



Town of Groton, Connecticut

Meeting Agenda

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

Town Council

Mayor James L. Streefer, 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, May 18, 2010

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

REGULAR MEETING

I. ROLL CALL

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

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| 2010-0101 | Proclamation Honoring Doug Perina | Proclamation - TC |
| 2010-0114 | Proclamation Commemorating Flag Day | Proclamation - TC |

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

V. RESPONSES TO CITIZENS' PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Approval of Minutes

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| 2010-0116 | Approval of Minutes (Town Council) | Resolution - Consent |
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RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council meeting of May 4, 2010 are hereby accepted and approved.

b. Administrative Items

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| 2010-0110 | Special Trust Fund Contributions | Resolution - Consent |
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RESOLUTION ACCEPTING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPECIAL TRUST FUNDS

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

Various Donations - \$163.76 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

Groton Utilities Matching Funds - \$1,058.29 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

George Marshall - \$100.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Marlene Terry Ziegler in memory of Joyce Tatro - \$100.00 - Library Discretionary

Various Donations - \$57.85 - Groton Utilities Energy Assistance Program

John and Linnie Lawrence - \$500.00 - Social Services Discretionary

Catherine Kolnaski - \$100.00 - Spicer Trust Fund

c. Deletions from the Town Council Referral List

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|-----------|--|----------|
| 2010-0117 | Appointment of John Sutherland to Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Community | Referral |
| 2010-0111 | Mystic Education Center Trail | Referral |
| 2009-0254 | Town Historian | Referral |

VII. COMMUNICATION REPORTS (Other than Committee Reports)

a. Town Councilors

- b. Clerk of the Representative Town Meeting
- c. Clerk of the Council
- d. Town Manager
- e. Town Attorney

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Peruzzotti
- b. Economic Development - Chairman Johnson
- c. Education/Health & Social Services - Chairman Kolnaski
- d. Environment/Energy - Chairman Sheets
- e. Finance - Chairman O'Beirne
- f. Personnel/Appointments/Rules - Chairman Flax
- g. Public Safety - Chairman Monteiro
- h. Public Works/Recreation - Chairman Watson
- i. Committee of the Whole - Mayor Streeter

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

2010-0117 Appointment of John Sutherland to Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Community Referral

RESOLUTION APPOINTING JOHN SUTHERLAND TO THE TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

RESOLVED, that John Sutherland, 32 Neptune Drive, is hereby appointed to the Task Force on Climate Change and Sustainable Community for a term ending 12/2/2010.

Legislative History

5/11/2010 Town Council Recommended for a Personnel/Appointments/Rules Resolution /Legislation Committee

2010-0111 Mystic Education Center Trail Referral

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWN MANAGER TO EXPLORE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TRAIL SYSTEM AT THE MYSTIC EDUCATION CENTER WHEREAS, the 2005 Groton Bicycle, Pedestrian and Trails Master Plan recommended the establishment of a trail system on the state-owned Mystic Education Center property with a connection to the Town-owned open space on River Road to the north, and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Commission endorsed such a trail as early as 2001 and reiterated their support for this trail at a number of recent meetings, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager is hereby authorized to enter into discussions with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Works to explore the feasibility of constructing trails on the Mystic Education Center property on Oral School Road.

Legislative History

5/7/2010	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Environment/E
5/11/2010	Town Council Environment/Energy Committee	Recommended for a Resolution	

2009-0254 Town Historian Referral

RESOLUTION REGARDING APPOINTMENT OF TOWN HISTORIAN

WHEREAS, Carol Kimball, the Town's long-standing Town Historian, has indicated her desire to step down as Town Historian, and

WHEREAS, since the time of Carol Kimball's appointment as Town Historian the Town has adopted a new Town Charter which makes specific reference to agencies, authorities, boards, commissions, committees, or councils (ABCs) and prohibits dual office holders, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has conferred with the Town Attorney regarding the applicability of the provisions governing ABCs to the position of Town Historian, and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has found that the Town Historian is a non-paid, honorary position that can not commit the Town to any course of action, has no decision-making authority, has no budget or fund-expending capability, and presents no staffing implications, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council affirms that the position of Town Historian is not included in "Authorized ABCs" and is not subject to Charter Section 3.5.2 Holding multiple offices, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Town Manager is authorized to begin an active solicitation of Town Historian candidates.

Legislative History

10/5/2009	Mayor	Referred	Town Council Committee of th
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10/13/2009	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	
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Town Manager Oefinger noted that Carol Kimball submitted her resignation as the Town Historian. He asked the Council to consider what type of process they would like to follow to find a new Town Historian. The Town Attorney has been asked if a current or future Councilor could serve as Town Historian. The Town Manager recommends an open solicitation. It was noted that the position could be advertised on the Town's Web site as well as GMTV.

1/12/2010	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Not Discussed	
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1/26/2010	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Discussed	
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Town Manager Oefinger provided a brief history of this issue. Carol Kimball has stepped down from the position of Town Historian and there was a desire on the part of the Council to do a solicitation. The Town Attorney has issued an opinion that it would not be appropriate for a Town Councilor or other board or commission member to serve as the Town Historian. Mr. Carey has indicated this is a conservative opinion and he would be willing to answer any questions from the Council. Councilor Watson supported filling the position. Councilor Sheets feels the Town Attorney's opinion is a "stretch." The Town Manager suggested that the Council settle the Town Attorney opinion issue so that all board and commission members know if they are eligible to apply or not. The consensus of the Council was to ask the Town Attorney to come in for a discussion about his opinion.

5/4/2010	Town Council Committee of the Whole	Recommended for a Resolution	
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The Town Manager gave a brief overview of the issue and noted that last fall, Carol Kimball, the Town's long-standing Town Historian, indicated her desire to step down from the position due to health and personal issues. Initially the Town Council directed staff to begin a solicitation for a new Town Historian including

