

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, April 20, 2026

Board Members

Mayor Neville
Trustee Conger via zoom
Trustee Holl
Trustee Montreuil
Trustee Rankin

Others in attendance:

Nancy Niswender - Clerk
Angela Conger-Deputy Treasurer
Mike Perkins - Elec Supervisor
Chad Shurtleff - DPW Suprv.

Ted Skibinksi-Code Officer
Mike Albro - YAWS
Eric DeForrest - GFD Fire Chief

7:00pm Mayor Neville welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Trustee Holl made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2026 Annual Board Meeting, seconded by Trustee Montreuil, carried.

Audit of claims and approval thereof.

Trustee Holl made a motion to approve the claims presented for review. and to adjust the budget as follows:

A0-5142-04	900.00		F0-8320-04	2,300.00	
A0-5182-04	2,000.00		F0-1990-04		1,000.00
A0-1990-04		2,900.00	F0-8310-43		300.00
			F0-8320-02		1,000.00
A0-4540-01	15,000.00				
A0-4540-12	16,000.00		G0-8130-01	15,000.00	
A0-1641-0		31,000.00	G0-9030-08	600.00	
			G0-2120-01		15,600.00
F0-9060-08	817.00				
F0-9089-08		400.00	G0-8110-04	2,000.00	
F0-9040-08		336.00	G0-9060-08	97.00	
F0-9010-08		81.00	G0-8120-01		2,097.00
F0-8330-01	4,200.00				
F0-8340-01		4,200.00			

The claims paid are covered by the following lists of abstracts of audited vouchers:

	<u>Abstract # 11</u>
GENERAL	61,011.51
WATER	10,510.47
SEWER	84,232.60
ELECTRIC	161,326.01
JOINT REC	1,838.68
CAPITAL	34,258.61

Seconded by Trustee Rankin, all in favor, carried.

Monthly Department Reports:

Electric Department:

Supervisor Perkins report was submitted (attached to the minutes)

- Over 500 meters installed. The Board of Light agreed we would cover the cost of a meter can change during this process. We had one today that needed to be replaced.
- We will be looking where to either sell or donate the old meters.
- Working through the new software system. It is getting better.
- Stray voltage is completed.
- New Digger Derrick - about 1 - 1.5 weeks out.
- County Bridge Project - waiting on contract, but looking at timeline to start project.

Department of Public Works

Supervisor Shurtleff report submitted (attached to the minutes)

- Water Quality report this month.
- Some minor flooding in creek, did some work in several areas, but home owners in one location stopped work.
- Starting Park & Pool work. Mowing to begin.
- Discussion of drawings for new shower house.

Waste Water Treatment Plant

Mike Albro - Yaws Report was submitted and reviewed (attached to the minutes)

Fire Department

reported the following:

	<u>YTD</u>
Ambulance Calls	260
Fire Calls	67
	<hr/>
	327

- Fire in Dryden last month - Loss of 3 community members.
- April 10th - Fatal fire in Village of Groton at Trailer park from an unknown cause outside the home. A tough call for community. Help from Dryden & McLean. Were able to rescue one individual but due to the fire unable to extract the 2nd individual. Some clothing drives and GoFundMe me for families. GFD held a debriefing
- Several calls due to flooding. Cones put out to warn drivers.
- We held our annual Easter Egg Hunt this past weekend at our fire station. It was a huge success thanks to the membership. Everyone pitched in and made light work of it. The feedback we have received so far was that the community was excited to have it at the station and thought it worked well there.
- We are held our Recruitment chicken BBQ this past weekend There will be a pancake Breakfast April 26 7am-10am.

Joint Recreation

Deputy Treasurer Conger reviewed the Joint Recreation report (attached to the minutes):

Groton Youth Commission

The Youth Commission report (attached to the minutes):

Code Office

Ted Skibinski - Code Officer submitted his report attached to the minutes.

- LSI - 75%-80% of apartments done. Working on getting some of the properties cleaned up in the Village.
- We are looking at sidewalks and what kind of program we can do. Received a map from Tompkins County that will help us in planning. The map has measurements for each property and zoning listed. This will be a big help.

Public Hearing on the Budget

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended at 7:32 pm and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearing on the 2026-27 Tentative Budget.

Clerk Niswender summarized the Notice of Public Hearing.

No comments were made.

At 7:35 pm Trustee Holl made a motion to close the Public Hearing, seconded by Trustee Rankin , carried.

Adoption of the Village of Groton 2026-27 Budget

Trustee Holl made a motion to adopt the 2026-2027 Budget as presented, seconded by Trustee Montreuil .

All Those in Favor:

"aye" Trustee Rankin
"aye" Trustee Montreuil
"aye" Trustee Holl
"aye" Mayor Neville

The budget was duly declared adopted. [Type II Action under SEQR.]

Public Hearing Local Law #2

The regular meeting was temporarily suspended at 7:43pm and Mayor Neville opened the Public Hearings on Local Law 2 - Section 187-22: Schedule III: School Speed Limits

Clerk Niswender summarized the Notice of Public Hearing.

No public comments

At 7:44 pm Trustee Holl made a motion to close the Public Hearings, seconded by Trustee Rankin, carried.

- Adoption to be tabled until next month for further clarification of exact distance between speed limit signs.

Presentation & Discussion Items

- Water Treatment Plant Filter Discussion- Quote for replacement of filter modules. Currently at replacement levels. Quote from original manufacturer. Pall will need to install in order to not void the warranty. \$76,429.33. There are some after market that could be less but would not last as long. These filter lasted 20 years.
- Property Discussion-
Peru Road - The Food Bank is looking for a spot to set up their new location. They looked at several areas. One spot north of tennis courts where the old community garden was. Could we possibly lease a spot to them to put up a small building? We will contact our attorney to see if this is feasible and allowed.

7-11 - After an email to the CEO, we have had a new contact person and will work with them on possible purchase of the property behind our municipal building for the trail system and NY Forward projects.

143 E. Cortland-the paperwork is progressing and hopefully we will close in the next few weeks.

Action Items

- Options for Police Station building changes were reviewed. Trustee Montreuil made a motion to remove options #1, #3, #4, #6 from the list for a savings of \$65,600 and to approve change order #1 once received, seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Rankin made a motion to approve the Groton Fire Department Fireworks Permit for July 3rd seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Holl made a motion to approve the purchase of Kubota Tractor through Soucewell - State Bid price of \$33,127.45, seconded by Trustee Montreuil, all in favor, carried.

8:38pm Trustee Montreuil made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Niswender
Village Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator