

**CITY OF GROTON
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 26, 2012**

MUNICIPAL BUILDING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
7:30 PM

Mayor Galbraith called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Marian Galbraith, Deputy Mayor Celeste Duffy, Councilors Keith Hedrick, Lawrence Gerrish, Amy Money, William Jervis and City Clerk Debra Patrick.

Excused: Councilor David Hale, Treasurer Janice Waller-Brett and Finance Director Michael Hillsberg.

Mayor Galbraith asked everyone present to join her in singing Happy Birthday to Rose Scheetz who turned 91 today.

REFERRAL ITEM # 1 APPOINTMENTS

FRED ALLEN, HARBOR MANAGEMENT, REGULAR MEMBER

Mayor Galbraith said Mr. Allen has been a member for quite some time and is willing to continue.

Councilor Hedrick moved **Deputy Mayor Duffy** seconded a motion to move **REFERRAL ITEM #1 Fred Allen** to the Mayor and Council meeting of April 2, 2012.

Councilor Hedrick said Mr. Allen is a good man and valuable to the commission.

Motion carried.

DANIEL RIGDON, POLICE OFFICER, GRADE D

DAVID T. HOLLIDAY, JR., POLICE OFFICER, GRADE D

Chief Giuliani introduced both candidates and gave an overview of their education, work experience and some personal accomplishments.

Mayor Galbraith asked each candidate about their experience working with youth.

Mr. Holliday said he worked with teens attending cross country camps while at St. Francis College and Green Mountain Running Camp. He said that he learned that working with high school students requires more patience.

Mr. Rigdon said he volunteered with the Little League Minor teams and also was a coach for the 11 year old All Star team. He said he found the experience of working with the kids very rewarding. He felt he made an impact on them and seeing them take in his instruction and succeed was such a positive experience.

Mayor Galbraith asked what attracted them to the City of Groton?

Mr. Rigdon said his father worked at Avery Point so he spent a fair amount of time in the City of Groton. He liked the small community feel and felt at home.

Mr. Holliday agreed the small community feel felt right to him as well and the members of the department were helpful and professional throughout the interview process.

Mayor Galbraith thanked both candidates for sticking with the long process that brought them to this point. She said they would need to move this to the Special Mayor and Council meeting of March 26, 2012.

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Councilor Hedrick moved **Deputy Mayor Duffy** seconded a motion to move **REFERRAL ITEM #1 Daniel Rigdon** to the Special Mayor and Council meeting of March 26, 2012. **Motion carried.**

Deputy Mayor Duffy moved **Councilor Gerrish** seconded a motion to move **REFERRAL ITEM #1 David T. Holliday Jr.** to the Special Mayor and Council meeting of March 26, 2012. **Motion carried.**

She said they would complete the remaining business on the agenda before opening the special meeting that will follow this one.

REFERRAL ITEM # 429 MEMORIAL BENCH, KATHERINE DUNN

Mary Hill, Director Parks & Recreation went over the resolution passed in 2005 that allows these memorials. She said it allows for members of the community to honor a loved one who has passed away. She said the Beach & Parks Committee reviews each request and felt this would be a good way for this young lady to honor her sister who died at a young age. She has been saving money to cover the costs for the bench and plaque and has been a part of the summer recreation program. Councilor Moncy said Ms. Hill answered all her questions and found the letter to be very touching. Deputy Mayor Duffy said she too found the letter touching and thanked the Beach & Parks Committee for their input.

Deputy Mayor Duffy moved **Councilor Hedrick** seconded a motion to move **REFERRAL ITEM # 429** to the Mayor and Council meeting of April 2, 2012. **Motion carried.**

REFERRAL ITEM # 430 FLEXIBLE SPENDING ACCOUNT

Mayor Galbraith asked HR Director Lorry Scheetz to go over the reasons for this item. Ms. Scheetz said that we are required to review the policy to ensure it is compliant with IRS rules every 5 years prior to sending it out to employees. She said it is and they will proceed once approved by Council.

Councilor Moncy asked if there had been changes.

Ms. Scheetz said there were no changes, it's just to meet the requirements.

Councilor Hedrick said it is consistent with the plan his company offers.

Councilor Hedrick moved **Councilor Jervis** seconded a motion to move **REFERRAL ITEM # 430** to the Mayor and Council meeting of April 2, 2012. **Motion carried.**

II. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

III. COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

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IV. ADJOURNMENT

Deputy Mayor Duffy moved **Councilor Hedrick** seconded a motion to adjourn. **Motion carried.**

Mayor Galbraith adjourned the meeting at **7:45 p.m.**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

**Debra Patrick
City Clerk**