

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, April 15, 2019

Present: Mayor Neville, Trustees Morey, Conger, Holl and Walpole, Nancy Niswender - Clerk/Treas, Ben Nelson - Fire Chief, Mike Andersen - Code Enf, Steve Teeter- Elec Utl. Supv., Lt. Tim Williams, Police OIC, Admin Charles Rankin, Rick Neville, GFD, William "Skip" Schell, Rick Uhl, Glenn Morey, TC, Jennifer Jones, Rec Director, Jeff Cronk, Trail Committee, Andrew Sullivan, Ithaca Times & Groton Independent, Carmen Munson

Mayor Neville opened the meeting at 7:00 pm

Trustee Morey made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2019 board meeting, seconded by Trustee Conger.

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

General Fund

From: A1410.42 Clerk/Treas Record	\$ 811.00	To: A1010.4 Board of Trustees	\$ 811.00
A1410.41 Clerk/Treas. Codification	\$2,103.00	To: A1325.4 Treasurer	\$ 184.00
		A1410.4 Clerk	\$ 119.00
		A1420.4 Attorney	\$ 1,800.00
A1450.1 Elections - PS	\$ 450.00	To: A1450.4 Elections – Cont.	\$ 450.00
A5142.1 Snow Removal - PS	\$ 3,000.00	To: A1640.1 Village Garage	\$ 3,000.00
A1620.47 Buildings Roof	\$ 350.00	To: A1640.4 Village Garage	\$ 350.00
A9060.8 Group Med. Ins	\$ 8,160.00	To: A1930.4 Judgements	\$ 8,160.00
A6420.4 Promotion	\$ 1,490.00	To: A7140.4 Parks & Rec	\$ 1,490.00
A9060.8 Grp Med Ins	\$ 141.00	To: A9089.8 Dental	\$ 141.00

Water Fund

From: F1990.4 Contingent	\$ 400.00	To: F8310.4 Water Admin	\$ 400.00
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Seconded by Trustee Walpole, carried. The above adjustments and claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

Abstract #11

GENERAL	\$ 36,654.24	ELECTRIC	\$110,802.32
WATER	\$ 4,928.54	JOINT REC	\$ 750.60
SEWER	\$ 9,700.29	BUILDING	\$ 13,475.90

Presentation on Groton Trail Project:

Jennifer Jones and Jeff Cronk Presented the Trail Project they are working on. Proposed trail will be about 4.5 miles. They have received grants through Tompkins County - \$5,000 Village & \$3,000 Town to work on the trails. They will be getting Trail Head Kiosks with water proof displays, benches, trash cans, items for stairs and bridges as needed, gravel and more items as needed.

In 2 days - Wednesday, April 17, 2019 they will begin work on the trails. Many Volunteers will be helping out. They have a couple of land easements that they are working on. Groton First National Bank donated \$250 toward food.

Monthly department reports.

Police Report

Lt. Williams reported:

920 calls YTD

Official Resignation turned in from Lt Williams. Working with Office Boice, there will be a smooth transition. He will remain on roster for a while if anything comes up.

Vehicles in good shape.

Replacing patrol rifles over 17 years old, got some good bids, under budgeted estimate.

Mayor Neville thanked Lt Williams for his duties as OIC and has done an excellent job for the community and we will miss having you here.

Mayor Neville appointed Officer Troy Boice as PT Officer in charge beginning May 1, 2019 at a salary of \$575.40 per week.

Motion made by Trustee Holl, 2nd Trustee Morey, carried

Joint Recreation:

Trustee Conger reported:

ARC Babysitting Course - 12 participants

Youth Track April & May.

Summer staff – Swim Director, Lifeguards and Rec Assistant postings have been completed

Several programs are being offered. There will be summer breakfast and lunch offered at the school through the Park Foundation Grant and bag lunches available at the library.

Youth Commission

Elizabeth Conger

2018 Annual Report:	Unduplicated Persons	Total Programs	Total Hours
Groton Youth services:	130	25	331
Groton Summer Day Camp:	245		407
Youth Employment:	10		216
Combined Programs:	179		953

Ongoing youth employment in afterschool program:
Trip scheduled to Wild Animal Park in Chittenango
Cooking Fun – learning how to make cupcakes and homemade frosting.

Monica Dykeman to attend Bullying Prevention Workshop.

Girl Ventures – 2 of the older girls will work in the summer day camp program.

Wastewater

Trustee Walpole reported:

Issue with white fibrous rags entering the system. Several plugs in the nursing homes have been noted in the last few weeks as well as some at the High School (who does not use this item)

Spring Cleanup in progress.

Mayor asked if any action could be taken if this continues, Admin Rankin and Clerk Niswender will look into sewer law.

Electric:

Supv Teeter reported:

Stray voltage testing done and no issues found.

Working on Tree trimming.

Finished up servicing equipment and trucks.

Started Replacing Poles – last week one on Cayuga St. was replaced.

Working with Mike Perkins getting him ready- he is starting his apprenticeship program.

DPW:

Supv Shurtleff report submitted.

Groton Fire Department:

Chief Ben Nelson reported:

300 fire calls YTD. 59 Ambulance calls.

Last week we started a cleanup of the station.

Easter Egg Hunt Saturday 9-?

Chicken BBQ April 27th 11-2 starting late to work in conjunction with STEAM Lab

May 10th Students against drunk driving demonstration at the High School.

Code Enforcement

Code Officer Anderson reported:

Scott Pinney - Working on building - need to pick up permit. Cheese factory to open August permit to be extended.

Complaint on 317 Barrows – trash needs to be cleaned up.

200 W South Street - are complete. Sidewalk & driveway repair to be done.

Court today – Jeramiah Bradford 133 Cayuga St - no show. They will receive summons. Warrant if no show.

Thank you from Board - Elm Street property cleaned.

Admin Rankin reported on March 26, 2019 the Board of Trustees of the Power Authority - approved the Long-Term agreement for Hydro power to 9/30/2040.

Public Hearing on the Budget

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended at 7:30 and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearing on the 2019/20 Tentative Budget.

Clerk Niswender read the Notice of Public Hearing. One correction – the Fire Contract is actually \$125,000 with \$2,500 for other expenses.

At 7:32 Trustee Conger made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Holl, carried.

One revision to the budget – due to CHIPS notice – income and expense budget amounts - \$58,631.00, this also changes unexpended fund balance to \$280,161.00

Upon conclusion, Trustee Conger made a motion that 2019/20 Budget be adopted with the revisions, seconded by Trustee Morey, 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.]

Public Comments:

William “Skip” Schell - Thanking the Village and Mike Anderson for getting the area of Elm and Church Street Cleaned up. Would like to keep the area up to date. Would like to see the neighborhood kept clean. Thank you to officer Williams for his help and 10 years of service.

Rick Uhl - update on Elm Street Project. He has a price for putting in a road way for the entire distance. The estimates came in at about ⅔ of the amount requested to have bonded. He will bring in updates. He hopes to do this in stages. Admin Rankin spoke with our Attorney and this will be ok as long as a letter of credit is submitted.

The amount can be based on the estimate of the work to be done. The road can be done in stages. He will submit the estimate and road work to Clerk Niswender.

Carmen Munson - Expressed gratitude to Mayor Neville and Suprv. Shurtleff for their work on the DPW property. Still working on a hold harmless agreement. Would like to be kept informed what the status is.

Discussion on the Municipal Building Project – Admin Rankin noted we met with the Architect before the meeting. We will need to get back together with the Committee and look at changes. The bids came in much higher than expected.

7:50pm Trustee Conger made a motion to Adjourn to Executive Session to discuss some Legal and Personnel Items 2nd by Trustee Morey.

8:25pm Trustee Conger made a motion to return from executive session 2nd Trustee Morey.

8:28pm Trustee Conger made a motion made to adjourn to April 30th at 6:00pm.

Nancy Niswender

Clerk Treasurer