



**City of Groton, Connecticut**

**City Municipal Building  
295 Meridian Street  
Groton, CT 06340**

**Committee of the Whole  
Minutes**

**Council Chambers**

**Monday, September 26, 2022**

**6:00 PM**

**Mayor Keith Hedrick, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot, Councilor Rashaad Carter, Councilor Lisa McCabe,  
Councilor Paul Norris, Councilor Christine Piazza and Councilor Stephen Sheffield  
City Clerk Edward Jacome**

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Mayor Keith Hedrick called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**I. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Keith Hedrick, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot, Councilor Rashaad Carter, Councilor Lisa McCabe, Councilor Paul Norris, Councilor Christine Piazza, Councilor Stephen Sheffield, City Clerk Edward Jacome and Finance Director Ron Yuhas

**II. REFERRALS:**

**655 DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS**

**-NOV/MAY ELECTIONS**

**8/22/22**

Registrar of Voters Kristen Venditti informed the council that there were some errors in their redistricting where some of the streets were assigned to the wrong polling location. The mistakes have been corrected and those effected will be receiving a mailer with the correct polling location and candidates listed.

Finance Director Ron Yuhas arrived at 6:09 p.m.

Councilor Norris arrived at 6:10 p.m.

There was lengthy discussion between the council on Senate Bill No. 1202 June Special Session, Public Act No. 21-2 pg. 150 Section 116 changing City of Groton biannual elections to November unless the legislative body determines May elections by a three-fourths vote. Discussion included specific wording of the law and both support and opposition to the change.

**-COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE AGENDA UPDATES**

**9/26/22**

Clerk Jacome presented a restructured Committee of the Whole draft agenda to the council. He stated that the changes would streamline and create a better comprehensive agenda.

Deputy Mayor Depot inquired if the new agenda would remove the method of tracking items.

Clerk Jacome clarified that it would not remove the method of tracking

There was consensus to move to the new structured Committee of the Whole agenda.

**742 GROTON UTILITIES**

**2/21/19**

**- NAA Program**

**9/26/22**

Director of Utilities Ron Gaudet explained the process of the Neighborhood Assistance Act program. The contribution amount is \$150,000.00

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Councilor Sheffield asked who was awarded last year and what the Bill Memorial Library is planning on doing with their funds as this year's awardee.

Director Gaudet stated last year's awardee was Sacred Heart. Bill Memorial Library will use the funds for energy efficiency window replacements. He also clarified that this award is always related to energy projects.

Discussion ensued on advertisement of the program.

Motion to move to Mayor and Council Meeting October 3, 2022 made by Councilor Norris, second by Deputy Mayor Depot.

All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

**- Technological Solutions, LLC for SCADA Prism** **9/26/22**

Director Gaudet explained that this item and the next item are related with the same company of Technological Solutions, LLC. This is for the programming of the computers system that controls the distribution system and the substations. This one is related to already existing equipment that requires an update.

Motion to move to Mayor and Council Meeting October 3, 2022 made by Deputy Mayor Depot, second by Councilor Norris.

All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

**- Technological Solutions, LLC for SCADA Integration-Buddington SS Upgrade** **9/26/22**

Director Gaudet stated this one is capital related for the Buddington Substation.

Council Sheffield inquired about the twenty percent contingency.

Director Gaudet explained this if for possible extra man-hours.

Motion to move to Mayor and Council Meeting October 3, 2022 made by Deputy Mayor Depot, second by Councilor McCabe.

All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

**- SENSUS for purchase of Meters** **9/26/22**

Director Gaudet stated that current electric meters report over the radio transmitted system. They report even if power is lost along with the routine meter reading, which is sent to the system and then to billing. The first batch of automated meters are fifteen years old and with supply chain issues this is a routine purchase of 2,000 electric meters.

Councilor Norris inquired if homeowners are notified when electric meters are changed.

Director Gaudet stated he did not have an answer and will follow-up with the Mayor's office.

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Deputy Mayor Depot stated Groton Utilities employees are always in uniform and have identification. She also inquired if there were any other discounts apart from the 5% quantity discount for orders over 1,500 units.

Director Gaudet stated there were no other discounts available.

Motion to move to Mayor and Council Meeting October 3, 2022 made by Councilor Norris, second by Councilor Piazza.

All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

**561 GROTON UTILITIES FINANCIALS**

**9/24/15**

Finance Director Ron Yuhas recommended waiting until next month for the Groton Utilities Financials as the first quarter finals could be reported. He stated if you look at the month and date for water and sewer the revenue for industrial is down and that is currently being investigated. He also stated there is a meeting scheduled for tomorrow to start the review of the PPATCA for the electric.

**912 GROTON FINANCIALS**

**9/26/22**

Finance Director Ron Yuhas recommended waiting until next month for the Groton Financials as the first quarter finals could be reported.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Enter into Executive Session pursuant to CGS 1-200 (6)(D), upon motion and vote of the City Council.**

**-To discuss the Mother Bailey House**

**(A.) Possible action from Executive Session**

Mayor Hedrick entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to CGS 1-200 (6) (D) to discuss the Mother Baily House and include the Mayor and Council, Finance Director Ron Yuhas, Planner Leslie Creane and Building and Zoning Official Joseph Summers.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Depot, second by Councilor McCabe.

All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

The executive session began at 7:26 p.m.

The executive session ended at 8:24 p.m.

Mayor Hedrick entertained a motion to move the sale of the Mother Bailey House to Mayor and Council Meeting October 3, 2022.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Depot, second by Councilor Piazza.

All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Enter into Executive Session pursuant to CGS 1-200 (6)(B), upon motion and vote of the City**

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**Council.**

**-To discuss Branford Manor**

**(A.) Possible action from Executive Session**

Mayor Hedrick entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session pursuant to CGS 1-200 (6) (B) to discuss Branford Manor and include the Mayor and Council and Building and Zoning Official Joseph Summers.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Depot, second by Councilor Sheffield.  
All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

The executive session began at 8:30 p.m.  
The executive session ended at 9:35 p.m.

**III. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor MaCabe, second by Councilor Piazza.  
All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

Mayor Keith Hedrick adjourned the meeting at 9:37 p.m.