

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, March 17, 2025

Board Members

Trustee Conger
Trustee Morey
Mayor Neville
Trustee Holl

Others in attendance:

Nancy Niswender - Clerk
Steve Teeter - Elec Supervisor
Chad Shurtleff - DPW Suprv.
Lt Troy Boice

Dave Coish-Yaws
Mike Albro - YAWS
Eric DeForrest - GFD Fire Chief
Lee Shurtleff - County Legislature

7:00pm Mayor Neville welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 18 & 19 and March 8 & March 12, 2025 Board Meetings, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

Audit of claims and approval thereof.

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

A0-5142-04	6,007.80	
A0-5110-2	50,000.00	
A0-5110-4		56,007.80
A0-1420-04	2,000.00	
A0-1420-41		2,000.00
A0-9950-09	985.00	
A0-5031-0		985.00
A0-9060-08	14,000.00	
A0-1990-04		14,000.00
G0-8130-04	42,000.00	
G0-2120-1		42,000.00
J0-7145-42	175.00	
J0-9060-08	2,000.00	
J0-7145-41		2,175.00

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

	<u>Abstract # 10</u>
GENERAL	92,700.81
WATER	9,326.73
SEWER	61,839.93
ELECTRIC	193,245.98
JOINT REC	2,223.97
CAPITAL	685.00

Seconded by Trustee Conger, all in favor, carried.

Monthly Department Reports:

Electric Department:

Supervisor Teeter report was submitted (attached to the minutes)

- Completed Hearing test
- MEUA training tomorrow & Wednesday
- Dealt with several trees down in the Village from the high winds.
- April 7th Landis & Gyr AMI Kick off
- Visit to the School planned

Department of Public Works

Supervisor Shurtleff report submitted (attached to the minutes)

- Salted all the way down from Dempsey's.
- Quote on 2005 street sweeper - up to \$40,000 to get it running - another \$5,000 to get it up to date. They have a used 2004 Machine for \$32,000 but twice as many hours. Not sure if they would take a trade.
- New tap needed to manage larger water lines. Approx.. \$3,500.

Waste Water Treatment Plant

Mike Albro - Yaws Report was submitted and reviewed (attached to the minutes)

- More bugs need to be bought due to the discharge from Old Chatham Creamery. Per our sewer use law we can and will bill them for these purchases. Special order for Creameries.
- Also are continuing to monitor ammonia which was high and seems to be less.

Police Department

Lt. Troy Boice Reported

- Quote for radio - 3 car radios \$12,012 - portables are ok for the moment but we will need to start a budget for those as well.

Fire Department

reported the following:

	<u>YTD</u>
Ambulance Calls	207
Fire Calls	44
	<u>251</u>

- Busy from the storm that came through.
- Ambulance covering a lot of out of district call. - We have been able to handle that at this time.
- There was an issue with another ambulance not answering their calls that did not benefit them.
- Pancake Breakfast last month sold out in 1 1/2 hours Next -Sunday March 23, 7-10
- April 11th - UPK-3 at school with the kids
- April 26 Chicken BBQ - Recruitment time.
- Burn Ban March 16-May 14.

Joint Recreation

Trustee Conger reviewed the Joint Recreation report (attached to the minutes):

Groton Youth Commission

Trustee Conger reviewed the Youth Commission report (attached to the minutes):

Code Office

Ted Skibinski - Code Officer submitted his report attached to the minutes.

Lee Shurtleff reported as County Representative:

- County going into a difficult budget year. West Cortland Street Bridge is postponed. Some of the capital projects have been cut from federal dollars.

Action Items

- Trustee Conger made a motion to adopt a resolution to have the Mayor declare April 2025 as Fair Housing Month, seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Conger made a resolution to have the Mayor appoint Rebecca Koenig as TCCOG Delegate, seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.
- Mayor appointed Adam Stickels as FT Paramedic @ \$28/hr. once approved by Tompkins County.
- Mayor to update the rate for Daniel Johnson as PT police officer @ \$28.43/hr.
- Trustee Conger made a motion to approve John Scott as a member of the Groton Fire Department, seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Holl made a motion to adopt a resolution to transfer up to \$50,000 from Motor Equipment reserves for repairs or purchase, seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Holl made a motion to adopt a resolution to transfer \$16,000 from Wastewater reserves for equipment, seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Conger made a motion to adopt resolution to transfer up to \$3,500 from Water transmission & Distribution for equipment, seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.
- Tentative Budget review

8:58pm Trustee Conger made a motion to move into executive session to discuss a specific employee and village real-estate. Seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor.

9:12pm Trustee Conger made a motion to move out of executive session, seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.

- Trustee Holl made a motion after review of documentation to approve the application of Tim Jones as part time police officer and to have Clerk Niswender sign the Tompkins County review form, seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Conger made a motion to adopt a resolution to the purchase of 176 1/2 Main Street for \$21,000 for the use of storage for the DPW, seconded by Trustee Morey, all in favor, carried.

9:14pm Trustee Conger made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Niswender
Village Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator

Village of Groton

Electric Department Report

March 10, 2025

Work Completed

- Trimmed trees
- Replaced streetlight in front of Red Apple
- Picked up snow
- Snow Plowing
- Took gloves and sleeves to Syracuse to Syracuse for testing
- Inventory
- Helped replaced broken springs on truck #46
- Read meters
- Replaced stopped meters
- Worked on sweeper
- Patched auger at the sewer plant and worked on drum filter
- Tagged doors for non pays (43)
- Tested meters for the new system
- Fixed wall in the garage
- Replaced the heater in the garage office



Village of Groton

308 Main Street, PO Box 100 ♦ Groton, NY 13073

Phone: 607-898-3966 ♦ Fax No. 607-898-4177

TDD: New York State Relay 1-800-662-1220

e-mail: customerservice@grotonny.org

Mayor.....	Christopher J. Neville
Trustees.....	Elizabeth T. Conger
	Michael G. Holl
	Jean E. Morey
	Terrance E. Walpole
Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator	Nancy Niswender
Dept. of Public Works Supv.	Chad M. Shurtleff
Electric Utility Supv.	Stephen E. Teeter
Police OIC.....	Lt. Troy Boice
Code Enforcement Officer	Ted Skibinski
Director of Recreation.....	Becky Koenig

Department of Public Works

Feb 18 – Mar 17 2024

Completed Work/Projects:

- Plow, salt and move snow as needed.
- Repair sludge auger at the sewer plant
- Install new leaf springs on a dump truck
- Salt sidewalks and Main St. and Peru Rd. – thick ice
- Take street sweeper to CynCon for repair
- Flush S. Main area water main for dirty water complaint
- Meet with Old Chatham about sampling and billing
- Rebuild the water pump on the sewer main flusher
- Repair plugger influent pump at the sewer plant
- Read water meters and monthly water samples
- Regrade S. Main St. water main repair cut
- Clean and flush several catch basins around village

Schedule of Work

- Install new valves and the pool filters
- Install new water service at the hotel, new house on 222 and new house on Gerald Moses Dr.
- Spring clean up from plowing snow

Village of Groton

Fuel Usage Report in Gallons

Dates: 03/17/2025

	Unleaded	Diesel
DPW	150	133
Electric	108	18
Fire	75	98
Police	246	

Waste Water Treatment Plant
Monthly Report
March 17, 2025

- Still using bugs to handle shock loads from Chatham Creamery.
- High flows with the last rain event. Flows reached .0718 mgd.
- Wet well level sensor was malfunctioning. Due to high flows the level sensor stopped reading.
- Took apart Influent pump 1. Discharge line was filled with sludge and heavy material.
- Kester was here for a sludge sample and to look at the headworks of the facility.
- DPW came down and repaired the top half of the sludge auger.
- New peroxide dosing lines have been installed.
- Digesters down to 2.8 feet. Plan on cleaning when weather permits.

Groton Joint Recreation Committee
March 4, 2025

Scott Weeks called the meeting to order at: 5:41pm

Present were:

Rec Director Becky Koenig
Scott Weeks
Elizabeth Conger
Angela Conger
Leon Brockway
Crystal Young
Jennifer Foote-Dean

The minutes were reviewed from the February 6th meeting.

Motion made to approve the minutes by: Elizabeth Conger
2nd by: Leon Brockway
carried.

The financials for February were not available yet.

Recreation Director Report

See Director Becky Koenig's Report attached

Updates on report

Discussion/Action Items

- The Groton Public Library requested a donation towards their Bike Repair Station. The total project is \$2,100. They have raised \$1,450 so far. Elizabeth Conger made a motion to donate \$200 to the Groton Public Library seconded by Jennifer Foote-Dean. All in favor.

Open Discussion:

None

Motion to adjourn: 6:17 PM

made by: Elizabeth Conger
2nd by: Crystal Young

Next meeting: April 1st

Submitted by:
Angela Conger
Village of Groton
Deputy Treasurer



Groton Joint Recreation Committee
Becky Koenig- Director Report
March 2025

Youth Programming

- Youth Programming
 - Youth Travel Basketball **They are doing a kids vs. parents game.**
 - End of Year party March 14th
 - Youth Open Rec Soccer- 1 day per week working on skills/fun games. Free & no registration. **He's had about 10 kids, range of K-6**
 - Youth Volleyball
 - Started March 3rd- April 15th. Expanding the age to 4th-8th grade this year. Program is free. Currently have 34 participants **20 4th-6th, 16 7th-8th**
 - Youth Softball Pitching-Catching practice- Open rec program Saturday March 15th & 22nd 10-11:30am **Terry Neiss is running the program for 7th and 8th graders**
- Adult Programming.
 - New Program: Chair yoga. Good response from the community. The instructor is currently doing it for free. Tues/Thurs 11:15am-12:45am. Will meet regarding continuing once she returns from traveling.
 - Yoga- running Tues/Thurs 10-11am in community room.
 - Group Hike March 8 with The Good Neighbor.
 - Co-Rec Volleyball- Mondays 7-8:30pm @ HS gym **20 participants**
 - Ran another sewing class in February/March. 8 participants currently (max is 10).
 - Working to start running a monthly craft/sewing group

Other Items

- Cabin Fever- March 1st
 - Ran well- Slightly lower attendance than last year. ~400 **Last year approx. 450. 3 Vendors cancelled last minute.**
 - Evening activity. 6-7pm field day games run by me for 1st-6th grade. (8 kids) 7-8:30 open gym with basketball & volleyball grades 7th-12th. (15 teens/adults)
- Community Trail-Tune up
 - Saturday May 17th 9am-Noon @ Memorial Park. Working with GS and Cubs to run first community clean up event.
- Baseball Skills & Drills- 3year old-Kindergarten.
 - Meet 1x per week, 5 weeks. Dates TBD. Cover basics of the game.
- Summer camp planning
 - Camps confirmed & working on booklet. Should be done with my portion this week.
 - All camps returning. Keeping Outdoor Construction and adding a theater camp.
 - LG jobs posted this week.
 - Pool permit to be submitted within the next few weeks.
- Attended meeting with Kate Shanks-Booth, Director of Youth Services Dept, Tompkins county. Group decided to meet quarterly. Discussed current programming, challenges & successes.

Professional Development

- Water Safety Instructor Certification-April 17th-20th
- Lifeguard Management-Online- Completed

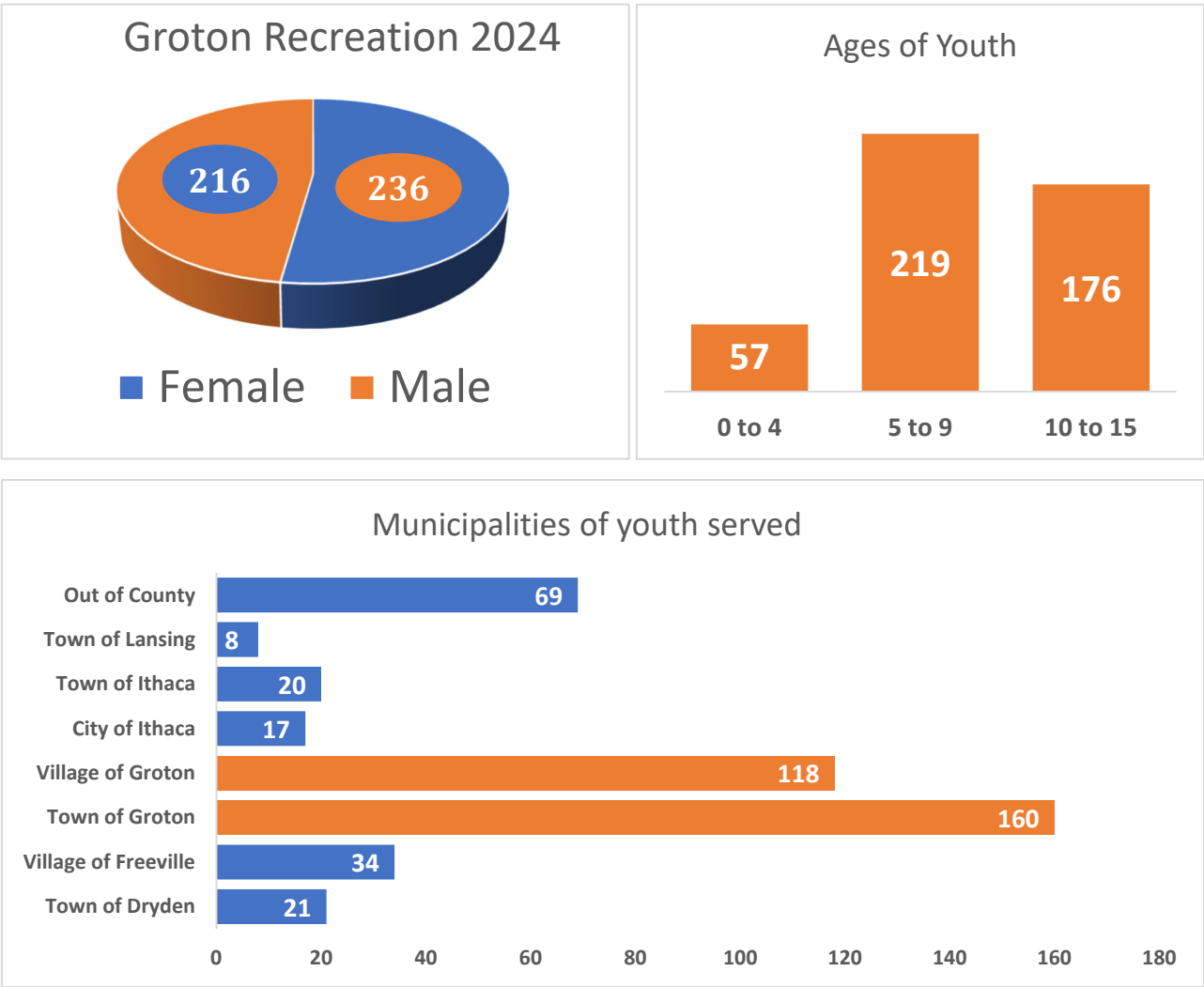
Town and Village of Groton Joint Recreation Programs

The Groton Recreation Program is the result of a shared services agreement between the Town and Village of Groton and programs offered are open to all residents of both the Town and Village To deliver excellent lifelong, recreation opportunities to the Groton Community. The mission of the Town and Village of Groton Recreation Program is to enhance the quality of life for all residents. We provide programming wherein all individuals are accepted, included, and welcome to participate in a wide variety of inclusive recreation and cultural activities.



Becky Koeing,
Groton Rec Director

Groton Recreation Program served 452 youth



Impact Story:

This past summer we were able to offer a new opportunity in our summer camp programs, Outdoor Natural Construction. Groton Recreation had partnered with our



local Girl Scouts troop to conduct a survey regarding the use of our trail system. One of the recurring themes we found was the request for spaces to rest along the trails. In response, an instructor offered to lead a camp designed to do just that! The camp will expose young participants to the beauty of the outdoors. They construct benches and outdoor classrooms along the trails for the week. They primarily used materials that they could find in the wooded areas along the trails.

The learning & outcomes for the camp were as follows:

- Campers learned which materials have a structural integrity that will allow what we make to last.
- Campers learned how to build the structures with an integrity that will help them remain together over time.



- Campers had an opportunity to design their structures.
- Campers will be able to take pride as they hike the trails in the future knowing that they contributed to the construction of each of the areas/ structures that we completed.

The camp was successful in that the campers were exposed to the above learning outcomes and had FUN! We also now have numerous spaces along our trails that can be used as a resting place and as an outdoor classroom for our summer camps.

GROTON RURAL YOUTH SERVICES

February 2025



GROTON RYS BOARD GAMES

February 19, 2025 8:30am -4:30pm

Total Youth=5, Male=5, Female=0

Grades: 3rd -8th @Brooktondale

Community Center

Life Skills: Critical Thinking, Teamwork



Groton youth joined up with youth from Newfield, Dryden and the Joint Youth Commission youth for a fun filled day of board games. This was a pretty chill day the youth had fun playing dice thrones, chess, throw throw burrito, Dungeons & Dragons (D&D) and more. The entire van ride home they played D&D in the van. Youth were great at working together as a team and forming alliances within games.

GROTON RYS WINTER OLYMPICS 2025

February 20, 2025, 8:30am -4:30pm

Grades: 3rd -8th @Brooktondale Community Center

Total Youth=10, Male=9, Female=1

Average Daily Attendance=7

Life Skills: , Resiliency, Teamwork



Youth had a fun filled day combining with youth from across the county. The day started off with splitting into teams getting to know each other with games like two truths and a lie, human knot, & task master. After pizza lunch youth had fun with capture the the fire, human fuzzball and Giants, Wizards and Elves. The closing ceremony was topped off with prizes and kazoo chorus.

Participant Highlight:

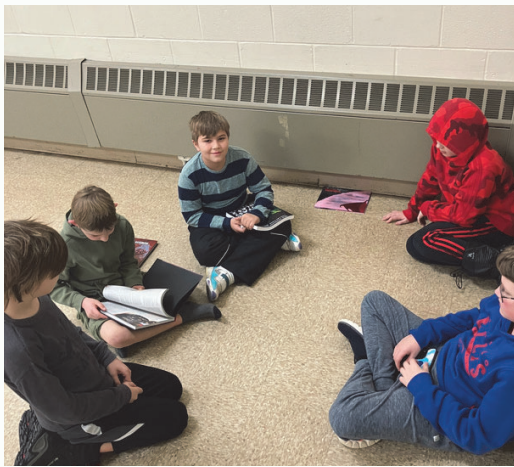
Logan!!!

Logan has been making friendships with every one in the programs. He has become a leader in our groups always leading by example following the rules and convincing others to do the same. It has great watching him learn and grow.



Meeting & Trainings:

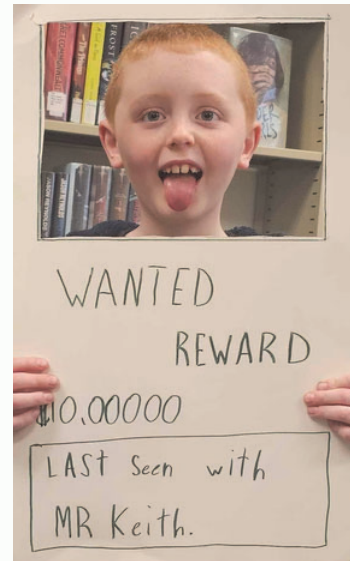
- Feb 14, 2025: 10:45am -12pm Winter Olympics Planning Meeting
- Feb 18, 2025: 12pm -1:30pm, PYD Training Circles with 30 Mins prework
- Feb 25, 2025: 1pm -2pm, 4-H Monthly Camp Director Meeting



BROOMSTICK BRIGADE

Mondays: 3pm -5:30pm
 January 13, 20, 27 February 3, 10, 24
 Grades: 3rd -8th @Groton Library
 Total Youth=9, Male=8, Female=1
 Average Daily Attendance = 8
 Life Skills: Critical Thinking, Teamwork

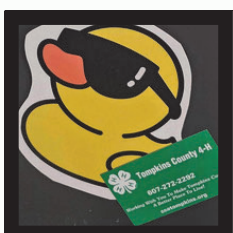
In Broomstick Brigade youth chose between creating a Harry Potter Wanted Poster or a newspapers. Youth also finished the Harry Potter online escape room where they had to work as a team to complete the tasks and escape. The last day participants finally got to go outside for a bit and play Quidditch. They made their own rules to fit the weather conditions.



PIXEL PASSIONS

Tuesdays: 3pm -5:30pm
 January 21, 28 February 4, 11, 25
 Canceled Jan 14, 2025
 Grades: 6th -8th @Groton Middle School
 Total Youth=4, Male=3, Female=1
 Average Daily Attendance=4
 Life Skills: Communication, Marketable Skills

Youth in Pixels Passions have had great time just being able to get outside and run to burn energy. After they choose their cameras, learn how to use them and take pictures. One of the days was really cold when they were outside so they even got to take a break a Dunkin' for hot chocolate which was there favorite!



Contact Details:
 Keith E. Davenport
 Groton Program Manager
 (315)283-5476
 kd528@cornell.edu





GLOBAL GOURMET GROUP

Wednesdays: 3pm-5:30pm

Jan 22 February 5, 12, 26: 2025

Canceled Jan 15, 2025

Grades: 6th -8th @Groton Middle School

Total Youth=8, Male=4, Female=4

Average Daily Attendance=6

Life Skills: Healthy Lifestyle Choices, Learning to Learn

Youth have been working hard learning kitchen safety and creating delicious food. Youth made chicken curry, banana bread and even Dino Nuggets as a special treat.



FLASH FOCUS

Thursday: 3pm- 5:30pm

Jan 23, 30 February 6, 13, 27: 2025

Canceled Jan 16, 2025

Grades: 2nd-5th @Groton Elementary School

Total Youth=9, Male=4, Female=5

Average Daily Attendance=7

Life Skills: Critical Thinking, Sharing



In Flash Focus the youth had a great time getting outside and taking pictures. They got to walk around town and working on focusing on what pictures they like to get. Their favorite thing they like taking pictures of is their Principle every time they see him!

Groton Youth Services

Summer Camp 2025



**Ages: 5-12,
July 7 -August 15,
2025**



**Free Breakfast and Lunch
Outdoor Games
Activities
Weekly Themes
Nature Time
Swimming
Arts and Crafts**

**8am-4pm
Aftercare 4-5:30pm**



**REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMP:
[BIT.LY/GROTONSUMMERCAMPTONRYS](https://bit.ly/grotonsummercamptonrys)**



**REGISTER FOR PROGRAMS:
[HTTPS//BIT.LY/GROTONRYS](https://bit.ly/grotonrys)**



APPLY NOW

BE A PART OF OUR SUMMER CAMP TEAM!

Plan and implement camp programs for children. Provide high-quality educational and recreational opportunities and enjoyable experiences for camp participants. Supervise campers and ensure their safety, development, growth, skill achievement, and general well-being.

[Scan for position descriptions and application](#)



FUTURE: EVENTS & TRAININGS

- **MARCH 1, 2025: GROTON CABIN FEVER**
- **APRIL 27, 2025: TOMPKINS COUNTY 4-H DUCK RACE**
- **APRIL 28 -MAY 1, 2025: SPRING CAMP DIRECTOR INSERVICE**
- **JUNE 30 -JULY 3, 2025: GROTON CAMP TRAINING WEEK**
- **JULY 7 -AUGUST 15, 2025: GROTON CAMP**



**GROTON YOUTH SERVICE
FACEBOOK PAGE**

Board Meeting – March 17, 2025

Ted Skibinski, Code Enforcement Officer

Reporting and Accomplishments:

1. 2025 Life Safety Inspections completed February/March – 8
2. Code Violation letters sent in February/March – 2
3. Building Permits opened in February/March – 7
4. Building Permits closed in February/March – 0
5. Active Building Permits – 15