

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting  
ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Monday, April 01, 2024

6:45 pm

Present: Mayor Neville, Trustees Morey, Holl, Walpole , Nancy Niswender - Clerk-Treas/Admin, Lee Shurtleff, GFD.

Mayor Neville opened the meeting at 6:50pm

Pledge of allegiance.

**Audit of claims and approval thereof.**

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve the claims presented for review.

The claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

	<u><b>Abstract # 11a</b></u>
GENERAL	22,143.26
WATER	4,348.93
SEWER	18,665.81
ELECTRIC	23,143.03
JOINT REC	1,744.13

Seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor, carried.

Trustee Holl made a motion to adopt a resolution to combine the Light Board, Water Board and Sewer to one, Board of Utility Commission, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

The Village Board reviewed the list of 2024 Appointments of Committees & Commissioners, Chairpersons and other appointments made by Mayor Neville. (List attached)

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve the appointments made by Mayor Neville, seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor, carried.

Mayor Neville made the following appointments (board approval not required).

Deputy Mayor - Elizabeth Conger  
Alt. Deputy Mayor - Michael Holl  
Budget Officer - Nancy Niswender  
Safety Coordinator-Angela Conger  
Co-Safety Coordinator-Ashlyn McCarty

Trustee Holl made a motion that the FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF GROTON & NYCLASS are designated the official depositories for the official year, seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor, carried.

Trustee Walpole made a motion that the GROTON INDEPENDENT be designated the official Village newspaper for the official year, seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.

Trustee Holl made a motion that the third Monday of each month (except January & February which will be the third Tuesday) be designated as the official meeting night for the Board of Trustees, with meeting time of 6:30pm for audit and 7pm for regular session, seconded by Trustee Walpole, all in favor, carried. The meeting nights will be scheduled as follows:

Monday, April 15, 2024	Monday, August 19, 2024	Monday, December 16, 2024
Monday, May 20, 2024	Monday, September 16, 2024	Tuesday, January 21, 2025 *
Monday, June 17, 2024	Monday, October 21, 2024	Tuesday, February 18, 2025 *
Monday, July 15, 2024	Monday, November 18, 2024	Monday, March 17, 2025

**Disclosure of possible conflicts of interest:**

Mayor Neville - Neville Farm - straw sales and possible land use.

The annual review of accounting and investment policies was completed no changes have been made.

- Trustee Holl made a motion to approve travel for Ashlyn McCarty to attend the NYALGRO School June 9-11 in Alexandria Bay, seconded by Trustee Walpole, all in favor, carried.

**Public Hearing on the Budget**

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended at 7:04pm and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearing on the 2024-25 Tentative Budget.

Clerk Niswender summarized the Notice of Public Hearing.

Lee Shurtleff thanked the board for the increase in Fire and Ambulance contracts. Difficulty maintaining staffing. Plans for the future with equipment.

At 7:20 pm Trustee made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Adoption of the Village of Groton 2024-25 Budget

Trustee Morey made a motion to adopt the 2024-2025 Budget as presented, seconded by Trustee Holl.

**All Those in Favor:**

"aye"	Trustee Morey
"aye"	Trustee Walpole
"aye"	Trustee Holl
"aye"	Mayor Neville

The budget was duly declared adopted. [Type II Action under SEQR.]

Trustee Morey made a motion to adjourn at 7:25pm

Nancy Niswender  
Village Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator

## 2024 APPOINTMENTS

### *Re-Appointments*

### *New Appointments*

#### Committees & Commissions

Board Utility Commission	3 yr.	<i>Frank Satterly</i>
Board Utility Commission	3 yr.	<i>Charles Rankin</i>
Board Utility Commission	3 yr.	<i>Terrance Walpole</i>

Board of Police Comm. 3 yr. *Brad Eldred*

Village Planning Board 5 yr. *John Walpole*

Village Planning Board Alternate 1 yr. (Vacant)

Zoning Board of Appeals 5 yr. (Vacant)

Zoning Board of Appeals Alternate 1 yr. *Chuck Rankin*

Village Loan and Economic Development Committee 1 yr.  
*(Elizabeth Conger, Michael Molino, Jean Morey, Charles Rankin-ex-officio, Karl Stamm, Richard Cunningham (Rep), Gary Watrous- ex-officio, Edward Westlake)*

Village Citizen Rep on Joint Rec Committee 1 yr. *Jennifer Foote-Dean*

#### Commissioner Chairpersons (all 1 yr. terms) 2024

Ambulance Commissioner	<i>Christopher Neville</i>
Fire Commissioner	<i>Christopher Neville</i>
<b>Utility Commissioner</b>	<i>Christopher Neville</i>
Park Commissioner	<i>Terrance Walpole</i>
Police Commissioner Co-Chair	<i>Michael Holl, Jean Morey</i>
Street Commissioner	<i>Terrance Walpole</i>
Youth Commission Rep	<i>Elizabeth Conger, Jean Morey</i>

### **Committee Chairpersons (all 1 yr. terms) 2024**

Assessment (No formal appt)	
Buildings & Grounds	<i>Michael Holl</i>
Code & Ordinance	<i>Christopher Neville , Jean Morey</i>
Dog Control	<i>Jean Morey</i>
Emergency Preparedness	<i>Terrance Walpole</i>
Finance	<i>Christopher Neville</i>
Joint Rec Committee Rep	<i>Elizabeth Conger, Jean Morey</i>
Memorial Bells	<i>Christopher Neville</i>
Planning Board Rep	<i>Terrance Walpole</i>
Sidewalks	<i>Michael Holl</i>
Technology Development	<i>Michael Holl</i>
Timber Harvest	<i>Christopher Neville</i>
TV Cable Franchise	<i>Jean Morey</i>
Village Planning Board	<i>Frank Heine</i>
Zoning Board of Appeals	<i>Vacant - TBD</i>

### **Other Appointments (all 1 yr. except as noted) 2024**

Village Engineer	<i>GHD Consultants</i>
Village Engineer, Local	<i>T. G. Miller, P. C.</i>
Village Attorney	<i>Hancock Estabrook</i>
Village Historian	<i>Lee Shurtleff</i>
Village Marriage Officer	<i>Lee Shurtleff</i>
Auditors	<i>Insero &amp; Co.</i>
Administer of SAM.gov account	<i>Nancy Niswender</i>

### **Mayoral Appointment (all 1 yr.) (Board approval not required) 2024**

Deputy Mayor	<i>Elizabeth Conger</i>
Alt. Deputy Mayor	<i>Michael Holl</i>
Budget Officer	<i>Nancy Niswender</i>
Safety Coordinator	<i>Angela Conger</i>
Co-Safety Coordinator	<i>Ashlyn McCarty</i>
Dir. OLWMC	<i>Theodore Skibinski</i>
Fire Chief	<i>Eric DeForrest</i>
Grant Administrator	<i>Thoma Development Consultants</i>