aid Book, a new publication compiled by the Senior Center staff concerning the numerous programs and benefits available to active participants and the homebound.

2. Monthly briefing

Town Manager Mark Oefinger reported that the Town Council has completed its review of the FYE 2006 budget and will tentatively set a mill rate on May 26 at the Committee of the Whole meeting. He complimented the many RTM members that attended the Council review meetings that were pertinent to their committee deliberations.

Mr. Oefinger announced that the Doolittle Raiders 63rd Reunion is this weekend and that tickets are still available for the events.

He stated that the Sewer Rehabilitation Project for Poquonnock Bridge is included in the CIP Program and he expects the Council to move this project forward to the voters at the November Election.

Rep. Pratt complimented the wonderful job done this year for snow removal and members applauded in agreement.

G. LIAISON REPORTS

1. Town Council - Rep. Cerf

No meeting, no report.

2. Economic Development Commission - Rep. Schmidt

No meeting, no report.

3. Town Council/Board of Education Liaison Committee - Rep. Patterson

No meeting, no report.

4. Permanent School Building Committee - Rep. Miner

Rep. Miner provided a summary of the presentations and information that the committee has reviewed in the last two months including building systems, archeological survey walk, security issues and the phase one contract.

5. P.B.F.D. Consolidation Review Committee - Reps. Steinfeld & Svencer

Rep. Steinfeld reported she attended the March 4th meeting and that the April meeting was cancelled. She stated she will report at the next meeting.

6. Economic Development Strategic Planning Steering Ctee - Reps. Dowling & Mitchell

Rep. Dowling provided a summary of the presentation by the Town's consultant at the February 23, 2005 meeting that included a review of the progress to date, a document review of past plans

and studies, an economic scan of the community and the region, as well as preparation for the public meeting workshop. She reported the Public Meeting Workshop on March 31, 2005 had fair attendance and the consultant provided an overview of the objectives of the meeting, which was intended to generate public input on strengths and weaknesses in the region. Three groups were formed to address various topics for economic development and the ideas generated were shared with all present.

7. Shellfish Task Force - Rep. Svencer

Lee Vincent reported that the cooperation among all parties on the task force has been very good and has been helpful to keep the process moving. The task force hopes to pinpoint the sources of pollution and believes the overall problem to be the very old sewers in Poquonnock Bridge. Getting the final approvals from the State is a slow process but progress is being made.

H. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. FINANCE

a. Chairman's notes of the business of the Town - Chairman Schmidt

No meeting, no report.

2. COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

a. Chairman's notes of the business of the Town - Chairman Pratt

No meeting, no report.

3. EDUCATION

a. Chairman's notes of the business of the Town - Chairman Newsome

No meeting, no report.

4. HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES

a. Chairman's notes of the business of the Town - Chairman DeMatto

No meeting, no report.

5. RECREATION

a. Chairman's notes of the business of the Town - Chairman Power

No meeting, no report.

6. PUBLIC SAFETY

a. Chairman's notes of the business of the Town - Chairman Vivirito

No meeting, no report.

7. PUBLIC WORKS

a. Chairman's notes of the business of the Town - Chairman Collins

Chairman Collins read the minutes from the meeting of March 29, 2005.

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rep. Smuts, seconded by Rep. Miner.

The vote on approval of the minutes carried unanimously.

2005-0063

Road Acceptance

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING FOX RUN LANE, PART OF HEATHER GLEN LANE, HUNTING RIDGE DRIVE, DEERFIELD RIDGE DRIVE AND CLAIRMONT CIRCLE IN PHASES 4,5,6,7 OF DEERFIELD SUBDIVISION

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission, at its August 12, 2003 meeting, recommended the acceptance of Fox Run Lane, part of Heather Glen Lane, Hunting Ridge Drive, Deerfield Ridge Drive, and Clairmont Circle in Phases 4,5,6,7 of Deerfield Subdivision, now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Representative Town Meeting hereby accepts Fox Run Lane, part of Heather Glen Lane, Hunting Ridge Drive, Deerfield Ridge Drive, and Clairmont Circle in Phases 4,5,6,7 of Deerfield Subdivision.

A motion was made by Rep. Collins, seconded by Rep. Smuts, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously.

2005-0064

Road Acceptance

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE EXTENSION OF HEATHER GLEN LANE IN PHASE 8 OF DEERFIELD SUBDIVISION

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission, at its January 27, 2004 meeting, recommended acceptance of the extension of Heather Glen Lane in Phase 8 of Deerfield Subdivision, now therefore be it RESOLVED, that the Representative Town Meeting hereby accepts the extension of Heather Glen Lane in Phase 8 of Deerfield Subdivision.

A motion was made by Rep. Collins, seconded by Rep. DeMatto, that this matter be Adopted.

The motion carried unanimously.

8. RULES & PROCEDURES

a. Chairman's notes of the business of the Town - Chairman Weil

No meeting, no report.

I. OTHER BUSINESS

None

J. ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. was made by Rep. Smuts, seconded by Rep. Miner. The motion carried unanimously.

Attest:

*Barbara Tarbox, Town Clerk
Clerk of the RTM*

Sally A. Whitney, Assistant Town Clerk