



# City of Groton, Connecticut

## Mayor and Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 6, 2020

City Municipal Building  
295 Meridian Street  
Groton, CT 06340

Council Chambers

7:30 PM

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

**I. ROLL CALL**

Present: Mayor Keith Hedrick, Deputy Mayor Jamal Beckford, Councilors Lisa McCabe, Reginald Stanford, Gweneviere Depot, Rashaad Carter and City Clerk Debra Patrick  
Excused: Councilor Minerva Ortiz and Finance Director Ron Yuhas.

**II. SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Led by Mayor Hedrick.

**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 Depot moved Councilor McCabe seconded a motion to approve the December 2, 2019 Mayor and Council Meeting. Motion carried.

Councilor Depot moved Councilor Stanford seconded a motion to approve the December 23, 2019 Special Mayor and Council Meeting. Motion carried.

Councilor Depot moved Councilor Stanford seconded a motion to approve the December 23, 2019 Committee of the Whole Meeting. Motion carried.

**VII. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS**

Councilor McCabe had no report.

Councilor Stanford had no report.

Councilor Depot had no report.

Councilor Carter had no report.

Deputy Mayor Beckford wished everyone a Happy New Year and holidays.

City Clerk Patrick had no report.

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Mayor Hedrick read an email from Board of Education Chairperson Kim Watson saying the Liaison Board consisting of representatives from the Town Council, City Council, RTM and Board of Ed has not met in some time. She asked if the members felt there was value to continuing to meet in the future.

Councilor Stanford, the City Council's representative said he feels there is value in continuing to meet to keep communication open and information flowing to all the agencies who participate. Mayor Hedrick said he would reach out to Chairperson Watson.

He read a note of thanks from the Groton Lodge of Elks noting the efforts and participation of Chief Spellman, Chief Tompkins and P&R Director Mary Hill for the special needs holiday party they hold each year.

Mayor Hedrick announced the Groton Community Meals that is held at the Senior Center on Monday nights from 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. is expanding to WSMS on Wednesday nights from 5:30 p.m. -6:30 p.m. This is free to the public.

Councilor Depot said volunteers are always welcome and that donations are also welcome for this worthwhile program.

Mayor Hedrick said he followed up on the question asked at the December COW about whether GU will be making a donation to the Groton Scholarship Foundation. He said he has been informed GU will be making a \$5,000.00 donation and therefore the City would not be making a donation.

Mayor Hedrick said he received an email from a resident who would like the bike restrictions lifted from Eastern Point Beach during the offseason in the same way that dogs are allowed in the offseason. He has spoken to P&R Director Mary Hill and she will address this at the Beach & Parks Committee meeting.

Councilor Carter said this was already addressed by the B&P Committee but there are valid points on both sides. He encouraged the Councilors to attend the next meeting, Wednesday January 8<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.

**VIII. COMMITTEE REFERRALS**

None.

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

**R-20-1-1 RESOLUTION THAT THE CITY OF GROTON COUNCIL AUTHORIZE KEITH HEDRICK, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GROTON, TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT RADIO SYSTEM AND ALLOW THE CHIEF OF POLICE MICHAEL J. SPELLMAN TO EXECUTE AND PERFORM ALL TASKS TO DELIVER SAID SYSTEM TO THE CITY OF GROTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton Police Department has an opportunity to modernize the current radio system; and

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**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton Police Department has been authorized and approved under Town of Groton Capital Improvement Program to upgrade to the State of Connecticut Radio system; and

**WHEREAS**, the new radio system will allow for interoperability between the Town of Groton and the City of Groton and allow for a regionalized radio system;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize Keith Hedrick, Mayor of the City of Groton, to negotiate and enter into a memorandum of understanding for participation in the State of Connecticut radio system and allow the Chief of Police Michael J. Spellman to execute and perform all tasks to deliver said system to the City of Groton Police Department.

Councilor McCabe moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-1. Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-2      RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO APPROVE THE LOW BID AND ISSUE TWO PURCHASE ORDERS TO SHAKER FAMILY FORD LINCOLN, 831 STRAITS TURNPIKE, WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2020 FORD RANGER 4X4 SUPER CREW MIDSIZE PICKUP TRUCKS IN THE QUOTED AMOUNT OF TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED FORTY-THREE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$27,543.00) EACH TO BE PAID FROM FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2020 ELECTRIC DIVISION NON BONDED CAPITAL FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Electric Division Vehicle Replacement Program, Management solicited bids for the replacement of 79E, a 2009 Ford Escape Hybrid and 80E, a 2009 Ford Escape Hybrid; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the evaluation of the bids, Management recommended approving the low bid and issuing two purchase orders to Shaker Family Ford Lincoln, 831 Straits Turnpike, Watertown, Connecticut for the purchase of two (2) 2020 Ford Ranger 4x4 Super Crew Midsize Pickup trucks based on the low bid of \$27,543.00 each; and

**WHEREAS**, at its regular meeting held on December 18, 2019, the City of Groton Utilities Commission authorized Management to approve the low bid and issue two purchase orders to Shaker Family Ford Lincoln, 831 Straits Turnpike, Watertown, Connecticut for the purchase of two (2) 2020 Ford Ranger 4x4 Super Crew Midsize Pickup trucks in the quoted amount of Twenty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$27,543.00) each to be paid from funds available in the approved Fiscal Year 2020 Electric Division Non Bonded Capital funds, and furthermore, that the City Council be apprised of this action with the recommendation that it concur;

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**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that Mayor and Council authorize Groton Utilities Management to approve the low bid and issue two purchase orders to Shaker Family Ford Lincoln, 831 Straits Turnpike, Watertown, Connecticut for the purchase of two (2) 2020 Ford

Ranger 4x4 Super Crew Midsize Pickup trucks in the quoted amount of Twenty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Three Dollars and No Cents (\$27,543.00) each to be paid from funds available in the approved Fiscal Year 2020 Electric Division Non Bonded Capital funds.

Councilor Stanford moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-2.

Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW.

Councilor McCabe asked if \$27,543.00 was for both trucks.

Mayor Hedrick said that is the cost for each truck.

Motion carried.

**R-20-1-3      RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE GROTON UTILITIES MANAGEMENT TO APPROVE THE LOW BID AND ISSUE THREE PURCHASE ORDERS TO SHAKER FAMILY FORD LINCOLN, 831 STRAITS TURNPIKE, WATERTOWN, CONNECTICUT FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2020 FORD RANGER 4X4 SUPER CREW MIDSIZE PICKUP TRUCKS IN THE QUOTED AMOUNT OF TWENTY SEVEN THOUSAND TWENTY SEVEN DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$27,027.00) EACH, AND ONE (1) 2020 FORD EXPLORER IN THE QUOTED AMOUNT OF TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED FORTY ONE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS (\$25,941.00) TO BE PAID FROM FUNDS AVAILABLE IN THE APPROVED FISCAL YEAR 2020 WATER DIVISION NON BONDED CAPITAL FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with Water Division Vehicle Replacement Program, Management solicited bids for the replacement of 55W, 2012 Ford Escape Hybrid; 56W, 2007 Chevy Colorado; and 107W, 2006 Chevy Colorado; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the evaluation of the bids, Management recommended approving the low bid and issuing three purchase orders to Shaker Family Ford Lincoln, 831 Straits Turnpike, Watertown, Connecticut for the purchase of two (2) 2020 Ford Ranger 4x4 Super Crew Midsize Pickup trucks based on the low bid of \$27,027 each, and one (1) 2020 Ford Explorer based on its low bid of \$25,941.00; and

**WHEREAS**, at its regular meeting held on December 18, 2019, the City of Groton Utilities Commission authorized Management to approve the low bid and issue three purchase orders to Shaker Family Ford Lincoln, 831 Straits Turnpike, Watertown, Connecticut for the purchase of two (2) 2020 Ford Ranger 4x4 Super Crew Midsize Pickup trucks in the quoted amount of (\$27,027.00) and one (1) 2020 Ford Explorer in the quoted amount of Twenty Five Thousand Nine Hundred Forty One Dollars and No Cents (\$25,941.00) to be paid from funds available in

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the approved Fiscal Year 2020 Water Division Non Bonded Capital funds, and furthermore, 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 low bid and issue three purchase orders to Shaker Family Ford

Lincoln, 831 Straits Turnpike, Watertown, Connecticut for the purchase of two (2) 2020 Ford Ranger 4x4 Super Crew Midsize Pickup trucks in the quoted amount of Twenty Seven Thousand Twenty Seven Dollars and No Cents (\$27,027.00) each, and one (1) 2020 Ford Explorer in the quoted amount of Twenty Five Thousand Nine Hundred Forty One Dollars and No Cents (\$25,941.00) to be paid from funds available in the approved Fiscal Year 2020 Water Division Non Bonded Capital funds.

Deputy Mayor Beckford moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-3. Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-4      RESOLUTION 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**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton received a request for donation from S.T.E.P.S., Incorporated to support the self-esteem, 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;

**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 Deputy Mayor Beckford seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-4. Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-5      RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE A DONATION OF \$475.00 (FOUR HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS AND NO CENTS) TO PROJECT OCEANOLOGY, 1084 SHENNECOSSETT ROAD, GROTON, CONNECTICUT TO BE DESIGNATED FOR CITY OF GROTON RESIDENTS**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton received a request for donation from Project Oceanology to support educational programs; and

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**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;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize and approve a donation of \$475.00 (Four Hundred Seventy-Five Dollars and No Cents) to Project Oceanology, 1084 Shennecossett Road, Groton, Connecticut to be designated for City of Groton residents.

Councilor Carter moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-5. Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-6 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE PLACEMENT OF A MEMORIAL BENCH AT EASTERN POINT BEACH IN HONOR OF ALFRED AND ARLENE RESTIVO 85<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAYS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF BEACH AND PARKS MEMORIALS, AS APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, Nancy Restivo has requested that a memorial bench be placed at Eastern Point Beach to honor her parents Alfred and Arlene Restivo's 85<sup>th</sup> birthdays; and

**WHEREAS**, Alfred and Arlene Restivo have been active community members and lived in the City of Groton for over 60 years, Alfred has been a member of the Beach & Parks Committee for the past 38 years and Eastern Point Beach was always their favorite place to be; 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 Alfred and Arlene Restivo's 85<sup>th</sup> birthdays in accordance with the Procedures for Consideration of Beach and Parks Memorials, as approved by the Mayor and Council.

Councilor McCabe moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-6. Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-7 RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE PLACEMENT OF A MEMORIAL BENCH AT EASTERN POINT BEACH IN HONOR OF SHELBY OLSEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF BEACH AND PARKS MEMORIALS, AS APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, Thomas Olsen has requested that a memorial bench be placed at Eastern Point Beach to honor his daughter's memory; and

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**WHEREAS**, Shelby Olsen practically grew up at Eastern Point Beach enjoying smiley fries and foot long hot dogs and learning to swim out to the buoys during her short 19 years; 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 Shelby Olsen in accordance with the Procedures for Consideration of Beach and Parks Memorials, as approved by the Mayor and Council.

Councilor Stanford moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-7. Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-8      RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL APPROVE THE PLACEMENT OF A MEMORIAL BENCH AT EASTERN POINT BEACH IN HONOR OF KYLE JOHNSON IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROCEDURES FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF BEACH AND PARKS MEMORIALS, AS APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

**WHEREAS**, Bill Johnson has requested that a memorial bench be placed at Eastern Point Beach to honor his son's memory; and

**WHEREAS**, Kyle Johnson spent summers at Eastern Point Beach in his youth and as an adult with his own daughter; 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 Kyle Johnson in accordance with the Procedures for Consideration of Beach and Parks Memorials, as approved by the Mayor and Council.

Deputy Mayor Beckford moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-8. Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-9      RESOLUTION THAT THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL AUTHORIZE AND APPROVE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE ONE (1) MODEL YEAR 2020 FORD EXPLORER INTERCEPTOR FROM MHQ INC., 750 NEWFIELD STREET, MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT FOR A TOTAL COST OF FORTY-TWO THOUSAND ONE HUNDRED NINETY-SIX DOLLARS AND THREE CENTS (\$42,196.03) TO BE PAID FROM CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS**

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**WHEREAS**, the Fire Department has identified the need to purchase the replacement vehicle listed; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fire Chief requested pricing based on the needs of the Fire Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the vehicle will be ordered utilizing the State of Connecticut contract #12PSX0194 competitively bid pricing;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council Authorize and Approve the Fire Department to purchase One (1) model year 2020 Ford Explorer Interceptor from MHQ

INC., 750 Newfield Street, Middletown, Connecticut for a total cost of Forty-Two Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars and Three Cents (\$42,196.03) to be paid from capital reserve funds.

Councilor Depot moved Councilor Stanford seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-9. Mayor Hedrick said this was discussed at the COW. Motion carried.

Councilor Depot moved Councilor Stanford seconded a motion to suspend the rules to add resolutions R-20-1-10 and R-20-1-11 to the agenda. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-10 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY FOR THE FY 2020 COMPEHENSIVE DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE (DUI) ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM FOR MUNICPAL POLICE DEPARTMENTS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,928.05 (SIX THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHT DOLLARS AND FIVE CENTS)**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton Police Department has identified the ongoing need to proactively enforce driving under the influence and alcohol violations in an effort to increase highway safety and deter both youth and adult drinking while driving; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation, Office of Highway Safety has presented The City of Groton with a grant application designed specifically for the FY 2020 Comprehensive Driving Under the Influence (DUI) enforcement; and

**WHEREAS**, said grant is offered at a 100% reimbursement by the State of Connecticut; and

**WHEREAS**, the expenditures for said grant will be completed prior to September 12, 2020 and said funding is provided for in the Police Department budget; and



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**WHEREAS**, the City of Groton Police Department has submitted an initial application and received approval to employ additional uniformed patrol at key periods of enforcement primarily weekends and evenings; and

**WHEREAS**, the additional presence of uniformed personnel granted under this program will foster increased compliance with motor vehicle and criminal laws and enhance police response capability in addressing these issues; and

**WHEREAS**, this grant has been formally presented for acceptance and that such acceptance would greatly benefit public safety efforts to improve the quality of life of our citizenry;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Council authorize the Police Department to accept a grant from the Department Of Transportation, Office of Highway Safety for the FY 2020 Comprehensive Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Enforcement program in the amount of \$6,928.05 (Six Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-eight Dollars and five cents).

Councilor Carter moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-10. Mayor Hedrick said the DUI grant was awarded and now must be approved to accept it. Motion carried.

**R-20-1-11      RESOLUTION THAT THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZE KEITH HEDRICK, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GROTON, TO ENTER INTO AND EXECUTE ALL AGREEMENTS, DOCUMENTS, AND GRANTS FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PUBLIC PROTECTION, DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND HOMELAND SECURITY**

**WHEREAS**, in order for the City of Groton to be able to apply for grants, authorization is necessary to be granted to the Mayor of the City of Groton to make application for these grants;

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the City Council may enter into with and deliver to the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security any and all documents which it deems to be necessary or appropriate;

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Keith Hedrick, as Mayor of the City of Groton, is authorized and directed to execute and deliver any and all documents on behalf of the City Council and to do and perform all acts and things which he/she deems to be necessary or appropriate to carry out the terms of such documents, including, but not limited to, executing and delivering all agreements and documents contemplated by such documents.

Councilor McCabe moved Councilor Depot seconded a motion to approve R-20-1-11.

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Mayor Hedrick said the purpose of this resolution is to allow the City to pursue the grant and for him to be able to sign the agreement. He said a resolution was approved in 2018 but with a different Council he felt it was prudent to do another.

Councilor Carter asked if he should recuse himself as an employee of the agency.

Mayor Hedrick said the benchmark for recusing himself would be if he would see a benefit greater than any other member of the Council. As he will not see a greater benefit, it isn't necessary.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Councilor McCabe moved Councilor Stanford seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

**Mayor Hedrick adjourned the meeting at 7:53 p.m.**

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

**Debra Patrick  
City Clerk**