



Town Manager
Mark W. Haddad

TOWN OF GROTON

173 Main Street
Groton, Massachusetts 01450-1237
Tel: (978) 448-1111
Fax: (978) 448-1115

Select Board

Peter S. Cunningham, *Chair*
John F. Reilly, *Vice Chair*
Alison S. Manugian, *Clerk*
Rebecca H. Pine, *Member*
Matthew F. Pisani, *Member*

SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2023
AGENDA
SELECT BOARD MEETING ROOM
2nd FLOOR
GROTON TOWN HALL

7:00 P.M. Announcements and Review Agenda for the Public

7:05 P.M. Public Comment Period

I. 7:06 P.M. Town Manager's Report

1. Consider Ratifying the Town Manager's Appointment of Mason Bergeron as Grounds Staff and Ryan Merrill and Jack Young as Golf Shop Staff at the Groton Country Club
2. Consider Accepting the Town Manager's Nomination and Appoint Thomas Horsman to the Historical Commission with a Term to Expire on June 30, 2025
3. Consider Accepting the Town Manager's Nomination and Appoint Cy Richards to the Weed Harvester Committee
4. Consider Approving the Installation of Stop Signs at the Intersection of Arlington Street and Gratuity Road and Hillside Road and West Street to Make Both Intersections "All Way" Stop Intersections
5. Update from Town Manager on PFAS Discussions with Town of Dunstable
6. Proposed Meeting Schedule Through the End of the Year

II. 7:10 P.M. Items for Select Board Consideration and Action

1. Consider Appointing Carole Carter with a Term to Expire on June 30, 2026 and Berta Erikson (Effective October 1, 2023) with a Term to Expire on June 30, 2025 to the Groton Council on Aging.

III. 7:15 P.M. In Joint Session with the Finance Committee – Public Hearing to Review All Articles Contained in the 2023 Fall Town Meeting Warrant Scheduled for October 28, 2023

OTHER BUSINESS

ON-GOING ISSUES – Review and Informational Purposes – Brief Comments - Items May or May Not Be Discussed

- A. Water Department – Manganese Issue
- B. PFAS Issue
- C. Green Communities Application and Implementation
- D. Florence Roche Elementary School Construction Project
- E. Town Manager's Tri-Comm Working Group

SELECT BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

- IV. Minutes:** Regularly Scheduled Meeting of August 14, 2023
 Regularly Scheduled Meeting of August 28, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

Votes may be taken at any time during the meeting. The listing of topics that the Chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting is not intended as a guarantee of the topics that will be discussed. Not all topics listed may in fact be discussed, and other topics not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.



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Town Manager
Mark W. Haddad

To: *Select Board*

From: *Mark W. Haddad – Town Manager*

Subject: *Weekly Agenda Update/Report*

Date: *September 11, 2023*

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

In addition to the Town Manager's Report and a review of the On-going Issues List, there is one item scheduled on Monday's Agenda. The Select Board will be meeting in Joint Session with the Finance Committee to conduct the Public Hearing on the Warrant for the 2023 Fall Town Meeting. Enclosed with this Report is the latest draft of the Warrant that has been reviewed and amended by Town Counsel. Also enclosed with this Report is a Memorandum from me explaining the proposed expenditures at the Town Meeting. In addition, I would respectfully request that the Select Board open the Warrant to allow for the addition of an Article. Specifically, in the Spring when I presented the Capital Budget for approval, I held out two items and informed the Select Board and Finance Committee that I would bring those two items to the Fall Town Meeting for funding from Certified Free Cash. The two items are 1) improvements to the Police and Fire Station Parking Lots (Seal Coating for \$30,000) and 2) the repaving of the Country Club Parking Lot (\$80,000). The Capital Planning Advisory Committee had recommended this approach as part of the FY 2024 Capital Budget. The proposed Article is contained the Draft Warrant as Article 3. Should the Board agree to allow its inclusion on the Warrant, the Board would need to open the Warrant, vote to include this Article, and then close the Warrant. We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.

1. Shawn Campbell has requested that I appoint Mason Bergeron as Grounds Staff and Ryan Merrill and Jack Young as Golf Shop Staff at the Groton Country Club. I have made these appointments and I would respectfully request that the Select Board consider ratifying them.
2. The Historical Commission has requested that I nominate Thomas Horsman for appointment to the Historical Commission. I would respectfully request that the Board accept this nomination and appoint Mr. Horsman to the Commission.
3. The Weed Harvester Committee has requested that I nominate Cy Richards for appointment to the Weed Harvester Committee. I would respectfully request that the Board accept this nomination and appoint Ms. Richards to the Committee.

Select Board
Weekly Agenda Update/Report
September 11, 2023
page two

4. Both the Police Chief and DPW Director have requested that the Board vote to approve the installation of Stop Signs at the Intersection of Arlington Street and Gratuity Road and Hill Side Road and West Street to make both Intersections "All Way" Stop Intersections. Approving the installation of these signs will make those intersections much safer for the motoring public. I would respectfully request that the Board vote to amend *Article X- Operation of Vehicles, Sector 2 Stop Signs* of the Town's Traffic Rules and Orders by adding these Stop Signs. We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.
5. The Groton Town Manager's and Dunstable Town Administrator's Working Group to Address PFAS at the Groton Dunstable Regional High School have held two meetings (as well as a meeting with the DEP) in advance of making a recommendation to the Groton Select Board and Dunstable Board of Selectmen on September 18th. I would like to take a few minutes at Monday's meeting updating the Board on our progress in advance of the final recommendation.
6. I would like to propose the following meeting schedule that will take the Board through the end of the year (subject to change as necessary):

Monday, September 11, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, September 18, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, September 25, 2023	-No Meeting (Yom Kippur Holiday)
Monday, October 2, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, October 9, 2023	-No Meeting (Indigenous People's Day)
Monday, October 16, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, October 23, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Saturday, October 28, 2023	-2023 Fall Town Meeting
Monday, October 30, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, November 6, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, November 13, 2023	-No Meeting
Monday, November 20, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, November 27, 2023	-No Meeting
Monday, December 4, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, December 11, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, December 18, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, December 25, 2023	- No Meeting (Christmas Holiday)
Monday, January 1, 2024	-No Meeting (New Years Day)
Monday, January 8, 2024	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting

We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.

ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

1. The Council on Aging has requested that the Board appoint Carole Carter with a Term to Expire on June 30, 2026 and Berta Erikson (Effective October 1, 2023) with a Term to Expire on June 30, 2025 to the Groton Council on Aging. I would respectfully request that the Select Board consider making these appointments at Monday's meeting.

MWH/rjb
enclosures

Revised: 9-5-2023

Warrant, Summary, and Recommendations

TOWN OF GROTON



2023 FALL TOWN MEETING

Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium
344 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts 01450

Beginning Saturday, October 28, 2023 @ 9:00 AM

Attention Voters
Please bring this Document to Town Meeting

Introduction to Groton Town Meeting

Voters are familiar with casting ballots in local and state elections, but they have another important civic duty in towns, the Town Meeting.

What is Town Meeting?

The Town Meeting is the legislative body in the town form of government in Massachusetts. Town Meeting is a formal gathering of registered voters who propose, debate and vote on measures. Groton holds at least two Town Meetings per year.

What is a warrant?

The warrant is the official notice to voters that a Town Meeting is scheduled. The warrant includes the date, time, location and a description of each subject to be acted on at Town Meeting. In Groton, the warrant must be posted in two public places and mailed to each household 14 days in advance of Town Meeting. "The warrant must contain a sufficient description of what is proposed so as to constitute an adequate warning to all the inhabitants of the town."¹ "Every action taken at the meeting must be pursuant to some article in the warrant and must be within the scope of such article."²

How does Town Meeting proceed?

Voters attending Town Meeting must first check in with the clerks and receive an electronic voting handset which is required to vote. The meeting typically acts on the articles in the order they are printed in the warrant. For each article, a main motion is made and seconded by voters and placed by the moderator on the floor for debate. Permission of the moderator is required to speak. The moderator presides and regulates the proceedings, decides all questions of order, and calls and declares all votes. After debate has ended, the moderator will call for a vote by use of the electronic voting handset.

¹ *Town Meeting Time: A Handbook of Parliamentary Law* (page 12) Johnson, Trustman and Wadsworth, Third Edition, 2001.

² *Id.*

Who can attend?

Town Meeting is open to the public. Only Groton voters are entitled to attend, speak and vote. Non-voters may be required to sit in a separate section. Non-voters may ask the moderator to speak on the topic of the debate.

How long is Town Meeting?

Town Meeting concludes when all articles on the warrant have been acted upon. Town Meeting may conclude in one session or adjourn for subsequent sessions.

Explanation of a Consent Agenda

A consent agenda is a procedure to group multiple main motions into a single motion for voting. A consent agenda saves time by eliminating the reading of multiple motions and explanations when there are no objections or questions. In Groton, a consent agenda generally consists of articles unanimously supported by the Select Board and Finance Committee. Articles that change by-laws or introduce new spending are typically not included. In this warrant, the Select Board has grouped articles in consent agendas and labeled them for easy reference.

How Consent Agendas Work

As the first step to act on a consent agenda, the moderator will read the titles of the included articles. A voter who wishes to remove an article from the consent agenda for separate debate and vote should state "hold." The held article will be set aside and acted on after the vote on the consent agenda. After the meeting agrees on the contents of the consent agenda, there will be no debate and the moderator will immediately call for a vote. Every motion included in the consent agenda will either pass or fail as a group. Voters should read the warrant and review the proposed consent agendas to identify articles they wish to remove for separate consideration.



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.

Wheelchair Accessible & Companion Seating – Wheelchair spaces, seating for people with mobility issues and companion seats are available in the center aisle on both sides of the auditorium.

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 near the entrance to the auditorium.

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. 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.

**FALL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
OCTOBER 28, 2023**

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 Auditorium, 344 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts in said Town on Saturday, the twenty-eighth day of October, 2023 at Nine O'clock in the morning, to consider all business before the Town Meeting, and on Tuesday, the seventh day of November, 2023, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., at a special adjourned session thereof at the following locations:

Precincts 1 & 3A	The Groton Center 163 West Main Street	Precincts 2 & 3	Middle School South Gymnasium 346 Main Street
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to give their ballot for the following Question:

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 financing the planning, designing, permitting, and constructing of a new water main from the Groton Water Distribution System to the Groton-Dunstable Regional High School and on Kemp Street and Groton Street in Dunstable and a portion of North Street in Groton in order to bring potable drinking water to the School and private homes, required for the treatment of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in said water supply sources and all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES_____ NO_____

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*Will be presented as one motion as a Consent Agenda

Article 1: *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. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 2: *Amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Town Operating Budget*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget as adopted under Article 5 of the 2023 Spring Town Meeting and vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2024, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee

Select Board

Town Manager

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *The Fiscal Year 2024 Town Operating Budget was approved at the 2023 Spring Town Meeting in May, 2023. Any changes to this Budget would have to be made prior to setting the tax rate. The purpose of this article is to make any necessary changes to balance the FY 2024 Operating Budget. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 3: *Fiscal Year 2024 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 2024 Capital Budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Summary: *The 2023 Spring Town Meeting approved the majority of the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Budget. Two items that were part of the Capital Budget were not funded in the Spring with the intent of bring them to the Fall Town Meeting for Funding from the Town's FY 2024 Certified Free Cash as follows:*

Item #1 – Seal Police and Fire Station Parking Lots \$30,000 Town Facilities

Summary: *Periodically parking lots need a coating to extend the life. The Fire Station was done once and will need done again as well as the Police Station. By keeping up with the parking lots it should give them an extra 10 years or so of life.*

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Item #2 – Parking Lot Improvements \$80,000 Country Club

Summary: *The Club's parking lot is in need of resurfacing and striping.*

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Article 4: *Transfer Money Into the Capital Stabilization Fund*

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 added to the sum already on deposit in the Capital Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *As of the printing of this Warrant, the Fund has a balance of \$102,911. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Capital Stabilization Fund equal to 1.5% of the total annual budget. The target amount for the Capital Stabilization Fund will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 5: *Transfer Money into the Stabilization Fund*

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 added to the sum already on deposit in the Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *As of the printing of this Warrant, the balance in this fund is \$2,398,574. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Fund equal to 5% of the total annual budget. The target amount for the Fund will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 6: *Transfer Money into the GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund*

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 added to the sum already on deposit in the Town of Groton Capital Stabilization Fund for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *As of the printing of the Warrant, the balance in this fund is \$9,240. This fund covers the Town of Groton's share of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Committee's long-range Capital Plan to address its capital needs. The target amount will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 7: *Transfer Money into the Special Purpose Opioid Stabilization Fund*

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 added to the Special Purpose Opioid Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *At the 2023 Spring Town Meeting, the Town voted to establish a special purpose stabilization fund in which to collect all Opioid Abatement Funds allocated to Groton by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Between 2022 and 2038, Groton is expected to receive approximately \$38,300 in statewide opioid settlements reached between the Attorney General and companies or individuals that allegedly fueled the opioid crisis. The funds that were received prior to the establishment of the new stabilization fund, \$4,990.48, were certified as part of the Town's Free Cash at 6/30/23 and therefore must be specifically appropriated for transfer to this new special purpose fund. Going forward, all new opioid settlement money received will be deposited directly into the Opioid Stabilization Fund. This fund will be used (consistent with state guidelines) for opioid use prevention, harm reduction, and treatment and recovery programs.*

Article 8: *Transfer Within the 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 2024 Water Enterprise Budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Water Commissioners

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *This Article will seek a transfer from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2024 Water Department's General Expense for the Operating Budget for a SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) Upgrade at the Baddacook Pond Treatment Facility. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 9: *Construct New Water Main to Address PFAS Issue at GDRSD High School*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 12 of the 2023 Spring Town Meeting by reducing the appropriation from \$16,780,000 to \$12,900,000 for the purposes of financing the planning, designing, permitting, and constructing of a new water main from the Groton Water Distribution System to the Groton-Dunstable Regional High School and on Kemp Street and Groton Street in Dunstable and a portion of North Street in Groton in order to bring potable drinking water to the School and private homes, required for the treatment of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in said water supply sources, and all incidental and related costs, including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the Massachusetts General Laws; to determine whether this appropriation shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise; provided that any appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by G.L. c. 59, §21C (Proposition 2½); or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *This Article is for the extension of municipal drinking water to the Groton Dunstable Regional High School and the surrounding properties in Dunstable on Groton Street and Kemp Street and on North Street in Groton. In 2021, the drinking water source was tested for PFAS/PFOS as required by the MassDEP. Measured levels at the High School were well over the Mass DEP's limits for potable drinking water and the drinking water source was removed from service. It appears that the surrounding properties have also been impacted by the PFAS contamination at the High School. A new water source for the High School and surrounding properties is necessary to address this issue. The estimated cost of this project is \$12.9 million. The Town is seeking all available Federal and State Grants to offset the cost of this water main extension. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 10: *Water Supply System at 500 Main Street and Taylor Street*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available fund and/or borrow, pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money for the design, bid specifications, bidding, construction, and construction administration of a water supply system at 500 Main Street and Taylor Street, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Water Commissioners

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *This article will allow the Select Board to borrow \$1,225,000 for the design and construction of a water supply system at 500 Main Street and Taylor Street. The Town would borrow these funds contingent upon a successful award of a Mass Works Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Said funds shall not be expended unless the grant is awarded to the Town of Groton.*

Article 11: *Design Services for PFAS Treatment at Whitney Pond Treatment Facility*

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 for the Engineering Design Services for a PFAS Treatment Facility at the Whitney Pond Water Treatment Facility, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Water Commissioners

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to borrow the necessary funds, to be raised through water rates, for the Design Engineering Services for a future PFAS Treatment Works at the Whitney Pond Water Treatment Facility.*

Article 12: *Adopt M.G.L., c.53, §9A - Nomination Papers for Cities or Towns*

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 53, §9A, stating, in part, that the final date for obtaining blank nomination papers for nomination to city or town office shall be forty-eight week day hours prior to the hour on which nomination papers are required to be submitted to the registrars of voters for certification, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN CLERK

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *The Town has for many years followed MGL c 53 §9A which sets certain provisions for obtaining nomination papers, which includes a deadline to obtain blank nomination papers for the local town election. The deadline set forth in the law is forty-eight (48) week day hours prior to the hour in which nomination papers are due to the Board of Registrars. This article seeks permission to formally accept this local option statute.*

Article 13: Amend Town Charter – Article 6, Section 6.4.1

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a special act that would amend the Groton Town Charter as follows:

An Act Relative to the Charter in the Town of Groton

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows:

Section 1. The charter of the town of Groton, which is on file in the office of the archivist of the commonwealth as provided in section 12 of chapter 43B of the general laws, is hereby amended by striking out section 6.4.1 and inserting in place thereof the following:

6.4.1 Budget Process - The select board, the town manager, the department of finance, and the finance committee shall meet annually not later than October 31 to determine the budgetary goals for the subsequent fiscal year. The town manager shall, after that meeting but not later than January 31, submit to the finance committee and the select board a proposed budget for the next fiscal year that shall be accompanied by a budget message, a summary, and supporting documents that follow the agreed-upon budget goals. The proposed budget shall be balanced.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments thereto before enactment by the General Court, which amendments shall be within the public purposes of said petition; or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board
Finance Committee
Groton Dunstable Regional School District Committee
Town Manager

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *The Charter requires the Town Manager to submit a balanced budget for the subsequent fiscal year to the Finance Committee and Select Board by December 31st. Unfortunately, this deadline does not allow the Town Manager to have a realistic assessment from the Groton Dunstable Regional School District and the Nashoba Valley Technical Regional School District within the proposed budget as those two organizations do not complete their budget process until the Spring. By extending the deadline by one month, the Town Manager will have more time to work with the two Regional School Districts to provide a more realistic estimate in the Proposed Operating Budget.*

Article 14: *Sale or Lease of Parcel 249-51 Hoyts Wharf Road*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board sell and/or lease for a period not to exceed 99 years, Parcel 249-51, located on Hoyts Wharf Road and consisting of approximately 10.4 acres, and to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said land, and to petition the General Court for any special legislation necessary to authorize this disposition, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *Heritage Landing LLC, developer of the proposed MGL 40B comprehensive permit project on Parcel 248-42, has proposed a residential homeownership development to include 40 houses, 10 of which will be deed restricted affordable units eligible to be placed on the Town of Groton's Subsidized Housing Inventory. To benefit its project, Heritage Landing LLC seeks to have the Town of Groton permanently restrict a portion of the Town's publicly owned land on Parcels 249-51 and 249-57. The restricted area totals approximately 14.5 acres and will benefit Parcel 248-42. Said restriction will be permanent in duration and include a perpetual easement for the Groton Board of Health to ensure maintenance of the property in its agreed upon restricted state. The Select Board has been asked to execute a Grant of a Title 5 Nitrogen Loading Restriction and Easement on Nitrogen Credit Land. Heritage Landing LLC has stated its intention to use the Nitrogen Credit Land to satisfy both Title 5 septic requirements and Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program requirements.*

Article 15: *Sale or Lease of Parcel 249-57 Cow Pond Brook Road*

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to sell and/or lease, for a period not to exceed 99 years, Parcel 249-57, located on Cow Pond Brook Road and consisting of approximately 24 acres, and to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said land, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *Please see summary for Article 14 for an explanation of this Article.*

Article 16: Create Revolving Fund for Center Building Monitor

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 71-1 of the Town of Groton Bylaws (entitled "Funds Established", by inserting the following amendment establishing a new revolving funds, to follow after the "Senior Center Fitness Equipment" revolving fund:

<u>Program or Purpose</u>	<u>Representative or Board Authorized to Spend</u>	<u>Departmental Receipts</u>
Center Building Monitor	Council on Aging Director	User fees received for use of the Center building monitoring

and, further, to amend Section 71-2 (entitled "Limitation on or increase in expenditures) by adding the following text to the end of the existing text: "The second paragraph of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40, §3 is accepted to allow any balance in the Center Building Monitor Revolving Account at the close of each fiscal year to remain available for expenditure, without appropriation for such purposes in future years."

or to take any other action relative thereto.

***Town Manager
Council on Aging Director***

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This Article creates a new revolving fund to pay for a Building Monitor at the Center in West Groton. Interest in renting the Center is at an all-time high. Fees collected for the rental of the Center will go into this Revolving Fund and will be used to pay the wages of the Building Monitor.*

Article 17: Annual Spending Limit for Revolving Fund

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 44 sec 53E½ and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, to set the FY 2024 spending limits on the following revolving funds as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY 2024 Spending Limit
Center Building Monitor	\$20,000

or take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: *The purpose of this Article is to set the annual spending limit on the newly created Revolving Fund Account at \$20,000.*

Article 18: *Accept New Public Ways*

To see if the Town will vote to accept the following ways as public ways, as recommended by the Planning Board and laid out by the Select Board:

1. Monarch Path, as shown on a plan entitled "Right-of-Way As-Built of Monarch Path, Groton, Massachusetts, Owned by Ebrahim Masalehdan", prepared by TFM Civil Engineers, Bedford, NH for Ebrahim Masalehdan, dated May 2, 2022, and on file with the Town Clerk; and
2. Cherry Tree Lane, Fieldstone Drive, and Arbor Way, all as shown on a plan entitled "Road As-Built Plan of Land in Groton, Massachusetts for Academy Hills, LLC", prepared by Stamski and McNary, Inc, 1000 Main Street, Acton, Massachusetts, dated June 27, 2023, and on file with the Town Clerk;

And, further, to authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase, or eminent domain such land and easements for the creation, maintenance, and operation of a public way, including but not limited to easements for access, grading, drainage, sloping, construction, and utilities, in all or any portions of said ways and the parcels on said ways, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *To accept Monarch Path, Cherry Tree Lane, Fieldstone Drive, and Arbor Way as public ways.*

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 9th Day of October in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Three.

Peter S. Cunningham
Peter S. Cunningham, Chair

John F. Reilly
John F. Reilly, Vice Chair

Alison S. Manugian
Alison S. Manugian, Clerk

Rebecca H. Pine
Rebecca H. Pine, Member

Matthew F. Pisani
Matthew F. Pisani, 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



TOWN OF GROTON

173 Main Street
Groton, Massachusetts 01450-1237
Tel: (978) 448-1111
Fax: (978) 448-1115

Select Board

Peter S. Cunningham, Chair
John F. Reilly, Vice Chair
Alison S. Manugian, Clerk
Rebecca H. Pine, Member
Matthew F. Pisani, Member

Town Manager
Mark W. Haddad

To: *Select Board
Finance Committee*

From: *Mark W. Haddad – Town Manager*

Subject: *2023 Fall Town Meeting Expenditures*

Date: *September 11, 2023*

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Select Board and Finance Committee with information and recommendations for the various Articles that will be requesting funding in the 2023 Fall Town Meeting Warrant. Please note the following balances in the Town's various Reserve Accounts:

Stabilization Fund:	\$2,398,574
Capital Stabilization Fund:	\$ 102,911
GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund:	\$ 9,240
Unexpended Tax Capacity:	\$ 235,261
Anticipated Free Cash:	\$2,300,000
Water Surplus:	\$ 803,000

These balances are important as we determine how to address the various requests. Please consider the following recommendations:

Article 1: **Unpaid Bills** **Requested: \$400**

There is one unpaid bill from the Groton Water Department in the amount of \$400 owed to Nashoba Analytical. Since this is a Water Department Bill, it will be paid from Water Surplus.

Article 2: **Amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Town Operating Budget**

We have been reviewing the various budgets for any potential additions/reductions. As of the writing of this memorandum, we would request the following adjustments with recommended funding source:

1. Select Board Expenses

Requested: \$5,000

The Williams Barn Committee is requesting \$5,000 to assist them in carrying out their charge with maintaining the Williams Barn. They are seeking additional funding for items not currently covered by trust funds and grants. Specifically, these funds will be used for electricity, porta-potties, and other operational expenses. This funding, since it is a recurring cost, will come from the Unexpended Tax Capacity.

2. Treasurer/Collector Salaries

Requested \$3,406

The Treasurer/Collector has opted out of the Town's Health Insurance Program. In an effort to reduce Health Insurance Expenses, the Town provides an incentive to employees who opt out of the Program. Employees receive 25% of the Town's cost for the Plan in which a particular employee is enrolled. This funding, since it is a recurring cost, will come from the Unexpended Tax Capacity.

3. IT Wages

Requested: \$7,146

With the approval of the Select Board and Finance Committee, the IT Desktop Specialist's position was reclassified and the salary increased. The amount requested is the result of the reclassification. This funding, since it is a recurring cost, will come from the Unexpended Tax Capacity.

4. Building Inspector Wages

Requested: \$630

During the development of the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, an error was made by the Town Manager in calculating the salary of the Land Use Administrative Assistant, resulting in a shortfall of \$630. This funding, since it is a recurring cost, will come from the Unexpended Tax Capacity.

5. Library Wages

Requested: \$2,600

The Commonwealth provides direct aid to public libraries. In Fiscal Year 2023, the Library received \$25,054 in direct State Aid. In order to qualify for this aid, Massachusetts General Law (M.G.L., c.78, s.19A) states that a municipality must appropriate a figure of at least the average of the last 3 years' municipal appropriations (MAR) to the library for operations, increased by 2.5%, in order to be certified for State Aid to Public Libraries. The FY 2024 Appropriation is \$2,600 short of reaching the MAR. According to the FY 2024 Cherry Sheet, the Groton Public Library is slated to receive \$29,051 in State Aid. This appropriation is necessary to qualify for this Aid. This funding, since it is a recurring cost, will come from the Unexpended Tax Capacity.

6. Town Clerk Expenses

Requested: \$4,850

The Massachusetts Municipal Association, in partnership with Suffolk University, offers a Certificate in Local Leadership and Management Program. This program is designed for municipal employees looking to further their careers in municipal management. Classes cover topics including budgeting, human resources management, and strategic leadership. The Town Clerk, with the encouragement and support of the Town Manager, applied for and was accepted in the program. This funding will cover the cost of the program and mileage reimbursement. This funding will come from Free Cash.

7. Town Clerk Wages

Requested: \$450

The Select Board has called for a Special Election on November 7, 2023 for the Town to consider a Proposition 2½ Debt Exclusion to cover the debt service for the new water main to the Groton Dunstable Regional High School to address PFAS. This funding is necessary to cover the overtime of the two Assistant Town Clerks to assist with the Special Election. This funding will come from Free Cash.

8. Election Expenses

Requested: \$7,510

This funding is needed to cover expenses associated with the November 7th Special Election. This funding will come from Free Cash.

9. Election Stipend

Requested: \$2,500

This funding is needed to cover the wages of Election Workers covering the November 7th Special Election. This funding will come from Free Cash.

10. Fire Salaries

Requested: \$5,000

The Fire Chief has opted out of the Town's Health Insurance Program. (See explanation under Item #2, Treasurer/Collector Salaries). This funding, since it is a recurring cost, will come from the Unexpended Tax Capacity.

11. Town Manager Salaries

Requested: \$8,150

The Town Manager's Contract allows the Town Manager to buy back one week of vacation pay and provides for a performance incentive based on the Town Manager's Annual Review. In previous years, this funding was transferred into the Town Manager's Salary Account at the end of the Fiscal Year. Since this has been a recurring expense, it is proposed that it be properly budgeted at the onset of the year, instead of at the end of the year. This funding, since it is a recurring cost, will come from the Unexpended Tax Capacity.

12. Debt Service

Requested: -\$179,144

The Town went out to the Bond Market in June, 2023 for Bond Anticipation Note for the remaining funds necessary to complete the Florence Roche Elementary School Market. The Town did an interest only loan of \$27 million. When the budget was developed, it was anticipated that the short-term interest rate would be around 4% and the budget was set accordingly. However, the actual interest rate came in around 2.5%, reducing the budgeted amount by \$179,144.

Article 3: FY 2024 Capital Budget

Requested: \$110,000

In the Spring when I presented the Capital Budget for approval, I held out two items and informed the Select Board and Finance Committee that I would bring those two items to the Fall Town Meeting for funding from Certified Free Cash. The two items are improvements to the Police and Fire Station Parking Lots (Seal Coating for \$30,000) and the repaving of the Country Club Parking Lot (\$80,000). The Capital Planning Advisory Committee had recommended this approach as part of the FY 2024 Capital Budget. I am recommending that we transfer \$110,000 from Free Cash to pay for these Capital Projects.

Article 4: Transfer - Capital Stabilization Fund

Requested: \$637,697

The current balance in this fund is \$102,911. The Town's Financial Policies call for a balance in this Fund of 1.5% of the Operating Budget. If all the transfers and appropriations are approved under Article 2 of this Warrant, the total Fiscal Year Operating Budget will be \$49,373,854. This would require a Capital Stabilization Fund Balance of \$740,608. Therefore, I am recommending that we transfer \$637,697 from Free Cash to add to this Fund.

Article 5: Transfer - Stabilization Fund

Requested: \$71,000

The current balance in the Stabilization Fund is \$2,398,574. Our Financial Policies state that this Fund should have a balance of five (5%) percent of our Operating Budget (\$49,373,854). This would require a balance of \$2,468,869. Therefore, I am recommending that we transfer \$71,000 from Free Cash to add to this Fund.

Article 6: Transfer - GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund

Requested: \$550,000

The current balance in the GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund is \$9,240. The FY 2024 Capital Plan for the District is currently estimated at \$550,000. Therefore, I am recommending that we transfer \$550,000 from Free Cash to be added to this Fund.

Article 7: Transfer - Special Purpose Opioid Fund

Requested: \$4,991

From the Summary in the Warrant: At the 2023 Spring Town Meeting, the Town voted to establish a special purpose stabilization fund in which to collect all Opioid Abatement Funds allocated to Groton by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Between 2022 and 2038, Groton is expected to receive approximately \$38,300 in statewide opioid settlements reached between the Attorney General and companies or individuals that allegedly fueled the opioid crisis. The funds that were received prior to the establishment of the new stabilization fund, \$4,990.48, were certified as part of the Town's Free Cash at 6/30/23 and therefore must be specifically appropriated for transfer to this new special purpose fund. Going forward, all new opioid settlement money received will be deposited directly into the Opioid Stabilization Fund. This fund will be used (consistent with state guidelines) for opioid use prevention, harm reduction, and treatment and recovery programs.

Article 8: Transfer Money into Water Enterprise Fund

Requested: \$100,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: This Article seeks the transfer of \$100,000 from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2024 Water Department's General Expense for the Operating Budget for a SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) Upgrade at the Baddacook Pond Treatment Facility.

Article 9: Construct New Water Main To Address PFAS

Requested: \$12,900,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: This Article is for the extension of municipal drinking water to the Groton Dunstable Regional High School and the surrounding properties in Dunstable on Groton Street and Kemp Street and on North Street in Groton. In 2021, the drinking water source was tested for PFAS/PFOS as required by the MassDEP. Measured levels at the High School were well over the Mass DEP's limits for potable drinking water and the drinking water source was removed from service. It appears that the surrounding properties have also been impacted by the PFAS contamination at the High School. A new water source for the High School and surrounding properties is necessary to address this issue. The estimated cost of this project is \$12.9 million. The Town is seeking all available Federal and State Grants to offset the cost of this water main extension. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.

Article 10: Water Supply – 500 Main Street and Taylor Street

Requested: \$1,225,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: This article will allow the Select Board to borrow \$1,225,000 for the design and construction of a water supply system at 500 Main Street and Taylor Street. The Town would borrow these funds contingent upon a successful award of a Mass Works Grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Said funds shall not be expended unless the grant is awarded to the Town of Groton.

Article 11: Design Services – PFAS Treatment**Requested: \$**

This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to borrow the necessary funds, to be raised through water rates, for the Design Engineering Services for a future PFAS Treatment Works at the Whitney Pond Water Treatment Facility. It is estimated that this Article will seek authorization to borrow \$

Should the Select Board and Finance Committee agree with all the proposed Free Cash Transfers, we will need to use \$1,388,998, leaving an anticipated Free Cash balance of \$911,002. In the Spring of 2023, we will need about \$300,000 in Free Cash to cover Debt Service, OPEB Trust Fund and Department Head Performance Incentives, leaving a balance of \$611,002 in Free Cash. Based on final anticipated new Growth for FY 2024 and the Final Cherry Sheet Estimates received from the State, the Budget approved at Town Meeting is currently \$235,261 under the anticipated FY 2024 Levy Limit. For the line items that are reoccurring and will be funded through taxation, we estimate utilizing \$31,932 from this amount, which will leave the Town \$203,329 under the anticipated Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2024. We had estimated a tax rate of \$16.44 at the Spring Town Meeting. Based on the changes at the Fall Town Meeting that we are recommending, the anticipated tax rate is \$16.29. The following chart is a breakdown of the anticipated rate:

	<u>Actual</u>		<u>Proposed</u>		<u>Dollar</u>	<u>Percent</u>
	<u>FY 2023</u>		<u>FY 2024</u>		<u>Change</u>	<u>Change</u>
Levy Capacity Used	\$ 35,383,886	\$	36,581,274	\$	1,197,388	3.38%
Tax Rate on Levy Capacity Used	\$ 14.13	\$	14.42	\$	0.29	2.05%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 8,958	\$	9,142	\$	184	2.05%
Excluded Debt	\$ 3,783,842	\$	4,732,786	\$	948,944	25.08%
Tax Rate on Excluded Debt	\$ 1.51	\$	1.87	\$	0.36	23.84%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 957	\$	1,186	\$	228	23.84%
Final Levy Used	\$ 39,167,728	\$	41,314,060	\$	2,146,332	5.48%
Final Tax Rate	\$ 15.64	\$	16.29	\$	0.65	4.16%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 9,916	\$	10,328	\$	412	4.16%

Attached to this memorandum is the updated Tax Levy Calculation that notes changes from what was proposed in the Spring, 2023. I look forward to discussing this in more detail with the Select Board and Finance Committee at Monday's Public Hearing.

MWH/rjb

cc: Patricia DuFresne – Assistant Finance Director/Town Accountant
Hannah Moller – Treasurer/Tax Collector
Megan Foster – Principal Assessor
Dawn Dunbar – Town Clerk
Melisa Doig – Human Resources Director
Kara Cruikshank – Executive Assistant

2023 FALL TOWN MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2023
WARRANT ARTICLES
INCLUDING PROPOSED EXPENDITURES/TRANSFERS

REVISED: 9/1/2023

ARTICLE	DESCRIPTION	Tax Levy/ Other Funds	Excluded Town Debt	Free Cash	Water Surplus	Bond Authorization	GDRSD Capital Stabilization	Stabilization Fund	Capital Stabilization
BEGINNING BALANCE		\$235,261	\$4,506,102	\$2,300,000	\$803,000	\$14,125,000	\$9,240	\$2,398,574	\$102,911
1	Prior Year Bills				\$400				
2	Amend the Fiscal Year 2024 Town Operating Budget								
	Select Board Expenses (For Williams Barn Committee)	\$5,000							
	Treasurer/Collector Salaries (For Health Insurance Buyout)	\$3,406							
	IT Wages (Position Reclassification)	\$7,146							
	Building Inspector Wages (Calculation error on Admin Wages)	\$630							
	Library Wages (To Meet Municipal Appropriation Requirement)	\$2,600							
	Town Clerk Expenses (Continuing Education Course)			\$4,850					
	Town Clerk Wages (For November 7th Special Election)			\$450					
	Election Expenses (For November 7th Special Election)			\$7,510					
	Election Stipend (For November 7th Special Election)			\$2,500					
	Fire Salaries (For Health Insurance Buyout)	\$5,000							
	Town Manager Salaries (Vacation Buyback and Performance Incentive)	\$8,150							
	Debt Service (Reduced to Reflect Lower Interest Rates)		\$179,144						
3	Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Budget			\$110,000					
4	Transfer Money into Capital Stabilization Fund			\$637,697					
5	Transfer Money into Stabilization Fund (\$49,373,854 Budget)			\$71,000					-\$637,697
6	Transfer Money into GDRSD Stabilization Fund			\$550,000					
7	Transfer Money into Special Purpose Opioid Stabilization Fund			\$4,991			-\$550,000		
8	Transfer within Water Enterprise Fund				\$100,000				
9	Construct New Water Main to Address PFAS at High School					\$12,900,000			
10	Water Supply System at 500 Main Street and Taylor Street					\$1,225,000			
11	Design Services for PFAS Treatment at Whitney Treatment Facility								
12	Adopt M.G.L., c.53, §9A								
13	Amend Town Charter - Article 6, Section 6.4.1								
14	Sale or Lease of Parcel 249-51 Hoyts Wharf road								
15	Sale or Lease of Parcel 249-57 Cow Pond Brook Road								
16	Create Revolving Fund for Center Building Monitor								
17	Annual Spending Limit for Revolving Fund								
18	Accept New Public Ways								
ENDING BALANCE		\$203,329	\$4,326,958	\$911,002	\$702,600	\$0	\$559,240	\$2,469,574	\$740,608

FISCAL YEAR 2024 LEVY LIMIT CALCULATION

Revised: 9/8/2023

I. TO CALCULATE THE FY 2023 LEVY LIMIT

A.	FY 2022 LEVY LIMIT	\$	34,157,624	
A1.	ADD AMENDED FY 2022 NEW GROWTH	\$	(479)	
B.	ADD TWO AND ONE HALF PERCENT	\$	853,929	
C.	ADD FY 2023 NEW GROWTH	\$	372,812	
D.	ADD FY 2023 OVERRIDE	\$	-	
E.	FY 2023 SUBTOTAL	\$	35,383,886	\$ 35,383,886
F.	FY 2023 LEVY CEILING	\$	62,597,103	FY 2023 LEVY LIMIT

II. TO CALCULATE THE FY 2024 LEVY LIMIT

A.	FY 2023 LEVY LIMIT	\$	35,383,886	
A1.	ADD AMENDED FY 2023 NEW GROWTH	\$	-	
B.	ADD TWO AND ONE HALF PERCENT	\$	884,597	
C.	ADD FY 2024 NEW GROWTH	\$	516,120	
D.	ADD FY 2024 OVERRIDE			
E.	FY 2024 SUBTOTAL	\$	36,784,603	\$ 36,784,603
F.	FY 2024 LEVY CEILING	\$	62,597,103	FY 2024 LEVY LIMIT

Based on \$33 million
in New Growth.

Revised: 9/8/2023

TOWN OF GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS FY 2024 TOTAL TAX LEVY CALCULATION

FY 2024 LEVY LIMIT	\$	36,784,603
CAPITAL EXCLUSION	\$	-
DEBT EXCLUSION - TOWN	\$	4,326,958
FY 2023 EXCLUDED BOND REDUCTION	\$	(1,154)
DEBT EXCLUSION - SEWER	\$	-
DEBT EXCLUSION - WATER	\$	-
DEBT EXCLUSION - GDRSD	\$	406,982
SUB-TOTAL - EXCLUSIONS	\$	4,732,786
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$	41,517,389

Reduced by
\$179,144 to reflect
lower interest rate
on FloRo BAN

Revised: 9/8/2023

**TOWN OF GROTON
FISCAL YEAR 2024
REVENUE ESTIMATES**

	BUDGETED FY 2023	ESTIMATED FY 2024	CHANGE
PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	\$ 35,383,886	\$ 36,784,603	\$ 1,400,717
DEBT EXCLUSIONS	\$ 3,741,491	\$ 4,732,786	\$ 991,295
CHERRY SHEET - STATE AID	\$ 1,077,749	\$ 1,191,143	\$ 113,394
UNEXPENDED TAX CAPACITY	\$ 6,980	\$ -	\$ (6,980)
LOCAL RECEIPTS:			
General Revenue:			
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	\$ 1,778,290	\$ 1,820,583	\$ 42,293
Meals Tax and Room Occupancy Tax	\$ 350,000	\$ 400,000	\$ 50,000
Marijuana Revenue	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000	\$ -
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 300,000	\$ 371,500	\$ 71,500
Other Charges for Services	\$ 90,000	\$ 99,000	\$ 9,000
Fees	\$ 385,446	\$ 392,000	\$ 6,554
Rentals	\$ 32,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 8,000
Library Revenues	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Other Departmental Revenue	\$ 775,000	\$ 800,000	\$ 25,000
Licenses and Permits	\$ 315,681	\$ 429,300	\$ 113,619
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 10,000
Investment Income	\$ 50,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 40,000
Recreation Revenues	\$ 605,267	\$ 700,000	\$ 94,733
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring	\$ 6,936	\$ -	\$ (6,936)
Sub-total - General Revenue	\$ 4,808,620	\$ 5,422,383	\$ 613,763
Other Revenue:			
Free Cash	\$ 619,994	\$ 788,137	\$ 168,143
Capital Stabilization Fund for GDRSD	\$ 577,026	\$ 253,407	\$ (323,619)
Stabilization Fund for Tax Rate Relief	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Asset Stabilization Fund	\$ 538,000	\$ 620,142	\$ 82,142
EMS/Conservation Fund Receipts Reserve	\$ -	\$ 525,951	\$ 525,951
Community Preservation Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Water Department Surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sewer Department Surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance Reimbursements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Bond Surplus Transfer	\$ 15,224	\$ -	\$ (15,224)
Coronavirus Recovery Funds	\$ 309,000	\$ -	\$ (309,000)
Sub-total - Other Revenue	\$ 2,059,244	\$ 2,187,637	\$ 128,393
WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	\$ 1,647,167	\$ 1,940,823	\$ 293,656
SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	\$ 837,839	\$ 889,498	\$ 51,659
LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE	\$ 223,219	\$ 230,137	\$ 6,918
FOUR CORNER SEWER ENTERPRISE	\$ 79,134	\$ 77,812	\$ (1,322)
STORMWATER UTILITY ENTERPRISE	\$ 241,095	\$ 242,520	\$ 1,425
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE	\$ 49,865,328	\$ 53,699,341	\$ 3,834,013

Final FY 2024 Cherry
Sheet. Includes:
\$1,116,143 State
Aid
\$75,000 for Van
Reimbursement

TOWN OF GROTON
FISCAL YEAR 2024
TAX LEVY CALCULATIONS

Revised: 9/8/2023

FY 2024 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

TOWN MANAGER - Proposed Budget

General Government	\$ 2,388,159
Land Use Departments	\$ 493,138
Protection of Persons and Property	\$ 4,742,597
Regional School Districts	\$ 27,718,371
Department of Public Works	\$ 2,351,495
Library and Citizen Services	\$ 1,947,870
Debt Service	\$ 4,801,562
Employee Benefits	\$ 4,930,663

Increased by \$630
for Building
Inspector Wages

Increased by
\$5,000 for Fire
Salaries

Increased by \$39,012 as
follows:

\$5,000 - Select Board Expenses
\$8,150 - Town Manager Salaries
\$7,146 - IT Wages
\$3,406 - Treasurer Salaries
\$4,850 - Town Clerk Expenses
\$450 - Town Clerk Wages
\$7,510 - Election Expenses
\$2,500 - Election Stipend

Increased by
\$2,600 for Library
Wages

Decreased by
\$179,144 to Reflect
Lower Interest Rate
on FloRo BAN

Sub-Total - Operating Budget

\$ 49,373,854

- A. TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS
B. CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS
C. ENTERPRISE FUND REQUESTS
D. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION REQUEST

\$ 49,373,854
\$ 800,142
\$ 3,044,303

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
6. Revenue deficits
7. Offset Receipts
8. Authorized deferral of Teachers' Pay
9. Snow and Ice deficit
10. Other

\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ 29,051
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -
\$ -

Increased by
\$3,997 based on
Final Cherry Sheet

- E. TOTAL OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED
F. STATE AND COUNTY CHERRY SHEET CHARGES
G. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS

\$ 29,051
\$ 98,662
\$ 150,000

Increased by
\$3,413 based on
Final Cherry Sheet

TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

\$ 53,496,012

FY 2024 ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

ESTIMATED TAX LEVY			
Levy Limit	\$	36,784,603	
Debt Exclusion	\$	4,732,786	
A. ESTIMATED TAX LEVY	\$	41,517,389	
B. CHERRY SHEET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	\$	1,191,143	
C. LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED	\$	5,422,383	
D. OFFSET RECEIPTS	\$	-	
E. ENTERPRISE FUNDS	\$	3,380,789	
F. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS	\$	-	
G. FREE CASH	\$	788,137	Increased By \$125,310 for Additional Capital (\$110,000) and One-Time Expenditures (\$15,310)
OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS			
1. Stabilization Fund	\$	-	
2. Capital Asset Fund	\$	620,142	
3. GDRSD Capital Asset Fund	\$	253,407	
4. EMS/Conservation Fund	\$	525,951	
5. Bond Surplus Transfer	\$	-	
6. Coronavirus Recovery Funds	\$	-	
H. OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS	\$	1,399,500	Increased by \$203,329 to Reflect Final Cherry Sheet and Anticipated New Growth
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	\$	53,699,341	
FY 2024 SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	\$	203,329	

**TOWN OF GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
TAX RATE RECAPITULATION**

FISCAL YEAR 2024

I. TAX RATE SUMMARY

la.	Total amount to be raised (from Iie)	\$ 53,496,011.94
lb.	Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources (from IIIe)	\$ 12,181,952.11
lc.	Tax levy (Ia minus Ib)	\$ 41,314,059.83
ld.	Distribution of Tax Rates and Levies	

CLASS	(b) Levy Percentage (from LA -5)	(c) IC above times each percent in col (b)	(d) Valuation by Class (from LA - 4)	(e) Tax Rates (c) x (d) x 1000	(f) Levy by Class (d) x (e) /1000
RESIDENTIAL	94.4262%	\$ 39,011,309.10	\$ 2,395,484,038.00	\$ 16.29	\$ 39,011,309.10
NET OF EXEMPT					\$ -
OPEN SPACE	0.0000%	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -
COMMERCIAL	3.8804%	\$ 1,603,157.92	\$ 98,441,690.00	\$ 16.29	\$ 1,603,157.92
NET OF EXEMPT					\$ -
INDUSTRIAL	0.6812%	\$ 281,437.00	\$ 17,281,600.00	\$ 16.29	\$ 281,437.00
SUBTOTAL	98.9879%		\$ 2,511,207,328.00		\$ 40,895,904.02
PERSONAL	1.0121%	\$ 418,155.82	\$ 25,676,800.00	\$ 16.29	\$ 418,155.82
TOTAL	100.0000%		\$ 2,536,884,128.00		\$ 41,314,059.83

**TAX RATE RECAPITULATION
GROTON**

FISCAL YEAR 2024

II. AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED

III a. Appropriations			\$	53,218,295
III b. 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	\$	-		
6. Revenue deficits	\$	29,051		
7. Offset receipts deficits	\$	-		
8. Authorized Deferral of Teachers' Pay	\$	-		
9. Snow and Ice deficit	\$	-		
10. Other	\$	-		
TOTAL III b.			\$	29,051
III c. State and County Cherry Sheet Charges			\$	98,662
III d. Allowance for Abatements and Exemptions (overlay)			\$	150,000
III e. TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED			\$	53,496,012

iii. Estimated Receipts and Other Revenue Sources

III a. Estimated Receipts - State

1. Cherry Sheet Estimated Receipts	\$	1,191,143	
2. Massachusetts School Building Authority Payments	\$	-	
TOTAL III a.		\$	1,191,143

III b. Estimated Receipts - Local

1. Local Receipts Not Allocated	\$	5,422,383	
2. Offset Receipts	\$	-	
3. Enterprise Funds	\$	3,380,789	
4. Community Preservation Funds	\$	-	
5. Coronavirus Recovery Funds	\$	-	
TOTAL III b.		\$	8,803,172

III c. Revenue Sources Appropriated for Particular Purposes

1. Free Cash	\$	788,137	
2. Other Available Funds	\$	1,399,500	
TOTAL III c.		\$	2,187,637

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

1a. Free Cash...appropriated on or before June 30, 2023			
1b. Free Cash...appropriated on or after July 1, 2023			
2. Municipal Light Source			
3. Teachers' Pay Deferral			
4. Other Source:			
TOTAL III d.		\$	-

III e. Total Estimated Receipts and Other Revenue Sources		\$	12,181,952
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IV. Summary of Total Amount to be Raised and Total Receipts from All Sources

a. Total Amount to be Raised		\$	53,496,012
b. Total Estimated Receipts and Other Revenue Sources	\$	12,181,952	
c. Total Real and Personal Property Tax Levy	\$	41,314,060	
d. Total Receipts from All Sources	\$		53,496,012

**TAX RATE RECAPITULATION
GROTON**

FISCAL YEAR 2024

LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED

		BUDGETED RECEIPTS FY 2023		ESTIMATED RECEIPTS FY 2024
1	MOTOR VEHICLE EXCISE			
2	OTHER EXCISE	\$ 1,778,290	\$	1,820,583
3	PENALTIES AND INTEREST ON TAXES	\$ 350,000	\$	550,000
4	PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES	\$ 110,000	\$	110,000
5	CHARGES FOR SERVICES - WATER	\$ 300,000	\$	371,500
6	CHARGES FOR SERVICES - SEWER	\$ -	\$	-
7	CHARGES FOR SERVICES - HOSPITAL	\$ -	\$	-
8	CHARGES FOR SERVICES - TRASH DISPOSAL	\$ -	\$	-
9	OTHER CHARGES FROM SERVICES	\$ -	\$	-
10	FEES	\$ 90,000	\$	99,000
11	RENTAL	\$ 385,446	\$	392,000
12	DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE - SCHOOLS	\$ 32,000	\$	40,000
13	DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE - LIBRARIES	\$ -	\$	-
14	DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE - CEMETERIES	\$ -	\$	-
15	DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE - RECREATION	\$ -	\$	-
16	OTHER DEPARTMENTAL REVENUE	\$ 605,267	\$	700,000
17	LICENSES AND PERMITS	\$ 775,000	\$	800,000
18	SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS	\$ 315,681	\$	429,300
19	FINES AND FORFEITS	\$ -	\$	-
20	INVESTMENT INCOME	\$ 10,000	\$	20,000
21	MISCELLANEOUS RECURRING	\$ 50,000	\$	90,000
22	MISCELLANEOUS NON-RECURRING	\$ -	\$	-
		\$ 6,936	\$	-
	TOTAL	\$ 4,808,620	\$	5,422,383