

**Groton Village Board of Trustees**

**Monday, April 16, 2018**

Mayor Neville opened the meeting at 7pm.

Present: Mayor Neville, Trustees Morey, Conger, Holl and Walpole, Nancy Niswender - Clerk/Treas, Chad Shurtleff - DPW Supr, Ben Nelson - Fire Chief, Mike Andersen - Code Enf, Steve Teeter- Elec Utl. Supv., Charles Rankin – Administrator, Mike Perkins, Lee Shurtleff GFD, Mike Neville GFD

Trustee Walpole made a motion to accept the March 19, 2018 minutes, seconded by Trustee Conger, carried.

Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the claims presented for review, and to adjust the budget as follows:

**General Fund**

From: Contingent Fund-1990.4-\$5,123.36	To: Treasurer - 1325.4	- \$ 14.14
	Clerk/Treasurer - 1410.4	- \$ 6.72
	Buildings - 1620.4	- \$ 771.02
	Police - 1320.4	- \$ 571.92
	Fire Dept – 3410.4	- \$ 188.80
	Streets – 5110.1	- \$3,492.60
	Zoning – 8010.4	- \$ 78.16

From: Clerk Treas 1410.11 - \$3,540.00	To: Treasurer – 1325.1	- \$ 987.00
	Clerk/Treas- 1410.1	- \$2,553.00

From: Village Bldgs – Pers 1620.1 \$837.73		
Village Garage- Pers 1640.1 \$738.85		
	To: Streets – 5110.1	-\$1,576.58

Seconded by Trustee Holl, carried. The above adjustments and claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

GENERAL (A9)	\$ 22,399.34	ELECTRIC (E9)	\$ 128,286.44
WATER (F9)	\$ 3,319.84	JOINT REC (J9)	\$ 58.50
SEWER (G9)	\$ 43,705.32	PARK PROJECT	\$ 676.34

Motion made by Trustee Holl to authorize the Mayor to sign the Thoma Development Consultants' proposal for grant writing for resubmission of the NY Main Street Grant – 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Morey, carried.

Motion made by Trustee Conger to authorize the Mayor to sign the Cornell Cooperative Extension agreement for the 2018 year at \$53,361.00 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Morey, carried.

Motion made by Trustee Morey to have the mayor appoint Michael Perkins to the position of Electric Utility Helper at \$17 per hour – 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Holl, carried.

Department Reports:

Electric:

Supv Teeter reported: Bucket Truck and Pick-up were due for inspection, both passed. The bucket truck was used to put up a new pole on Church Street to set a new pad mount for the new apartment building. He is working on getting a quote for the Main Street LED lights. We have 10 and need 12 more. The yearly inventory has been done. The departments attended required Perma training this month. A tree on Clark Street was uprooted in the gully. We had to kill the electric and cut the wires down. We did some additional trimming. We are scheduled to do some work over at the waste water treatment plant on Wednesday. Brush pickup will begin right after Hydrant Flushing which will be around the last week of April/First Week of May.

Charles Rankin reported: We attended the MEUA meeting last week. They are working on the updating the hydro contract to 2040 and hope to have it done by the end of the year. April 22<sup>nd</sup> is earth day and the Governor's office is set to have a new energy efficiency plan in place. MEUA are keeping an eye on this to see how it will affect municipalities.

Trustee Walpole asked about solar usage in the Village. Administrator Rankin mentioned that IEEP has a \$200 rebate that is offered to any residents that put in solar. It is also not feasible for the Village to invest in a bank of solar panels due to the low cost of Hydro power.

DPW:

Supv Shurtleff reported: We are into the spring cleanup, yards from plow marks, catch basins and storm drains. We are street sweeping every day. We broomed and pressure washed the Main Street sidewalks. We are working on a project at the park adding another 16 x 32 section to the deck which is part of the park grant. We will look for some nice-looking patio furniture and umbrellas to help draw parents and grandparents with the children to the pool. We have been clearing brush around the Frank Satterly bridge. We have been up to the Morton works which is where our water supply is and inspected and cleaned out the weirs for this year.

Review of letter from March of 2016 concerning the Eastwood Meadows property off of Elm Street – Rick Uhl has mentioned he would like to deviate from his original plan for the road and brought up the idea of a private road and home owners association. We are trying to keep him to the standard sub-division codes of the Village. We are still waiting on some engineered drawings of the road. Mayor Neville mentioned that this will be on hold until we receive engineered plans. Administrator Rankin mentioned that the sub-division was approved with a paved road. He will speak with Attorney Grossman but believes he will need either a full new application or an amendment to go to the planning board for approval.

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended at 7:15 and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearing on the Local Law No. 2 of 2018, amending Chapter 165 of the Code of the Village of Groton, "Sewers".

Clerk Niswender read the Notice of Public Hearing.

There were no public comments.

At 7:17 Trustee Conger made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Upon conclusion, Trustee Morey made a motion that Local Law No. 2 of 2018, "A Local Law amending Chapter 165 of the Code of the Village of Groton, "Sewers", to amend Sections 165-3 (A) and (B) thereof by replacing Section 165-3 (A) and (B) with a new Section 165-3 (A) and (B) ", be adopted, seconded by Trustee Holl, and upon roll call:

Trustee Conger voted "aye".

Trustee Walpole voted "aye".

Trustee Holl voted "aye"

Trustee Morey voted "aye".

Mayor Neville voted "aye".

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

Discussion continued on the Rick Uhl property concerning the street dedication to the Village after the street was completed.

No report for Youth Commission.

Administrator Rankin reported on Joint Rec - Summer booklets should be out first week of May. They went over baseball and softball signups.

Trustee Walpole reported on the Wastewater Plant. Alvin Howell says that everything is running smoothly so far and has received a can for the mixer and has one trailer in for cleaning from Pall Trinity.

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended at 7:23 and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearing on the Local Law No. 3 of 2018, amending Chapter 193 of the Code of the Village of Groton, "Water".

Clerk Niswender read the Notice of Public Hearing.

There were no public comments.

At 7:24 Trustee Conger made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried.

Upon conclusion, Trustee Morey made a motion that Local Law No. 3 of 2018, "A Local Law amending Chapter 193 of the Code of the Village of Groton, "Water", to amend Sections 193-11 and 193-15 thereof by replacing Sections 193-11 and 193-15 with a new Sections 193-11 and 193-15 ", be adopted, seconded by Trustee Holl, and upon roll call:

Trustee Conger voted "aye".

Trustee Walpole voted "aye".

Trustee Holl voted "aye"

Trustee Morey voted "aye".

Mayor Neville voted "aye".

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

Police Report

Lt. Williams reported: We have 546 calls to date. We have a couple of active ongoing investigations. The Charger is in for service and the Tahoe will be used as secondary vehicle until fall. We have received a resignation from Eric Willman – he has moved on the Monroe County. We have a few openings and are holding interviews on Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> for 2 part-time applicants.

Code Enforcer:

Code Enf. Officer Andersen reported: We have issued a building permit at Old Chatham Shepherding for a 1,200 ft addition to their building. They are working down at the Senior Housing – They have 3 handicap units plus one regular unit done. They have to do some re-venting and correct these. I have done 20 building inspections, issued 5-building permits, 4-roof permits, 1-sign permit and a frame inspection on the Church street project. Bees were found in the Church street project and have been harvested. Rick Uhl had contacted him to ask if he could start another building. The agreement from the Planning Board was that he could start a second building but could not get a certificate of occupancy until the road was done.

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended at 7:30 and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearing on the 2018/19 Tentative Budget.

Clerk Niswender read the Notice of Public Hearing.

Lee Shurtleff – Board of Wardens- Groton Fire Department, thanked the Village Board for their favorable decision on the Fire Departments request. Currently have had 260 ambulance calls to date and if they stay on course it will be 900 for the year. We appreciate your support. Mayor Neville commented that the Fire Department is doing an excellent job.

At 7:34 Trustee Conger made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried.

Upon conclusion, Trustee Holl made a motion that 2018/19 Budget be adopted, seconded by Trustee Holl, and upon roll call:

Trustee Conger voted "aye".

Trustee Walpole voted "aye".

Trustee Holl voted "aye"

Trustee Morey voted "aye".

Mayor Neville voted "aye".

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

Mayor Neville mentioned a couple of people had inquired about a property on the corner of Barrows and Lincoln Ave. He asked Code Officer Andersen if he was aware of this. He had sent letters to remove trash – which they had done. Discussion continued concerning motors and vehicles. Code Officer Andersen said all vehicles were registered last time he checked. A question was raised about how many

cloth tents they are allowed to put up. Code Officer Andersen will look into this. Administrator Rankin mentioned that 302 W. Cortland was not looking good as well.

Trustee Walpole asked about Rick Uhl's second building. In the fall the Planning Board agreed he could begin to build as the blacktop companies were closed but could not get a certificate of occupancy until the road was done. An informal agreement was made that he could do the road incrementally as homes were built, but each property needs 100ft of road frontage. Further discussion continued.

Fire/Ambulance:

Fire Chief Ben Nelson reported: As previously noted at the February 19, 2018 Board meeting, Lance Coit had resigned from his position of Fire Chief. On April 2<sup>nd</sup> a special election was held to fill the vacant position and any subsequent vacancies that occurred. The results of the election are:

Fire Chief: Ben Nelson, Deputy Fire Chief Mile Neville, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Rick Neville Jr., 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Jamie Babcock, 3<sup>rd</sup> Assistant Fire Chief Rob Gallinger (position was elected in the regular election in January)

261 EMS calls, 41 Fire calls – total of 301 calls.

Fireworks are scheduled for Friday night, July 6<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of July 8<sup>th</sup> at the Elementary school.

An application for Nathan Wannall to the Conger Hose Company was recorded.

April 28<sup>th</sup> is the Fire Department/Building Committee Kick off BBQ.

Motion was made from Trustee Conger to approve the new list of Fire Department Officers. 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Morey, carried.

Code Officer Andersen mentioned a food cart in Lisle that was set up for people to leave or take food as needed. Possibly we could consider with the new building.

Building Committee update - Administrator Rankin reported:

We now have a concept model and next meeting we will be discussing the RFP. We will have some laminated floor plans for public view. Discussion continued on building design.

7:58pm - Trustee Conger made a motion to adjourn to executive session, 2<sup>nd</sup> Trustee Morey, carried

8:50pm – Mayor Neville made a motion to return from executive session, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

Motion made by Trustee Conger to adjourn the meeting at 8:55pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Trustee Holl, carried

Nancy Niswender  
Village Clerk