

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TOWN & CITY COUNCILS/RTM/ BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 6, 2019 @ 5:30 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

PRESENT

BOE – Kim Shepardson Watson, Lee White, Jay Weitlauf, Sam Kilpatrick, Mike Graner

Town Council – Rachael Franco, David Atwell, Patrice Granatosky

City Council – Jill Rusk

RTM – Syma Ebbin, Wilmer Lambert, Mike Whitney, Kate Richards, Reggie Stanford

1. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order at 5:37 p.m.
2. Board of Education Report
 - The Board has conducted eight budget workshops and approved a budget with a 1.24% increase over the current fiscal year
 - The C.O.W meeting on March 11 will include a presentation regarding Accountability Index
 - The Town Council and RTM members are invited to a focus group with Rick Kahlenberg on March 20 at 6:00 p.m. in room 11 at Central Office
 - Alliance District status will enable the town to maintain current ECS grant funding for the next two years
3. Town Council Report
 - The Merritt properties were approved to be legally joined as one property
 - Groton has become sister cities with Haifa, Israel and Kingston, Jamaica
 - There will be a public hearing regarding the TFIP plan for Route 1
 - A Groton Resilience and Sustainability Task Force has been created
 - The Town Council has requested special legislation to validate the December 11, 2018 referendum
 - Beautification Committee – clean-up day is April 27, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
 - Rachael Franco thanked the Board of Education for instituting the Feed Their Minds-Fuel Their Bodies Scholarship to help families who struggle to pay meal accounts
 - The coach of the baseball field requested help from the town to clear foliage on Haley Farm abutting the baseball field
4. City Council Report
 - The budget is being developed; the highway budget will be discussed on March 14
 - There was a sewer rate presentation - keep rates the same
 - Electric Boat and the city are working on parking issues
 - There is a space study in municipal building to address limited
 - Groton Public Schools Food Services program will run the summer concession stand
 - Mother Bailey House – RFP for surplus property; the city is looking for an appropriate buyer and not tear the building down
 - The city is discussing the possibility of making Thames Street one-way

5. RTM Report
 - The RTM is waiting on budget submissions
 - The license plate reader grant has been approved
 - RTM outreach has been coordinated by committee; brochure is being developed
 - The Finance Committee is developing a quarterly report
 - A resolution has been developed to require tax increases greater than 2% must be explained to the RTM by the Town Manger and Board
6. New Business – none discussed
7. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.