



**TOWN OF
GROTON**
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

Community Preservation Committee
Russell Burke, Chair – Planning Board
Anna Eliot, Vice Chair – Parks Comm.
Bruce Easom, Treasurer – Conservation Comm.
Robert DeGroot, Clerk – Historical Comm.
Daniel Emerson – Housing Auth.
Carolyn Perkins – at large
Richard Hewitt – at large

MEETING MINUTES

Date: Monday, December 11th, 2023
Time: 7:00 PM
Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room, Groton Town Hall
Members Present: Bruce Easom, Daniel Emerson, Russell Burke, Carolyn Perkins, Anna Eliot,
Richard Hewitt, Robert DeGroot
Members Absent:
Others Present: Katie Berry, Hannah Moller

The meeting was called to order by chair, Russell Burke at 7:02 PM.

SPRING TOWN WARRANT ARTICLE DISCUSSION- Hannah Moller, Town Treasurer, met with the committee to discuss Spring Town Warrant Article plans. Bruce Easom presented an excel document showing Spring 2024 CPA Town Meeting Warrant Articles, as seen below, as well as finance projections. Ms. Moller discussed and shared availability for the committee to allocate the following draft articles. The committee discussed interest and principal payments in relation to the debt service for the Middle School Track project. Bruce Easom shared that there are three article items that have already been authorized and will not need discussion in Spring 2024. Dan Emerson motioned to have Bruce Easom, treasurer, present the articles as discussed to the Town Manager and Select Board, Carolyn Perkins seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

- 1) Authorization to pay \$120,000 debt service payment toward principal on \$1.0M authorization using FY2024 funds.
- 2) Authorization to pay \$20,000 on un-borrowed principal on \$1.0M authorization using FY2024 funds.
- 3) Authorization to pay debt service of \$63,242 in interest and \$175,671.75 principal on \$1,405,374 authorization using FY2025 funds.
- 4) Bin allocation article (\$850,000 local surtax and 25% state match).

Community Housing	\$106,250.00
Historic Reserve	\$106,250.00
Open Space	\$106,250.00
Unallocated Reserve	\$721,250.00
Admin Expenses	\$22,500.00 (\$17,500 salary & benefits + \$5,000)
Total	\$1,062,500.00
- 5) Authorization for projects recommended to Town Meeting by the CPC.

NEW PROJECT UPDATES

- 2024-01 Housing Trust Funds Request (CAROLYN PERKINS) No updates.
- 2024-02 Preservation of Lake Massapoag (ROBERT DEGROOT) Bob DeGroot shared that the permits that are needed through the state have been received but the project won't move forward until spring.
- 2024-03 Conservation Fund FY2024 (BRUCE EASOM) The parcel that the Conservation Commission is purchasing in West Groton closed today.
- 2024-04 Rebuild Major League Baseball Diamond (ANNA ELIOT) No updates.
- 2024-05 Construct 2 Softball Diamonds at Cutler (ANNA ELIOT) No updates.
- 2024-07 Housing Coordinator FY2024 (CAROLYN PERKINS) No updates.
- 2024-09 Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) (BRUCE EASOM) Bruce Easom shared that the work has begun on this phase of the trail and the work is looking good.

REVIEW CONTINUED PROJECT UPDATES

- 2019-08 Duck Pond Restoration (RICHARD HEWITT) Richard Hewitt shared that the feature is shut down for the winter. Mr. Hewitt also stated that all four of the pumps needed to be replaced already on the project, and wants to review other pond group projects to compare.
- 2022-01 Maintenance Shed Restoration (ROBERT DEGROOT) Bob DeGroot shared that once painting is done, the project will be complete.
- 2022-02 Feasibility Study for Cow Pond Fields; Witowicz Field; Cutler Field (ANNA ELIOT) No updates.
- 2022-04 Affordable Housing Site Assessment Study (DANIEL EMERSON) Dan Emerson shared an email from Fran Stanley stating "The Affordable Housing Trust met on December 7. My update on their site assessment activities is that the Trust reviewed a rough concept plan for the Hoyts Wharf parcel. No money was spent as an engineer provided the sketch to the Trust free of charge. All in all, the Trust does want to proceed with siting affordable housing on a portion of the town owned property known as the Hoyts Wharf parcel. Natural Heritage will allow only an extremely limited development – probably a single house lot. When the Trust is assured of the feasibility of its plan, then it will take the next step. The Trust will approach the Select Board and Town Meeting for permission to carve out a buildable lot that can be offered to a developer who will build affordable housing at this site."
- 2022-09 Groton Dunstable Natural Field Restoration Plan (BRUCE EASOM) Bruce Easom shared that he placed a sign on the middle school track and will place one on the high school track as well.
- 2023-04 Nashua Riverwalk (CAROLYN PERKINS) – No updates.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- Sign Invoices/ Project letters- The committee signed invoices.
- Next meeting will be January 8th, 2024 at 7:00pm.

MEETING MINUTES

Committee members reviewed minutes from November 13th 2023. Dan Emerson moved to approve the meeting minutes from Monday, November 13th, 2023, as amended. Russell Burke seconded and the motion carried, with Anna Eliot, Richard Hewitt, and Bob DeGroot abstaining.

Bruce Easom moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05PM. Carolyn Perkins seconded, and the motion carried by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Katie Berry, Inter-Departmental Assistant

Approved: ____1/8/24_____