



# TOWN OF GROTON

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

## Select Board

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

**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2026**  
**AGENDA**  
**SELECT BOARD MEETING ROOM**  
**2nd FLOOR**  
**GROTON TOWN HALL**

6:00 P.M. Announcements and Review Agenda for the Public

6:01 P.M. Public Comment Period

I. 6:05 P.M. Town Manager's Report

1. Consider Accepting the Town Manager's Nomination and Appointing Linda Franceschi to the Williams Barn Committee
2. Review Motions and Article Assignments for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting
3. Update on Fire Department Staffing Study
4. FY 2027 Budget Update
5. Proposed Select Board Meeting Schedule through the Labor Day

II. 6:10 P.M. Items for Select Board Consideration and Action

1. Consider Approving a One Day Wine and Malt Beverages License for the Friends of Prescott Open Mic Night to be held on Friday, May 8, 2026 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
2. Consider Approving a One Day Wine and Malt Beverages License for the Friends of Prescott Paint & Sip: Ocean Beach Path to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
3. Consider Approving a One Day All Alcoholic Beverages License to the Friends of Prescott Spritz Time: A Spring Cocktail Experience to be held on Friday, May 22, 2026 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

III. 6:15 P.M. Destination Groton Committee – Provide Feedback on Groton 2036 Report

**OTHER BUSINESS** -Authorize the Town Manager and One Member of the Select Board to Sign Warrants for the Next Thirty Days

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

- A. PFAS Issue
- B. UMass Satellite Emergency Facility
- C. Fire Department Staffing
- D. West Groton Dam
- E. Main Street Study

### SELECT BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

IV. Minutes: Regularly Scheduled Meeting of April 13, 2026

### 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:** *April 27, 2026*

### TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

In addition to the Town Manager's Report, Items for Select Board Consideration and Action and a review of the Ongoing Issues List, there is one item scheduled on Monday's Agenda. The Destination Groton Committee will be back before the Board to receive feedback on their 2036 Groton Vision Report. I would respectfully request that the Board be prepared to provide them with feedback at the Meeting.

1. The Williams Barn Committee has requested that I nominate Linda Franeschi to the Select Board for appointment to the Committee. I would respectfully request that the Select Board make this appointment at Monday's meeting.
2. Enclosed with this Report are the Motions for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting (that include the Mover of the Motion). I would like to spend a few minutes at Monday's meeting reviewing this with the Board.
3. I have invited Fire Chief Arthur Cheeks to Monday's meeting to provide an update to the Select Board on Fire Department Staffing. We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.
4. With regard to the update on the Fiscal Year 2027 Budget, I want to express my continued disappointment with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts when it comes to supporting the Cities and Towns of Massachusetts. The House Ways and Means Committee released its Proposed FY 2027 Budget and they continue to turn a blind eye when it comes to providing adequate aid to Groton. It is clear that the leadership on this Committee does not support local government at all. Despite significant lobbying by the Massachusetts Municipal Association to increase Unrestricted General Government Aid (UGGA), the Ways and Means Committee absolutely ignored the MMA's urging and reduced the amount of money in UGGA from the amount contained in Governor Healey's Budget. Governor Healey proposed an increase of \$47,157 for Groton in FY 2027 and the House reduced it by \$14,117 to an increase of \$33,040. Technically, this puts the proposed budget out of balance by that amount, however, I am not recommending any reductions to the proposed budget as I hope the Senate returns UGGA to at least the Governor's proposal. Depending on the final State Budget, we will balance our budget before we set the tax rate in the Fall. With regard to Chapter 70 Aid, the Ways and Means Committee set the increase for the hold harmless districts at \$160 per student.

**Select Board**  
**Weekly Agenda Update/Report**  
**April 27, 2026**  
**page two**

5. I would like to propose the following Meeting Schedule that will take the Board through Labor Day:

Saturday, May 2, 2026 -	2026 Spring Town Meeting
Monday, May 4, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2026 -	No Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, May 25, 2026 -	No Meeting (Memorial Day Holiday)
Monday, June 1, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting (Annual Board Reorg)
Monday, June 8, 2026 -	No Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting (Annual Appointments)
Monday, June 22, 2026 -	No Meeting
Monday, June 29, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, July 6, 2026 -	No Meeting
Monday, July 13, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting (Line Item Transfers) (Call for the 2026 Fall Town Meeting)
Monday, July 20, 2026 -	No Meeting
Monday, July 27, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, August 3, 2026 -	No Meeting (Kara Vacation)
Monday, August 10, 2026 -	No Meeting (Mark Vacation)
Monday, August 17, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, August 24, 2026 -	No Meeting
Monday, August 31, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, September 7, 2026 -	No Meeting (Labor Day Holiday)
Monday, September 14, 2026 -	Regularly Scheduled Meeting

**ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND ACTION**

1. I would respectfully request that the Select Board approve a One Day Wine and Malt Beverages License for the Friends of Prescott Open Mic Night to be held on Friday, May 8, 2026 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
2. I would respectfully request that the Select Board approve a One Day Wine and Malt Beverages License for the Friends of Prescott Paint & Sip: Ocean Beach Path Event to be held on Saturday, May 9, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
3. I would respectfully request that the Select Board approve a One Day All Alcoholic Beverages License to the Friends of Prescott Spritz Time: A Spring Cocktail Experience Event to be held on Friday, May 22, 2026 from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

MWH/rjb  
enclosure

**SPRING TOWN MEETING  
MOTIONS  
MAY 2, 2026**

**CONSENT MOTION #1 – Articles 1 through 4**

**Mover: Matt Pisani**

**MOTION:** I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles as set forth in the motions in the Town Meeting Information Handout, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter, prior to the taking of the vote, requests the right to debate a specific article, then said article shall be removed from this motion and acted upon in the ordinary course of business.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 1: Hear Reports**

**MOTION:** I move that the Town's 2025 Annual Report be received and placed in the permanent records of the Town.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 2: Elected Officials' Compensation**

**MOTION:** I move that the following compensation be set for the following elected officials for the ensuing year: Town Moderator - \$1,000.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 3: Wage and Classification Schedule**

**MOTION:** I move that the Town of Groton Wage and Classification Schedule be amended and adopted for Fiscal Year 2027 as printed in Appendix B of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 4: Appropriate Funding for OPEB Trust**

**MOTION:** I move that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund authorized by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32B, Section 20.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 5: Fiscal Year 2027 Annual Operating Budget**

**MOTION 1: General Government**

**Mover: Bud Robertson**

**MOTION:** I move that Two Million Seven Hundred One Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars (\$2,701,294) be hereby appropriated for General Government as represented by lines 1000 through 1182 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$22,250 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), and the sum of \$2,679,044 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**CONSENT MOTION #2 – Motions 2-13**

**Mover: Bud Robertson**

I move that the Town take affirmative action on Motion 2 through Motion 13, under Article 5, as set forth in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter requests the right to debate a specific budget motion, then said motion shall be debated and voted upon separately.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**MOTION 2: Land Use Departments**

**MOTION:** I move that Five Hundred Ninety-Six Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Two Dollars (\$596,422) be hereby appropriated for Land Use Departments as represented by lines 1200 through 1281 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$8,125 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), and the sum of \$588,297 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 3: Protection of Persons & Property**

**MOTION:** I move that Five Million Sixty Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars (\$5,060,927) be appropriated for Protection of Persons and Property as represented by lines 1300 through 1372 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$758 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), the sum of \$350,000 be transferred from Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved, and the sum of \$4,710,169 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 4: SCHOOLS**

**a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School**

**MOTION:** I move that the sum of Nine Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand Six Hundred Nine Dollars (\$939,609) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School as represented by line 1400 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**b.) Groton Dunstable Regional School District**

**MOTION:** I move that Thirty Million One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$30,001,459) be hereby appropriated for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District as represented by lines 1410 through 1414 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$250,000 be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District; the sum of \$174,500 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); the sum of and the sum of \$29,576,959 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 5: Department of Public Works**

**MOTION:** I move that Two Million Two Hundred Forty-Seven Thousand Twenty Dollars (\$2,247,020) be hereby appropriated for the Department of Public Works as represented by lines 1500 through 1561 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, \$3,880 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), and \$2,243,140 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 6: Library and Citizens Services**

**MOTION:** I move that the sum of Two Million Four Hundred Eighty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-One Dollars (\$2,489,751) be hereby appropriated for Library and Citizens' Services as represented by lines 1600 through 1713 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$65,463 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), the sum of \$130,000 be transferred from Local Access Cable Receipts Reserved, and \$2,294,288 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 7: Debt Service**

**MOTION:** I move that Six Million Seven Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Thirty-Three Dollars (\$6,775,033) be hereby appropriated for Debt Service as represented by lines 2000 through 2005B as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$198,725 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), the sum of \$98,680 be transferred from Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved, and the sum of \$6,477,628 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 8: Employee Benefits**

**MOTION:** I move that Four Million Eight Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-One Dollars (\$4,848,431) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for Employee Benefits as represented by Line Items 3000, 3002, 3010, 3011 and 3012 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 9: Water Enterprise**

**MOTION:** I move that Two Million One Hundred Twelve Thousand Six Hundred Ten Dollars (\$2,112,610) be appropriated to be spent by the Groton Water Commission to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town of the Groton Water Enterprise Fund as represented in the Water Enterprise Budget as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$1,814,242 be appropriated from Water Rates and Fees, the sum of \$74,380 be hereby transferred from Water Enterprise Excess and Deficiency, the sum of \$33,000 be transferred from the 3M Settlement Receipts Reserved for Appropriation, and the sum of \$190,988 in the Town's General Fund Operating Budget be raised and appropriated to be allocated to the Water Enterprise for FY 2027.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 10: Sewer Enterprise**

**MOTION:** I move that One Million Thirty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-One Dollars (\$1,035,771) be appropriated to be spent by the Groton Sewer Commission to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town for the Groton Sewer Enterprise as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$924,643 be appropriated from Sewer Rates and Fees, the sum of \$74,759 be hereby transferred from Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency, and the sum of \$36,369 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2027.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 11: Four Corners Sewer Enterprise**

**MOTION:** I move that One Hundred Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars (\$103,539) be hereby appropriated to be spent by the Groton Sewer Commission for the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$62,163 be appropriated from Four Corners Sewer Rates and Fees, the sum of \$35,150 be hereby transferred from Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency, and the sum of \$6,226 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2027.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 12: Stormwater Utility Enterprise**

**MOTION:** I move that Two Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars (\$282,565) be hereby appropriated to be spent by the Town Manager to defray all operating expenses and any reimbursements to the Town of the Stormwater Utility Enterprise as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$246,869 be hereby transferred from Stormwater Utility Rates and Fees, and the sum of \$35,696 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Stormwater Utility Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2027.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 13: Electric Light**

**MOTION:** I move that the income from sales of electricity to private customers or for electricity supplied to municipal buildings, together with receipts from jobbing accounts, be appropriated for the Groton Electric Light Department, the whole to be expended by the Manager of the Groton Electric Light Department under the direction and control of the Groton Board of Electric Light Commissioners, for expenses of the Department for Fiscal Year 2027, as defined in the Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 154, Section 57, and that, if said sum and said income shall exceed said expense for said year, such excess shall be transferred to the construction fund of said plant and appropriated and used for such additions thereto as may thereafter be authorized by the Board of Electric Light Commissioners.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 6: Fiscal Year 2027 Capital Budget**

**Mover: John Reilly**

**MOTION A:** I move that Five Hundred Thousand (\$500,000) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Ambulance 2 for the Fire Department, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$500,000 under and pursuant to the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority**

**MOTION B:** I move that Seven Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-One Dollars (\$775,681) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2026 and thereafter, for the capital items identified as Item 2 through Item 19 as set forth in Article 6 of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$50,000 be transferred from the Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved, and the sum of \$725,681 be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
PFAS Free Structural FF Gear	\$ 50,000	Fire and EMS
Pick-Up Truck	\$ 75,000	Highway
Brush Mower/Field Mower	\$ 30,000	Highway
Truck Painting	\$ 25,000	Highway
IT Infrastructure	\$ 40,000	Town Facilities
Municipal Building Minor Capital	\$120,000	Town Facilities
Property Improvements	\$ 25,000	Park Department
Police Cruisers	\$147,010	Police Department
Police Minor Capital	\$ 34,750	Police Department
Electronic Control Devices - Tasers	\$ 10,500	Police Department
Golf Carts	\$ 27,000	Country Club
Ventrac Attachments	\$ 10,918	Country Club
Greens Equipment – Truckster XD	\$ 14,736	Country Club
Greens Equipment – Greens Mower	\$ 12,067	Country Club
Greens Equipment – Fairway Mower	\$ 20,000	Country Club
Greens Equipment – Rough Mower	\$ 20,000	Country Club
Roof for the Pavilion	\$ 14,200	Country Club
Communication Improvements	\$ 99,500	Police/Fire/DPW
Total	\$775,681	

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 7: Community Preservation Funding Accounts**

**Mover: Bruce Easom**

**MOTION:** I move that the following sums be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund and allocated to the following sub accounts:

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 34,000
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 113,500
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 113,500
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 113,500
Unallocated Reserve:	\$ <u>760,500</u>
Total	\$1,135,000

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 8: CPC Funding Recommendations**

**Mover: Anna Eliot**

**MOTION 1:** I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Four Million Two Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,284,000), be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-02 “Cow Pond Brook Fields Improvements”, identified on Assessors Maps as Parcels 249-40 and 249-57, that said parcels be managed, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 45, Section 3, and as it may hereafter be amended and other Massachusetts statutes relating to public parks and playgrounds, to be managed and controlled by the Park Commission of Groton, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$4,284,000, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purpose; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to file on behalf of the Town of Groton any and all applications deemed necessary under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, pursuant to P.L.88-578, or any other applications for funds in any way connected with the scope of this project, as described in Article 8.B of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority**

**CONSENT MOTION #3 - CPA Funding Recommendations**

**Mover: Aubrey Theall**

I move that the Town take affirmative action on Motion 2 through Motion 7, under Article 8, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, and as set forth in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided however that if any voter requests the right to debate a specific motion, then said motion shall be debated and voted upon separately.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**MOTION 2: Lighting Improvements – Prescott - \$9,850**

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$9,850) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-01 “Lighting Improvements – Prescott” as described in Article 8.A of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 3: Housing Coordinator – FY 2027 - \$72,929**

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Seventy-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars (\$72,929) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-04 “Housing Coordinator – FY 2027”, as described in Article 8.C of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 4: Pollinator Pathway Garden - \$2,500**

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space and Recreation Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-05 “Pollinator Pathway Garden” as described in Article 8.D of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 5: FY 2027 Housing Request - \$100,000**

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-07 “FY 2027 Housing Funds Request”, as described in Article 8.E of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 6: Cutler Softball Field Establishment - \$99,000**

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$99,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space and Recreation Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-08 “Cutler Softball Field Establishment” as described in Article 8.F of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

**MOTION 7: Boutwell Playground Renovation - \$233,923**

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Forty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Nine Dollars (\$42,329) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and One Hundred Ninety-One Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars (\$191,594) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$233,923, to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-09 “Boutwell Playground Renovation”, as described in Article 8.G of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 9: Exempt Uncontrollable Costs from the Tax Levy**

**Mover: Peter Cunningham**

**MOTION:** I move to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a special act to Adjust the Municipal Tax Levy Limit for the Town of Groton to Exempt Certain Uncontrollable Costs as set forth under Article 9 of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting, 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.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 10: Amend Chapter 168 - Stretch Energy Code**

**Mover: Rebecca Pine**

**MOTION:** I move to adopt the Municipal Opt-in Specialized Stretch Energy Code and amend the Code of the Town of Groton effective as of January 1, 2027, as set forth in Article 10 of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 11: Squannacook River Dam Repair**

**Mover: Rebecca Pine**

**MOTION:** I move that Eight Hundred Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$812,500) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the repair of the Squannacook River Dam, including all incidental and related costs, that to meet this appropriation, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of \$133,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Reserve, and, further, that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the further sum of \$679,500, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such repair; and, further, to authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase, or eminent domain such land and easements that may be necessary to complete said project and maintain said dam on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town; and further, to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a special act as contained in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, as may be necessary for the acquisition of said land or easements outside of the boundaries of the Town of Groton, 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.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority**

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**Article 12: Amend Zoning Bylaw**

**Mover:**

**MOTION:** I move to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning, Section 218-2.5.D(2) as set forth in Article 12 of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority**

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**CONSENT MOTION #4 – Articles 13 through 22**

**Mover: Alison Manugian**

**MOTION:** I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles as set forth in the motions in the Town Meeting Information Handout, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter, prior to the taking of the vote, requests the right to debate a specific article, then said article shall be removed from this motion and acted upon in the ordinary course of business.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 13: Funding for the Destination Groton Committee**

**MOTION:** I move that Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2027, for the purpose of providing funding for the Destination Groton Committee to carry out the Charge of the Committee, and all costs associated and related thereto.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 14: Transfer within the Water Enterprise Fund**

**MOTION:** I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 15: Transfer Within the Center Sewer Enterprise Fund**

**MOTION:** I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 16: Transfer Within the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Fund**

**MOTION:** I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 17: Prior Year Bills**

**MOTION:** I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 18: Appropriate Money to Offset the Snow and Ice Deficit**

**MOTION:** I move that One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$180,000) be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund and One Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$165,000) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), for a total amount of \$345,000, to be expended by the Town Manager, to reduce the deficit in the Fiscal Year 2026 Snow and Ice Budget, as approved under Article 5 of the April 26, 2025 Spring Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 19: Debt Service for Middle School Track**

**MOTION:** I move that the Town appropriate, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of Six Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Five Dollars (\$648,945) from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund the debt service for Fiscal Year 2027 for the Middle School Track Project, as authorized under Article 7 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting and Article 9 of the April 30, 2022 Spring Town Meeting.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 20: Funding for Main Street Traffic Study**

**MOTION:** I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 21: Appropriation to Fund Town Forest Expenses**

**MOTION:** I move to transfer the sum of \$12,000 from the Receipts Reserved for the Town Forest to Town Forest Expenses.

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**Article 22: Establishing Limits for the Various Revolving Funds**

**MOTION:** I move to amend Section 71-1 of the Code of the Town of Groton (entitled “Funds Established”, by inserting the following amendment establishing a new revolving fund, to follow after the “Conservation Commission” revolving fund:

<b>Program or Purpose</b>	<b>Representative or Board Authorized to Spend</b>	<b>Departmental Receipts</b>
Park Commission	Park Commission	User fees received for use of Town Fields

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 Laws, Chapter 40, Section 3, is accepted to allow any balance in the Park Commission Revolving Account at the close of each fiscal year to remain available for expenditure, without appropriation for such purposes in future years”, and, further, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, to set the FY 2027 spending limits for the various revolving funds as follows:

<b>Program or Purpose</b>	<b>FY 2027 Spending Limit</b>
Stormwater Management	\$20,000
Conservation Commission	\$50,000
Park Commission	\$100,000
Building Rental Fund	\$50,000
Affordable Housing Marketing	\$20,000
Home Recycling Equipment	\$20,000
Access for Persons with Disabilities	\$10,000
Council on Aging Program Fund	\$40,000
Boat Excise Tax Fund	\$ 5,000
Transfer Station Glass	\$20,000
Senior Center Fitness Equipment	\$20,000

**Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**

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**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2026  
UN-APPROVED**

**Select Board Members Present:** Matt Pisani, Chair; Becky Pine, Vice Chair; Peter Cunningham; John Reilly.

**Select Board Members Absent:** Alison Manugian, Clerk.

**Also Present:** Mark Haddad, Town Manager; Kara Cruikshank, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager; Bud Robertson, Finance Committee Chair.

Chair Pisani called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and reviewed the agenda.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Cunningham said there is a link on the website's homepage to the March 31st public hearing of the Joint Ways and Means Committee regarding Chapter 70 funding. He encouraged others to watch it, noting that the Town recognizes this as an issue and that the Board is advocating for it and conveying that message. He said the Schools and the Town are on the same page. Ms. Pine said the Town Manager and the representatives from the School District all spoke well about the need.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

None

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

- 1. Ratify the Town Manager's Appointments of Jason Ferriola and Liam Belcher to the Country Club Golf Staff and Oshyn McHugh to the Country Club Camp Staff.**

*Ms. Pine made a motion to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Jason Ferriola and Liam Belcher to the Country Club Golf Staff and Oshyn McHugh to the Country Club Camp Staff, effective immediately. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

- 2. FY 2027 Budget Update.**

Mr. Haddad explained that the Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee voted to recertify its Fiscal Year 2027 Operating Budget to match the Assessment amount in the Proposed Budget. The Assessment will increase by \$1,221,184, or 4.3%, from \$28,247,632 to \$29,468,816. He also said that the Finance Committee has voted unanimously to approve the Proposed Budget and requested that the Select Board approve the budget as presented.

*Mr. Reilly moved to approve the proposed budget as presented. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion.*

*Discussion*

*Mr. Cunningham asked what would happen if the state changed the per-pupil funding amount. Mr. Haddad responded that the School Committee accounted for an increase in state aid in their*

*proposed budget by increasing their E & D support, assuming it would come in between \$150 and \$200 per pupil.*

*The motion carried unanimously.*

**3. Update on Select Board Schedule Through the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.**

Monday, April 20, 2026 -	No Meeting – (Patriots’ Day Holiday)
Monday, April 27, 2026-	Destination Groton Committee-Follow Up Review Motions/Article Assignments for Town Meeting
Saturday, May 2, 2026 -	2026 Spring Town Meeting

**ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL**

**1. Vote to Approve and Issue the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.**

Mr. Haddad provided the Board with the Final Draft of the 2026 Spring Town Meeting Warrant for review and approval. He explained that the Warrant would be posted by the Constable this week and that postcards with a QR code would be mailed on Friday, April 17, 2026. Five hundred copies of the Warrant will be printed and are also available on the Town of Groton’s homepage.

Regarding Article 11: Squannacook River Dam, Mr. Haddad said it had been redrafted by Town Counsel to reflect that funding will come from Community Preservation funds and bonding: \$133,000 from the CPA and \$679,500 to be bonded. He further explained that the \$679,500 would be repaid over 10 years and that he hopes the final amount will be much less than \$679,500. The anticipated Debt Service on this amount is approximately \$95,000 a year. To pay the Debt Service, the Community Preservation Committee has agreed to provide \$45,000 from the Historic Preservation Reserve, with the remainder coming from the Capital Budget. The article was redrafted to include the Select Board's authorization of a petition to the General Court of the Commonwealth for special legislation to acquire land or easements outside the boundaries of the Town of Groton. Town Counsel is drafting the legislation. Mr. Haddad asked the Board about its position on the article:

Article 11: Squannacook River Dam Repair

Select Board: Recommended (4 in Favor, 1 Against- Manugian).

The Dam Presentation will be posted on the Town of Groton homepage. Ms. Pine clarified that there will be no ballot vote on this funding, and Mr. Haddad added that residents will not face a tax increase.

*Ms. Pine moved to approve and issue the May 2, 2026, Spring Town Meeting Warrant. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**2. Consider Approving the Annual Fuel Storage Licenses.**

Mr. Haddad provided the Board with a list of Fuel Storage Licenses for review and consideration of renewal for 2026. Mr. Haddad read the memo aloud (see it included in these minutes).

*Mr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the 2026 Fuel Storage Licenses, read aloud by Mr. Haddad, effective May 1, 2026. Mr. Reilly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**3. Consider Approving a One-Day All Alcoholic Beverages License to Micah Webster for a Wedding to be held at Grotonwood Camp on Saturday, May 23, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.**

*Ms. Pine made a motion to approve a one-day all alcoholic beverage license for Micah Webster for a wedding to be held at Grotonwood Camp on Saturday, May 23, 2026, from 4:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**4. Consider Approving a One-Day Wine and Malt Beverages License to Groton Neighbors for the Annual Membership Party to be held at First Parish Church on Friday, June 5, 2026, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.**

*Mr. Reilly made a motion to approve a one-day wine and malt beverage license for Groton Neighbors for the Annual Membership Party to be held at the First Parish Church on Friday, June 5, 2026, from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Ms. Pine seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**5. Consider Approving a One-Day Wine and Malt Beverages License to James Moisson for the Memorial Service After Party to be held at the Groton Grange on Saturday, April 18, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

*Ms. Pine made a motion to approve a one-day wine and malt beverage license for James Moisson for the Memorial Service Party to be held at the Groton Grange on Saturday, April 18, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**On-Going Issues**

- A. PFAS Issue – The SRF approved the Change Order for the remaining \$2 million in 0% interest loan for the next stage of the water main project. The remaining funds will be used to pipe Raddin Road, Hawtree Trail, and Kemp Street in Dunstable. Mr. Haddad said this was a huge savings and that DeFelice will start the work in June. The remainder of the work, including all connections, is estimated at \$4.5 million and will go out to bid in May. Mr. Haddad said this will save approximately \$1 million on the project.
- B. UMass Satellite Emergency Facility – None
- A. Fire Department Staffing – The Finance Committee had many questions regarding the Study; therefore, a meeting was held with the Consultant. Mr. Haddad said the meeting was great and hopes to have a Report by August.
- B. West Groton Dam – None
- C. Main Street Study – MDM Transportation Consultants is out conducting work on the study, and it is going very well. He hopes to have a report in a few months.

**SELECT BOARD LIASON REPORTS**

Ms. Pine said a member of the Nipmuck Tribe held a well-attended forum at the Center, which was very well received. She said he was engaging and a great speaker, and she hopes to bring him back.

**Approval of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of March 30, 2026**

*Mr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of March 30, 2026. Ms. Pine seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

The Select Board adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Respectively submitted by Kara Cruikshank, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager.