



# 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 Harry A. Watson, Councilors Peter J. Bartinik, Jr., Heather Sherman Bond, Catherine Kolnaski, Frank O'Beirne, Jr., John F. Scott, Paulann H. Sheets, James L. Streeter, and Elissa T. Wright.*

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Tuesday, January 3, 2006

7:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

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#### REGULAR MEETING

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#### I. ROLL CALL

*The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Harry Watson.*

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

Members Present: Mayor Watson, Councilor Bartinik, Jr., Councilor Kolnaski, Councilor O'Beirne, Jr., Councilor Scott, Councilor Sheets, Councilor Streeter and Councilor Wright

Members Absent: Councilor Bond

#### II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

*The Salute to the Flag was led by Town Clerk Barbara Tarbox.*

#### III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS & MEMORIALS

*None.*

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

*None.*

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

*None.*

#### VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

##### a. Approval of Minutes

##### 2005-0318 Approval of Minutes (Town Council)

##### RESOLUTION ACCEPTING TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the Town Council Meeting of December 20, 2005 are hereby accepted and approved.

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

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

##### 2005-0001 2005 Unaffiliated and Other Appointments (Standing Referral)

Deleted from Referral List - No further action

##### 2005-0002 2005 Republican Town Committee Appointments (Standing Referral)

Deleted from Referral List - No further action

##### 2005-0003 2005 Democratic Town Committee Appointments (Standing Referral)

Deleted from Referral List - No further action

##### 2005-0004 Revised Position Descriptions (2005 Standing Referral)

Deleted from Referral List - No further action

- 2005-0005 Labor Negotiations (2005 Standing Referral)**  
Deleted from Referral List - No further action
- 2005-0006 Pending Litigation (2005 Standing Referral)**  
Deleted from Referral List - No further action
- 2005-0007 Legislative Policy (2005 Standing Referral)**  
Deleted from Referral List - No further action
- 2005-0008 Town Participation in CCM Lawsuits and Interventions (2005 Standing Referral)**  
Deleted from Referral List - No further action
- 2005-0073 Town Council Rules Revisions (2005 Standing Referral)**  
Deleted from Referral List - No further action

**c. Special Trust Fund Contributions**

*None.*

**Passed The Consent Calendar**

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

*Councilors received communications regarding the revaluation and property taxes.*

*Mayor Watson attended the Fire Chiefs' luncheon on December 21. He also attended a ribbon-cutting at the new Quizno's Sub on Long Hill Road on December 29.*

**2006-0016 Broadwater Liquefied Natural Gas Proposal**

**BROADWATER LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS PROPOSAL**

*Councilor O'Beirne requested a new referral be submitted to the Committee of the Whole to discuss the Town's position on the proposed liquid natural gas floating platform for Long Island Sound.*

**b. Representative Town Meeting**

*No report.*

**c. Clerk of the Council**

*No report.*

**d. Town Manager**

*Town Manager Oefinger reminded the Councilors that Group I, Group II, and Committee of the Whole will be meeting on January 10, 2006. He noted that the agenda for the Committee of the Whole will be quite lengthy and the first item to be discussed will be the budget. On January 12 there will be a Special Committee of the Whole meeting at which the Stonington sewer situation will be discussed.*

**e. Town Attorney**

*The Town Council received copies of the Town Attorney's Report.*

*The Mayor noted that he had spoken with Chairman Beverly Washington regarding meeting with the Board of Education (BOE) to discuss attorneys. She stated that the BOE would like to address this issue in their Finance Committee before meeting with the Town Council in February.*

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS****a. Community & Cultural Development - Chairman Scott**

*No meeting; no report.*

**b. Economic Development - Chairman Bond**

*No meeting; no report.*

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

*No meeting; no report.*

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

*No meeting; no report.*

**e. Finance - Chairman Wright**

*No meeting; no report.*

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

*No meeting; no report.*

**g. Public Safety - Chairman Streeter**

*No meeting; no report.*

**h. Public Works - Chairman Bartinik**

*No meeting; no report.*

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

*No meeting; no report.*

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

*Councilor Bartinik referred to the Weekly Status Report in which the Parks and Recreation Policies and Procedures were discussed. He does not feel that Town Attorney involvement is needed. The Town Manager's office will look into this matter.*

*Councilor O'Beirne reminded the Council to forward any proposed rule changes to the Town Manager or himself.*

*Responding to Councilor Sheets' comments regarding procedures for residents filing appeals on their assessments, Assistant to the Town Manager Vincent noted that the next Weekly Status Report will include this information.*

*Councilor Sheets noted that tax relief information for the elderly, disabled, and veterans is available on the Town's web site.*

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

*Councilor Streeter suggested that the Town Manager investigate whether there are filters installed on Groton Public Library's computers and the amount of federal funding received for these computers.*

**2006-0012 Implementation of 2005 Revaluation****IMPLEMENTATION OF 2005 REVALUATION**

*Councilor Wright requested a new referral be submitted to the Committee of the Whole to consider not implementing the revaluation under Section 12-62(l) of the Connecticut General Statutes and/or phasing of increases in gradual increments over a three year period under Section 12-62(c) of the Connecticut General Statutes.*

**2006-0015 Town Attorney Involvement in Land Use Appeals**

*Councilor Wright requested a new referral be submitted to the Committee of the Whole to discuss Town Attorney involvement in administrative appeals from land use permitting decisions.*

**XI. OTHER BUSINESS**

*Councilor Sheets suggested that when the referral for Town Attorney Involvement in Land Use Appeals is discussed in the Committee of the Whole, representatives of such land use agencies as the Inland Wetlands Agency, Planning Commission and the Zoning Commission be invited to attend.*

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

*A motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. was made by Councilor Kolnaski, seconded by Councilor Streeter and so voted unanimously.*

*Attest:*

*Barbara Tarbox, Town Clerk  
Clerk of the Council*