

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TOWN & CITY COUNCILS/RTM/BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
March 3, 2021 @ 5:30 P.M.
REMOTE MEETING

Central Office – Susan Austin

BOE – Kim Shepardson Watson, Andrea Ackerman, Rosemary Robertson, Jane Giulini,

Town Council – Patrice Granatosky

City Council – Reginald Stanford

RTM –Kathy Chase, Syma Ebbin, Bruce Flax, Katrina Fitzgerald

1. Call to Order – 5:34 p.m.
2. Review of January 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve – Kathy Chase, 2nd Reginald Stanford. The minutes were approved as presented.
3. Board of Education Report
 - Met with a Strategic Planning Committee of about 40 people to transition to in-person learning. In-person will start with four days then move to four and half days with Wednesday afternoons for planning purposes. Pre K – 2 grade will start this schedule on March 22nd. The next week the rest of the grades will go back. The complete schedule and other news is on the Groton Public Website – grotonschoools.org
 - There was a Magnet Zoom open house held for the elementary schools. About 150 people attended.
 - Surveys are going out to apply for Magnet choice. The school website shows which Magnet school belongs to a particular neighborhood or if desired, can go to a school that is not in their neighborhood.
 - The FY22 budget is complete and has a 0% increase. In the new budget are provisions for moving the Dean to a full-time Assistant Principal position. A part-time Athletic Director will be made into a full-time Athletic Director. These two positions are being filled with existing full-time employees.
 - The District is receiving more CARES Act money than originally thought. All monies go to the town as the fiduciary.
 - They are still working on getting an Assistant Superintendent hired.
 - The Fields Task Force will be giving and update to the BoE.
 - Lottery for the Magnet schools will be done in May.
 - March 25, 2021 at 7 p.m. there will be a public hearing held regarding the BoE budget. The Board of Education will present their budget to the Town Council.
4. Town Council Report
 - The public hearing on the Pleasant Valley School property was set for April 6, 2021
 - Since the school project has come in under budget, the Town Council voted to change the scope of the project to include outdoor lighting at the synthetic multi-sport field and the softball field at the Groton Middle School.
 - A new survey will be going out to poll people on what they would like the Pratt building used for at the Mystic Education Center. There are about 80 acres on this site with more than half being preserved.
5. City Council Report
 - There is an upcoming primary for Mayor position.

- The City has been working with Ledge Light Health District to set up vaccine clinics at the Municipal Building.
- The Chief of Police in the City is retiring.

6. RTM Report

- The RTM authorized the Town Manager to execute all grant documents and accept grant funding in the amount of \$344,388 for the Community Connectivity Program Grant.
- There was more discussion on the criteria for selection of student liaisons for the RTM.
- Next week the RTM will be focusing on the development of property on the Gold Start Highway
- There will be a discussion on creating a policy for unassigned fund balance use.
- At the next meeting a group will be speaking about artificial turf.
- The RTM budget process will start in May.

7. New Business – no new business was discussed

8. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 6:18 p.m.