



City of Groton, Connecticut

Mayor and Council MINUTES

Monday, June 7, 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 8:33pm.

I. ROLL CALL

Clerk Megan Peters conducted roll call, present were the following- 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, Finance Director Ron Yuhus & Attorney Bryan LeClerc

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND MEMORIALS

Pride Month Proclamation

Mayor Keith Hedrick read the Pride Month Proclamation that was read at the June 1, 2021 Flag Raising Ceremony.

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.

Robert Chalifour, 39 1st Street – Robert sent in a letter to the Mayor and Council requesting an exception to the rule at Eastern Point Beach stating that no campers/mobile homes are allowed to get an annual Beach Pass. Mr. Chalifour explained in his letter that his wife is handicapped and this vehicle which is registered as a “camper” is outfitted to suit her needs including a wheelchair lift and rest room.

Councilors then proceeded to ask Robert Chalifour the following questions-

Councilor Lisa McCabe – Does this vehicle fit in a normal parking spot and/or a handicapped space?
Mr. Chalifour answered yes.

Councilor Christine Piazza – Does this vehicle have a wheel chair lift?
Mr. Chalifour answered, yes, it has a portable lift?

Mayor Keith Hedrick asked if there were any further questions for Mr. Chalifour. There were none.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

V. RESPOND TO CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot referenced Rule #29 where the Director of Parks can make exceptions to the Beach Rules as necessary. Deputy Mayor Depot states that she is in favor of making this exception.

Mayor Keith Hedrick clarifies that he has brought this to the council as they do approve the rules and therefore they shall approve the exception.

Councilor Christine Piazza clarifies the difference between a motor home and camper.

Director Mary Hill states that Mr. Chalifour's registration states camper and this stipulation is stated in the rules. She mentions that the Council makes the rules and she is responsible for enforcing them.

Councilor Rashaad Carter clarifies Director Mary Hill's response and confirms that there are certain policies that she can make exceptions to and others that are at the responsibility of the Council to make the exception.

Director Mary Hill confirms the comment from Councilor Carter and mentions the various rules that she can make an exception to.

Councilor Rashaad Carter requests further clarification on the exception requesting to be made with Director Mary Hill.

Director Mary Hill and Councilor Rashaad Carter have further discussion on making this exception and when to make further exceptions.

Mayor Keith Hedrick than explain the process that is being discussed today and further confirms that they are not here to change the rules but to make one exception for this one specific vehicle. All "campers" can be evaluated on a case by case basis to determine as to whether they are true campers for sleeping overnight or if they are a camper that has been outfitted to accommodate a handicapped person.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot refers back to Rule #29 and again requests that the Council accommodates the individual but also hopes that moving forward the Director can make the exception by evaluating the specific instance.

Director Mary Hill states that she did not have all the information, she only had a registration that stated camper which is not allowed.

Mayor Keith Hedrick confirms Director Mary Hill and reconfirms why the issue was brought to the council.

Mayor Gweneviere Deputy reconfirms that she is in favor of Director Mary Hill making exceptions moving further.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Councilor Paul Norris recaps the conversation to clarify and states that the rules should be made upon the vehicle being handicapped and not the history, age, etc. of the resident. Councilor Paul Norris than questions the estimate on 21 feet.

Mayor Keith Hedrick demonstrates an estimate of 21 feet within the room.

Councilor Paul Norris than questions the length of 21 feet versus a normal parking spot and if we adequate parking for vehicles of this type.

Mayor Keith Hedrick than confirmed again that this is an exception for this one vehicle.

Councilor Christine Piazza clarifies her thought process and reconfirms that she is in-favor of this exception and advises that we evaluate the verbiage in the rules and regulation at the beach.

Councilor Paul Norris and Mayor Keith Hedrick continue discussion in regards to when the Director of Parks and Recreation, Mary Hill should come back for an exception for a beach pass.

Director Mary Hill re-caps her thought on the process and why we are here for the exception.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield questions the exception and the perspective of other beachgoers.

Councilor Lisa McCabe states that although the vehicle is a camper, the “camper” is outfitted for a handicapped resident of our city and people will have compassion to know the difference between typical campers versus this “camper” that has been outfitted for a handicapped person.

Ryan Chalifour, 39 1st Street, requests to speak on behalf of Robert Chalifour. Mayor Keith Hedrick allowed him to speak only if the comment added value to the decision of the Councilors. Ryan Chalifour confirmed and continued with stating that some trucks, specifically a Ford F350 is 21.2 feet which is the same length if not longer than Mr. Chaifour’s camper and it is allowed to park at the beach.

Mayor Keith Hedrick asks if any other councilors have any further comments. No further discussion is held.

Mayor Keith Hedrick than asks for consensus of the Council.

Consensus of the Council is in-favor of allowing this vehicle, and this vehicle only, a beach pass for the 2021 year.

Mayor Keith Hedrick and the Council thank Mr. Chaifour for coming.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

May 17, 2021 Mayor and Council Meeting

Councilor Paul Norris moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. All were in favor, 6-0-0.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

May 24, 2021 Special Mayor and Council Meeting

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot moved, Councilor Lisa McCabe seconded. Motion carried. All were in favor, 6-0-0.

May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting

Councilor Paul Norris moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. All were in favor, 6-0-0.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilor Lisa McCabe – Bike and Pedestrian Survey Meeting with Economic Development, there will be another in June and she hopes to see the residents there.

Councilor Paul Norris – DARE Graduation at Sacred Heart.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield – Former Chief Spellman Retirement Tribute, Tip-A-Cop at Par 4 Restaurant, and the CCM National League of Cities Webinar regarding the American Rescue Plan.

Councilor Christine Piazza – None to report.

Councilor Rashaad Carter – None to report.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot – DARE Graduation at Sacred Heart, May 25th Food Box Distribution at St. John’s Church.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that if you need a food box during a future Food Box Distribution please reach out to the Mayor’s Office as we are happy to deliver the boxes to residents.

Mayor Keith Hedrick also mentions that at Food Box Distributions they are also conducting COVID-19 Vaccines, both Johnson & Johnson as well as Moderna.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot also mentions if you would like to volunteer, there is opportunity for that as well.

Mayor Keith Hedrick touched upon the American Rescue Fund- The City of Groton will be receiving approximately 2.8 million of the American Rescue Funds. He is still awaiting for further clarification on the rules to use the money.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield questioned the WPCA and whether any revenue lost for the utilities applies to us.

Finance Director Ron Yuhas clarifies that he is awaiting further information of allocation of the funds and the rules for it.

Mayor Keith Hedrick states that if there is money available to us, we will go after it.

VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS

Committee Assignments

Mayor Keith Hedrick reviews the established Group Committee Assignments.

GROUP I

Councilor Paul Norris – Economic Development

Councilor Lisa McCabe – Public Works

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot – Public Safety

GROUP II

Councilor Christine Piazza – Community Development

Councilor Stephen Sheffield – Finance

Councilor Rashaad Carter – Parks & Recreation

Two additional Committees that are required to have a Councilor assigned-

Councilor Paul Norris – Retirement Committee

Unfilled – Board of Education Liaison for the City of Groton

Mayor Keith Hedrick asked Councilors to think over this Liaison appointment and to get back to the Mayor's Office.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

R-21-6-90 RESOLUTION REGARDING THE SALE OF A LOT KNOWN AS 80+ NATHAN HALE ROAD AND 0 PAUL REVERE ROAD

WHEREAS, the City of Groton owns a parcel of land, known as 80+ Nathan Hale Road and 0 Paul Revere Road (the "Parcel"); and

WHEREAS, the Parcel has been declared surplus to the needs of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Parcel is located within Groton Estates; and

WHEREAS, the City has developed a trail system on its land abutting Groton Estates, and has a plan to link Birch Plain Creek Park and trail from its start at Thomas Road to Poquonnock Road; and

WHEREAS, the City requires an easement over property of Groton Estates, LLC for the purpose of completing the trail extension; and

WHEREAS, the City has received a proposal from Groton Estates, LLC by which it would purchase the Parcel from the City for Forty Five Thousand Dollars, construct a community center, business center and fitness center on the Parcel, and convey an easement to the City across its other property for the purpose of completing the trail extension.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council that the conveyance of the Parcel to Groton Estates, LLC and the receipt of a conveyance of an easement from Groton Estates, LLC be and are hereby approved, and that the Mayor, or his designee, be authorized to execute and enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement in such form as approved by the City Attorney.

Councilor Lisa McCabe moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded, motion carried.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Mayor Keith Hedrick opens the floor for discussion.

Councilor Rashaad Carter questions the history of the parcel of land.

Attorney Bryan LeClerc, Mayor Keith Hedrick and Director Ron Yuhas discuss what they know about the history of the land. Director Mary Hill also talks of the property's history with the City and the maintenance.

The Mayor and Council further discuss any possible relevant history of the project and possible speculations of the reasons for the empty parcel. Mayor Keith Hedrick does confirm that Groton Estates cannot build any further housing. The property must be used for recreation.

Councilor Rashaad Carter confirms with Attorney Bryan LeClerc that the property must be used for Recreational purposes.

Attorney Bryan LeClerc confirms the Purchase and Sale Agreement. The parcel must be used for a Recreational Building, if not built within 24 months of closing the Purchaser must outfit the parcel of land with recreational-like options and park-like options.

The Mayor and Council than move on by discussing communication methods to ensure that the message is getting out to the residents of Groton Estates.

Communication options are discussed outside of traditional methods including knocking on doors, having flyers available & including flyers within billing statements.

Councilor Christine Piazza questions the accessibility of the playgrounds at the proposed and currently being built, Thames River Magnet School. She also questions the rent for the community members of Groton Estates, does this project inflate the rent? Lastly, she explains that there is a small office space that the renters go to that this project and the future steps and/or meetings could be advertised there.

Councilor Lisa McCabe inquires on how long the sign has been posted to notify the community of the project.

Attorney Bryan LeClerc confirms that the sign goes up two weeks prior to the Public Hearing according to State Statute.

Councilor Christine Piazza questions the exact placement of the sign.

Attorney Bryan LeClerc shows photos of the sign placement from his files.

Councilor Paul Norris makes mention that he feels we may have an engagement issue that can be solved or assisted with via Economic Development.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot again brings up safety concerns with the bus and re-evaluating the traffic patterns of the bus during this process.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Councilor Christine Piazza confirms that as a Bus Driver, they are always evaluating the safety of the children. They also report any safety concerns each and every time to be logged.

Councilor Paul Norris questions the size of the building versus the size of the lot.

A picture is passed around by Attorney Bryan LeClerc to show scale of the proposed building versus the size of the lot as he does not have specific measurements of the lot on hand.

Councilor Rashaad Carter questions the turn-out of residents from Groton Estates and why did only one resident show up against the proposal?

Councilor Christine Piazza confirms the bus traffic patterns and the habits of the children daily.

Mayor Keith Hedrick asks if there are further questions or comments on this Resolution.

Mayor Keith Hedrick requests to take a vote, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot and Councilor Lisa McCabe in favor, Councilor Paul Norris, Councilor Paul Norris, Councilor Rashaad Carter, Councilor Stephen Sheffield and Councilor Christine Piazza oppose, no abstentions. Motion failed. 2-4-0

**R-21-6-91 RESOLUTION REGARDING THE SALE OF TWO PARCELS OF LAND
KNOWN AS 108 THAMES STREET AND 0 BROAD STREET**

WHEREAS, the City of Groton owns two parcels of land, known as 108 Thames Street and 0 Broad Street, which parcels are contiguous (the “Parcels”); and

WHEREAS, the Parcels have been declared surplus to the needs of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City has solicited proposals for the reuse of the Parcels in accordance with current zoning regulations; and

WHEREAS, FTTB, LLC has submitted a response to such request for proposals by which it would purchase the Parcels from the City for One Dollar, restore and preserve the house located at 108 Thames Street, and construct three townhouse-style dwellings on 0 Broad Street.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council that the conveyance of the Parcels to FTTB. LLC be and is hereby approved, and that the Mayor, or his designee, be authorized to execute and enter into a Purchase and Sale Agreement in such form as approved by the City Attorney.

Mayor Keith Hedrick requests that this Resolution be moved to the Mayor and Council Meeting, June 21, 2021 to allow for the 824 Hearing be conducted on June 15, 2021.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot moved, Councilor Stephen Sheffield seconded, motion carried. All in favor, 6-0-0.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Councilor Stephen Sheffield requested to make a motion to move to R-21-6-108 to be after R-21-6-91. Councilor Sheffield moved, Councilor Christine Piazza seconded. Motion carried. All in favor, 6-0-0.

**R-21-6-108 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT THE RULES OF PROCEDURE TO GOVERN
THE CITY COUNCIL, CITY OF GROTON, GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have reviewed and updated the following rules of procedure to govern the City Council, City of Groton, Groton, Connecticut:

**RULES OF PROCEDURE TO GOVERN CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF GROTON
GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

RULE 1. INCORPORATION OF CHARTER PROVISIONS

All requirements of the Charter of the City of Groton (“the Charter”) with respect to the proceedings of the Mayor and Council are to be strictly followed, and no rules shall be adopted by the Mayor and Council, which shall be in conflict with any Charter requirement respecting such proceedings. These rules are intended to implement the provisions of the Charter and provide procedures on questions of order not addressed by the Charter.

**RULE 2. MAYORAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AND
TEMPORARY VACANCY OF POSITION**

- a. The Mayor shall preside at all meetings of the Council, and, at the stated hour and upon the appearance of a quorum, shall call the Councilors to order.
- b. In the absence of a quorum, the Mayor shall declare the meeting adjourned to a future date. Prior to adjourning for lack of a quorum, the Mayor may declare a recess for a period not to exceed thirty (30) minutes to obtain a quorum. In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor will assume all duties of Mayor. In the absence of the Mayor and all other Councilors, the City Clerk shall declare the meeting adjourned to a future date and make such a record in the Journal of the Council.
- c. It shall be the duty of the Mayor to preserve order and require procedure in accordance with the rules, to recognize and grant the floor to Councilors wishing to speak and to declare all votes. When a voice vote is apparently not unanimous, or upon the request of any Councilor, the vote of each member shall be recorded. If any doubt exists, the City Clerk shall so state and a roll call vote shall be held. In accordance with Article III, Section 5 of the Charter, five members including the Mayor shall constitute a quorum. No vote shall be adopted except on the approval of a majority of the quorum. In the event of a tie, the Mayor shall break the tie.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

- d. The Mayor may speak on any question and shall decide questions of order. Any Councilor may appeal a decision by the Mayor on questions of order, such appeals being decided by following Roberts Rules of Order (vote as a whole body), which shall be bound to decide such questions on the basis of (in order of precedence): City Charter, the Rules of the Council and Robert's Rules of Order. The Council may be recessed for the purposes of the appeal being discussed by the rules committee and no other business shall be in order until the appeal is decided.
- e. "Robert's Rules of Order" as in effect on date of adoption of these rules, shall govern questions of order and procedure in cases not provided for in these rules.
- f. The Mayor shall be a non-voting member ex-officio of all committees.
- g. Council business requiring Committee action shall be referred to a Committee by the Mayor at each regular meeting, and between sessions of Council, if necessary, in which case said referrals shall be announced at the next regular session.

RULE 3. ORDER OF BUSINESS AND AGENDA

Unless altered by vote of the Council upon special occasions, the regular order of business shall be as follows:

- a. Roll Call
- b. Salute to the Flag
- c. Recognition, Awards and Memorials
- d. Receipt of Citizen's Petitions/Comments
- e. Respond to Citizen's Petitions/Comments
- f. Approval of Minutes
- g. Communications and Reports
 - (1) City Council Members
 - (2) City Clerk
 - (3) City Mayor
 - (4) City Finance Director
 - (5) City Attorney
- h. Committee Referrals
- i. New Business
- j. Adjournment

Agenda – Items shall be placed on the Agenda of regular City Council meetings in the following ways:

- (a) When reported from a Committee with approval recommended by a majority of the whole committee.
- (b) When requested by the Mayor or a majority of the Council prior to a regular council meeting.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Action on any other items shall require suspension of the rules in accordance with Rule 12d.

RULE 4. RULES OF ORDER – MOTIONS

- a. Motions shall be reduced to writing when requested by the Mayor, any Councilor or the City Clerk. Any motion may be withdrawn by the mover before amendment or decision.
- b. Any motion or question under debate that consists of two or more independent propositions, shall be divided, if so directed by the Mayor, or if requested by any councilor.

RULE 5. RULES OF ORDER – PRECEDENCE

Robert's Rules of Order shall be followed:

- Fix time to adjourn
- Adjourn
- Recess
- Raise a question of privilege
- Call for orders of the day
- Lay on the table
- Previous question
- Limit or extend debate
- Postpone to a certain time or postpone definitely
- Commit or refer
- Amend
- Postpone indefinitely
- Main motion

RULE 6. RULES OF ORDER - RECONSIDERATION

- a. After a vote has been taken, it shall be in order for any Councilor who was in the prevailing vote to move for reconsideration, during the meeting, or during the next succeeding regular meeting. However, any vote which has caused an action which cannot be reversed shall not be reconsidered.
- b. Motions to reconsider votes to refer any matter to a Committee shall be in order only during the meeting that voted the reference.

RULE 7. STANDING COMMITTEES

- a. There shall be the following standing committees of the Council:

Finance

Economic Development

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Public Safety
Public Works
Committee of the Whole

Community Development
Parks and Recreation
Rules Committee

The above standing committees, except the Committee of the Whole and Rules Committee shall be arranged in two groups of three each at the discretion of the Mayor.

- b. The Mayor shall appoint members of the Council to such standing committees and shall designate the chairperson of each.
- c. The Mayor will refer items to a committee.
- d. Upon the request of a Councilor, the Mayor or a majority of Councilors, shall refer matters to a committee at least once prior to Council action.
- e. The Mayor may appoint such other committees from time to time as he/she may deem appropriate.

RULE 8. RULES OF ORDER – CONDUCT OF DEBATE

Robert’s Rules of Order shall be followed if not inconsistent with the City Charter or these rules.

RULE 9. COMMITTEE OPERATIONS

- a. All Councilors shall be given forty-eight (48) hours’ notice of a committee meeting.
- b. A majority of committee membership shall constitute a quorum.
- c. Each committee shall consider matters referred to it by the Mayor and shall report to the Council, in writing, relative to all such matters.
- d. Committee reports shall contain the date and place of meeting, the names of members present and those absent, the fact that a quorum was or was not present and a record of any votes taken. A summary of discussion will also be included.
- e. Chairpersons will cause to be submitted resolutions or ordinances when necessary to carry out their recommendations.
- f. Only resolutions or ordinances, the substance of which has been voted on favorably by a majority of the whole committee, shall be reported to the Council for action.
- g. Any subject matter referred to a standing committee, other than Committee of the Whole, which will result in a proposed ordinance, shall, after adequate discussion not to exceed sixty days, be referred to the Committee of the Whole.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

- h. In the absence of a Committee Chairperson, a Chairperson, Pro Tempore, may be designated by the remaining Committee members.
- i. All matters to be deleted from the referral list must be moved, seconded and voted on, and will be reported to the Council in writing with accompanying information and recommendations.
- j. The Committee of the Whole Council shall meet to act on items referred to it by means of tie votes in any other Committee, items which will result in a proposed ordinance, where there is agreement between cognizant committee chairpersons and the Mayor on major items and/or items of importance to all Councilors. The Committee of the Whole Council shall be chaired by the Mayor, or in the Mayor's absence, by the Deputy Mayor, or in the Deputy Mayor's absence, a temporary chairperson elected by the members for that purpose.

RULE 10. CLERK OF THE COUNCIL

The Clerk shall be the custodian of all the papers, correspondence, and records of the Council, and shall keep the Journal of its proceedings, which shall record votes passed by the Council and such further details of the proceedings of the Council as may be approved by majority vote. In the absence of the City Clerk, the Mayor shall appoint a Clerk Pro Tempore to keep the minutes of the meeting and to file same in the office of the City Clerk. This position will normally be filled by the City Clerk.

RULE 11. CITIZEN'S PETITIONS

- a. Rule 3, Items c. and d. shall provide for Memorials, Citizen's Petitions/Comments according to State Statute. A citizen's call may be presented orally or in writing. All presentations by citizens under this rule shall be limited to a five (5) minute period unless otherwise indicated by a majority vote of the Council.
- b. Citizen's petitions shall be accepted as presented. There shall be no questions or cross-examination by members of the Council, except for questions necessary to clarify the citizen's intent.

RULE 12. CHANGES TO THE RULES OF COUNCIL

- a. The Rules of the Council, excepting Rule 1, may be altered, extended, or repealed by a majority vote of all six (6) of the Councilors at a regular meeting of the Council, provided descriptive notice of the proposed changes shall have been given in writing at a preceding regular meeting.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

- b. Emergency or Special Meetings of the City Council may be called by the Mayor. Emergency or Special Meetings of the City Council shall be called by the City Clerk at the written request of three (3) Council members, pursuant to the Charter.
- c. All citizens' inquiries, questions and petitions shall be acknowledged by the Mayor, Committee members or by the administration on their behalf.
- d. These rules may be suspended in whole or in part by no less than four councilors.

These Rules of Procedure were adopted at a meeting of the City Council held on June 7, 2021.

Mayor Keith Hedrick
Deputy Gweneviere Depot
Councilor Rashaad Carter
Councilor Lisa McCabe
Councilor Paul Norris
Councilor Christine Piazza
Councilor Stephen Sheffield

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council adopt the Rules of Procedure to Govern the City Council, City of Groton, Groton, Connecticut.

Councilor Paul Norris moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. Mayor Keith Hedrick opens up for discussion.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield proposes that there be a Rules Committee established. Councilor Stephen Sheffield, Councilor Christine Piazza and Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot volunteer to be members of the newly established Rules Committee.

Councilor Christine Piazza inquired about Committee Assignments and final decisions. Councilor Stephen Sheffield also questioned the process that was done to assign Committee Assignments.

Mayor Keith Hedrick confirmed that Committee Assignments have been assigned and that the decisions are the final decisions.

Communication from the Mayor's Office was questioned and the process was clarified.

Mayor Keith Hedrick asks if there are any further questions or comments. No further discussion is required. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0. Motion carried.

R-21-6-92 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF JAMES STREETER, 64 PLEASANT STREET, GROTON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER, PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2024

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

WHEREAS, State Statutes Planning and Zoning, Section 8-1 and Ordinance #41 states, “Appointments shall be made by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council”; and

WHEREAS, the term for James Streeter, 64 Pleasant Street, Groton, Connecticut as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission expires on June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, James Streeter, 64 Pleasant Street, Groton, Connecticut, desires to continue to serve as a regular member on the Planning and Zoning Commission and has been recommended for reappointment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council approve the reappointment of James Streeter, 64 Pleasant Street, Groton, Connecticut, as a regular member, Planning and Zoning Commission, term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot moved, Councilor Stephen Sheffield seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor 6-0-0.

R-21-6-93 RESOLUTION TO THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE REAPPOINTMENT OF SUSAN BERGERON, 781 SHENNECOSSETT ROAD, GROTON, CONNECTICUT, AS A REGULAR MEMBER, PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2024

WHEREAS, State Statutes Planning and Zoning, Section 8-1 and Ordinance #41 states, “Appointments shall be made by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council”; and

WHEREAS, the term for Susan Bergeron, 781 Shennecossett Road, Groton, Connecticut as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission expires on June 30, 2021; and

WHEREAS, Susan Bergeron, 781 Shennecossett Road, Groton, Connecticut, desires to continue to serve as a regular member of the Planning and Zoning Commission and has been recommended for reappointment;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council approve the reappointment of Susan Bergeron, 781 Shennecossett Road, Groton, Connecticut, as a regular member, Planning and Zoning Commission, term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot moved, Councilor Stephen Sheffield seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor 6-0-0.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

R-21-6-94 RESOLUTION TO THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF TERRY RICE, 67 RAMSDELL STREET, GROTON, CONNECTICUT, AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER, PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION, TERM TO EXPIRE ON JUNE 30, 2024

WHEREAS, State Statutes Planning and Zoning, Section 8-1 and Ordinance #41 states, “Appointments shall be made by the Mayor with the approval of the City Council”; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for an alternate member to the Planning and Zoning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Terry Rice, 67 Ramsdell Street, Groton, Connecticut, desires to serve on the Planning and Zoning Commission and has been recommended for appointment as an alternate member;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council approve the appointment of Terry Rice, 67 Ramsdell Street, Groton, Connecticut, as an alternate member, Planning and Zoning Commission, term to expire on June 30, 2024.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Christine Piazza moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-95 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF CHARLES HWANG, 42 JUPITER POINT ROAD, GROTON, CONNECTICUT, AS AN ALTERNATE MEMBER OF THE HARBOR MANAGEMENT COMMISSION, TERM TO EXPIRE ON APRIL 5, 2025

WHEREAS, Ordinance #56, Section 5 states “As each of the terms of the regular and alternate members shall expire, the City Council shall appoint a successor for a term of five (5) years to fill the vacant position”; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists for an alternate member of the Harbor Management Commission; and

WHEREAS, Charles Hwang, 42 Jupiter Point Road, Groton, Connecticut has been recommended and desires to serve as an alternate member of the Harbor Management Commission;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Council approve the appointment of Charles Hwang, 42 Jupiter Point Road, Groton, Connecticut, as an alternate member of the Harbor Management Commission, term to expire on April 5, 2025.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Councilor Rashaad Carter moved, Deputy Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-96 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE GROTON UTILITIES ELECTRIC BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 PURSUANT TO THE CITY OF GROTON CHARTER, ARTICLE XI, SECTION 4(A)

WHEREAS, pursuant to the City of Groton Charter, Article XI, Section 4(a) “the Utilities Commission shall prepare and approve an itemized annual budget proposal for the Department of Utilities, which shall be sent to the Mayor and Council by April 30th for their approval. The Mayor and Council shall approve a final budget no later than June 30th”; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting held April 14, 2021, the City of Groton Utilities Commission /Water Pollution Control Authority reviewed the Electric Division budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and at its regular meeting held April 21, 2021; the City of Groton Utilities Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority approved the Electric Division budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the Groton Utilities Electric Budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 pursuant to the City of Groton Charter, Article XI, Section 4(a).

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Lisa McCabe moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-97 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE GROTON UTILITIES WATER BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 PURSUANT TO THE CITY OF GROTON CHARTER, ARTICLE XI, SECTION 4(A)

WHEREAS, pursuant to the City of Groton Charter, Article XI, Section 4(a) “the Utilities Commission shall prepare and approve an itemized annual budget proposal for the Department of Utilities, which shall be sent to the Mayor and Council by April 30th for their approval. The Mayor and Council shall approve a final budget no later than June 30th”; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting held April 14, 2021, the City of Groton Utilities Commission /Water Pollution Control Authority reviewed the Water Division budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and at its regular meeting held April 21, 2021; the City of Groton Utilities Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority approved the Water Division budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022;

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the City of Groton Department of Utilities Water Budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 pursuant to the City of Groton Charter, Article XI, Section 4(a).

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Paul Norris moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-98 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE GROTON UTILITIES SEWER BUDGETS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022 PURSUANT TO THE CITY OF GROTON CHARTER, ARTICLE XI, SECTION 4(A)

WHEREAS, pursuant to the City of Groton Charter, Article XI, Section 4(a) “the Utilities Commission shall prepare and approve an itemized annual budget proposal for the Department of Utilities, which shall be sent to the Mayor and Council by April 30th for their approval. The Mayor and Council shall approve a final budget no later than June 30th”; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting held April 14, 2021, the City of Groton Utilities Commission /Water Pollution Control Authority reviewed the Sewer Division budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and at its regular meeting held April 21, 2021; the City of Groton Utilities Commission/ Water Pollution Control Authority approved the Sewer Division budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the City of Groton Department of Utilities Sewer Budgets for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 pursuant to the City of Groton Charter, Article XI, Section 4(a).

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot moved, Councilor Stephen Sheffield seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-99 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO PURCHASE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE AND SUPPORT FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022, FOR THE SPRINGBROOK FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING SYSTEM AS USED BY THE CITY OF GROTON, GROTON UTILITIES AND BOZRAH LIGHT AND POWER COMPANY; FROM THE SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER SPRINGBROOK HOLDING COMPANY, LLC, 1000 SW BROADWAY, SUITE 1900, PORTLAND, OREGON, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SIXTY TWO THOUSAND TWENTY DOLLARS AND THIRTY FIVE CENTS TO BE

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

**PAID FROM FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2022
UTILITIES FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING BUDGET**

WHEREAS, the Springbrook financial accounting system is used by the City of Groton, Groton Utilities, and Bozrah Light and Power; and

WHEREAS, this purchase is for renewal and is necessary in order to have uninterrupted services; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on May 19, 2021 the Groton Utilities Commission / Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to purchase annual maintenance and support for the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for the Springbrook Financial Accounting System as used by the City of Groton, Groton Utilities and Bozrah Light and Power Company; from the Sole Source Provider Springbrook Holding Company, LLC, 1000 SW Broadway, Suite 1900, Portland, Oregon, for an amount not to exceed exceed Sixty-Two Thousand Twenty Dollars and Thirty-Five Cents (\$62,020.35) to be paid from funds available in the Fiscal Year 2022 Utilities Finance and Accounting budget and 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 purchase annual maintenance and support for the period from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022, for the Springbrook Financial Accounting System as used by the City of Groton, Groton Utilities and Bozrah Light and Power Company; from the Sole Source Provider Springbrook Holding Company, LLC, 1000 SW Broadway, Suite 1900, Portland, Oregon, for an amount not to exceed Sixty-Two Thousand Twenty Dollars and Thirty-Five Cents (\$62,020.35) to be paid from funds available in the Fiscal Year 2022 Utilities Finance and Accounting budget.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield moved, Councilor Paul Norris seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-100 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER NOT TO EXCEED FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$571,000.00) INCLUDING A TWENTY FIVE PERCENT (25%) CONTINGENCY TO BHI ENERGY T&D SERVICES, 500 COLUMBIA DRIVE, SUITE 100, WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA, FOR THE EASTERN CT (ECT) TERMINAL LINE UPGRADE FROM 69KV TO 115KV PER THE ISO NEW ENGLAND (ISO-NE) APPROVAL OF JUNE, 2020, TO BE PAID BY THE TRANSMISSION LINES 1410/1280/400 / BUDDINGTON SUBSTATION FY 2021 BOND FUND PROJECT.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

WHEREAS, this project will include:

- Physical design Engineering
- Engineering Studies (Geotech, Survey, Environmental)
- Electrical Design Engineering
- Protection and Controls Engineering
- Relay settings
- Project and Construction Oversight; and

WHEREAS, Groton Utilities entered into a Master Service Agreement with BHI Energy, BHI Energy T&D Services is a subsidiary of BHI Energy; and

WHEREAS, this engineering work is in preparation for the entire terminal replacement to allow Buddington Substation to receive 115kV; and

WHEREAS, the transmission line construction costs were provided in preparation of the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400 / Buddington Substation FY 2021 bond fund project that was approved in February 2021, for \$15,200,000 dollars at the March 1, 2021, Freemans Meeting; and funds will need to be drawn down by the Finance Department for work to commence once approved by the GUC/WPCA, and City Council; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on May 19, 2021, the Groton Utilities Commission / Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a Purchase Order not to exceed Five Hundred Seventy One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$571,000.00) including a twenty five percent (25%) contingency to BHI Energy T&D Services, 500 Columbia Drive, Suite 100, West Palm Beach, Florida, for the Eastern CT (ECT) Terminal Line Upgrade from 69kV to 115kV per the ISO New England (ISO-NE) approval of June, 2020, to be paid by the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400 / Buddington Substation FY 2021 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 not to exceed Five Hundred Seventy One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$571,000.00) including a twenty five percent (25%) contingency to BHI Energy T&D Services, 500 Columbia Drive, Suite 100, West Palm Beach, Florida, for the Eastern CT (ECT) Terminal Line Upgrade from 69kV to 115kV per the ISO New England (ISO-NE) approval of June, 2020, to be paid by the Transmission Lines 1410/1280/400 / Buddington Substation FY 2021 bond fund project.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Councilor Christine Piazza moved, Deputy Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-101 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ISSUE A PURCHASE ORDER NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY TWO THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED SIXTY FIVE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$172,865.00) INCLUDING A TEN PERCENT (10%) CONTINGENCY TO AQSEPTENCE GROUP, INC, 1950 OLD HIGHWAY 8 NW, NEW BRIGHTON, MINNESOTA, FOR PURCHASE OF LOW LIFT PUMP STATION INTAKE SCREENS, AS A SOLE SOURCE PROVIDER TO BE PAID AS PART OF THE LOW LIFT PUMP STATION PROJECT

WHEREAS, The Low Lift Pump Station Screening and Manganese Abatement Project was approved by the Groton Utilities Commission and Mayor and Council on February 1, 2021; and

WHEREAS, The Low Lift Pump Station Screening and Manganese Abatement Project is critical to address surface water intake protection including the intake of eels; and

WHEREAS, this equipment is necessary to prevent in influx of eels from entering into the Water Treatment Plant and there is time sensitivity for installation to be completed prior to the September 2021 silver eel migration season; and

WHEREAS, at its regular meeting held on May 19, 2021, the Groton Utilities Commission / Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to issue a purchase order not to exceed One Hundred Seventy Two Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Five Dollars and No Cents (\$172,865.00) including a ten percent (10%) contingency to Aqseptence Group, Inc, 1950 Old Highway 8 NW, New Brighton, Minnesota, for purchase of Low Lift Pump Station intake screens, as a Sole Source Provider to be paid as part of the Low Lift Pump Station Project, and furthermore that the Mayor and 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 not to exceed One Hundred Seventy Two Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Five Dollars and No Cents (\$172,865.00) including a ten percent (10%) contingency to Aqseptence Group, Inc, 1950 Old Highway 8 NW, New Brighton, Minnesota, for purchase of Low Lift Pump Station intake screens, as a Sole Source Provider to be paid as part of the Low Lift Pump Station Project.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Rashaad Carter moved, Deputy Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

R-21-6-102 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE PLACEMENT OF A MEMORIAL BENCH AT EASTERN POINT BEACH IN HONOR OF WALT CONLEY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF BEACH AND PARKS MEMORIALS, AS APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Kathleen Rowsam, on behalf of all the Conley kids, has requested that a memorial bench be placed at Eastern Point Beach to honor her dad’s memory; and

WHEREAS, Walt Conley grew up in Groton, raised six children in Groton and spent 34 years as a Groton Town Police Officer; and

WHEREAS, His whole family has deep roots and fond memories of Groton and their time spent at Eastern Point Beach together; and

WHEREAS, the request was made to the Director of Parks and Recreation and has received the approval of the Beach and Parks Committee;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the request for a memorial bench at Eastern Point Beach in honor of Walt Conley in accordance with the Procedures for Consideration of Beach and Parks Memorials, as approved by the Mayor and Council.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Lisa McCabe moved, Councilor Stephen Sheffield seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-103 RESOLUTION THAT THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ACCEPT THE ACCELERATECT SUMMER PROGRAM EXPANSION GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$23,340.00 (TWENTY THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FORTY DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS) TO BE UTILIZED TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN THAT CAN PARTICIPATE IN THE PARKS & RECREATION SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM AND PROVIDE ADDITIONAL ENRICHMENT

WHEREAS, the City of Groton Parks & Recreation Department applied for an AccelerateCT Summer Program Expansion Grant through the CT State Department of Education and was awarded it; and

WHEREAS, City of Groton community will benefit from scholarship opportunities to attend Summer Playground at Washington Park; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

WHEREAS, due to the temporary loss of our second playground site, the former West Side location, these funds will provide a transportation opportunity to Washington Park; and

WHEREAS, our Summer Playground program will be further enriched by a partnership with Groton Public School's Farm to School Program to provide Farm to Camp programming introducing our participants to locally grown produce, and the uses of that produce, that they can find at the City of Groton's Farmers Market; and

WHEREAS, the acceptance of the grant award does not require a match;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council accept the AccelerateCT Summer Program Expansion Grant Award in the amount of \$23,340.00 (Twenty Three Thousand Three Hundred Forty Dollars and Zero Cents) to be utilized to expand the number of children that can participate in the Parks & Recreation Summer Playground Program and provide additional enrichment.

Councilor Paul Norris moved, Councilor Stephen Sheffield seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Keith Hedrick introduced Director Mary Hill to give a brief explanation of this Grant Program.

Director Mary Hill explained that this program will provide scholarships and bus transportation to children from the Branford Manor and Groton Estates area. It will also allow the team to introduce a Farm to Playground Program to the children at our Summer Playground Programs this year.

Deputy Mayor Depot commented on this being a great program.

Councilor Chrstine Piazza inquired as to if the children who qualify have to live in Branford Manor or Groton Estates.

Director Mary Hill stated that it is geared towards those areas as with the West Side Middle School closed, they are unable to walk to Washington Park to participate. With this program, we will be able to provide transportation to get those children to the Summer Playground Program.

Councilor Paul Norris commented on the quick turnaround that this program required to be eligible and commended Director Mary Hill on this great program.

Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-104 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE AWARDING OF AUDITING SERVICES FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021 TO CLIFTONLARSONALLEN LLP, 29 SOUTH MAIN STREET, WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT TO BE PAID FROM CITY, ELECTRIC, WATER AND SEWER GENERAL FUNDS.

WHEREAS, the Finance Director solicited proposals for auditing services; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

WHEREAS, Blum, Shapiro & Company, PC submitted the lowest qualified bid and subsequently merged into CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP; and

WHEREAS, the Finance Director recommends this award; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Council approve the awarding of auditing services for fiscal year July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 to CliftonLarsonAllen LLP, 29 South Main Street, West Hartford, Connecticut to be paid from City, Electric, Water and Sewer General Funds.

Finance Director Ron Yuhas gives a brief background on the auditing services and reappointing the auditing firm.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield requested a packet on the history of this firm for the new councilors.

Mayor Keith Hedrick gave a brief explanation of the services we utilize from them.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot moved, Councilor Stephen Sheffield seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-105 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF NINE THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY ONE DOLLARS AND THIRTY-EIGHT CENTS (\$9,191.38) TO THE TAX COLLECTOR'S SUSPENSE TAX BOOK

WHEREAS, the Finance Department has received a list of taxes which Tax Collector Melissa McGuire has determined to be uncollectable; and

WHEREAS, Tax Collector Melissa McGuire has requested these uncollectable taxes in the amount of Nine Thousand One Hundred Ninety One Dollars and Thirty-Eight Cents (\$9,191.38) be transferred to the Suspense Tax Book; and

WHEREAS, said taxes are still collectable;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the transfer of Nine Thousand One Hundred Ninety One Dollars and Thirty-Eight Cents (\$9,191.38) to the Tax Collector's Suspense Tax Book.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Stephen Sheffield moved, Councilor Christine Piazza seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

R-21-6-106 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE TEMPORARY USE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL AT EASTERN POINT BEACH ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2021 AS PART OF THE BREW RUN / BREW FEST HOSTED BY THE GREATER MYSTIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND SPONSORED BY GROTON UTILITIES, PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF EASTERN POINT BEACH RULES AND REGULATIONS

WHEREAS, the City of Groton has approved the use of Eastern Point Beach on September 12, 2021 in an effort to support a Brew Run / Brew Fest; and

WHEREAS, the Brew Run / Brew Fest will be a Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce event highlighting the City of Groton; and

WHEREAS, Groton Utilities will be financially sponsoring the event; and

WHEREAS, the event host would like to allow for the consumption of alcohol on Eastern Point Beach property, and per Resolutions R-21-4-67 and R-14-6-71, the use and consumption of alcohol on Eastern Point Beach property is limited to the porch and inside the Zbierski House only with a special permit approved by the Director of Parks and Recreation;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the temporary use and consumption of alcohol at Eastern Point Beach on September 12, 2021 as part of the Brew Run / Brew Fest hosted by the Greater Mystic Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Groton Utilities, pursuant to the provisions of Eastern Point Beach Rules and Regulations.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Christine Piazza moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried. Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-107 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL REAPPOINT THE FIRM OF BERCHEM AND MOSES PC, 75 BROAD STREET, MILFORD, CONNECTICUT AS THE CITY OF GROTON ATTORNEY TO BE EFFECTIVE UPON PASSAGE

WHEREAS, according to Article VII, Section 1 of the City of Groton Charter, the Mayor, with the approval of the Council, shall appoint a City Attorney;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council reappoint the firm of Berchem and Moses PC, 75 Broad Street, Milford, Connecticut as the City of Groton Attorney to be effective upon passage.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentions that this was discussed at the May 24, 2021 Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Councilor Rashaad Carter moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried.
Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

R-21-6-109 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE CITY OF GROTON TO PURCHASE BI-DIRECTIONAL AMPLIFIERS FROM COMMUNICATIONS PLUS, LLC, 84 SALEM TURNPIKE, NORWICH, CONNECTICUT FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$25,086.00 (TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND EIGHTY-SIX AND NO CENTS) TO BE PAID FROM THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET

WHEREAS, the City of Groton Police Department has conducted a communications assessment and has identified significant weaknesses in the signal strength of our portable radio system while within the Municipal Building due to the construction materials utilized in the building; and

WHEREAS, the Police Department conferred with Communication Plus, LLC and identified and formulated a corrective action plan to address the safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, it was recommended to install bi-directional amplifiers to increase communication coverage within the Municipal Building;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize the City of Groton to purchase bi-directional amplifiers from Communications Plus, LLC, 84 Salem Turnpike, Norwich, Connecticut for a total cost of \$25,086.00 (Twenty-Five Thousand, Eighty-Six Dollars and Zero Cents) to be paid from the current fiscal year police department operating budget.

Chief Eric Jenkins was present to explain to the Council the lack of signal strength of their radios within the building and the need for the amplifiers to improve this issue.

Mayor Keith Hedrick mentioned that this purchase will help to eliminate any dead spots within the building.

Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot has inquired on how the company was chosen to purchase these items from.

Chief Jenkins explained that this company who is provided us with our related equipment and they are able to provide us with the necessary accessories to work with said equipment.

Councilor Paul Norris inquires about the threshold and it is confirmed that anything over 10k goes through the Mayor and Council.

Councilor Lisa McCabe states that she is happy to hear that this is being addressed as safety is a priority.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2021**

Councilor Lisa McCabe moved, Deputy Mayor Gweneviere Depot seconded. Motion carried.
Vote all in favor, 6-0-0.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Keith Hedrick called for a motion to adjourn. Councilor Lisa McCabe moved, Councilor Paul Norris seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Keith Hedrick adjourned the meeting at 10:15pm.