

**CITY OF GROTON
MAYOR AND COUNCIL
MINUTES
MONDAY, JULY 18, 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, Jill Rusk, Lawrence Gerrish, Finance Director Ron Yuhas and City Clerk Debra Patrick.
Excused: Councilor Conrad Heede.

II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Led by Mayor Galbraith.

Councilor Rusk moved Deputy Mayor Hedrick seconded a motion to amend the agenda to discuss and act on resolution R-16-7-66, tabled on July 5, 2016, prior to the start of New Business.
Motion carried.

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 July 5, 2016 Mayor and Council meeting minutes. Motion carried.

VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilor Ilvento reported he will not be able to continue as the City Council liaison to the BOE/CC/TC/RTM committee due to classes he will be taking in the fall. He said they meet the first Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. and are generally done by 6:30 p.m.

Councilor Rusk attended the Economic Development Commission meeting July 6th.

Councilor Sheffield had no report.

Councilor Gerrish attended the Economic Development Commission meeting July 6th and the concert in the park July 8th.

Deputy Mayor Hedrick attended a meeting for the Mother Bailey House Ad Hoc Committee July 11th, Art on Groton Bank July 16th and the concert at Eastern Point Beach July 17th.

Mayor Galbraith asked if anyone is available and willing to attend the liaison committee meetings. There was some discussion on who might be available and this will be discussed again at the July COW meeting.

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Mayor Galbraith gave an update on the contract with CME on preparing bids for the stabilization of the Mother Bailey House front walls. She said some of the bids received weren't complete and some came in near the threshold that was expected by CME.

Finance Director Yuhás said one bid came in late, one had the base price but the unit costs were missing and the third one had the unit costs but not the base price.

She said they would like to give the firms who participated in the walk through and were incomplete the opportunity to resubmit providing the Council is going to be willing to move forward with the stabilization. She said there are LOCIP funds available up to \$50,000.00 and non-recurring funds to help pay for the work.

Councilor Sheffield said he would be in favor of the stabilization.

Councilor Gerrish said he would be as well

Deputy Mayor Hedrick said he would be in favor of doing this.

Councilor Ilvento said he would not be in favor of spending a lot not knowing the direction they will go in with the property but acknowledges the City's responsibility to stabilize the building.

Mayor Galbraith said they will move forward with the bids and bring it back to the Council for a vote once they are back in.

**R-16-7-66 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE
TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND
BEAUTIFICATION SPECIAL REVENUE FUND TO ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT FUND**

WHEREAS, resolution R-14-5-57 approved the creation of an Economic Development Commission for the City of Groton; and

WHEREAS, the resolution authorizes the City to annually appropriate funds for the Commission's purposes, as allowed by CGS 7-136; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has requested \$38,500.00 (Thirty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents) for fiscal year 2017; and

WHEREAS, previous years allocations have been accumulating in the special revenue fund designated for the Economic Development Commission;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the following transfer be made:

FROM:	AMOUNT
Community Development and Beautification Special Revenue Fund	\$25,517.53
TO:	
Economic Development Commission Fund	\$25,517.53

Mayor Galbraith said the resolution was moved (Councilor Ilvento) and seconded (Councilor Sheffield) at the July 5th Mayor and Council meeting then tabled so the Council could get more information on the progress the commission has made and their intended use of the budgeted funding.

Juliette Hodge, member and former chairperson of the Economic Development Commission gave an overview of what the commission would like to accomplish and the intended use of the

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budgeted funds. She said it would largely be used for the salary of part time staff person, marketing and seminars for the staff person.

There was some discussion on what the options for Thames Street might be and the need to make the permitting process more streamlined and easier to understand for the prospective business owners based on the results of a survey that was sent to business owners. The part time staff person can help with the permitting process and meet with business owners.

Deputy Mayor Hedrick said he is in favor of the budget and moving forward with a part time staff person.

Motion carried.

VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

R-16-7-77 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ACCEPT DONATIONS

WHEREAS, the following donation has been received by the City of Groton:

Groton Congregational Church – Parks and Recreation, to support program scholarship fund - \$2340.00;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council accept donations.

Councilor Ilvento moved Councilor Sheffield seconded a motion to approve R-16-7-77.

Mayor Galbraith said this is a very generous donation from the Groton Congregational Church to help with funding the scholarships for the Summer Playground program. She said they have done this for a few years and their generosity is very much appreciated.

Motion carried.

R-16-7-78 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE PARTIPATION OF NON-FOOD VENDORS ASSOCIATED WITH FIELD OF GREENS GROTON CITY FARMERS' MARKET FOR THE 2016 SEASON

WHEREAS, the City of Groton fully supports the Field of Greens Groton City Farmers Market; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the City to improve the nutrition of our citizens and support local agriculture by working in conjunction with Ledge Light Health District to build a thriving and sustainable farmer' market with access to healthy foods and promoting a healthy community; and **WHEREAS**, we recognize that successful farmers' markets all include a variety of non-farm vendors;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve the participation of non-food vendors associated with the Field of Greens Groton City Farmers' Market for the 2016 season.

Councilor Rusk moved Councilor Ilvento seconded a motion to approve R-16-7-78.

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Mayor Galbraith said the current ordinance allows farmers who grow the product to sell at the market without a permit while food vendors who sell the prepared food do need permits. She said it doesn't really address the vendors who are selling non-food products and feels they are an essential piece of the farmer's market experience. She said they can work on revising the ordinance later but would like the Council to vote to allow for the non-food vendors to continue participating in the farmer's market.

Councilor Sheffield asked how many vendors this would include.

Cindy Barry, LLHD, said approximately 10 vendors and maybe 6 guest vendors.

Councilor Sheffield asked if there is enough room for all those vendors.

There was discussion on the site and size of the farmer's market at Washington Park.

Deputy Mayor Hedrick said he feels the non-food vendors are important to the market as a variety of vendors can be a big draw.

Motion carried.

X. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XI. COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

Mayor Galbraith adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

**Debra Patrick
City Clerk**