

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FINANCE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 1, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.  
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

NOTE: This meeting is being held in-person. For those attending via Zoom, please click on the meeting under District Calendar for the Zoom link.

Mission Statement: Our mission is teaching and learning.

Board Goals: In richness of cultures and with a respect for all, (1) Provide Dynamic Rigorous Curriculum, (2) Ensure Effective and Engaging Instruction, and (3) Embrace Excellent Learning Environment

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Review June 6, 2023 Meeting Minutes (Attachment #1)
3. Discussion re: the East River Energy Contract (Attachment #2)
4. Review End of Year Unexpended Funds/Encumbrances
5. Discussion re: the Health Insurance Reserve (Attachment #3)
6. Update re: School Facilities
7. Adjournment

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
FINANCE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES  
JUNE 6, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.  
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

**Members Present:** Jay Weitlauf, Beverly Washington, Dean Antipas

**Also Present:** Susan Austin, Sam Kilpatrick, Ken Knight, Joe Parise (STA)

Chairman Weitlauf called the meeting to order 6:00 p.m.

1. Review May 2, 2023 Meeting Minutes - Prior meeting minutes review and accepted.
2. Discussion re: Electric Bus Pilot in Griswold - Mr. Kilpatrick introduced Joe Parise, manager at Student Transportation of America (STA), the district's transportation partner, to discuss the electric bus pilot program at Griswold. Mr. Parise discussed that this program was through a grant from the EPA. The EPA selected Griswold based on a number of factors, including age of current fleet, district socio-economic makeup and various other factors. The program will replace 6 of their 71-72 passenger buses; there is currently no option available for the smaller buses. The cost for each bus is approximately \$350,000, plus an additional \$25-35k for each charging station. In addition, the bus depot infrastructure needs to be enhanced to accommodate the electric buses at a cost of \$500k to \$1 million plus. The new buses have a range of 100 miles per charge. Mr. Parise also noted that battery fires on electric buses are no more dangerous than battery fires on a diesel bus, but local fire departments should be trained on how to handle. Mr. Parise also reported that using today's figures of diesel and electricity costs, there is no overwhelming fuel savings, but did indicate that there may be some savings on maintenance cost. It was suggested that the district should continue to monitor and if a grant opportunity arose, perhaps start a small program with 1-2 buses.
3. Discussion re: FHS LED Lighting Project - Mr. Kilpatrick discussed an LED lighting project at Fitch High School. Based on a study of the lighting at Fitch High School done by consultant, Resource Lighting & Energy, they propose to replace the indoor lighting fixtures with LED lights. The total cost for this project would be \$1,195,198, minus a rebate of \$411,502, yielding a net cost of \$783,679. The proposed reduction in electricity costs due to this project at today's rates would amount to the same over a 72 month period, effectively making it cost neutral for the district.
4. Discussion re: Field Usage – Maintenance & Costs - Mr. Kilpatrick discussed that there appears to be many requests to utilize the district's fields, and that this is requiring additional maintenance effort and costs. It was suggested that the facility usage policy be reviewed and possibly updated.
5. Discussion re: AEDs & Vape Detectors - Mr. Kilpatrick reported that the district needs a total of 50 vape detector units, 30 at Fitch High School, 16 at Groton Middle, and 4 at Central Office. At a cost of approximately \$600 per detector, the total cost would be approximately \$30k. Mr. Kilpatrick also reported that to ensure an AED on each floor of all seven school buildings, the district would need to purchase an additional 15 units. These units cost approximately \$2,500 each or a total of \$37,500. Mr. Kilpatrick noted that he was not aware of any grants to help with the cost. Ms. Austin stated she would follow up with the district grant coordinator. Ms. Austin also discussed that we were informed this week that the district would be receiving \$555,816 from the Department of Defense (DOD) Supplemental Impact Aid, versus the budgeted amount of \$450,000, and that this overage could offset some of these costs. It was suggested that we utilize this fund to pay for the AED machines and look to fund the vape detectors through operations.

6. Review Out of District Student Tuition Rates - Mr. Knight presented a schedule of the current year and proposed next year out of district tuition rates. As in previous years, the proposed regular education rates were set at 85% of the average cost per student per the Educational Financial System (EFS) report. In addition, under special education program costs, a rate was added for resource room. The proposed rates will be discussed at the next COW meeting scheduled for June 12, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.



# East River Energy

· Premium Quality Fuel Oils · Natural Gas · Electricity · Bio Fuels · HVAC

February 13, 2023

Groton Board of Education  
Mr. Kenneth Knight  
Business Manager  
1300 Flanders Rd  
Mystic, CT 06355

**Submitted via Electronic Mail**

Dear Mr. Kenneth Knight:

East River Energy is pleased to confirm the following contract which has already been processed effective February 6, 2023, as per the electronic mail exchanged between Mr. Rich Carmelich on behalf of the RESC Consortium and Charlie Guadagnino of East River Energy.

East River Energy shall supply and the Groton Board of Education shall purchase the following as listed below.

Product	Contract Gallons	Contract Period	<u>Option #1: Fixed Price Per Gallon Excluding Taxes</u>	<u>Option #2: Fixed Prepay Price Per Gallon Excluding Taxes</u>
#2 Heating Oil	82,000	9/1/2023-8/31/2024	\$3.1000	\$3.0800

Please note that #2 heating oil is subject to L.U.S.T. of \$0.0010 per gallon, Federal Spill Fund Tax of \$0.002142 per gallon, and Superfund of \$0.0039 per gallon.

East River Energy's payment terms are net 25 days for Option #1. Prepay monies are due by July 15, 2023 for Option #2. Should you elect option #2 for prepay, a prepay invoice will be sent to you. **(Please Check One Option Below).**

**Option #1:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Option #2:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate which option you choose above, sign below where indicated below, along with Attachment A, and return to my attention via email or facsimile immediately.**

Thank you for your valued business. I look forward to continuing a mutually rewarding relationship.

Sincerely,

Electronically Signed By  
*Jesse M. Herzog*  
President

Accepted by:

Dated: 2/13/2023

Your Energy Partner

401 Soundview Road · P.O. Box 388 · Guilford, CT 06437-0388  
203.453.1200 · 800.336.3762 · FAX: 203.453.3899

[www.eastriverenergy.com](http://www.eastriverenergy.com)

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February 13, 2023

Groton Board of Education  
Mr. Kenneth Knight  
Business Manager  
1300 Flanders Rd  
Mystic, CT 06355

**Submitted via Electronic Mail**

Dear Mr. Kenneth Knight:

East River Energy is pleased to confirm the following contract which has already been processed effective February 6, 2023, as per the telephone conversation between Mr. Rich Carmelich on behalf of the RESC Consortium and Jesse M. Herzog of East River Energy.

East River Energy shall supply and the Groton Board of Education shall purchase the following as listed below.

Product	Contract Gallons	Contract Period	<u>Option #1: Fixed Price Per Gallon Excluding Taxes</u>	<u>Option #2: Fixed Prepay Price Per Gallon Excluding Taxes</u>
Dyed Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel Fuel	95,000	9/1/2023-8/31/2024	\$3.2000	\$3.1800

Please note that diesel fuel is subject to L.U.S.T. of \$0.0010 per gallon, Federal Spill Fund Tax of \$0.002142 per gallon and Superfund of \$0.0039 per gallon.

East River Energy's payment terms are net 25 days for Option #1. Prepay monies are due by July 15, 2023 for Option #2. Should you elect option #2 for prepay, a prepay invoice will be sent to you. **(Please Check One Option Below).**

Option #1:  Option #2:

**Please indicate which option you choose above, sign below where indicated below, along with Attachment A, and return to my attention via email or facsimile immediately.**

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*Jesse M. Herzog*  
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## Attachment A

The price contained and offered in this contract is based upon the sale of the quantity of contract gallons as stated in the specifications. In the event that the customer exceeds 100% of the contract gallons during the contract period, East River Energy reserves the right to (1) extend the contract under the same terms and conditions, or (2) change the contract price to the Oil Price Daily New Haven Harbor Average posting, + \$0.3000 per gallon, plus applicable taxes. In the event that the customer purchases less than 100% of the contract gallons during the contract period, East River Energy reserves the right to (1) extend the contract under the same terms and conditions, (2) have the customer purchase at the contract price the difference between the contract gallons and the actual delivered gallons; East River Energy shall have no obligation to deliver remaining gallons, or (3) terminate the contract. Storage fees or liquidation charges may apply and customer will be responsible for payment of any storage fees or liquidation charges. East River Energy will monitor consumption on a monthly basis. East River Energy reserves the right to allocate committed gallons on a pro-rata basis over the term of this contract. Should customer request a #1 Diesel (Kerosene) blend, the #1 Diesel Fuel gallons delivered will be invoiced based on the prevailing market rate. East River Energy reserves the right to utilize OPIS postings at its discretion. Should customer request a Performance Bond, cost is \$15.00 per thousand with a minimum charge of \$100.00.

Customer agrees to the terms of sale as set forth in this contract. If customer fails to pay within the terms of contract, customer agrees that East River Energy has the right to charge, and customer agrees to pay, a finance charge of 1.5% per month on any unpaid balance. If East River Energy hires an attorney or collection agency to collect the amounts the customer owes, customer agrees to pay any costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees and/or collection agency fees, incurred in the collection of the account or in enforcing the contract. In addition, any credit balance remaining on an account will be applied to the following year's purchases. Please note that any change in State or Federal taxes/fees over the course of the contract period will be passed down to the customer and customer will be responsible for payment on such new tax/fee rate.

East River Energy reserves the right to refuse to deliver to any tank, which, in its sole discretion, is deemed unsafe. Deliveries will resume once the problem is corrected. In the event a "run-out" occurs at a "will-call" tank, East River Energy reserves the right to levy a surcharge commensurate to the cost of providing immediate delivery, if one is requested. In the event a driver is re-routed due to a will call customer not taking the full load as ordered, East River Energy reserves the right to levy a delivery charge. Customer acknowledges that all tanks and piping are in good condition and meet all State and Federal regulations and specifications. Product samples, when requested, must come directly off of the truck before delivery is made. East River Energy is not obligated to deliver to any tanks or locations other than what is stated in the contract and/or bid specifications. In addition, East River Energy reserves the right to levy a fuel surcharge. East River Energy does not provide assurances for fuel which the customer stores in their tanks, or the condition of their tank, leakage or environmental contamination. This is including but not limited to spillage and inaccuracy of fuel ordering. Customer is responsible to notify East River Energy if any tank is replaced, eliminated, or if there is construction work around a tank location. These changes could affect scheduled delivery times, hose lengths, and fittings required to make the delivery. Please have your maintenance personnel keep driveways, pathways and fills clear of ice and snow. This ensures ability of timely delivery and personal safety of our drivers. Demurrage will be assessed if a delivery is delayed at your location by circumstances beyond our control, and/or if our driver finds it necessary to clear ice or snow in order to deliver fuel to your tank(s). Customer is responsible to pay any demurrage, delivery or fuel surcharges assessed during the contract period.

Any unauthorized use, disclosure, distribution, copying or altering of any part of this document is prohibited. Any information included in this document is that of East River Energy, Inc. and intended solely for the recipient.

Publication: OPIS publications including the Oil Price Daily are copyrighted documents and therefore are not to be transmitted by East River Energy to the Customer by law. These publications change daily and it is the customer's responsibility to validate posted prices. The posting utilized will be most closely reflective of the product actually being delivered.

Force Majeure: East River Energy shall not be liable to the customer for any losses or damages to that customer in the event East River Energy is unable to fulfill its obligations under this agreement due to acts of God, fire, flood, war or any other causes beyond its control.

Signed by: Kenneth W. Knight Dated: 2/13/2023

Printed Name: Kenneth W. Knight  
Business Manager

Your Energy Partner

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203.453.1200 · 800.336.3762 · FAX: 203.453.3899

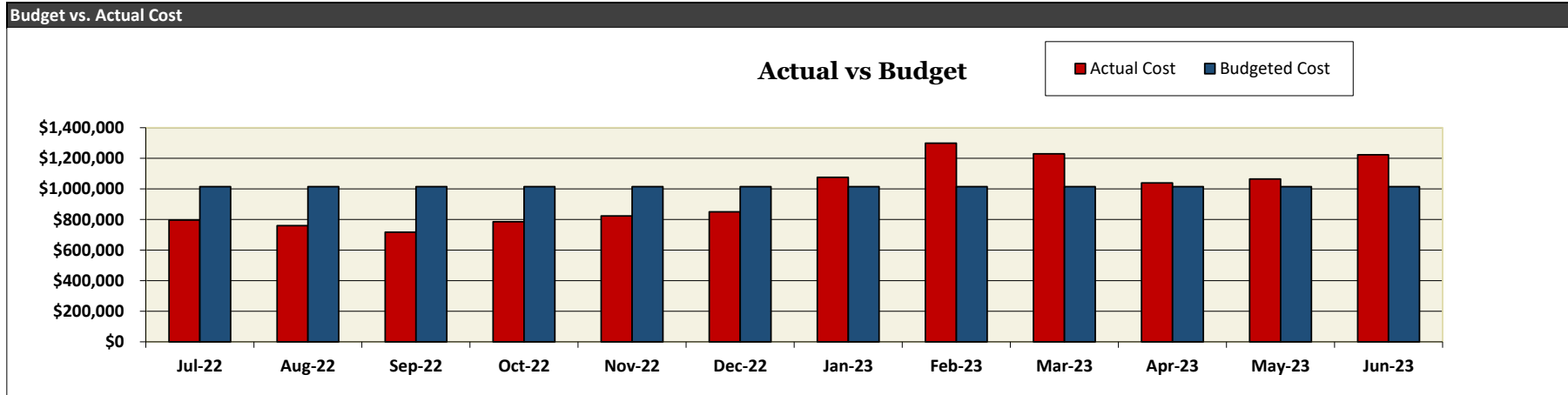
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Cost vs Budget Dashboard - data through June 2023

BOE Groups Active & Retired

Self Insured - All Coverages All Enrollees											
Claim/Admin. Cost											
Date	Lives	Net Medical Paid		Dental Paid	Total Net Paid	Total Fixed Costs	Total Cost	Anthem Renewal	Variance - Total	Actual/Estimated	Additional
		Claims	Rx Paid Claims	Claims	Claims			Monthly	Cost vs BOE	BOE Anthem	Laser Liability
								Anthem Renewal	Cost vs BOE	Renewal	\$522,595 Max
Jul-22	520	\$515,691	\$141,902	\$34,113	\$691,706	\$104,766	\$796,472	\$1,014,798	(\$218,326)	78.5%	\$0
Aug-22	517	\$427,675	\$186,699	\$40,532	\$654,906	\$104,250	\$759,156	\$1,014,798	(\$255,642)	74.8%	\$0
Sep-22	507	\$387,069	\$204,284	\$23,500	\$614,854	\$102,531	\$717,384	\$1,014,798	(\$297,414)	70.7%	\$0
Oct-22	507	\$414,509	\$240,565	\$27,418	\$682,493	\$102,531	\$785,023	\$1,014,798	(\$229,775)	77.4%	\$0
Nov-22	505	\$460,910	\$230,840	\$28,895	\$720,645	\$102,187	\$822,832	\$1,014,798	(\$191,967)	81.1%	\$0
Dec-22	505	\$487,228	\$233,867	\$26,231	\$747,326	\$102,187	\$849,513	\$1,014,798	(\$165,286)	83.7%	\$0
Jan-23	499	\$706,902	\$239,890	\$27,164	\$973,955	\$101,155	\$1,075,110	\$1,014,798	\$60,311	105.9%	\$0
Feb-23	500	\$930,417	\$246,463	\$20,173	\$1,197,053	\$101,327	\$1,298,380	\$1,014,798	\$283,581	127.9%	\$0
Mar-23	505	\$818,315	\$286,108	\$22,533	\$1,126,957	\$102,187	\$1,229,143	\$1,014,798	\$214,345	121.1%	\$0
Apr-23	502	\$719,033	\$193,984	\$24,586	\$937,603	\$101,671	\$1,039,274	\$1,014,798	\$24,475	102.4%	\$0
May-23	499	\$681,465	\$260,451	\$22,116	\$964,032	\$101,155	\$1,065,187	\$1,014,798	\$50,389	105.0%	\$0
Jun-23	501	\$858,886	\$232,431	\$30,131	\$1,121,448	\$101,499	\$1,222,947	\$1,014,798	\$208,149	120.5%	\$0
<b>YTD</b>	<b>6067</b>	<b>\$7,408,099</b>	<b>\$2,697,484</b>	<b>\$327,393</b>	<b>\$10,432,976</b>	<b>\$1,227,444</b>	<b>\$11,660,420</b>	<b>\$12,177,580</b>	<b>(\$517,160)</b>	<b>95.8%</b>	<b>\$0</b>



Total fixed costs is taken from segmented Anthem Renewal dated 4/20/22 plus Network Access Fees of \$184,015

\*BOE monthly renewal based on non-weighted Anthem proposal dated 4/20/22 less expected claims for Retirees moving to Medicare Advantage plan effective 1/1/22

Stop Loss Laser - Liver transplant; member lasered at \$600,000 (\$77,405 in claims included in expected claim cost)