

VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ANNUAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
PUBLIC HEARING ON 2017-2018 BUDGET
PUBLIC HEARING ON LOCAL LAW NO. 3 OF 2017
APRIL 3, 2017 6:30 PM

Mayor Neville opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Present were: Mayor Neville, Trustees Conger, Morey, Evener, and Holl (arrived at 6:40 pm), Chad Shurtleff-Public Works Supervisor, Ben Nelson-Deputy Fire Chief, Nancy Niswender-Deputy Treasurer, Lee Shurtleff, Faith Tyler, Yvonne Dawson, Kevin Henry, Kinsey Henry, Katilyn Henry, Adam Seymour, Annette Edwards, Brian Edwards, Gabrielle Gaines, Frank Heine, Liz Richey, Norma Hahne, Penny Hurd

Pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Neville recognized Kinsey Henry on her accomplishments at the Special Olympics held recently in Austria. In honor of this, Mayor Neville proclaimed Wednesday, April 5th as KINSEY HENRY DAY in the Village of Groton. Kinsey displayed the medals she won to all who were present.

Mayor Neville made the following appointments:

Committees & Commissions

Board of Light Comm. (3 yr) – Jim Shurtleff
Board of Water Comm. (3 yr)-Robert Walpole
Board of Police Comm. (3 yr)-John Watkins
Village Planning Board (5 yr)-Tim Buckley
Zoning Board of Appeals (5 yr)-Delores Basso
Village Loan Committee (1 yr)-Jean Morey, Elizabeth Conger, Karl Stamm, Ed Westlake, Mike Molino, *with* Gary Watrous, Bernie Thoma, Chuck Rankin-ex-officio
Groton Health Care Corp.(1 yr)-Chris Neville-Pres., Betty Conger-Vice Pres., Jean Morey – Sec/Treas

Committee Chairpersons (all 1 yr terms)

Police Commissioner-Michael Holl
Fire Commissioner –Jeff Evener
Ambulance Commissioner – Jeff Evener
Street Commissioner –Chris Neville
Water Commissioner –Jean Morey
Sanitation [Sewer] Commissioner – Jean Morey
Light Commissioner – Chris Neville
Park Commissioner-Betty Conger

Finance-, Chris Neville, Jeff Evener
Code & Ordinance- Betty Conger, Jean Morey
Emergency Preparedness –Chris Neville
TV Cable Franchise-Jean Morey
Dog Control –Jean Morey
Buildings & Grounds-Mike Holl
Sidewalks-Jean Morey
Timber Harvest –Chris Neville
Memorial Bells-Betty Conger
Technology Development-Mike Holl
Youth Commission Rep-Betty Conger
Joint Rec Committee Rep-Betty Conger
Planning Board Rep-Jean Morey
Chairperson, Village Planning Board – Frank Heine
Chairperson, Zoning Board of Appeals –Matthew DeMatteo

Other Appointments (all 1 yr except as noted)

Village Engineer -CT Male Assoc
Village Attorney -Peter Grossman (& BGD)
Village Historian -Lee Shurtleff
Village Marriage Officer – Lee Shurtleff
Auditors -CDL & M, CPA's (Insero & Co.)

Trustee Evener made a motion to approve the appointments made by Mayor Neville, seconded by Conger, carried.

Mayor Neville made the following mayoral appointments (Board approval not needed):

Deputy Mayor – Jeffrey Evener
Alt. Deputy Mayor – Betty Conger
Budget Officer – Chuck Rankin

Trustee Conger made a motion that the FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF GROTON be designated as the official Village depository for the official year, seconded by Trustee Evener, carried.

Trustee Evener made a motion that the GROTON INDEPENDENT be designated as the official Village newspaper for the official year, seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

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

April 17, 2017	August 21, 2017	December 18, 2017
May 15, 2017	Sept. 18, 2017	January 15, 2018
June 19, 2017	October 16, 2017	*February 20, 2018
July 17, 2017	November 20, 2017	March 19, 2018

Disclosure of possible conflicts of interest:

Trustee Morey – husband is the Town rep on the Tompkins County Legislature.
 Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator Rankin – bookkeeper for the Town of Groton.

The annual review of the accounting and purchasing policies was performed. Admin. Rankin suggested that at some point we should amend Section 5-3 of the Accounting Policy in relation to the budget.

Trustee Evener made a motion to approve travel to:

- a) NYCOM Annual Meeting, May 7-8, Saratoga Springs, for any of the Village Board members or Village Administrator,
- b) NYCOM Fall Training School, Sept. 11-15 in Saratoga Springs for Chuck Rankin and staff to be determined,
- c) NYCOM Public Works School, Oct. 16-18 in Lake George for Chad Shurtleff or other to be determined.

Seconded by Trustee Morey, carried.

Public Comments:

Penny Lou Heard spoke and presented letter in regard to a drainage issue on Linderman Ave that abuts her property at 221 Spring St.

Yvonne Dawson spoke in regards to the condition of the property where the basement is left from a burned house at 218 Spring St. and related drainage issues that affects her property at 104 Roosevelt Ave. Her assessment was lowered due to the poor condition of the basement of the home.

Yvonne Dawson also noted, in light of the study being performed on shared police services, that we do not consolidate our Police Dept. with the Sheriff's Dept.

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearing on the Local Law No. 3 of 2107, amending Chapter 165 of the Code of the Village of Groton, "Sewers".

Clerk read the Notice of Public Hearing.

There were no public comments.

Admin. Rankin noted that the proposed increase of about 12% will provide an additional \$34,000 per year in revenues and will enable the Dept. to maintain a 3 month cash supply, which is a minimum suggested by utility ratemaking experts. The extra funds will enable the Dept. to keep up with increasing costs to operate the plant.

Trustee Conger made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Evener, carried.

Upon conclusion, Trustee Morey made a motion that Local Law No. 3 of 2017, "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 Evener 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.]

More Public Comments:

Faith Tyler made note of various sidewalks in the Village in need of repair.

The meeting was temporarily suspended and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget for 2017-18.

Clerk read the Notice of Public Hearing.

Faith Tyler suggested that the Village put out a newsletter so residents will be better informed as to what is going on. She also suggested liners for garbage cans at the park. She also asked if there were going to be enough life guards this year and that the wages being offered may not be enough to attract potential applicatants.

Lee Shurtleff spoke on behalf of the Fire Dept. and the Board of Wardens. He thanked the Board for their increase in both the Fire and Ambulance contracts as they had requested. He noted that 40% of the total Fire Department budget is personnel costs. He further noted that Engine 802 is now 25 years old and will need to be replaced soon. The Dept. is still evaluating building options and needs.

Trustee Evener made a motion to close the public hearing, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

Trustee Evener offered the following resolution:

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING ON JUNE 1, 2017 AND ENDING ON MAY 31, 2018, MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF VILLAGE GOVERNMENT AND ESTABLISHING RATES OF COMPENSATION FOR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees has met at a time and place specified in the Notice of Public Hearing on the Tentative Budget and have heard all persons desiring to be heard thereon,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tentative Budget as amended and revised and as hereinafter set forth is hereby adopted and that the several amounts stated in each column after each appropriation in Schedule 1A (General Fund), 1F (Water Fund), 1G (Sewer Fund), 1CD (Community Development), 1J (Joint Recreation Fund), together with the amounts set forth in Statement 1 (Electric Utility operations) as required, for the payment of principal and interest on indebtedness (Schedule 6), be and they are hereby appropriated for the objects and purposes specified and salaries and wages stated in Schedule 5 of such budget be and are hereby fixed at the amounts shown therein, effective June 1, 2017, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the tax rate for 2017 be set at a rate, which at the time of this resolution, that is estimated to be \$8.52 per thousand of assessed valuation, to fund a tax levy of \$749,200.

Seconded by Trustee Conger, and upon roll call:

Trustee Conger voted "aye".

Trustee Holl voted "aye".

Trustee Morey voted "aye".

Trustee Evener voted "aye".

Mayor Neville voted "aye".

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

The meeting was closed at 7:32 pm.



CHARLES V. RANKIN

Village Clerk