

# CITY OF GROTON UTILITIES COMMISSION

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING

April 28, 2010

A special meeting of the City of Groton Utilities Commission was held this date at which Mayor Popp, Commissioners DeMuzzio, Duarte, Dunbar-Rose and Rabitaille; Director of Utilities Yatcko, Deputy Director-Administrative Services Collard, Deputy Director-Water/PAF Cummings, General Manager-Information Technology Blanchette, General Manager-Major Accounts and Rates & Revenue Requirements Conner, General Manager-Customer Care Daniels, General Manager-Commercial Accounts and Power Requirements Mediavilla, General Manager-Electric Operations Surprenant until 6:56 p.m.; Utilities Administrative Supervisor Stubelick and Executive Assistant Gaudette were present.

Also present was Mr. Christopher P.N. Woodcock, President, Woodcock & Associates, Inc. until 6:24 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Popp at 5:21 p.m.

Duarte / Dunbar-Rose that the minutes of the special meeting of March 24, 2010 be approved. The vote on the motion was 4 Ayes and 1 Abstention (Commissioner Rabitaille). The motion carried.

General Manager Conner introduced Mr. Chris Woodcock. General Manager Conner reported Management has reviewed the Cost of Service Study and recommends a revision to the existing water rate schedule. Mr. Chris Woodcock gave a PowerPoint presentation and a brief overview of the cost of service study and proposed revisions to the water rate schedule. The study objectives included identifying pricing objectives, revenue requirements, allocated expenses, retail volume rates, and revenue sufficiency.

General Manager Conner and Mr. Woodcock responded to Commissioners' questions regarding the average monthly volume for retail customers, number of sprinkler services, and the percentages of the proposed revisions.

Commissioner DeMuzzio requested a comparison of Groton Utilities' current rates, the proposed revised rates, and rates of other local water providers.

### **Review and Acceptance of Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer's Report for the month of March showing the following balances was presented by Treasurer Dunbar-Rose.

Checking Account Activity for the month of March:

	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Electric General Fund	\$ 563,907
Water General Fund	\$ 25,994
Meter Deposit Fund	\$ 0

Electric Bond Fund	\$	265
Water Bond Fund	\$	789

Cash Investment Activity:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Electric General Fund	\$ 14,262	\$ 14,264
Water General Fund	\$ 0	\$ 0
Money Market Fund	\$ 100,834	\$ 56,482
Meter Deposit Fund	\$ 925,768	\$ 925,910
Electric Bond Fund	\$ 2,175,101	\$ 2,129,167
Water Bond Fund	\$ 887,215	\$ 887,351
Economic Development Reserve Fund	\$ 104,047	\$ 104,063
Electric Restricted Fund	\$ 1,463,578	\$ 1,463,802
Water Restricted Fund	\$ 444,712	\$ 444,780

At the end of the ninth month, total investment earnings should be at 74.97% and we are at 63.52%. Earnings for the Electric Division are 7.82%, 93.30% of budget for BL&P, and 29.39% of budget for the Water Division.

Rabitaile / Duarte that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. So voted unanimously.

### **Communications and Correspondence**

The following communications were received:

- Letter dated April 5, 2010 from Ms. Linda Soucy, Manager, Town of Rowley Municipal Lighting Plant, Rowley, Massachusetts thanking Groton Utilities' Electric Division line crews for their assistance in responding to a mutual aid request during the weekend of February 27-28, 2010
- Press release from the State of Connecticut, Executive Chambers regarding Governor Rell's announcement that the State's stimulus-funded appliance rebate program will be expanded to cover water heaters to accommodate appliance losses due to flooding

### **Public Communications**

There were no members of the public present.

### **CMEEC Board of Directors Report**

Director Yatcko gave an overview of the April Board of Directors meeting. A copy of the annual Conservation Report was presented to each Commissioner. Director Yatcko also presented a memorandum from CMEEC Executive Director Maurice Scully regarding the TRANSCO approval process and schedule. Director Yatcko reported the Board of Directors voted to authorize Management to negotiate on the Rhode Island landfill project. The Commission discussed the benefits and drawbacks of participating in the various projects.

### **Review of Monthly Financial Report**

Total Electric Revenue for the Electric Division for the month of March was \$4,178,076 or 2.6% above expectations. In comparison to last year, Total Electric Revenue is 12.4% less. Total Electric Revenue for the Fiscal Year-to-Date was \$43,629,535, or 1.0% above budget and 0.5% below in comparison to last year. Operation & Maintenance Expense for March was \$648,773, or 5.9% below expectations. In comparison to last year, Operation & Maintenance Expense is 21.1% less. Operation & Maintenance Expense for the Fiscal Year-to-Date was \$5,635,679, or 9.2% below budget and 7.6% above in comparison to last year. Depreciation Expense for the month of March was \$119,559, or 8.0% below budget. In comparison to last year, Depreciation Expense was 20.9% more. For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Depreciation Expense was \$1,116,113, or 4.6% below budget and 1.4% more than last year. Net Income for the month of March was \$514,981 or 451.2% above budget. In comparison to last year, Net Income was 237.9% more. For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Net Income was \$5,493,422, or 75.7% above budget, and 0.3% more than last year.

Effective January 1, 2010, the State of Connecticut's mandated Conservation Charge was increased from \$0.0019 to \$0.0022 per kWh and is added as a line item to customers' bills. More than \$72,000 was charged to customers in March, excluding the Navy and interruptible loads. This amount is included in revenue and expensed as Conservation Expense. This will be transferred to Groton Utilities' Conservation and Load Management (CLM) Account held at CMEEC in accordance with the Connecticut State Statute. Groton Utilities controls all expenditures from this fund. More than \$25,000 in energy rebates was paid to customers during the month of March with a total Fiscal Year-to-Date of \$335,797.

Total Water Revenue for the Water Division for the month of March was \$576,264, or 1.9% above budget projections. In comparison to last year, Total Water Revenue is 0.8% less. Total Water Revenue for the Fiscal Year-to-Date was \$5,823,277, or 4.1% below budget and 4.2% more in comparison to last year. Operation and Maintenance Expenses for the month of March were \$535,068, or 11.1% below budget. In comparison to last year, Operation and Maintenance Expenses are 6.7% more. For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Operation and Maintenance Expenses were \$4,843,111, or 10.6% below budget, and 2.9% more in comparison to last year. Total Operating Expenses for the month of March were \$621,126, or 9.6% below budget. In comparison to last year, Total Operating Expenses are 7.1% more. Total Operating Expenses for the Fiscal Year-to-Date were \$5,685,333, or 8.0% below budget, and 4.5% more in comparison to last year. Net Earnings before Debt Principal for the month of March were \$(29,520) or 72.5% above the budgeted loss. For the Fiscal Year-to-Date, Net Earnings before Dept Principal were \$280,222 or 1226.9% above budget, and 7.6% more than last Fiscal Year-to-Date.

### **Review of Director of Utilities' Report**

The Director of Utilities' Report dated April 28, 2010 was presented as follows:

April 28, 2010

The City of Groton Utilities Commission  
Groton, Connecticut

Ladies and Gentlemen:

\*1. **GUC-10-04-145:** In preparation to evaluate the need for a water rate increase, a Cost of Service Rate Study was commissioned. The results of the updated Cost of Service Rate Study indicated the need for a rate increase that will provide the revenue to bring our budget into line. The Cost of Service Study indicates a revenue shortfall of approximately \$1.4 million for the coming year

based on budget projections. It is reasonable to use the budgeted revenue shortfall and base the increase on this prediction.

To provide sufficient revenue for the coming fiscal year, the Cost of Service Study information has been used as a general guide to implement the rate increase. This rate increase will provide the required revenue for Operations & Maintenance and provide for a limited implementation of our reserve funding, while also beginning to repay the short term borrowing of funds from the Electric Division.

A copy of the Implementation Schedule for the Proposed Water Rate Revision 8-2010 is enclosed for review in each Commissioner’s work binder. Copies of the proposed 2010 Water Rate Schedule will be available for Commissioner review at the April 28, 2010 meeting.

The date and time for a public hearing and special meeting to approve the proposed rate increase must be set.

It is recommended that the City of Groton Utilities Commission set Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. as the date and time for a Public Hearing on proposed revisions to the existing Water Rate Schedule for Groton Utilities.

It is recommended that the City of Groton Utilities Commission set Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 7:15 P.M. as the date and time for a Special Meeting on the proposed revisions to the existing Water Rate Schedule for Groton Utilities.

2. **GUC-10-4-146:** Groton Utilities has been approached by more than one alternative energy generation company requesting information on the requirements to install relatively large generation (1 MW to 10 MW) facilities within our distribution system. The energy produced would be sold to the electric market. This will require Groton Utilities to provide interconnection to our distribution system, allowing the generated energy to be injected into our system and virtually wheeled through Buddington Road Substation to be available to the market. These services have a value, and a wheeling tariff needs to be put in place to allow us to provide those services. We have done preliminary analysis and will be prepared to seek approval to move forward with a new wheeling rate at the May 26, 2010 Utilities Commission meeting.

3. Water Statistics:

	<u>Apr. 19, 2010</u>	<u>Mar. 15, 2010</u>	<u>Apr. 13, 2009</u>
Water in Usable Storage	2,573 M.G.	2,573 M.G.	2,572 M.G.
Daily Average Pumping Rate (Week)	4.9 M.G.	5.0 M.G.	4.9 M.G.
Annual Running Average per Day to Date (Year)	5.6 M.G.	5.6 M.G.	5.6 M.G.

Electric Statistics:

	<u>Mar. 2010</u>	<u>Feb. 2010</u>	<u>Mar. 2009</u>
kWhs Purchased	40,192,612	38,721,722	46,590,781
System kW Demand	65,836	67,883	76,546

4. During the month of March, there were thirty-nine (39) Call Outs for reported problems on Groton Utilities’ power distribution system, resulting in sixteen (16) power interruptions. Two (2) underground and two (2) overhead related power failures were sustained, along with one (1) animal derived outage. The majority of the outages were caused by two (2) storms that created eleven (11)

power failures. A total of 1,885 customers experienced power outages for a collective count of 1,523 minutes, which yielded a total of 192,298 customer minutes during the month of March.

5. Energy Assistance Program

Receipt and Allocation of Funds as of March 31, 2010  
(As reported by Town Social Services)

	<u>This Month</u>	<u>To Date</u>
Initial Start-up Funds	N/A	\$ 2,000.00
Customer Donations	\$ 2,116.58	\$ 136,095.56
Groton Utilities' Matching Funds Paid	\$ 364.19	\$ 63,541.49
Allocation to Customers	\$ 2,387.01	\$ 196,532.98
Balance on Hand	>>>	\$ 5,104.07

Last 12 Months

Donations	\$ 9,024.82
Matching	\$ 3,947.65
Distributed	\$ 9,371.28

6. CONN-OSHA Recordable Accidents:

Division	Month of March		Year-to-Date		Prior (2009) Year-to-Date	
	LTA	Non-LTA	LTA	Non-LTA	LTA	Non-LTA
Electric	0	0	0	0	4	4
Water	0	0	0	0	1	1
Sewer	0	0	0	0	0	0
Admin/CC	0	0	0	0	0	2

LTA: Lost Time Accident

Non-LTA – Non-Lost Time Accident

7. System reservoirs are at 100 percent of total usable storage with stream flows below normal levels.

Precipitation recorded for the month of March was 15.09 inches, which is 10.48 inches above the seventy-nine year Groton average for March. Total precipitation for the first three (3) months of 2010 was 22.96 inches, which is 10.40 inches above the seventy-nine year average for the same period.

8. The Summary of Operations at the Water Treatment Plant for the month of March 2010 is available for Commissioner review.

9. At its special meeting held on March 22, 2010, the Mayor and Council initially approved an Ordinance authorizing the purchase of a parcel of land located on Old Buddington Road, adjacent to the Poquonnock Reservoir, for a total cost not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$500,000.00) to be paid from the 1995 Water Division Bond Fund Program.

10. At its regular meeting held on April 19, 2010, the Mayor and Council finally approved an Ordinance authorizing the purchase of a parcel of land located on Old Buddington Road, adjacent to the Poquonnock Reservoir, for a total cost not to exceed Five Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$500,000.00) to be paid from the 1995 Water Division Bond Fund Program.

11. In accordance with Water Division Vehicle Replacement Program, Management solicited bids for the replacement of two (2) 2001 Chevy Astro Vans, vehicles number 51W and 60W.

Six (6) bids were received and opened Thursday, April 1, 2010 as follows:

Bald Hill Dodge Chrysler Jeep Warwick, RI	\$37,028.00	(2) 2010 Grand Caravan Non-Conforming Bid
Interstate Ford Truck Sales Hartford, CT	\$40,654.00	(2) 2010 Transit Connect
Ford National Automart, Inc. Ocean, NJ	\$40,740.00	(2) 2011 Transit Connect
Stoneham Ford Stoneham, MA	\$43,098.00	(2) 2010 Transit Connect
Morande Ford, Inc. Berlin, CT	\$43,150.00	(2) 2010 Transit Connect
MHQ Vehicles Marlboro, MA	\$43,406.00	(2) 2011 Transit Connect

Based on the evaluation of the bids, Management recommended issuing a purchase order to Interstate Ford Truck Sales for the purchase of two (2) 2010 Transit Connect Ford Vans based on its low bid of \$40,654.00.

In accordance with Groton Utilities' Policy and Procedures Governing the Purchasing Practices of Groton Utilities and at the discretion of the Director of Utilities, Management issued a purchase order to Interstate Ford Truck Sales, Hartford, Connecticut for the purchase of two (2) 2010 Transit Connect Ford Vans in the quoted amount not to exceed Forty Thousand, Six Hundred Fifty Four Dollars and No Cents (\$40,654.00) to be paid from funds available in the approved Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Water Division Budget Vehicle Replacement Fund.

12. In compliance with the State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health (DPH) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, Groton Utilities' 2009 water quality data was submitted to our consecutive systems by April 1, 2010. The data submitted will assist them to produce their own Consumer Confidence Report, as required by EPA's Consumer Confidence Report Rule.

13. The Water Division recorded 15.09 inches of precipitation in March 2010, which was a record amount. Subsequent damage due to localized flooding was estimated to be approximately \$500,000.00. The largest damage occurred at the Poquonnock dam spillway and receiving stream that enters Bluff Point Estuary and then Long Island Sound. An initial walk-through with Federal

Emergency Management Association (FEMA) representatives was conducted. Once completed, a full report will be submitted to the Mayor and Utilities Commission.

14. There were no water main breaks and no water service leaks during the month of March.

15. Groton Utilities' Project Management personnel are in the process of gathering information to present options for the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) security and fiber optic infrastructure. It is anticipated that this information will be presented at the May 26, 2010 Utilities Commission meeting.

16. As part of the 13.8 kV Voltage Conversion Project, Groton Utilities' line crews continued the process of upgrading the distribution facilities on Thames Street. In the month of March, several poles on Broad Street were replaced, and the open wire secondary cable will be replaced in preparation for the voltage conversion. The project consists of replacing aging poles, cross arms, insulators, and fuse cutouts. Once completed, the system voltage will increase from 8.32 kV to 13.8 kV. The project is scheduled to continue until the spring of 2010. This is an approved 2000 Electric Bond Fund Project.

17. As part of the 308-Line Upgrade Project, Groton Utilities' Electric Operations' personnel continued the installation of the 35 kV underground cables. In the month of March, 21,666 feet of underground cable was installed and, to date 79,046 feet, or 89%, of the 35 kV underground cables has been installed. The project is scheduled to continue through June 2010. This is an approved 1992 and 2001 Electric Bond Fund Project.

18. As part of the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative's (CMEEC) 50 in 5 Project, during the month of March, Groton Utilities' Electric Project Management personnel completed the engineering of the generator connections to Groton Utilities' distribution for the Bridge Street generator site. A cost estimate was sent to Sustainable Energy Analytics (SEA) for the costs associated with the connection. A purchase order will be needed prior to construction. The project is scheduled to start in April 2010.

At the Lebanon Pines site, the transfer trip scheme was installed and tested. The generators are in service and are on stand-by. SEA requested a pole to be installed at the site in order to install a security camera. A cost estimate to install the pole was sent to SEA for a purchase order prior to installation.

19. As part of the Stockhouse Road Substation Upgrade Project, a purchase order has been issued to Howard Industries for the purchase of a new 24/30/40 MVA transformer to replace the failed 2X transformer. Groton Utilities; environmental contractor, TCI, has removed the oil from the existing transformer for proper disposal. TCI will dismantle and remove the transformer from the substation in April 2010.

20. As part of the Automated Meter Reading (AMR) Smart Grid Project, Groton Utilities' Electric Meter Department personnel are ordering time-of-use Sensus® Flexnet® meters for residential and industrial use to prepare for the upcoming Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Cooperative (CMEEC) Smart Grid grant project. AMR routes previously visited are being completed to 100 percent to enable complete billing of entire routes.

In addition, Electric Operations personnel are working with CMEEC's Account Management team to plan for the Smart Grid Grant Project as it relates to AMR and the population of meters throughout the distribution system.

21. During the month of March, Electric Operations General Manager Surprenant took part in the monthly North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) / Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Homeland Security Cyber Security briefing regarding Critical Infrastructure Protection topics within the electric sector. Members of the United States Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Homeland Infrastructure Threat and Risk Analysis Center (HITRAC) provided updates on current events that the DHS is watching within the electric sector. In addition, the Chief Security Officer of NERC offered opportunities for various other updates that are relevant to the electric sector.

General Manager Surprenant also attended the Utility Services Client day, where topics discussed related to NERC, FERC, and Northeast Power Coordinating Council, Inc. (NPCC) compliance including Self Certifications for 2010, Cyber Security Proposal Version 4, Under Frequency Load Shedding Requirements, NERC Alerts and Demand Response Data Availability Systems (DADS), Smart Grid Cyber Security Risks, and Aurora Vulnerabilities. Clients from other municipalities falling within the jurisdiction of NPCC were also present.

22. The Conservation and Load Management Program results for the year to date are as follows:

**YEAR TO DATE REPORT ON CONSERVATION & LOAD MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

<b>MEASURE</b>	<b># Projects</b>	<b>\$ Incentive</b>	<b>Customer Costs</b>	<b>Annual kWh Savings</b>	<b>Annual Cust Savings</b>	<b>Lifetime kWh Savings</b>	<b>Lifetime Cust Savings</b>
Residential							
Dwellings Retro	689	\$361,152	\$0	276,732	\$38,7420	2,158,511	\$302,192
Appliance Rebates	71	\$4,230	\$51,561	24,782	\$3,469	276,498	\$38,710
Residential HVAC	4	\$4,100	\$79,216	0	\$0	0	\$0
Load Control	0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
High Efficiency							
Motors	0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Com/Ind HVAC	0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Com/Ind Lighting	0	\$0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0
Other	1	\$625	\$1,350	0	\$0	0	\$0
<b>Program Totals</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>\$370,107</b>	<b>\$132,127</b>	<b>301,514</b>	<b>\$42,212</b>	<b>2,435,009</b>	<b>\$340,901</b>

The \$\$\$ value of savings is based on \$0.14 cents per kWh and not the actual savings over the lifetime of the conservation measure. This is only an estimate based on today's customer costs. MANY OF THE RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS HEAT WITH OIL, PRODUCING SAVINGS. THESE SERVICES WERE PERFORMED BY USING STATE FUNDS ALLOCATED TO OIL HEATED CUSTOMERS.

23. The Conservation Department has been in discussions with a firm that manufactures small hydro-electric generation equipment in conjunction with Pfizer. The technology was developed in Groton, and the company has offices in Groton. Pfizer is interested in, and has committed to, the installation of a small generation unit placed in their boiler cooling water outflow. This is an ideal spot for this project since the flow is consistent and will never freeze. The unit will be permanently placed in the outflow and produce approximately 7 kW of electricity from the new technology, low-speed generation equipment. This new technology has a huge potential for facilities such as water reservoirs, sewage plant outflows, and run of the river sites where small generation capabilities are



needed or makes economic sense. The Conservation Department will assist the project by providing substantial funding to move this technology forward and demonstrate the capabilities.

24. The United States Navy has requested a proposal to continue conservation activities on the Naval Submarine Base – New London in conjunction with Groton Utilities’ partner in these activities, CCI, Inc. A copy of the proposal is enclosed for review in each Commissioner’s work binder. This effort will continue the work at the Subase to make the facility more efficient, as well as provide a refurbished and more reliable infrastructure. If the proposal is accepted, the Navy will fund the initial study, and there will be no cost to Groton Utilities.

25. Management has received a formal request from the Groton Scholarship Fund, Inc. for a donation to their Scholarship Awards Program fund. The Commission has contributed \$1,000 annually to the Groton Scholarship Fund, Inc. since 1988. The fund awards scholarships to Fitch Senior High School graduates to help them pursue a higher education. Groton Utilities’ donation is awarded as a \$500 grant to a graduating student who will be entering college to pursue an engineering degree and a \$500 grant to a graduating student who will be entering college to pursue a degree in the business field. To eliminate the need for Management to present these requests annually, the Commission authorized perpetual funding in the budget for this donation, as well as the donation to the Parent Faculty Organization of Ella T. Grasso Southeastern Technical High School, at its April 18, 2002 meeting.

Additionally, Management has received a formal request from the Parent Faculty Organization of Ella T. Grasso Southeastern Technical High School for their scholarship fund. The Commission has been supporting this program for a number of years with a \$500 donation given as a \$250 award to a graduating student in the electrical trade and a \$250 award given to a graduating student in the plumbing trade.

26. Groton Utilities employees were honored, along with other City of Groton employees, during an Employee Service Awards ceremony held during the March 24, 2010 Employee Breakfast Meeting. Director of Utilities Paul Yatcko and City Councilor William Jervis presented service awards to the following Groton Utilities employees:

Dawn Renaldi	10 years	David Zito	10 years
Joyce Brown	10 years	Anthony Nassimos	5 years

27. Senior Substation Electrician James Apicelli tendered his notice to retire effective March 31, 2010. After leaving the United States Navy, Jim joined Groton Utilities on April 29, 1974 and has been a dedicated Electric Division employee working in the Substation Department for the last 35 years. Jim was well liked by his co-workers and always available when needed. Jim was instrumental in various projects including the rebuilding of the Trails Corner Substation, Shennecossett Substation, Eastern Point Road Substation, Poquonnock Substation, and Electric Boat Substation. Management thanks Jim for his years of service and wishes him well in his retirement.

28. The bill for purchased power for the month of March 2010 as received from CMEEC is in the amount of \$3,795,799.06. Effective January 1, 2010, the Purchased Power Adjustment (PPA) increased from \$0.00579 per kWh to \$0.007876 per kWh and was applied to customers’ billings. For the month of March, \$211,391 was collected to help offset generation costs. For the month of March, a surplus of \$43,972 will be added to the PPA Fund. The PPA Fund is now a credit of \$73,514 and will be monitored and flowed through to customers at a later date. For the month of March, a Transmission Cost Adjustment (TCA) of \$0.00526 per kWh was applied to customers’ billings and \$106,133 was collected to help offset a deficit of \$35,845. The net surplus of \$70,288 will be charged

to the TCA Normalization Fund. The TCA Fund now is a credit of \$263,188 and includes interest income on the Fund.

29. Monthly reports as received from the Deputy Director-Electric Division, Deputy Director-Water Division, General Manager-Information Technology and Manager-Economic Development are available in the Director of Utilities' office for Commissioner review.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Paul Yatcko  
Director of Utilities

**Regarding Report Item No. 6,** Mayor Popp complimented Management and staff on an outstanding job of having no recordable lost time or non-lost time work accidents for the year to date.

**Regarding Report Item No. 11,** Commissioner DeMuzzio asked if the vehicles were purchased utilizing competitive bidding. Deputy Director Cummings replied that they were. Commissioner DeMuzzio asked if there is a policy that gives incentives to local dealerships. Mayor Popp replied there is no policy for incentives. The Commission discussed the specifications for the vehicles and if the specifications were so stringent that only one make of vehicle would fit the specifications. Deputy Director Cummings replied this was not the case with these vehicles. Commissioner DeMuzzio requested copies of the specifications.

**Regarding Report Item No. 13,** Mayor Popp reported that Finance Director Hillsberg will be attending a FEMA meeting on April 30, 2010 at the Town of Stonington Police Department.

**Regarding Report Item No. 18,** Mayor Popp reported that Deputy Mayor Galbraith and Director Yatcko toured the proposed generation site at the Water Treatment Plant and Deputy Mayor Galbraith proposed an alternative location on the site. General Managers Conner and Mediavilla researched the proposed alternative site and believe the land is too wet for this project.

Mayor Popp is waiting for revised landscaping plans for the site, and expects to present them at the May 3, 2010 Mayor and Council meeting.

**Regarding Report Item No. 25,** Commissioner Dunbar-Rose suggested the donations to the various scholarship programs be reviewed and possibly increased. Director Yatcko reported that Economic Development Manager Winkler had proposed increasing the amounts of the scholarships and Director Yatcko is reviewing the proposed changes.

#### **Old Business**

There was no Old Business to discuss.

#### **New Business**

**Report Item No. \*1, GUC-10-04-145:** Consideration of and Action to set Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. as the date and time for a Public Hearing on proposed revisions to the existing Water Rate Schedule for Groton Utilities

Rabitaile / Duarte that the City of Groton Utilities Commission set Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. as the date and time for a Public Hearing on proposed revisions to the existing Water Rate Schedule for Groton Utilities. So voted unanimously.

**Report Item No. \*1, GUC-10-04-145:** Consideration of and Action to set Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 7:15 P.M. as the date and time for a Special Meeting on the proposed revisions to the existing Water Rate Schedule for Groton Utilities

Rabitaile / Dunbar-Rose that the City of Groton Utilities Commission set Wednesday, May 19, 2010 at 7:15 P.M. as the date and time for a Special Meeting on the proposed revisions to the existing Water Rate Schedule for Groton Utilities. So voted unanimously.

**Report Item No. 2, GUC-10-04-146:** General Manager Conner explained the proposed wheeling rate. The alternative energy generation devices would utilize Groton Utilities' substations to generate surplus power to the grid. Currently, there are FERC requirements to provide these services. As the use of the facilities has a value, Groton Utilities' rate consultant has reviewed the information and proposed a wheeling rate to facilitate utilizing Groton Utilities' facilities to provide the surplus energy from the connected generators to grid.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 7:09 p.m., Rabitaile / Dunbar-Rose that this meeting adjourn. So voted unanimously.

Attest:

David A. Rabitaile  
Clerk