

TOWN COUNCIL WEEKLY STATUS REPORT

June 22, 2017

MRD Volume 25, No. 25

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Tuesday, June 27th the Town Council Committee of the Whole meeting has been cancelled.

GROTON SENIOR CENTER UPDATE

Club 55 has been very active this spring making donations to organizations in Town. The Club donated \$500 to “As Time Goes By Swing Band”, the VFW for Memorial Day events and flags and Groton Parks and Recreation’s Inclusion Program. They also donated \$1,000 to the DARE program and the Submarine Veterans Memorial East located in the City of Groton. The Club also gave four \$500 Achievement Awards to high school seniors Noelle Butler and Katherine Fairbank from Fitch High School, Sophia Nelson from St. Bernard High School and Geralson Withrow from Ledyard High School. The Club holds fundraisers during the year to support programs throughout the Town each year.

The Groton Senior Center will be holding its 3rd Annual Antiques Appraisal Day “What It’s Worth” on Saturday, July 15th from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Attendees should search through their closets and around the house for treasures to be appraised. Last year several people brought in items and were pleasantly surprised at the value of them. Attendees came from as far away as New Haven, Connecticut and Springfield, Massachusetts. The limit is two items per person and each item costs \$5.00 to have it appraised. For more information, please contact the Groton Senior Center at 860-441-6785.

AUDITOR’S COMMUNICATION TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

As has been done in previous years, the Town’s independent auditors (Blum Shapiro) are issuing a communication letter as they begin to audit for this fiscal year (Attachment 1). Auditing Standard No. 114 establishes standards and provides guidance on the auditor’s communication with those charged with governance in relation to the audit of the Town’s financial statements. The letter addresses the objective of the audit, responsibilities, areas of focus, engagement timing, and the audit team as well as current and future accounting standards.

MYSTIC EDUCATION CENTER PROPERTY

The two marketing signs for the Mystic Education Center property have finally been installed. Each sign is 4' X 8' in size. One sign is located adjacent to the main building on Oral School Road. The second sign is located off River Road at the bottom of the property. The property extends from Oral School Road downslope to River Road.

In addition, the Economic Development division increased their advertising of the Mystic Education Center Property within the New England Real Estate Journal (NEREJ). These advertisements were run in the "NEREJ Editorial" and "NEREJ Mystic ED" in the June 9-15, 2017 edition. The NEREJ advertising resulted in many leads for the division in the past. (Attachment 2)

OTHER ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 3 is a an email from Chief L.J. Fusaro for the Tour de Force event he will be participating in on behalf of the Groton Police Department. This event is a fundraising memorial bicycle ride to honor law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty. To donate to this cause or for more information, please visit <https://grouprev.com/tdf2017ride-lo>.
2. Attachment 4 is a news flyer from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture for Dog License Renewal Month.

Attachment
MRO/lh

BlumShapiro

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MEMO - COMMUNICATION WITH THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE

To: The Town Council, Town of Groton, Connecticut
From: Vanessa Rossitto, CPA, Audit Partner
Blum Shapiro & Company, P.C.
Date: June 21, 2017
Re: Auditing Standard No. 114, "The Auditor's Communication with Those Charged with Governance" regarding audit of Town of Groton, Connecticut

We are engaged to audit the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Groton, Connecticut for the year ended June 30, 2017. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit. We would also appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss this information further since a two-way dialogue can provide valuable information for the audit process.

Our responsibilities under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in the United States of America, Government Auditing Standards, the Uniform Guidance and the Connecticut State Single Audit Act.

As stated in our engagement letter dated March 21, 2017, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express opinions as to whether the financial statements, prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve those charged with governance or management of their responsibilities.

In planning and performing our audit, we will consider the Town of Groton, Connecticut's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. We will also consider internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal or state program in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance and the Connecticut State Single Audit Act.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town of Groton, Connecticut's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we will perform tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions is not an objective of our audit. Also in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, we will examine, on a test basis, evidence about the Town of Groton, Connecticut's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Compliance Supplement applicable to each of its major federal programs for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the Town of Groton, Connecticut's compliance with those requirements. While our audit will provide a reasonable basis for our opinion, it will not provide a legal determination on the Town of Groton, Connecticut's compliance with those requirements.

