



Monday, February 9, 2026 | 6:00 PM

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Minutes

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

The following minutes meet all requirements under CT FOIA for public meetings and is not a transcript of the meeting. Please visit [Groton Municipal Television on YouTube](#) to view the meeting in further detail.

I. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm. Present: Mayor Rusk, Deputy Mayor Sheffield, Councilor McElroy, Councilor Ambroise and Councilor Norris via Zoom. Excused: Councilor Piazza and Councilor Johns.

II. NEW BUSINESS OR REFERRAL

A. Highway Budget FY27 Review

Mayor Rusk allowed for more time to discuss the proposed FY27 Highway Budget before it is to be presented for approval with the Town Council.

Motion to move to the Special Mayor and Council meeting of February 9, 2026: Councilor Ambroise. Second: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Motion carried, 4-0-0.

B. Council Committee Public Safety/Public Works Discussion

1. Fire Marshal Fees

Councilor Ambroise as Chair of the Public Safety Council Committee, provided an update on discussions of possibly offsetting expenses related to hiring additional fire department staff. The committee's recommendation will most likely be for an ordinance establishing fire marshal inspection fees when applying for commercial building permits. Chief Tompkins agreed this regular practice has the potential to being a steady source of income.

C. Bozrah Light and Power

1. Electric AMI Antennas Relocation

Groton Utilities Manager of Business Development, Aaron Brooks, proposed the \$99,000 request to temporarily relocate antennas that would allow for uninterrupted service to Bozrah Light and Power customers, while Norwich Public Utilities completes restoration on their Yantic Water Tank.



Motion to move to Mayor and Council meeting of February 17, 2026: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Second: Councilor Norris. Motion carried, 4-0-0.

D. Boards & Commissions Appointments

1. Beach & Parks Committee Appointment – C. Duffy

Application was received from resident requesting to serve on said Committee.

Motion to move to Mayor and Council meeting of February 17, 2026: Councilor Ambroise. Second: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Motion carried, 4-0-0.

2. Youth Advisory Committee Appointment – H. Butler

Application was received from resident requesting to serve on said Committee.

Motion to move to Mayor and Council meeting of February 17, 2026: Councilor Ambroise. Second: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Motion carried, 4-0-0.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Councilor Ambroise. Second: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Motion carried, 4-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Dani Baycura
City Clerk