

Groton Village Board of Trustees Meeting

Monday, October 20, 2025

Board Members

Mayor Neville
Trustee Conger
Trustee Morey
Trustee Walpole
Trustee Holl

Others in attendance:

Nancy Niswender - Clerk
Lt Troy Boice
Eric DeForrest - GFD Fire Chief
Ted Skibinski-Code Officer
Mike Albro - YAWS
Dave Coish- YAWS
Josh Spicer - Old Chatham
Alyssa Roorda - Ag teacher

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

Trustee Walpole made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2025 Board Meeting, seconded by Trustee Conger, carried.

Audit of claims and approval thereof.

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

A0-5112-02	6,578.88	
A0-3501-0		6,578.88

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

	<u>Abstract # 5</u>
GENERAL	149,773.26
WATER	3,536.53
SEWER	33,524.45
ELECTRIC	87,144.27
JOINT REC	3,705.95
CAPITAL	12,654.19

Seconded by Trustee Walpole, all in favor, carried.

Monthly Department Reports:

Department of Public Works

Supervisor Shurtleff report submitted (attached to the minutes)

Waste Water Treatment Plant

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

- NYSDEC doing new SPDES requirements. Will be stricter. Micro Drum filters will need to be replaced. Dave getting quotes. This is a huge expense - Est \$500,000, we will need to evaluate.

Police Department

Lt. Troy Boice Reported

- New guns delayed until November.
- A lot of Juvenile issues.
- Staffing has been down.

Fire Department

reported the following:

	<u>YTD</u>
Ambulance Calls	843
Fire Calls	166
	<u>1009</u> 15 calls higher than last year

- Summer Camp was postponed until August - this went well
- Clam Bake went well
- Temporary burn ban was put in place and being monitored. Currently lifted in Tompkins and Cortland County.
- Received 2 - 4 gas meters. Much better than previous meters. Will be better detecting gases in a house.

Joint Recreation

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

Groton Youth Commission

Trustee Conger reviewed the Youth Commission report (attached to the minutes):

Code Office

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

- Concerns on an occupant that should not be living in a house that is posted unsafe.

Public Comments

- Josh Spicer - Old Chatham Creamery Plant in Groton & Alyssa - full time Ag teacher in Union Springs/Port Byron. Josh reviewed what they are doing to improve the plant and changes in administration.

Action Items

- Trustee Conger made a motion to adopt a Resolution designating Wednesday, March 18, 2026 as Village Election Day, seconded by Trustee Walpole, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Holl made a motion to adopt a Resolution designating 308 Main Street as the one polling place for the Village Elections on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, seconded by Trustee Walpole, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Conger made a motion to approve the CDBG Grant Projects as listed on the attached document, seconded by Trustee Walpole, all in favor, carried.
- Trustee Conger made a motion to have Clerk Niswender sign the Contract agreement for Municipal Solutions to process the MSRB Continuing Disclosure Updates and EMMA filings, seconded by Trustee Holl, all in favor, carried.

7:59pm Trustee Conger made a motion to move into executive session to discuss a specific employee and property items, Seconded by Trustee Walpole, all in favor.

8:19pm Trustee Conger made a motion to move out of executive session, seconded by Trustee Walpole, all in favor, carried.

No Action taken

8:20pm Trustee Conger made a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Niswender
Village Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator



Village of Groton

308 Main Street, PO Box 100 ♦ Groton, NY 13073
Phone: 607-898-3966 ♦ Fax No. 607-898-4177
TDD: New York State Relay 1-800-662-1220
e-mail: customerservice@grotonny.org

Mayor.....	Christopher J. Neville
Trustees.....	Elizabeth T. Conger
	Michael G. Holl
	Jean E. Morey
	Terrance E. Walpole
Clerk-Treasurer/Administrator	Nancy Niswender
Dept. of Public Works Supv.	Chad M. Shurtleff
Electric Utility Supv.	Stephen E. Teeter
Police OIC.....	Lt. Troy Boice
Code Enforcement Officer	Ted Skibinski
Director of Recreation.....	Becky Koenig

Department of Public Works September 22 – October 20, 2025

Completed Work/Projects:

- CDL Driver Training
- Mowing and trimming grass as needed
- Complete milling and paving of streets
- Several days of cleaning and repairing streets before paving
- Dig out and regrade driveway approaches that did not match the new paved streets
- Pothole repair around the Village
- Assemble the leaf picking equipment
- Remove sidewalk on Barrows St. for replacement
- Topsoil and seed around new signs
- Close and winterize the park and pool

Schedule of Work

- New water service at the Groton Hotel
- Flush hydrants
- Repair and replace hydrants as needed
- Continue driver training for CDL
- Leaf pick-up month of November

Village of Groton

Fuel Usage Report in Gallons

Dates: 10/20/2025

	Unleaded	Diesel
DPW	199	296
Electric	26	0
Fire	136	61
Police	204	

Groton WWTP Update

Month of September 2025

- The Creamery discharges are still bad at times. Samples have gotten a better but still are extremely thick for testing. We have increased adding bugs due to this issue.
- We have installed air actuator on SBR #2.
- We have finished draining #1 digester and has been cleaned. We did find a lot of broken diffusers and repaired broken pipe. Tested system everything is working to specs and was put back online.
- Drum filters are still in progress; I am waiting on quotes from Koester associates and Stewart Equipment. Still trying to locate a 3rd vender I do believe this is going to be expensive. We will need to budget for these.
- We are getting to go into winter permit at the end of October. This should be a smooth transition.
- The facility and system are looking great and is well within permit.

Groton Joint Recreation Committee
October 7, 2025

Elizabeth Conger called the meeting to order at: 5:33pm

Present were:

Rec Director Becky Koenig
Elizabeth Conger
Jennifer Foote-Dean

Angela Conger
Leon Brockway

Absent
Crystal Young
Scott Weeks

The minutes were reviewed from the September 2nd meeting.

Motion made to approve the minutes by: Leon Brockway
2nd by: Jennifer Foote-Dean
carried.

The financials were not available yet.

Recreation Director Report

See Director Becky Koenig's Report attached

Updates on report

Discussion/Action Items

The NYS Rec & Park Society Conference was discussed. Leon Brockway made a motion to

- approve travel for Recreation Director Becky Koenig to go to the Conference from November 11th -November 14th. Seconded by Jennifer Foote-Dean.

Open Discussion:

We discussed how soccer had their Krispy Kreme fundraiser and the checks were written to

- Groton Soccer, and we do their financials, but we are not supposed to do fundraising. There was a question if we could have a "Friends of Groton Recreation" who could do fundraising for the committee. Angela Conger will contact NYCOM to inquire.

Next meeting was scheduled for November 4th but that is Election Day. It was discussed that we

- would skip the meeting and have a Director's report sent and the financials unless something comes up that requires a meeting.

Motion to adjourn: 6:03pm

made by: Leon Brockway
2nd by: Jennifer Foote-Dean

Next Meeting: December 2nd

Submitted by:

Angela Conger

Village of Groton

Deputy Treasurer



Groton Joint Recreation Committee
Becky Koenig- Director Report
October 2025

Youth Programming

- Youth Programming
 - Youth Cross Country **Simon Moll is coaching.**
 - Monday's Sept 15th-Oct 27th @ Memorial Park 4:30-5:30
 - Running well has 12 kids
 - Youth Soccer
 - Sept 3rd-Oct 19th
 - Just completed fundraiser with Krispy Kreme
 - Youth Basketball
 - Will be posting registration this week **for travel. Flyers will go home with students on Friday. Also ask school to send emails.**
 - New this year, we will have travel teams for 4th-6th grade. 3rd grade will stay in house and continue with skills & drills **Coaches from last year are coming back. The prices of jerseys are up as well. Got quotes from Cayuga Xpress and Graph Tex.**
- Adult Programming..
 - Craft Club- Second Sunday of each month 1-3pm in the community room.
 - Next meeting Oct **12th**
 - Spoke with Flo about doing a class on how to make T-shirt quilts
 - Yoga- running Tues/Thurs 10-11am in community room.
 - Flag Football
 - Saturday's 9-10:30am-**Youth Soccer has been interfering for some of Groton parents so far.**
 - Getting 4-8 ppl per week
- Trunk or Treat
 - Friday October 31st 5-7pm @ Conger Blvd
 - Sent email to all previous participants & posted on FB- 16 trunks so far
 - Have John Brehm confirmed for photos
 - Paw Patrol will be on site-**Janna will be one of the Characters.**
 - **Port a Johns have been rented but not doing a food truck as they didn't get a lot of business. Main St Pizza places do a lot of deals.**

Other Items

- Summer Concert Series **Looking at new bands and new trucks. Tink Bennett will be back.**
 - Met with the committee to begin scheduling bands and food truck for next year.
- NYS Recreation and Park Society Conference
 - White Plains, NY 11/11-11/13 **Committee had an email conversation amongst themselves, they see the value in Recreation Director going, look at it as an investment. They said maybe they give metrics like come back with 5 Recreation Directors contact information. Take business cards and have a summary upon return.**

Program Manager
Keith Davenport

Cornell Cooperative Extension Coordinator
Shelley Lester
Athena Steinkraus, Asst. Coordinator

Tompkins County Youth Services
Kate Shanks-Booth
Rick Alvord

Youth Representative
Lauren Gallinger, Diella Nino
Joslyn Staton

Groton Youth Commission

308 Main St, Groton, NY 13073

Chair
Glenn E. Morey

Vice Chair
Elizabeth T. Conger

Board Members
Josh Dwyer
Kristin Prugh

Meeting Minutes October 1, 2025

The October 1, 2025, meeting of the Groton Youth Commission was called to order by Vice Chairman Betty conger at 7:00PM. Members present were Program Manager Keith Davenport, CCE Coordinator Shelley Lester, Kristin Prugh. Chairman Glenn Morey, Josh Dwyer Lauren Gallinger, Joclyn Staton, and Diella Nino were absent. Brian Klumpp has resigned. We are in need of several board members, 1 from the Town Board, 1 from the Town at large, 2 from the Village at large.

Secretary's Minutes:

Minutes for September 3, 2025, were Not voted on as we lacked a quorum.

Report: Keith Davenport: Keith presented the first report for the beginning of the school year. Programs are well under way. Next month we will have a student presenter at the meeting.

Report: Shelley Lester: Budget updates were presented for summer camp. There will need to be discussion at November's meeting regarding camp. We were over budget this year.

Report: Rick Alvord: Just a short discussion regarding the shortfalls of the County budget.

November 16th there will be a Bowling Tournament to benefit the programs of the Youth Programs at the Groton Bowling Alley.

New Business: none

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM

Next meeting is November 5, 2025 @ 7:00PM

Submitted by
Elizabeth Conger
Vice Chair



Groton Youth Services

September 2025



We have been hard at work this month creating programs. Through planning we have prepared for unique experiences for the students of Groton.

We had an All Staff Retreat at Wolf Mountain with hopeful future programs with them for our students.

Mr. Keith also will be going to the Camp Director Fall Gathering there they will debrief on all 4-H Camps across NYS talk about best practices of camping industry as well as many more topics pertaining to camp.

Trainings & Meetings Lunches:

- September 11 Lunches @ Groton Middle School 11am-12pm
- September 12 Lunches @ Groton Middle School 11am-12pm
- September 15 Lunches @ Groton Elementary School 11am-1pm
- September 16 Rural Youth Service Staff Retreat @ Wolf Mountain 8am to 4pm
- September 24- 26 Camp Director Fall Gathering @Highland Forest County Park; Fabius NY 11am to 10am

Keith Davenport
Groton Program Manager

Kd528@cornell.edu
(315)283-5476





The Dice Rollers

Wednesdays: Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 No Program Sept 24
2:45 pm- 5:15 pm

@Groton Middle School Grades 6th- 8th

Enrollment: Total=5 Male=5

Life Skills: Learning to Learn, Communication

Register Today:

<https://bit.ly/GrotonRYS>



Join the Dice Rollers and dive into a world of strategy, imagination & fun! Each week we gather to play a variety of classic and modern board games. This program is all about having a great time, practicing good sportsmanship & building friendly, supportive community one game at a time!

Trunk or Treat Design & Engineering 2025

Thursdays Sept. 18, Oct 2, 9, 16, 23
,30 Fri. Oct 31,

No Program Sept. 25

Thursdays: 2:45pm-5:15pm

Oct 31 2:45pm-7:00pm

@Groton Middle School

Grades 6th-8th

Enrollment:
Total=7 Male=5
Female=2
Life Skills:
Goal Setting,
Communication,

Ready to level up your Halloween? Gather your friends to Design-A-Trunk. Whether your theme is funny, spooky, or fantastically creative, this is your chance to create an amazing themed car trunk. Think beyond just decorations- we encourage interactive elements like photo ops or other surprises!

United
Way



Cornell Cooperative Extension
Tompkins County



Nature Navigators



Mondays: Sept 22, 29 Oct 6, 20, 27 :2025

No Program, Oct 13

2:45pm to 5:15pm

@ Groton Public Library

Grades: 3rd -8th

Enrollment: Total=8 Male=6 Females=2

Life Skills: Healthy Lifestyle Choices, Self-Discipline

The Nature Navigators is where adventure begins! We inspire youth to trade screen time for green time as they explore the natural world around them. This program offers hands-on activities like hiking, nature scavenger hunts, grilling, tracking and more! We encourage curiosity, foster teamwork & build confidence as youth discover the wonders of their local parks & trails!

**Please Dress for the
Weather!**

The Haunted Handcrafters

Tuesdays Sept 23, 30, Oct 7, 14, 21, 28

2:45pm-5:15pm

@ Groton Elementary School, 2nd - 5th Graders

Enrollment: Total=9 Male=5 Females=3 Nonbinary=1

Life Skills: Critical Thinking, Self-Esteem

Join our Haunted Handcrafters for a ghoulish good time! Youth can get into the spooky spirit with fun, hands-on craft projects perfect for decorating the house and designing costume accessories & more!

**Groton Youth
Services**



**Groton Rural
Youth Service
Store**



4-H GROWS HERE

Board Meeting – October 20, 2025

Ted Skibinski, Code Enforcement Officer

Reporting and Accomplishments:

1. Building and Zoning Complaints in October – 0
2. 2025 Life Safety Inspections completed September/October – 0
3. Building Permits opened – 11
4. Building Permits closed – 16
5. Town Court appearance tickets in September – 0
6. Active Building Permits – 16
7. 2024 NYS Code enforcement continuing education – 18 of 24 hrs.