



Tuesday, January 20, 2026 | 7:30 PM
MAYOR & COUNCIL - AGENDA

Mayor Jill Rusk, Deputy Mayor Stephen Sheffield, Councilor Jean-Claude Ambroise, Councilor Nicholas Johns, Councilor Christy McElroy, Councilor Christine Piazza, Councilor Paul Norris and City Clerk Dani Baycura

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84601109967?pwd=zNXptaHDKt3fwvhCkFflBg2sKS6AaR.1>

Meeting ID: 846 0110 9967

Passcode: 503990

I. ROLL CALL

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, AND MEMORIALS

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS

Receipt of Citizens' Petitions is the portion of the Council meeting where the Council welcomes comments from citizens. To address the Council, please sign the sheet on the table at the front of the meeting room. When you are recognized, please approach the podium. Clearly state your name and address. Each presentation should be limited to five (5) minutes or less, and citizens should, if possible, submit emailed or written comments. Presentations should be related to matters pertinent to the City of Groton. City Councilors will only ask questions in order to clarify the speaker's presentation and can respond during the Responses to Citizens' Petitions portion of the meeting.

V. RESPOND TO CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor and Council, 1-5-26

Committee of the Whole, 1-12-26

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

R-26-01-05 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL FINALLY APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION AND THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY ASSOCIATED WITH AVERY BROOK *

(*Stipulation Attached)



WHEREAS, the City of Groton is a party to litigation entitled City of Groton v. The Town of Ledyard Planning and Zoning Commission et al., Docket Number HHD-LND-CV-24-6194782-S; and

WHEREAS, said litigation concerns matters affecting Avery Brook and related property interests; and

WHEREAS, the City Attorney has negotiated a proposed Stipulation (*see attached) to Judgment (the “Stipulation”) to resolve said litigation; and

WHEREAS, the Stipulation provides, inter alia, for the acquisition by the City of Groton, at no cost, of two certain portions of property known as 94 Stoddard’s Wharf Road, Ledyard, Connecticut, consisting of approximately 1.37 acres of land; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of said property is in the best interests of the City of Groton, including but not limited to environmental protection, watershed management, and the resolution of pending litigation; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council find that approval of said Stipulation and authorization of the actions required thereunder are appropriate and necessary; and

WHEREAS, this resolution shall become effective upon passage;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council authorize the city attorney to settle the following litigation, City of Groton v The Town of Ledyard Planning and Zoning Commission et al., Docket Number HHD-LND-CV-24-6194782-S, upon the terms and conditions set forth in a proposed Stipulation To Judgment (the “Stipulation”), a copy of which is attached to this resolution and made a part hereof, which Stipulation includes, inter alia, the acquisition by the City, at no cost, of two certain portions of property known as 94 Stoddard’s Wharf Rd., Ledyard, CT consisting of approximately 1.37 acres of land; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the city attorney is authorized in furtherance of this resolution to execute and deliver the Stipulation and such other related documents, and to take such other acts in the name of and on behalf of the City of Groton which, in the opinion of the city attorney, are necessary, proper and convenient. Such authority shall include, but not be limited to, the execution and delivery of any amendments to the Stipulation, but only after consultation with, and approval by, the Mayor; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to work with the city attorney in furtherance of the settlement of said litigation.



R-26-01-06 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE UPDATES TO THE RESTROOMS, PAVILIONS AND OTHER BUILDINGS WITHIN WASHINGTON PARK BY AHOVE HOME IMPROVEMENT, LLC, 415 BARN HILL ROAD, MONROE, CT 06468 FOR THE PRICE OF TWO HUNDRED THREE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY SEVEN DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$203,197.00) AND A 10% CONTINGENCY OF TWENTY THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED NINETEEN DOLLARS AND SEVENTY CENTS (\$20,319.70) FOR A TOTAL EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED TWENTY-THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SIXTEEN DOLLARS AND SEVENTY CENTS (\$223,516.70) TO BE PAID FROM BUDGETED CAPITAL FUNDS

WHEREAS, the interior and exterior renovations of two (2) public restrooms at Washington Park, one centrally located within the Park, the other on Park Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the exterior siding for two (2) additional buildings on the property; and

WHEREAS, the replacement of shingled roofs on three (3) buildings and six (6) pavilions located within the Park

WHEREAS, the City of Groton solicited bids for the project; and checked referrals from other communities that used Above Home Improvements, LLC; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Parks and Recreation recommends this project;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve the updates to the restrooms, pavilions and other buildings within Washington park by Above Home Improvement, LLC, 415 barn hill road, Monroe, CT 06468 for the price of Two Hundred Three Thousand One Hundred Ninety Seven Dollars And No Cents (\$203,197.00) and a 10% contingency of Twenty Thousand Three Hundred Nineteen Dollars And Seventy Cents (\$20,319.70) for a total expenditure not to exceed Two Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Sixteen Dollars And Seventy Cents (\$223,516.70) to be paid from budgeted capital funds.

R-26-01-07 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A 5-YEAR CONTRACT FOR THE ENGINEERING STUDY OF GROTON UTILITIES AND BOZRAH LIGHT AND POWER ELECTRICAL SYSTEMS, WITH AN OPTIONAL 2-YEAR EXTENSION, TO RLC ENGINEERING, PLLC, 267 WHITTEN ROAD, HALLOWELL, MAINE AND ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER NOT TO EXCEED



TWO HUNDRED THREE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$203,500.00) INCLUDING A TEN PERCENT (10%) CONTINGENCY FOR THE FIRST PHASE OF THE PROJECT TO BE FUNDED BY FY26 AND FY27 ELECTRICAL EXPENSE BUDGETS AND THAT THE DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE CONTRACT

WHEREAS, it has been identified that a system study is needed in both Groton and Bozrah for the long-term capital plan to maintain and upgrade the electrical distribution systems of both utility companies and the request is to support a study where RLC Engineering, as the distribution system architect, will recommend improvement plans under their contract terms; and

WHEREAS, Management solicited bids and held a bid opening on October 7, 2025; and

WHEREAS, per bid process referenced as GU-25-Q8, RLC Engineering, PLLC, was the most qualified bid to award; and

WHEREAS, this project will study Groton Utilities 34.5kV and 13.8kV electrical distribution systems and architecture, and Bozrah Light and Power’s 13.8kV electrical distribution system and architecture; and

WHEREAS, additional phases will be added as needed; and

WHEREAS, the price breakdown is as follows:

Cost of Phase I:	\$185,000.00
10% Contingency:	\$ 18,500.00
Total Request:	\$203,500.00; and

WHEREAS, Groton’s cost share will be \$154,000.00 and Bozrah’s cost share will be \$31,000.00; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on December 17, 2025 the Groton Utilities Commission authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a 5-year contract for the architectural engineering study of Groton Utilities and Bozrah Light and Power Electrical System, with an optional 2-year extension, to RLC Engineering, PLLC, 267 Whitten Road, Hallowell, Maine and issue a purchase order not to exceed Two Hundred Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$203,500.00) including a ten percent (10%) contingency for the first phase of the project to be funded by FY26 and FY27 electrical expense budgets and furthermore that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to issue a 5-year contract for the engineering study of Groton Utilities and Bozrah Light



and Power Electrical Systems, with an optional 2-year extension, to RLC Engineering, PLLC, 267 Whitten Road, Hallowell, Maine and issue a purchase order not to exceed Two Hundred Three Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents (\$203,500.00) including a ten percent (10%) contingency for the first phase of the project to be funded by FY26 and FY27 electrical expense budgets and that the Director of Utilities be authorized to sign the contract.

R-26-01-08 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO NATIONAL WATER MAIN CLEANING COMPANY (NWMCC), 25 MARCHALL STREET, CANTON , MASSACHUSETTS, NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$535,000.00) FOR THE CITY OF GROTON SEWER CLEANING AND INSPECTION TO BE FUNDED BY FY26 AND FY27 WASTEWATER NON-BONDED CAPITAL

WHEREAS, this project was planned during the FY25 budget planning process; and

WHEREAS, Management solicited bids for this cleaning and inspection, and a bid opening was held on November 10,2025; and

WHEREAS, NWMCC will provide cleaning and video inspection services of the City of Groton sanitary sewer system, which consists of approximately 169,000 lineal feet of gravity sewer pipe ranging from 8" to 30" diameters; and

WHEREAS, the project is scheduled to start in early 2026 and have a duration of approximately one year; and

WHEREAS, this inspection will allow for prioritization for future repairs as needed to the Groton Wastewater collection system, and

WHEREAS, the cost breakdown is as follows:

Project Cost:	\$486,346.00
10% contingency (rounded):	\$ 48,654.00
Total Request:	\$535,000.00; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on December 17, 2025, the Groton Utility Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to National Water Main Cleaning Company (NWMCC), 25 Marchall Street, Canton , Massachusetts, not to exceed Five Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$535,000.00) for the City of Groton Sewer Cleaning and Inspection to be funded by FY26 and FY27 Wastewater Non-bonded



capital, and furthermore that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to National Water Main Cleaning Company (NWMCC), 25 Marchall Street, Canton, Massachusetts, not to exceed Five Hundred Thirty Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$535,000.00) for the City of Groton Sewer Cleaning and Inspection to be funded by FY26 and FY27 Wastewater Non-bonded capital.

R-26-01-09 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL INITIALLY AUTHORIZE THE APPROVAL OF A PERMANENT ACCESS ROAD EASEMENT FOR EVERSOURCE AT 101 SANDY HOLLOW ROAD, LEDYARD, CONNECTICUT, PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF GROTON, AND THAT THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GROTON BE AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, Eversource upgraded their transmission line that runs through the Ledyard Reservoir; and

WHEREAS, during construction, Groton Utilities granted Eversource permission to use the existing entrance from Gate #46 on Long Cove Road to maintain watershed security and access their structures; and

WHEREAS, Groton Utilities has requested that Eversource use the Gate #46 entrance for maintenance that may be needed on their transmission line; and

WHEREAS, granting this access would eliminate the construction of another access road and will minimize environmental impacts, protect the Ledyard and Morgan Reservoirs, and prevent unauthorized access points for vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton Planning and Zoning Commission approved the 8-24 on December 16, 2025; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on October 15, 2025, the Groton Utilities Commission/Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to move forward and take necessary steps to authorize a permanent access road easement at 101 Sandy Hollow Road, Ledyard, Connecticut, property owned by the City of Groton, and furthermore, that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur and take the necessary steps to proceed with this agreement;



THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council initially authorize the approval of a permanent access road easement for Eversource at 101 Sandy Hollow Road, Ledyard, Connecticut, property owned by the City of Groton and that the Mayor of the City of Groton be authorized to sign the agreement.

R-26-01-10 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE A DONATION OF SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$750.00) TO GROTON COMMUNITY MEALS, 119 HIGH STREET, MYSTIC, CONNECTICUT

WHEREAS, Groton Community Meals is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization committed to making a meaningful difference for families facing food insecurity in Groton and our surrounding towns; and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton received a request for donation from Groton Community Meals to help support their initiatives including serving hot meals to Groton area children, adults, and seniors, preparing weekly meals for individuals at Thrive 55+ Active Living Center and Thames River Magnet School, and twice-monthly mobile meal deliveries; and

WHEREAS, resolution R-14-4-48 authorized the City Council to make donations to support the social, cultural and educational interests of the City of Groton;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve a donation of Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars and Zero Cents (\$750.00) to Groton Community Meals, 119 High Street, Mystic, Connecticut.

R-26-01-11 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE A DONATION OF SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$750.00) TO CHILDREN FIRST, 52 NEWTOWN ROAD, GROTON, CONNECTICUT

WHEREAS, the City of Groton received a request for donation from Children First to aid in its mission that all Groton, CT children are healthy, safe, successful learners, connected to strong families in a community that values diversity; and

WHEREAS, Children First is supported through donations and grants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton has previously contributed donations to Children First, which has helped support initiatives ranging from Prescription to Read, gifting 900 books per year to children at well child visits, the annual Childhood Resource Fair, and the installation of a story walk offering weekly summer story times; and



WHEREAS, resolution R-14-4-48 authorized the City Council to make donations to support the social, cultural and educational interests of the City of Groton; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve a donation of Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars and Zero Cents (\$750.00) to Children First, 52 Newtown Road, Groton, Connecticut.

X. ADJOURNMENT