

**CITY OF GROTON  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, JANUARY 24, 2005**

**MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
7:30 PM**

**Mayor Dennis Popp called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.**

**I. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Dennis Popp, Deputy Mayor Paul Duarte, Councilors David Hale, Hubert Poppe, Marian Galbraith and City Clerk Debra Patrick.

Excused: Councilor Sharon Schick, Michael Street, Treasurer Terrence O'Hanlon and Finance Director Tony Timpano.

**REFERRAL ITEM # 7 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF GROTON  
AND CITY OF GROTON REGARDING PLANNING DEPARTMENT**

Mayor Popp reported that there has been no progress to date on the issue of a full time planner for the City of Groton. There was some discussion on the position the Town of Groton holds on the issue.

**REFERRAL ITEM # 140 GROTON TOWNHOUSE SIGN**

This item is in the Group I Finance Committee for further review and discussion.

**REFERRAL ITEM # 146 REVISED 2005 CITY OF GROTON RECREATION  
DEPARTMENT USER FEES**

Parks and Recreation Director William Sanford gave an overview of the recommendations submitted by the Beach and Parks Committee for the Council's consideration. The committee reviewed the policy of season pass holders requesting a temporary pass for a loaner or rental vehicle while their vehicle is in for repair. He stated that it can be a hardship for some and the Beach and Parks Committee recognizes that a change is in order. The pass holder would have to present proof of the repair work stating approximate length of time it will take and a temporary pass would then be given. He stated that the changes in the policy for bus groups was addressed because of the increased cost of staffing for days when bus groups are scheduled and the increased use of the facilities. There was some discussion on the legalities of setting limitations on bus groups. The last recommendation was a refundable fee of \$50.00 for the key for rentals of the Zbierski House. There were some questions as to why this was necessary.

Mr. Sanford said that there have been some instances where the key was not returned with repeated calls to the individual renting the facility and this would hopefully eliminate the problem. There was some discussion on the walk-in fees and continued discussion regarding safety issues with bus groups.

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**REFERRAL ITEM # 148 AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$36,768.00 FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF SIX (6) DATA911 MOBILE DATA SYSTEMS IN THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO BE PAID FROM CAPITAL FUNDS**

Police Chief Giuliani stated that the mobile units currently being used do not have enough RAM to work with the new computer generated system that the police department went online with in January 2004. The intent of the mobile units is to allow the patrol officer to complete the reports while still out on the street and not have to come in to the station and to be able to access data that might assist them during an investigation.

There was discussion regarding trade-in and Chief Giuliani said there is no trade-in value to the units currently in use. The funds are available in Capital Funds and will not come out of the operating budget.

There was a question of time spent in the cruiser doing reports and Chief Giuliani said he would rather have them out on the street visible and ready to respond than back at the station.

**Deputy Mayor Duarte** moved **Councilor Poppe** seconded a motion to move **REFERRAL ITEM # 148** to the February 7, 2005 Mayor and Council meeting.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Popp reported that members of the Independent Advisory Committee met with a consultant and have requested permission to contract with them. Mayor Popp feels that this would be a worthwhile investment and would serve as a guide for the committee in their task. He stated that a resolution would be forthcoming.

**II. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**III. COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**IV. ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilor Hale** moved **Councilor Galbraith** seconded a motion to adjourn. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Mayor Popp adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

**Debra Patrick**  
**City Clerk**

