

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TOWN & CITY COUNCILS/RTM/ BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
MAY 1, 2019 @ 5:30 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 19

PRESENT

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

Town Council – Rachael Franco, Juliette Parker, Patrice Granatosky

City Council – Not present

RTM – Kathy Chase, Mike Whitney, Portia Bordelon

1. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m.
2. Board of Education Report
 - The budget has been approved by the Town Council and the RTM Education Committee
 - A referendum is scheduled for May 6 regarding the new elementary schools
 - Enrollment requirements for the new elementary schools were discussed. The Board of Education is considering the closure of an additional elementary school beyond S. B. Butler and Claude Chester
 - Shared services data compiled by LEARN was explained to the Board of Education. Mike Graner will share the document with the Town Council and RTM
 - The Mental Health Summit is scheduled for May 29; discussions regarding drugs, alcohol, and tobacco will take place
 - The Farm to School Program is functioning well at several Groton schools; the district applied for a grant to expand the program
3. Town Council Report
 - The budget has consumed the vast majority of the Council’s time
 - The change of the Fourth of July parade route was denied
 - Rachael Franco was invited by Robotics to visit the program. The question of the date for the turnover of Pleasant Valley was discussed. The Town Councilors understood the Robotics team will remain in Pleasant Valley for the foreseeable future. The mayor requested the Pleasant Valley building be turned over as soon as possible. The town and school district need to develop a process for turning over the school building to the Town. Kim will establish a task force to develop a process for identifying a storage facility and a location for Robotics
 - Town Councilor Franco thanked Sam for getting approval to clear brush from Haley Farm
 - Councilor Franco asked about field trips from Claude Chester to the Noank Gardens
 - One issue raised at the CCM regional meeting was teacher pensions payment by the town and the issue of shared services. Mayor Granatosky explained that shared services should focus on “back office” functions.
4. RTM Report
 - The Education Committee met on April 25 and recommended the same budget amount as the Town Council; CIP, 3 of 4; the committee had several questions regarding the glulam beams
 - May 6
5. New Business – none discussed
6. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.