



**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, MAY 18, 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 Ratifying the Town Manager's Appointment of Tammi Mickel as Principal Assessor
2. FY 2026 Third Quarter Financial Update
3. Update on the 2026 Select Board Annual Goals
4. Update on 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 Beverage License for the Friends of Prescott's Open Mic Night to be held on Friday, June 12, 2026 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
2. Consider Approving a One Day Wine and Malt Beverage License for the Friends of Prescott's Paint and Sip: Water Lily to be held on Saturday, June 20, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**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 Removal
- E. Main Street Study

### SELECT BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

**III.**                    **Minutes:**                    **Special Meeting Prior to Town Meeting on May 2, 2026**  
**Regularly Scheduled Meeting of May 4, 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.



## 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

**To:** *Select Board*

**From:** *Mark W. Haddad – Town Manager*

**Subject:** *Weekly Agenda Update/Report*

**Date:** *May 18, 2026*

### TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Other than the Town Manager's Report, Items for Select Board Consideration and Action and a review of the Ongoing Issues List, there is nothing specifically scheduled on Monday's Agenda.

1. Please be advised that Principal Assessor Megan Foster will be leaving the Town of Groton to accept a similar position with the Town of Andover. Ms. Foster has served the Town of Groton in an exemplary fashion for more than eight years, including serving as Principal Assessor since January 2021. During this time, Megan has demonstrated exceptional professionalism, technical expertise, and dedication to the residents of Groton. While I am certainly sorry to see Megan leave, this represents an outstanding career opportunity for her, and I would like to personally thank her for her years of service and wish her the very best in her new role. That said, recruiting and retaining a qualified Principal Assessor has become increasingly difficult. This position is highly specialized, and municipalities throughout Massachusetts are competing for a limited pool of experienced candidates. Understanding this challenge, I, along with members of the Finance Team, have worked to develop a training, mentoring, and succession planning system designed to ensure continuity in our Finance Offices (including the Accounting, Treasurer and Assessing Departments). As part of that effort, Tammi Mickel was appointed as Assistant Assessor in 2022 with the intention of developing an internal succession plan within the Assessor's Office. During her time in this position, Tammi worked closely with Megan and successfully earned her designation as a Certified Massachusetts Assessor. Through this planning and professional development process, Tammi is fully prepared to assume the responsibilities of Principal Assessor. To that end, and with the support of the Board of Assessors, I am pleased to appoint Tammi Mickel as Principal Assessor effective June 1, 2026. This succession plan will allow for a seamless transition and ensure that the Assessor's Office operation continues without interruption. I would respectfully request that the Select Board ratify this appointment at Monday's meeting. We will now begin the process of searching for a new Assistant Assessor, and we intend to continue utilizing the same mentorship and succession planning model that has proven successful in this instance.
2. Enclosed with this Report is the Fiscal Year 2026 Third Quarter Financial Report. I would like to spend some time at Monday's meeting reviewing this with the Board. Assistant Director of Finance/Town Accountant Patricia DuFresne will attend the meeting to answer any questions you may have.

**Select Board  
Weekly Agenda Update/Report  
May 18, 2026  
page two**

3. As is our practice when reviewing the Financial Report, the Board reviews the status of the current year's Goals and Objectives. Enclosed with this Report is a copy of the goals with the most recent update. I would like to take a few moments at Monday's meeting reviewing the status with the Board.
4. Please see the following update to the Meeting Schedule that will take the Board through Labor Day:

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 Board approve a One Day Wine and Malt Beverage License for the Friends of Prescott's Open Mic Night to be held on Friday, June 12, 2026 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
2. I would respectfully request that the Board approve a One Day Wine and Malt Beverage License for the Friends of Prescott's Paint and Sip: Water Lily Event to be held on Saturday, June 20, 2026 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

MWH/rjb  
enclosure

**Town of Groton**  
**General Fund Statement of Revenues & Expenditures**  
 March 31, 2026

<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Current Budget FY26</i>	<i>July - Mar Actual FY26</i>	<i>Variance to FY26 Budget</i>	<i>3rd Qtr % of Budget</i>	<i>Final FY25 Budget</i>	<i>July thru June Actual FY25</i>	<i>July - Mar Actual FY25</i>	<i>3rd Qtr Variance to FY25 Budget</i>	<i>3rd Qtr % of Budget</i>	<i>% of Budget Change</i>
State Aid (Lottery/Exempts/Van)	1,182,722	862,607	(320,115)	72.93%	1,152,082	1,170,006	845,129	(306,953)	73.36%	99.41%
Motor Vehicle/Boat Excise	1,886,000	1,664,568	(221,432)	88.28%	1,820,583	2,188,732	1,569,714	(250,869)	86.22%	102.37%
Local Option Meals Tax	275,000	218,973	(56,027)	79.63%	250,000	273,544	215,035	(34,965)	86.01%	92.58%
Local Option Room Occupancy Tax	185,000	178,526	(6,474)	96.50%	150,000	223,079	184,705	34,705	123.14%	78.37%
Marijuana Revenue	15,000	31,027	16,027	206.85%	9,000	21,298	21,298	12,298	236.64%	87.41%
Penalties and Interest on Taxes	110,000	96,599	(13,401)	87.82%	110,000	125,734	89,775	(20,225)	81.61%	107.61%
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	355,443	267,276	(88,167)	75.20%	355,443	354,749	213,000	(142,443)	59.93%	125.48%
Groton Hill Music Ticket Fee	59,713	84,760	25,047	141.95%	40,000	88,880	66,360	26,360	165.90%	85.56%
Other Charges for Service (Dunst)	15,300	15,450	150	100.98%	15,300	15,750	15,700	700	104.67%	96.47%
Country Club Revenue	875,000	573,030	(301,970)	65.49%	750,000	1,007,314	563,074	(186,926)	75.08%	87.23%
Fees (incl Van rides)	400,000	309,609	(90,391)	77.40%	400,000	427,329	327,628	(72,372)	81.91%	94.49%
Rentals ( Cell Towers)	58,000	53,853	(4,147)	92.85%	55,000	69,454	53,351	(1,649)	97.00%	95.72%
Other Departmental Revenue	582,372	433,796	(148,576)	74.49%	854,063	969,330	629,555	(224,508)	73.71%	101.06%
Licenses and Permits	450,000	690,807	240,807	153.51%	429,300	728,078	563,218	133,918	131.19%	117.01%
Fines and Forfeits	10,000	7,265	(2,735)	72.65%	10,000	10,238	8,373	(1,627)	83.73%	86.77%
Investment Income	258,499	189,939	(68,560)	73.48%	309,744	486,605	430,224	120,480	138.90%	52.90%
Misc Recurring (LRTA Van Reimb)	94,000	53,201	(40,799)	56.60%	94,000	95,801	58,228	(35,772)	61.94%	91.38%
Misc (WC Reimb & Other)	0	5,361	5,361	#DIV/0!	0	346,995	34,685	34,685	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!
Enterprise Allocation for Indirects	214,002	163,397	(50,605)	76.35%	315,664	301,302	230,477	(85,187)	73.01%	104.57%
Real Estate and Personal Prop	44,683,019	33,032,309	(11,650,710)	73.93%	42,843,486	42,571,646	31,845,349	(10,998,137)	74.33%	99.46%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>51,709,070</b>	<b>38,932,353</b>	<b>(12,776,717)</b>	<b>75.29%</b>	<b>49,963,365</b>	<b>51,475,864</b>	<b>37,964,878</b>	<b>(11,998,487)</b>	<b>75.99%</b>	<b>99.08%</b>
<b>Expenditures (Operating Expenses)</b>										
General Government	3,244,264	2,387,654	856,610	73.60%	3,097,521	2,889,435	2,280,971	816,550	73.64%	99.95%
Public Safety General Fund	4,843,747	3,551,226	1,292,521	73.32%	4,666,255	4,458,366	3,170,992	1,495,263	67.96%	107.89%
Department of Public Works	2,400,572	2,078,252	322,320	86.57%	2,566,229	2,477,598	1,906,192	660,037	74.28%	116.55%
Culture, Rec, & Citizen's Svcs	2,453,900	1,806,255	647,645	73.61%	2,452,323	2,343,232	1,651,850	800,473	67.36%	102.28%
Employee Benefits	4,633,643	4,030,969	602,674	86.99%	4,854,514	4,687,817	4,217,541	636,973	86.88%	100.13%
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>17,576,126</b>	<b>13,854,356</b>	<b>3,721,770</b>	<b>78.82%</b>	<b>17,636,842</b>	<b>16,856,448</b>	<b>13,227,546</b>	<b>4,409,296</b>	<b>75.00%</b>	<b>105.09%</b>
<b>Expenditures (Non -Operating Exp.)</b>										
Special Articles Voted for Current Yr	857,885	313,816	544,069	36.58%	1,636,076	808,429	569,692	1,066,384	34.82%	105.05%
PY Articles/Enc(SeeUse of Enc Below)	1,197,005	732,000	465,005	61.15%	642,727	364,950	343,826	298,901	53.49%	114.32%
Education	29,545,154	22,158,866	7,386,288	75.00%	28,739,026	28,739,026	21,795,949	6,943,077	75.84%	98.89%
Debt Service	5,294,372	3,593,830	1,700,542	67.88%	4,684,920	4,684,911	3,096,757	1,588,163	66.10%	102.69%
Intergovernmental (State Offsets)	104,498	78,374	26,124	75.00%	101,926	101,926	76,444	25,482	75.00%	100.00%
<b>Total Non - Operating Expenses</b>	<b>36,998,914</b>	<b>26,876,886</b>	<b>10,122,028</b>	<b>72.64%</b>	<b>35,804,675</b>	<b>34,699,242</b>	<b>25,882,668</b>	<b>9,922,007</b>	<b>72.29%</b>	<b>100.48%</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) Before OFS&amp;U</b>	<b>(2,865,970)</b>	<b>(1,798,889)</b>	<b>1,067,081</b>	<b>62.77%</b>	<b>(3,478,152)</b>	<b>(79,826)</b>	<b>(1,145,336)</b>	<b>2,332,816</b>	<b>32.93%</b>	<b>190.62%</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>										
Transfers from Other Funds	1,180,216	1,188,183	(7,967)	100.68%	1,834,222	1,834,222	1,434,222	400,000	78.19%	128.76%
Use of Avail. Funds: Encumbrances	1,196,774	732,000	(464,774)	61.16%	642,586	364,950	642,586	0	100.00%	61.16%
Avail. Funds: F. C./Overlay Surplus	2,192,084	2,192,084	0	100.00%	1,669,777	1,669,777	1,374,637	295,140	82.32%	121.48%
<b>Total OFS</b>	<b>4,569,074</b>	<b>4,112,267</b>	<b>(472,741)</b>	<b>90.00%</b>	<b>4,146,585</b>	<b>3,868,949</b>	<b>3,451,445</b>	<b>695,140</b>	<b>83.24%</b>	<b>108.12%</b>
<b>Other Financing Uses</b>										
Overlay & Deficits to be Raised	184,419	184,419	0	100.00%	195,901	195,901	195,901	0	100.00%	100.00%
Transfers to Other Funds	1,518,685	1,518,685	0	100.00%	472,532	472,532	273,416	199,116	57.86%	172.83%
<b>Total OFU</b>	<b>1,703,104</b>	<b>1,703,104</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>668,433</b>	<b>668,433</b>	<b>469,317</b>	<b>199,116</b>	<b>70.21%</b>	<b>142.43%</b>
<b>Excess (Deficiency) Incl. OFS&amp;U</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>610,274</b>	<b>594,340</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>3,120,690</b>	<b>1,836,792</b>	<b>2,828,840</b>		

**Town of Groton**  
**General Fund Statement of Revenues & Expenditures**  
 March 31, 2026

	<u>Current</u> <u>Budget FY26</u>	<u>July - Mar</u> <u>Actual FY26</u>	<u>Variance</u> <u>to FY26 Budget</u>	<u>3rd Qtr</u> <u>% of Budget</u>	<u>Final FY25</u> <u>Budget</u>	<u>July thru June</u> <u>Actual FY25</u>	<u>July - Mar</u> <u>Actual FY25</u>	<u>3rd Qtr Variance</u> <u>to FY25 Budget</u>	<u>3rd Qtr</u> <u>% of Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u> <u>Change</u>
<b>Salaries/Wages Expenditures by Function of Government</b>										
<b>General Government:</b>										
BOS/Town Manager	403,952	310,868	93,084	76.96%	391,700	377,164	287,366	104,334	73.36%	104.91%
Accountant	205,229	162,923	42,306	79.39%	193,266	193,264	146,816	46,450	75.97%	104.50%
Assessors	185,960	140,457	45,503	75.53%	174,067	174,067	131,285	42,782	75.42%	100.15%
Treasurer/Collector	320,556	229,703	90,853	71.66%	237,433	234,826	179,095	58,338	75.43%	95.00%
Personnel	102,549	78,686	23,863	76.73%	96,936	96,936	74,531	22,405	76.89%	99.79%
Information Technology	209,900	158,137	51,763	75.34%	198,357	197,606	149,702	48,655	75.47%	99.83%
Town Clerk/Elections	211,471	150,271	61,200	71.06%	214,520	200,952	153,583	60,937	71.59%	99.26%
Land Use Conservation Comm.	85,565	66,301	19,264	77.49%	79,070	79,070	60,823	18,247	76.92%	100.74%
Land Use Inspection Services	222,370	170,163	52,207	76.52%	220,535	220,432	160,905	59,630	72.96%	104.88%
Land Use Planning	125,030	96,191	29,310	76.93%	98,447	98,446	76,583	21,864	77.79%	98.89%
<b>Total General Government</b>	<b>2,072,582</b>	<b>1,563,700</b>	<b>508,882</b>	<b>75.45%</b>	<b>1,904,331</b>	<b>1,872,763</b>	<b>1,420,689</b>	<b>483,642</b>	<b>74.60%</b>	<b>101.14%</b>
<b>Public Safety:</b>										
Police Department/Civil Defense	2,651,823	1,916,427	735,396	72.27%	2,531,960	2,413,325	1,752,134	779,826	69.20%	104.44%
Fire Department/EMS	1,658,414	1,327,632	330,782	80.05%	1,590,204	1,513,866	1,104,099	486,105	69.43%	115.30%
Animal Cntrl/Dog Officer	24,164	18,918	5,246	78.29%	21,664	21,664	16,664	5,000	76.92%	101.78%
<b>Total Public Safety</b>	<b>4,334,401</b>	<b>3,262,977</b>	<b>1,071,424</b>	<b>75.28%</b>	<b>4,143,828</b>	<b>3,948,855</b>	<b>2,872,897</b>	<b>1,270,931</b>	<b>69.33%</b>	<b>108.58%</b>
<b>Department of Public Works:</b>										
Municipal Buildings	170,064	121,646	48,418	71.53%	162,845	158,908	116,002	46,843	71.23%	100.42%
Highway	913,043	666,950	246,093	73.05%	876,453	855,170	637,842	238,611	72.78%	100.37%
Snow & Ice	140,000	277,573	(137,573)	198.27%	184,740	184,740	173,090	11,650	93.69%	211.62%
Parks	0	0	0	0.00%	17,922	7,200	7,200	10,722	40.17%	0.00%
Solid Waste	164,820	116,712	48,108	70.81%	157,651	154,212	112,465	45,186	71.34%	99.26%
<b>Total DPW</b>	<b>1,387,927</b>	<b>1,182,881</b>	<b>205,046</b>	<b>85.23%</b>	<b>1,399,611</b>	<b>1,360,230</b>	<b>1,046,599</b>	<b>353,012</b>	<b>74.78%</b>	<b>113.97%</b>
<b>Culture, Rec. &amp; Citizen's Svcs:</b>										
COA/COA Van	311,776	234,091	77,685	75.08%	295,581	280,122	212,451	83,130	71.88%	104.45%
Vets Svcs/Water Safety/Graves	11,679	6,175	5,504	52.87%	11,052	7,565	5,505	5,547	49.81%	106.14%
Library	846,581	641,777	204,804	75.81%	801,511	799,627	602,590	198,921	75.18%	100.84%
Country Club	500,885	373,735	127,150	74.61%	478,038	477,958	332,534	145,504	69.56%	107.26%
Cable Department	155,360	113,499	41,861	73.06%	132,270	132,216	99,701	32,569	75.38%	96.92%
<b>Total Culture, Rec. &amp; Citizen's Svcs</b>	<b>1,826,281</b>	<b>1,369,277</b>	<b>457,004</b>	<b>74.98%</b>	<b>1,718,452</b>	<b>1,697,488</b>	<b>1,252,781</b>	<b>465,671</b>	<b>72.90%</b>	<b>102.85%</b>
<b>Grand Total Salaries &amp; Wages</b>	<b>9,621,191</b>	<b>7,378,835</b>	<b>2,242,356</b>	<b>76.69%</b>	<b>9,166,222</b>	<b>8,879,336</b>	<b>6,592,966</b>	<b>2,573,256</b>	<b>71.93%</b>	<b>106.62%</b>
<b>Benefits:</b>										
County Retirement	2,640,116	2,640,116	0	100.00%	2,653,019	2,653,019	2,653,019	0	100.00%	100.00%
Health / Life Insurance *	1,821,758	1,262,928	558,830	69.32%	2,034,495	1,880,190	1,451,540	582,955	71.35%	97.15%
Other Benefits (Medicare/Unemplmt)	173,000	132,154	40,846	76.39%	167,000	154,609	112,982	54,018	67.65%	112.92%
<b>Total Benefits</b>	<b>4,634,874</b>	<b>4,035,198</b>	<b>599,676</b>	<b>87.06%</b>	<b>4,854,514</b>	<b>4,687,818</b>	<b>4,217,541</b>	<b>636,973</b>	<b>86.88%</b>	<b>100.21%</b>
<b>Total Salaries/Wages/Benefits</b>	<b>14,256,065</b>	<b>11,414,033</b>	<b>2,842,032</b>	<b>80.06%</b>	<b>14,020,736</b>	<b>13,567,154</b>	<b>10,810,507</b>	<b>3,210,229</b>	<b>77.10%</b>	<b>103.84%</b>

## FISCAL YEAR 2026

### GOALS OF THE GROTON SELECT BOARD

#### **Category - Public Safety**

**Select Board Member Assigned – Peter Cunningham**

In consultation with Police, Fire, and DPW Departments, establish a prioritized list of sidewalks, bicycle and roadway concerns and timelines for addressing them. Tasks to be considered:

- Striping Parking Spots on Main Street
- Narrowing Roads and/or other ways to create more pedestrian/bike access
- Paving section of roadway between Station Avenue and Broadmeadow Road
- Setting a Town wide speed limit

November 3, 2025 Update – The Town Manager has applied for a State Grant to hire an engineer to conduct a full study of Main Street. The purpose of the study would be to review the speed limit, crosswalks, parking spaces, bike lanes, etc. Grant award decision is expected in mid- November.

February 23, 2026 Update – While we have not yet received the State Grant to pay for the study of Main Street, the DPW Director received approval to utilize \$50,000 from the Town’s Chapter 90 allocation to pay for the study. The Town has hired MDM Transportation Consultants to conduct the Study. The estimated cost of the Study is between \$75,000 and \$100,000. A placeholder article has been included on the 2026 Spring Town Meeting Warrant for the remaining funds should the Town not receive the Grant.

May 18, 2026 Update – MDM Transportation Consultants is well underway with the Main Street Study. Brian Callahan was able to secure more Chapter 90 Funding to cover the expense of the Study, along with an earmark from the Legislature that Representative Scarsdale was able to secure for the Town of Groton.

#### **Budget Priorities – Funding**

**Select Board Member Assigned – Alison Manugian**

##### Operating Budget

- Establish the process to determine the minimal staffing needed in all departments to continue functioning without an override.
- Beginning with the Groton Fire Department, establish process and requirements for, and conduct an in-depth cost benefit analysis of any proposed increase in staffing

November 3, 2025 Update – The Select Board and Finance Committee provided FY 27 Budget Development Guidance to the Town Manager. Now that Guidance has been provided, the Town Manager will begin developing the budget, including determining minimal staffing in all departments and staffing levels at the Fire Department.

February 23, 2026 Update – The Town Manager submitted a balanced budget (currently under review) that did not seek an override of Proposition 2½. As part of this budget, the Town Manager, in conjunction with the Finance Team, conducted a study (previously submitted to the Select Board and Finance Committee) comparing staffing levels to Towns with similar populations. The study showed that Groton is in line with other communities. In addition, the Select Board and Finance Committee voted unanimously to authorize a study of staffing the Fire Department with four Firefighter/EMTs on every shift over a six month period to determine if this is the proper staffing. A consultant will be hired to review/analyze the findings and submit a final report to the Select Board and Finance Committee in September, 2026 with the possible intent of seeking funding/override in the Fall of 2026 to permanently staff the Fire Department at this level.

May 18, 2026 Update – The 2026 Spring Town Meeting approved the balanced budget. Jack Parrow Associates and John Guilfoil Public Relations were hired to assist the Town with the Staffing Study and updating the Fiore Department website. The Town is still on track for a final report to be issued in September, 2026.

#### Capital Budget

- Considering input from the Town Manager and the Capital Planning Advisory Committee, review all town property and capital spending priorities for coming years

November 3, 2025 Update – The Capital Budget is under way. A five year spending plan will be developed that will include a review of priorities and town property.

February 23, 2026 Update – The Town Manager submitted the Five Year Capital Budget on December 31, 2025 that reviewed Town property improvements and the capital spending priorities over the next five years. This portion of the Goal is Complete.

May 18, 2026 Update – Goal Complete – No new update

#### Grant Funding

- Conduct in-depth analysis of available grants to help offset operating budget pressures

November 3, 2025 Update – As part of the Budget Development, grants will be examined as well.

February 23, 2026 – The Town Manager provided the Select Board with an analysis of Grants received over the last two fiscal years that showed the Town has received over \$5.8 million in Grant Funding to offset budget pressures. This portion of the Goal is complete.

May 18, 2026 Update – Goal Complete – No new update.

#### Structure of Government

##### **Select Board Member Assigned – Becky Pine**

- Review and determine action to be taken by the Select Board and staff on items identified in the Master Plan
- Develop a 3-year schedule to meet with all committees under the Select Board’s purview. Consider combining or eliminating committees with similar or overlapping roles

November 3, 2025 Update – No action taken as of yet on this goal.

February 23, 2026 Update – The Town Manager is working with the Land Use Director/Town Planner to establish an action plan on items identified in the Master Plan. In addition, the Town Manager and Executive Assistant has established a schedule for the Select Board to meet with committees under the Select Board’s purview. These meetings have already begun taking place.

May 18, 2026 Update – Still working with the Land Use Director/Town Planner on a Master Plan Implementation Plan. The Select Board has held meetings with all Committees they wanted to meet with under their purview.

#### Economic Development

##### **Select Board Members Assigned – John Reilly and Matt Pisani**

- Work with Groton Business Association and Destination Groton Committee to develop new sources of revenue.
- Encourage efforts to establish more restaurants in Groton, specifically in the former Station House property and available commercial sites in the Four Corners area

November 3, 2025 Update – The Town has been working with a prospective new buyer of the former Station House Restaurant. It is expected that a liquor license hearing will be held in early December.

February 23, 2026 Update – The potential sale of the Station House fell through, however, a new prospective buyer has come forward. There may be a liquor license hearing in the coming months. In addition, the Town Manager has been notified of a potential development in the Four Corners area. While it is in the beginning stages of investigation, there is some movement.

May 18, 2026 Update – No new update. Same as February 23<sup>rd</sup> update.

**Ongoing Goals**

**All Members**

- Continue advocating for a predictable increase in State support for education and municipal functions
- Present a FY 2027 Budget in conjunction with Peer Boards that meets the Town of Groton and GDRSD needs
- Continue support of DEI Committee and Affordable Housing Trust

November 3, 2025 Update – Budget development is underway.

February 23, 2026 Update – As stated above, the Proposed FY 2027 Budget has been submitted to the Select Board and Finance Committee. Boards, Committees and Staff have been advocating for additional state funding.

May 18, 2026 Update – No new update.

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
PRE-TOWN MEETING  
SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026  
UN-APPROVED**

**SB Members Present:** Matt F. Pisani, Chair; Rebecca H. Pine, Vice Chair; Clerk; Alison S. Manugian, Clerk; Peter S. Cunningham; John F. Reilly;

**Also Present:** Mark Haddad, Town Manager; Kara Cruikshank, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager; Brian Falk, Town Counsel.

Mr. Pisani called the meeting to order at 8:46 A.M.

**Discuss Matters Pertaining to the Spring Town Meeting.**

There were a few matters to discuss before the Spring Town Meeting convened. Mr. Haddad explained that he would like to request the withdrawal of Article 9: Exempt Uncontrollable Costs from the Tax Levy, and would like to make a motion to indefinitely postpone this article, with no debate. The Select Board agreed to this request.

Additionally, Mr. Haddad stated that Jason Kauppi, the Moderator, would clarify to the Town Meeting that the appropriation amount for the Squannacook River Dam Repair article differs among the amounts listed in the article of the Warrant, the Handout, and the motion itself.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:51 A.M.

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

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2026  
UN-APPROVED**

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

**Also Present:** Mark Haddad, Town Manager; Kara Cruikshank, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager; Fran Stanley; Bud Robertson, Finance Committee Chair; Tom Delaney, Squannacook River Dam Consultant; Christopher Rogers, Building Commissioner Applicant; Anna Eliot, Park Commissioner.

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Cunningham commented that the Groton Herald reported that he and his wife set up the GoFundMe for the town employee whose home was lost in a fire on Martins Pond Road. He wanted to clarify that it was not them but appreciates the effort to raise funds for the family. Ms. Pine announced a dinner for individuals 55 and older at the Groton Dunstable Regional High School, put together by the School District in conjunction with the Groton and Dunstable Councils on Aging and sponsored this year by local realtor Jenepher Spencer. The dinner will be held from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. She also announced that Candidates Night will be held at the Center on Wednesday, May 6th, starting at 6:00 PM. Mr. Reilly thanked everyone who attended the Spring Town Meeting on Saturday, May 2, 2026. Mr. Haddad added that 510 people attended. Mr. Takashi Tada, Land Use Director/Town Planner, was in charge of timing the speakers and did an excellent job.

**PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Ms. Anna Eliot, Park Commissioner, requested that the Board commend Megan Buczynski of Activitas for her efforts on the Cow Pond Brook Project on behalf of the Town. The Board agreed that she had done an outstanding job and delivered an excellent presentation at the Town Meeting.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**1. Ratify the Town Manager's Nomination and Appoint Christopher Rogers as the Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer for the Town of Groton.**

Mr. Haddad explained that the search for a new Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer is complete. He added that he had a great interview with Mr. Christopher Rogers, the current Building Commissioner in Bolton. Mr. Rogers has a strong background in building, zoning, and health matters. Mr. Haddad added that Mr. Rogers would be a fine addition to the staff and was pleased to bring him on board.

*Ms. Pine made a motion to ratify the Town Manager's nomination and appoint Christopher Rogers as the Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement officer for the Town of Groton, effective May 18, 2026. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

## 2. 2026 Spring Town Meeting Follow-Up.

Mr. Haddad said he was pleased the operating budget passed without amendments. He said it was well-vetted and that he worked cooperatively with the School District and the Town of Dunstable. Mr. Haddad reviewed the capital budget with the Board. He said the Fire Chief could now order the new ambulance. During the discussion of the Police Department's minor capital budget, Mr. Haddad clarified that the Town Meeting does not dictate how funds can be spent within a budget; it only appropriates the funding. He explained that there is a two-year contract for the installed flock cameras, which the Police Chief intends to fulfill. Mr. Haddad described how the Flock cameras operate and noted that a policy is in place for their use. He said there was a lot of misinformation debated at the Town Meeting but emphasized that the cameras are a valuable tool for the Police Department. The camera data is not being provided to any federal agency, and the Police Department is not receiving automatic reports of felons. The Police Departments have to check license plates every day manually. Mr. Haddad explained to the Board that the Chief will honor the contract unless otherwise instructed. Ms. Pine said she was okay with the Police Department continuing the contract, was grateful to the people who brought this to the forefront at Town Meeting and would like to put it on a future agenda to discuss potentially establishing a committee. Ms. Manugian expressed concern about data retention and storage. She asked if someone from the IT Department could attend a meeting to answer questions. Mr. Haddad responded that Deputy Chief Mead could meet with the Board to discuss this matter. Mr. Reilly understood the data aspect and doesn't have a problem with how the Chief is using it. Mr. Cunningham supports forming a working group for this. Mr. Haddad said that if the Board has specific questions, please email him, and he will get them answered. Article 8: CPC Funding Recommendations, Motion 1 - Mr. Haddad echoed Ms. Eliot's earlier comments about Consultant Ms. Buczynski of Activitas, stating that she did a phenomenal job at Town Meeting. He said she also did a great job working with the Park Commission and the Town Manager's Working Group. The awarded million-dollar federal grant will most likely be lost due to time constraints. Mr. Haddad emphasized that the Town Meeting appropriated \$145,000 in CPA funds to develop the plans by Activitas, which he considers a waste of taxpayer money since the article was defeated. He is going to discuss with the Park Commission how they would like to proceed. Mr. Haddad explained that Article 11: Squannacook River Dam Repair failed. He said that over his 41 years as a Town Manager, it was the first time a town meeting didn't allow a non-resident to speak. He would like to begin the next steps in the process to remove the Dam. Squannacook River Dam Consultant Tom Delaney was in attendance. Mr. Delaney explained that he will still obtain the final permit from the Shirley Conservation Commission for the Dam repair, as that was almost complete and it was a good idea to have it in place, regardless of not moving forward with the Repair. He stated that the next step is to write a letter to the Department of Environmental Regulation (DER) indicating that the Town is committed to proceeding with the removal of the Dam. Mr. Delaney guided the Board through the permitting process for the removal, outlining the necessary steps, including obtaining permits and grants. Mr. Haddad requested the Board's approval for moving forward with the removal plan. Mr. Delaney has applied for a grant for a safety inspection, which could save the town approximately \$3,000 this year. Mr. Haddad explained that the repair was carried out before the Town Meeting, but removal is not required unless there is an appropriation; that decision would be the Board's. Mr. Delaney said the letter to DER indicates they are moving forward and that the repair bid is being released. Ms. Pine said they need to commit to bringing the removal of the Dam to Town Meeting at some point. Mr.

Pisani believed that the Spring Town Meeting had already made that decision. Ms. Pine said that if the Dam is removed without a Town Meeting vote, residents may be angry. Mr. Delaney said they couldn't apply for grants if they were not committed to moving forward with removal. Mr. Pisani said there wasn't any gray area. After an extensive discussion, Mr. Haddad respectfully asked the Board to vote to proceed with the application process to remove the Squannacook River Dam.

*Ms. Manugian moved to explore grants and investigate the removal of the Squannacook River Dam. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion.*

Discussion

*Mr. Cunningham said every grant he has explored included some local share contribution. Mr. Haddad said that if there is an appropriation, they will return to Town Meeting.*

*The motion carried 4 in Favor, 1 Against- Pine.*

Mr. Haddad thanked the Moderator for doing a great job running the Town Meeting, and the Town Clerk and his Executive Assistant, Kara Cruikshank, for their efforts. Mr. Reilly thanked the IT and Cable Departments for their work on the Town Meeting. Ms. Pine thanked Lois Young, Michelle Collette, and the Cable Department for the closed-captioning setup. She noted that approximately 300 people stayed for most of the Town Meeting. She was disappointed by the failed votes on the West Groton Dam Repair and the articles on Cow Pond Brook Road and the Specialized Stretch Energy Code. Mr. Haddad emphasized that Charlotte Weigel, the Sustainability Commission Chair, put in many hours on the Specialized Stretch Energy Code Article and did a great job presenting the issue to Town Meeting and answering questions.

**3. Update on Select Board Schedule through Labor Day.**

Monday, May 11, 2026-	No Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2026-	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, May 25, 2026-	No Meeting (Memorial Day)
Monday, June 1, 2026-	Regularly Scheduled Meeting (Annual Board Reorg)
Monday, June 8, 2026-	No Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2026-	Regularly Scheduled Meeting (Annual Appointment)
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 Trans.) (Call for 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's 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-  
Monday, September 14, 2026-

No Meeting (Labor Day)  
Regularly Scheduled Meeting

### **ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL**

#### **1. Consider Adopting/Approving the 2025-2039 Housing Production Plan.**

Housing Coordinator Fran Stanley was in attendance. Mr. Haddad thanked Ms. Stanley for a job well done on the 2025-2030 Housing Production Plan. The Board received a copy of the Plan in advance of the meeting for review. Mr. Haddad explained that the Planning Board adopted the Plan at its last meeting. If the Select Board adopts it as well, the Plan will comply with state requirements. Ms. Stanley took a few moments to answer any questions the Board had.

*Mr. Cunningham made a motion to adopt and approve the 2025-2030 Housing Production Plan. Mr. Reilly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

#### **2. Consider Approving a Common Victualler's License for Tully Farms Scoop Shop, LLC, Located at 30 Hollis Street, Unit B.**

*Ms. Pine moved to approve a common victualler's license for Tully Farms Scoop Shop, LLC, located at 30 Hollis Street, Unit B, subject to final Board of Health approval. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**None**

#### **On-Going Issues**

- A. PFAS Issue – None
- B. UMass Satellite Emergency Facility – None
- C. Fire Department Staffing – A meeting will be held on May 21<sup>st</sup> with the Working Group. Mr. Haddad will schedule an update with the Board in June.
- D. West Groton Dam – None
- E. Main Street Study – None

### **SELECT BOARD LIASON REPORTS**

None

#### **Approval of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of April 27, 2026**

*Ms. Pine made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 27, 2026. Mr. Reilly seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

The Select Board adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

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