



**Town of Groton, Connecticut**  
**Town Council Committee of the Whole**  
**Regular Meeting Agenda**

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340

Town Manager: 860-441-6630

Town Clerk: 860-441-6640

*Mayor Juan Melendez, Councilor Portia Bordelon, Councilor Aundré Bumgardner, Councilor Melinda Cassiere,  
Councilor Rachael Franco, Councilor Bruce Jones, Councilor David McBride, Councilor Juliette Parker,  
and Councilor Scott Westervelt*

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**Tuesday, September 27, 2022**

**6:30 PM**

**Thrive 55+ Active Living Center/Hybrid  
Virtual Meeting**

Meeting Location:

102 Newtown Road, Groton

Broadcasted Live on GMTV & YouTube.

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**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. CALENDAR AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- 4.a. 2022-602 September 13, 2022 Minutes

**5. NEW BUSINESS**

- 5.a. 2022-482 DODEA World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (WLARP) Award
- 5.b. 2022-606 Voter Registration Update
- 5.c. 2022-394 - 2 Branford Manor Update
- 5.d. 2022-19 - 3 Mystic Education Center Update (Potential Executive Session)
- 5.e. 2022-605 Pending Claims and/or Litigation by Former Employee (Executive Session)

**6. OTHER BUSINESS**

**7. ADJOURNMENT**



## Request for Council Discussion or Action

Initiator Town Council	Item 2022-602 September 13, 2022 Minutes
Department Town Manager	Date 9/21/2022
Background	

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### Recommended Action (Draft Motion)

**MOTION:** To approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of September 13, 2022.

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### Attachments

Minutes



**Town of Groton, Connecticut**  
**Town Council Committee of the Whole**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**

45 Fort Hill Road  
Groton, CT 06340

Town Manager: 860-441-6630

Town Clerk: 860-441-6640

**Mayor Juan Melendez Jr., Councilor Portia Bordelon, Councilor Aundré Bumgardner, Councilor Melinda Cassiere, Councilor Rachael Franco, Councilor Bruce Jones, Councilor David McBride, Councilor Juliette Parker and Councilor Scott Westervelt**

**Tuesday, September 13, 2022**

**6:30 PM**

**Thrive 55+ Active Living Center/Hybrid  
Virtual Meeting**

102 Newtown Road, Groton

Broadcasted Live on GMTV & YouTube

*The following minutes meet all requirements under CT FOIA for public meetings and is not a transcript of the meeting.  
Please visit the link below to view the meeting in further detail.*

<https://www.youtube.com/c/GrotonMunicipalTelevision/playlists>

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Melendez called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

All Councilors were present.

Also present was Town Manager John Burt, USS Groton Sail Foundation President John Padgett and Vice President Mark Oefinger, Chad Frost from Kent+Frost, Public Works Director Greg Hanover, Police Chief L.J. Fusaro and Human Resources Director Arnetia Green.

**3. CALENDAR AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilors shared the meetings, events and correspondences they received. A Property Reuse Committee update was provided to the Council.

The Groton Education Foundation is holding an Art Auction and Raffle on September 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at the Groton Elks Club. The silent auction items will be on display at the Groton Public Library through September 23, 2022.

The Beautification Committee will be holding their Daffodil Fundraising Event at Thrive 55+ Active Living Center on October 15<sup>th</sup> and the USS Groton Sail Foundation Monument Launch will be held on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. at the Groton Public Library.

Mayor Melendez made an announcement that the Town Council will return to the Town Hall Annex for their meetings starting on October 4, 2022. He shared that he will be making a referral to the Personnel and Appointments Committee to implement changes moving the vote, eliminating responses to citizens' petitions and allowing appointments under new business. Mayor Melendez also shared that there would be a clock installed at the Annex for speaker time keeping and Councilor assigned seating.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.a. 2022-568 August 23, 2022 Minutes

Councilor Bordelon suggested changing the language on page 4, line 6 to "Councilor Bordelon shared her views on her willingness of defaulting the agreement."

MOTION: To approve the Committee of the Whole meeting minutes of August 23, 2022.

Moved by: Melendez, Jr., Juan		Seconded by: Parker, Juliette		
Committee Members	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Juan Melendez, Jr.	X			
Portia Bordelon	X			
Aundré Bumgardner	X			
Melinda Cassiere	X			
Rachael Franco	X			
Bruce Jones	X			
David McBride	X			
Juliette Parker	X			
Scott Westervelt	X			
APPROVED				

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.a. 2022-565 USS Groton SAIL Update

President John Padgett and Vice President Mark Oefinger of the USS Groton SAIL Foundation reviewed the timeline of the project up to this point. It was shared that the Foundation provided the Town with funding to purchase the State property and is now working toward delivering a fully operational and self-sustaining monument to the Town. It was shared that there was a large financial contribution made by General Dynamics/Electric Boat Corporation; there will also be some pro bono work done by them for the project, along with other area businesses. Mr. Padgett provided that the design of the project is currently being refined. He mentioned that the Foundation is planning to set up a maintenance account, through donations, for the Town to utilize for maintenance or any unforeseen financial burdens in the future. There is also an option that the government would transfer the monument to the Navy History and Heritage Command (NHHC) to obtain responsibility of the monument’s maintenance. This would then alleviate the Town’s responsibility to maintain the monument. Mr. Padgett expects a response on this by the end of November.

Chad Frost from Kent+Frost reviewed the master plan provided to the Council.

Mr. Padgett shared that the capital campaign will begin in October. He expects construction to begin in spring of 2023 with completion by the end of the year.

Questions from the Council were received regarding the goal for fundraising, concern for government budget cuts hindering maintenance, site location, ADA compliance, Town commitment to infrastructure and safety.

It was shared that the fundraising goal was \$2.5 million with strong support from local Senators and State Representatives, the site location was chosen after extensive research was done, the walkway of the monument is ADA compliant and the Foundation expects to raise enough funding to provide the monument with no cost to the Town. It was provided that

lighting will be installed for security purposes and to make the monument look more attractive during the evening hours. Cameras will be considered if warranted after discussion with law enforcement. Mr. Frost explained that the location of the monument is a safe distance from the road for those concerned about safety.

Councilor Franco read a prepared statement and shared that this project was already approved by the Council and was only meant as an update.

DISCUSSED

5.b. 2022-564 Complete Streets Advisory Committee

Director Greg Hanover explained that when the Complete Streets Committee was created it mentioned the appointment of an advisory committee. He reviewed the Complete Streets Advisory Committee's responsibilities and shared that the Council needs to determine the membership to assemble the committee.

Mayor Melendez suggested there be no ex-officio members and have similar membership to the Complete Streets Working Group.

Councilor Bumgardner agreed with the Mayor's suggestion and suggested the addition of staff from Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Development and the Police Department with 5 additional committee members; 3 at large members and 2 members with experience in public health and from a biking and pedestrian organization. Councilor Bumgardner reviewed the current membership of the Complete Streets Working Group.

It was suggested that the Committee include the Resilience & Sustainability Manager and have student involvement.

**MOTION:** To recommend the membership for the Complete Streets Advisory Committee consisting of 5 ex-officio non-voting members; those members being the Town Manager or his designee, the Public Works Director or his designee, the Police Chief or his designee, Parks and Recreation Director or his designee, and Planning and Development Director or his designee, as well as 3 at large members and 1 member representing a bicycle and pedestrian advocacy organization and 1 member with public health experience. Ex-officio members will be appointed by the Town Manager was made by Councilor Bumgardner and seconded by Councilor Jones.

Discussion began around adding language for the inclusion of a student, disabled or elderly resident. It was determined that any citizen can apply and was suggested that membership not be limited by identifying groups. Applicants will be interviewed and recommended by the Personnel and Appointments Committee with staggered 2- and 3-year terms.

It was suggested that the Complete Streets Working Group be given the opportunity to provide their input into the membership.

Councilor Bumgardner shared that public comment could be provided by the Complete Street Working Group at the next Town Council meeting if they wanted to add their input into the membership.

Director Hanover explained that it is likely the group will meet monthly to review projects, site plans and transportation plans.

MOTION: To refer back to Complete Streets with firmer details.

Moved by: Parker, Juliette		Seconded by: Cassiere, Melinda		
Committee Members	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Juan Melendez, Jr.	X			
Portia Bordelon		X		
Aundré Bumgardner		X		
Melinda Cassiere	X			
Rachael Franco	X			
Bruce Jones	X			
David McBride	X			
Juliette Parker	X			
Scott Westervelt	X			
APPROVED				

5.c. 2022-547 Groton Ambulance Lease 2022

Town Manager Burt shared that the President of Groton Ambulance presented to the Council in February where the Council made the lease rate change to \$1.00. He shared that the terms of the lease will remain the same except for extending the lease to September 30, 2025.

A brief discussion was had on the \$1.00 lease amount and the responsibilities of the building by Groton Ambulance and the Town. Town Manager Burt shared that Groton Ambulance maintains the inside of the building, while the Town maintains the outside structure. It was provided that it is common practice to lease space to an entity in Town that is providing an essential service. Town Manager Burt shared that the Town leases space to TVCCA for \$1.00 as well.

MOTION: To recommend a resolution approving an extension of the lease with Groton Ambulance to September 30, 2025 while continuing the \$1 per year lease rate.

Moved by: Melendez, Jr., Juan		Seconded by: Bumgardner, Aundré		
Committee Members	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Juan Melendez, Jr.	X			
Portia Bordelon	X			
Aundré Bumgardner	X			
Melinda Cassiere	X			
Rachael Franco	X			
Bruce Jones	X			
David McBride	X			
Juliette Parker	X			
Scott Westervelt	X			
APPROVED				

The Committee of the Whole recessed at 8:25 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole reconvened at 8:36 p.m.

5.d. 2022-569 Personnel and Recruitment Updates

Human Resource Director Arnetia Green reviewed the change in job descriptions being revised for Telecommunicators, P.C. Network Specialist, Police Captain, Deputy Police Chief, Police Chief and the Director of Finance. She shared that these job descriptions are 15 years old and there was a need to revise them to include changes in job duties,

qualifications, DEI experience if needed and consideration for succession planning. In addition, there is a need to implement additional recruitment tools for the Director of Finance position allowing for an offer of 15%, or above, the minimum pay salary, a sign on bonus and relocation fees. Ms. Green shared that it is difficult to hire in this environment when competing with other Towns and the number of vacancies the applicants have access to. It was shared that the Police Chief job description had the most changes as the position has evolved and current day standards had to be included. With this level of change, the need to increase the salary for the Director of Finance and the research done through CCM's most recent salary study, Ms. Green proposed that the Police Chief's compensation be increased as well.

MOTION: To recommend a resolution making personnel and recruitment updates.

WHEREAS, the Committee of the Whole met on September 13, 2022 to discuss suggested changes regarding personnel matters, and

WHEREAS, the Committee of the Whole made a recommendation to the Town Council to update current personnel matters, remain competitive in the employment market and to utilize additional tools for recruitment, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Town Council hereby authorizes the Town Manager to approve and enact the following:

Update job descriptions for the positions of Chief of Police/Public Safety, Deputy Chief of Police, Police Captain, Telecommunicator I, Director of Finance, and PC Network Support Specialist II.

Award moving expenses for non-union external hires, with fifty (50)% of the cost forgiven after one year of service and the remaining fifty (50)% of the cost forgiven upon the completion of two years of service, as appropriate.

Award a signing bonus for external non-union hires, awarded in multiple portions during and at the close of the probationary period, where appropriate.

Allow the hire of non-union employees above the maximum entry rate in the applicable salary range, where appropriate.

Award a compensation adjustment to the Chief of Police, in the amount of \$167,000 per annum, effective October 2, 2022.

Update the compensation maximum for the position range for the Director of Finance, to \$148,090 was made by Mayor Melendez and seconded by Councilor Cassiere.

Mayor Melendez spoke to the motion and how difficult it is to retain employees in today's market.

Ms. Green provided the current salaries of \$134,627 for the Director of Finance and \$141,731 for the Police Chief. Town Manager Burt explained that the Police Chief is the highest-level department head with the Director of Finance as second.

Discussion began on these changes taking place in October instead of during the new budget cycle. Ms. Green explained that she needed the change for the Director of Finance

effective immediately so that she could continue to recruit for the position. Town Manager Burt shared if the two compensations were increased at different times, then the Director of Finance would have a higher salary than the Police Chief and this is not standard practice.

Ms. Green provided that the Town is behind on updating compensations to reflect the data CCM has received in their salary study. The last CCM salary study reflects data from a year ago and already is outdated. She shared how important it is to retain employees.

Police Chief Fusaro shared after questioning that the revisions to the Police Department's job descriptions codifies the work that the department has been doing. He shared that the salary increase is in line with last year's average of the Police Executive Research Forum's (PERF) study.

Councilor Bordelon suggested the Police Chief's increase be postponed to July 1, 2023.

Councilor Bordelon shared that this change should occur during the budget process and wants to be fiscally responsible.

Councilor Cassiere pointed out that policing has significantly changed over the years, the current increase is already outdated and shared the need to be more competitive.

Town Manager Burt provided that the police budget will be able to absorb the increase. He explained that the Finance Department already has a tight budget and may need a 4<sup>th</sup> quarter transfer in the future. He further explained that although the Director of Finance retired, she is still being paid through October using her vacation pay and will have a partial payout of sick time.

MOTION: To move effective October 2, 2022 to July 1, 2023.

Moved by: Bordelon, Portia		Seconded by: Bumgardner, Aundré		
Committee Members	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Juan Melendez, Jr.		X		
Portia Bordelon	X			
Aundré Bumgardner	X			
Melinda Cassiere		X		
Rachael Franco		X		
Bruce Jones		X		
David McBride		X		
Juliette Parker		X		
Scott Westervelt		X		
FAILED				

MOTION: To recommend a resolution making personnel and recruitment updates.

Moved by: Melendez, Jr., Juan		Seconded by: Cassiere, Melinda		
Committee Members	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Juan Melendez, Jr.	X			
Portia Bordelon			X	
Aundré Bumgardner	X			
Melinda Cassiere	X			
Rachael Franco	X			
Bruce Jones	X			
David McBride			X	
Juliette Parker	X			



Scott Westervelt	X			
APPROVED				

Councilor Parker made a motion to adjourn with a second from Councilor Bordelon.

Mayor Melendez explained that there was a need to recess to the Town Council Special Meeting. Councilor Parker withdrew her motion; Councilor Bordelon withdrew her second.

The Committee of the Whole recessed at 9:09 p.m.

The Committee of the Whole reconvened at 9:20 p.m.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn at 9:20 p.m.

Moved by: Parker, Juliette		Seconded by: Bumgardner, Aundré		
Committee Members	YES	NO	ABSTAIN	RECUSE
Juan Melendez, Jr.	X			
Portia Bordelon	X			
Aundré Bumgardner	X			
Melinda Cassiere	X			
Rachael Franco	X			
Bruce Jones	X			
David McBride	X			
Juliette Parker	X			
Scott Westervelt	X			
APPROVED				



## Request for Council Discussion or Action

Initiator Superintendent of Schools	Item 2022-482 DODEA World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (WLARP) Award
Department Groton Public Schools	Date 9/21/2022

Background

Issue:

DODEA World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (WLARP) Award

Background:

DODEA (Department of Defense Education Activity) World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (WLARP); Award amount: \$1,000,000; Project period: Sept 2022 - June 2027

In April 2022, GPS submitted a proposal to DoDEA's new world language grant program. In order to qualify for this funding, applicants must have an ROTC or Navy National Defense Cadet Corps (NNDCC) program. GPS submitted an NNDCC application to the Department of Defense in 2021 and it was accepted earlier this month.

On September 12<sup>th</sup>, DoDEA notified GPS they were selected as a 2022 grant recipient.

The following is a description of the project from the grant proposal: "With support from DoDEA, Groton Public School will improve and expand its world language program. All GPS world language teachers will engage in a multi-year onsite professional development program with expert trainers from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The purpose of this training is to shift the current mode of instruction towards the preferred proficiency-based method aligned with ACTFL's World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages. GPS will also hire two new world language teachers to expand the program to all five elementary schools. The goal of this effort is to improve students' world language proficiency and foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for cultures other than their own. Using standardized quantitative educational metrics and qualitative teacher surveys, GPS will study the impact of these efforts on the academic achievement and social-emotional wellbeing of our students, with a focus on our military-connected population."

Alternatives:

1. To move forward with acceptance of the DODEA World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (WLARP) Grant.
2. Do nothing.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends Alternative 1.

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Recommended Action (Draft Motion)

MOTION: To recommend a resolution authorizing the Superintendent of Schools Susan Austin to accept the DoDEA World Language Advancement and Readiness Program (WLARP) Grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 and to complete any associated agreements; and to refer the grant acceptance

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request to the Representative Town Meeting via 6.5.2.

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Attachments

Grant Terms & Conditions  
Grant Budget Summary

Section I - Contract Clauses

GRANTS TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COVER LETTER

**Grant Number:** HE1254-22-1-2002  
**Type of Award & Award Action:** Grant – New Award  
**Total Grant Amount:** \$1,000,000.00  
**Obligation and Effective date:** 09/08/2022  
**Period of Performance (POP):** 10/01/2022 to 05/31/2027

**DoD Component (Awarding Office):** Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA), Procurement Division, 4800 Mark Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22350-1400

**Grant Officer:** Colleen C. Pritchard, 571-332-8287, [colleen.pritchard@dodea.edu](mailto:colleen.pritchard@dodea.edu)

**Grant Administration Office :** Jennifer Dailey-Perkins, (571) 372-6026, [DoDEA.Grants@hq.dodea.edu](mailto:DoDEA.Grants@hq.dodea.edu)

**Recipient (Grantee):**

**Groton Public Schools**  
**1300 Flanders Road, PO Box K**  
**Mystic, Connecticut, 06355-1042**

**Program Director:** Susan Austin,

**Grantee Identification Numbers & Information:**

**Unique Entity Identifier:** LC62MYHYNMN7

**CAGE:** SWTQ8

**Indirect Cost Rate:** N/A

**Obligation Table:** (to be completed at the time of award)

	Federal funds	Corresponding non-Federal share (if applicable)	Total amount
(B) Cumulative obligations to date, including this and previous	\$1,000,000.00	\$190,516.00	\$1,190,516.00
(C) Planned project costs in the currently approved budget through the end of the period of performance, to include any future costs		N/A	
(D) Total value, which include any unexercised options for which amount were established in the award	\$1,000,000.00	\$190,516.00	\$1,190,516.00

**Award Statutory Authorities:** This grant is issued pursuant to the authority of § 1751 of Public Law 116-92; 10 U.S.C. § 2192(b) and 10 U.S.C. § 2193a.

**Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA):** 12.556- Support for Student Achievement at Military Connected Schools.

**Brief program description:** DoDEA grants aim to strengthen family-school-community relationships and enhance student achievement for military dependent students. This program is not for Research and Development (R&D).

**Grantee's Project Narrative Abstract –**

With support from DoDEA, Groton Public School will improve and expand its world language program. All GPS world language teachers will engage in a multi-year onsite professional development program with expert trainers from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). The purpose of this training is to shift the current mode of instruction towards the preferred proficiency-based method aligned with ACTFL's World-Readiness Standards for Learning Languages. GPS will also hire two new world language teachers to expand the program to all five elementary schools. The goal of this effort is to improve students' world language proficiency and foster a deeper understanding and appreciation for cultures other than their own. Using standardized quantitative educational metrics and qualitative teacher surveys, GPS will study the impact of these efforts on the academic achievement and social-emotional wellbeing of our students, with a focus on our military-connected population.

**Approved budget-** HE12542154532

**Modification:** The only method by which this grant/agreement can be modified is by a formal written modification signed by a DoDEA Grants Officer. No other communications, whether oral or written, shall constitute a modification. The Government is authorized to issue the following types of modifications unilaterally:

- Administrative changes (such as changes in paying office, appropriation data, etc.) No-cost extensions provided the recipient has complied with the requirements of the General terms and conditions listed below.
- Changes authorized by these terms and conditions (property, termination, etc.)

Groton Public Schools  
 Budget Summary - DoDEA World Languages

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
<b>Salaries</b>						
1.0 FTE Project Director	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	250,000
2.0 FTE World Language Teacher	-	130,000	132,600	135,252	103,469	501,321
Curriculum Writing	11,600	16,600	5,000	-	-	33,200
<b>Total Salaries</b>	<b>61,600</b>	<b>196,600</b>	<b>187,600</b>	<b>185,252</b>	<b>153,469</b>	<b>784,521</b>
<b>Contractual</b>						
Professional Development	13,300	26,600	26,600	13,300	-	79,800
Evaluator	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	35,000
<b>Total Contractual</b>	<b>20,300</b>	<b>33,600</b>	<b>33,600</b>	<b>20,300</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>114,800</b>
<b>Registration/Subscriptions</b>						
PD Registration Fees	4,000	10,000	4,000	-	-	18,000
Conference Registration Fees	-	1,380	660	-	-	2,040
Membership Fees	1,450	1,450	1,450	1,450	1,450	7,250
Online Learning Subscription	910	910	910	910	910	4,550
<b>Total Registration/Subscriptions</b>	<b>6,360</b>	<b>13,740</b>	<b>7,020</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>31,840</b>
<b>Travel for Professional Development/Conferences</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>21,160</b>	<b>9,160</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>41,480</b>
<b>Supplies</b>						
Books - elementary schools	-	5,000	2,500	2,500	-	10,000
Books - secondary schools	-	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Professional Development supplies	1,430	1,179	1,000	1,000	-	4,609
Amer Sign Language (ASL) supplies	2,750	-	-	-	-	2,750
<b>Total Supplies</b>	<b>4,180</b>	<b>16,179</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>3,500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,359</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>103,440</b>	<b>281,279</b>	<b>240,880</b>	<b>211,572</b>	<b>162,829</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>



## Request for Council Discussion or Action

Initiator Town Staff	Item 2022-606 Voter Registration Update
Department Voter Registration	Date 9/22/2022

Background

**Issue:**

Voter Registration Update

**Background:**

It was reported that several hundred households were placed in the incorrect voting district. Voter Registrar Kristin Venditti will be updating the Council on the issue along with how it will be/was corrected.

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**Recommended Action (Draft Motion)**

No motion has been prepared in advance for this agenda item. No action is being requested.



## Request for Council Discussion or Action

Initiator Town Council	Item 2022-394 Branford Manor Update
Department Town Manager	Date 9/21/2022

Background

Issue:

Branford Manor Property Tax Incentive Agreement

Background:

The Town of Groton and the City of Groton entered into a Tax Incentive Agreement with Branford Manor Preservation, Limited Partnership in April of 2017 with the term ending on June 30, 2037. The purpose of the Agreement is to provide Branford Manor Preservation a Tax Abatement in exchange for maintaining 100% Section 8 housing, and 100% income-limited rental housing, along with investing \$18.5 to construct a new 3,000 square feet resident services building; and maintain exterior and interior repairs, upgrades, renovations and replacements to the property including buildings and personal property.

Concerns from residents of Branford Manor were relayed to the City and the Town. Council members held a discussion of the concerns along with a review of the Tax Incentive Agreement at their June 14, 2022 Committee of the Whole (COW) meeting.

The Committee of the Whole followed up with a discussion with the City of Groton and Ledge Light Health Department.

The focus of this meeting will be a discussion with the leadership of a planned Tenants Union for Branford residents.

The Committee of the Whole is planning on requesting Related/Branford to attend the October 25<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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Recommended Action (Draft Motion)

No motion has been made in advance for this agenda item.





## Request for Commission Discussion or Action

Initiator Town Manager	Item 2022-19 Mystic Education Center Update (Potential Executive Session)
Town Manager	Date 9/22/2022

Staff Summary

Issue:

Mystic Education Center Update (Potential Executive Session)

BACKGROUND

The Town of Groton worked with the State of Connecticut and Respler Homes to initiate the redevelopment of approximately 77 acres of state-owned property at the Mystic Education Center (former Mystic Oral School). Respler Homes was provided “preferred developer” status in 2018 for this project after completion of a thorough RFP and vetting process by state and local participants. The State of Connecticut and Respler Homes signed a Purchase and Sales (P&S) Agreement for the property. The Groton Town Council and Respler Homes approved and signed a “Development Agreement” outlining the framework for property redevelopment.

The Town and Respler have been engaged in mediation over disagreement in requirements of the Development Agreement.

The Purchase and Sales Agreement between Respler Homes and the State of Connecticut has a termination date of November 13, 2022. Respler Homes has been engaging with the State concerning the possible purchase approximately 47.7 acres of the property.

The Town Council will be discussing the latest developments concerning the property sale.

Draft Motion

***This motion to go into executive session has been prepared in case needed, but should be discussed before putting it on the floor.***

MOTION: I move that the members of the Town Council Committee of the Whole, Town Manager John Burt, Planning Director Jon Reiner, Economic Development Manager Paige Bronk, Attorney Eric Callahan go into executive session pursuant to General Statutes Section 1-200 (6) (B) for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations related to pending claims involving the Development Agreement between the Town of Groton and Respler Homes



## Request for Council Discussion or Action

Initiator Town Council	Item 2022-605 Pending Claims and/or Litigation by Former Employee (Executive Session)
Department Town Manager	Date 9/22/2022

Background

**Issue:**

Pending Claims and/or Litigation by Former Employee (Executive Session)

**Background:**

The Town Council will go into executive session to discuss pending claims and/or litigation by a former employee regarding employment, separation from employment, and pension eligibility.

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Recommended Action (Draft Motion)

MOTION: I hereby move that the members of the Town Council Committee of the Whole, Town Manager John Burt, Police Chief Louis Fusaro, Human Resources Director Arnetia Green, and Town Attorney Eileen Duggan go into executive session pursuant to General Statutes Section 1-200 (6) (B) for the purpose of discussing strategy and negotiations related to pending litigation and/or pending claims concerning pending claims and/or litigation by a former employee regarding employment, separation from employment, and pension eligibility.

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