TOWN OF GROTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
Regular Session

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 beginning at 6:00 pm

Minutes Approved 5/01/21

ZOOM ID# 844 0456 3657

Members present: Bud Robertson (B.R.), Chairman; Gary Green (G.G.); Colby Doody (C.D.); David Manugian (D.M.); Scott Whitefield (S.W.); Mary Linskey (M.L.) (joined the meeting at 6:49 pm)

Others present: Mark Haddad, Town Manager; Patricia Dufresne, Town Accountant; Megan Foster, Town Assessor; Takashi Tada, Land Use Department (left the meeting at 6:29 pm); Melisa Doig, H.R. Director; Hannah Moller, Assistant Treasurer; Elizabeth Faxon, Per Diem Minute Taker

Chairman Bud Robertson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Takashi Tada was present to explain the rationale for the Reserve Fund transfer request of $11,500 to pay a statement received from CAI Technologies, for GIS mapping services. The Town switched to this new vendor primarily to help the Assessor’s office with updating the tax maps. The previous budget was not updated to incorporate this phase of the tax map update. Mr. Tada expects this will be a one-time expense. Megan Foster added that the Assessors’ maps needed to be updated and current so as not to jeopardize eligibility for 911 emergency assistance funding. Also, this status is a requirement for the recertification for the Department of Revenue.

D.M. moved to approve the Reserve Fund transfer request as requested. S.W. seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: AYE – Robertson, Whitefield, Doody, Green, Manugian. The motion carried: 5-0-0.

A Reserve Fund transfer requested by the Building Inspector for $25,000 was then discussed by the Committee. Mr. Haddad explained that there was an overlap of service between the incoming Building Inspector, Bob Garside and the retiring Building Inspector, Ed Cataldo until Bob received his required certification. Mr. Haddad checked to see if the Cares Act would cover the overlap and found that it would not. As a result, there will be a $25,000 deficit in the Building Inspector salary line item for FY21 unless it is supplemented from the Reserve Fund. It was noted that after these two transfers, the balance in the Reserve Fund will be $65,500. Mr. Robertson reminded the members that this arrangement was agreed upon previously by the Select Board.

D. M. moved to approve the Reserve fund transfer as requested. S.W. seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: AYE – Robertson, Whitefield, Doody, Green, Manugian. The motion carried 5-0-0.

Mr. Haddad then presented the Fiscal year 2022 Levy Limit calculation to the Committee. He reported that there is no change in the current Levy and $15 Million worth of new growth is expected. He reports no change in excluded debt. The total tax levy for next year is $36,099,308. The revenue estimates for next year seem stable, with strong Country Club earnings expected to continue and with a moderate ($20,000) increase to state aid if the Governor’s number holds. Estimated local receipts for FY22 are $4,490,312. The free cash balance will be $387,596 after deducting the amount to be appropriated at the upcoming Spring Town Meeting. Mr. Haddad noted that all seven union contracts have been settled.

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this year with zero percent COLA increases. Instead, one-time cash payments were agreed to of 1% & 2% with the various Unions (these will be funded from Free Cash). All municipal personal service contracts followed the same salary agreements. As a result, there was no increase in salaries for the FY 22 Budget. Mr. Haddad expressed his appreciation to the Employees for the outcome of these negotiations. $45,750,175 in total revenues is expected to balance FY22 expenditures leaving $92,968 in unexpended tax capacity.

The changes made to the operating budget include increasing municipal government by $52,489 to reflect Union agreements and an increase in insurance, increase in Land Use by $5,167 to reflect Union agreements, an increase in protection of Persons and Property by $52,105 per Union agreements, the regional school districts reduction of $281,279 to reflect final Nashoba Tech budget, anticipated increase in GDRSD operating budget, and an anticipated reduction in GDRSD capital. The enterprise fund requests increased by $218,426 to reflect addition of Stormwater budget and Union agreements. The estimated tax rate for FY 2022 is $18.05. Currently the tax rate is $17.60. A .45 cent tax rate increase is pending based on the proposed budget. He noted that if the Florence Rocher school project is approved at Town Meeting, it will not affect the FY 2022 budget. The impact from such action will be realized in FY 2023. He presented the Grand Total – Town Budget sheet which illustrates a comparison of the changes from the FY 2021 to the FY 2022 and the Grand total – Town budget percent change of 4.32% increase.

Mr. Haddad had previously presented his proposal for restoring budget cuts should additional tax capacity become available. In order of priority, he would restore 1) Police Patrol Position, 2) DPW position, 3) Library Hours, 4) Fire Department Vehicle Maintenance. In light of UTC now being over $92,000, he would recommend adjusting the operating budget to restore a patrol officer position increasing police wages by $70,000 and insurance by $20,000. D. Manugian asked if the pension for the patrol officer was already figured into the budget. Mr. Haddad stated that while the wages were cut for FY 22, the police patrol position benefits and associated expenditures remain funded so there will be no impact on the pension costs by restoring the wages. D. M. made a motion that the police officer position be added back into the FY22 budget as presented by the Town Manager at the cost of $90,000. S. W. seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: AYE – Robertson, Whitefield, Doody, Green, Manugian. The motion carried 5-0-0.

Mr. Haddad noted that the entire FY22 budget will be voted as a single motion during the Town Meeting to expedite the process during the pandemic emergency. Mr. Haddad went on to say that on Monday night, a public hearing is scheduled for the ATM 2021 Town Meeting warrant. He then presented the financial warrant articles to the Committee. Article 2 - elected officials' compensation. Article 3 - the wage and classification schedule, he noted no change. Article 4 - the budget. Article 5 - the contribution from free cash to the CPEB trust fund. Article 6 - the capital budget as approved by the Capital Planning Committee $225,000 to refurbish Engine 1, $40,000 for the highway dump truck for a final payment, $40,000 IT infrastructure, $25,000 municipal building maintenance, $40,000 tractor trailer, $45,000 library parking lot reconstruction, $25,000 Park Department improvements, $25,000 golf cart

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replacement program, $10,000 tee box repairs, $50,000 Country Club roof, and $100,000 police cruise’s. P. Dufresne reported that the balance of the Capital Stabilization fund is currently $556,000.

Article 7 – middle school track, Article 8 – Florence Roche elementary school. Mr. Haddad explained that depending on whether these two articles are authorized at Town Meeting, the town will secure the Bond and CPA funds will partially fund the projects but no payments will be due until FY 2023. CPA funds typically used for Surrenden Farms will be available in FY 23 due to the final payment being made during FY 22. The School Committee and the Select Board entered into a municipal agreement to allow the town to borrow the money on behalf of the school district (if Article 8 passes) because the Town’s bond rating is excellent and estimated savings to the taxpayers is over $3 MIL. G. Green asked what the anticipated debt service is for the next few years. Mr. Haddad presented a document with the excluded debt figures and the anticipated debt service for major projects. The spreadsheet contained an analysis to show the impact to the tax rate over the life of the projects. G. Green asked if there any major projects that need to be funded between now and 2045 and noted that both district School Committees should be considering this question as well.

Article 9 – engineering funds for Whitney Pond treatment facility – $600,00 funded by the water user rate payers. The Water Department had previously established a new capital charge on their rates billing so as to mitigate a large spike in water users’ costs.

Article 10 – Whitney Pond Well #3 – new well to be funded.

Article 11 – purchase conservation restriction to protect Zone 1 around the new Whitney Pond Well #3.

Article 12 – expansion of the sewer district to 108 Pleasant St: no cost impact to the Town.

Article 13 – Community Preservation funding accounts: These figures will be provided in a few days. He updated the committee regarding the proposed projects that were submitted and approved by the CFA committee. He added that CPC Proposal B was reduced from $120,000 to $20,000 (the new ask being for funding for the feasibility study only). He noted CPC Proposal H – Groton Dunstable Field Restoration plan: the plan is to fund $90,000 of the $234,080 total via the unallocated reserve and bond the remainder over 5 years. The first year of impact from this project on debt service would be in FY2023. He added that CPC Proposal I – conservation fund FY 2022 will be funded from unallocated reserve fund as well.

Article 15 – grant an easement for sewer connection to 227 Boston Road: The property owner is working with the Town to connect a sewage disposal line transecting a section of the Country Club lot next to the street. No cost is expected to be incurred by the Town. Mr. Robertson pointed out that this property is being improved in such a way as to generate additional tax revenue for the Town. Mr. Manugian wondered if it was possible to run the pipe down Boston Rd, and if so, if that was cost prohibitive. Mr. Haddad believes Mass DOT had blocked that proposal, but will clarify further for Monday night.

Article 19 – transfer tax title land to Groton Housing Authority: This had been proposed as a way for the housing authority to tailor future housing development to the needs of Groton residents.
TOWN OF GROTON FINANCE COMMITTEE
Regular Session

Article 32 – relates to a Board of Assessors revaluation certification which is required to be done every fifth year.

Article 33 - Revolving funds: a standard article setting spending limits for the various revolving funds.

Articles 34 – gives the Assessors the right to grant tax exemptions based on various criteria.

Mr. Haddad noted the public hearing for the 2021 ATM is March 15, 2021, and if continued, the second meeting will be on March 22nd. The Select Board will finalize the budget and the Warrant between March 29th and April 5, 2021 and post to the public on April 16th for Town Meeting on May 1, 2021. Mr. Haddad noted that he expects the Committee should be able to vote on the final budget by March 30th. He announced that the updated warrant will be sent to the Committee Members on Thursday 3/11/21 in preparation for the public hearing on 3/15/21. Mr. Haddad will then write his section of the report to Town Meeting in collaboration with the Finance Committee.

D.M made a motion to approve the minutes of January 11, 2021, as written. M.L. seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: AYE – Robertson, Whitefield, Doody, Green, Manugian, Linskey. The motion carried 6-0-0.

D.M made a motion to approve the minutes of January 3, 2021, as stated. S. W. seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: AYE – Robertson, Whitefield, Doody, Green, Manugian, Linskey. The motion carried 6-0-0.

The draft meeting minutes of February 9, 2021 were tabled to the next Committee meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for Monday March 29, 2021, at 6:00 PM. D. M made a motion to adjourn at 7:10 PM. M.L. seconded. A roll call vote was taken as follows: AYE – Robertson, Whitefield, Doody, Green, Manugian, Linskey. The motion carried 6-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Faxon

Per Diem Minute taker,

Town of Groton

Items on file:

1. Proposed FY 2022 budget
2. Draft Warrant Articles for Town of Groton ATM Town meeting 2021
3. Flo Ro Debt Service Analysis

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# FISCAL YEAR 2022 LEVY LIMIT CALCULATION

Revised: 3/4/2021

## I. TO CALCULATE THE FY 2021 LEVY LIMIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2020 LEVY LIMIT</td>
<td>$31,932,418</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD AMENDED FY 2020 NEW GROWTH</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD TWO AND ONE HALF PERCENT</td>
<td>$798,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD FY 2021 NEW GROWTH</td>
<td>$254,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD FY 2021 OVERRIDE</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FY 2021 SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$32,985,370</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## II. TO CALCULATE THE FY 2022 LEVY LIMIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2021 LEVY LIMIT</td>
<td>$32,985,370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD AMENDED FY 2021 NEW GROWTH</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD TWO AND ONE HALF PERCENT</td>
<td>$824,634</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADD FY 2022 NEW GROWTH</td>
<td>$264,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADD FY 2022 OVERRIDE</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FY 2022 SUBTOTAL</strong></td>
<td>$34,074,005</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[
\text{FY 2021 LEVY LIMIT} \quad \text{FY 2022 LEVY LIMIT}
\]
# Town of Groton, Massachusetts
## FY 2022 Total Tax Levy Calculation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2022 Levy Limit</td>
<td>$ 34,074,005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Exclusion</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Exclusion - Town</td>
<td>$ 1,541,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2022 Excluded Bond Reduction</td>
<td>$ -(1,875)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Exclusion - Sewer</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Exclusion - Water</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Exclusion - GDRSD</td>
<td>$ 485,426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total - Exclusions</td>
<td>$ 2,025,303</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Tax Levy</strong></td>
<td>$ 36,099,308</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## TOWN OF GROTON
### FISCAL YEAR 2022
#### REVENUE ESTIMATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budgeted FY 2021</th>
<th>Estimated FY 2022</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROPERTY TAX REVENUE</strong></td>
<td>$32,985,370</td>
<td>$34,074,005</td>
<td>$1,088,634</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEBT EXCLUSIONS</strong></td>
<td>$2,070,421</td>
<td>$2,025,303</td>
<td>$(45,118)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHERRY SHEET - STATE AID</strong></td>
<td>$350,846</td>
<td>$1,002,840</td>
<td>$651,994</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UNEXPENDED TAX CAPACITY</strong></td>
<td>$280,997</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$(280,997)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**LOCAL RECEIPTS:**

**General Revenue:**

- Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes: $1,556,341 - $1,665,312 = $109,971
- Meals Tax and Room Occupancy Tax: $150,000 - $250,000 = $100,000
- Penalties & Interest on Taxes: $110,000 - $120,000 = $10,000
- Payments in Lieu of Taxes: $265,000 - $265,000 = $0
- Other Charges for Services: $82,000 - $82,000 = $0
- Fees: $300,000 - $340,000 = $40,000
- Rentals: $40,000 - $28,000 = $(12,000)
- Library Revenues: $12,000 - $5,000 = $(7,000)
- Other Departmental Revenue: $725,000 - $775,000 = $(50,000)
- Licenses and Permits: $300,000 - $300,000 = $0
- Fines and Forfeits: $20,000 - $20,000 = $0
- Investment Income: $40,000 - $40,000 = $0
- Recreation Revenues: $491,939 - $600,000 = $(108,061)
- Miscellaneous Non-Recurring: $ - - $ -

**Sub-total - General Revenue**

$4,691,280 - $4,490,312 = $390,968

**Other Revenue:**

- Free Cash: $297,090 - $487,079 = $(190,989)
- Capital Stabilization Fund for GCRSD: $265,172 - $217,248 = $(47,924)
- Stabilization Fund for Tax Rate Relief: $ - - $ -
- Capital Asset Stabilization Fund: $125,100 - $475,000 = $(350,000)
- EMS/Conservation Fund Receipts Reserve: $325,000 - $300,000 = $(25,000)
- Community Preservation Funds: $ - - $ -
- Water Department Surplus: $ - - $ -
- Sewer Department Surplus: $ - - $ -
- Insurance Reimbursements: $ - - $ -
- Encumbrances: $ - - $ -

**Sub-total - Other Revenues**

$1,312,362 - $1,459,977 = $(147,615)

**WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE**

$1,388,916 - $1,404,564 = $(15,648)

**SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE**

$763,301 - $798,747 = $(35,446)

**LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE**

$214,804 - $215,905 = $(1,101)

**FOUR CORNER SEWER ENTERPRISE**

$32,805 - $68,769 = $(35,964)

**STORMWATER UTILITY ENTERPRISE**

$168,800 - $209,753 = $(40,953)

**TOTAL COMMITTED REVENUE**

$44,090,804 - $45,700,175 = $(1,609,372)
TOWN OF GROTON  
FISCAL YEAR 2022  
TAX LEVY CALCULATIONS

FY 2022 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOWN MANAGER - Proposed Budget</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Government</td>
<td>2,153,410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use Departments</td>
<td>452,856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of Persons and Property</td>
<td>4,292,278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional School Districts</td>
<td>25,047,906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Public Works</td>
<td>2,202,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library and Citizen Services</td>
<td>1,660,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service</td>
<td>1,880,887</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Benefits</td>
<td>4,496,593</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-Total - Operating Budget

A. TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS  
$ 42,186,849

B. CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS  
$ 2,426,581

C. ENTERPRISE FUND REQUESTS

D. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION REQUEST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED</th>
<th>$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Amounts certified for tax title purposes</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Debt and interest charges not included</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Final court judgments</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Total Overlay deficits of prior years</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Total cherry sheet offsets</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Revenue deficits</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Offset Receipts</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Authorized deferral of Teachers' Pay</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Snow and Ice deficit</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Other</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

E. TOTAL OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED  
$ 121,691

F. STATE AND COUNTY CHERRY SHEET CHARGES  
$ 97,077

G. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS  
$ 200,000

TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES  
$ 45,657,208

Revised: 3/4/2021

- Increased by $52,489 to reflect Union Agreements and increase in Insurance
- Increased by $5,167 to reflect Union Agreements
- Increased by $32,105 to reflect Union Agreements
- Increased by $23,964 to reflect Union Agreements
- Increased by $13,569 to reflect Union Agreements
- Reduced by $64,724 to reflect actual health insurance premiums (4% overall increase)
- Reduced by $198,799 to reflect above listed changes
- Increased by $218,426 to reflect addition of Stormwater Budget and Union Agreements
- Increased by $3,164 to reflect Governor's Budget
- Increased by $2,248 to reflect Governor's Budget
- Increased by $25,129 to reflect above listed changes
FY 2022 ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

ESTIMATED TAX LEVY
  Levy Limit $34,074,005
  Debt Exclusion $2,025,303

A. ESTIMATED TAX LEVY $36,099,308

B. CHERRY SHEET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS
  See comment: on Estimated Receipts Page
  $1,002,840

C. LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED $4,490,312

D. OFFSET RECEIPTS

E. ENTERPRISE FUNDS
  See comment: above on Enterprise Funds Adjustments
  $2,697,739

F. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS $467,679

G. FREE CASH
  See comment on Estimated Receipts Page
  $475,000
  $217,298
  $300,000

OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS
  1. Stabilization Fund
  2. Capital Asset Fund
  3. GDRSD Capital Asset Fund
  4. EMS/Conservation Fund

H. OTHER AVAILABLE FUNCS $992,298

TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS $45,750,175

FY 2022 SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) $92,968
  Surplus of $62,968 from Original Budget that was right at the Levy Limit
  Increased by $118,097
# TOWN OF GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
TAX RATE RECAPITULATION

## FISCAL YEAR 2022

### I. TAX RATE SUMMARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>la. Total amount to be raised (from Ile)</td>
<td>$45,657,207.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lb. Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources (from IIIe)</td>
<td>$9,090,807.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lc. Tax levy (la minus lb)</td>
<td>$36,006,340.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ld. Distribution of Tax Rates and Levies</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### II. CLASS TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>(b) Levy Percentage (from LA -5)</th>
<th>(c) IC above times each percent in col (b)</th>
<th>(d) Valuation by Class (from LA - 4)</th>
<th>(e) Tax Rates (c) x (d) x 1000</th>
<th>(f) Levy by Class (d) x (e)/1000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Residential</td>
<td>94.3688%</td>
<td>$33,978,737.12</td>
<td>$1,882,727,460.00</td>
<td>$18.05</td>
<td>$33,978,737.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net of Exempt</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Space</td>
<td>0.0000%</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial</td>
<td>3.7629%</td>
<td>$1,354,883.33</td>
<td>$75,072,715.00</td>
<td>$18.05</td>
<td>$1,354,883.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net of Exempt</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial</td>
<td>0.7170%</td>
<td>$258,153.06</td>
<td>$14,304,000.00</td>
<td>$18.05</td>
<td>$258,153.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>98.8486%</td>
<td>$414,566.49</td>
<td>$22,970,710.00</td>
<td>$18.05</td>
<td>$414,566.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal</td>
<td>1.1514%</td>
<td>$1,995,074,885.00</td>
<td>$1,995,074,885.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>$36,006,340.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.0000%</td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,995,074,885.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>$36,006,340.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Revised: 3/4/2021
TAX RATE RECAPITULATION
GROTON

FISCAL YEAR 2022

II. AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED

11a. Appropriations $ 45,238,440

11b. Other amounts to be raised

1. Amounts certified for tax title purposes $ -
2. Debt and interest charges not included $ -
3. Final court judgments $ -
4. Total overlay deficits of prior years $ -
5. Total cherry sheet offsets $ 21,691
6. Revenue deficits $ -
7. Offset receipts deficits $ -
8. Authorized Deferral of Teachers' Pay $ -
9. Snow and Ice deficit $ 100,000
10. Other $ 121,691

TOTAL 11b. $ 121,691

11c. State and County Cherry Sheet Charges $ 97,077
11d. Allowance for Abatements and Exemptions (overlay) $ 200,000

11e. TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED $ 45,657,208
III. Estimated Receipts and Other Revenue Sources

III a. Estimated Receipts - State

1. Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts $ 1,002,840
2. Massachusetts School Building Authority Payments $ -

TOTAL III a. $ 1,002,840

III b. Estimated Receipts - Local

1. Local Receipts Not Allocated $ 4,490,312
2. Offset Receipts $ -
3. Enterprise Funds $ 2,697,733
4. Community Preservation Funds $ -

TOTAL III b. $ 7,188,051

III c. Revenue Sources Appropriated for Particular Purposes

1. Free Cash $ 467,673
2. Other Available Funds $ 992,293

TOTAL III c. $ 1,459,977

III d. Other Revenue Sources Appropriated Specifically to Reduce the Tax Rate

1a. Free Cash...appropriated on or before June 30, 2020
1b. Free Cash...appropriated on or after July 1, 2020
2. Municipal Light Source
3. Teachers' Pay Deferral
4. Other Source:

TOTAL III d. $ -

III e. Total Estimated Receipts and Other Revenue Sources $ 9,650,868

IV. Summary of Total Amount to be Raised and Total Receipts from All Sources

a. Total Amount to be Raised $ 45,657,208
b. Total Estimated Receipts and Other Revenue Sources $ 9,650,868
c. Total Real and Personal Property Tax Levy $ 35,006,340
d. Total Receipts from All Sources $ 45,657,208
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Budgeted Receipts FY 2021</th>
<th>Estimated Receipts FY 2022</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Motor Vehicle Excise</td>
<td>$1,555,341</td>
<td>$1,665,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Other Excise</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>$250,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Penalties and Interest on Taxes</td>
<td>$110,000</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Payments in Lieu of Taxes</td>
<td>$265,000</td>
<td>$265,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Charges for Services - Water</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Charges for Services - Sewer</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Charges for Services - Hospital</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Charges for Services - Trash Disposal</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Other Charges from Services</td>
<td>$82,000</td>
<td>$82,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Fees</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>$340,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Rental</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$26,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Departmental Revenue - Schools</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Departmental Revenue - Libraries</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Departmental Revenue - Cemeteries</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Departmental Revenue - Recreation</td>
<td>$491,939</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Other Departmental Revenue</td>
<td>$725,000</td>
<td>$775,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Licenses and Permits</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Special Assessments</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Fines and Forfeits</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Investment Income</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Miscellaneous Recurring</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Miscellaneous Non-Recurring</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$4,091,280</td>
<td>$4,490,312</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Revised: 3/4/2021

Operating Budget Comparison - Fiscal Year 2021 Vs. Fiscal Year 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
<th>FY 2022</th>
<th>Dollar Difference</th>
<th>Percentage Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Government</td>
<td>$2,197,833</td>
<td>$2,153,410</td>
<td>$(44,423)</td>
<td>-2.02%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Use</td>
<td>$448,055</td>
<td>$452,856</td>
<td>$4,801</td>
<td>1.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of Persons and Property</td>
<td>$4,395,632</td>
<td>$4,292,278</td>
<td>$(103,354)</td>
<td>-2.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Public Works</td>
<td>$2,294,853</td>
<td>$2,202,359</td>
<td>$(92,494)</td>
<td>-4.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library and Citizen Services</td>
<td>$1,695,650</td>
<td>$1,660,560</td>
<td>$(35,090)</td>
<td>-2.07%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total - Wages and Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$11,032,023</td>
<td>$10,761,463</td>
<td>$(270,560)</td>
<td>-2.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service</td>
<td>$1,819,826</td>
<td>$1,880,887</td>
<td>$61,061</td>
<td>3.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Benefits</td>
<td>$4,143,463</td>
<td>$4,496,593</td>
<td>$353,130</td>
<td>8.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total - All Municipal</strong></td>
<td>$16,995,312</td>
<td>$17,138,943</td>
<td>$143,631</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashoba Tech</td>
<td>$688,273</td>
<td>$807,474</td>
<td>$119,201</td>
<td>17.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groton-Dunstable Operating</td>
<td>$22,020,595</td>
<td>$23,481,350</td>
<td>$1,460,755</td>
<td>6.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groton-Dunstable Excluded Debt</td>
<td>$648,497</td>
<td>$485,426</td>
<td>$(163,071)</td>
<td>-25.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groton-Dunstable Debt</td>
<td>$58,147</td>
<td>$56,358</td>
<td>$(1,789)</td>
<td>-3.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groton Dunstable Capital</td>
<td>$265,172</td>
<td>$217,298</td>
<td>$(47,874)</td>
<td>-18.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sub-Total - Education</strong></td>
<td>$23,680,684</td>
<td>$25,047,906</td>
<td>$1,367,222</td>
<td>5.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total - Town Budget</strong></td>
<td>$40,675,996</td>
<td>$42,186,849</td>
<td>$1,510,853</td>
<td>3.71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Revised: 3/4/2021

Operating Budget Comparison - Fiscal Year 2021 Vs. Fiscal Year 2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</tr>
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<td>$4,143,463</td>
<td>$4,496,583</td>
<td>$353,130</td>
<td>8.52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-Total                               | $15,175,486 | $15,258,056 | $82,570     | 0.54%  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>FY 2021</th>
<th>FY 2022</th>
<th>Dollar Difference</th>
<th>Percentage Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service - Excluded</td>
<td>$1,473,787</td>
<td>$1,541,752</td>
<td>$67,965</td>
<td>4.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service - In Levy Only</td>
<td>$346,039</td>
<td>$339,135</td>
<td>$(6,904)</td>
<td>-2.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-Total - All Municipal                | $16,995,312 | $17,138,943 | $143,631    | 0.85%  |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>FY 2022</th>
<th>Dollar Difference</th>
<th>Percentage Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nashoba Tech</td>
<td>$688,273</td>
<td>$807,474</td>
<td>$119,201</td>
<td>17.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groton-Dunstable Operating</td>
<td>$22,020,595</td>
<td>$23,481,350</td>
<td>$1,460,755</td>
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<td>$56,358</td>
<td>$(1,789)</td>
<td>-3.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groton Dunstable Capital</td>
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<td>$(47,874)</td>
<td>-18.05%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sub-Total - Education                   | $23,680,684 | $25,047,906 | $1,367,222   | 5.77%  |

Grand Total - Town Budget                | $40,675,996 | $42,186,849 | $1,510,853   | 3.71%  |
Revised: 3/4/2021

Operating Budget Comparison - Fiscal Year 2021 Vs. Fiscal Year 2022

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<th>FY 2022</th>
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<th>Percentage Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Wages</td>
<td>$8,092,093</td>
<td>$7,902,794</td>
<td>$189,299</td>
<td>-2.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Benefits</td>
<td>$4,143,463</td>
<td>$4,496,593</td>
<td>$353,130</td>
<td>8.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total - Wages and Benefits</td>
<td>$12,235,556</td>
<td>$12,399,387</td>
<td>$163,831</td>
<td>1.34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Expenses</td>
<td>$2,939,930</td>
<td>$2,858,669</td>
<td>$81,261</td>
<td>-2.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total -</td>
<td>$15,175,486</td>
<td>$15,258,056</td>
<td>$82,570</td>
<td>0.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debt Service - In-Levy Only</td>
<td>$346,039</td>
<td>$339,135</td>
<td>$6,904</td>
<td>-2.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total - All Municipal</td>
<td>$15,521,525</td>
<td>$15,597,191</td>
<td>$75,666</td>
<td>0.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nashoba Tech</td>
<td>$688,273</td>
<td>$807,474</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groton-Dunstable Debt</td>
<td>$58,147</td>
<td>$56,358</td>
<td>$1,789</td>
<td>-3.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Total - Education</td>
<td>$22,767,015</td>
<td>$24,345,182</td>
<td>$1,578,167</td>
<td>6.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grand Total - Town Budget</td>
<td>$38,288,540</td>
<td>$39,942,373</td>
<td>$1,653,833</td>
<td>4.32%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Reserve Fund Transfers Granted Fiscal Year 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document #</th>
<th>Date of Vote</th>
<th>Department Budget</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description of Need</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RFT #1</td>
<td>10/20/2020</td>
<td>Parks Gen Expenses</td>
<td>20,000.00</td>
<td>Well Drilling Soccer Field</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFT #2</td>
<td>10/26/2020</td>
<td>Board of Health Exp</td>
<td>8,000.00</td>
<td>Interface Referral Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFT #3</td>
<td>3/9/2021</td>
<td>Bldg Inspector Salary</td>
<td>25,000.00</td>
<td>Retiree/Succession Costs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFT #4</td>
<td>3/9/2021</td>
<td>GIS Committee Exp</td>
<td>11,500.00</td>
<td>CAI Mapping Backlog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFT #5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFT #6</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>RFT #7</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFT #8</td>
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<td>RFT #9</td>
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<td>RFT #10</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFT #11</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFT #12</td>
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<tr>
<td>RFT #13</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>RFT #14</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Voted Transfers 64,500.00

Original Budget FY21 150,000.00

Remaining Balance 85,500.00
REQUEST FOR TRANSFER FROM THE RESERVE FUND
(To be submitted in triplicate)

Advisory Board
Town of Groton

Ladies & Gentlemen:

A request is hereby made for the following transfer from the Reserve Fund in accordance with Chapter 40, Section 6, of the Massachusetts General Laws.

1. Amount requested: $11,500.00
2. To be transferred to: GIS Budget (Accounting Code 0100-5400-100-174-000-0000)
3. Present balance in said appropriation: $6,300.00
4. The amount requested will be used for (give specific purpose): To pay CAI Technologies, Invoice #10608 for tax map maintenance backlog. Copy attached.
5. This expenditure is extraordinary and/or unforeseen for the following reasons: This expense was incurred to catch up on the backlog of tax map updates from previous years. The existing GIS Budget does not include a line item for the backlog.

____________________________
Officer or Department Head

Action of Advisory Board

Date of Meeting ________________ Number Present and Voting ________________
Transfer voted in the sum of $__________________
Transfer disapproved ________________

____________________________
Chair Advisory Board

Request must be made and transfer voted before any expenditure in excess of appropriation is incurred.
# FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

**PROJECT**

**GROTON, MA - 2020 REV**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4006.00</td>
<td>TAX MAP MAINTENANCE</td>
<td>11,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IN ORDER TO ENSURE PROPER CREDIT TO YOUR ACCOUNT, PLEASE REFERENCE INVOICE NUMBER ON YOUR PAYMENT.

**ACH/WIRE INSTRUCTIONS**

Account #: 2210011462  
Routing #: 01402105

Primary Bank  
207 Route 101  
Bedford, NH 03110  
Ph.: 603-312-7223

---

**Subtotal**  
$11,500.00

**Sales Tax (0.0%)**  
$0.00

**Payments/Credits**  
$0.00

**Balance Due**  
$11,500.00

**TERMS:** AMOUNT DUE NET 30 DAYS FROM DATE OF INVOICE.

OVERDUE ACCOUNTS WILL BE CHARGED INTEREST AT 1.5% PER MONTH (18% APR) PLUS A $5.00 REBILLING FEE. DEBTER AGREES TO PAY REASONABLE COLLECTION FEES. ANY CHECK RETURNED DUE TO INSUFFICIENT FUNDS WILL BE SUBJECT TO A $20.00 SERVICE FEE.
REQUEST FOR TRANSFER FROM THE RESERVE FUND
(To be submitted in triplicate)

Finance Committee
Town of Groton

Date: 2/17/21

Ladies & Gentlemen:

A request is hereby made for the following transfer from the Reserve Fund in accordance with Chapter 40, Section 6, of the Massachusetts General Laws:

1. Amount requested: $25,000

2. To be transferred to: Building Inspector Salaries FY21

3. Present balance in said appropriation: $7,299.18

4. The amount requested will be used for (give specific purpose):
   Funding the Building Inspector's salary through the end of FY21

5. This expenditure is extraordinary and/or unforeseen for the following reasons:
The Retirement costs for the previous Building Inspector as well as the Covid-related stipend were unanticipated when the budget was originally created.

[Signature]
Officer or Department Head

Action of Finance Committee

Date of Meeting ________________ Number Present and Voting __________

Transfer voted in the sum of $__________________

[Signature]
Finance Committee Chair

Transfer NOT approved ____________________

[Signature]
Finance Committee Chair

Request must be made and transfer voted before any expenditure in excess of appropriation is incurred.
Warrant, Summary, and Recommendations

TOWN OF GROTON

2021 SPRING TOWN MEETING

Groton-Dunstable Middle School Track
342 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts 01450

Beginning Saturday, May 1, 2021 @ 10:00 AM

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers

Please bring this Report to Town Meeting

THE BUDGET HANDOUT FOR ARTICLE 4 IS AVAILABLE IN THE BACK OF THE WARRANT
Pandemic Safety Procedures for Town Meeting

Due to the pandemic, the Spring Town Meeting will be held outdoors on the field behind the Florence Roche Elementary School. Voters and non-voters attending the meeting are asked to follow these procedures:

- Attendees should wear masks, even while speaking, and observe social distancing whenever possible.
- Keep at least 6-feet of distance from others while in the voter check-in line.
- Voters should arrive early, check-in, receive a voter card, and proceed directly to a seat.
- A cart will be available for anyone who needs assistance moving from the parking lot to the field.
- Single and household-pair seating will be six or more feet apart and should not be moved. Attendees may bring their own chairs.
- Children may accompany parents who are asked to bring a seat for the child. Families with two or more children are asked to provide their own chairs.
- Voters will speak from their seats when called on by the moderator. Wireless microphones will be brought by an usher and sanitized between uses.
- Voting will be by raised voter card and not by voice.
- Anyone unable to wear a mask may sit in a reserved section with a dedicated microphone.
- At the end of the meeting, voters are asked to observe social distancing while exiting the field.

Rain Date: In the event of inclement weather, the Town Meeting will be held the following day, May 2\textsuperscript{nd} at 1 p.m. in the same location. If the Town Moderator postpones the meeting, notice will be made on the town website, posted in three public places, and through news and social media.

Please direct questions regarding the meeting procedures to Jason Kauppi, Town Moderator, at moderator@townofgroton.org or call 978-391-4506.
Town Meeting Access for Voters with Disabilities

Parking – Universally accessible parking spaces are available in the parking lot in front of the Groton Dunstable Middle School South. There is a ramp providing access from the parking lot to the front door of the Middle School.

Sign Language – A Sign Language Interpreter will be provided for the hearing impaired, upon request, at least one week prior to the meeting.

Speaking at Town Meeting – There will be volunteers available to bring hand-held microphones to voters who have mobility issues or cannot stand in line and wait at the microphones.

Restrooms – Accessible restrooms are available in the Middle School South adjacent to the Middle School Track.

Transportation to Town Meeting - The Council on Aging van will be available to Groton residents attending Town Meetings at no charge. All riders will be at the meeting prior to the start. However, the van will depart the school at 10 PM regardless of the status of the meeting. The van is wheelchair accessible. Your reservation can be made by calling the Senior Center at 978-448-1170. Seats will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

Questions or concerns - If you or a member of your household has questions or would like to request a sign language interpreter, please contact the Select Board’s Office at Town Hall at 978 448-1111 at least one week before the Town Meeting.
SPRING TOWN MEETING WARRANT  
MAY 1, 2021

Middlesex, ss.  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
To any Constable in the Town of Groton  

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn said inhabitants of the Town of Groton qualified to vote on Town affairs to assemble in the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Track in said Town on Monday, the first day of May, 2021 at Ten O'clock in the morning, to consider all business other than the election of Town Officers and on the twenty-fifth day of May, 2021 at an adjourned session thereof to give their ballots for:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vote for One</th>
<th>Board of Assessors</th>
<th>3 Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vote for One</td>
<td>Board of Health</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote for One</td>
<td>Select Board</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vote for One</td>
<td>Commissioner of Trust Funds</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
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<td>Vote for Two</td>
<td>Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vote for One</td>
<td>Groton Electric Light Commission</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
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<td>Park Commission</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
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<td>2 Years</td>
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<td>Vote for Three</td>
<td>Planning Board</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
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<td>Vote for One</td>
<td>Town Clerk</td>
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<td>Town Moderator</td>
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<td>Sewer Commission</td>
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<td>Vote for Two</td>
<td>Trustees of the Groton Public Library</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
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<td>Vote for One</td>
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<td>Water Commission</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
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<td>Vote for One</td>
<td>Groton Housing Authority</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**QUESTION 1:**

Shall the Town of Groton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation and construction of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES________ NO________
## ARTICLE LISTINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Article 1:</td>
<td>Hear Reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 2:</td>
<td>Elected Officials Compensation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 3:</td>
<td>Wage and Classification Schedule</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 4:</td>
<td>Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Operating Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 5:</td>
<td>Appropriate FY 2022 Contribution to the OPEB Trust Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 6:</td>
<td>Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 7:</td>
<td>CPA Project Funding for Replacing Middle School Track</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 8:</td>
<td>Florence Roche Elementary School Construction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 9:</td>
<td>Engineering Funds – Whitney Pond Treatment Facility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 10:</td>
<td>Engineering Funds – Whitney Pond Well #3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 11:</td>
<td>Purchase Conservation Restriction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 12:</td>
<td>Extend Groton Center Sewer District</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 13:</td>
<td>Community Preservation Funding Accounts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 14:</td>
<td>Community Preservation Funding Recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 15:</td>
<td>Grant Easement for Sewer Connection – 227 Boston Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 16:</td>
<td>Amend Zoning Bylaw – Floodplain District Regulations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 17:</td>
<td>Amend Zoning Bylaw – Medical Marijuana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 18:</td>
<td>Amend Zoning Bylaw – Clarifications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 19:</td>
<td>Transfer Tax Title Land to Groton Housing Authority</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 20:</td>
<td>Bylaw Prohibiting Polystyrene Containers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 21:</td>
<td>Citizens’ Petition – Transfer Control of Land</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 22:</td>
<td>Current Year Line-Item Transfers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 23:</td>
<td>Appropriate Funding to Offset Snow and Ice Deficit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 24:</td>
<td>Transfer Within the Water Enterprise Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 25:</td>
<td>Transfer Within the Sewer Enterprise Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 26:</td>
<td>Transfer Within Four Corner Sewer Enterprise Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 27:</td>
<td>Transfer Within Cable Enterprise Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 28:</td>
<td>Prior Year Bills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 29:</td>
<td>Authorization to Transfer Money from Free Cash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 30:</td>
<td>Authorization to Transfer Money from Free Cash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 31:</td>
<td>Debt Service for Surnenden Farm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 32:</td>
<td>Assessors’ Quinquennial Certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 33:</td>
<td>Establishing Limits for Various Revolving Funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 34:</td>
<td>Accept Law Increasing Real Estate Tax Exemptions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article 35:</td>
<td>Accept Provisions of M.G.L., c.59, §5, Clause 22F</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Budget Report of the Town Manager and Finance Committee to Town Meeting  
Appendix A – Fiscal Year 2022 Proposed Operating Budget  
Appendix B – Fiscal Year 2022 Wage and Classification Schedule
ARTICLE 1: HEAR REPORTS

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Select Board and other Town Officers and Committees, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: To hear reports of Town Boards, Committees and Commissions and to accept the annual report and other reports that may be presented to Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 2: ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to set the compensation for the elected officials of the Town for the ensuing year, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: To provide compensation for elected officials as proposed by the Town Manager. The Town Clerk shall receive a salary of $90,853 in FY 2022 and the Moderator shall receive a salary of $65 in FY 2022.

ARTICLE 3: WAGE AND CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

To see if the Town will vote to amend and adopt for Fiscal Year 2022 the Town of Groton Wage and Classification schedule as shown in Appendix B of this Warrant, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: The purpose of this Article is to set the wage and classification schedule for the three (3) employees covered by the Personnel Bylaw. Under the policy of the Select Board, these employees receive the same benefits as contained in the Town Supervisors' Union Contract. These employees will not receive a cost-of-living adjustment in Fiscal Year 2022.
ARTICLE 4:    FISCAL YEAR 2022 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the next fiscal year (2022), and act upon the budget of the Finance Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary:  In accordance with Section 6 of the Town Charter, the Finance Committee conducts its annual budget process by receiving the Town Manager’s proposed balanced budget on or before December 31st; meeting with department heads and boards; holding public budget hearings in preparation for issuing its recommendations to Town Meeting; and presenting its budget recommendations at the Spring Town Meeting. The budget handout for this Article is contained in Appendix A of this Warrant. Please also see the Finance Committee’s and Town Manager’s Report which includes the Finance Committee’s and Select Board’s recommendations.

ARTICLE 5:    APPROPRIATE FY 2022 CONTRIBUTION TO THE OPEB TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32B, Section 20, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary:  The purpose of this article is to fund the Town’s OPEB Liability. The Select Board and Finance Committee have adopted a funding policy for this purpose. One of the funding goals is to commit to an annual appropriation to the Trust that would keep the Net Present Value Liability from growing until such time as the Town can begin to pay down the liability. In Fiscal Year 2022, the anticipated amount necessary for this purpose is estimated to be $177,094. This Article will seek an appropriation of $177,094 from Free Cash to add to the OPEB Liability Trust Fund.
ARTICLE 6: FISCAL YEAR 2022 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the purpose of funding the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget, or to take another other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Summary: The following is the proposed Town Manager’s Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022:

Item #1 – Engine 1 Refurbishment $225,000 Fire/EMS

Summary: Engine 1 is a truck that is currently in good condition thus making it a prime candidate for a refurbishment to extend its life. Due to its level of use, the refurbishment would be best served earlier than with other apparatus to minimize corrosion caused by salt and other weather. This apparatus would be well served to undergo a refurbishment to extend its life in the FY2022 timeframe. Proactive refurbishment before major issues occur can save significant money on major unexpected repairs and lengthen the life of the truck.

Select Board: Finance Committee:

Item #2 – Dump Truck $40,000 Highway

Summary: This vehicle will be a scheduled replacement of a front-line truck responsible for plowing and sanding as well as normal construction duties. The anticipated cost of replacement of this truck is $185,000. It is proposed that the Town borrow the funds through State House notes and pay off the debt over five years.

Select Board: Finance Committee:

Item #3 – IT Infrastructure $40,000 Town Facilities

Summary: This item in the Capital Budget was established six years ago and has been very successful. In Fiscal Year 2022, the following items will be purchased/upgraded with this allocation: 10 replacement computers; Replace aging servers and storage arrays; Investment to expand the network and keep equipment and maintenance costs current; and network switch upgrades and increased wireless coverage.

Select Board: Finance Committee:
Item #4 – Municipal Building Repairs $25,000 Town Facilities

Summary: This appropriation will be used to continue to maintain all municipal buildings by performing various maintenance activities to prevent major breakdowns in our municipal building infrastructure. In FY 2022, these funds will be used to perform brick pointing on town hall by the back door as well at Legion Hall.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #5 – Tractor Trailer Unit $40,000 Transfer Station

Summary: At the 2018 Spring Town Meeting, the Meeting authorized the acquisition of a new Tractor Trailer Unit for the Transfer Station by borrowing the necessary funds ($160,000) through the Commonwealth’s State House Notes method and pay off the debt over four years. This will be the final payment for the Unit.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #6 – Reconstruct Library Parking Lot $45,000 Library

Summary: The parking lot behind the library has been patched and repaired, but in FY 2022 it will be 23 years old. It is worn, tired, cracking, not draining water properly, and becoming uneven in spots. It will need a full and complete reconstruction.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #7 – Property Improvements $25,000 Park Department

Summary: The Park Commission has been working over the past several years developing a strategy to address deficiencies in the various Park Department Properties located throughout Groton. By appropriating $25,000 each year, the Park Commission can develop a capital improvement program that will allow them to keep our various park locations in good shape and avoid a major construction project.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #8 – Golf Carts $25,000 Country Club

Summary: Seven years ago, we replaced the fleet of twenty-five golf carts with new 2012 Club Car DS gas powered carts using a five-year lease to purchase agreement at an annual cost of approximately $25,000. Beginning in FY 2022, the Club will need to replace the Carts in the same manner.
Item #9 – Cart Path/Tee Box Repairs $10,000 Country Club

Summary: This funding will be used to extend the Cart Path from the fourth hole green to the fifth hole forward tee. In addition, it will pay for repairs the second hole tee box.

Item #10 – Country Club Roof $50,000 Town Facilities

Summary: This is a needed replacement of the roof on the main building. The Tavern Building's roof was repaired four years ago. The back of the main building is in reasonable shape, but the front of the building is need of replacement.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #11 – Police Cruiser $100,000 Police Department

Summary: Purchase of two police cruisers and related equipment for replacement of cruisers that are no longer cost effective to maintain. This allows for lesser mileage per year, better maintenance scheduling, assignment of cars to officers and for a programmed replacement schedule that ensures line cars are rotated out at reasonable mileage and wear. Un-marked cars are rotated in the same fashion.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

TOWN MANAGER

ARTICLE 7: CPA RECOMMENDATION – MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK

To see if the Town will vote to adopt and approve the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the General Laws, to construct a new Middle School Track, and all costs associated and related thereto, and to implement such recommendation, borrow pursuant to any applicable statute and/or appropriate a sum or sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the General Laws, said funds to be expended by the Town Manager, or to take other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Summary: The sitework expenses associated with the Florence Roche School project campus track relocation are not eligible for reimbursement through the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). Approval of this Article will authorize the track relocation expenses to be paid for with Community Preservation Funds. These funds include an annual state match to local dollars; construction costs for residents will be reduced by over half a million dollars. Relocation of the track will only occur if the Florence Roche Elementary School Project is approved at Town Meeting and at the Ballot.

ARTICLE 8: FLORENCE ROCHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of Florence Roche Elementary School Building Committee, for the design and construction of a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation and construction of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto, which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children of at least 50 years and for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"). The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town. Any grant that the Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-three and thirty-nine hundredths percent (53.39%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; or to take any other action relative thereto.

FLORENCE ROCHE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: An extensive Feasibility Study of K-4 education of Groton students has determined that the most cost effective and educationally beneficial solution is to rebuild the Florence Roche Elementary School on the current parcel. The relocation of the Middle School Track is an incidental cost to the Florence Roche Elementary School Building Project. As outlined in the GDRSD Regional Agreement, capital expenses are assessed to each member town based on the five-year rolling enrollment average per building. Because no Dunstable students have attended Florence Roche in recent years the cost of the Florence Roche Elementary School construction is the sole responsibility of the Town of Groton. Approval of this Article allows for short-term borrowing of funds for construction. The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) reimbursements will be made during the construction phase. Approval of this Article allows for long-term consolidation of borrowed funds once construction has been completed; which is estimated to be in 2025. As stated in the Article, a Debt Exclusion of Proposition 2½ at the Annual Town Election will also be required.
ARTICLE 9: ENGINEERING FUNDS -- WHITNEY POND TREATMENT FACILITY

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Groton Board of Selectman on behalf of the Board of Water Commissioners to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow, pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Board of Water Commissioners, for the Engineering Design Services and Owners Project Manager Services related to the Whitney Pond Water Treatment Facility in Fiscal Year 2021, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Water Commissioners:

Summary: This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend the sum of $______, to be raised through water rates, for the Design Engineering Services and the Owners Project Manager services related to the new Manganese Treatment Facility at the Whitney Pond Well Site.

ARTICLE 10: ENGINEERING FUNDS — WHITNEY POND WELL #3

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Groton Board of Selectman on behalf of the Board of Water Commissioners to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow, pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Board of Water Commissioners, for the Engineering Design Services and Owners Project Manager Services related to the new Whitney Pond Well #3, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Water Commissioners:

Summary: This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend funds, to be raised through water rates, for the Design Engineering Services and the Owners Project Manager services related to the new source well at the Whitney Pond Well Field (Whitney Pond Well #3).
ARTICLE 11: PURCHASE CONSERVATION RESTRICTION

To see if the Town will vote to Authorize the Select Board, on behalf of the Board of Water Commissioners, to purchase a Conservation Restriction on a parcel of land identified as Map 128 Lot 3-0 for purposes of the Water Commissioners controlling and/or owning the Zone I as identified under 310 CMR 22.00, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Board of Water Commissioners:

Summary: This article is for the purchase of a Conservation Restriction of approximately XXX (X) acre of land associated with proposed future Whitney Pond Well #3. This Department of Environmental Protection requirement is needed in order to secure the entire 400’ radius around municipal drinking water well head known as the Zone I as identified under 310 CMR 22.00.

ARTICLE 12: EXTEND GROTON CENTER SEWER DISTRICT

To see if the Town will vote to extend the "Groton Center Sewer District" as established by the vote of the Special Town Meeting of February 6, 1989, under Article 7, and as shown most recently on the plan approved under Article 14 of the Annual Town Meeting of April 25, 2005, to include the property shown on Assessors' Map 109, Lot 43-0 (108 Pleasant Street) but only for the exclusive use of 108 Pleasant Street, anc its successors or assigns, and provided that all costs of designing, laying, and construction of the extension and any associated connection and the cost of additional capacity and the property owner's proportionate share of the general benefit facilities, and all other costs associated therewith, are paid by the owner of the property benefited thereby, whether by the assessment of betterments or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Sewer Commissioners:

Summary: This article requests authorization from the Town Meeting to expand the Center Sewer District to include 108 Pleasant Street, Groton. This article, if approved, will provide Sewer Capacity for the exclusive use of 108 Pleasant Street.
ARTICLE 13: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING ACCOUNTS

To see if the Town will vote to make the following appropriations from the Community Preservation Fund: Allocation of Community Preservation Funds to the following sub accounts:

- CPC Operating Expenses: $
- Open Space Reserve: $
- Historic Resource Reserve: $
- Community Housing Reserve: $
- Unallocated Reserve: $

or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

Summary: This is an accounting procedure that is necessary to ensure the Community Preservation Committee will have access to the funds raised during Fiscal Year 2022. Except for the CPC Operating Expenses, none of these funds will be spent without additional approval at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 14: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to adopt and approve the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2022, and vote to implement such recommendations by appropriating a sum or sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the General Laws, and by authorizing the Select Board, with the approval of the Community Preservation Committee, to acquire, by purchase, gift or eminent domain, such real property interests in the name of the Town, or enforceable by the Town, including real property interests in the form of permanent affordable housing restrictions and historical preservation restrictions that will meet the requirements of Chapter 194 of the General Laws, as may be necessary or proper to carry out the foregoing, or to take any other action relative thereto.
CPC Proposal A: Maintenance and Mausoleum Restoration $65,000

Summary: The Groton Cemetery Association is requesting $65,000 in CPA funds to repair and restore both the Maintenance Building and the Mausoleum located at the Groton Cemetery.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal B: Field and Recreation Feasibility Study $120,000

Summary: The Park Commission is requesting $120,000 in CPA funds to carry out a Feasibility Study that would include Cow Pond Fields, Woltowicz Field, and Cutler Memorial Field, to determine that they are providing maximum and safe playing surfaces on their acreage while correcting the issue of parking and travel on their properties.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal C: Non-Point Sources of Pollution $43,000

Summary: As part of the continuation of the Lost Lake/Knops Pond Long-Term Lake Management Plan, the Great Pond Advisory Committee and the Groton Lakes Association is seeking $43,000 in CPA funds to complete a major component of this plan namely the dataset identifying the non-point sources of pollution entering Lost Lake and the development of a mitigation plan to correct these problems.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal D: Site Assessment Study $150,000

Summary: The Affordable Housing Trust is requesting $150,000 in CPA funds to further explore the development of low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) rental housing. As these projects typically yield about 50 units of housing and are rental projects, the total unit count and not just the subset of affordable units would be added to the Town’s Subsidized Housing Inventory. The Surrender Farm Reserve Parcel (SFRP) is town-owned and was purchased with CPC funds. While most of Surrender Farm was set aside from open space, the Reserve Parcel was allowed to retain development potential and community housing is one of the allowed uses of parcel. Therefore, the Trust intends to continue its exploration of the site using some of the requested CPC funds.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:
CPC Proposal E: Squannacook River Rail Trail $30,000

Summary: Squannacook Greenways is requesting $30,000 in CPA funds for construction of the Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) from the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing for a total distance of .65 miles. The construction of the entire SRRT is being conducted in phases due to environmental requirements which limit construction activity to a period of between November 15th and March 15th. Squannacook Greenways is also relying on DCR Trails grants to underwrite a large portion of construction costs and has been the successful recipient in the last two rounds of grant cycles. Squannacook Greenways will be applying for a DCR MassTrails grant for FY 2022 and will be relying on CPA funds as the local match requirement. If successful, it is their intention to commence construction in November, 2022.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal F: Duck Pond Restoration, Phase 2 $20,000

Summary: The Great Pond Advisory Committee is requesting $20,000 in CPA funds to help with the continuation of the restoration and preservation work completed during Phase 1 of the previously approved Duck Pond Restoration project. Phase 2 of this project that is currently being proposed will provide three years of funds for electricity to operate the Compressor (8 months/year), three water quality tests per year, periodic muck-depth measurements ("polling"), and a written final report.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal G: Housing Coordinator $51,617

Summary: This application is requesting $51,617 in CPA funding from the Community Housing category to fund the wages and benefits of the Housing Coordinator position (25-hours/week).

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:
CPC Proposal H:  Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan  $234,080

Summary:  The Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee is requesting $234,080 in CPA funds to use towards the renovations of the GDRHS Stadium Field and GDRHS Softball Field. After assessing the conditions of the 25 acres of athletic fields in the district, these were found to be two of the three filed restoration projects that have been identified as needing to be completed in order for the fields to be considered safe and usable for the student athletes and community usage. This project will include total replacement and restoration of the stadium high school natural turf field and resolve tree overgrowth at the high school softball field to address the wet field preventing the use of the field.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal I:  Conservation Fund FY 2022  $350,000

Summary:  The Conservation Commission is requesting $350,000 in CPA funds to be added to the Town's Conservation Fund to help preserve open space, protect water resources and wildlife habitat, and preserve land for agricultural, recreational, and forestry activities. The Conservation Fund allows the Town to move quickly in the event a priority parcel becomes available. In the past, the Conservation Fund has been used to purchase Conservation Restrictions, Agricultural Preservation Restrictions, and fee ownership of conservation land in the Town. The Commission's goal is to maintain an amount between $750,000 and $1,000,000 in the Conservation Fund. As of the December 1, 2020 the Conservation Fund balance is $320,129.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal J:  Multi-Use Recreational Courts  $170,184

Summary:  Friends of Groton Pickleball is requesting $170,184 in CPA funds to help fund the restoration project at the Groton Country Club that will create new multi-use recreational courts, consisting of 8 pickleball courts, 1 tennis court and adding a half basketball court.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:
CPC Proposal K: Original Interior Skylight Restoration $3,000

Summary: The Groton Public Library is requesting $3,000 in CPA funds to restore and fortify the original piece of the building fabric that is part of the library's original interior skylight.

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 15: GRANT EASEMENT FOR SEWER CONNECTION – 227 BOSTON ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to grant an easement to Christine R. and Kevin J. Lindemer, and their successors and assigns, for the purpose of placing and maintaining a subsurface sewage disposal line to service 227 Boston Road below existing grade surface and under the surface of Town owned property under the control of the Select Board located at 94 Lovers Lane, shown on Assessors Map 115, Parcel 34, Recorded Deed Book 20265, Page 302 at the South Middlesex Registry of Deeds, as shown on the plan on file with the Office of the Town Clerk, on terms and conditions deemed by the Select Board to be in the best interest of the Town, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary:
ARTICLE 16: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – FLOODPLAIN DISTRICT REGULATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning By-laws by deleting Section 218-7.1 Floodplain District Regulations in its entirety and inserting the following in its place.

§ 218-7.1 Floodplain Overlay District Regulations.

A. Purpose: The purpose of the Floodplain Overlay district is to:

Ensure public safety through reducing the threats to life and personal injury

(1) Eliminate new hazards to emergency response officials

(2) Prevent the occurrence of public emergencies resulting from water quality, contamination, and pollution due to flooding

(3) Avoid the loss of utility services which if damaged by flooding would disrupt or shut down the utility network and impact regions of the community beyond the site of flooding

(4) Eliminate costs associated with the response and cleanup of flooding condition

(5) Reduce damage to public and private property resulting from flooding waters

B. Definitions: The following terms and definitions apply to the administration and enforcement of the Floodplain Overlay District:

DEVELOPMENT means any man-made change to improved or unimproved real estate, including but not limited to building or other structures, mining, dredging, filling, grading, paving, excavation or drilling operations or storage of equipment or materials. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

FLOOD BOUNDARY AND FLOODWAY MAP means an official map of a community issued by FEMA that depicts, based on detailed analyses, the boundaries of the 100-year and 500-year floods and the 100-year floodway. (For maps done in 1987 and later, the floodway designation is included on the FIRM.)

FLOOD HAZARD BOUNDARY MAP (FHB.M.) An official map of a community issued by the Federal Insurance Administrator, where the boundaries of the flood and related erosion areas having special hazards have been designated as Zone A or E. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

FLOODWAY. The channel of the river, creek or other watercourse and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than a designated height. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

FUNCTIONALLY DEPENDENT USE means a use which cannot perform its intended purpose unless it is located or carried out in close proximity to water. The term includes only docking facilities, port facilities that are necessary for the loading and unloading of cargo or passengers, and ship building and ship repair facilities, but does not include long-term storage or related manufacturing facilities. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59] Also [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]
HIGHEST ADJACENT GRADE means the highest natural elevation of the ground surface prior to construction next to the proposed walls of a structure. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

HISTORIC STRUCTURE means any structure that is:
(a) Listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places (a listing maintained by the Department of Interior) or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as meeting the requirements for individual listing on the National Register;
(b) Certified or preliminarily determined by the Secretary of the Interior as contributing to the historical significance of a registered historic district or a district preliminarily determined by the Secretary to qualify as a registered historic district;
(c) Individually listed on a state inventory of historic places in states with historic preservation programs which have been approved by the Secretary of the Interior; or
(d) Individually listed on a local inventory of historic places in communities with historic preservation programs that have been certified either:
   (1) By an approved state program as determined by the Secretary of the Interior or
   (2) Directly by the Secretary of the Interior in states without approved programs.
[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

NEW CONSTRUCTION. Structures for which the start of construction commenced on or after the effective date of the first floodplain management code, regulation, ordinance, or standard adopted by the authority having jurisdiction, including any subsequent improvements to such structures. New construction includes work determined to be substantial improvement. [Referenced Standard ASCE 24-14]

RECREATIONAL VEHICLE means a vehicle which is:
(a) Built on a single chassis;
(b) 400 square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
(c) Designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light duty truck; and
(d) Designed primarily not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.
[US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

REGULATORY FLOODWAY - see FLOODWAY.

SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREA. The land area subject to flood hazards and shown on a Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard map as Zone A, AE, A1-30, A99, AR, AO, AH, V, VO, VE or V1-30. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

START OF CONSTRUCTION. The date of issuance for new construction and substantial improvements to existing structures, provided the actual start of construction, repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition, placement or other improvement is within 180 days after the date of issuance. The actual start of construction means the first placement of permanent construction of a building (including a manufactured home) on a site, such as the pouring of a slab or footings, installation of pilings or construction of columns.

Permanent construction does not include land preparation (such as clearing, excavation, grading or filling), the installation of streets or walkways, excavation for a basement, footings, piers or foundations, the erection of temporary forms or the installation of accessory buildings such as garages or sheds not
occupied as dwelling units or not part of the main building. For a substantial improvement, the actual "start of construction" means the first alteration of any wall, ceiling, floor or other structural part of a building, whether or not that alteration affects the external dimensions of the building. [Base Code, Chapter 2, Section 202]

**STRUCTURE** means, for floodplain management purposes, a walled and roofed building, including a gas or liquid storage tank, that is principally above ground, as well as a manufactured home. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

**SUBSTANTIAL REPAIR OF A FOUNDATION.** When work to repair or replace a foundation results in the repair or replacement of a portion of the foundation with a perimeter along the base of the foundation that equals or exceeds 50% of the perimeter of the base of the foundation measured in linear feet, or repair or replacement of 50% of the piles, columns or piers of a pile, column or pier supported foundation, the building official shall determine it to be substantial repair of a foundation. Applications determined by the building official to constitute substantial repair of a foundation shall require all existing portions of the entire building or structure to meet the requirements of 760 CMR. [As amended by MA in 9th Edition BC]

**VARIANCE** means a grant of relief by a community from the terms of a flood plain management regulation. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

**VIOLATION** means the failure of a structure or other development to be fully compliant with the community's flood plain management regulations. A structure or other development without the elevation certificate, other certifications, or other evidence of compliance required in §60.3(b)(5), (c)(4), (c)(10), (d)(3), (e)(2), (e)(4), or (e)(5) is presumed to be in violation until such time as that documentation is provided. [US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 44, Part 59]

C. The Floodplain District is herein established as an overlay district.

1. The District includes all special flood hazard areas within the Town of Groton designated as Zone A and AE, on the Middlesex County Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) issued by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for the administration of the National Flood Insurance Program. The map panels of the Middlesex County FIRM that are wholly or partially within the Town of Groton are panel numbers 25017C0068E, 25017C0069E, 25017C0087E, 25017C0088E, 25017C0089E, 25017C0091E, 25017C0093E, 25017C0094E, 25017C1113E, 25017C182E, 25017C184E, 25017C201E, 25017C202E, 25017C203E, 25017C204E, 25017C206E, 25017C207E, 25017C208E, 25017C209E, 25017C226E and 25017C228E dated June 4, 2010. The exact boundaries of the District may be defined by the 100-year base flood elevations shown on the FIRM and further defined by the Middlesex County Flood Insurance Study (FIS) report dated June 4, 2010. The FIRM and FIS report are incorporated herein by reference and are on file with the Town Clerk, Planning Board and Building Commissioner. These maps, as well as the accompanying Flood Insurance Study, are incorporated herein by reference.

2. In A Zones, in the absence of FEMA BFE data and floodway data, the building department will obtain, review and reasonably utilize base flood elevation and floodway data available from a Federal, State, or other source as criteria for requiring new construction, substantial improvements, or other development in Zone A as the basis for elevating residential structures.
to or above base flood level, for floodproofing or elevating nonresidential structures to or above base flood level, and for prohibiting encroachments in floodways.

D. Applicability. The following requirements apply in the Floodplain District:

(1) Abrogation and greater restriction. The floodplain management regulations found in this Floodplain Overlay District section shall take precedence over any less restrictive conflicting local laws, ordinances or codes.

(2) Disclaimer of liability. The degree of flood protection required by this bylaw is considered reasonable but does not imply total flood protection.

(3) The Town of Groton hereby designates the position of Building Commissioner to be the official floodplain administrator for the Town.

E. Development Regulations

(1) No building or structure shall be erected in the one-hundred-year floodplain designated as Zones A and Zone A and AE on the Flood Insurance Rate Map.

(2) Floodway encroachment. In Zones A, A1-30, and AE, along watercourses that have not had a regulatory floodway designated, the best available Federal, State, local, or other floodway data shall be used to prohibit encroachments in floodways which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge. In Zones A1-30 and AE, along watercourses that have a regulatory floodway designated on the Town's/City's FIRM or Flood Boundary & Floodway Map (choose map which delineates floodways for your community) encroachments are prohibited in the regulatory floodway which would result in any increase in flood levels within the community during the occurrence of the base flood discharge.

(3) A building permit is required for all proposed construction or other development in the floodplain overlay district, including new construction or changes to existing buildings, placement of manufactured homes, placement of agricultural facilities, fences, sheds, storage facilities or drilling, mining, paving and any other development that might increase flooding or adversely impact flood risks to other properties.

(4) The Town of Groton's Land Use Department Development Notice of Intent review process includes the use of a checklist of all local, state and federal permits that will be necessary in order to carry out the proposed development in the floodplain overlay district. The proponent must acquire all necessary permits and must submit the completed checklist demonstrating that all necessary permits have been acquired.

(5) All subdivision proposals and development proposals in the floodplain overlay district shall be reviewed to assure that:

(a) Such proposals minimize flood damage.

(b) Public utilities and facilities are located & constructed so as to minimize flood damage.

(c) Adequate drainage is provided.

(d) When proposing subdivisions or other developments greater than 50 lots or 5 acres (whichever is less), the proponent must provide technical data to determine base flood elevations for each developable parcel shown on the design plans.

(6) Base flood elevation data for subdivision proposals. When proposing subdivisions or other developments greater than 50 lots or 5 acres (whichever is less), the proponent must provide...
technical data to determine base flood elevations for each developable parcel shown on the
design plans.

(7) AO and AH zones drainage requirements. Within Zones AO and AH on the FIRM, adequate
drainage paths must be provided around structures on slopes, to guide floodwaters around
and away from proposed structures.

vehicles to be placed on a site must be elevated and anchored in accordance with the zone’s
regulations for foundation and elevation requirements or be on the site for less than 180
consecutive days or be fully licensed and highway ready.

F. Variances,

(1) Variances shall not be issued within any designated floodway if any increase in flood levels
during the base flood discharge would result.

(2) Variances to the requirements of this section shall conform to the requirements of
Massachusetts General laws Chapter 40 A, Section 10 and Section 218-2.4B. (2) of this By-

law

(3) Variances shall only be issued upon a determinization the variance is the minimum
necessary, considering the flood hazard, to afford relief.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Planning Board:

Summary: The purpose of this article is to update Floodplain District Regulations and incorporate
required language from FEMA and DCR.

ARTICLE 17: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – MEDICAL MARIJUANA

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw as follows:

1. Amend Section 218-5.2 Schedule of Use Regulations by deleting the following titled rows in
their entirety and renumber subsequent Sections accordingly:

"96 Registered medical marijuana dispensary, up to 25,000 square feet gross floor area, see
§ 218-10.4"

"97 Off-site registered medical marijuana dispensary, up to 2,500 square feet gross floor
area, see § 218-10.4"

2. Amend Section 218-3 Definitions by deleting the following definitions:
OFF-SITE REGISTERED MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY (ORMMD)
A registered medical marijuana dispensary that is located off site from the cultivation/processing facility (and controlled and operated by the same registered and approved not-for-profit entity which operates an affiliated RMMD) but which serves only to dispense the processed marijuana, related supplies and educational materials to registered qualifying patients or their personal caregivers in accordance with the provisions of 105 CMR 725.00.
[Added 4-24-2017 ATM, Art. 22]

REGISTERED MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY (RMMD)
A not-for-profit entity registered and approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health in accordance with 105 CMR 725.100, and pursuant to all other applicable state laws and regulations, also to be known as a "medical marijuana treatment center," that acquires, cultivates, possesses, processes (including development of related products such as edible marijuana-infused products, tinctures, aerosols, oils, or ointments), transfers, transports, sells, distributes, dispenses, or administers marijuana, products containing marijuana, related supplies, or educational materials to registered qualifying patients or their personal caregivers. A RMMD refers to the site(s) of dispensing, cultivation, and preparation of marijuana.
[Added 4-24-2017 ATM, Art. 22]

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Planning Board:

Summary: The purpose of this Article is to delete obsolete references to registered medical marijuana dispensaries in the Zoning By-Law Table of Uses and Definitions. The land use permitting for Medical Marijuana became absorbed into Non-Medical Marijuana following the adoption of MGL 94G. The deletion of the references to Registered Medical Marijuana Dispensaries will eliminate future regulatory confusion and conflict over retail marijuana sales.

ARTICLE 18: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – CLARIFICATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw as follows:

Amend Section 218-9.4 Attached Accessory Apartment by deleting the word "Attached" so it reads as follows: "Section 218-9.4 Accessory Apartment"

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Planning Board:
Summary: The purpose of this Article is to make cleanup and clarify various sections of the Zoning Bylaw.

ARTICLE 19: TRANSFER TAX TITLE LAND TO GROTON HOUSING AUTHORITY

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the title, jurisdiction, custody and control of Parcel 227 – 135 (Groton Assessors Map 227 and Parcel 135) from the Groton Tax Collector to the Groton Select Board for general municipal purposes, and further to authorize the Groton Select Board in turn to transfer such title, jurisdiction, custody and control of said Parcel to the Groton Housing Authority for use as Groton Housing Authority owned and operated housing on such terms deemed advisable by said Select Board, provided, however, that such title, jurisdiction, custody and control of said Parcel so conveyed shall be subject to reversion to the Town of Groton Select Board in the event that the housing use for which the conveyance is being made is not commenced by the Groton Housing Authority within a five year period from the date of conveyance, or to take any other action related thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: This property was originally owned by the North Middlesex Mutual Aid Association and used as a training site for Firefighter training. In 2012, after going unused for many years, the Town took title to it through Tax Title Possession. This article would transfer title to the Groton Housing Authority, whose goal it would be to construct Senior Affordable Rental Housing for Groton Citizens. This transfer will help us to address the needs for affordable housing in Groton and continue our policies and strategies to meet the needs of our Seniors.

ARTICLE 20: BYLAW PROHIBITING USE OF POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS

(PLACEHOLDER)

BOARD OF HEALTH

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary:

2021 Spring Town Meeting Warrant
Page 24
To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 1 of the April 24, 2006 Special Town Meeting that authorized a fee interest in 14 acres, more or less, of land to be owned by the Town and managed and controlled by the Board of Selectmen for all uses allowed by statute under the Community Preservation Act, said parcel located in the southwest corner of Lot 7 as shown on a Plan of Land entitled Community Preservation Act Acquisition by the Town of Groton, Massachusetts, prepared by Beals Associates, Inc. and dated April 21, 2006, and transfer said control to the Conservation Commission for open space and recreation purposes, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**CITIZENS' PETITION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>ADDRESS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nathan Shapiro</td>
<td>133 Shirley Road</td>
<td>Melanie O'Leary</td>
<td>21 Old Orchard Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Martel</td>
<td>10 Whiting Avenue</td>
<td>Dan O'Leary</td>
<td>21 Old Orchard Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Kolodzies</td>
<td>44 Farmers Row</td>
<td>Joshua Stark</td>
<td>9 Old Orchard Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Smigelski</td>
<td>150 Mill Street</td>
<td>Erin Stark</td>
<td>9 Old Orchard Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurie Smigelski</td>
<td>150 Mill Street</td>
<td>Stacey Vow</td>
<td>43 Joy Lane</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Select Board:**
**Finance Committee:**

**Summary:** The following summary was prepared by the petitioners and represents their view on the Article:
ARTICLES 22 THROUGH 35 WILL BE PART OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. PLEASE SEE EXPLANATION PROVIDED BY THE TOWN MODERATOR AFTER ARTICLE 32.

ARTICLE 22: CURRENT YEAR LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer certain sums of money within the Fiscal Year 2021 budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: To transfer money within the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget should the need arise. A handout explaining any necessary transfers will be available at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 23: APPROPRIATE MONEY TO OFFSET SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, to reduce the deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 Snow and Ice Budget, as approved under Article 4 of the 2020 Spring Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: This article will allow the Town to fund any deficit in the Snow and Ice Account in Fiscal Year 2021.

ARTICLE 24: TRANSFER WITHIN WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Water Department Operating Budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Water Commissioners:
Summary: This article will request a transfer of funds from Water Surplus to help fund the Fiscal Year 2021 Water Department’s Operational Expenses. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.

ARTICLE 25: TRANSFER WITHIN CENTER SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Center Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Center Sewer Enterprise Department Budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Sewer Commission:

Summary: This article allows the Sewer Department to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 Center Sewer Budget. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.

ARTICLE 26: TRANSFER WITHIN FOUR CORNERS SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Department budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Sewer Commission:

Summary: This article allows the Sewer Department to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 Four Corners Sewer Budget. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.
ARTICLE 27: TRANSFER WITHIN CABLE ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Cable Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Cable Enterprise Department budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Cable Advisory Committee:

Summary: This article allows the Cable Advisory Committee to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.

ARTICLE 28: PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money for the payment of unpaid bills from prior fiscal years, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: Town Meeting approval is required to pay bills from a prior fiscal year. A list of unpaid bills will be provided at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 29: AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM FREE CASH

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of $71.92 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the FY20, 911 EMD Grant and furthermore, to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of $167.16 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the FY20 911 Training Grant. The total to be charged to Free Cash for this purpose is $239.08, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts routinely awards the Town of Groton grant money to be used for 911 Dispatch operations. These are reimbursable grants; the award is not forwarded to the Town until after the expense has been made. In regards to the grants noted above, the Commonwealth disallowed a small portion of the Town’s reimbursement request after the vendors had been paid. These deficits must be cleared to close out these accounts for Fiscal Year 2021 year end.

2021 Spring Town Meeting Warrant
Page 28
ARTICLE 30:  AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM FREE CASH:

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of $1,861.04 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the Fire Details Agency Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: Town of Groton Fire Fighters routinely work private details when construction projects in Town involve blasting activities. These officers are compensated for their time through the Town’s payroll, and the vendor requesting the detail is billed to recover those funds. Occasionally, one of these vendors is unable to pay for the service provided (for instance in the event of a business failure) and after attempts to work with that vendor prove unsuccessful, the receivable is judged uncollectible and must be written off.

ARTICLE 31:  DEBT SERVICE FOR SURRENDEEN FARMS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum or sums of money, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5 for debt service for Fiscal Year 2022 for the Surrenden Farm Land Acquisition, as authorized under Article 1 of the April 24, 2006 Special Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

Summary: This article appropriates the debt payments for the Surrenden Farm Land Purchase. Funding for this article will come from Community Preservation Funds. The anticipated debt service for Fiscal Year 2022 is $. To fund this $ would be paid from the Open Space Reserve and $ would be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.
ARTICLE 32: ASSESSORS QUINQUENNIAL CERTIFICATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Board of Assessors, for the purpose of completing the five-year full certification program necessary to achieve full and fair cash value in accordance with the requirements of G.L. c. 40, § 56 and c. 58, §§1, 1A and 3 and the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: Assessors in every city and town are responsible for developing a Revaluation program to completely analyze and revalue all property within its borders every year. Revaluation annually, is required under Massachusetts law and is regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue’s Bureau of Local Assessment (BLA). The rationale for revaluation is to always maintain property at fair market or fair cash value to ensure equity for all classes of property. Every fifth year the Massachusetts Department of Revenue requires a full certification with BLA oversight. The Assessors are seeking $29,200 to cover the cost of for appraisal services of Real Property to be conducted by Vision Government Solutions.

ARTICLE 33: ESTABLISHING LIMITS FOR THE VARIOUS REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 44 sec 53E½ and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, to amend the Revolving Fund Bylaw to add or delete any revolving account and/or to set the FY 2022 spending limits for the various revolving funds as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program or Purpose</th>
<th>FY 2022 Spending Limit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stormwater Management</td>
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<tr>
<td>Conservation Commission</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Building Rental Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Affordable Housing Marketing</td>
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<td>Home Recycling Equipment</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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<td>Access for Persons with Disabilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boat Excise Tax Fund</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer Station Glass</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Center Fitness Equipment</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

or take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

2021 Spring Town Meeting Warrant
Page 30
Summary: This Article sets the limit of annual spending for the various revolving funds authorized by previous Town Meeting vote and currently set forth in the Town’s Bylaw for said purpose.

ARTICLE 34: ACCEPT LAW INCREASING REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, §5C1/2, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, for the purpose of increasing the real estate tax exemptions by 100 percent to all persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C1/2, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 22F, 22G, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C, 41C1/2, 42, 43, 56 or 57 of G.L. c. 59, §5, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: This article is geared toward 70+ seniors, surviving spouses (widows/widowers), legally blind persons and veterans with service-connected disabilities. It would increase the exemption under state statute up to 100% of the exemption. These state exemption programs all have different eligibility requirements (inquire within the Assessor’s office for specific eligibility requirements) in order to receive the specific exemption and are designed to help the neediest within our community to continue to remain in their homes by helping to relieve some of the property tax burden.

ARTICLE 35: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, §5, CLAUSE 22F

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, §5, clause 22F last paragraph, which, for clauses 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E and 22F of section 5, allows the Town to reduce from five consecutive years to one year the residency requirement for, making certain veterans and their surviving spouses or parents, to be eligible for the property tax exemptions of said clauses 22 through 22F under Massachusetts General Laws, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: M.G.L. Ch. 59, s.5, clause Twenty-Second F, Last Paragraph. Notwithstanding this section, in any city or town which accepts this clause, the exemptions available pursuant to clauses Twenty-second, Twenty-second A, Twenty-second B, Twenty-second C, Twenty-second D, Twenty-second E and Twenty-second F may be granted to otherwise eligible persons who have resided in the commonwealth for 1 year prior to the date of filing for exemptions pursuant to the applicable clause.
Moderator's Consent Agenda to Save Time at Town Meeting

To save time at Town Meeting, the Moderator will use a procedure known as a consent agenda. It is the bundling of non-controversial articles into a single motion to be voted on by Town Meeting. Routinely used in other towns, the consent agenda can save time by not requiring a main motion, a second, an explanation and a vote on every routine article to which there is no objection or question.

What Articles Are Included

The consent agenda will generally consist of regular housekeeping articles unanimously supported by the Select Board and Finance Committee. The warrant identifies which articles are proposed for the consent agenda. If the articles in the consent agenda changes prior to Town Meeting but after the printing of the warrant, voters will be advised at Town Meeting.

How Consent Agendas Work

When the meeting reaches the first article to be included in the consent agenda, the moderator will explain the process. The moderator will read the title of every article included in the consent agenda. He will pause after each article to allow any voter who has a question on the article to loudly state, "hold."

The held article will be set aside for individual consideration apart from the consent agenda. The voter who holds an article will be asked to identify him- or herself and be prepared to speak to the article later in the meeting.

After the meeting agrees on which articles to include in the consent agenda, there will be no debate and the moderator will immediately call for a vote. Every article included in the consent agenda will either pass or fail depending on the majority vote.

The articles held from the consent agenda will then be taken up individually in the order in which they appear in the warrant.

What Voters Need to Do

Town Meeting voters should review in advance the articles in the consent agenda and be ready to state which article(s) they wish to hold for individual consideration.

Any voter with questions about Town Meeting procedure may call Town Moderator Jason Kauopi at (978) 391-4506 or email him at moderator@townofgroton.org.
Hereof fail not and make return of your doings to the Town Clerk on or before time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 12th Day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-One.

Alison S. Manugian
Alison S. Manugian, Chair

Joshua A. Degen
Joshua A. Degen, Vice Chair

Rebecca H. Pine
Rebecca H. Pine, Clerk

John R. Giger
John R. Giger, Member

John F. Reilly
John F. Reilly, Member

OFFICERS RETURN
Groton, Middlesex

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have this day notified the inhabitants to assemble at the time, place, and for the purpose mentioned as within directed. Personally posted by Constable.

_________________________________________  ________________________________
Constable                                      Date Duly Posted
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project - Excluded</th>
<th>Fiscal 2022</th>
<th>Fiscal 2023</th>
<th>Fiscal 2024</th>
<th>Fiscal 2025</th>
<th>Fiscal 2026</th>
<th>Fiscal 2027</th>
<th>Fiscal 2028</th>
<th>Fiscal 2029</th>
<th>Fiscal 2030</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gibbet Hill</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
<td>$146,150</td>
<td>$137,025</td>
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<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lost Lake Fire</td>
<td>$1,450,000</td>
<td>$73,150</td>
<td>$71,050</td>
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<td>$-</td>
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<tr>
<td>Center Fire Station</td>
<td>$7,730,000</td>
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<td>$477,913</td>
<td>$480,713</td>
<td>$488,313</td>
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<td>$497,613</td>
<td>$498,900</td>
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<td>$505,188</td>
<td>$477,937</td>
<td>$564,188</td>
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<td>$73,697</td>
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<td>Florence Roche</td>
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<td>$1,277,750</td>
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<td>$3,026,750</td>
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<td>$4,417,663</td>
<td>$4,392,202</td>
<td>$4,470,053</td>
<td>$4,436,340</td>
<td>$4,356,140</td>
<td>$4,231,928</td>
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<td>Regional School District</td>
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<td>$485,420</td>
<td>$414,724</td>
<td>$399,248</td>
<td>$330,139</td>
<td>$111,978</td>
<td>$-</td>
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<td>Grand Total</td>
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<td>$2,688,152</td>
<td>$3,550,751</td>
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<td>$4,564,276</td>
<td>$4,470,053</td>
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<td>Tax Impact</td>
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<td>$0.94</td>
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<td>$770.64</td>
<td>$770.64</td>
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<td>$770.64</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* - Based on FY 2022 Town Wide Assessed Valuation
** - Based on an Average Home Value of $507,000
## Excluded Debt Analysis - Town and Impact of Florence Roche Element

### Project - Excluded

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Town</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gibbet Hill</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
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<td>$ -</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost Lake Fire</td>
<td>$1,450,000</td>
<td>$ -</td>
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<td>$ -</td>
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<td>Center Fire Station</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Center</td>
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<td>$ 244,938</td>
<td>$ 238,313</td>
<td>$ 231,438</td>
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<td>$3,026,750</td>
<td>$3,026,750</td>
<td>$3,026,750</td>
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<td>$3,026,750</td>
<td>$3,026,750</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$4,208,428</td>
<td>$4,094,153</td>
<td>$4,080,321</td>
<td>$3,775,315</td>
<td>$3,762,290</td>
<td>$3,543,990</td>
<td>$3,513,565</td>
<td>$3,510,890</td>
<td>$3,472,393</td>
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### Regional School District

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>$4,208,428</td>
<td>$4,094,153</td>
<td>$4,080,321</td>
<td>$3,775,315</td>
<td>$3,762,290</td>
<td>$3,543,990</td>
<td>$3,513,565</td>
<td>$3,510,890</td>
<td>$3,472,393</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Flo Ro Only

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<td>$770,64</td>
<td>$770,64</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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* - Based on FY 2022 Town Wide Assessed Valuation

** - Based on an Average Home Value of $507,000
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Gillette Hill</td>
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<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lost Lake Fire</td>
<td>$ 1,450,000</td>
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<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
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<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
<td>$ 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center Fire Station</td>
<td>$ 7,730,000</td>
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<td>$ 0</td>
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<td>$ 0</td>
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<td>$ 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Center</td>
<td>$ 5,130,000</td>
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<td>$ 0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Highway Garage</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Roof</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florence Roche</td>
<td>$ 51,800,000</td>
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<td>$ 3,026,750</td>
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<td>$ 3,026,750</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Town Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,207,580</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,294,300</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,026,750</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,026,750</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$ 3,026,750</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$ 3,026,750</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,026,750</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Regional School District</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,207,580</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,294,300</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,026,750</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 3,026,750</strong></td>
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<td><strong>$ 3,026,750</strong></td>
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**Tax Impact**

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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>1.65%</td>
<td>1.65%</td>
<td>1.65%</td>
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<tr>
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**Flo RIO Only**

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<tbody>
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<td>1.52%</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average Home</strong></td>
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<td>$ 770.64</td>
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* Based on FY 2022 Town Wide Assessed Valuation
** Based on an Average Home Value of $507,000
## Excluded Debt Analysis - Town and Impact of Florence Roche Element

### Project - Excluded

<table>
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<th>Project</th>
<th>Orig. Amount</th>
<th>Fiscal 2019</th>
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<td>Gillett Hill</td>
<td>$3,000,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lost Lake Fire</td>
<td>$1,450,000</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Center Fire Station</td>
<td>$7,350,000</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Center</td>
<td>$5,130,000</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highway Garage</td>
<td>$4,613,000</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Library Roof</td>
<td>$1,130,000</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence Roche</td>
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<td>$3,026,750</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Town Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$33,306,750</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,026,750</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional School District</td>
<td>$-</td>
<td>$-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,026,750</strong></td>
<td><strong>$-</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Tax Impact

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Flo Ro Only</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax Rate*</td>
<td>$1.52</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average Home**</td>
<td>$770.64</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* - Based on FY 2022 Town Wide Assessed Valuation

** - Based on an Average Home Value of $507,000