



City of Groton, Connecticut

Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 6, 2022

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, Councilor Stephen Sheffield, City Clerk Edward Jacome

Mayor Keith Hedrick called the meeting to order at 7:30 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, Finance Director Ron Yuhas and City Clerk Edward Jacome

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND MEMORIALS

Employee Appreciation BBQ

Mayor Hedrick thanked staff for the involvement and set-up of the Employee Appreciation BBQ.

Police Chief Awards

Chief of Police Eric Jenkins presented six awards to officers for their decisive action in a robbery situation.

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.

Elizabeth Duarte, 54 Cottage Street – stated her support for keeping elections in May per City Charter as changing them to November could cause logistical confusion.

Paul Duarte, 54 Cottage Street – stated his opposition to changing the city election to November. He stated that there could be voter confusion, logistical issues and loss of uniqueness if changed.

Sandra Fetters, 28 Branford Avenue – stated that she has been displaced from her home due to hazardous conditions since May 17, 2022. She described her experience with mold, rodents and insects. She stated that Branford Manor has been negligent in their efforts and continues to disregard her health conditions.

Robert Zuliani, 23 Cushman Street – stated his opposition to changing the city election to November. He stated that the change could cause confusion and overwhelm voters. He also

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referenced the City Charter and the distinction between the Town of Groton and the City of Groton.

Amity Arscott, 543 Sandy Hollow Road – stated she is an attorney who works in the city but lives in the town and represents over 100 residents at Branford Manor. She stated there are over 145 units at Branford Manor with known documented mold and moisture issues. She referenced the Rental and Housing Code as well as the multiple reports of mold since 2018.

Ian Thomas, 24 Jefferson Drive – stated that Branford Manor has shown lack of urgency and urged the council to consider the default option in the agreement. He also stated his support for changing the election to November as it could provide some cost savings.

Jean Claude Ambroise, 169 Shennecossett Parkway – stated his opposition to changing the election to November. He stated his concerns with individuals running for more than one office and the nominal cost savings as the city would still have to pay their part for elections.

Jill Rusk, 85 Baker Avenue – stated here appreciation for City Day and the repaving of Mitchell Street. She would have liked to see more bike lanes and a crosswalk at Park Street. She also would like an update on the status of the reservoir and stated her support for the Costa Property.

Sara Alvarez, 102 Branford Avenue – stated that she has a brain tumor and has waited 68 days for a new apartment and is practically on the street. She recently returned to Branford Manor with her kids to retrieve clothing and discovered a flooded basement.

V. RESPOND TO CITIZEN’S PETITIONS/COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Depot – stated that the only problems known are those that are reported. She recommends all issues be reported to the correct department. She stated that at this point using the default option is not the correct avenue. She stated that from her feedback with residents changing May elections would cause some confusion, and would like another Committee of the Whole to discuss this topic. She also agreed with supporting crosswalks and pedestrian safety.

Councilor Piazza – stated her concerns of the displaced families and those suffering from medical conditions. She has been talking to residents at Branford Manor and joined their Facebook page as well as receives city correspondence. She also stated support for crosswalks.

Councilor Norris – congratulated the officers on their awards and thanked them for their service. In relation to Branford Manor he stated that he would like to know what can and cannot be done to help residents.

Councilor Carter – stated he would also like to know what can and cannot be done for Branford Manor residents as a council member. He also stated that there needs to be more than just confusion as a factor to keep the election in May.

Councilor Sheffield – stated that he would like more feedback and a long-term plan for the Costa Property if taken of the tax rolls. He also stated support for election change to November as it

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would increase voter participation. He would also like to be more involved like the Deputy Mayor and Mayor have been with the Bradford Manor situation.

Councilor McCabe – stated that she agreed with other councilors on what exactly can be done by councilors for Branford Manor residents. In addition, she stated that the decision to change the election month should not be rushed. If the election were to be moved to November there could be confusion with two ballots, and has not heard compelling information to go with November elections. She also stated her support for the Costa Property acquisition.

Mayor Hedrick – stated in regards to pedestrian safety that Electric Boat and City of Groton staff are working on issues of speeding, jaywalking and crosswalks. Thanked the speakers for coming out. He also stated that more due diligence is needed before making a decision on the May/November election. The acquisition of the Costa Property will close out and obtain the entire lower and upper half of the property. As for the Mother Bailey House the city is in the process of taking sealed bids. Branford Manor issues are being identified and will be remediated via third party. On August 26, 2022 Groton Town Manager John Burt and Mayor Hedrick had a meeting with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the information received from the Department of Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stated there is no standard for mold and that airborne sampling of mold is not a best practice. He is currently working with Related and HUD to move things forward. If any issues come up please call the Mayor's Office at (860) 446-4103 or contact Ledge Light Health District (LLHD).

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor and Council, August 1, 2022

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

Committee of the Whole, August 22, 2022

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

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilor Norris – None.

Councilor McCabe – None.

Councilor Sheffield – Great work at City Day

Councilor Piazza – None.

Councilor Carter – None.

Deputy Mayor Depot – Great work at City Day and thanked the Police and Fire Department.
Thanked United Way for the Food Box Distribution

Mayor Hedrick – If anyone is food insecure please call (860) 446-4103. Also, Groton Utilities Financials will be presented at the next meeting due to the time. Next meeting will be September 19, 2022, which will be an executive session for a new police office due to time constraints.

VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS

None.

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IX. NEW BUSINESS

R-22-08-96 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND ACCEPT THE NUCLEAR SAFETY EMERGENCY PROGRAM (NSEP) BUDGET, AS REQUESTED, ALLOCATED BY THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT, DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF FORTY-ONE THOUSAND, ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS (\$41,118.00) FOR EQUIPMENT AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION REIMBURSEMENTS

WHEREAS, State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, created the Nuclear Safety Emergency Planning grant fund in order to provide funding for critical resources to local emergency operation centers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton submits its budget request annually for approval; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mayor and Council authorize and accept the Nuclear Safety Emergency Program (NSEP) budget, as requested, allocated by the State of Connecticut, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security with the approval of the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management in the amount of Forty-One Thousand One Hundred Eighteen Dollars and Zero Cents (\$41,118.00) for equipment and resource allocation reimbursements.

Motion made by Councilor Norris, second by Councilor Piazza.

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

R-22-08-97 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL WAIVE THE BID PROCESS AND AUTHORIZE A PURCHASE ORDER TO TRITECH SOFTWARE SYSTEMS, A CENTRALSQUARE COMPANY, 1000 BUSINESS CENTER DRIVE, LAKE MARY, FLORIDA, 32746 FOR THE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT CORPORATION (IMC) SOFTWARE SUPPORT, IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVENTEEN THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED FORTY-NINE DOLLARS AND FIFTY-SEVEN CENTS (\$17,149.57) TO BE PAID FROM FY23 POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATING FUNDS

WHEREAS, the purchase of the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) software was approved on August 18, 2003 under Resolution R-03-8-57; and

WHEREAS, Tritech Software Systems is a sole source expenditure for the software system for the Police Department; and

WHEREAS, the annual software support is from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council waive the bid process and authorize a purchase order to Tritech Software Systems, A CentralSquare Company, 1000 Business Center Drive, Lake Mary, Florida, 32746 for Information Management Corporation (IMC) software support, in the amount of Seventeen Thousand One Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars and Fifty-Seven Cents (\$17,149.57) to be paid from FY23 Police Department Operating funds.

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Motion made by Councilor McCabe, second by Councilor Piazza.
All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

R-22-08-98 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND PROVISIONALLY APPROVE THE CONTRACT WITH LOTHROP ASSOCIATES LLP ARCHITECTS, 333 WESTCHESTER AVENUE, WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK, FOR THE QUOTED PRICE OF \$98,200.00 (NINETY-EIGHT THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) FOR DESIGN ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTION DOCUMENTS, BID SUPPORT AND CONSTRUCTION ADMINISTRATION SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF GROTON MUNICIPAL BUILDING RENOVATION PROJECT TO BE PAID FROM CAPITAL FUNDS

WHEREAS, the City of Groton Municipal Building windows, storefront and concrete landing are in need of replacement and repair; and

WHEREAS, the planned renovations will include replacement of windows, the main entrance aluminum storefront and the existing concrete landing at the main entrance; and

WHEREAS, Lothrop Associates LLP Architects will provide an engineering assessment and design services, construction documents, bid support and construction administration; and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton has contracted with Lothrop Associates LLP Architects for on-call engineering and architectural services; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize and provisionally approve the contract with Lothrop Associates LLP Architects, 333 Westchester Avenue, White Plains, New York, for the quoted price of \$98,200.00 (Ninety-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Dollars and No Cents) for Design Engineering, construction documents, bid support and construction administration services for the City of Groton Municipal Building Renovation project to be paid from Capital Funds.

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

R-22-08-99 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO AAIS CORPORATION, 8002 BOSTON POST ROAD, WEST HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, NOT TO EXCEED THIRTY EIGHT THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY FOUR DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$38,934.00), INCLUDING A TWENTY PERCENT (20%) CONTINGENCY TO PROVIDE REMOVAL OF POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYL (PCB) AND PCB MATERIALS AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT TO BE PAID FROM WATER AVAILABLE CASH AS A NON – BONDED CAPITAL EXPENSE

WHEREAS, this vendor was selected in accordance with the Groton Utilities purchasing policy, *Policy No. 1004 Policy and Procedures Governing the Purchasing Practices of Groton Utilities* as a Preferred Vendor; and

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WHEREAS, AAIS Corporation has completed PCB remediation at the Water Treatment Plant completing a different phase of the same project and because of their experience and consistency, Management recommends using AAIS Corporation; and

WHEREAS, the cost breakdown is as follows:

Cost of removal: \$32,445.00
20% Contingency \$6,489.00
Total Request \$38,934.00; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on August 17, 2022, the Groton Utilities Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to AAIS Corporation, 8002 Boston Post Road, West Haven, Connecticut, not to exceed Thirty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Four Dollars and No Cents (\$38,934.00), including a twenty percent (20%) contingency to provide removal of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and PCB materials at the Water Treatment Plant to be paid from Water available cash as a non – bonded capital expense, 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 Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to AAIS Corporation, 8002 Boston Post Road, West Haven, Connecticut, not to exceed Thirty Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Four Dollars and No Cents (\$38,934.00), including a twenty percent (20%) contingency to provide removal of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) and PCB materials at the Water Treatment Plant to be paid from Water available cash as a non – bonded capital expense.

Motion made by Councilor Sheffield, second by Councilor Piazza.
All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

R-22-08-100 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO KELTIC PAINTING, LLC, 189 HILL ROAD, THOMPSON, CONNECTICUT, A PREFERRED VENDOR, NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED EIGHT THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED EIGHTY FOUR DOLLARS AND EIGHTY EIGHT CENTS (\$108,884.88) INCLUDING A TWENTY PERCENT (20%) CONTINGENCY, FOR PAINTING SERVICES AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT TO BE PAID FROM WATER AVAILABLE CASH AS A NON -BONDED CAPITAL EXPENSE

WHEREAS, this vendor was selected in accordance with the Groton Utilities purchasing policy, *Policy No. 1004 Policy and Procedures Governing the Purchasing Practices of Groton Utilities* as a Preferred Vendor; and

WHEREAS, Keltic Painting, LLC has completed PCB remediation at the Water Treatment Plant and because of their experience and consistency, Management recommends using Keltic Painting, LLC., and

WHEREAS, this is for ongoing work at the Water Treatment Plant, and PCB remediation is a requirement of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); and

WHEREAS, project cost breakdown is as follows:

Cost of painting \$90,737.40
20% Contingency \$18,147.48
Total Request \$108.884.88; and

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WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on August 17, 2022, the Groton Utilities Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Keltic Painting, LLC, 189 Hill Road, Thompson, Connecticut, a preferred vendor, not to exceed One Hundred Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Four Dollars and Eighty Eight Cents (\$108,884.88) including a twenty percent (20%) contingency, for painting services at the Water Treatment Plant to be paid from Water available cash as a non -bonded capital expense, 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 Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Keltic Painting, LLC, 189 Hill Road, Thompson, Connecticut, a preferred vendor, not to exceed One Hundred Eight Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Four Dollars and Eighty Eight Cents (\$108,884.88) including a twenty percent (20%) contingency, for painting services at the Water Treatment Plant to be paid from Water available cash as a non -bonded capital expense.

Motion made by Councilor Piazza, second by Councilor Sheffield.
All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

R-22-08-101 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO CHARGEPOINT, INCORPORATED, 240 EAST HACIENDA AVENUE, CAMPBELL, CALIFORNIA, FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED TWENTY SIX THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$26,400.00) INCLUDING A TEN PERCENT (10%) CONTINGENCY FOR A FIVE YEAR LEASE CONTRACT FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGERS AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING TO BE PAID FROM CONNECTICUT MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC ENERGY COOPERATIVE (CMEEC) REGIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INITIATIVE (RGGI) FUNDS

WHEREAS, this vendor was selected in accordance with the Groton Utilities purchasing policy, *Policy No. 1004 Policy and Procedures Governing the Purchasing Practices of Groton Utilities* after multiple quotes were received; and

WHEREAS, this lease will allow Groton Utilities to house four (4) new EV Chargers at the Municipal Building; and

WHEREAS, by leasing this equipment, Groton Utilities is able to guarantee pricing for five (5) years without having maintenance and upkeep; and

WHEREAS, the project cost breakdown is as follows:

Cost of construction	\$24000.00
10% contingency	\$2400.00
Total request	\$26,400.00; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on August 17, 2022, the Groton Utilities Commission / WPCA authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to ChargePoint, Incorporated, 240 East Hacienda Avenue, Campbell, California, for a total amount not to exceed Twenty Six Thousand Four Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$26,400.00) including a ten percent (10%) contingency for a five year lease contract for Electric Vehicle Chargers at the Municipal Building to be paid from Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC) Regional

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Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Funds 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 Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to ChargePoint, Incorporated, 240 East Hacienda Avenue, Campbell, California, for a total amount not to exceed Twenty Six Thousand Four Hundred Dollars and No Cents (\$26,400.00) including a ten percent (10%) contingency for a five year lease contract for Electric Vehicle Chargers at the Municipal Building to be paid from Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC) Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) Funds.

Motion made by Councilor Carter, second by Councilor Depot.
All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

R-22-08-102 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO S&C ELECTRIC COMPANY, C/O E.L. FLOWERS, 113 MAIN STREET, STURBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS, NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FORTY EIGHT DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$170,548.50) INCLUDING A TWENTY PERCENT (20%) CONTINGENCY FOR PURCHASE OF A SWITCHGEAR FOR WYAMAN GORDON SUBSTATION TO BE PAID FROM FY 23 ELECTRIC NON-BONDED CAPITAL

WHEREAS, this vendor was selected in accordance with the Groton Utilities purchasing policy, *Policy No. 1004 Policy and Procedures Governing the Purchasing Practices of Groton Utilities* as a Preferred Vendor; and

WHEREAS, this purchase will allow management to continue with the current Wyman Gordon Substation upgrade project that seeks to supply the customers at 13.8 kV when their construction is done; and

WHEREAS, this switchgear will allow Groton Utilities to provide consistent service regardless of delays by any customers fed from the Wyman Gordon Substation; and

WHEREAS, the cost breakdown is as follows:

Cost of equipment	\$142,123.75
20% Contingency	\$\$28,424.75
Total Request	\$170,548.50; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on August 17, 2022, the Groton Utilities Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to S&C Electric Company, C/O E.L. Flowers, 113 Main Street, Sturbridge, Massachusetts, not to exceed One Hundred Seventy Thousand Five Hundred Forty Eight Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$170,548.50) including a twenty percent (20%) contingency for purchase of a switchgear for Wyman Gordon Substation to be paid from FY 23 Electric non-bonded capital and furthermore that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur; and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to S&C Electric Company, C/O E.L. Flowers, 113 Main Street, Sturbridge, Massachusetts, not to exceed One Hundred Seventy Thousand Five Hundred Forty Eight Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$170,548.50) including a twenty percent (20%) contingency for purchase of a switchgear for Wyman Gordon Substation to be paid from FY 23 Electric non-bonded capital.

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Motion made by Councilor Norris, second by Councilor Piazza.
All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

R-22-08-103 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO BURNS AND MCDONNELL, 108 LEGIUS ROAD, BUILDING A, SUITE 1100, WALLINGFORD, CONNECTICUT, NOT TO EXCEED TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY TWO THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS (\$272,987.50) INCLUDING A TWENTY FIVE PERCENT (25%) CONTINGENCY, TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION OVERSIGHT FOR BUDDINGTON SUBSTATION AND THE TRANSMISSION LINES TO BE PAID BY THE TRANSMISSION LINES 1410/1280/400/BUDDINGTON SUBSTATION BOND FUND PROJECT

WHEREAS, Burns and McDonnell is the same engineering company that Eversource used for construction oversight; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2020, Groton Utilities entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Eversource allowing the use of shared resources to purchase materials, and to perform construction including drilling, civil work, vegetation management, and clearing, to save money; and

WHEREAS, Burns and McDonnell has been the Environmental Manager on the 400/1410/1280 Transmission Structure Replacement Project and has provided Construction Management Support; and Management is recommending them for Buddington Substation construction oversight; and

WHEREAS, the project cost breakdown is as follows:

Cost of construction management	\$218,390.00
25% contingency	\$54,597.50
Total request	\$272,987.50; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on August 17, 2022, the Groton Utilities Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Burns and McDonnell, 108 Legius Road, Building A, Suite 1100, Wallingford, Connecticut, not to exceed Two Hundred Seventy Two Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$272,987.50) including a twenty five percent (25%) contingency, to provide construction oversight for Buddington Substation and the transmission lines to be paid by the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400/Buddington Substation Bond Fund Project, 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 Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Burns and McDonnell, 108 Legius Road, Building A, Suite 1100, Wallingford, Connecticut, not to exceed Two Hundred Seventy Two Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Seven Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$272,987.50) including a twenty five percent (25%) contingency, to provide construction oversight for Buddington Substation and the transmission lines to be paid by the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400/Buddington Substation Bond Fund Project.

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

R-22-08-104 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO HOWARD INDUSTRIES, PO BOX 1588, LAUREL, MISSOURI, NOT TO EXCEED SIX HUNDRED FOURTEEN THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED TWENTY EIGHT DOLLARS AND THIRTY CENTS (\$614,628.30) INCLUDING A TEN PERCENT (10%) CONTINGENCY FOR PAD MOUNT AND OVERHEAD TRANSFORMERS TO BE PLACED IN STOCK, TO BE PAID FROM FY 23 ELECTRIC NON-BONDED CAPITAL

WHEREAS, Management solicited bids and two responses were received and Management recommends this purchase from Howard Industries, due to the most favorable delivery time as well as price; and

WHEREAS, this purchase will allow Management to replenish stock. Lead times for transformers are fifty (50) weeks out. Inventory is required to assure reliability of the Groton Utilities system; and

WHEREAS, the project cost breakdown is as follows:

Cost of equipment	\$558,736.00
10% contingency	\$55,892.30
Total request	\$614,628.30; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on August 17, 2022, the Groton Utilities Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Howard Industries, PO Box 1588, Laurel, Missouri, not to exceed Six Hundred Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Eight Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$614,628.30) including a ten percent (10%) contingency for pad mount and overhead transformers to be placed in stock, to be paid from FY 23 Electric non-bonded capital 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 Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Howard Industries, PO Box 1588, Laurel, Missouri, not to exceed Six Hundred Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred Twenty Eight Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$614,628.30) including a ten percent (10%) contingency for pad mount and overhead transformers to be placed in stock, to be paid from FY 23 Electric non-bonded capital.

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

R-22-08-105 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER TO THREE PHASE LINE CONSTRUCTION, INCORPORATED, 35 EAST INDUSTRIAL WAY, SUITE 202, ROCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE, NOT TO EXCEED TWO MILLION FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED NINETY NINE DOLLARS AND TWENTY CENTS (\$2,583,799.20) INCLUDING A TWENTY PERCENT (20%) CONTINGENCY FOR BUDDINGTON SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION A PART OF THE EASTERN CONNECTICUT

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**TRANSMISSION PROJECT TO BE PAID BY THE TRANSMISSION
LINES 1410/1280/400/BUDDINGTON SUBSTATION FY 2023 BOND FUND
PROJECT**

WHEREAS, this contractor will complete all Civil and construction work; and

WHEREAS, this is Pooled Transmission Facility cost (PTF), and

WHEREAS, the project cost breakdown is as follows:

Cost of construction	\$2,153,166.00
20% contingency	\$430,633.20
Total request	\$2,583,799.20; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2020, Groton Utilities entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Eversource allowing the use of shared resources to purchase materials, and to perform construction including drilling, civil work, vegetation management, and clearing, to save money; and

WHEREAS, Three Phase Construction, Incorporated has a relationship with Eversource; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on August 17, 2022, the Groton Utilities Commission / Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Three Phase Line Construction, Incorporated, 35 East Industrial Way, Suite 202, Rochester, New Hampshire, not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Eighty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Nine Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$2,583,799.20) including a twenty percent (20%) contingency for Buddington Substation construction a part of the Eastern Connecticut Transmission Project to be paid by the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400/Buddington Substation FY 2023 Bond Fund Project, 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 Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Three Phase Line Construction, Incorporated, 35 East Industrial Way, Suite 202, Rochester, New Hampshire, not to exceed Two Million Five Hundred Eighty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Nine Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$2,583,799.20) including a twenty percent (20%) contingency for Buddington Substation construction a part of the Eastern Connecticut Transmission Project to be paid by the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400/Buddington Substation FY 2023 Bond Fund Project.

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

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

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WHEREAS, this purchase is for the completion of the 400 (1911) Line; and

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WHEREAS, this is Pooled Transmission Facility cost (PTF), and

WHEREAS, this work has been approved but the current contractor (PAR) is unable to complete; and

WHEREAS, the project cost breakdown is as follows:

Cost of construction	\$1,120,890.92
20% Contingency	\$224,178.18
Total request	\$1,345,069.10; and

WHEREAS, on June 1, 2020, Groton Utilities entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Eversource allowing the use of shared resources to purchase materials, and to perform construction including drilling, civil work, vegetation management, and clearing, to save money; and

WHEREAS, Three Phase Construction, Incorporated has a relationship with Eversource; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on August 17, 2022, the Groton Utility Commission / Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Three Phase Line Construction, Incorporated, 35 East Industrial Way, Suite 202, Rochester, New Hampshire, not to exceed One Million Three Hundred Forty Five Thousand Sixty Nine Dollars and Ten Cents (\$1,345,069.10) including a twenty percent (20%) contingency for transmission line construction as part of the Eastern Connecticut Transmission (ECT) Project to be paid by the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400/Buddington Substation Bond Fund Project, 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 Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order to Three Phase Line Construction, Incorporated, 35 East Industrial Way, Suite 202, Rochester, New Hampshire, not to exceed One Million Three Hundred Forty Five Thousand Sixty Nine Dollars and Ten Cents (\$1,345,069.10) including a twenty percent (20%) contingency for transmission line construction as part of the Eastern Connecticut Transmission (ECT) Project to be paid by the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400/Buddington Substation Bond Fund Project.

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

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

R-22-08-107 RESOLUTION THAT THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE MAYOR KEITH HEDRICK TO EXECUTE THE OPTION TO PURCHASE REAL ESTATE, 352 THAMES STREET, GROTON, CONNECTICUT, 06340, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$286,518.00 (TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIX THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) AND TO BE PAID FROM CAPITAL FUNDS.

WHEREAS, the option to Purchase Real Estate, 352 Thames Street, Groton, Connecticut 06340 agreement was entered into on the 10th day of May, 2007 between Edwin B., Nancy T. Costa and the City of Groton to sell and convey property consisting of land with buildings thereon located at 352 Thames Street, Groton, Connecticut, 06340 more particularly described in deeds recorded in the Groton Land Records in being a part of the first tract conveyed by Warranty Deed of Allen D. Willard dated April 14, 1945, Volume 113, page 200. Reference also made to a Warranty Deed o

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from Manuel Costa to Edwin B. Costa and Nancy T. Costa dated March 2, 1955 and recorded in Volume 141, Page 491 thereof; and

WHEREAS, the letter dated July 27, 2022 from Attorneys O'Brien, Stuart, Eppinger & Collier, LLC stating that representatives of Nancy Costa are advising the City of Groton that Nancy Costa is prepared to proceed with the sale of 352 Thames Street, Groton in accordance with the Option to Purchase Real Estate, 352 Thames Street, Groton Connecticut, 06340 dated May 10, 2007.

WHEREAS, the City of Groton, desires to purchase said tract; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council authorize and approve Mayor Keith Hedrick to execute the option to purchase real estate, 352 Thames Street, Groton, Connecticut, in an amount not to exceed \$286,518.00 (two hundred eighty-six thousand five hundred eighteen dollars and no cents) to be paid from capital funds; and

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Mayor Keith Hedrick is hereby authorized to execute and deliver as purchaser any and all documents, instruments and / or agreements and to take any and all other actions deemed necessary or appropriate in order to consummate the aforesaid transactions.

Motion made by Councilor Carter, second by Deputy Mayor Depot.
Councilor Sheffield opposed. Motion carried. 5-1-0

Motion to suspend the rules and add R-22-09-108 to the agenda made by Deputy Mayor Depot, second by Councilor McCabe.
All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0-0

R-22-09-108 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE AWARD FROM THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) AS PART OF THE ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANTS PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF SEVEN HUNDRED THIRTY-NINE THOUSAND, FIVE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE DOLLARS AND NINE CENTS (\$739,569.09) WHICH REQUIRES A 10% MATCH OF LOCAL FUNDS AND THAT THE CITY OF GROTON FINANCE DIRECTOR BE AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT THE GRANT

WHEREAS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) which is to meet the firefighting and emergency response needs of fire departments and non-affiliated emergency medical service organizations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Groton is the host municipality of the AFG award which is comprised of seven Town of Groton fire departments and two ambulance associations; and

WHEREAS, the AFG will be used towards the purchase of radios and related equipment that will be compatible with the State of Connecticut radio system;

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THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council accept and approve the award from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grants Program in the amount of Seven Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand, Five Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars and Nine Cents (\$739,569.09) which requires a 10% match of local funds and that the City of Groton Finance Director be authorized to accept the grant

Mayor Hedrick stated that normally this resolution would go to a Committee of the Whole Meeting but due to time constraints there are only thirty days to execute along with working with seven other fire departments and two ambulance companies.

Fire Chief Tompkins thanked Deputy Chief for spearheading the grant process and explained that this is the acceptance of the grant and not the expenditure of the fund, which will have a separate resolution. He stated there will be a 10% match of local funds from the other organizations.

Finance Director Yuhas stated that Congressman Joe Courtney had reached out and expressed his congratulations for the large grant.

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

X. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Hedrick adjourned the meeting at 9:55 p.m.