



City of Groton, Connecticut

Mayor and Council Minutes

Monday, August 16, 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

Mayor Keith Hedrick called the meeting to order at 7:31pm.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Keith Hedrick, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot, Councilor Rashaad Carter, Councilor Lisa McCabe, Councilor Christine Piazza, Councilor Stephen Sheffield and City Clerk Megan Peters

Excused: Councilor Paul Norris

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND MEMORIALS

Mayor Keith Hedrick recognized and had a moment of silence for Bozrah First Selectman, Carl Zorn, who recently passed away.

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.

V. RESPOND TO CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS

None.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

August 2, 2021 Mayor and Council Meeting

Motion to approve the August 2, 2021 Mayor and Council Minutes made by Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot, Councilor Lisa McCabe. Motion carried. All in favor, 4-0-0.

Councilor Rashaad Carter was not present for the vote.

Minutes approved.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Superintendent Susan Austin

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2021**

Mayor Keith Hedrick introduces Superintendent Susan Austin to the council to present the Secondary Emergency Education Relief Fund (ESSER) Program for Groton Public Schools.

Superintendent Susan Austin gives a full explanation of the program, she explains positive goals and the impact it will have on our school-aged children.

Mayor Keith Hedrick explains to the council why he invited Superintendent Susan Austin to the meeting and how he would hope to get Groton City kids involved more specifically.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield questions the best location for the program, specifically a school versus a community center. He feels that a school would be the best location for this program.

Councilor Rashaad Carter questions the engagement level with this program, but states that he is fully onboard and believes that this is a great and needed program here in Groton.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot questions the vaccinations in the school system this fall.

Superintendent Susan Austin states that she cannot require the vaccination but she has seen that the teachers and staff are getting their vaccinations and are eager to move forward. She also mentioned that it is continuously being encouraged to get vaccinated.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot questions the plan to get the communication to parents from the students. She feels that it is sometimes difficult to get the students to bring or communicate the message efficiently to their parents.

Councilor Christine Piazza questions the status, is this a “pilot program”, and how the selection process will occur for the program.

Superintendent Susan Austin states that both are great questions. As the program is only in its initial planning stages, those questions are yet to be determined. She does give a brief explanation of the plan they hope to move forward with.

Councilor Christine Piazza is excited for the program and continues by providing her feedback based upon her granddaughter’s experience this summer in the camp provided by Groton Public Schools.

VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS

Councilor Lisa McCabe – Groton City Day, she enjoyed working with the councilors and serving food & beverage to the community!

Councilor Stephen Sheffield – Groton City Day, proud to be a part of the event and the community! He also participated in the Group II Committee Meeting in which he is the Chair of the Finance Committee.

Councilor Christine Piazza – Groton City Day – she had a wonderful time and enjoyed seeing all the residents that she knows at the event!

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2021**

Board of Education Meeting – attended.

Group II Committee Meeting – attended, she is the Chair of the Community Development Committee.

She is continuing her work with murals for the city.

Councilor Rashaad Carter – Groton City Day, great event, shout out to Mary Hill and team for putting it together.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot – Groton City Day, she had a lot of great feedback on the changes for this year!

She, too, attended the Group I Committee, where she is the Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Mayor Keith Hedrick recapped the wonderful events that happened since we last met, as well as reviewed what is upcoming in the city. He also thanked Parks & Recreation Director, Mary Hill, for her efforts with City Day as well as the entire City Day Planning Committee.

Mayor Keith Hedrick addresses the mask mandate, where we stand currently in our community and possible requirements moving forward.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

R-21-8-137 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) MODEL YEAR 2021 INTERNATIONAL HV507 SFA CAB AND CHASSIS FROM NUTMEG INTERNATIONAL TRUCKS, INCORPORATED, 130 BRAINARD ROAD HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, FOR PRICE OF \$87,500.00 (EIGHTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) AND AN ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION TO HP FAIRFIELD, 554 MAPLE STREET, HOPKINTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR THE BODY, HITCH, PLOW AND HYDRAULICS FOR A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED \$51,217.90 (FIFTY-ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTEEN DOLLARS AND NINETY CENTS) FOR A TOTAL VEHICLE COST NOT TO EXCEED \$138,717.90 (ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHT THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTEEN DOLLARS AND NINETY CENTS) WITH \$28,000 (TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) TO BE PAID BY TRADE-IN OF THE MODEL YEAR 2004 INTERNATIONAL AND THE REMAINING \$110,717.90 (ONE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTEEN DOLLARS AND NINETY CENTS) TO BE PAID FROM THE APPROVED FY2022 HIGHWAY OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, the Highway Department has identified the need to purchase the replacement vehicle listed; and

WHEREAS, the Public Works Supervisor requested pricing based on the needs of the Highway Department; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2021**

WHEREAS, utilizing the Town of Chaplin bid for Cab and Chassis the contract was awarded to Nutmeg International Trucks, Incorporated, 130 Brainard Road, Hartford, Connecticut, is judged by the Finance Director to be the most advantageous pricing for the City; and

WHEREAS, utilizing the Sourcewell contract, #080818-EEQ, for Everest Body, Low Mount Hitch, Plow and Rexroth Central Hydraulics, to HP Fairfield, 554 Maple Street, Hopkinton, New Hampshire, is judged by the Finance Director to be the most advantageous pricing for the City;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council Authorize and Approve the purchase of one (1) model year 2021 International HV507 SFA Cab and Chassis from Nutmeg International Trucks, Incorporated, 130 Brainard Road Hartford, Connecticut, for price of \$87,500.00 (Eighty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents) and an additional authorization to HP Fairfield, 554 Maple Street, Hopkinton, New Hampshire for the Body, Hitch, Plow and Hydraulics for a price not to exceed \$51,217.90 (Fifty-One Thousand Two Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Ninety Cents) for a total vehicle cost not to exceed \$138,717.90 (One Hundred Thirty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Ninety Cents) with \$28,000 (Twenty-Eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents) to be paid by trade-in of the model year 2004 International and the remaining \$110,717.90 (One Hundred Ten Thousand Seven Hundred Seventeen Dollars and Ninety Cents) to be paid from the approved FY2022 Highway Operating Budget.

Motion made by Councilor Lisa McCabe, second by Councilor Stephen Sheffield.

Director of Public Works Bill Robarge speaks to the need to replace the truck.

Motion carried. All in favor, 5-0-0.

R-21-8-138 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH CHARLES PASTERYAK, JR, INCORPORATED, 20 NORTH BURNHAM HIGHWAY, LISBON, CONNECTICUT FOR BITUMINOUS CONCRETE PAVEMENT AND MILLING AS REQUIRED OF MITCHELL STREET FOR THE QUOTED PRICE OF \$324,791.00 (THREE HUNDRED TWENTY-FOUR THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY-ONE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) AND AN ADDITIONAL CONTINGENCY FOR A TOTAL EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED \$357,270.00 (THREE HUNDRED FIFTY-SEVEN THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) TO BE PAID FROM APPROVED FY22 HIGHWAY OPERATING FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City of Groton Highway Department has identified the need for improvements to the above listed street; and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton Highway Department and the Finance Director recommend Charles Pasteryak, Jr., Incorporated utilizing the state contract # 19PSX0261; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2021**

WHEREAS, the project is part of the City’s Road Work Schedule for Fiscal Year 2022 and has been approved by the Town of Groton;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve the contract with Charles Pasteryak, Jr, Incorporated, 20 North Burnham Highway, Lisbon, Connecticut for bituminous concrete pavement and milling as required of Mitchell Street for the quoted price of \$324,791.00 (Three Hundred Twenty-Four Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-One Dollars and No Cents) and an additional contingency for a total expenditure not to exceed \$357,270.00 (Three Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Dollars and No Cents) to be paid from approved FY22 Highway Operating Funds.

Motion made by Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot, second by Councilor Stephen Sheffield.

Director Bill Robarge explains the need and the projected timeline of the project.

Councilor Christine Piazza inquires on the impact for the buses during school hours.

Director Bill Robarge states that he will reach out to the schools to discuss the project, timeline and what it may effect.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot inquires as to whether we have ever diverted traffic in that area to lessen the traffic during construction.

Motion carried. All in favor, 5-0-0.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilor Lisa McCabe, second by Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot. Motion carried. All in favor, 5-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm.