

**CITY OF GROTON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016**

**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 Keith Hedrick, Councilors Andrew Ilvento, Stephen Sheffield, Conrad Heede, Lawrence Gerrish, Finance Director Ron Yuhas and City Clerk Debra Patrick. Excused: Councilor Jill Rusk.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Galbraith.

III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND MEMORIALS

None.

IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS

None.

V. RESPOND TO CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS

None.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Gerrish moved Councilor Ilvento seconded a motion to approve the November 21, 2016 Mayor and Council meeting. Motion carried.

Councilor Ilvento moved Councilor Sheffield seconded a motion to approve the November 28, 2016 Special Mayor and Council meeting. Motion carried.

Councilor Ilvento moved Councilor Sheffield seconded a motion to approve the November 28, 2016 Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion carried.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilor Ilvento volunteered at the Groton Education Foundation fundraiser December 2nd. He said it was a great event and the money raised will be given as grants to teachers. December 3rd he participated in the Holiday Lights Parade.

Councilor Sheffield participated in the Holiday Lights Parade December 3rd.

Councilor Heede volunteered at the City Holiday Festival December 1st and on December 3rd attended a DTC meeting honoring State Senator Andrew Maynard for his service.

Councilor Gerrish had no report.

Deputy Mayor Hedrick volunteered November 23rd and 24th at the Sub Vets preparing the Thanksgiving dinners for veterans and active duty personnel. He attended the City Holiday Festival December 1st and in the Holiday Lights Parade December 3rd. He said they were both great events with all the positive energy.

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Finance Director Yuhas had no report.

City Clerk Patrick volunteered at the City Holiday Festival December 1st and participated in the Holiday Lights Parade December 3rd. She said seeing all the happy children certainly put a smile on your face.

Mayor Galbraith volunteered at Sub Vets November 23rd and 24th assisting with the 700 to go meals that were prepared. On November 28th she met with Ray Boucher, CT DOT, to discuss their request an easement for a right of way on the Water Ops land. On November 30th there was an initial meeting regarding a joint land use study between 6 municipalities and the Sub Base. She said they are looking at how they can meet the needs of the municipalities and the Sub Base for future development. Later that evening she attended the CERC Awards dinner where she accepted an award with Captain Whitescarver for CT Sub Century. She has attended meetings and gone on various tours with representatives from Genesis for Thames River Innovation Places and is very excited about the opportunities available to this area. December 1st she attended the City Holiday Festival, December 2nd a Thames River Innovation Places tour and that evening the Groton Education Foundation fundraiser, December 3rd the christening for the USS Colorado and the Holiday Lights Parade that evening. On December 4th she gave a speech on governance and leadership at the Masonic Lodge and on December 5th she attended a COG Executive Committee meeting where they discussed the legislative agenda for the upcoming session. She said once it is finalized she will share it.

She said she was contacted by State Senator Elect Sommers regarding any thoughts the City might have for a legislative agenda.

There was discussion whether it should go to Council Group Committee of a Special Committee of the Whole. It was decided there would be a Special COW meeting Monday, December 12th at 5:30 p.m. and invite the legislative delegation to a meeting in January.

VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

R-16-12-114 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF JANET ROMANELLI, 42 WESTWOOD DRIVE, GROTON, CONNECTICUT AS A REGULAR MEMBER, BEACH AND PARKS COMMITTEE, TERM TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2017

WHEREAS, a vacancy exists on the Beach and Parks Committee; and

WHEREAS, Janet Romanelli, 42 Westwood Drive, Groton, Connecticut has been recommended for appointment and desires to serve as a regular member of the Beach and Parks Committee;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council approve the appointment of Janet Romanelli, 42 Westwood Drive, Groton, Connecticut, as a regular member, Beach and Parks Committee, term to expire on December 31, 2017.

Councilor Ilvento moved Councilor Heede seconded a motion to approve R-16-12-114. Mayor Galbraith said this was discussed at the COW last month. Motion carried.

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R-16-12-115 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE PLACEMENT OF A MEMORIAL BENCH AT EASTERN POINT BEACH IN HONOR OF BILL AND NUZZY PACKER, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF BEACH AND PARKS MEMORIALS, AS APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL

WHEREAS, the family of Bill and Nuzzy Packer have requested that a memorial bench be placed at Eastern Point Beach to honor their memory; and

WHEREAS, Bill and Nuzzy were longtime beach patrons of Eastern Point Beach who spent many summers enjoying the sunshine and recreational activities at Eastern Point Beach with their friends and family; 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 placement of a memorial bench at Eastern Point Beach in honor of Bill and Nuzzy Packer, in accordance with the Procedures for Consideration of Beach and Parks Memorials, as approved by the Mayor and Council.

Deputy Mayor Hedrick moved Councilor Ilvento seconded a motion to approve R-16-12-115. Mayor Galbraith said this was discussed at the COW last month. Motion carried.

R-16-12-116 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO RETAIN THE LOBBYING SERVICES OF MEDICI, LLC, 1 GOLD STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT FOR LOBBYING SERVICES PERTAINING TO ELECTRIC, WATER, OR ANY OTHER UTILITY MATTERS AS NECESSARY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$100,000.00) TO BE PAID FROM THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES – LOBBYING ACCOUNT IN THE APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2016-2017 UTILITY DEPARTMENT BUDGET AND THAT MAYOR MARIAN K. GALBRAITH BE AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT PENDING GROTON UTILITIES COMMISSION APPROVAL

WHEREAS, constant monitoring of legislation and lobbying efforts are needed to assure that proper legislation pertaining to electric, water, or any other utility matters is approved by the State Legislature; and

WHEREAS, in order to provide continuing lobbying services, Management recommends retaining the lobbying services of Medici, LLC of Hartford, Connecticut in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00; and

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WHEREAS, at its regular meeting scheduled for December 21, 2016, it is anticipated that the City of Groton Utilities Commission will vote to authorize Groton Utilities Management to retain the lobbying services of Medici, LLC of Hartford, Connecticut for lobbying services pertaining to electric, water, or gas services and any other utility matters as necessary in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 to be paid from the Professional Services – Lobbying account in the approved Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Utility Department Budget;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to retain the lobbying services of Medici, LLC, 1 Gold Street, Hartford, Connecticut for lobbying services pertaining to electric, water, or any other utility matters as necessary in an amount not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$100,000.00) to be paid from the Professional Services – Lobbying account in the Approved Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Utility Department Budget, and that Mayor Marian K. Galbraith be authorized to execute the agreement pending Groton Utilities Commission approval.

Councilor Sheffield moved Councilor Ilvento seconded a motion to approve R-16-12-116. Mayor Galbraith said this was discussed at the COW last month. Motion carried.

R-16-12-117 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND SUPPORT GROTON UTILITIES APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, BUREAU OF ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY TO FUND THE CREATION OF A MUNICIPAL MICROGRID WITHIN THE GROTON UTILITIES SERVICE AREA TO PROVIDE A RELIABLE EMERGENCY POWER SOLUTION

WHEREAS, Groton Utilities Management is requesting support from the City of Groton and Town of Groton to make an application to the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy for grant funds to establish a microgrid; and

WHEREAS, the microgrid establishment will allow Groton Utilities to isolate and serve critical loads within the Groton Utilities service area in the event of a major disaster involving the loss of the regional transmission system or existing distribution facilities;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize and support Groton Utilities application to the State of Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy to fund the creation of a municipal microgrid within the Groton Utilities service area to provide a reliable emergency power solution.

Councilor Heede moved Councilor Sheffield seconded a motion to approve R-16-12-117. Mayor Galbraith said this was discussed at the COW last month. Motion carried.

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X. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XI. COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Ilvento moved Councilor Sheffield seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

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

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

**Debra Patrick
City Clerk**