

Select Board Meeting Packet

March 22, 2021

This is the Select Board preliminary preparation information packet. The content of this package is subject to change between when it is released and the start of the Select Board meeting. Such changes will not be posted to the web site before the meeting. If you see an item or items in the preliminary preparation package that are important to you, please attend the meeting in person.



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

Alison S. Manugian, *Chair*
Joshua A. Degen, *Vice Chair*
Rebecca H. Pine, *Clerk*
John R. Giger, *Member*
John F. Reilly, *Member*

SELECT BOARD MEETING

MONDAY, MARCH 22, 2021

AGENDA

VIRTUAL MEETING

BROADCAST ON ZOOM AND THE GROTON CHANNEL

PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER

CONCERNING THE OPEN MEETING LAW

ZOOM MEETING ID: 840 6174 9162

- 7:00 P.M. Announcements and Review Agenda for the Public
- 7:05 P.M. Public Comment Period
- I. 7:10 P.M. Town Manager's Report
 - 1. Select Board's Agenda Schedule
 - 2. Address Any Changes in Emergency Protocols – Update on Town Action
 - 3. Review Any New Information from the Commonwealth
 - 4. Capital Plan Golf Cart Update
 - 5. Report from Olin Lathrop on Forest Legacy Program
 - 6. Discuss Issuing RFP for Town Counsel Services
 - 7. Update from Town Manager on FY 2022 Proposed Budget
 - 8. Update on Select Board Schedule through Town Meeting
- II. 7:15 P.M. Continuation of Public Hearing – Adopt Revised Traffic Rules and Orders
- III. 7:30 P.M. Continuation of Public Hearing - Review the Articles Contained in the 2021 Spring Town Meeting Warrant – Consider Taking Positions on the Various Articles

OTHER BUSINESS

ON-GOING ISSUES – For Review and Informational Purposes

- A. Water Department – Manganese Issue – PFAS Issue
- B. Polystyrene Containers
- C. Green Communities Application and Implementation
- D. Florence Roche Elementary School Feasibility Study

SELECT BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

- IV. Minutes: Virtual Meeting of March 15, 2021

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 Report*

Date: *March 22, 2021*

1. In addition to the Town Manager's Report and a review of the On-going Issues List, there are two items scheduled on Monday's Agenda. First, the Select Board will be continuing the public hearing on the adoption of the Traffic Rules and Orders. The purpose of the continuation is for the Select Board to formally adopt them. To help the Board finalize the process, we have accepted all changes to the document that were approved by the Board during the first public hearing. Enclosed with this report is the latest draft of the Traffic Rules and Orders that have been red-lined to reflect the changes requested during the public hearing. Should the Board be satisfied, we will respectfully request that you adopt the final draft at Monday's meeting. Second, the Select Board will also be continuing the public hearing on the Warrant for the 2021 Spring Town Meeting. Enclosed with this report is the latest draft of the Warrant for your review. I would call your attention to the following issues/changes made to the Warrant since last Monday's public hearing:
 - A. As voted by the Board, I have changed the start time of the meeting to 9:00 a.m.
 - B. At the request of the Town Clerk, I have added the polling locations for the Annual Election to the Constable Notice.
 - C. At the request of the Water Commission, I have removed the Article seeking a conservation restriction.
 - D. I have removed the Article transferring tax title land to the Housing Authority. Since I was the sponsor of the Article, I reached out to Don Black of the Housing Authority and suggested that bringing this Article forward at this time without a project would be premature. I further suggested that once the Housing Authority has a definitive project for the property, they can come to the Select Board for permission to move forward. Don agreed and asked that the Housing Authority be given the right of first refusal on that land. I believe this is a reasonable request. We can discuss this further at the meeting.
 - E. I have invited the proponent of the Sewer District Extension Article to the meeting to present the Article. I hope to have further information from them prior to the meeting. Should that be the case, I will forward it to the Board in advance of the meeting.
 - F. I will be meeting with the Moderator and Town Clerk prior to Monday's meeting to discuss how to adjust the Warrant Articles to implement various consent agendas. I will update the Board at Monday's meeting.

2. Unfortunately, the Town reverted to "yellow" status after being "green" last week. As you know, our policy is that once we achieve "green" status for two consecutive weeks, we would re-open the Town Hall and end our appointment only policy. We will have to wait for the next two reports to see if we get back to and maintain "green" status. We continue to operate under all other protocols adopted by the Select Board last summer.
3. Enclosed with this report is the latest Health Report from the Department of Public Health. We have trended higher for the first time in two months and returned to "yellow" status with 17 positive tests (out of 1386) and a 1.23% positivity rate. We will continue to monitor the health report each week and adjust any of our protocols as necessary.
4. At last week's public hearing, members of the Board and public questioned why the Town is not purchasing electric golf carts for the Country Club. I have discussed this with Shawn Campbell, Country Club General Manager and Head Professional. Shawn has stated that his plan is to someday convert the golf cart fleet to electric. However, as I stated last week, the Club does not have the infrastructure to house/charge an electric fleet. Shawn is recommending that the Club move forward with a gas-powered fleet this summer and hire a company to come up with a site plan and cost to construct a building to house not only the golf cart fleet, but also the greens equipment, as they are currently stored in the basements of other Country Club buildings which is not ideal. As far as the current fleet, it is Shawn's intention to individually auction them off at whatever trade-in value is provided to the Town by the company the Club will purchase the new carts from. The remaining carts after the auction will be traded-in.
5. I would respectfully request that the Select Board authorize me to issue an RFP for Town Counsel Services. I have discussed this in detail individually with several members of the Board. I believe it is important to find out what other firms are available and what kinds of services are provided. We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.
6. Olin Lathrop has requested time on the Agenda to present the Forest Legacy Program to the Board. Enclosed with this report is a summary of the program prepared by Mr. Lathrop for the Board's review and consideration.
7. As is our practice, I have set aside time on the Agenda to update the Board on any issues concerning the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget. As of the writing of this report, I have no new information. I will provide the Board with any necessary update at Monday's meeting.

**Select Board
Weekly Report
March 22, 2021
page three**

8. Please see the update to the Select Board's Meeting Schedule through Spring Town Meeting:
- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Monday, March 22, 2021 | -Already Posted |
| Monday, March 29, 2021 | -Executive Session with Housing Trust (6:00 p.m.)
-Report from Treasure-in-Training on T.R.E.A.D Program
-Take Positions on Remaining Warrant Articles |
| Monday, April 5, 2021 | -Regularly Scheduled Meeting (Potentially No Meeting) |
| Monday, April 12, 2021 | -Finalize Warrant for Spring Town Meeting |
| Monday, April 19, 2021 | -No Meeting – (Patriot's Day Holiday) |
| Monday, April 26, 2021 | -Final Spring Town Meeting Prep |
| Saturday, May 1, 2021 | 2021 Spring Town Meeting |

MWH/rjb
enclosures



Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard – Thursday, March 18, 2021

Count and Rate of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases and Tests Performed in MA by City/Town, January 1, 2020 – March 16, 2021

City/Town	Total Case Count	Case Count (Last 14 Days)	Average Daily Incidence Rate per 100,000 (Last 14 days) ¹	Relative Change in Case Counts ²	Total Tests	Total Tests (Last 14 days)	Total Positive Tests (Last 14 days)	Percent Positivity (Last 14 days)	Change in Percent Positivity ³
Freetown	863	36	28.4	Lower	13842	777	41	5.28%	Higher
Gardner	2107	33	11.9	Lower	35073	1620	37	2.28%	Lower
Georgetown	499	18	14.3	Lower	13584	766	18	2.35%	No Change
Gill	32	<5	12.8	No Change	4516	290	3	1.03%	No Change
Gloucester	1672	71	17.9	Lower	45194	2984	83	2.78%	Lower
Goshen	24	0	0	Lower	973	91	0	0%	Lower
Gosnold	5	0	0	No Change	127	2	0	0%	No Change
Grafton	1051	63	22.4	Higher	36454	2533	70	2.76%	Higher
Granby	313	10	11.7	Lower	10868	752	12	1.60%	Lower
Granville	70	<5	4.6	Lower	1931	91	1	1.10%	Lower
Great Barrington	398	9	9.6	Lower	24499	1523	11	0.72%	Lower
Greenfield	707	24	10.0	Higher	33997	2396	28	1.17%	Higher
Groton	423	17	10.4	Higher	23531	1386	17	1.23%	Higher
Groveland	429	15	15.7	Higher	9885	492	15	3.05%	Higher
Hadley	282	8	9.8	Lower	22318	1869	9	0.48%	Lower
Halifax	445	16	15.0	Lower	9904	489	19	3.89%	Lower
Hamilton	351	16	15.5	Lower	14453	817	16	1.96%	Lower

Data are current as of 11:59pm on 03/16/2021; For populations <50,000, <5 cases are reported as such or suppressed for confidentiality purposes. ¹ For the calculations used to delineate Grey, Green, Yellow, and Red, please see table on page 25. ² Number of new cases occurring over the current two-week period (2/28/2021 - 3/13/2021) compared to the previous two-week period (2/21/2021 - 3/6/2021). **Higher**=number of new cases in the current two-week period higher than the number of new cases during the last two-week period. **Lower**=number of new cases in the current two-week period lower than number of new cases during the last two-week period. **No change**=number of new cases in current two-week period is equal to the number of new cases during the last two-week period. ³ Change in percent positivity compared to the previous week's (3/11/2021) report. **No Change**= <0.10% difference in the percent positivity. DPH calculates rates per 100,000 population using denominators estimated by the University of Massachusetts Donahue Institute using a modified Hamilton-Perry model (Strate S, et al. Small Area Population Estimates for 2011 through 2020, report, Oct 2016.) As of 11/5/2020, the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is using the 2019 population estimates, the most current available data. **Please note:** Data for these tables are based on information available in the DPH surveillance database at a single point in time. Case counts for specific cities and towns change throughout the day as data cleaning occurs (removal of duplicate reports within the system) and new demographic information (assigning cases to their city or town of residence) is obtained.

Mark Haddad

From: Olin Lathrop <olin@embedinc.com>
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 12:25 PM
To: Mark Haddad
Subject: RE: Forest Legacy program
Attachments: b.jpg

Hi, Mark. Here is a high level view of what I plan to present to the board on Monday 22 March.

--- Forest Legacy grant proposal ---

Forest Legacy is a federal program that seeks to provide for forest lands into the future. The purpose is primarily to provide a perpetual source of forest products, but also for conservation. Applications to the program are forwarded by the states. States weed thru all the proposals they receive internally, then forward a very limited number on to the federal government each year.

The program pays for 75% of the cost of acquiring eligible land outright, or the cost of a conservation restriction to keep it in forestry. To qualify, land needs to be at least 75% forested, and to be "at risk" of becoming not-forested. This means land already in conservation doesn't qualify, although there are some details regarding how exactly "already in conservation" is determined. Any existing Conservation Commission lands clearly do not qualify, nor would the Fish and Wildlife and DCR properties in town.

The FL program pays for 75% of the assessed value, regardless of what is actually paid to acquire the land or the CR. Lands acquired by donation, therefore, count towards the 25% local obligation at 75% of their value.

The Forest Legacy program is not applicable to a few acres here and there.
1000 acres is about the absolute bare minimum, although it can be spread over multiple parcels.

The Nashua River Watershed Association is coordinating an effort to submit a Forest Legacy grant application this year. This is being done now to leverage the recent federal designation of the Nashua River as Wild and Scenic. All 10 towns in the Nashua River watershed are working together to present one application to the state later this year. In our region, a coordinated effort such as this is required to reach a reasonable number of acres for the program. This is something that is effectively impossible for Groton, or any other single town in our region, to do on their own. In Groton, the Conservation Commission, the Groton Conservation Trust, the Nashua River Watershed Association, and the MA Division of Fish and Wildlife are working together to approach land owners about this program. This effort has been underway since November.

--- Surrenden Farms Reserve Parcel ---

Back in 2006 when the Surrenden Farms conservation deal was made, a 15 acre parcel was set aside and deliberately not put into conservation. See attached map. This parcel is owned by the town and under the administration of the Select Board.

At the time, an agreement was made with the Groton School that if this parcel was used in such a way as to cause increased traffic on Joy Lane, that the town is obligated to close Joy Lane for most purposes. The only access would then be via the road that runs along the top of the General Field. This road was discontinued by the town in the late 1990s, and would take considerable improvement to support regular vehicle traffic to the Reserve Parcel. It is not clear whether the existing right of way is sufficient for the required improvements, and such an undertaking would be quite expensive in any case.

As a result, there is little realistic use for the Reserve Parcel other than as conservation land. However, just transferring the parcel to the Conservation Commission misses an opportunity to have 75% of the value of the land count towards the 25% local share of the overall Forest Legacy cost. The upcoming Forest Legacy grant proposal is a one-time opportunity to get some monetary value for the land. Eventually it would be transferred to the Conservation Commission under the FL program also, but this needs to be done in such a way that the land is still considered "at risk" when acquired by the program.

-----Original Message-----

From: Mark Haddad <mhaddad@grotonma.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, 10 March, 2021 12:17

To: Olin Lathrop <olin@embedinc.com>; Alison Manugian <amanugian@grotonma.gov>

Cc: Dawn Dunbar <ddunbar@grotonma.gov>

Subject: RE: Forest Legacy program

Hi Olin:

We can put this on the Agenda for either March 22nd or March 29th, whichever works best for you. I would respectfully request that you get me any information relative to the Legacy Program on the Wednesday before the Monday meeting. It is important to provide the Board with information in advance of the meeting so that they are prepared to discuss the program in more detail.

I look forward to hearing from you.



AYER



GROTON TRAFFIC RULES & REGULATIONSORDERS

The following Rules and Orders regulating traffic upon the streets and highways of the Town of Groton are hereby enacted by the Select Board of the Town of Groton and approved by the Massachusetts Department of Public Works. These Rules and Orders were approved for the Town of Groton, on Monday, March 5, 1945; revised and approved on September 8, 2009; and further revised and approved on March 22, 2021.

Article 14 – Definitions

For the purpose of these Rules and Orders, the words and phrases used herein shall have the following meanings except in those instances where the context clearly indicates a different meaning.

- (a) "Street or Highway." The entire width between property lines of every way open to the use of the public for the purpose of travel.
- (b) "Roadway," That portion of a street or highway between the regularly established curb lines or that part, exclusive of shoulders, improved and intended to be used for vehicular traffic.
- (c) "Lane." A longitudinal division of a roadway into a strip of sufficient width to accommodate the passage of a single line of vehicles.
- (d) "Vehicle." Every device in, upon or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a street or highway, except devices moved by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.
- (e) "Parking." The standing of a vehicle, whether occupied, or not otherwise than temporarily, for the purpose of, and while actually engaged in loading or unloading, or in obedience to an officer or traffic signs or signals or while making emergency repairs or, if disabled, while arrangements are being made to move such vehicles.
- (f) "Crosswalk." That portion of a roadway ordinarily included within the prolongation or connection of curb lines and property lines at intersections, or at any portion of a roadway clearly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines on the road surface or by other markings or signs.
- (g) "Sidewalk." That portion of a street or highway set aside for pedestrian travel.
- (h) "Pedestrian." That person afoot or riding on a conveyance moved by human power, except bicycles or tricycles.
- (i) "Railroad Crossing." Any intersection of ways with a railroad right-of-way.
- (j) "Official Traffic Signs." All signs, markings and devices, other than signals, not inconsistent with these rules and orders, and which conform to the standards prescribed by the Mass Highway Department and placed or erected by authority of a public body or official having jurisdiction, for the purpose of guiding, directing, warning or regulating traffic.
- (k) "Official Street Marking." Any painted line, legend, marking or marker of any description painted or placed upon any way authorized by the Town Manager or DPW Director.
- (l) "Official Curb Marking." That portion of a curbing, the painting of which has been authorized by the Town Manager or DPW Director.
- (m) "Traffic Island." Any area or space set aside, within a roadway, which is not intended for use of vehicular traffic.

- (n) "Officer." Any Police officer or any officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for violations of traffic regulations.
- (o) "Emergency Vehicles." Vehicles of the Fire Department, Police Vehicles, Ambulances and Emergency Vehicles of Federal, State, and Municipal departments of Public Service Corporations when the latter are responding to an emergency in relation to the Police and Fire Departments.
- (p) "Traffic." Pedestrians, vehicles, street cars or other conveyances either single or together while using any street or highway for the purpose of travel.
- (q) "Traffic Control Area." Any area along any way, other than an intersecting way, at which drivers are to be controlled by traffic control signals.
- (r) "Bus Stop." An area in the roadway set aside for the boarding of, or alighting from, and the parking of, busses.
- (s) "Taxicab Stands." An area in the roadway in which certain taxicabs are required to park while waiting to be engaged.
- (t) "Funeral Procession." Any procession of mourners properly identified as such, accompanying the remains of a human body.

Article II- Authority and Duties of Police

Sec: 1. Officers to Direct Traffic. It shall be the duty of officers designated by the Chief of Police to enforce the provisions of these rules and orders. Such officers are hereby authorized to direct all traffic either in person or by means of visible or audible signals in conformance with the provisions of these rules and orders, provided that in the event of a fire or other emergency to expedite traffic or safeguard pedestrians, officers of the Police or Fire Department may direct traffic, as conditions may require, notwithstanding the provisions of these rules and orders.

Sec. 2. Police May Close Streets Temporarily. The Chief of Police is hereby authorized to close temporarily any street or highway in an impending or existing emergency, or for any lawful assemblage, demonstration or procession provided there is reasonable justification for the closing of such street.

Sec. 2 A. Road Closure Policy

This policy is to streamline the process of requests to close a secondary road for the purpose of an event, i.e. block party. The applicant shall fill out a Request for Road Closure Form at the Select Board's office including the following information:

- ☐ Contact Person and active cell phone number
(to be on file with Communications Department)
- ☐ Road to be closed
- ☐ Particulars of request i.e. date, time, purpose
- ☐ Consent of neighborhood residents

The Request for Road Closure form shall be forwarded to the Chief of Police for approval. The Chief of Police shall review the request and forward to the Town Manager for his/her approval or denial. The Chief of Police has the right to require a police detail for the event

should circumstances warrant the need for traffic control/safety measures. The cost of any police detail shall be the sole responsibility of the applicant.

The following conditions and restrictions shall apply.

1. A point of contact for the event, including active cell phone number must be on file with the Communications Center.
2. All blockades shall be easily movable i.e. a barrier. Vehicles and tables laden with food shall not be used.
3. One lane of traffic shall be unobstructed by tables, tents, chairs, etc. at all times to allow access to the farthest residence beyond the barricade.
4. Entertainment shall cease at 10:00 p.m. or in accordance with any Town of Groton noise by-law.
5. Clean up will commence immediately following the event and is the sole responsibility of the applicant.

Notification shall be made to the applicant by the Chief Police

Sec. 3. Police May Prohibit Parking Temporarily. The Chief of Police is hereby authorized to prohibit, temporarily, parking on any street or highway or part thereof in an impending or existing emergency, or for a lawful assemblage, demonstration or procession provided there is reasonable justification for such prohibition. Vehicles parked in places where such parking is prohibited temporarily may be moved by or under the direction of an officer.

Sec. 4. Exemptions. The provisions of these rules and orders shall not apply to operators actually engaged in work upon a street or highway closed to travel or under construction or repair, to officers when engaged in the performance of public duties nor to drivers of emergency vehicles while operating in an emergency and in performance of public duties when the nature of the work of any of these performance of public duties when the nature of the work of any of these necessitates a departure from any part of these rules and orders. These exemptions shall not, however, protect the drivers of any vehicle from the consequences of a reckless disregard of the safety of others.

Article III – Traffic Signs, Signals, Markings and Zones

Sec. 1. Traffic Signs and Signals, Markings and Zones

- (a) The DPW Director is hereby authorized, and as to those signals and signals required hereunder, it shall be its duty to place and maintain or cause to be placed and maintained all official traffic signs, signals, markings and safety zones. All signs, signals markings and safety zones shall conform to the standards as prescribed by the Mass Highway Department.
- (b) Section 2 and 3 of Article II and Sections 2 to 4 inclusive of Article IV relative to parking shall be effective only during such times as a sufficient number of official signs are erected and maintained in each block designating the provisions of such sections and located so as to be easily visible to approaching drivers.
- (c) Sections relating to one-way streets shall be effective only during such time as a sufficient number of official signs are erected and maintained at each of the exits for each one-way street, so that at least one sign will be clearly visible for a distance of at least seventy-five (75) feet to drivers approaching such an exit.

Sec. 2. Display of Unauthorized Signs, Signals and Markings Prohibited. It shall be unlawful for any person to place or maintain or to display upon or in view of any street any official sign, signal, marking or device which purports to be or is an imitation of or resembles an official traffic sign, signal, marking or device or which attempts to direct the movement of traffic or which hides from view any official sign or signal. The Chief of Police and DPW Director are hereby empowered to remove every such prohibited sign, signal, marking or device or cause it to be removed without notice.

Sec. 3. Interference with Signs, Signals, and Markings Prohibited. Any person who willfully defaces, injures, moves, obstructs or interferes with any official traffic sign, signal, or marking shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding fifty (50) dollars for each and every offence and the costs of sign and replacement.

Sec. 4. Location of bus Stops, Taxicab Stands and Service Zones. The location of all bus stops, taxicab stands and service zones shall be specified by the Select Board and in the case of Taxicab Stands the Select Board shall designate who may use them as such.

Sec. 5. Obedience to Traffic Signs and Signals. No driver of any vehicle or of any street car shall disobey the instructions of any official traffic control signal, sign, marking, marker or legend, unless otherwise directed by a police officer.

Article IV- Parking

Sec. 1. General Prohibitions. No person shall park a vehicle in any of the following places and vehicles found parked in violation of the provisions of this section may be moved by or under the direction of an officer and at the expense of the owner to a place where parking is permitted.

- (a) Within an intersection.
- (b) Upon any sidewalk.
- (c) Upon any crosswalk and within (10) ten feet of a crosswalk if so marked.
- (d) Upon the roadway where parking is permitted unless both curb or edge of roadway, except upon those streets which are designated as one-way, vehicles shall be parked in the direction in which said vehicle is moving and with both wheels within (12) twelve inches of the curb or edge of roadway.
- (e) Upon any roadway where the parking of a vehicle will not leave a clear and unobstructed lane at least (10) ten feet wide for passing traffic.
- (f) Upon any street or highway within (10) ten feet of a fire hydrant.
- (g) Upon or in front of any private road or driveway.
- (h) Upon any street or highway within (10) ten feet of an intersection way, except alleys.
- (i) Within (15) fifteen feet of the wall of a fire station or directly across the street from such station provided signs are erected acquainting the driver of such restriction.
- (j) Alongside or opposite any street excavation or obstruction when such stopping, standing or parking would obstruct traffic.

Sec. 2. Prohibited Parking. Prohibited parking enforcement is done when a sign is posted that is approved by the Town Manager with recommendation from the Police Chief.

Sec. 3. Angle Parking.

(a) No angle parking shall be allowed on a public way unless approved by the Town Manager.

Sec. 4. No All –Night Parking. It shall be unlawful for the driver of any vehicle, other than one acting in an emergency, to park said vehicle on any street for a period of time longer than one (1) hour between the hours of 1:00 am – 6:00 am of any day.

***Note - *Winter Parking Ban is from November 15th – April 15th.
Snow Emergency- No on-street parking when a Snow Emergency
is declared by the DPW Director or Town Manager.***

Sec. 5. Parking Clerk. The Parking Clerk is an appointed position by the Town Manager for a one-year term with no remuneration. The Parking Clerk supervises and coordinates the processing of parking notices in the Town and may not perform other police functions. The Parking Clerk receives fines for violations, holds hearings for contested citations and notifies the Registrar of Motor Vehicles of any unresolved violations.

Sec 6. Penalty & Fees- First Offense shall be fine listed below. A second or subsequent offense shall be double that of first offense.

FINE	CODE	VIOLATION
\$25.00	1	Overtime Parking
\$25.00	2	Parking within 10 feet of intersection
\$25.00	3	Parking upon any sidewalk
\$25.00	4	Parking upon any crosswalk
\$25.00	5	Parking on roadway in rural district
\$25.00	6	Parking more than 1 foot from curb
\$25.00	7	Not leaving 10 feet of unobstructed lane
\$25.00	8	Upon or in front of any private road or driveway
\$50.00	9	Parking on street more than 1 hour during winter snow ban
\$25.00	10	Parking in no parking zone
\$25.00	11	Parking in wrong direction
\$25.00	12	Not parking in marked spaces/meter
\$25.00	13	Blocking bus stop/taxi stand
\$25.00	14	Blocking service/loading zone
\$25.00	15	Parking on grass/landscaped town owned

FINE	CODE	VIOLATION
\$25.00	16	Parking "double"
\$50.00	17	Parking on street during snow emergency
\$50.00	18	Blocking Fire/Ambulance driveway
\$50.00 <u>100.00</u>	19	Parking within 10 feet of fire hydrant
\$50.00 <u>100.00</u>	20	Parking in marked fire lane
\$50.00 <u>100.00</u>	21	Beach parking without permit/sticker
\$100.00	22	Obstructing handicap ramp/sidewalk access
\$100.00	23	Parking in handicap zone
\$100.00	24	Interfering with emergency vehicles

Article V. Zones of Quiet.

Sec. 1. Zones of Quiet

- (a) All of the territory within two hundred (200) feet of the premises of each hospital of this town is hereby created and established as Zones of Quiet. The Chief of Police is hereby authorized to erect and maintain in a conspicuous manner within this area such signs and markings as are necessary to designate it as a zone of quiet.
- (b) The Chief of Police may temporarily establish a zone of quiet upon any street where a person is seriously ill, if requested to do so by the written statement of at least one registered physician certifying to its necessity. Said temporary zone of quiet shall embrace all territory within a radius of two hundred (200) feet of the building occupied by the person named in the request of said physician. Said temporary zones of quiet shall be designated by the police by placing at a conspicuous place in the street a sign or marker bearing the words "Zone of Quiet."
- (c) No person operating a motor vehicle within any designated and signed zone of quiet shall sound the horn or other warning device of said vehicle except in an emergency.
- (d) Idling- MA General Laws Chapter 90, Section 16A, states that: No person shall cause, suffer, allow, or permit the unnecessary operation of the engine of a motor vehicle while said vehicle is stopped for a foreseeable period in excess of five minutes.

Article VI - Advertising Signs, and Displays and Storage of Materials in Streets

Sec. 1. Using Vehicle for Sole Purpose of Displaying Advertising Prohibited. No Person shall operate or park a vehicle on any street or highway for the sole purpose of displaying advertising signs.

Sec. 2. Advertising Signs on Sidewalks or Streets Must Have Permits. No person shall erect or cause to be erected upon or above any town sidewalk, street or highway right of way any advertising sign or other device which projects into or over the sidewalk, street or highway right

of way more than six (6) inches unless a permit authorizing the erection of such sign or device has been issued by the Select Board is in effect. After five days' notice, illegal advertising signs or devices may be removed by, or under, the direction of a police officer and at the expense of the owner. Any person violating the provisions of this section shall be subject to a fine not exceeding five dollars for each day such sign or device has remained after the expiration of the five days' notice. See sign bylaw.

Sec. 3. Placing of Structures or Property in Streets Prohibited.

- (a) No person shall place, erect or cause to be placed or erected within any sidewalk, street or highway any fixture or structure unless a permit, issued by the Select Board in the case of Town ways, or by the Department of Public Works, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, in the case of State highways authorizing such placing or erection has been granted and is in effect.
- (b) No person, other than one employed directly or indirectly by this town or by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and while in the performance of necessary public duties, shall at any time place or leave in any sidewalk, street or highway any article, material or merchandise, or park any vehicle or cart in any sidewalk, street or highway for the purpose of displaying merchandise, unless a permit issued by the Select Board in the case of Town Ways or by the Department of Public Works in the case of State Highways, authorizing the use of sidewalk, street or highway has been granted and is in effect; except as may be necessary for the reasonable and expeditious loading or unloading of any such article, material, merchandise, cart or vehicle; provided, however, that such property shall never be left so as to obstruct the free passage of pedestrians or vehicle travel.
- (c) Any such fixture, structure or property referred to in this section which has been erected, placed or left illegally in any street, highway or sidewalk may be moved by, or under, the direction of an officer at the owner's expense.

Sec. 4. Deposit, Bond or Insurance Policy may be required for the privilege of using the streets for Special Purposes. The Board or Officer issuing permits for such use of sidewalks, streets or highways as are described in the two previous sections, may in its, his, or her discretion, when occasion justifies, demand a suitable cash deposit, security bond, or insurance indemnity policy to save the town or the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from all liability caused directly or indirectly by such use. Bond to be held by the Treasurer.

Article VII- One Way Streets.

Sec. 1. One-Way Streets. Upon the following streets or parts of streets vehicular traffic shall move only in the direction indicated below:

Court Street from Main Street to Station Avenue

Broadmeadow Road from Main Street to Playground Road

Old Legion Road from Main Street to School Street

Blossom Lane from Hollis Street to Martins Pond Road.

Article VIII- Heavy Commercial Vehicles

Restricted. The use and operation of heavy commercial vehicles having a carrying capacity of more than 2.5 tons are hereby restricted on the following named streets or parts thereof and in the marked outlines in the times set forth.

1. Mill Street
2. Champney Street

Loading or Unloading Construction Vehicles on the Right of Way. There will be no unprotected, loading or unloading of heavy construction equipment, tracked or with rubber tires, along the public right of way, to access a construction site. If it is not possible to do so, it will be done as close to the construction site as possible and the operator will be responsible for providing protection to the surface of the road. This may be done by using wood, tires, etc., as long it protects the surface of the road from being damaged. If, in the opinion of the DPW director, damage has occurred to the road, then the operator or company who unloaded the equipment on the right of way will be responsible to repair the damage.

Article IX – Schools Zones

1. Groton School-Farmers Row
2. Boutwell School-Hollis Street
3. Florence Roche/GD Middle School-Main Street

Article X- Operation of Vehicles

Sec. 1. Drive within Marked Lane. When any roadway has been divided into lanes, a driver of a vehicle shall drive so as to be entirely within a single lane and shall not move from the lane in which he is driving until he has first ascertained that such movement can be made with safety.

~~Sec. 2. Use Right Lane. Upon all roadways the driver of a vehicle shall drive in the lane nearest the right side of the roadway when said lane is available for travel except when overtaking another vehicle or when preparing for a left turn.~~

Sec. ~~23~~. Overtake Only When There is a Space Ahead. The driver of a vehicle shall not overtake and pass a vehicle proceeding in the same direction unless there is sufficient clear space ahead on the right side of the roadway to permit the overtaking to be completed without impeding the safe operation of any vehicle ahead or behind.

Sec. ~~34~~. Driver to Give Way to Overtaking Vehicle. The driver of a vehicle when about to be overtaken and passed by another vehicle approaching from the rear shall give way to the right in favor of the overtaking vehicle, on a suitable and audible signal being given by the driver of the overtaking vehicle, and shall not increase the speed of his vehicle until completely passed by the overtaking vehicle.

Sec. ~~45~~. Obstructing Traffic.

- (a) No person shall drive in such a manner as to obstruct unnecessarily the normal movement of traffic upon any street or highway. Officers are hereby authorized to require any driver who fails to comply with this section to drive to the side of the roadway and wait until such traffic has been delayed has passed.

- (b) No driver shall enter an intersection or marked crosswalk unless there is sufficient space on the other side of the intersection or crosswalk and on the right half of the roadway to accommodate the vehicle he is operating without obstructing the passage of other vehicles or pedestrian notwithstanding any traffic control signal to proceed.

Sec. 56. Following Too Closely. The driver of a vehicle shall not follow another vehicle more closely than reasonable and prudent, having due regard to the speed of such vehicle and the traffic upon, and condition of the street or highway. Upon roadways less than twenty-seven (27) feet wide and upon which vehicular traffic is permitted to operate in both directions, the driver of any slow-moving vehicle when traveling outside of a business or residential district shall not follow another slow-moving vehicle within two hundred (200) feet, but this shall not be construed to prevent such slow-moving vehicle from overtaking and passing another slow-moving vehicle. This section shall not apply to funerals or other lawful processions.

Sec. 67. Care in Starting, Stopping, Turning or Backing. The driver of any vehicle before starting, stopping, turning from a direct line or backing shall first see that such movement can be made in safety. If the operation of another vehicle should be affected by a stopping or turning movement, the driver of such vehicle shall be given a plainly visible signal, as required by the following section.

Sec. 78. Stopping and Turning Signals.

- (a) Any signal herein required shall be given in sufficient time in advance of the movement indicated to give ample warning to any person who may be affected by said movement, and shall be given either by means of the hand and arm in the specified manner, or by a suitable mechanical or electrical device, except that when a vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent the hand or arm signal from being made or from being visible both to the front and rear, the signal shall be given by a suitable device.

~~(b) (b) Hand and arm signals, as required herein shall be made as follows: Hand and Arm signal, as required shall be made by using left arm extended out the driver's window:~~

~~(c) (c) An intention to stop shall be indicated by extending the arm horizontally to the left and beyond the side of the vehicle. An intention to slow down or stop should be indicated by extending your left arm downward with your palm facing backward.~~

~~(d) (d) An intention to turn to the left shall be indicated by extending the arm horizontally to the left of and beyond the side of the vehicle, and by pointing to the left with the index finger. An intention to turn left turn should be indicated by extending the left arm straight out through the window.~~

~~(e) (e) An intention to turn to the right shall be indicated by extending the arm horizontally to the left of and beyond the side of the vehicle, any by moving the hand in a circle. An intention to turn right should be indicated by extending your arm at a 90° angle upwards~~

Sec. 89. Obedience to Isolated Stop Signs. Every driver of a vehicle, railway car or other conveyance, approaching an intersection of ways where there exists facing him an official sign, bearing the word "STOP" and authorized by this section, and such approval being in effect shall

before proceeding through the intersection, bring such vehicle, railway car or other conveyance to a complete stop at such point as may be clearly marked by a sign or line, or if a point is not so marked, then at a place between the said "Stop" sign and the nearer line of the street intersection. In the case of a line of two or more vehicle approaching such "Stop" sign, the drivers of the second and third vehicles in the line in any group shall not be required to stop more than once before proceeding through the intersection. This section shall not apply when the traffic is otherwise directed by an officer or by lawful traffic regulating sign, signal or device.

In accordance with the foregoing and erection and maintenance of official "**Stop**" sign(s) are authorized so as to face:

Sector 1 Stop Signs

Broadmeadow Rd. @ Farmers Row

Blossom Ln. @ Martins Pond Rd.

Chestnut Hill Rd. @ Martins Pond Rd.

Court St. @ Main St.

Cow Pond Brook Rd @ Hoyts Wharf Rd. (X2)

Cow Pond Brook Rd @ Lowell Rd.

Culver Rd. @ Smith St.

Fletcher Hill Ln. @ Forge Village Rd.

Gay Rd. @ Boston Rd.

Gay Rd. @ Lowell Rd.

Gilson Rd. @ Forge Village Rd.

Graniteville Rd @ Lowell Rd.

Hayden Rd. @ Forge Village Rd.

Hemlock Park Dr. @ Lowell Rd.

Hidden Valley Rd. @ Whiley Rd.

Higley St. @ Farmers Row

Higley St. @ Peabody St.

Hollis St. @ Main St.

Hoyts Wharf Rd. @ Cow Pond Brook Rd. (X2)

Hoyts Wharf Rd. @ Old Dunstable Rd.

Indian Hill Rd @ Old Ayer Rd

Island Pond Rd. @ Old Dunstable Rd.

Lost Lake Dr. @ Lowell Rd.

Lowell Rd. @ Main St.

Martins Pond Rd. @ Hollis St.

Martins Pond Rd. @ School House Rd. (X2)

New Pond Rd. @ Forge Village Rd.

Old Ayer Rd. @ Boston Rd.

Old Carriage Path @ Forge Village Rd.

Old Dunstable Rd. @ Lowell Rd.

Orchard Lane @ Martins Pond Rd.

Orr Rd. @ Forge Village Rd.

Peabody St. @ Farmers Row

Peabody St. @ Old Ayer Rd.

Powderhouse Rd. @ Main St.

Raddin Rd. @ Chicopee Row

School House Rd. @ Lowell Rd.

School House Rd. @ Martins Pond Rd.
Smith St. @ Farmers Row
Smith St. @ Old Ayer Rd.
Stonebridge Way @ Forge Village Rd.
Sunset Rd. @ Boston Rd.
Whiley Rd. @ Boston Rd.
Worthen Dr. @ Old Ayer Rd.

Sector 2 Stop Signs

180 Wharton Row @ 91 Wharton Row (Loop)
7 Overlook Dr. @ Meadowview Rd.
Arbor Way @ Cherry Tree Ln.
Arlington St. @ Main St.
Arlington St. @ Mill St.
Bixby Hill Rd. @ Pepperell Rd.
Breakneck Rd. @ Longley Rd.
Castle Drive @ Pepperell Rd.
Champney St. @ Hollis St.
Champney St. @ Main St.
Common St. @ Hollis St.
Common St. @ Nod Rd.
Crosswinds Drive @ Townsend Rd. (X2)
Elm St. @ Main St.
Elm St. @ Pleasant St.
Fitches Bridge @ Main St.
Fox Run @ Pepperell Rd.
Gratuity Rd. @ Mill St.
Hickory Ln. @ Jenkins Rd.
Hill Rd. @ Maple Ave. (X2)
Hill Rd. @ Pepperell Rd.
Hill Rd. @ West Main St.
Integrity Way @ Pepperell Rd.
Jenkins Rd. @ Mill St.
Joy Ln. @ Farmers Row
Joy Ln. @ Shirley Rd. (2 Signs)
Kemp St. @ Pepperell Rd.
Kemp St. @ Townsend Rd.
Kirk Farm Rd. @ Meadowview Rd.
Kirk Farm Rd. @ Nashua Rd.
Legion Rd. @ School St.
Long Hill Rd. @ Farmers Row
Longley Rd. @ Hollis St. (Right Turn Direction)
Magnolia Ln. @ Cherry Tree Ln.
Maple Ave. @ Hill Rd.
Maple Ave. @ Pepperell Rd.
Meadow View Dr. @ 102 Overlook Dr.
Meadow View Rd. @ Nashua Rd.
Mill St. @ Canterbury Ln.
Mill St. @ Main St.

Mill St. @ Pleasant St.
 Nashua Rd. @ Longley Rd.
 Nod Rd. @ Main St.
 Nod Rd. @ Main St.
 Paquawket Path @ Longley
 Pepperell Rd. @ Townsend Rd.
 Reedy Meadow Rd. @ Chicopee Row
 Reedy Meadow Rd. @ Nashua Rd.
 Riverbend Dr. @ 71 Wintergreen Ln.
 Riverbend Drive @ Long Hill Rd.
 Rockwood Ln. @ Townsend Rd.
 Sand Hill Rd. @ Longley Rd.
 School St. @ Hollis St.
 School St. @ Main St.
 St. James @ Pepperell Rd.
 St. James @ Townsend Rd.
 Taylor St. @ Main St.
 Throne Hill Rd. @ Pepperell Rd.
 Town Forest @ West Main St.
 Townsend Rd. @ Townline Rd.
 Townsend Rd. @ Townline Rd. (Townsend's Proctor Rd)
 Townsend Rd. @ West Main St.
 Wallace Rd. @ Pepperell Rd.
 West Main St. @ Townsend Rd. (Sign Coming Off Bridge)
 West St. @ Main St.
 Wharton Row @ Town Forest (All 4 Signs)
 Whiting Ave. @ Elm St.
 Wharton Row @ West Main St.
 Windmill Hill Rd. @ Townsend Rd.
 Wintergreen Ln. @ 156 Riverbend Dr.
 Wyman Rd. @ Nashua Rd.
 Wyman Rd. @ North St.

Sec. 940. Operation of Vehicles at Roadway Divisions. When such roadways as are divided by an island, plot, reservation, or by any structure or other area reserved from the travelled road, drivers of vehicles shall keep to the right of any such divisions, except when otherwise directed by an officer, signs, signals or markings.

Sec. 104. Driving on Road Surfaces Under Construction or Repair. No operator shall enter upon the road surface of any street or highway or section thereof, when, by reason of construction, surface treatment, maintenance or the like, or because of some unprotected hazard, such road surface is closed to travel, and one or more signs, lights or signals have been erected to indicate that all or part of the road surface of the street or highway is not to be used, or when so advised by an officer, watchman, member of a street or highway crew or employee of the Town, either audibly or by signals.

Sec. 112. Rights and Duties of Drivers in Funeral Or other Processions.

- (a) It shall be the duty of each driver in a funeral or other procession to keep as near to the right edge of the roadway as is feasible and to follow the vehicle ahead as closely as is practicable and safe.

- (b) At an intersection where a traffic control signal is operating, the driver of the first vehicle in a funeral or other procession shall be the only one required to stop for a red or red and yellow indication.
- (c) At an intersection where a lawful 'Stop' sign exists, the driver of the first vehicle in a funeral or other procession shall be the only one required to stop before proceeding through the intersection.

Sec. 123. Dropping or Leaking Loads. No vehicle shall be driven or moved on any street or highway nor shall any owner of any vehicle knowingly permit such vehicle to be driven or moved on any street or highway unless such vehicle is so constructed or loaded as to prevent its contents from spilling, dropping, sifting, leaking or otherwise escaping therefrom. Vehicles loaded with any material which may be blown around by the wind, shall be suitably covered to prevent the contents from being blown upon the streets or highways.

Sec. 134. Emerging From Alley or Private Driveway. The driver of a vehicle emerging from an alley, driveway or garage shall stop such vehicle immediately prior to driving on to a sidewalk or on to the sidewalk area extending across alleyway or driveway.

Article XI- Speed Regulations

Town of Groton Speed Limits

Updated 2/10/21

All roads not listed are 30 MPH (Global Speed Limit) & Need Not Be Posted

Definitions of State Highways In Town:

Rt. 40, (Eastbound/ Westbound):

§ Rt. 40 E. begins at the intersection of Main St. and Lowell Rd. and continues east on Lowell Rd. until the Westford Town Line.

Rt. 111, (Northbound/ Southbound):

§ Rt. 111 N. begins in Groton at the Ayer Town Line on Farmers Row. It continues north onto Pleasant St. and then onto Elm St. It then continues west on Main Street and ends at the Pepperell Town Line.

Rt. 119, (Eastbound/ Westbound):

§ Rt. 119 E. begins in Groton at the Pepperell Town Line on Main St. It continues east on Main St. onto Boston Rd. and ends at the Littleton Town Line.

Rt. 225, (Eastbound/ Westbound):

§ Rt. 225 E. begins in Groton at the Shirley Town Line on West Main St. It continues east onto Long Hill Rd., goes north on Farmers Row/ Pleasant St./ and Elm St. It then continues east on Main St./ Boston Rd./ Forge Village Rd. and ends at the Westford Town Line.

Definitions of Sectors

Sector 1:

East side of Groton. (Everything east from the center of the road of Farmers Row, Pleasant St. Elm St. Legion Rd. School St. Hollis St. and Chicopee Row to the border of Groton.)

Sector 2:

West side of Groton. (Everything west from the center of the road of Farmers Row, Pleasant St. Elm St. Legion Rd. School St. Hollis St. and Chicopee Row to the border of Groton.)

Sector	Street	Speed Limit (MPH)	Location (In the Area of)
1	Blossom Lane (Eastbound): One Way	25	Hollis St. Intersection
1	Boston Road - Rt. 119/225 (Eastbound)	30	1 Main St. (Utility Pole #113)
		35	106 Boston Rd. - CVS
		35	Old Boston Rd. Intersection
		35	660 Boston Rd.
		35	Approx. 300ft. East of Sunset Rd. Intersection
1	Boston Road - Rt. 119/225 (Westbound)	35	Littleton Town Line
		35	760 Boston Rd.
		35	660 Boston Rd.
		35	309 Boston Rd.
		30	106 Boston Rd. - CVS
1	Broadmeadow Road (Eastbound)	35	Farmers Row Intersection
		25	Utility Pole #19
1	Broadmeadow Road (Westbound)	25	16 Broadmeadow Rd.
		35	Utility Pole #17
2	Common Street (Southbound)	30	Intersection of Nod Rd. & Sand Hill Rd.
2	Common Street (Northbound)	30	Utility Pole #1
1	Cow Pond Brook Road (Northbound)	25	Utility Pole #45 (Transfer Station)
		25	Intersection of Hoyts Wharf Rd.
1	Cow Pond Brook Road (Southbound)	25	Lowell Rd. Intersection
		25	Utility Pole #40
		25	Utility Pole #33
2	Chicopee Row (Southbound)	30	Dunstable Town Line
		30	686 Chicopee Row
		30	638 Chicopee Row
		30	622 Chicopee Row
		35	293 Chicopee Row
		30	39 Chicopee Row

This will be formatted correctly once track changes are all accepted

Sector	Street	Speed Limit (MPH)	Location (In the Area of)
1	Chicopee Row (Northbound)	30	Intersection of Hollis St.
		35	1 Chicopee Row
		30	293 Chicopee Row
		30	402 Chicopee Row
		30	686 Chicopee Row
2	Elm Street (Southbound)	25	Approx. 100ft. from Main St. Intersection
1	Elm Street (Northbound)		
1	Farmers Row - Rt. 111/225 (Northbound)	40	Ayer Town Line
		35	357 Farmers Row
2	Farmers Row - Rt. 111/225 (Southbound)	35	Intersection of Pleasant St.
		35	123 Farmers Row
		35	235 Farmers Row
		40	357 Farmers Row
1	Flavell Road (Northbound)	30	Intersection of Lowell Rd.
1	Flavell Road (Southbound)	35	Intersection of Hoyts Wharf Rd.
1	Forge Village Road - Rt. 225 (Eastbound)	35	Intersection of Boston Rd.
1	Forge Village Road - Rt. 225 (Westbound)	40	Westford Town Line
1	Gay Road (Northbound)	30	Intersection of Boston Rd.
		25	142 Gay Rd.
		25	205 Gay Rd.
1	Gay Road (Southbound)	25	Intersection of Lowell Rd.
		30	147 Gay Rd.
1	Higley Street (Northbound)	30	Intersection of Peabody St.
1	Higley Street (Southbound)	30	Intersection of Farmers Row
2	Hill Road (Westbound)	25	Intersection of West Main St.
		30	99 Hill Rd.
		20	173 Hill Rd.
		25	235 Hill Rd.
2	Hill Road (Eastbound)	25	Intersection of Pepperell Rd.
		20	235 Hill Rd.
		30	173 Hill Rd.
		25	99 Hill Rd.
1	Hollis Street (Northbound)	30	10 Hollis St.
		30	111 Hollis St.
2	Hollis Street (Southbound)	30	200 Hollis St.
2	Long Hill Road - Rt. 225 (Westbound)	40	Approx. 500ft. from Farmers Row
		35	Approx. 300ft. before Nashua River Bridge
2	Long Hill Road - Rt. 225 (Eastbound)	35	Intersection of West Main St.
		40	Approx. 500ft after Nashua River Bridge
		25	Approx. 500ft. from Farmers Row
2	Longley Road (Northbound)	30	Intersection of Hollis St.
		30	158 Longley Rd.
		30	284 Longley Rd.
		30	475 Longley Rd.

Sector	Street	Speed Limit (MPH)	Location (In the Area of)
2	Longley Road (Southbound)	30	Pepperell Town Line
		30	284 Longley Rd.
		30	250 Longley Rd.
1	Lost Lake Drive (Eastbound)	30	Intersection of Lowell Rd.
		30	124 Lost Lake Drive
		20	277 Lost Lake Drive
		20	331 Lost Lake Drive
1	Lost Lake Drive (Westbound)	20	Intersection of Pine Trail (Utility Pole #2)
		30	277 Lost Lake Drive
1	Lovers Lane (Northbound)	25	Intersection of Boston Rd.
		20	45 Lovers Lane
1	Lovers Lane (Southbound)	20	Intersection of Whitman Rd.
		25	45 Lovers Lane
1	Lowell Road - Rt. 40 (Westbound)	35	Westford Town Line
		35	Intersection of Heritage Ln.
		40	Approx. 100ft. before Old Dunstable Rd.
		30	373 Lowell Rd.
		25	61 Lowell Rd.
1	Lowell Road - Rt. 40 (Eastbound)	25	Approx. 100ft. after north of Main St.
		30	19 Lowell Rd.
		40	373 Lowell Rd.
		35	Approx. 200ft. after Allens Trail
1/2	Main Street - Rt. 111/119 (Eastbound)	40	Pepperell Town Line
		35	391A Main St.
		35	Intersection of Champney St.
		30	263 Main St. @ Elm St.
1/2	Main Street - Rt. 111/119 (Westbound)	30	39 Main St.
		35	263 Main St. @ Elm St.
		40	368 Main St.
		40	391A Main St.
1	Martins Pond Road (Eastbound)	30	Utility Pole #5
		30	Utility Pole #27
		20	Intersection of Orchard St.
1	Martins Pond Road (Westbound)	20	Intersection of Rocky Hill Rd.
		20	523 Martins Pond Rd.
		30	409 Martins Pond Rd.
		30	Utility Pole 45
2	Mill Street (Northbound)	25	Approx. 500ft. north of Farmers Row
		30	Intersection of Canterbury Ln.
		25	245 Mill St.
2	Mill Street (Southbound)	30	257 Mill St.
		25	Intersection of Canterbury Ln.
		25	2 Mill St.
2	Nashua Road (Northbound)	35	Intersection of Longley Rd.
		30	Intersection of Reedy Meadow Rd.
		20	Intersection of Wyman Rd.
		30	425 Nashua Rd.

Sector	Street	Speed Limit (MPH)	Location (In the Area of)
2	Nashua Road (Southbound)	30	Pepperell Town Line
		20	425 Nashua Rd.
		30	Intersection of Wyman Rd.
		35	Intersection of Reedy Meadow Rd.
		25	22 Nashua Rd.
2	Nod Road (Northbound)	20	18 Nod Rd.
		30	70 Nod Rd.
2	Nod Road (Southbound)	30	Intersection of Sand Hill Rd.
		20	78 Nod Rd.
1	Old Ayer Road (Southbound)	35	24 Old Ayer Rd.
		35	54 Old Ayer Rd.
		40	122 Old Ayer Rd.
		30	284 Old Ayer Rd.
1	Old Ayer Road (Northbound)	30	Ayer Town Line
		40	284 Old Ayer Rd.
		35	122 Old Ayer Road.
		20	49 Old Ayer Rd.
1	Old Dunstable Road (Northbound)	30	Intersection of Lowell Rd.
		25	Intersection of Hoyts Wharf Rd.
1	Old Dunstable Road (Southbound)	25	Dunstable Town Line
		30	Intersection of Hoyts Wharf Rd.
1	Peabody Street (Eastbound)	30	Intersection of Farmers Row
		30	Approx. 100ft past Higley intersection
1	Peabody Street (Westbound)	30	Approx. 130ft. from Old Ayer Rd.
2	Pepperell Road (Northbound)	25	West Groton Square Intersection
		35	32 Pepperell Rd.
		30	132 Pepperell Rd.
		30	Intersection of Hill Rd.
		35	235 Pepperell Rd.
		30	Intersection of Wallace St.
2	Pepperell Road (Southbound)	30	Pepperell Town Line
		35	Intersection of Wallace St.
		30	235 Pepperell Rd.
		25	153 Pepperell Rd.
		25	32 Pepperell Rd.
1	Pleasant Street (Northbound)	35	Intersection of Farmers Row
		25	99 Pleasant St. (Groton Police Station)
		25	Intersection of Elm St.
2	Pleasant Street (Southbound)	25	Approx. 200ft. from Main St. Intersection
		25	Approx. 100ft. from Whistle Post Ln.
		35	99 Pleasant St. (Groton Police Station)
1	Raddin Road (Eastbound)	25	Intersection of Chicopee Row
		20	67 Raddin Rd.
		25	103 Raddin Rd.
1	Raddin Road (Westbound)	25	157 Raddin Rd.
		20	103 Raddin Rd.
		25	67 Raddin Rd.

Sector	Street	Speed Limit (MPH)	Location (In the Area of)
2	Sand Hill Road (Eastbound)	30	Intersection of Nod Rd./ Common St.
2	Sand Hill Road (Westbound)	30	Intersection of Longley Rd.
1	Sandy Pond Road (Eastbound)	35	Ayer Town Line
1	Sandy Pond Road (Westbound)	35	Intersection of Boston Rd.
1	School House Road (Northbound)	30	Intersection of Lowell Rd.
1	School House Road (Southbound)	30	104 School House Rd.
2	Town Line Road - Rt. 119 (Westbound)	45	Pepperell Town Line
2	Town Line Road - Rt. 119 (Eastbound)	40	Townsend Town Line
2	Townsend Road (Northbound)	35	40 Townsend Rd.
		30	308 Townsend Rd.
		35	396 Townsend Rd.
		35	Intersection of Cherry Tree Ln.
		25	888 Townsend Rd.
2	Townsend Road (Southbound)	35	Intersection of Town Line Rd.
		35	Intersection of Britt Ln.
		35	Intersection of Fieldstone Dr.
		30	406 Townsend Rd.
		35	313 Townsend Rd.
		25	66 Townsend Rd.
2	West Main Street - Rt. 225 (Eastbound)	20	Shirley Town Line
		35	34 West Main St.
		40	163 West Main St.
		35	382 West Main St.
2	West Main Street - Rt. 225 (Westbound)	35	Intersection of Long Hill Rd.
		40	Intersection of Hill Rd.
		35	163 West Main St.
		25	91 West Main St. (Blood Farm)
		25	74 West Main St.
		20	34 West Main St.
1	Whiley Road (Northbound)	30	Intersection of Boston Rd.
		20	228 Whiley Rd.
1	Whiley Road (Southbound)	20	Intersection of Lost Lake Drive/ Pine Trail
		20	Intersection of Moose Trail
		25	218 Whiley Rd.
1	Whitman Road (Eastbound)	20	Intersection of Lovers Lane
		25	132 Whitman Rd.
1	Whitman Road (Westbound)	25	Intersection of Gay Rd.
		20	132 Whitman Rd.

Article XII Snow & Ice

Sec. 1. Winter Parking Ban- The DPW Director declares the Winter Parking Ban. The ban is in effect from November 15th until April 15th.

- On-street parking is prohibited overnight.
- Vehicles that are illegally parked will be ticketed and/or towed.

Sec. 2. Snow Emergency- There is no on-street parking during a Snow Emergency, which is determined by the DPW Director or Town Manager.

Sec. 3. Groton's Storm Strategy

The Town of Groton Highway Department has over 105 miles of roads to maintain. In an effort to make the snow season as safe as possible, we offer the following tips and information. Please remember that each storm is different so our strategy must be adjusted accordingly to achieve the best results. The Highway Department staff is well trained and dedicated to plow around the clock if necessary, to keep the roadways open and passable. If a plow truck is riding with its plow up, please do not be misled. They may be returning to the garage for fuel or repairs or might be headed to another section of town to assist with snow removal.

- Please be advised that Boston Rd. (Rte. 119), Route is maintained by Mass Highway from Old Ayer Road east and Elm Street west.

Residents should not be concerned if they do not see their roadway plowed during the early part of a snowstorm. The Highway Department follows an assigned route plan where main roads and hills are plowed first. Please be patient, all town owned roads will eventually be plowed.

Sec. 4. When the Snow Begins

When a snowstorm begins the Department responds by treating all roads with deicing chemicals. Treating the road surfaces serves two purposes - preventing snow and ice from bonding to the surface and to keep traffic flowing. During certain storms, such as Ice Storms, multiple rounds of deicing chemicals may be applied during the event. The initial treating the roads takes approximately 2 1/2 – 3 hours. Please remember that our crews have to travel on snow covered, slippery untreated roads to get here at any hour of the day or night. Please be patient as the crews will be out as soon as possible to begin snow removal operations.

Sec. 5. During the Storm

Plowing operations begin when there is an accumulation of 2 to 4 inches of snow on road surfaces. Depending upon the severity of the storm, Town forces are assisted by hired contractors to expedite the process of snow removal. Each vehicle is assigned to a pre-determined route and will remain there until the storm subsides, unless an emergency occurs that requires reassignment of equipment from one location to another. The main objective is to keep all roads passable during the storm. Unfortunately, it is not possible to keep the roads free of snow without filling in many driveways; therefore, when you clean the end of your driveway, deposit the excess snow to the downstream side of your driveway. This will minimize the redeposit of snow into the cleared opening when the plow makes its next pass. Do not be surprised to see us plowing with very little snow. It is cheaper to plow than to apply chemicals to melt all the snow.

- Please do not shovel, plow or blow snow or ice into the roadway. You could be liable or fined if you create a hazardous condition in the roadway.
- If you have a private contractor plowing your driveway please make sure to remind them of this as you will be held responsible for their actions.

After plowing is completed, roads are given a final treatment of deicing chemical. In the days following a storm, scraping and treating of roads continues depending upon weather forecasts. If snow is expected right away, we may not treat flat or minor streets if it is going to snow again that night. If colder weather is forecasted streets must be scraped of snow and slush to prevent icing of the surface when the temperature drops. At times right after the storm we will be out again to widen the road edge so that drainage structures are exposed if the temperatures rise and melting occurs. As time allows, snow is removed from intersections and some areas of the center of Town where sight distance and parking is a concern.

Article XIII- Accidents Reports, Responsibility, Penalties and Repeals

Sec. 1. Drivers Must Report Accidents. ~~The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury to, or death of any person, or property damage to an apparent total extent of twenty-five (\$25) dollars or more shall within twenty-four (24) hours make a complete report in writing of such accident to the Police Headquarters in this town.~~ The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injury to, or death of any person, or damage to property or vehicle when the apparent total exceeds one thousand dollars (\$1000.00,) shall within 5 days make a complete report in writing of such accident to the Police Headquarters in this town. A driver who has been incapacitated as a result of such accident, and to such an extent as to make reporting impossible or unfavorable to his recovery, shall not be required to report such accident until he has recovered sufficiently to be able to do so. The report shall be made on a form furnished by the police department, copies of which shall be available at the police station. Compliance with this section, however, shall not relieve such driver from the additional responsibility of reporting to the Registrar of Motor Vehicles any accident in which a person is killed or injured.

Sec. 2. Owner Prima Facie Responsible for Violations. If any vehicle is found upon any street or highway in violation of any provisions of these rules and orders and the identity of the driver cannot be determined, the owner or the person in whose name such vehicle is registered shall be held prima facie responsible for such violations.

Sec. 3. Penalties. Any person violating any provision of any rule, regulation or order regulating the parking of motor vehicles, made by anybody authorized to make same shall be dealt with as provided in Chapter 176 of the legislative Acts of 1935, amending Section 20A of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, and any person violating any of the rules and regulations applicable to State Highways made by the Department of Public Works, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, under authority of Chapter 85, Section 2 of the General laws, shall be subject to the penalty provided in said rules and regulations.

Any person convicted of a violation of any rule, regulations or order made hereunder, except as otherwise provided, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding twenty (\$20) dollars for each offense.

Sec. 4. Repeal. These rules are adopted with the intent that each of them shall have force and effect separately and independently of every other except insofar as by express reference or

necessary implication any rule or any part of a rule is made depend upon another rule or part thereof.

The provisions of these rules so far as they are the same in effect as those of any existing valid rules, orders or regulations heretofore made by the Select Board of Groton relative to, or in connection with official signs, lights, markings, signal systems or devices shall be construed as a continuation thereof; but all existing rules, orders and regulations so made for the regulation of vehicles are hereby expressly repealed. This repeal, however, shall not affect any punishment or penalty imposed or any complaint or prosecutions pending at the time of the passage hereof for an offense committed under any of the said valid rules, orders or regulations hereby repealed.

The following is a list of public and private roads in the Town of Groton:

Source Street Name List July 2020

Acorn Path	Castle Drive
Adams Avenue	Cedar Road
Alder Road	Chamberlains Mill Lane
Allens Trail	Champney Street
Allison Park	Charles Road
Amelia Way	Cherry Tree Lane
Ames Road	Chestnut Hills Road
Anthony Drive	Chestnut Road
Arbor Way	Chicopee Row
Arlington Street	Church Street
Arrow Trail	Common Street
Augustine Road	Connolly Drive
Autumn Leaf Drive	Court Street
Baby Beach Road	Gow Pond Brook Road
Balsam Walk	Crosswinds Drive
Bayberry Road	Crystal Springs Lane
Beecher Road	Culver Road
Birchwood Avenue	Cypress Road
Bixby Hill Road	Dale Lane
Blossom Lane	Deerfield Drive
Boathouse Road	Dolan Drive
Boston Road (Route 119 & 225)	Dorothy Place
Branch Lane	Drumlin Hill Road
Breakneck Road	Duck Pond Drive
Bridge Street	Elm Street
Britt Lane	Englewood Avenue
Broadmeadow Road	Fairview Avenue
Brown Lane	Fairway Drive
Brown Loaf Road	Farmers Row
Bryanwood Lane	Fawn Terrace Lane
Burntmeadow Road	Fertiledale Drive
Candice Lane	Fieldstone Drive
Ganterbury Lane	Fir Road
Cardinal Lane	Fitchs Bridge Road
Carmichael Way	Flavell Road

Fletcher Hill Lane
Floyd Hill Road
Forest Drive
Forge Village Road (Route 225)
Fox Run
Gay Road
Georgia Road
Gilson Road
Graniteville Road
Gratuity Road
Harding Road
Hawtree Way
Hayden Road
Hazel Road
Hazelwood Avenue
Hemlock Park Drive
Hemlock Road
Heritage Lane
Hickory Lane
Hidden Valley Road
High Oaks Path
Highland Road
Higley Street
Hill Road
Hillside Avenue
Hollis Street
Hoyts Wharf Road
Hubbard Lane
Indian Hill Road
Indian Road
Integrity Way
Island Pond Road
Island Road
Jenkins Road
Joy Lane
Juniper Point Road
Kaileys Way
Kemp Street
Kirk Farm Road
Labbe Road
Lakeside Drive
Lakin Street
Laurel Lane
Lawrence Drive
Legion Road
Lindsay Drive
Little Hollow Lane
Lone Lane
Long Cope Drive
Long Hill Road

Longfellow Road
Longley Road
Loomis Lane
Lost Lake Drive
Lovers Lane
Lowell Road (Route 40)
Madeline Drive
Main Street
Maple Avenue
Maplewood Avenue
Mara Lane
Martins Pond Road
Mayfield Drive
McCanns Hill Road
McCarthy Drive
McLains Woods Road
Meadow View Road
Mill Street
Mockingbird Hill Road
Monarch Path
Moors Road
Moose Trail
Nashua Road
Nate Nutting Road
New Pond Road
Nicole Lane
Nod Road
North Street
Northwoods Road
Old Ayer Road
Old Boston Road
Old Carriage Path
Old Dunstable Road
Old Homestead Road
Old Lantern Lane
Old Orchard Street
Olivia Way
O'Neill Way
Orchard Lane
Orion Way
Orr Road
Otter Lane
Overlook Drive
Oxbow Lane
Pacer Way
Painted Post Road
Paquawket Path
Park Drive
Paugus Trail
Peabody Street

Pepperell Road
Pine Trail
Pleasant Street
Point Road
Pond Hill Lane
Powderhouse Road
Prescott Street
Proctor Road (Route 119)
Quail Ridge Road
Raddin Road
Radio Road
Rawding Road
Red Pepper Lane
Redskin Trail
Reedy Meadow Road
Rhodenda Road
Ridge Road
Ridgewood Avenue
Riverbend Drive
Robin Hill Road
Rockwood Lane
Rocky Hill Road
Rooks Run
Ross Road
Roxanne Road
Rustic Trail
Saddle Lane
Sand Hill Road
Sandy Pond Road
Sawtell Drive
School House Road
School Street
Shattuck Street
Shelters Road
Shenandoah Road
Shepley Street
Shirley Road
Shore Lane
Skinner's Lane
Skyfield Drive
Smith Street
Spaulding Drive
Spencer Circle
Spruce Road
Squannacook Drive
St James Avenue
Star House Lane

Station Avenue
Stone Bridge Way
Stonecleave Lane
Summit Avenue
Sunset Road
Sylvan Lane
Tamarack Road
Tavern Road
Taylor Road
Temple Drive
Throne Hill Road
Town Forest Road
Townsend Road
Valley Road
Valliria Drive
Violet Road
Vose Avenue
Wachusett Trail
Wallace Road
Watson Way
Wenuchas Trail
West Groton Road
West Main Street
West Street
Westbrook Lane
Westview Street
Weymisset Road
Wharton Row
Whiley Road
Whispering Brook Road
Whistle Post Lane
Whitaker Lane
Whitewood Road
Whiting Avenue
Whitman Road
Whitney Pond Road
Wildflower Lane
Willowdale Street
Winding Way
Windmill Hill Road
Wintergreen Lane
Wood Lane
Worthen Drive
Wyman Road

Public Roads

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Alder Road
Amelia Way
Ames Road
Anthony Drive
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Arrow Trail
Augustine Road
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Canterbury Lane
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School Street
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Shelters Road
Shenandoah Road
Shepley Street
Shirley Road
Skinner Lane
Skyfield Lane
Sylvan Lane
Smith Street
Spaulding Lane
Spencer Circle
Spruce Road
Squannacook Drive
Star House Lane
Station Ave
Stonebridge Way
Stonecleave Lane
Summit Ave

Sunset Road
Tavern Road
Taylor Road
Temple Drive
Throne Hill Road
Townsend Road
Valley Road
Valliria Drive
Vose Ave
Wallace Road
Watson Way
Wenuchas Trail
West Groton Road
West Main Street
West Street
Westview Street
Weymisset Road
Wharton Row
Whiley Road
Whispering Brook Road
Whistle Post Lane
Whitaker Lane
Whitewood Road
Whiting Ave
Whitman Road
Whitney Pond Road
Wildflower Lane
Willowdale Road
Winding Way
Windmill Hill Road
Wintergreen Lane
Wood Lane
Worthen Drive
Wyman Road

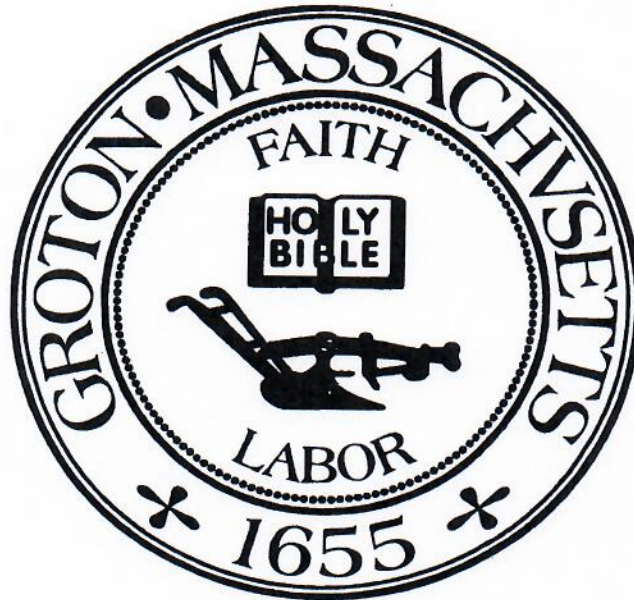
Private Roads

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Allison Park
Arbor Way
Boston Road (State Road)
Bridge Street
Candice Lane
Cherry Tree Lane
Church Street
Dorothy Place
Fieldstone Drive
Georgia Road
Hubbard Lane
Lakin Street
Laurel Lane
Long Cope Drive
Monarch Path
Old Lantern Lane
Olivia Way
Rawding Road
Red Pepper Lane
Ridge Road
Shore Lane
Tamarack Road
Violet Road
Wachusett Trail
Westbrook Lane

REVISED: 3-18-2021

Warrant, Summary, and Recommendations

TOWN OF GROTON



2021 SPRING TOWN MEETING

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

Beginning Saturday, May 1, 2021 @ 9:00 AM

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers

Please bring this Report to Town Meeting

**THE BUDGET HANDOUT FOR ARTICLE 4 IS AVAILABLE
IN THE BACK OF THE WARRANT**

Pandemic Safety Procedures for Town Meeting

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

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

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

Please direct questions regarding the meeting procedures to Jason Kauppi, Town Moderator, at moderator@grotonma.gov or call 978-391-4506.



Town Meeting Access for Voters with Disabilities

Parking – Universally accessible parking spaces are available in the parking lot in front of the Groton Dunstable Middle School South.

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

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

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

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

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

SPRING TOWN MEETING WARRANT
MAY 1, 2021

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

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn said inhabitants of the Town of Groton qualified to vote on Town affairs to assemble in the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Track in said Town on Saturday, the first day of May, 2021 at Nine O'clock in the morning, to consider all business other than the election of Town Officers and on the twenty-fifth day of May, 2021, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., at an adjourned session thereof at the following locations:

Precinct 1	The Groton Center 163 West Main Street	Precincts 2 & 3	Middle School North Gymnasium 346 Main Street
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to give their ballots for:

Vote for One	Board of Assessors	3 Years
Vote for One	Board of Health	3 Years
Vote for One	Select Board	3 Years
Vote for One	Commissioner of Trust Funds	3 Years
Vote for Two	Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee	3 Years
Vote for One	Groton Electric Light Commission	3 Years
Vote for One	Park Commission	3 Years
Vote for One	Park Commission	2 Years
Vote for Three	Planning Board	3 Years
Vote for One	Town Clerk	3 Years
Vote for One	Town Moderator	3 Years
Vote for One	Sewer Commission	3 Years
Vote for Two	Trustees of the Groton Public Library	3 Years
Vote for One	Trustees of the Groton Pubic Library	2 Years
Vote for One	Water Commission	3 Years
Vote for One	Groton Housing Authority	3 Years

QUESTION 1:

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

YES _____ NO _____

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ARTICLE 1: HEAR REPORTS

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

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 2: ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

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

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 3: WAGE AND CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

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

**SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER**

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 4: FISCAL YEAR 2022 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

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

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER**

**Select Board:
Finance Committee:**

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

ARTICLE 5: APPROPRIATE FY 2022 CONTRIBUTION TO THE OPEB TRUST

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

**SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER**

**Select Board:
Finance Committee:**

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

ARTICLE 6: FISCAL YEAR 2022 CAPITAL BUDGET

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

TOWN MANAGER

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

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

Summary: *Engine 1 is a truck that is currently in good condition thus making it a prime candidate for a refurbishment to extend its life. Proactive refurbishment before major issues occur can save significant money on major unexpected repairs and lengthen the life of the Truck. Due to its level of use, the refurbishment of Engine 1 would be best served in FY 2022 to minimize corrosion caused by salt and other weather.*

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #2 – Dump Truck **\$60,000** **Highway**

Summary: *This vehicle will be a scheduled replacement of a front-line truck responsible for plowing and sanding as well as normal construction duties. The anticipated cost of replacement of this truck is \$185,000. It is proposed that the Town borrow the funds through State House notes and pay off the debt over five years. The appropriation this year is the fourth of five payments of the Truck replaced in Fiscal Year 2018. The Town will begin repaying the bond on the Truck purchased this year in Fiscal Year 2023.*

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

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

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #4 – Municipal Building Repairs \$25,000 Town Facilities

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

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #5 – Tractor Trailer Unit \$20,000 Transfer Station

Summary: *At the 2018 Spring Town Meeting, the Meeting authorized the acquisition of a new Tractor Trailer Unit for the Transfer Station by borrowing the necessary funds (\$140,000) through the Commonwealth's State House Notes method and pay off the debt over four years. This will be the final payment for the Unit.*

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

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

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

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

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

Summary: *Seven years ago, we replaced the fleet of twenty-five golf carts with new 2012 Club Car DS gas powered carts using a five-year lease to purchase agreement at an annual cost of approximately \$25,000. Beginning in FY 2022, the Club will need to replace the Carts in the same manner.*

Item #9 – Cart Path/Tee Box Repairs \$10,000 Country Club

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

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

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

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Item #11 – Police Cruisers \$100,000 Police Department

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

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

TOWN MANAGER

ARTICLE 7: CPA RECOMMENDATION – MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK

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

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 8: FLORENCE ROCHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

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

FLORENCE ROCHE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 9: ENGINEERING FUNDS – WHITNEY POND TREATMENT FACILITY

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay costs of engineering design services and owners project manager services related to improving the Whitney Pond Water Treatment Facility, commencing in fiscal year 2021, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Water Commissioners:

Summary: *This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend the sum of \$722,300, to be raised through water rates, for the Design Engineering Services and the Owners Project Manager services related to the new Manganese Treatment Facility at the Whitney Pond Well Site.*

ARTICLE 10: ENGINEERING FUNDS – WHITNEY POND WELL #3

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay costs of engineering design services and owners project manager services related to developing the new Whitney Pond Well #3, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Water Commissioners:

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

ARTICLE 11: EXTEND GROTON CENTER SEWER DISTRICT

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

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Sewer Commissioners:

Summary: *This article requests authorization from the Town Meeting to expand the Center Sewer District to include 108 Pleasant Street, Groton.*

ARTICLE 12: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING ACCOUNTS

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

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 20,500
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Unallocated Reserve:	\$528,930

or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

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

ARTICLE 13: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to adopt and approve the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2022, and vote to implement such recommendations by appropriating a sum or sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the General Laws, and by authorizing the Select Board, with the approval of the Community Preservation Committee, to acquire, by purchase, gift or eminent domain, such real property interests in the name of the Town, or enforceable by the Town, including real property interests in the form of permanent affordable housing restrictions and historical preservation restrictions that will meet the requirements of Chapter 184 of the General Laws, as may be necessary or proper to carry out the foregoing, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CPC Proposal A: Maintenance and Mausoleum Restoration \$65,000

Summary: *The Groton Cemetery Association is requesting \$65,000 in CPA funds to repair and restore both the Maintenance Building and the Mausoleum located at the Groton Cemetery. The full amount to be paid from the Historic Reserve.*

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal B: Field and Recreation Feasibility Study \$20,000

Summary: *The Park Commission is requesting \$20,000 in CPA funds to carry out a Feasibility Study that would include Cow Pond Fields, Waitowicz Field, and Cutler Memorial Field, to determine that they are providing maximum and safe playing surfaces on their acreage while correcting the issue of parking and travel on their properties. The full amount to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal C: Non-Point Sources of Pollution \$40,000

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

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal D: Site Assessment Study

\$150,000

Summary: *The Affordable Housing Trust (AHT) is exploring possible locations for the development of affordable housing. As part of this process, the AHT is seeking \$150,000 in CPA funds to pay for investigatory pre-development and engineering work and/or expert advice in order to assess the costs and feasibility of any potential site for development. Funds may also be used to prepare grant applications to support the creation of affordable housing. Either town-owned or privately-owned parcels may be considered and evaluated. The full amount to be paid from the Community Housing Reserve.*

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal E: Squannacook River Rail Trail

\$30,000

Summary: *Squannacook Greenways is requesting \$30,000 in CPA funds for construction of the Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) from the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing for a total distance of .65 miles. The construction of the entire SRRT is being conducted in phases due to environmental requirements which limit construction activity to a period of between November 15th and March 15th. Squannacook Greenways is also relying on DCR Trails grants to underwrite a large portion of construction costs and has been the successful recipient in the last two rounds of grant cycles. Squannacook Greenways will be applying for a DCR MassTrails grant for FY 2022 and will be relying on CPA funds as the local match requirement. If successful, it is their intention to commence construction in November, 2022. The amount of \$2,000 to be paid from the Open Space Reserve and the amount of \$28,000 to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal F: Duck Pond Restoration, Phase 2

\$19,800

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

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal G: Housing Coordinator

\$51,617

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

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal H: Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan

\$230,232

Summary: *The Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee is requesting \$230,232 in CPA funds to use towards the renovations of the GDRHS Stadium Field and GDRHS Softball Field. After assessing the conditions of the 25 acres of athletic fields in the district, these two field restoration projects have been identified as needing to be completed in order for the fields to be considered safe and usable for the student athletes and community usage. This project will include total replacement and restoration of the stadium high school natural turf field and resolve tree overgrowth at the high school softball field to address the wet field preventing the use of the field. The Dunstable Community Preservation Committee is in support of funding Dunstable's proportionate share of this project at \$74,268. GD@Play generously donated \$100,000 to offset the cost of this initiative. The purchase of equipment not included in the CPC request of a utility tractor, aerator attachments and top dresser will be purchased with this donation with the balance of \$18,500 to be applied to support the cost of the renovation of the stadium field. The amount of \$98,232 to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve and the amount of \$132,000 to be paid through a five-year Bond.*

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal I: Conservation Fund FY 2022

\$350,000

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

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal J: Multi-Use Recreational Courts \$157,480

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

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

CPC Proposal K: Original Interior Skylight Restoration \$3,000

Summary: *The Groton Public Library is requesting \$3,000 in CPA funds to restore and fortify the original piece of the building fabric that is part of the Library's original interior skylight. The full amount to be paid from the Historic Reserve.*

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 14: GRANT EASEMENT FOR SEWER CONNECTION – 227 BOSTON ROAD

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

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *The 2018 Fall Town Meeting approved the extension of the Groton Central Sewer District to 227 Boston Rd. The extension will allow for the development of one additional house lot, connection of the existing house, and conversion of the barn to residential use. The extension will be a private connection and will not extend beyond the confines of what is currently 227 Boston Rd. The work will be done using directional drilling from the site of the new house lot and is not expected to result in surface disturbance except for a small area at the point of connection to the town sewer at the edge of the golf course across from Johnson's Restaurant. The owners of 227 Boston Rd. (Kevin and*

Christine Lindemer) will pay for the cost of construction and connecting to the existing sewer line. It is anticipated there will be no cost to the Town of Groton for the connection and maintenance. In addition, if the work is completed as envisioned, property tax revenue to the Town of Groton will increase in addition to the added town sewerage fees.

ARTICLE 15: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – MEDICAL MARIJUANA

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

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

 “96 Registered medical marijuana dispensary, up to 25,000 square feet gross floor area, see § 218-10.4”
 “97 Off-site registered medical marijuana dispensary, up to 2,500 square feet gross floor area, see § 218-10.4”
2. Amend Section 218-3 Definitions by deleting the following definitions:

OFF-SITE REGISTERED MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY (ORMMD)

A registered medical marijuana dispensary that is located off site from the cultivation/processing facility (and controlled and operated by the same registered and approved not-for-profit entity which operates an affiliated RMMD) but which serves only to dispense the processed marijuana, related supplies and educational materials to registered qualifying patients or their personal caregivers in accordance with the provisions of 105 CMR 725.00.

[Added 4-24-2017 ATM, Art. 22]

REGISTERED MEDICAL MARIJUANA DISPENSARY (RMMD)

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

[Added 4-24-2017 ATM, Art. 22]

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Planning Board:

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

ARTICLE 16: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – CLARIFICATIONS

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

1. Amend Section 218-9.4 Attached Accessory Apartment by deleting the word “Attached” so it reads as follows:

“Section 218-9.4 Accessory Apartment”

2. Amend the Schedule of Use Regulations by deleting Row 103 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

Schedule of Use Regulations								
	R-A	R-B	NB	VB	GB	I	P	O
103. Accessory Apartments as regulated under Section 218-9.4								
A. Attached accessory apartment	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
B. Detached accessory apartment	PB	PB	N	N	N	N	N	N

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Planning Board:

Summary: *The purpose of this Article is to cleanup and clarify various sections of the Zoning Bylaw.*

ARTICLE 17: BYLAW PROHIBITING USE OF POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by adding a new Chapter 199 of the Code of the Town of Groton, entitled Polystyrene Container Restrictions for Food Service Establishments as follows:

Chapter 199: Polystyrene Container Restriction for Food Service Establishments

§ 199-1. Findings and Intent.

- Whereas, the Town has a duty to protect the health of its citizens and the natural environment.
- Whereas, Polystyrene sometimes known by Dow Chemical Co. brand name of Styrofoam is a synthetic plastic that biodegrades so slowly (hundreds of years) it is considered to be non-biodegradable.
- Whereas, expanded polystyrene containers are not part of the Town's regular recycling program.
- Whereas, styrene, the key ingredient in expanded polystyrene, was recently added to the National Toxicology Program's list of carcinogens (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) and can leach from containers into food and beverages.
- Whereas, polystyrene has become a significant component of plastic debris in the environment, is sometimes mistaken for food by animals including marine life, and thereby transfers toxic chemicals into the food chain.
- Whereas, appropriate alternative products are readily available from vendors and are already being used by many local businesses

§199-2. Effective Date.

This bylaw shall take effect January 1, 2022.

§199-3. Definitions.

Disposable food service container shall mean single-use disposable products for serving or transporting prepared, ready-to-consume food or beverages, including, without limitation, take-out foods and/or leftovers from partially consumed meals prepared by a food establishment. This includes, but is not limited to plates, cups, bowls, trays, hinged or lidded containers, cups, lids, straws, and utensils. It does not include single-use disposable packaging for unprepared foods.

Polystyrene shall mean blown polystyrene (polystyrene that has been expanded or blown using a gaseous blowing agent into a solid foam) and expanded and extruded forms, which are thermoplastic petrochemical materials utilizing a styrene monomer and processed by any number of techniques including, but not limited to fusion of polymer spheres (expandable bead polystyrene), injection molding, form molding, and extrusion-blow molding (extruded foam polystyrene).

The term also includes clear or solid polystyrene, which is also known as "oriented," or referenced in this bylaw as "Rigid Polystyrene." Rigid Polystyrene is generally used to make clear clamshell containers, lids, and cutlery.

The term also includes products with a Polystyrene coating.

Fineable Offense is defined as a knowing or common use of item or items restricted by the by-law. Common use refers to item or items that are part of one's daily use.

Food establishment shall mean any food service operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption, as further defined in 105 CMR 590.002. Any establishment requiring a permit to operate in accordance with the Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishment, 105 CMR 590.000, et seq., shall be considered a food establishment for purposes of this bylaw.

PFAS/PFOA shall mean per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals.

Prepared food shall mean any food or beverage prepared on the food establishment's premises using any cooking or food preparation technique located within the Town of Groton. Prepared food does not include any raw uncooked meat, fish or eggs unless provided for consumption without further food preparation. Prepared food may be eaten on or off the food establishment's premises.

Acceptable replacement product shall mean any food container, disposable cutlery, or other limited use item provided with food meeting all functional and safety requirements and not containing Polystyrene or other known or emerging environmental contaminants such as PFAS/PFOA.

Town Facility shall mean any building, structure, land, or recreational area owned, leased, or operated by the Town of Groton.

§199-4. Prohibitions.

1. Except as provided herein, food establishments are prohibited from dispensing prepared food and drink in disposable food service containers made from polystyrene. All food establishments are required to use acceptable replacement products for such purposes. All food establishments are strongly encouraged to use reusable food service containers and cutlery, and when possible biodegradable, compostable alternatives. Compostable materials must meet ASTM (American Society of the International Association for Testing and Materials) Standards for compostability.
2. Town departments or agencies shall not purchase or use disposable food service containers and / or utensils made from polystyrene while in the performance of official Town duties within the Town of Groton.
3. Individuals, contractors, vendors, or other entities shall not use disposable food service containers and / or utensils made from polystyrene in a Town facility or Town property while acting or performing under a Town contract, lease, license, permit, grant, or other agreement.

§199-5. Variance.

1. Any food establishment or Town Department and its agencies may make a written application to the Board of Health for a variance from this bylaw.
2. Every application for a variance is subject to a public hearing. Notice of the hearing shall be posted as part of a public notice of the Board of Health meeting at which the application will be considered. Notice shall be posted no less than two weeks (14 calendar days) before the meeting.
3. By vote of a majority of its full authorized membership, the Board of Health may grant a variance in cases where a suitable biodegradable, compostable, reusable or recyclable alternative does not exist for a specific usage, and/ or enforcement of this bylaw would cause undue hardship to that food establishment or Town Department.
4. A variance may be granted for up to six months and extended for like periods upon submission of a renewal application.
5. Any variance granted by the Board shall be in writing.
6. A copy of the variance granted under this Section shall be available for public inspection on the premises for which it is issued.

§199-6. Enforcement, Penalties and Fines.

1. The Board of Health or its designee shall have primary responsibility for enforcement of this bylaw. This shall include establishment of regulations or administrative procedures, inspections, and issuance of citations for violations.
2. The Board of Health, after a hearing conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in 105 CMR 590.14 and CMR 590.15, may suspend or revoke the license or permit issued by the Board of Health for any establishment failing to comply with this bylaw.
3. A person, individually or by his servant or agent, who violates any provision of this bylaw may be penalized by a noncriminal disposition pursuant to MGL C. 40, § 21D, and the Town's noncriminal disposition bylaw. The following penalties apply:
 1. First offense -- a written warning specifying the violations and appropriate penalties for future violations
 2. Second offense -- \$100
 3. Third Offense -- \$200
 4. Fourth and subsequent Offense -- \$300

Fines for repeated violations in a one-year period are cumulative as provided in Chapter 1, Section 1-4B, of the bylaws.

§199-7. Severability.

If any provision of this bylaw or any application thereof is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity shall be limited to said provision(s) and the remainder of the bylaw shall remain valid and effective.

or take any action relative thereto.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: *The purpose of this bylaw is to establish restrictions for the use of polystyrene food containers because polystyrene has been added to the US Department of Health and Human Services list of known carcinogens. Additionally, restricting the use of polystyrene containers will have a positive impact of the environment by reducing solid waste because polystyrene cannot be recycled.*

ARTICLE 18: CITIZENS' PETITION - TRANSFER CONTROL OF LAND

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

CITIZENS' PETITION

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

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Summary: **The following summary was prepared by the petitioners and represents their view on the Article:** *This Article proposes to place the Surrenden Farm Reserve Parcel under the control of the Groton Conservation Commission and to restrict its use to open space or recreation. This will more permanently preserve the land, akin to its surrounding ~345 acres. In 2006 the Town of Groton, Groton School, the Groton Conservation Trust, the Trust for Public Land and others, raised \$19 million to rescue 360 acres of Surrenden Farm from building development. Conservation restrictions were*

placed on all of Surrenden Farm with the exception of a 14-acre parcel known as the Reserve Parcel. The Reserve Parcel is owned by the Town and is currently open space used for passive recreation. The Reserve Parcel is on the East side of Shirley Road, adjoining the Ayer town line to the South and the General Field to the East and North. Importantly, as part of the 2006 arrangements, the Town of Groton and Groton School entered into an agreement which provides that if the town allows the use of the Reserve Parcel for a use other than undeveloped land, then the Town would give the current Joy Lane to Groton School. To access the Reserve Parcel, the Town would then have to relocate Joy Lane to the General Field and upgrade the existing partially paved and partially dirt and gravel "way" that winds through the General Field into a widened two-lane road that meets Town Subdivision Road Standards, greatly altering the park-like feel and inhibiting the recreational use of the General Field. Since 2006, the General Field has become a much-used public space. The proponents of this Article believe that relocating Joy Lane to the General Field would have a significantly adverse effect on it. The proposed Article would transfer management and control of the Reserve Parcel to the Conservation Commission and restrict its use in order to preserve the Reserve Parcel and to make any use of the land that would trigger the construction of a road across the General Field unlikely.

ARTICLES 19 THROUGH 32 WILL BE PART OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. PLEASE SEE EXPLANATION PROVIDED BY THE TOWN MODERATOR AFTER ARTICLE 32.

ARTICLE 19: CURRENT YEAR LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

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

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 20: APPROPRIATE MONEY TO OFFSET SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT

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

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: *This article will allow the Town to fund any deficit in the Snow and Ice Account in FY 21.*

ARTICLE 21: TRANSFER WITHIN WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

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

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Water Commissioners:

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

ARTICLE 22: TRANSFER WITHIN CENTER SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

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

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Sewer Commission:

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

ARTICLE 23: TRANSFER WITHIN FOUR CORNERS SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

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

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Sewer Commission:

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

ARTICLE 24: TRANSFER WITHIN CABLE ENTERPRISE FUND

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

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Select Board:
Finance Committee:
Cable Advisory Committee:

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

ARTICLE 25: PRIOR YEAR BILLS

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

SELECT BOARD

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 26: AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM FREE CASH

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

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 27: AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM FREE CASH:

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

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 28: DEBT SERVICE FOR SURRENDEN FARMS

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

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

Community Preservation Committee:

Summary: *This article appropriates the debt payments for the Surrenden Farm Land Purchase. Funding for this article will come from Community Preservation Funds. This is the final year for paying off the Debt. The anticipated debt service for Fiscal Year 2022 is \$204,150. To fund this \$145,000 would be paid from the Open Space Reserve and \$59,150 would be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

ARTICLE 29: ASSESSORS QUINQUENNIAL CERTIFICATION

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

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board:

Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 30: ESTABLISHING LIMITS FOR THE VARIOUS REVOLVING FUNDS

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

Program or Purpose	FY 2022 Spending Limit
Stormwater Management	\$20,000
Conservation Commission	\$50,000
Building Rental Fund	\$50,000
Affordable Housing Marketing	\$20,000
Home Recycling Equipment	\$10,000
Access for Persons with Disabilities	\$10,000
Boat Excise Tax Fund	\$ 5,000
Transfer Station Glass	\$10,000
Senior Center Fitness Equipment	\$10,000

or take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

Summary: *This Article sets the limit of annual spending for the various revolving funds authorized by previous Town Meeting vote and currently set forth in the Town's Bylaw for said purpose.*

ARTICLE 31: ACCEPT LAW INCREASING REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, §5C1/2, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, for the purpose of increasing the real estate tax exemptions by 100 percent to all persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C1/2, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 22F, 22G, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C, 41C½, 42, 43, 56 or 57 of G.L. c. 59, §5, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

ARTICLE 32: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, §5, CLAUSE 22F

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

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board:
Finance Committee:

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

Consent Agenda Explanation

The Moderator has the option to use a procedure known as a consent agenda. It is the bundling of a group of main motions into a single motion to be voted on by Town Meeting. A consent agenda can save time by not requiring a main motion, a second, an explanation and a vote on multiple articles to which there is no objection or question.

What Articles Are Included

The consent agenda will generally consist of regular housekeeping articles unanimously supported by the Select Board and Finance Committee. Articles that change bylaws or introduce new spending are typically not included.

The warrant identifies which articles are proposed for the consent agenda. If the articles in the consent agenda changes prior to Town Meeting but after the printing of the warrant, voters will be advised at Town Meeting.

How Consent Agendas Work

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

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

After the meeting agrees on which main motions to include in 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. The articles held from the consent agenda will then be taken up individually in the order in which they appear in the warrant.

What Voters Need to Do

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

Any voter with questions about Town Meeting procedure may call Town Moderator Jason Kauppi at (978) 391-4506 or email him at moderator@grotonma.gov.

Hereof fail not and make return of your doings to the Town Clerk on or before time of said meeting.

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

Alison S. Manugian

Alison S. Manugian, Chair

Joshua A. Degen

Joshua A. Degen, Vice Chair

Rebecca H. Pine

Rebecca H. Pine, Clerk

John R. Giger

John R. Giger, Member

John F. Reilly

John F. Reilly, Member

OFFICERS RETURN

Groton, Middlesex

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

Constable

Date Duly Posted

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
VIRTUAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 15, 2021
UN-APPROVED**

SB Members Virtually Present: Joshua A. Degen, Vice Chair; Rebecca H. Pine, Clerk; John R. Giger, Member; John F. Reilly, Member

Members Absent: Alison S. Manugian, Chair

Also Virtually Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant; Melisa Doig, HR Director; Patricia Dufresne, Town Accountant; Hannah Moller, Assistant Tax Collector/Treasurer; Michael Bouchard, Town Clerk; Members of the Finance Committee – Robertson, Doody, Prest, Linskey, Whitefield; Members of the School Committee – Gilbert, LeBlanc, McCabe, Cronin, Kubick, Raynor, Glod; Sherry Kersey, GDRSD Business Manager; CPC Member Bruce Easom; Eileena Long, Left Field; David Saindon, Left Field; Meryl Nistler, Studio G; Kevin Lindemer; Dr. Laura Chesson, School Superintendent; Tom Orcutt, Water Superintendent; Jim Gmeiner, Water & Sewer Commissioner; Don Black, Housing Authority; Takashi Tada, Land Use Director; Russ Burke, Planning Board Member; Nathan Shapiro; Jason Kauppi, Town Moderator

Mr. Degen called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and reviewed the agenda. He asked participants to use the raise your hand function if they wished to speak because there were so many participants.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Pine said that March 13th marked the one-year anniversary since the pandemic shutdown in Groton. She thanked the Town Manager, employees and all boards for all their work over the past year. She also thanked the residents for keeping them in a less dangerous position than some of their neighboring towns and most of the state.

Ms. Gilbert called the School Committee to order at 7:04pm. Mr. Robertson called the Finance Committee to order at 7:04pm.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Mr. Haddad said that the CDC had issued new COVID guidelines to which he and the Fire Chief had made some changes to their policy. He said that they cut quarantining back due to exposure from 14 to 10 days and added quarantine language for those traveling with a vaccine and without a vaccine. Mr. Haddad said that they took out reference to leaves of absences from this policy adding they would follow their FMLA policy. Mr. Haddad said that these protocols would probably be changed again in a couple of weeks as more people were getting vaccinated adding he would bring any proposed changes back to the Board. He respectfully requested that the Board vote to amend and issue the new policy.

Ms. Pine moved to approve the amended Infectious Disease Control Policy effective tonight. Mr. Reilly seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Giger-aye; Reilly-aye

2. Mr. Haddad said that Groton had moved to a green COVID status. He said that the policy was that should they be a green status again this week, they would open the Town Hall and Library to the public on March 22, 2021. Mr. Haddad said that they would stay meeting on Zoom adding they were limited to 50% capacity. Mr. Degen asked about meeting in public. Mr. Haddad said that they would remain meeting remotely for 30 days after the emergency order was lifted.
3. Mr. Haddad asked the Board to add a question to the 2021 Annual Town Election Ballot relative to the debt exclusion for Florence Roche. He said that they needed to notify the Town Clerk 35 days before the election. Ms. Pine said that the wording had been checked by Town Counsel. Mr. Haddad said that Bond Counsel had also checked the wording.

Ms. Pine moved that they add the question to the 2021 town election ballot as question 1 as printed in their packet and approved by Bond and Town Counsel. Mr. Giger seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Giger-aye; Reilly-aye

4. Mr. Haddad said that Bob Colman had notified him of his intention to resign in May. He said that he, Ms. Doig and Ms. Dunbar had met with the Cable Advisory Committee last week. He said that the Cable Advisory Committee wanted to see Ashley Doucette take Bob's position. He said he would like to ask the Board to waive their policy and allow him to internally post this position for a week. Ms. Pine said that she respected the recommendation of the Committee, but thought they had a policy they should follow. She added this had nothing to do with Ms. Doucette's ability to fulfill the job. She said she would prefer to not waive the policy. Mr. Reilly asked how long they would post externally. Ms. Doig said they would post for 2 weeks. She added that posting externally would be an expense for the Cable Department. Mr. Giger said he had known Ms. Doucette for a long time and thought she was eminently qualified for this job and didn't think they needed to look externally. Mr. Degen said that when they had an individual who had shown their capacities internally, he didn't think they should post externally but post it internally instead. He added that it was important to promote from within when necessary.

Mr. Reilly made a motion to waive their policy and post the Cable Director's position internally for one week. Mr. Degen seconded the motion.

Ms. Pine said they had excellent employees and thought they should promote from within but thought they needed to add new ideas in on the occasion. She thought this position was one of those positions.

Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Reilly-aye; Giger-aye

2020 SPRING TOWN MEETING WARRANT PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Haddad read the public hearing notice into the record and asked the Board and Finance Committee to open the public hearing.

Ms. Pine moved to open the public hearing to discuss the spring town meeting warrant. Mr. Giger seconded the motion. Roll Call: Degen-aye; Pine-aye; Giger-aye; Reilly-aye

Mr. Robertson moved to open the public hearing to discuss the spring town meeting warrant. Mr. Prest seconded the motion. Roll Call: Prest-aye; Robertson-aye; Whitefield-aye; Linskey-aye; Doody-aye

Mr. Haddad reviewed the warrant article by article.

Mr. Haddad said that he met with the Finance Committee last week. He said that they had made some changes since the original proposed budget was presented in January. Mr. Haddad said that the budget had been reduced by \$108,719. He reviewed the increases and decreases. He said that the Finance Committee voted last week to all him to reinstate the patrol officer position. He said that this would put the budget approximately \$3K under the levy limit. Ms. Pine asked if the budget would be presented in the consent agenda. Mr. Haddad said that they would be putting the 13 budget motions in a consent agenda. Mr. Degen said that a hold could be put on any item at Town Meeting that was contained in a consent agenda.

Mr. Lindemer asked why they would not get electric golf carts at the Country Club. Mr. Haddad said that they did not have the infrastructure necessary or the money available to build the infrastructure to purchase electric golf carts. Mr. Haddad said that he could find out the cost. Mr. Degen asked about the existing golf carts and whether they would be traded in or sold. Mr. Haddad said they could trade them in or auction them off. Ms. Pine asked about grants available for infrastructure. Mr. Lindemer, speaking as a Light Commissioner, said they would be interested in helping with that also.

Ms. Gilbert said that the track was an asset for both the schools and community as they found out going through the building project process of Florence Roche. Ms. Gilbert said that the track was not eligible for MSBA reimbursement but could

leverage state funding for it. She said that they decided to put together a CPA application for a new track behind the middle school. She said that if the project was approved at Town Meeting, the cost of the building project would decrease by \$1.4M. Ms. Gilbert said that the most cost-effective solution for Florence Roche was to build a new school on the existing parcel where the existing track was located. She said that they also planned to bring all Groton elementary students back to Groton with the construction of a new school.

Mr. Giger said people should understand that the track could also be included in the bond for a new school if not approved by CPA funding. Ms. Gilbert said that regardless of which way this went, it would be bonded either way. If bonded with the project, they would lose the ability to leverage CPA state funds of 40% and if part of the building project, that would also be bonded.

Ms. Gilbert said that they had spent a lot of time on this project. She said they had evaluated multiple potential sites within Groton. She said that the current parcel was the most cost-effective parcel. She said that the square footage was dictated by their academic programming and was approved by MSBA and DESE which was 109K square feet. She explained that once all Groton students came back to Groton (from Swallow Union) Groton would no longer be responsible for Dunstable capital needs at the elementary school. Mr. Degen asked what happened if this was voted down. Ms. Gilbert said that if voted down, they had 120 days to come up with an alternative solution. Ms. Gilbert said that they would also be walking away from MSBA reimbursement and could not afford to build this on their own. Mr. Prest said that they needed to replace the school adding they had no other choice. He said it wasn't going to be easy to get this passed but thought they needed to work hard to get the word out there.

Mr. Orcutt said article 9 was to request engineering funding of \$722,300 for the Whitney Well Treatment Facility.

Mr. Orcutt said that article 10 was requesting engineering funding for a new source well at Whitney Well. He said that preliminary testing and drilling had been very successful and could yield them 350 gallons per minute. Mr. Degen asked if the water at this new potential well location had been tested for manganese. Mr. Orcutt said that the water tested negative for manganese but would be treated like the other wells.

Mr. Orcutt said article 11 was no longer needed and could be removed. Mr. Orcutt said that the Commissioners would vote tomorrow to have this removed.

Mr. Gmeiner said that article 12 was put on the warrant on behalf of the applicant. He said that they would be holding a hearing in early April on this. It was asked that the property owners be invited to the meeting next week. Ms. Pine said she thought they could tie in if sewer went past their property. Mr. Gmeiner said that they had to be in the district to connect not just have access to it.

Mr. Easom said that article 13 was the normal article that allocated money into the CPA bins. He said that this year they included an additional \$15,500 in operating expenses to cover wages and benefits for the CPA Administrators time. Mr. Haddad said that due to the budget issues, he asked the CPC to cover their admin's time. There was a request to have in the packet the amount of money in all the buckets.

Mr. Easom said that they were moving 12 applications forward for Town Meeting discussion within article 14. Mr. Easom reviewed the recommended projects. Mr. Degen asked if they could be listed as they were ranked by the CPC. Ms. Pine said she didn't agree with doing that adding they had never been presented in that manner in the past. She said she didn't see any benefit to this other than building controversy. Ms. Gilbert said divisiveness came to mind when hearing this suggestion. She said she understood the ranking process, but did not understand how there could be extremely far out rankings in certain categories on some projects. She said she was not comfortable with 100% of the rankings she listened to and the criteria being used. She said she agreed with putting the projects through as a whole. Mr. Giger said he agreed with Ms. Gilbert and Ms. Pine. Mr. Haddad said that projects had to be moved forward by the Committee adding no matter what the ranking was, they were voted to be moved forward. Mr. Degen said he was fine with leaving it but thought the rankings needed to be made available adding they didn't need to spend all the money just because it was there. Mr. Reilly asked if the projects were ranked

by their categories. Mr. Easom said that they were ranked based on the merits. Mr. Reilly said he didn't see the need to show any rankings.

Ms. Eliot said she had problems with the Affordable Housing Trust's (AHT) application. She said that the statement made by the AHT recently was inconsistent with the application itself. She said that removing the Surrenden Farm parcel from their application was problematic for her. She felt it should be brought back to the CPC for discussion. Ms. Pine said that Ms. Eliot was correct adding the process was focused on that parcel when the draft application was done. She said that there were significant problems realized after the deadline for the final application. She said that they reached out to the CPC and requested permission for an expansion of the scope which had been granted. Ms. Eliot said there should be a meeting of all the parties before this went any further.

Mr. Degen said that the GD Field Restoration Plan was seeking Groton CPA funds and asked if Dunstable was being asked for funding. Ms. Gilbert said that Dunstable CPC would be requesting funding at their Town Meeting this spring also. She said that this project was long overdue and needed this to be approved for the safety of their students. She said that they had been trying to find way to take care of their assets and this was one way of funding that. She said that Dunstable was going forward with a request for 23% of the funding as per the regional agreement. Ms. Pine asked if GD@Play was contributing toward this. Ms. Gilbert said that they donated \$100K adding some of these funds would be going toward equipment to maintain the fields.

Mr. Lindemer explained article 15 which was to extend the center sewer system under the golf course, by means of an easement to his property on Boston Road.

Mr. Burke explained article 16 to amend the medical marijuana zoning bylaw and remove language relative to medical marijuana dispensaries to be in compliance with state law. He said that they were waiting for Town Counsel to opine on this.

Mr. Burke said that the Schedule of Use Regulations needed to be updated for accessory apartments.

Mr. Black said the Groton Housing Authority was seeking a title land transfer of parcel 227-135 consisting of 8.8 acres to the Housing Authority. Ms. Pine said that there was an easement which would need to be cleared up and that prior contamination of the site was possible. Ms. Pine said it wasn't clear what or why the transfer of ownership was needed adding the parcel was in the Town's name already. She said the AHT thought it might be premature at this point.

Ms. Collette said that article 19 had been discussed with Select Board Member Giger for some time now. She said that this proposed bylaw banning polystyrene was based on what had been adopted in Westford in 2016. She said that polystyrene, otherwise known as Styrofoam, was a known carcinogen and could not be recycled. She said that the Board of Health would hold a hearing on April 5th.

Mr. Nate Shapiro provided some background on Surrenden Farm. He said that 14 acres had been set aside as a reserve parcel. He said that the area had become a recreational site. She said a legal agreement existed which said that if the reserve parcel was developed, Joy Lane would be discontinued and moved. He said he wanted to remove the parcel from reserve and transfer it to the Conservation Commission to remain recreational space.

Mr. Haddad said that articles 21-34 would be part of the consent agenda and reviewed those articles.

Mr. Haddad said that he held a town meeting planning meeting last week. He said that a couple of recommendations were to start at 9am instead of 10am and that a change in time would require a vote of the Board. He said that they also talked about the preference to not break for lunch and encourage people to bring snacks / bag lunch because of the logistics of checking people back in and out. He said he also wanted permission to have porta toilets rented so people wouldn't have to go into the school for facilities. Ms. Gilbert asked if a projector screen was going to be used at Town Meeting adding they wanted to show a walk through of Flo Ro at Town Meeting. Mr. Haddad said that they talked about it but they decided to not bring in a screen. He said that lighting would be an issue as well as rental costs. He said that in one town, they spent \$30K on a jumbotron adding they didn't have that kind of money to spend. Mr. Degen suggested using a QR code at Town Meeting for

people to view the walkthrough at Town Meeting. Mr. Reilly asked if the walkthrough was going to be shown in advance of Town Meeting. Ms. Pine said she was in favor of all recommendations.

Mr. Haddad asked the Board to vote to change the start time to 9am on May 1st.

Ms. Pine made the motion. Mr. Giger seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Giger-aye; Reilly-aye

Mr. Haddad asked the Board to continue the hearing until 7:30pm on March 22nd.

Ms. Pine made the motion. Mr. Degen seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Degen-aye; Giger-aye; Reilly-aye

Mr. Robertson adjourned the Finance Committee meeting at 9:22pm.

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

5. Mr. Haddad reviewed the Board's upcoming schedule.

ON-GOING ISSUES

Ms. Pine asked about Green Communities and whether they had heard back from them yet. Mr. Haddad said he had no update on this.

MINUTES

Ms. Pine moved to approve the meeting minutes of March 8, 2021 as presented. Mr. Reilly seconded the motion. Roll Call: Degen-aye; Pine-aye; Giger-aye; Reilly-aye

Mr. Degen adjourned the meeting at 9:26pm.

Approved: _____
Rebecca H. Pine, Clerk

respectfully submitted:
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: