



Tuesday, February 17, 2026 | 7:30 PM

MAYOR & COUNCIL - 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 are 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 7:30pm. Present: Mayor Rusk, Deputy Mayor Sheffield, Councilor McElroy, Councilor Norris. Via Zoom: Councilor Ambroise, Councilor Johns and Councilor Piazza.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, AND MEMORIALS

None.

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.

Michael Boucher, 16 Hillside Avenue – Expressed concerns about the Shore Avenue seawall project and its associated ARPA funding. As well as concerns about children and EB workers walking in the street due to sidewalks covered in snow. Reported difficulties West Street residents are experiencing due to EB workers.

Debra Patrick, 8 Mellow Avenue – Repeated to council past encouragement to begin the charter revision process and forming the Charter Review Committee. Last revision was passed in 2012 and believes it is due for an update. Advised on budgeting about \$20,000 at least for advertising.

V. RESPOND TO CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS

Mayor Rusk explained that the Blight Officer has been working to encourage residents to clear sidewalks, noting it is the property owner's responsibility. Also acknowledged receiving multiple



concerns about residential parking issues and noted ongoing discussions with EB to address their parking shortage.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Special Committee of the Whole, 1-27-26

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Second: Councilor McElroy. Motion carried, 6-0-0.

Mayor and Council, 2-2-26

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Second: Councilor McElroy. Motion carried, 6-0-0.

Special Mayor and Council, 2-9-26

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Second: Councilor McElroy. Motion carried, 6-0-0.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilor McElroy – Reminded residents of the Black History Month celebration on February 21st at 10am at the Municipal Building.

Councilor Norris – Received phone calls regarding dangerous areas where kids were forced to walk in the street due to ice and snow.

Deputy Mayor Sheffield – Received email from a Marine High School student asking to participate in a design for roads and water runoff project. Will be forwarding that information to Cierra Patrick and is looking forward to working with them.

Councilor Johns – Applied for membership at the Groton Italian American Club and excited for opportunity for further community involvement.

Councilor Piazza – Mentioned receiving complaints about dangerous conditions for pedestrians and bus stops covered in snow.

Councilor Ambrose – Acknowledged the significant snow event and praised public works, firefighters and first responders who worked for 48 hours straight during the storm.

VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

R-26-02-18 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE BOZRAH LIGHT AND POWER MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO CARDINAL ENTERPRISES, LLC., 15 OLD WEST RD, GRANVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED NINETY-NINE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$99,000.00) INCLUDING A TEN-THOUSAND, FIVE-HUNDRED DOLLAR (\$10,500.00) CONTINGENCY FOR THE TEMPORARY RELOCATION OF ELECTRIC AMI ANTENNAS TO HELP FACILITATE NORWICH PUBLIC UTILITY’S REHABILITATION OF THE



YANTIC WATER TANK TO BE PAID FROM BOZRAH LIGHT AND POWER AVAILABLE CASH ON HAND

WHEREAS, this is a non- budgeted expense; and

WHEREAS, Cardinal Enterprises is a Preferred Vendor as this vendor completed the original installation and has performed all the maintenance and tuning; and

WHEREAS, this work must be performed in coordination with the NPU water tank project to ensure uninterrupted AMI service; and

WHEREAS, this work will include moving existing equipment, supplying and installing new cabling and connectors, and reinstalling all equipment back to its original location; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on January 28, 2026, the Bozrah Utility Commission authorized Bozrah Light and Power Management to issue a purchase order to Cardinal Enterprises, LLC., 15 Old West Rd, Granville, Massachusetts for an amount not to exceed Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$99,000.00) including a Ten-Thousand, Five-Hundred Dollar (\$10,500.00) contingency for the temporary relocation of Electric AMI Antennas to help facilitate NPU's rehabilitation of the Yantic Water Tank, to be paid from Bozrah Light and Power available cash on hand, 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 Bozrah Light and Power Management to issue a purchase order to Cardinal Enterprises, LLC., 15 Old West Rd, Granville, Massachusetts for an amount not to exceed Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars and Zero Cents (\$99,000.00) including a Ten-Thousand, Five-Hundred Dollar (\$10,500.00) contingency for the temporary relocation of Electric AMI Antennas to help facilitate NPU's rehabilitation of the Yantic Water Tank to be paid from Bozrah Light and Power available cash on hand.

Motion to approve: Councilor McElroy. Second: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Motion carried, 6-0-0.

R-26-02-19 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF HOLLY BUTLER, 69 BENHAM ROAD, GROTON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER, YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TERM TO EXPIRE ON OCTOBER 31, 2026

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for a regular member on the Youth Advisory Committee; and



WHEREAS, Holly Butler, 69 Benham Road, Groton, Connecticut, desires to serve on the Youth Advisory Committee and has been recommended for appointment as a regular member;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the appointment of Holly Butler, 69 Benham Road, Groton, Connecticut, as a regular member, Youth Advisory Committee, term to expire on October 31, 2026.

Motion to approve: Councilor Norris. Second: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Motion carried, 6-0-0.

R-26-02-20 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF CELESTE DUFFY, 216 TYLER AVENUE, GROTON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER, BEACH AND PARKS COMMITTEE, TERM TO EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 17, 2029

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for a regular member to the Beach and Parks Committee; and

WHEREAS, Celeste Duffy, 217 Tyler Avenue, Groton, Connecticut, desires to serve on the Beach and Parks Committee and has been recommended for appointment as a regular member;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the appointment of Celeste Duffy, 216 Tyler Avenue, Groton, Connecticut, as a regular member, Beach and Parks Committee, term to expire on February 17, 2029.

Motion to approve: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Second: Councilor McElroy. Motion carried, 6-0-0.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Deputy Mayor Sheffield. Second: Councilor McElroy. Motion carried, 6-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

ATTEST:
APPROVED:

Dani Baycura
City Clerk