

**CITY OF GROTON
ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING
MINUTES**

**MUNICIPAL BUILDING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
JUNE 6, 2016
7:00 PM**

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Galbraith called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Clerk Patrick read the call of the meeting and the warning to electors. There were 82 electors present.

Mayor Galbraith read the General Fund Anticipated Revenues and the General Fund Proposed Appropriations.

GENERAL FUND ANTICIPATED REVENUES

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Property taxes (at 5.432 mills), Interest and Lien Fees | \$6,307,427 |
| Intergovernmental Revenues | 5,106,251 |
| Licenses and Permits | 269,600 |
| Interdepartmental Revenues | 4,230,412 |
| Miscellaneous Revenues | 194,850 |
| Operating Transfers In | 115,000 |
| Service Charge | 204,510 |
| Utilization of Fund Balance | <u>400,000</u> |
| Total General Fund Anticipated Revenues | \$16,828,050 |

GENERAL FUND PROPOSED APPROPRIATIONS

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| General Government | \$1,910,817 |
| Police Department | 4,816,105 |
| Fire Department | 2,801,799 |
| Civil Preparedness | 11,459 |
| Highway Maintenance | 2,024,788 |
| Sanitation | 909,863 |
| Public Buildings | 236,047 |
| Pollution Abatement Facilities | 1,700,894 |
| Parks and Recreation Department | 1,125,378 |
| Non-Departmental | 140,000 |
| Debt Service | 635,900 |
| Contingency | <u>515,000</u> |
| Total General Fund Appropriations | \$16,828,050 |

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Mayor Galbraith asked Ron Gaudet and Rick Stevens to act as counters.

Item 1. To authorize the Water and Electric Departments to provide, at the discretion of the Utilities Commissioners, the following free services from July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017:

- a. Water and electricity to Fort Griswold Park and Groton Monument House - Approximately \$3,450.00.
- b. Water and electricity to Bill Memorial Library – Approximately \$7,300.00.
- c. Illumination of the United States Flag during hours of darkness at the Groton Monument – Approximately \$300.00.
- d. Water and electricity to Washington Park – Approximately \$22,650.00.
- e. Water and electricity to Avery Copp Carriage House and Museum – Approximately \$1,500.00

Mayor Galbraith read Item 1 and asked for a motion from the floor.

David Hale, 13 Meech Avenue moved David Rose, 75 Baker Avenue seconded a motion to approve Item 1.

Kevin Trejo, 536 L Shennecossett Road asked if this is an in-kind or line item.

Mayor Galbraith said it is a contribution from Groton utilities.

Mr. Trejo asked if it was beyond the return to the City.

Mayor Galbraith said it was.

Mr. Trejo asked if he had to be approved.

Mayor Galbraith said it did.

There was discussion as to whether an exact number of votes to be counted was required or if it could be considered by majority of votes.

Motion carried by majority.

Item 2. To appropriate for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 the sum for the accounts and purposes set forth in the proposed annual budget as published in The Day on May 23, 2016 and in full on the City of Groton website at www.cityofgroton.com.

Mayor Galbraith read Item 2 and asked for a motion from the floor.

Juliette Parker, 520 F Shennecossett Road moved Lynn Gaul, 35 Bliven Street seconded a motion to approve Item 2.

Jerome Dempsey, 22 South Prospect Street asked about the \$720,000.00 in IT support by Groton Utilities that doesn't show up in the budget.

Mayor Galbraith said that the GU return would be in Item 3, as part of the return to the City.

Mr. Dempsey said it is inaccurate since it doesn't show up in the budget.

Mayor Galbraith said the IT support funding is actually in the Groton Utilities budget which is not what is being voted on at this meeting.

There was further discussion on where the finds should be shown and if it is in the correct cost center.

Motion carried by majority.

Item 3. To authorize the Mayor and Council to apply to the foregoing budget any excess of revenue over expenditures for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016, and any anticipated revenues from other sources.

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Mayor Galbraith read Item 3 and asked for a motion from the floor.

Keith Hedrick, 156 Shennecossett Parkway moved Andrew Ilvento, 36 Slocomb Terrace seconded a motion to approve Item 3. Motion carried by majority.

Item 4. To authorize the Water and Electric Departments to transfer to the City of Groton the sum of Four million two hundred thirteen thousand nine hundred twelve dollars and no cents (\$4,213,912.00) to apply to the appropriations approved at this meeting for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, and to provide for the reimbursement for services furnished to the Utilities as set forth in the foregoing budget.

Mayor Galbraith read Item 4 and asked for a motion from the floor.

Kevin Trejo, 536 L Shennecossett Road moved Robert Zuliani, 23 Cushman Street seconded a motion to approve Item 4.

Jerome Dempsey, 22 South Prospect Street asked if this includes the \$720,000.00 in IT support. Mayor Galbraith said it doesn't, it isn't revenue that is transferred to the City. She said it is in the GU budget..

Motion carried by majority.

Item 5. To levy a tax, based on current list, sufficient when combined with the funds noted in Items 3 and 4 hereof, and other incomes to cover the appropriations approved at this meeting for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, said tax to be collected July 1, 2016. Note: It is the opinion of the Mayor that a five point four three two (5.432) mills tax would be sufficient, when combined with funds noted in Items 3 and 4 hereof, to finance the appropriations contained in Item 2 of the Call, and said Mayor recommends a **five point four three two mills tax**.

Mayor Galbraith read Item 5 and asked for a motion from the floor.

Lawrence Gerrish, 5 Round Hill Road moved Keith Hedrick, 156 Shennecossett Parkway seconded a motion to approve Item 5.

Jerome Dempsey, 22 South Prospect Street stated that is the discussion for the Mother Bailey House funding at a freeman's meeting there was 2 million dollars left in the bond fund and asked if it was still there.

Mayor Galbraith said after the appropriation of \$400,000.00 for the municipal building repairs there is about 1.64 million left.

Mr. Dempsey stated it should be used to pay debt rather than just sit there.

There was discussion on whether it should be used to pay interest or debt.

Motion carried by majority.

Item 6. To authorize the Finance Director of the City of Groton to borrow monies in anticipation of tax receipts, as required, for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

Mayor Galbraith read Item #6 and asked for a motion from the floor.

David Hale, 13 Meech Avenue moved Keith Hedrick, 156 Shennecossett Parkway seconded a motion to approve Item 6.

Motion carried by majority

Item 7. To authorize the Mayor and Council to transfer any surplus funds from one account to another as prescribed in Article V, Section 3 of the Charter, as may be warranted in their discretion for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, provided that such transfer of funds does not result in exceeding the total amount of the appropriations made at this meeting.

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Mayor Galbraith read Item # 7 and asked for a motion from the floor. Stephen Sheffield, 17 Denison Avenue moved Andrew Ilvento, 36 Slocomb Terrace seconded a motion to approve Item 7. Motion carried by majority.

Item 8. To approve the minutes of the following meetings:

City of Groton Annual Budget meeting minutes of June 1, 2015; Special Freeman's meeting minutes of September 8, 2015, February 16, 2016, and April 25, 2016.

Mayor Galbraith read Item #8 and asked for a motion from the floor. Andrew Ilvento, 36 Slocomb Terrace moved Keith Hedrick, 156 Shennecossett Parkway seconded a motion to approve Item 8. Motion carried by majority.

Item 9. To take any action on any other business which may legally come before said meeting. There being no other business Mayor Galbraith asked for a motion for adjournment.

II. ADJOURNMENT

David Hale, 13 Meech Avenue moved David Rose, 74 Baker Avenue seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Mayor Galbraith adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.