

**CITY OF GROTON  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**MUNICIPAL BUILDING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
7:30 PM**

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

**I. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Keith Hedrick, Deputy Mayor Lawrence Gerrish, Councilors Jill Rusk, Stephen Sheffield, Gweneviere Depot, Rashaad Carter, Finance Director Ron Yuhas and City Clerk Debra Patrick. Excused: Councilor Jamal Beckford.

**II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Led by Mayor Hedrick.

**III. RECOGNITION, AWARDS AND MEMORIALS**

Councilor Rusk wished Deputy Mayor Gerrish a happy birthday.

**IV. RECEIPT OF CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS**

Mark Whalen, 20 Hillside Avenue spoke as Director, Art On Groton Bank. He shared some background on the organization and the event noting it will take place at the Bill Memorial Library grounds Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m. He said in conjunction with the event at the library there will be a free shuttle running from the Water Taxi on Thames Street through Groton Bank and will stop on demand at points of interest.

Councilor Rusk asked what the cost for the event is overall.

Mr. Whalen said they receive a donation of \$1,000.00 from the City of Groton and \$1,500.00 from Groton Utilities as well as many smaller donations from individuals which defray the costs. He said they are required to keep a certain amount in their account by their bylaws and donate the rest to the library after the event.

Tom Althuis, 5 Monument Street spoke and emailed the following remarks:

I urge the City Council to reassess its rationale to declare the Mother Bailey House surplus property to be sold. Even U.S. Presidents have to reconsider their decisions.

It is incomplete and misleading to say that the tax payers voted overwhelmingly not to spend any more on the house. At the February 2016 Freemans Meeting a \$800,000 proposal was indeed overwhelmingly voted down. But half of that amount was for improvements to this municipal building, nearly 1/3 was for improvements to the Costa Property and only a minor part, less than 20%, was for the Mother Bailey House. A number of citizens spoke at that meeting but the minutes don't record any comments opposing the Mother Bailey House. Are you also saying that the taxpayers overwhelmingly said they don't want any future improvements to this municipal building?

I support spending reasonable amounts to stabilize and restore the Mother Bailey House as do a number of other citizens. City taxpayers should realize that through their CT state taxes they are paying for other cities and towns to restore old houses—houses less historic and in worse

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

condition. Those communities get some of their citizen's CT tax money back by applying for grants from the State Historic Preservation Office.

If the Mother Bailey House were to be sold monies have to be spent to get it ready for sale. Why not first pool those funds for a grant application. The Mother Bailey House because of its age, historical significance and architecture would likely qualify for grant funds for which a decision would be made in months. If it is not approved you haven't lost any funds—only a few months' time. Let's take pride in this historical house as a cultural asset and put it to our advantage.

This may also open the door to other grants for other Thames Street properties. Thames Street is a historical diamond necklace in the rough. The Mother Bailey House is one of the large gems. Thames Street has homes of defenders of Fort Griswold, Connecticut's military leader in the war of 1812 and a Congressman too. Thames Street spells out our nation's defense history—local citizens defending themselves in the Revolutionary War, Connecticut's heroes and militia defending us in the War of 1812, and EB currently defending our country.

Other towns cannot match this kind of an attraction. Why not capitalize on more than two centuries of leadership in defense? And it doesn't do any good to support the Thames River Heritage Park if you don't support our own notable heritage including the Mother Bailey House, whose occupants played an important role in our Revolution and War of 1812.

Bryon Niemann, 76 Allen Street spoke about his concerns with Economic Development & Beautification in the Town and City. As a member of the City of Groton Public Works department he has concerns on how these projects would be maintained. He said they don't have the manpower in the department. He gave the Bridge Street renovations as an example noting the plantings have overgrown and there are some volunteers who will do some work but it isn't consistently maintained. He urged long term consideration be given to these projects.

Jane Clukay, 380 Thames Street set up a tri-fold display of exterior and interior photos of the Mother Bailey House. She said a petition drive has begun and they have collected a number of signatures requesting the RFP contain language that the historical value of the property be maintained. She noted the grants available through the state and a report in the purchase and sale agreement regarding lead paint and hazardous materials.

**V. RESPOND TO CITIZEN'S PETITIONS/COMMENTS**

Councilor Rusk in response to Mr. Niemann's concerns that said she and Councilor Beckford met with Economic Development Specialist Cierra Patrick to discuss the plantings and to be aware of the maintenance required in public areas.

Mayor Hedrick said the Trillium Garden Club was in the building in December and provided Ms. Patrick with their contact information.

Councilor Carter said he would like to see improvements made on Thames Street/Eastern Point Road with regard to the industrial look. He would like to see the City open up a dialogue with EB. He noted how Pfizer has made improvements.

Mayor Hedrick said murals have been discussed with Ms. Patrick and he has had discussions with EB on making improvements.

Councilor Sheffield stated that if this sense of urgency regarding the Mother Bailey House had come sooner the issue of the bonds may have gone differently. He said the City has done all they can.

There was discussion on the lead paint and hazardous materials evaluation and that it is not on the agenda and is out for quotes.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

Councilor Rusk said she toured the MBH on Saturday and the longer the City has had the property the more it has deteriorated. The City can't financially maintain or keep it and would like someone to come forward with an RFP who will maintain the integrity of the property. There was further discussion on lead paint and hazardous materials and that the City would disclose it to sell as is with deed restrictions.

Councilor Depot said the RFP can specify who will be responsible for remediation.

Mayor Hedrick said he has new information from SHPO regarding their intent to tour the MBH and give an objective assessment as well as assist in drafting the RFP. No predeterminations have been made on the MBH.

There was discussion on the process and high costs of a referendum, repurposing the bond funds and the procedures to do that.

**VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Deputy Mayor Gerrish moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve the January 22, 2019 Mayor and Council meeting. Motion carried.

Deputy Mayor Gerrish moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve the January 28, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion carried.

**VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

Councilor Rusk attended the SE CT COG Regional Plan for Housing and Transportation associated with the expansion of the workforce at EB and the Sub Base. She said the presentation is online. On February 2<sup>nd</sup> she attended a presentation on vacant buildings at the Bill Memorial Library by Mayor Hedrick, Town Manager John Burt, Jonathan Reiner, TOG Planning & Development and Paige Bronk, TOG Economic & Community Development. They discussed properties that can be redeveloped such as the Groton heights School. She said information on a developer should be released soon and noted the TOG received a brownfield grant to aid in remediation of hazardous concerns on the property, something that might be helpful for the MBH as well.

Councilor Sheffield attended the presentation February 2<sup>nd</sup> along with Councilor Rusk and City Clerk Patrick.

Councilor Depot had no report.

Councilor Carter had no report.

Deputy Mayor Gerrish had no report.

Finance Director Yuhas had no report.

City Clerk Patrick had no report.

Mayor Hedrick said we need 3 Councilors to present the Highway budget to the 3 Town Councilors.

Deputy Mayor Gerrish, Councilor Rusk and Councilor Sheffield agreed to do it.

**VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS**

None.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**R-19-2-8 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE  
FY2020 HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, Article VI, Section 1(c) of the City of Groton Charter states “Department Heads of the Police Department and Highway Department shall submit their proposed budgets to the Mayor no later than the first week in January of each year. The Mayor shall finalize these budgets and, within two weeks of receiving the same, submit them to the Council for review and approval.....”; and

**WHEREAS**, the FY2020 Highway Department budget has been submitted, reviewed and discussed;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council approve the FY2020 Highway Department budget.

Councilor Rusk moved Councilor Sheffield seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-8.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-9 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE  
FY2020 POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, Article VI, Section 1(c) of the City of Groton Charter states “Department Heads of the Police Department and Highway Department shall submit their proposed budgets to the Mayor no later than the first week in January of each year. The Mayor shall finalize these budgets and, within two weeks of receiving the same, submit them to the Council for review and approval....”; and

**WHEREAS**, the FY2020 Police Department budget has been submitted, reviewed and discussed;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council approve the FY2020 Police Department budget.

Deputy Mayor Gerrish moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-9.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-10 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL FINALLY  
APPROVE TO REPEAL ORDINANCE #112 “AN ORDINANCE  
REGULATING THE USE OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SEWERS AND  
DRAINS, PRIVATE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL, THE INSTALLATION  
AND CONNECTION OF BUILDING SEWERS, AND THE DISCHARGE  
OF WATERS AND WASTES INTO THE PUBLIC SEWER SYSTEM, AND  
PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS THEREOF, IN THE CITY  
OF GROTON, COUNTY OF NEW LONDON, STATE OF  
CONNECTICUT”**

**WHEREAS**, Groton Utilities Commission is the designated authority of the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA), and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the Groton Utilities Commission is responsible for the regulation and policy and procedures for the WPCA, and

**WHEREAS**, the policies and procedures governing the regulation have been incorporated into the Groton Utilities handbook as approved by the Groton Utilities Commission; and

**WHEREAS**, this Ordinance was published in The Day, a newspaper having general circulation in the City of Groton on January 10, 2019 and January 11, 2019;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council Finally Approve to repeal Ordinance #112, “An Ordinance Regulating the Use of Public and Private Sewers and Drains, Private Wastewater Disposal, the Installation and Connection of Building Sewers, and the Discharge of Waters and Wastes into the Public Sewer System, and providing penalties for violations thereof, in the City of Groton, County of New London, State of Connecticut”.

Councilor Sheffield moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-10.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-11 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL INITIALLY APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE #198 “AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CONTROL OF PETS IN CITY OWNED RECREATIONAL AREAS”**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton does not have an Ordinance concerning the control of pets in City Owned Recreational areas; and

**WHEREAS**, this Ordinance was established in order to help maintain the safety of those within the City of Groton; and

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GROTON**

**Section 1.** The Code of Ordinances of the City of Groton, Connecticut, be amended by adding the following Ordinance to read as follows:

- a. *Leashing and conduct in public places.* Except in a dog park established by the City or any private entity, no owner or keeper shall bring any dog onto any public street, sidewalk or any other public property unless the dog is on a leash or lead that is no more than 25 feet and under the control of its owner or keeper at all times. No owner or keeper shall allow any dog under his supervision to dig up, mutilate, deface or destroy any public properties.
- b. *Presence on beaches.* No pet leashed or unleashed shall be allowed on the Eastern Point Beach park property at any time from Memorial Day through Labor Day. During the off season State of CT Regulation of the Department of Public Health, Section 1, 19a-36-B61 (10) will be enforced.

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

- c. This provision shall not apply to dogs working as service dogs for persons under the American Disabilities Act or Goose Patrol dogs, as hired by the City. The service dog must be leashed or on proper restraints.
- d. Any person who violates this Ordinance shall be subject to a \$50.00 fine for each violation.

**Section 2.      Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall be effective upon passage.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council Initially approve an amendment to Ordinance #198 “An Ordinance for the Control of Pets in City Owned Recreational Areas”.

Councilor Depot moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-11.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-12      RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL GRANT A ONE YEAR EXTENSION OF LICENSE AND WAIVE THE SECURITY DEPOSIT TO GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS, FOOD SERVICES DEPARTMENT, 1300 FLANDERS ROAD, P.O. BOX K, GROTON, CONNECTICUT, TO OPERATE A REFRESHMENT FACILITY AT EASTERN POINT BEACH FOR THE 2019 SEASON**

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the Eastern Point Beach Agreement states that said term may be extended each one (1) year if the licensee gives written notice of said extension and all financial and/or other obligations from the prior year have been satisfied; and

**WHEREAS**, Groton Public Schools, Food Services Department, have notified the City of Groton that they wish to extend their license and waive the \$1,500.00 security deposit; and

**WHEREAS**, in accordance the Eastern Point Beach Agreement, Section 2 (Terms) as stated “...said term may be extended each one (1) year thereafter at the sole option of the Board...”;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council grant a one year extension of license and waive the security deposit to Groton Public Schools, Food Services Department, 1300 Flanders Road, P.O. Box K, Groton, Connecticut, to operate a refreshment facility at Eastern Point Beach for the 2019 season.

Councilor Carter moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-12.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-13      RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL RESCIND RESOLUTION R-18-11-107 AND PROVISIONALLY AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE CITY OF GROTON TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH KENNETH WARNER & SONS, INCORPORATED, 65-3 N.**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**BRANFORD ROAD, BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A STORAGE BUILDING TO BE LOCATED BEHIND THE PARKS AND RECREATION HOUSE FOR A CONTRACT COST OF \$122,638.00 (ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-TWO THOUSAND SIX HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) AND AN ADDED CONTINGENCY FOR A TOTAL EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED OF \$134,901.80 (ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED ONE DOLLARS AND EIGHTY CENTS), AND IF REQUIRED, AN ADDITIONAL \$4,200.00 (FOUR THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) FOR COLD WEATHER FOUNDATION WORK TO BE PAID FROM CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, the Parks and Recreation Department is need of a building to properly store their maintenance equipment; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Purchasing Agent solicited bids for the construction of a building from engineered drawings developed with the input of Parks and Recreation Department personnel that include the site and concrete work for the building; and

**WHEREAS**, the bid from Kenneth Warner and Sons Incorporated was the lowest bid; and  
**WHEREAS**, the Purchasing Agent and Director of Parks and Recreation recommend this contractor; and

**WHEREAS**, the original design required modifications to meet the needs of the department and equipment storage; and

**WHEREAS**, the modifications created an additional expense to the original authorized contract;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council rescind Resolution R-18-11-107 and provisionally authorize and approve the City of Groton to enter into a contract with Kenneth Warner & Sons, Incorporated, 65-3 N. Branford Road, Branford, Connecticut for the construction of a storage building to be located behind the parks and recreation house for a contract cost of \$122,638.00 (One Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Eight Dollars and No Cents) and an added contingency for a total expenditure not to exceed of \$134,901.80 (One Hundred Thirty-Four Thousand Nine Hundred One Dollars and Eighty Cents), and if required, an additional \$4,200.00 (Four Thousand Two Hundred Dollars and No Cents) for cold weather foundation work to be paid from Capital Reserve Funds.

Councilor Rusk moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-13.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-14 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$10,000.00 TO THE THAMES RIVER HERITAGE PARK FOUNDATION FOR THE PURPOSES OF SUPPORTING THE PROGRAM YEAR 2019 OPERATING EXPENSES FOR THE THAMES RIVER HERITAGE PARK WATER TAXI**

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton has been an active participant in the efforts to move forward the designation of the Thames River Heritage Park; and

**WHEREAS**, the City played an integral part in the successful Water Taxi Pilot program conducted during the summer of 2014; and

**WHEREAS**, the Water Taxi operated its first season during the summer of 2016 and while successful, the efforts will continue to focus on the taxi service as well as developing fundraising strategies; and

**WHEREAS**, the Water Taxi continues to connect historic institutions into one park experience, provide links between the New London transportation hub and surrounding historic sites and offer a viable daily transportation alternative for local residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the water taxi will aid in regional economic development by increasing the customer base for existing business, historic institutions and state parks as well as encouraging new business;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve the expenditure of \$10,000.00 to the Thames River Heritage Park Foundation for the purposes of supporting the program year 2019 operating expenses of the Thames River Heritage Park Water Taxi.

Deputy Mayor Gerrish moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-14.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-15 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE A DONATION OF \$1,000.00 (ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) TO ART ON GROTON BANK, 20 HILLSIDE AVENUE, GROTON, CONNECTICUT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton received a request for donation from Art on Groton Bank to support the annual Outdoor Art Show held on the lawn of the Bill Memorial Library; and

**WHEREAS**, resolution R-14-4-48 authorized the City Council to make donations to support the social, cultural and educational interests of the City of Groton; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve a donation of \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars and No Cents) to Art on Groton Bank, 20 Hillside Avenue, Groton, Connecticut.

Councilor Sheffield moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-15.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-16 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE A DONATION OF \$500.00 (FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND**



**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**NO CENTS) TO S.T.E.P.S., INCORPORATED, P.O. BOX 1907, GROTON,  
CONNECTICUT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton received a request for donation from S.T.E.P.S., Incorporated to support the self-efficacy, leadership, and empowerment afterschool programs; and

**WHEREAS**, resolution R-14-4-48 authorized the City Council to make donations to support the social, cultural and educational interests of the City of Groton; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve a donation of \$500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents) to S.T.E.P.S., Incorporated, P.O. Box 1907, Groton, Connecticut.

Councilor Depot moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-16.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-17 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND  
APPROVE A DONATION OF \$1,000.00 (ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS  
AND NO CENTS) TO CHILDREN FIRST GROTON, C/O CHILD AND  
FAMILY AGENCY, 255 HEMPSTEAD STREET, NEW LONDON,  
CONNECTICUT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton received a request for donation from Children First Groton to support initiatives to sustain programs that enrich the lives of families all across Groton; and

**WHEREAS**, resolution R-14-4-48 authorized the City Council to make donations to support the social, cultural and educational interests of the City of Groton; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve a donation of \$1,000.00 (One Thousand Dollars and No Cents) to Children First Groton, C/O Child and Family Agency, 255 Hempstead Street, New London, Connecticut.

Councilor Carter moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-17.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-18 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND  
APPROVE A DONATION OF \$500.00 (FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND  
NO CENTS) TO GROTON SCHOLARSHIP FUND, C/O FITCH SENIOR  
HIGH SCHOOL, 101 GROTON LONG POINT ROAD, GROTON,  
CONNECTICUT TO BE DESIGNATED FOR CITY OF GROTON  
RESIDENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton received a request for donation from Groton Scholarship Fund to support a Fitch High School graduating senior seeking higher education; and

**WHEREAS**, resolution R-14-4-48 authorized the City Council to make donations to support the social, cultural and educational interests of the City of Groton; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve a donation of \$500.00 (Five Hundred Dollars and No Cents) to Groton Scholarship Fund, C/O Fitch Senior High School, 101 Groton Long Point Road, Groton, Connecticut to be designated for City of Groton residents.

Councilor Rusk moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-18.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-19 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE A DONATION OF \$250.00 (TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) TO THAMES VALLEY COUNCIL FOR COMMUNITY ACTION (TVCCA), ONE SYLVANDALE ROAD, JEWETT CITY, CONNECTICUT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton received a request for donation from TVCCA to support the annual Carnevale fundraiser for the Meals on Wheels program; and

**WHEREAS**, resolution R-14-4-48 authorized the City Council to make donations to support the social, cultural and educational interests of the City of Groton; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve a donation of \$250.00 (Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents) to Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA), One Sylvandale Road, Jewett City, Connecticut.

Deputy Mayor Gerrish moved Councilor Sheffield seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-19.  
Councilor Rusk asked for clarification that this is for Meal On Wheels.  
Deputy Mayor Gerrish said it is.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-20 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT, PROPOSAL DATED JANUARY 10, 2019, WITH CONNWOOD FORESTERS, INCORPORATED, 39 CHERRY HILL ROAD, P.O. BOX 150, ROCKFALL, CONNECTICUT, TO DEVELOP THE GROTON UTILITIES FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN FOR 2019-2029, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED SIXTEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$16,000.00) TO BE PAID FROM THE APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2019 WATER DIVISION OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, this plan will cover a ten year period (2019- 2029); and

**WHEREAS**, Connwood Foresters will conduct inventory, data collection including site quality, health, stand structure, species, timber volume and value, regeneration, understory species, insect/ disease/ or other disturbances, invasive species, past management, and future management recommendations; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, Connwood Foresters plans to have a draft plan ready for review within four months of receipt of the purchase order; and

**WHEREAS**, at its regular meeting held on January 16, 2019, the Groton Utilities Commission authorized Groton Utilities Management to enter an Agreement by signing a Proposal dated January 10, 2019 from Connwood Foresters, Inc., 39 Cherry Hill Road, PO Box 150, Rockfall Connecticut, to develop a Groton Utilities Forest Stewardship Plan for 2019-2029 in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$15,000.00) to be paid from Forest Management Funds and One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) to be paid from Outside Services – Special Services & Consultants for an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$16,000.00) to be paid from in the approved Fiscal Year 2019 Water Division Operating and Capital budget and that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur; and

**WHEREAS**, the contract will require several internal funding sources with Fifteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$15,000.00) to be paid from Forest Management Funds and One Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$1,000.00) to be paid from Outside Services – Special Services & Consultants;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to enter into an Agreement, Proposal dated January 10, 2019, with Connwood Foresters, Incorporated, 39 Cherry Hill Road, P.O. Box 150, Rockfall Connecticut, to develop the Groton Utilities Forest Stewardship Plan for 2019-2029, in an amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$16,000.00) to be paid from the approved Fiscal Year 2019 Water Division Operating and Capital budget.

Councilor Sheffield moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-20.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-21 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO APPROVE THE THREE-YEAR STANDARD RENTAL SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH CINTAS, P.O. BOX 630921, CINCINNATI, OHIO FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT COST NOT TO EXCEED NINETY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$90,000.00) AND AN EXPENDITURE NOT TO EXCEED THE YEAR ONE AMOUNT OF TWENTY-NINE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTEEN DOLLARS AND SEVENTY-SEVEN CENTS (\$29,918.77) TO BE PAID FROM OPERATIONS SAFETY, SAFETY CLOTHING & GEAR IN THE APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2019 WATER DIVISION OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET**

**WHEREAS**, the current uniform supplier has changed its name from G/K Services to Cintas; and

**WHEREAS**, this new three year contract would provide uniform rental that is more job specific and less costly to Groton Utilities; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the initial cost savings in one year is approximately Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00); and

**WHEREAS**, the total three (3) year contract would have a cost not to exceed Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000.00); and

**WHEREAS**, at its regular meeting on January 16, 2019, the City of Groton Utilities Commission – Water Pollution Control Authority authorized Groton Utilities Management to approve the three-year Standard Rental Service Agreement with Cintas, P.O. Box 630921, Cincinnati, Ohio not to exceed the year one amount of Twenty Nine Thousand, Nine Hundred Eighteen Dollars and Seventy-seven Cents (\$29,918.77) to be paid from Operations Safety, Safety Clothing & Gear in the approved Fiscal Year 2019 Water Division Operating and Capital budget and that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to approve the three-year Standard Rental Service Agreement with Cintas, P.O. Box 630921, Cincinnati, Ohio for a total contract cost not to exceed Ninety Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$90,000.00) and an expenditure not to exceed the year one amount of Twenty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Eighteen Dollars and Seventy-Seven Cents (\$29,918.77) to be paid from Operations Safety, Safety Clothing & Gear in the approved Fiscal Year 2019 Water Division Operating and Capital budget.

Councilor Depot moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-21.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-22 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO WAIVE THE BIDDING REQUIRMENT OF POLICY #1004 “POLICY AND PROCEDURES GOVERNING THE PURCHASING PRACTICES OF GROTON UTILITIES” AND AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO PURCHASE A PRIMARY NETWORK SWITCH CHASSIS AND RELATED COMPONENTS FROM JKS SYSTEMS LLC, 1265 JOHN FITCH BLVD, SOUTH WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT, FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED TEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINE DOLLARS AND SEVENTY-SEVEN CENTS (\$110,969.77) TO BE PAID FROM FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE 2018-2019 IT DEPARTMENT APROVED NON BONDED CAPITAL PROJECTS**

**WHEREAS**, Groton Utilities’ IT Department identified the need to replace the existing network switch at the Operations Complex Data Center during the 2018-2019 budget process due to its age and unavailability of replacement parts should components fail; and

**WHEREAS**, the network switch is critical to all core computer, IP phone, and backup systems across the entire Enterprise; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, JKS Systems, LLC is a Connecticut –based and certified Value Added Reseller for the equipment manufacturer and has provided pricing for this equipment at a rate below the existing State of Connecticut #12PSX0431 Pricing Schedule for such devices, and

**WHEREAS**, at its regular meeting held on January 16, 2019, the Groton Utilities Commission authorized Groton Utilities Management to waive the bidding requirement of Purchasing Policy #1004 Policy and Procedures Governing the Purchasing Practices of Groton Utilities, and authorized Groton Utilities Management to purchase a primary network switch chassis and related components from JKS Systems, LLC, 1265 John Fitch Blvd, South Windsor, CT 06074 for an amount not to exceed One Hundred Ten Thousand, Nine Hundred Sixty Nine Dollars and Seventy-Seven Cents (\$110,969.77) to be paid from funds available in the 2018-2019 IT Department Approved Non Bonded Capital Projects and that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to waive the bidding requirement of Policy #1004 “Policy and Procedures Governing the Purchasing Practices of Groton Utilities” and authorize Groton Utilities Management to purchase a primary network switch chassis and related components from JKS Systems, LLC, 1265 John Fitch Blvd, South Windsor, Connecticut for an amount not to exceed One Hundred Ten Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars and Seventy-Seven Cents (\$110,969.77) to be paid from funds available in the 2018-2019 IT Department Approved Non-Bonded Capital Projects.

Councilor Carter moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-22.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-23      RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE A CONTRACT WITH BL COMPANIES, 355 RESEARCH PARKWAY, MERIDEN, CONNECTICUT FOR THIRD-PARTY TECHNICAL REVIEW OF DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO ELECTRIC BOAT SOUTH YARD ASSEMBLY BUILDING (SYAB) APPLICATIONS TO BE FILED WITH THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION FOR AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$190,500.00 (ONE HUNDRED NINETY THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS) PLUS ADDITIONAL FEES THAT MAY BE INCURRED AND TO BE PAID FOR BY THE APPLICANT (ELECTRIC BOAT)**

**WHEREAS**, the Planning and Zoning Commission anticipates the receipt of applications for Special Permit with Site Plan Review and Coastal Area Management for the construction of the Electric Boat South Yard Assembly Building; and

**WHEREAS**, the application will require certain technical reviews in fields of engineering and architecture which City staff does not possess, including but not limited to traffic engineering, stormwater management design, construction sequencing, coastal resources, architectural design, utility design, and erosion and sedimentation control; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the Planning and Zoning Commission must receive all pertinent exhibits regarding the application prior to the close of the public hearing and at the specified timeframe set forth by Connecticut General Statutes Sec 8-7d; and

**WHEREAS**, City Ordinance 163 permits the Planning and Zoning Commission to charge the applicant said technical review fees as part of the applications' fee;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize a contract with BL Companies, 355 Research Parkway, Meriden, Connecticut for third-party technical review of documents pertaining to Electric Boat South Yard Assembly Building (SYAB) applications to be filed with the Planning and Zoning Commission for an estimated cost of \$190,500.00 (One Hundred Ninety Thousand Five Hundred Dollars and Zero Cents) plus additional fees that may be incurred and to be paid for by the applicant (Electric Boat).

Councilor Rusk moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-23.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-24 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE  
ESTABLISHMENT OF A TAX PAYMENT DEFERMENT PROGRAM  
FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS AFFECTED BY THE FEDERAL  
SHUTDOWN**

**WHEREAS**, the purpose of this resolution is to establish the deferment program for municipal taxes and certain other charges allowed by Bill No. 5765, in accordance with the terms and requirements of said Bill, for any qualified federal employee residing in the State of Connecticut who is required to work as a federal employee without pay or furloughed as a federal employee without pay; now, therefore, be it

**WHEREAS**, the City Council does hereby establish a tax deferred program, as allowed per Connecticut House Bill No. 5765 and in accordance with the Town of Groton Council determination, with the following provisions:

1. The City shall not charge or collect interest on any real property taxes, personal property taxes, motor vehicle taxes, or water or sewer rates, charges or assessments or part thereof (hereinafter referred to collectively as "municipal charges") that is payable by an affected employee (as defined herein) or which became due during the period when such individual was an affected employee.
2. Any such municipal charges which shall have been deferred as provided herein shall be due and payable without penalty or interest not later than sixty (60) days after the date on which an individual is no longer an affected employee. Thereafter, any portion of such municipal charges which remains unpaid, and all interest and penalties otherwise provided by law shall apply retroactively to the original due date for such municipal charges.

All provisions of the general statutes relating to the continuing, recording and releasing of property tax liens and the precedence and enforcement of municipal charges shall remain applicable to any deferred tax, rate, charge or assessment or installment or portion thereof; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, the following shall be used as Eligibility for Deferment and Additional Limitations:

1. As used herein, the term “affected employee” means any federal employee who, during the federal fiscal year 2019 partial shutdown that began on December 22, 2018, is (i) a resident of the State of Connecticut and (ii) required to work as a federal employee without pay or furloughed as a federal employee without pay.
2. In order to determine eligibility for the deferment, the affected employee shall provide to the Tax Collector sufficient evidence of his or her status which may include, without limitation, a paystub or bank statement, a federal employee identification card, the federal tax identification number of the employee’s employer, and a sworn affidavit from such employee indicating that such employee (i) is currently a federal employee residing in the State of Connecticut, (ii) is required to work as a federal employee without pay or furloughed as a federal employee without pay.
3. The Tax Collector may require individuals to recertify their eligibility on a periodic basis of not less than thirty (30) days.
4. The deferment provided under this resolution shall not affect any interest or penalties on, lien rights or collection of, any municipal charges due before December 22, 2018 or after the date on which an individual is no longer an affected employee.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council approve the establishment of a tax payment deferment program for certain individuals affected by the federal shutdown.

Deputy Mayor Gerrish moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-24. Motion carried.

**R-19-2-25 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO PURCHASE TWO HVAC SYSTEMS AT TRAILS CORNER 35KV SWITCHGEAR FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE TWO EXISTING SYSTEMS THAT HAVE FAILED FOLLOWING ATTEMPTED REPAIR, AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED FOURTEEN THOUSAND EIGHT HUNDRED FORTY-ONE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$14,841.00) TO DUNCKLEE COOLING AND HEATING, 296 TAGWONK ROAD, STONINGTON, CONNECTICUT, TO BE PAID FROM FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2019 NON-BONDED ELECTRIC SUBSTATION REPLACEMENT EQUIPMENT FUND AS A NON-BUDGETED PUCHASE**

**WHEREAS**, Groton Utilities Electric Department identified the need to replace two HVAC systems at Trails Corner 35kV Switchgear during the 2018-2019 budget process due to failure following repair; and

**WHEREAS**, the current HVAC systems needing replacement were installed 18 years ago; and

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**WHEREAS**, at its regular meeting held on January 16, 2019, the City of Groton Utilities Commission voted to authorize Groton Utilities Management to purchase two HVAC systems at Trails Corner 35 kV Switchgear for replacement of the two existing systems that have failed following attempted repair, amount not to exceed Twenty Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$20,500) to the lowest of three bidders, to be paid from funds available in the approved fiscal year 2019 Non-bonded electric –Substation Replacement Equipment fund as a non-budgeted purchase due to unanticipated failure and that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to purchase two HVAC systems at Trails Corner 35 kV Switchgear for replacement of the two existing systems that have failed following attempted repair, amount not to exceed Fourteen Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-One Dollars and No Cents (\$14,841.00) to Duncklee Cooling and Heating, Incorporated, 296 Taugwonk Road, Stonington, Connecticut, to be paid from funds available in the approved fiscal year 2019 Non-bonded electric –Substation Replacement Equipment fund as a non-budgeted purchase.

Councilor Sheffield moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-25.  
Motion carried.

**R-19-2-26 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL ACCEPT AND APPROVE A GRANT AWARD FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT (OPM) AS PART OF THE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE FORMULA GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM – VIOLENCE CRIME PREVENTION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF THIRTY-EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$38,000.00) AND THAT MAYOR KEITH HEDRICK BE AUTHORIZED TO EXECUTE SAID AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management is providing a grant to assist local departments with violent crime prevent and public safety improvements through the Justice Assistance Formula Grant (JAG) program – Violence Crime Prevention Grant; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management as part of the Justice Assistance Formula Grant (JAG) Program has awarded the City of Groton Police \$38,000.00 toward the purchase of the body cameras;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council accept and approve the award from the State of Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM) as part of the Justice Assistance Grant program – Violence Crime Prevention grant in the amount of Thirty-Eight Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$38,000.00) and that Mayor Keith Hedrick be authorized to execute said agreement.

Councilor Depot moved Councilor Rusk seconded a motion to approve R-19-2-26.  
Motion carried.



**MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 4, 2019**

**X. POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**XI. COMMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

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

**Mayor Hedrick adjourned the meeting at 8:29 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

**Debra Patrick  
City Clerk**