



# City of Groton, Connecticut

## Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, July 19, 2021

City Municipal Building  
295 Meridian Street  
Groton, CT 06340

Council Chambers

**7:30 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 Megan Peters

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Mayor Keith Hedrick called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

### **I. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Mayor Keith Hedrick, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot via Zoom, Councilor Rashaad Carter, Councilor Paul Norris, Councilor Christine Piazza, Councilor Stephen Sheffield and City Clerk Megan Peters

**Absent:** Councilor Lisa McCabe

### **II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

### **III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND MEMORIALS**

None to report.

### **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.

None to report.

### **V. RESPOND TO CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS**

N/A

### **VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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Approved – Motion made by Councilor Stephen Sheffield, second by Councilor Paul Norris.  
Motion carried. All in favor, 5-0-0.

### **VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

**Councilor Paul Norris** – None to report.

**Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot** – None to report.

**Councilor Stephen Sheffield** – Councilor Stephen Sheffield received a letter from Kevin Cini to recognize a former intern with Groton Utilities – Kelsey Reeves. Kelsey received her doctorate in Engineering from the University of Colorado Boulder.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield also attended the Race & Equity Seminar last Friday through CCM.

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**Councilor Christine Piazza** – Councilor Christine Piazza attended the following events – 12<sup>th</sup> Community Development Group Meeting, 13<sup>th</sup> Joe Courtney Town Hall, 14<sup>th</sup> TCC Board of Education Liaison Meeting, 15<sup>th</sup> Tour of the Municipal Building by Mayor Keith Hedrick.

**Councilor Rashaad Carter** – Would like to recognize and congratulate Brian Wright for his promotion to Chief of Police in the City of New London.

**Mayor Keith Hedrick** –

7/13 – Mayor Keith Hedrick welcomed participants of the STEPS Summer Program to the Municipal Building, to get on the bus and take a trip to a nearby college for a tour.

7/23 – We have an upcoming Food Box Distribution from 12:30pm – 2:30pm at St. John’s Church, if you or anyone you know is food insecure please visit the distribution.

Farmer’s Markets are every Tuesday at Washington Park and the Farmer’s Market is now accepting SNAP benefits through the State of CT.

Concerts in the Park are every Friday at Washington Park. Please remember there is no smoking of any kind at these events as there is no smoking allowed in the park.

8/6 – City Day is coming up, this year it will have a few more offerings than years past. Come out and enjoy the newly redesigned concept for City Day.

Eastern Point Beach is open for the season and beach passes are still on sale at the Municipal Building Mon-Thurs, 8am – 4pm.

8/7 – Groton Heights Open House Day

9/4 & 9/5 – Commemoration of the 240<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Griswold

9/12 – Groton City Brew Run

7/21 – Pedestrian & Bicycle Working Group

8/12 – Community Resilience Plan Workshop

7/29 – Peruvian Flag Raising 1pm at the Municipal Building

Don’t forget to sign-up for the City of Groton Newsletter to receive information on all the above mentioned events as well as future events around the City.

**VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS**

None.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**R-21-7-126 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ACCEPT AND APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH BETA GROUP, INCORPORATED, 1010 WETHERSFIELD AVENUE, SUITE 305, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, FOR CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION AND CONSTRUCTION INSPECTION SERVICES OF THE POQUONNOCK ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-ONE DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS (\$266,431.20) TO BE PAID FROM LOCAL TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (LOTICIP) FUNDS**

**WHEREAS,** the City of Groton has received approval of its Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP) grant fund request from the Connecticut Department of Transportation for the reconstruction of Poquonnock Road; and

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**WHEREAS**, BETA Group, Incorporated, 1010 Wethersfield Avenue, Suite 305, Hartford, Connecticut, has completed the Design and Engineering documents for the project and has now provided a contract for the Scope of Services and Fee Proposal for the Construction Administration and Construction Inspection Services of the Poquonnock Road Reconstruction Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the Construction Administration and Construction Inspection services were bid as an add-alt to the Design and Engineering contract; and

**WHEREAS**, Construction Administration and Construction Inspection services are an approved expenditure within the LOTCIP program;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council accept and approve a contract with BETA Group, Incorporated, 1010 Wethersfield Avenue, Suite 305, Hartford, Connecticut, for Construction Administration and Construction Inspection services of the Poquonnock Road Reconstruction Project at a cost not to exceed Two Hundred Sixty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-One Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$266,431.20) to be paid from Local Transportation Capital Improvement Program (LOTICIP) funds.

Heidi Comeau, Public Works Project Manager, presents the project to the Council.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield asked if there was a clear project timeline.

Heidi Comeau answered that it is scheduled as a 200 working day project, but would have a winter shutdown at some point mid-November.

Councilor Rashaad Carter questioned whether the project had been coordinated with Groton Public Schools and the bus companies?

Heidi Comeau stated that it will be coordinated once a finalized schedule has been established. They are aware of the project.

Councilor Christine Piazza questioned who will choose the company for the project, will the chosen Inspector have an office at the Municipal Building and lastly that the description states that information on the project will be available at all times, who will have access to these files?

Heidi Comeau answered that the chosen company will be chosen by both the City of Groton and the BETA Group, as well as the DOT. The Mayor and Council will have final say as to which company is chosen to complete the process.

She also state yes, the inspector will have a space at the Municipal Building to do their administrative work, and she as well as the Manager and Supervisor in Public Works will have access to the records of the project.

Motion made by Councilor Paul Norris, second by Councilor Stephen Sheffield.  
All in favor, 5-0-0. Motion carried.

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**R-21-7-127 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ACCEPT THE SUCCESSOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF GROTON AND THE LOCAL 3355, AFSCME COUNCIL 4 (POLICE) UNION FOR THE PERIOD JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2025**

**WHEREAS**, through the process of negotiations, the City of Groton and the Local 3355, AFSCME, Council 4 (Police) Union, have reached a tentative collective bargaining agreement for the police officers of the City of Groton, Connecticut covering the period July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, Connecticut General Statutes, Section 7-474(b) requires the Mayor to submit the Agreement to the City of Groton Council; and

**WHEREAS**, Connecticut General Statutes, Section 7-474(b) provides that the legislative body of a municipality may approve or reject the Agreement as a whole within thirty (30) days of submission of such an Agreement;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes, Section 7-474(b), the Mayor and Council hereby approve the Agreement and that the Mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute said Agreement on behalf of the City of Groton.

Motion made by Councilor Stephen Sheffield, second by Councilor Paul Norris.  
All in favor, 5-0-0. Motion carried.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Councilor Stephen Sheffield, second by Councilor Paul Norris. All in favor, 5-0-0. Motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm.