



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

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

**SELECT BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2022
AGENDA
SELECT BOARD MEETING ROOM
2nd FLOOR
GROTON TOWN HALL**

- | | | |
|------|-----------|--|
| | 7:00 P.M. | Announcements and Review Agenda for the Public |
| | 7:05 P.M. | Public Comment Period |
| I. | 7:06 P.M. | Town Manager's Report |
| | | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Consider Ratifying the Town Manager's Appointment of Amanda Urmann as the Land Use Administrative Assistant2. Consider Ratifying the Town Manager's Appointments of Virginia Steward, Jeanine Foisy and Dennis Levesque as Election Workers3. Update on the Select Board Meeting Schedule Through the End of the Year |
| II. | 7:10 P.M. | Items for Select Board Consideration and Action |
| | | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Approve and Issue the Warrant for the 2022 Fall Town Meeting2. Accept Gift from Maple Avenue Realty Trust in the Amount of \$50,000 to the Affordable Housing Trust |
| III. | 7:15 P.M. | Consider Adopting a New Declaration of Trust and Creating a Trust Fund Known as the "Joseph P. DiPietro Memorial Scholarship Fund" as Recommended by the Commissioners of Trust Funds |

OTHER BUSINESS

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

- A. Water Department – Manganese Issue
- B. PFAS Issue
- C. Green Communities Application and Implementation
- D. Florence Roche Elementary School Construction Project
- E. ARPA Funding

SELECT BOARD LIAISON REPORTS

- IV. Minutes: Regularly Scheduled Meeting of September 19, 2022

ADJOURNMENT

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



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Town Manager
Mark W. Haddad

To: *Select Board*

From: *Mark W. Haddad – Town Manager*

Subject: *Weekly Agenda Update/Report*

Date: *October 3, 2022*

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

In addition to the Town Manager's Report, Items for Select Board Consideration and Action and a review of the On-going Issues List, there is one scheduled Agenda Item on Monday's Agenda. The Select Board will be meeting in joint session with the Commissioners of Trust Funds to consider accepting a Declaration of Trust to create the "Joseph P. DiPietro Memorial Scholarship Fund". Mr. DiPietro left over \$1.6 million to the Groton Dunstable Regional School District for this purpose. Said Fund shall be managed by the Commissioners of Trust Funds. A summary of the Fund is attached to this Report for your review and consideration.

1. We have completed our search for a new Land Use Administrative Assistant to fill the vacancy created when Kara Cruikshank was appointed as the Executive Assistant to the Town Manager. Takashi Tada, Bob Garside, Melisa Doig, Kara Cruikshank and I served as the Search Committee. We received 21 applicants and interviewed seven individuals. Based on our interviews, we determined that Amanda Urmann of Ashby be appointed to the position. Enclosed with this Report is a copy of Ms. Urmann's resume for your review. Please consider this as my notification of this appointment. I would respectfully request that the Board consider ratifying this appointment at Monday's meeting.
2. Town Clerk Dawn Dunbar has requested that I appoint Virginia Steward, Jeanine Foisy and Dennis Levesque as Election Workers. I have in fact made these appointments. I would respectfully request that the Board consider ratifying these appointments at Monday's meeting.

Select Board
Weekly Agenda Update/Report
October 3, 2022
page two

3. Please see the update to the meeting schedule that will take the Board through the end of the year:

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Monday, October 10, 2022 | No Meeting (Indigenous People's Day) |
| Monday, October 17, 2022 | -Fall Town Meeting Prep |
| Saturday, October 22, 2022 | 2022 Fall Town Meeting |
| Monday, October 24, 2022 | -Meet with FinCom to Establish FY 2024 Budget Guidance |
| Monday, October 31, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, November 7, 2022 | No Meeting |
| Monday, November 14, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, November 21, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, November 28, 2022 | No Meeting |
| Monday, December 5, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, December 12, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, December 19, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, December 26, 2022 | No Meeting (Christmas Holiday) |
| Monday, January 2, 2023 | No Meeting (New Year Holiday) |
| Monday, January 9, 2023 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |

ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

1. Enclosed with this Report is the Final Draft of the 2022 Fall Town Meeting Warrant for your approval. I would respectfully request that the Select Board review this Warrant and make any final Recommendations you wish to have included in the Warrant. Once satisfied, I would respectfully request that you approve and vote to issue the Warrant at Monday's meeting. The Warrant will be sent to the Printer Tuesday morning and be posted and delivered to all residences on Friday, October 7th.
2. I would respectfully request that the Board vote to accept a gift from Maple Avenue Realty Trust in the amount of \$50,000 for the Affordable Housing Trust.

MWH/rjb
enclosures

LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT OF JOSEPH P. DIPIETROSUMMAY

SUMMARY SHEET

Be it remembered that I, Joseph P. DiPietro, 65 Pleasant Street, Apartment No. 1, Brookline, Norfolk County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts 02446, being of sound and disposing mind and memory, and under no restraint or influence, do hereby make, publish and declare this to be my Last Will and Testament, an in signing this will or making my mark, declare that I read the entirety of this will exclusive of this preamble, in late March, 2021 at my residence in the presence of my attorney and that the highlights of it were again summarized to me this day of signing by my attorney and in the presence of my witnesses, one of which may be my attorney in both of whose integrity I trust. My signature or mark, assisted or not, on this will, shall be exclusive evidence that I intend this document to be my Last Will and Testament.

1. I hereby expressly revoke any and all Wills and Codicils heretofore made by me.
2. After the payment of my just debts and funeral expenses and the expenses of settling my estate, I dispose of all the property and estate of every description of which I may die seized or possessed or to which I may have an interest at the time of my decease as follows: ...
3. I devise all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate, of whatever kind, character or description, real, personal, intangible or mixed and whatever situated as follows:
 - A. One-Half to the Groton-Dunstable Regional High School, Groton, Massachusetts. The principal to be held IN TRUST by the Board of Commissioners of Trust Funds of the Town of Groton, Massachusetts, which Board shall manage and control same and distribute the annual income for a scholarship award to an outstanding senior class high school student attending a post high school course of higher education, the selection of whom shall be made by the head master and the faculty of the Groton High School. The Fund shall be known as the ***"Joseph P. DiPietro Memorial Scholarship Fund"***
4. If any beneficiary named or entitled to benefits
5. The term "Personal Representative" as and when used in this will shall mean to include the appointment of a Special Personal Representative or an Alternate Personal Representative or a Successor Personal Representative and shall include any person not named herein if appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction.
6. I nominate and appoint James M. Kickham, 1318 Beacon Street Suite No. 22, Brookline MA 02446 to serve as Personal Representative of my Will, and if necessary, as Special Personal Representative of my Will. In the event he is unable or unwilling to serve for any reason, I nominate and appoint George A. Kickham, Esq., 1318 Beacon Street, Suite 22, Brookline, MA 02466 or such person nominated by him to serve as Alternat Personal Representative of my Will, and if necessary, as Alternate Special Personal Representative of my Will. I request that my Personal Representative, Special Personal Representative, or their alternates, not be required to furnish any surety on their fiduciary bonds in whatever capacity they may serve.

7. I grant to my named Personal Representative discretionary power to deal with any property, real or personal, held in my estate as freely as I might in handling my own affairs and to open any safe deposit in my name and to remove the contents therefrom, including the power to sell as public or private sale, exchange, lease, make contracts concerning the real and personal property of the estate, for such consideration and upon such terms as to credit or otherwise as my Personal Representative deems advisable Such power may be exercised independently, and without prior approval of any court to the maximum extent possible including the sale of real estate, and no person dealing with my named Personal Representative or his alternate shall be required to inquire into the property of any exercise of such power. I direct all decisions, determinations or actions made or taken in good faith by my Personal Representative shall be conclusive on all persons who are or who may become interested in my estate. Any decision by my Personal Representative with respect to any discretionary power hereunder shall be final and binding on all persons interested, and no person dealing with my named Personal Representative shall be required to inquire into the property of such power. Unless due to his or her own willful default or gross negligence, my Personal Representative shall be liable for his or her acts or omissions.

This Last Will and Testament was signed and witnessed on March 12, 2021.

See complete copy of the Will attached.

Note:

The Director of the Trust Funds made several attempts to contact, leaving phone messages, James Kickham to request a corrected check and clarify some of the directions for this Fund. Mr. Kickham contacted the Director on September 19, 2022 and said that he would issue a new check made payable to the Town of Groton and send it via mail to the Commissioners of Trust Funds, 173 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450. The check was received on September 23, 2022

The Director asked for clarification on two points:

1. Number of scholarship recipients and amounts - Mr. Kickham said that the wording of the document was intentionally broad so that these decisions will be at the discretion of the Commissioners.
2. The term "head master" equates to the principal or his/her designee. If no one is able or willing to make the selection, the decision falls to the Commissioners of Trust Fund.

Mr. Kickham again reiterated that these decisions will be at the discretion of the Commissioners of Trust Funds.

ARTICLE X. ACCEPTANCE OF TRUST

The Commissioners of Trust Funds and the Select Board Members of the Town of Groton accept the terms of this Trust and, by the acknowledgements set forth below, the Commissioners of Trust Funds agree to manage the trust fund and to take all other necessary and reasonable actions to carry out the intent of the Grantor as expressed in this Declaration of Trust for the Joseph P. DiPietro Memorial Trust and Scholarship Fund.

EXECUTED UNDER SEAL this day of , 2022.

**ACCEPTANCE BY TOWN OF GROTON
AND COMMISSIONERS OF TRUST FUNDS**

Peter Cunningham, Selectperson

Alison Manugian, Selectperson

Becky Pine, Selectperson

Mathew Pisani, Selectperson

John Reilly, Selectperson

Rachael Bielecki, Commissioner

Martha McLure, Commissioner

Joseph Twomey, Commissioner

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Middlesex, ss

Then personally appeared the above named Select Board Members Peter Cunningham, Alison Manugian, Becky Pine, Mathew Pisani and John Reilly and Commissioners of Trust Funds Rachael Bielecki, Martha Mclure and Joseph E. Twomey and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be their free act and deed this day of , 2022.

The above people personally appeared before me on this _____, 2022.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

AMANDA URMANN

600 Main St, Ashby, MA 01431

Phone Number: (978)-888-3386

amandaurmann@yahoo.com

Summary

Graduate of an accredited Business Administration University looking to advance my career and open my horizons within the business community.

Education

Bachelor of Science: Business Administration 2017
Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH

High School Diploma 2013
Chelmsford High School, Chelmsford, MA

Experience

- Executive Secretary, Town of Rindge, NH. Rindge, NH November 2021 – Current**
- Prepared and provided follow up information for the Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen including scheduling agenda items and researching and presenting background materials to the Board of Selectmen and/or Town Administrator.
 - Acted as liaison between the Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator, and other officials, department staff, and the public.
 - Maintained various public and confidential records and files pertaining to the Selectmen's office and responded to requests for public records; typed and/or transcribed a variety of materials including correspondence, reports, and minutes.
 - Kept records of officials appointed by the Board of Selectmen and notified each appointee of status in a timely manner.
 - Managed the sale of cemetery lots and worked with the Public Works Director, funeral homes, and residents to arrange for burials. Managed the cemetery database and hard copy files, processed paperwork, including death certificates.
 - Conducted a variety of assigned projects in an independent manner, which included research and contact with other town board or state agencies.
 - Managed the creation, editing, production and updating of town publications including the Annual Report, brochures and newsletters.
 - Served as webmaster for the town website, posted news and announcements, and was primary point of contact for content changes by department heads, staff, and committee members.
 - Performed all administrative support tasks related to public meetings and hearings conducted by the Board of Selectmen in accordance with statutes and bylaws.
 - Responded to inquiries from callers, visitors to the office, and Town Meeting events.
 - Served as the primary point of contact for all welfare clients, filed emergency situations, referred clients to community resources, scheduled appointments, and gathered required information in accordance with department guidelines in order to process various claims for assistance approved by the town's Welfare Director.
 - Ordered office supplies and maintained inventory of supplies.
 - Assisted committee heads and members with various projects as needed.

Payments & Production Admin., Community Teamwork, Inc. Lowell, MA April 2018 – February 2021

- Received, verified and entered detailed and accurate documentation for all applicant categories in order to process payments to vendors, clients, utility companies, and contractors in a timely manner as determined by program funding source.
- Ensured payments are processed, balanced and reported within the timeframe established.
- Prepared and performed check runs as well as produced and verified monthly payment reports.
- Kept track of supplies and equipment in an orderly and timely manner.
- Filed necessary customer paperwork and completed other administrative tasks when assigned.
- Worked with clients to ensure their needs were met.
- Worked with contractors and vendors to ensure that they were getting paid in a timely manner.
- Answered emergency and non-emergency calls
- Assisted the Weatherization Services Director to develop and submit monthly reports to the funding source.
- Assisted Weatherization Director to develop, coordinate, and monitor program budgets.
- Prepared large mailings for Fuel Assistance program as needed

Landscaper, KGW Services**Carlisle, MA****June 2014 – Dec. 2017**

- Performed a variety of planting and maintenance tasks including planting, watering, weeding, fertilizing, and mulching
- Planted trees, shrubs, flowers and other plants based on customer selections and the directors landscape design plans.
- Provided proper upkeep of sidewalks, driveways, parking lots, fountains, planters, and other grounds features based on customer's needs.
- Assisted with training and coaching new landscape staff.

Building Service Worker, Plymouth State University**Plymouth, NH****Sept. 2015 – May 2017**

- Followed tasks designated on the provided cleaning schedule checklists by performing routine custodial and janitorial tasks such as emptying waste baskets, washing windows, vacuuming rugs/carpets, carpet steam cleaning, and furniture dusting.
- Ensured cleaning materials and supplies are stored in a safe and orderly manner and provided instructions for material safety.
- data sheet and accident prevention as needed.
- Reported to Custodian Lead who is responsible for the direction of housekeeping services in the facility.
- Notified managers concerning the need for major repairs or additions to building operating systems.

Volunteer, Sunny Acres Nursing & Rehabilitation Center**Chelmsford, MA****March 2017**

- Lead patient leisure and exercise activities on a regular basis.
- Assisted with patient transportation within nursing home facility.
- Spent quality time with patients by reading, playing various board games, and provided emotional support.

Skills:

- Active listening and learning
- Self-motivated for great customer service
- Decision making, critical thinking, organizing and planning
- Adaptability and ability to work under pressure
- Tolerant and flexible to different situations
- Strong verbal and personal communications
- Initiative with high level of energy
- Accuracy and attention to details

Revised: September 28, 2022

Warrant, Summary, and Recommendations

TOWN OF GROTON



2022 FALL TOWN MEETING

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

Beginning Saturday, October 22, 2022 @ 9:00 AM

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers
Please bring this Report to Town Meeting

Introduction to Groton Town Meeting

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

What is Town Meeting?

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

What is a warrant?

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

How does Town Meeting proceed?

Voters attending Town Meeting must first check in with the clerks and receive a voting card which is required to vote. The meeting typically acts on the articles in the order they are printed in the warrant. For each article, a main motion is made and seconded by voters and placed by the moderator on the floor for debate. Permission of the moderator is required to speak. The moderator presides and regulates the proceedings, decides all questions of order, and calls and declares all votes. After debate has ended, the moderator will call for a vote by a show of voter cards. If the vote is too close to call by sight or if seven voters immediately question the moderator's declaration of the vote, the moderator will order a hand count to confirm the vote.

Who can attend?

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

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

² *Id.*

How long is town meeting?

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

Explanation of a Consent Agenda

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

How Consent Agendas Work

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



Town Meeting Access for Voters with Disabilities

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

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

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

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

Restrooms – Accessible restrooms are available near the entrance to the auditorium.

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

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

**FALL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
OCTOBER 22, 2022**

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

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn said inhabitants of the Town of Groton qualified to vote on Town affairs to assemble in the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium, 344 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts in said Town on Monday, the twenty-second day of October, 2022 at Nine O'clock in the morning, to consider the following:

ARTICLE LISTINGS

| | | |
|-------------------|--|----|
| Article 1* | Prior Year Bills | 5 |
| Article 2* | Amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Town Operating Budget | 5 |
| Article 3* | Amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Stormwater Enterprise Budget | 6 |
| Article 4* | Transfer Money Into Capital Stabilization Fund | 6 |
| Article 5* | Transfer Money Into Stabilization Fund | 7 |
| Article 6* | Transfer Money Into the GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund | 7 |
| Article 7* | Debt Service for Middle School Track | 8 |
| Article 8* | Additional Funding for Master Plan | 8 |
| Article 9 | Whitney Pond Well Site Construction | 9 |
| Article 10 | Electronic Voting at Town Meeting | 9 |
| Article 11 | Funding to Remove Building – 159 West Main Street | 10 |
| Article 12 | CPA – Out of Cycle Application – Prescott Elevator | 10 |
| Article 13 | Amend Chapter 105 – Alcoholic Beverages | 11 |
| Article 14 | Amend Chapter 196 - Signs | 12 |
| Article 15 | Citizens' Petition – Rezone 797 Boston Road | 12 |
| Article 16 | Citizens' Petition – Extend Center Sewer District | 13 |
| Article 17 | Citizens' Petition – Reduce the Tax Rate | 14 |
| Article 18 | Citizens' Petition – Affordable Housing | 14 |
| Article 19 | Citizens' Petition – Side by Side Comparison | 15 |
| | | |
| | Report of the Town Manager to the 2022 Fall Town Meeting | 17 |

*Will be presented as one motion as a Consent Agenda

Article 1: *Prior Year Bills*

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

Select Board

Select Board: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Finance Committee: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Summary: *Town Meeting approval is required to pay bills from a prior fiscal year. A list of unpaid bills will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 2: *Amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Town Operating Budget*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Operating Budget as adopted under Article 5 of the 2022 Spring Town Meeting and vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2023, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Finance Committee

Select Board

Town Manager

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Fiscal Year 2023 Town Operating Budget was approved at the 2022 Spring Town Meeting in May, 2022. Any changes to this Budget would have to be made prior to setting the tax rate. The purpose of this article is to make any necessary changes to balance the FY 2023 Operating Budget. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 3: *Amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Stormwater Enterprise Budget*

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Stormwater Enterprise Budget as adopted under Article 5 of the 2022 Spring Town Meeting and to raise the necessary funds through the Stormwater Facility User Utility Fee as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Stormwater Enterprise Budget for Fiscal Year 2023, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Fiscal Year 2023 Stormwater Enterprise Budget that was approved at the 2022 Spring Town Meeting under Article 5, needs to be adjusted to reflect additional expenses that were not identified at the time the budget was developed and approved. The purpose of this article is to make any necessary changes to the Stormwater Budget. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

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

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Capital Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *As of the printing of this Warrant, the Fund has a balance of \$94,735. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Capital Stabilization Fund equal to 1.5% of the total annual budget. The target amount for the Capital Stabilization Fund will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 5: *Transfer Money into the Stabilization Fund*

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *As of the printing of this Warrant, the balance in this fund is \$2,077,113. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Fund equal to 5% of the total annual budget. The target amount for the Fund will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

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

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Town of Groton Capital Stabilization Fund for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *As of the printing of the Warrant, the balance in this fund is \$3,234. This fund covers the Town of Groton's share of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Committee's long-range Capital Plan to address its capital needs. The target amount will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 17 for additional information related to this Article.*

Article 7: *Debt Service for Middle School Track*

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 2023 for the Middle School Track Project, as authorized under Article 7 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting and Article 9 of the April 30, 2022 Spring Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Community Preservation Committee

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article appropriates the debt payments for the Middle School Track Project. The anticipated debt service for Fiscal Year 2023 is \$8,835. Funding for this article will come from the Unallocated Reserve of the Community Preservation Fund.*

Article 8: *Additional Funding for Master Plan*

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, for the purpose of funding the update to Groton's Master Plan as prepared by the Planning Board and all costs associated and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Planning Board: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Summary: *The 2022 Spring Town Meeting appropriated \$100,000 for the Planning Board to hire a consultant to begin updating the Town's Master Plan. The anticipated cost to complete the update is \$150,000. The original intent was to ask the Town to appropriate the additional \$50,000 next year, but having all of the money upfront will provide the Planning Board with the opportunity to solicit bids and enter into one contract that is fully funded. It will give the Planning Board a competitive advantage in procuring a consultant. This Article will seek \$50,000 from Free Cash for this purpose.*

Article 9: Whitney Pond Well Site Construction

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate an additional sum or sums of money, by borrowing or otherwise, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay all the costs of construction related to the development of the new Whitney Pond Well Site (Whitney Pond Well #3), including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Board of Water Commissioners

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend an additional sum of \$150,000.00, to be raised through water rates, to cover the additional costs of Construction related to the new source well at the Whitney Pond Well Site (Whitney Pond #3).*

Article 10: Electronic Voting at Town Meeting

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 purchase the necessary software and devices to allow for Electronic Voting at all Groton Town Meetings, and all costs associated and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Electronic Voting Study Committee

Select Board: *Recommendation Deferred (3 Deferred – 2 In Favor – Pine, Manugian)*

Finance Committee: *Finance Committee Unanimously Recommends Funding Should Town Meeting Approve Electronic Voting*

Summary: *The 2022 Spring Town Meeting created an Electronic Voting Study Committee, which was charged with evaluating the option of implementing electronic voting at Town Meeting. The Committee, made up of the Town Clerk and four registered voters of the Town appointed by the Town Moderator, has performed a comprehensive review of electronic voting including risks, benefits, costs, and procedures. The Committee will present their findings to Town Meeting along with the cost of acquiring and operating electronic voting, should Town Meeting vote to do so. It is anticipated that the cost to procure this system is \$25,000.*

Article 11: *Funding to Remove Building – 159 West Main Street*

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 remove the building located at 159 West Main Street and shown on Assessors' Map 106 as Parcel 33, and all costs associated and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Not Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This property is the former Squannacook Sportsman Club. Recently the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, conducted a clean-up to remove all lead from this property, building and abutting properties. The Plan is to use this property to supplement the activities of the Center in West Groton by creating walking paths, picnic areas and overflow parking. The purpose of this Article is to provide the necessary funding to remove the former Indoor Shooting Range.*

Article 12: *Community Preservation Fund – Out of Cycle Application – Prescott Elevator*

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, for funds to supplement a potential State Grant pursuant to the Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act Improvement Grant Program, to install an elevator at the Prescott School 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, however, should the Town not receive the State Grant from the Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act Improvement Grant Program, said funds shall be returned to the Community Preservation Fund, or to take other action relative thereto.

Town Manager

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended (5 In Favor – 1 Against – Eliot)*

Summary: *The 2022 Spring Town Meeting appropriated \$80,000 to hire an architect to design and develop construction drawings for the installation of an elevator at the Prescott School to support a Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act Improvement Grant with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Town hired Helene Karl Architects for this purpose. Helene Karl has been working on this and has established a preliminary budget of \$500,000 to install the elevator. The maximum State Grant under the program stated above is \$250,000, so it will not be enough to cover the installation of the Elevator. The Grant Application was due to the State at the end of September, with an expected Grant Decision sometime in November/December. The Town Manager requested an "Out of Cycle Community Preservation Application" from the Community Preservation Committee requesting \$250,000 to supplement the potential State Grant. Should we receive the Grant, approval of this Article will provide sufficient funding to go out to bid immediately for the Elevator Installation. Should the Town not receive the Grant, the Town shall return the funding to the Community Preservation Fund.*

Article 13: Amend Chapter 105 – "Alcoholic Beverages"

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 105, "Alcoholic Beverages, §105-1 "Open Container of Alcoholic Beverage", by deleting §105-1 in its entirety and replacing it with the following:

§105-1 – Open Container of Alcoholic Beverage. No person shall possess an open container of any alcoholic beverage, as defined in MGL C. 138, § 1, while on, in or upon a) any public way or any way to which the public has a right of access, or b) any public common, park or playground, or c) any place to which members of the public have access as invitees or licensees without consent of the owner or person in control of such land or place; or d) any private land or place without consent of the owner or person in control of such land or place, provided, however, that the Select Board may authorize the sale, possession, and consumption of alcoholic beverages on any Town-owned property from a duly licensed vendor.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: No Position

Summary: *Approval of this Article will allow the Select Board, acting as the Local Licensing Authority, and pursuant to the General Laws of the Commonwealth, to grant a liquor license for consumption of alcoholic beverages on Town-owned property.*

Article 14: Amend Chapter 196 – “Signs”

To see if the Town will vote to amend Section 196-5 of the Town of Groton Bylaws (entitled “Prohibited signs”), by inserting the following new paragraph J:

J. Signs that threaten violence against particular individuals or groups.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

Sign Committee

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *After receiving several complaints expressing concerns about some political signs around Town, the Sign Committee asked Town Counsel to do a complete and thorough review of the Sign Bylaw to determine if amendments to the Bylaw can address these kinds of signs. In Town Counsel’s Opinion, amendments to the Sign Bylaw seeking to regulate profane content are likely unenforceable and unlikely to be approved by the Attorney General’s Office. That said, an amendment to prohibit signs containing threatening content may be permissible if drafted and enforced consistent with First Amendment holdings. The purpose of this Article is to amend the Sign Bylaw to prohibit signs containing threatening content.*

Article 15: Citizens’ Petition – Rezone 797 Boston Road

To see if the Town will vote to rezone the property situated at 797 Boston Road, which is shown on the Groton Assessor’s Maps as Parcel 133-49 and described in a deed recorded with Middlesex County South District Registry of Deeds in Book 45322 at Page 597, as Neighborhood Business (NB), or to take any other action relative thereto.

Citizens’ Petition

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Eileen Hackney | 124 Riverbend Drive | Kristin Murphy | 39 Britt Lane |
| Michael Hackney | 124 Riverbend Drive | Kathleen Murphy | 39 Britt Lane |
| Ralph Acaba | 45 Painted Post Road | Craig McMahan | 201 Flavell Road |
| Maureen Naughton | 633 Longley Road | Jennifer Savoie | 201 Flavell Road |
| Robinson Moore | 26 Powderhouse Road | Kevin Griffin | 168 Shelters Road |

Select Board: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Summary: The following summary was prepared by the petitioners and represents their view on the Article: *The owner of this parcel wishes to change the zoning of the property from Residential–Agricultural (R-A) to Neighborhood Business (NB) to allow for the development of an indoor pickleball facility. The proposed facility would require the issuance of a Special Permit by the Zoning Board of Appeals, pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw.*

Article 16: Citizens' Petition – Extend 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 225-49 (91 Chicopee Row) but only for the exclusive use of 91 Chicopee Row, 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.

Citizens' Petition

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Donald Black | 573 Longley Road | Robert S. Hargraves | 21 Temple Drive |
| Dan Emerson | 348 Boston Road | Ellen T. Hargraves | 21 Temple Drive |
| Deirdre Slavin-Mitchell | 313 Longley Road | Earl N. Carter | 8 Lone Lane |
| John R. Sopka | 344 Boston Road | Bonnie Carter | 8 Lone Lane |
| Alicia Black | 573 Longley Road | Patricia DuFresne | 90 Townsend Road |

Select Board: *Recommendation Deferred (4 Deferred – 1 Against – Manugian)*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Sewer Commission: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Summary: The following summary was prepared by the petitioners and represents their view on the Article: *This article requests authorization from the Town Meeting to expand the Center Sewer District to include Lot 225-49, Groton. This article, if approved, will provide Sewer Capacity for the exclusive use of said Lot.*

Article 17: Citizens' Petition – Reduce the Tax Rate

Reduce the tax rate: Long term residents are being forced out of town because the taxes are too high. For residents that have lived in town twenty-five (25) years or longer the overall tax shall not increase even if the appraised value of the property is increased.

Citizens' Petition

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Jacqueline Thibeau | 291 Townsend Road | Guy Alberghini | 215 Main Street |
| Cathy Smith | 46 Painted Post Road | John Caloggero | 71 Tavern Road |
| Darlene Deschambeault | 13 Longfellow Road | Max Hallsett | 39 Chicopee Row |
| Steven Fells | 1035 Lowell Road | Brenden Mahoney | 47 Hoyts Wharf Road |
| Carol Coleman | 505B Boston Road | Ronald Moncoeur | 15 McCarthy Drive |

Select Board: *Not Recommended Unanimously – Cannot Be Approved As Written*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *No Summary was submitted with this Article.*

Article 18: Citizens' Petition – Affordable Housing

Affordable Housing: Each development of three (3) houses or more shall have affordable housing. Developers shall not be able to buy the way out of building affordable housing.

Citizens' Petition

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Jacqueline Thibeau | 291 Townsend Road | Guy Alberghini | 215 Main Street |
| Cathy Smith | 46 Painted Post Road | Darlene Deschambeault | 13 Longfellow Road |
| Max Hallsett | 39 Chicopee Row | Steven Fells | 1035 Lowell Road |
| Carol Coleman | 505B Boston Road | Ronald Moncoeur | 15 McCarthy Drive |
| Yumei Sun | 40 Wyman Road | Kevin Fuller | 142 Gay Road |

Select Board: *Not Recommended Unanimously – Cannot Be Approved As Written*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *No Summary was submitted with this Article.*

Article 19: Citizens' Petition – Side by Side Comparison

Side by Side comparison: There shall be a side-by-side comparison in the town meeting booklet as well as on a screen at the town meeting for everyone to see the current tax rate and what the tax rate will be if the bill that is being voted on passes.

Citizens' Petition

| <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> | <u>NAME</u> | <u>ADDRESS</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Jacqueline Thibeau | 291 Townsend Road | Guy Alberghini | 215 Main Street |
| Cathy Smith | 46 Painted Post Road | Darlene Deschambeault | 13 Longfellow Road |
| Max Hallsett | 39 Chicopee Row | Steven Fells | 1035 Lowell Road |
| Brenden Mahoney | 47 Hoyts Wharf Road | Carol Coleman | 505B Boston Road |
| Ronald Moncoeur | 15 McCarthy Drive | Yumei Sun | 40 Wyman Road |

Select Board: *Not Recommended Unanimously – Cannot Be Approved As Written*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *No Summary was submitted with this Article.*

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 3rd Day of October in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

John F. Reilly

John F. Reilly, Chair

Rebecca H. Pine

Rebecca H. Pine, Vice Chair

Matthew F. Pisani

Matthew F. Pisani, Clerk

Alison S. Manugian

Alison S. Manugian, Member

Peter S. Cunningham

Peter S. Cunningham, 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

REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER TO THE 2022 FALL TOWN MEETING

The 2022 Fall Town Meeting Warrant contains several warrant articles that seek appropriations, some of which will affect the Tax Rate and some of which will have no further impact on taxes. The purpose of this report is to provide the residents and taxpayers with a summary of these articles and what impact they will have on the Fiscal Year 2023 Tax Rate. In preparing for the Fall Town Meeting, the Select Board and Finance Committee reviewed the balances in the various reserve accounts. These accounts will either be used to fund the various articles, or money will be added to them to comply with the Town's Financial Policies. The balances as of September, 2021, are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Stabilization Fund: | \$2,077,113 |
| Capital Stabilization Fund: | \$ 94,735 |
| GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund: | \$ 3,234 |
| Unexpended Tax Capacity: | \$ 53,775 |
| Free Cash: | \$2,115,125 |

The following is a summary of Warrant Articles Requesting funding:

Article 1: Unpaid Bills **Requested: \$0**

At this time, there are no unpaid bills. This Article will most likely be withdrawn from consideration.

Article 2: Amend the FY 2023 Town Operating Budget **Requested: \$186,344**

This Article will request the following adjustments in the Operating Budget:

1. Town Clerk Salaries – The Town entered into an Agreement with Michael Bouchard to consult on the September 6, 2022 State Primary and November 8, 2022 State Election and assist with the transition to the new Town Clerk. Based on current and anticipated future payments, the Salary Line Item will need an additional \$9,021. This funding will come from Free Cash.
2. Town Clerk Wages – Nancy Pierce was appointed as Temporary Town Clerk during the transition from Michael Bouchard to Dawn Dunbar and received a weekly stipend for the additional duties. Her hours were also increased from 25 to 40 during the transition. Based on the additional hours and stipend, this Line Item will need an additional \$2,452 to cover this expense. This funding will come from Free Cash.

3. **Fire Department Wages** - The Fire Department is requesting an additional \$169,184 in wages to cover overtime costs. This overtime cost can be broken into three categories, expected expenditures, unexpected expenditures, and surge capacity. In FY 2023, the Department placed a very high priority on the addition of a daytime Firefighter/EMT. It was anticipated that this position would allow the Department to close the most glaring gap which exists within the Fire Prevention/Community Risk Reduction area. With the number of required inspections continually rising, along with the development of the town, changing of technologies and new codes, the ability to maintain the same level of Risk Reduction activities has waned. Even with shuffling personnel to meet this need, a higher call volume this year has further stressed the system. The result is that work at all levels is becoming backlogged, threatening to stifle the Department's obligations commitments and progress. Without this additional Firefighter, filling shifts has historically come from the Chief, which has been done at the expense of administration functions. Last Spring (March 25, 2022), the Fire Chief notified the Select Board and Finance Committee that it was expected that overtime would be in excess of the \$109,000 budgeted allocation due to vacations and planned time off. This known challenge was unfortunately incredibly compounded by the loss of a firefighter due to a serious off-duty injury. The loss of the firefighter placed a burden on the department members to fill his shifts and it greatly accelerated the use of the already short overtime allocation. At the current rate of usage, the overtime budget will be depleted in January rather than the projected late May-June timeframe. The third piece is the workload that has built up. With the Chief and Deputy Chief having to operate as firefighters, time is lost on ongoing commitments such as the maintenance of policies, long term planning, training, development/mentoring of employees and other processes. As these items continually languish, the liability on the department, the members, and the town increases. While the best solution is the addition of a daytime position, the Fire Department has always been orientated to the betterment of the community as a whole and understands the financial constraints that restrict such moves. The Fire Chief has proposed creating overtime/per-diem shifts during the week day hours to help close the gaps in coverage that occur. This will free up the Chief and Deputy Chief to work on pressing issues such as intermediate and long-term planning. By utilizing overtime, there is no lasting implications such as additional retirement or benefits which significantly increase the cost. The requested amount is broken down between needed overtime to finish out the year (estimated to be \$112,608) and \$56,576 to place additional help on select shifts from October, 2022 through June 30, 2023. To fund this Article, \$100,000 will come from the EMS Fund and \$69,184 will come from Free Cash.
4. **Building Department Salaries** – During Open Enrollment last Spring, the Building Commissioner opted out of the Town's Health Insurance Program. Based on the collective bargaining agreement between the Town and the Supervisors Union, the Building Commissioner will receive a payment of \$5,687 in FY 2023. This funding, since it is a recurring cost, will come from the Unexpended Tax Capacity.

The following is a summary of funds proposed for this Article:

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Free Cash | \$ 80,657 |
| EMS Fund | \$100,000 |
| Unexpended Tax Capacity | \$ 5,687 |
| Total Requested: | \$186,344 |

Article 3: Amend – FY 2023 Stormwater Enterprise Budget Requested: \$24,100

The 2022 Spring Town Meeting approved a budget of \$216,995 for the Stormwater Utility Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2023. Since Town Meeting voted the budget, it was discovered that the budget did not include the Enterprise Fund Intergovernmental Cost (total of \$23,000) and the Union Agreement Cost (\$1,100). The Budget needs to be adjusted by this amount. This Article requests to increase the Enterprise Budget by \$24,100, bringing the total FY 2023 Stormwater Budget to \$241,095. The additional amount of \$24,100 will come from the Stormwater Fee set by the Select Board earlier this summer.

Article 4: Transfer - Capital Stabilization Fund Requested: \$605,000

The current balance in this fund is \$94,735. The Town's Financial Policies call for a balance in this Fund of 1.5% of the Operating Budget. If all the transfers and appropriations are approved under Article 2 of this Warrant, the total Fiscal Year Operating Budget will be \$46,470,116. This would require a Capital Stabilization Fund Balance of \$697,052. This Article will request a transfer of \$605,000 from Free Cash to add to this Fund.

Article 5: Transfer - Stabilization Fund Requested: \$246,393

The current balance in the Stabilization Fund is \$2,077,113. Our Financial Policies state that this Fund should have a balance of five (5%) percent of our Operating Budget (\$46,470,116). This would require a balance of \$2,323,506. This Article will request a transfer of \$246,393 from Free Cash to add to this Fund.

Article 6: Transfer - GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund Requested: \$250,000

The current balance in the GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund is \$3,234. The FY 2024 Capital Plan for the District is currently estimated at \$552,203. Based on utilizing both Free Cash and this Stabilization Fund to cover the Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Assessment from the School District, this Article will request a transfer of \$250,000 from Free Cash to be add to this Fund.

Article 7: Debt Service for Middle School Track

Requested: \$8,835

From the Summary in the Warrant: This article appropriates the debt payments for the Middle School Track Project. The anticipated debt service for Fiscal Year 2023 is \$8,835. Funding for this article will come from the Unallocated Reserve of the Community Preservation Fund.

Article 8: Additional Funding for Master Plan Update

Requested: \$50,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: The 2022 Spring Town Meeting appropriated \$100,000 for the Planning Board to hire a consultant to begin updating the Town's Master Plan. The anticipated cost to complete the update is \$150,000. The original intent was to ask the Town to appropriate the additional \$50,000 next year, but having all of the money upfront will provide the Planning Board with the opportunity to solicit bids and enter into one contract that is fully funded. It will give the Planning Board a competitive advantage in procuring a consultant. This Article will seek \$50,000 from Free Cash for this purpose.

Article 9: Whitney Pond Well Site Construction

Requested: \$150,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend an additional sum of \$150,000.00, to be raised through water rates, to cover the additional costs of Construction related to the new source well at the Whitney Pond Well Site (Whitney Pond #3).

Article 10: Electronic Voting at Town Meeting

Requested: \$25,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: The 2022 Spring Town Meeting created an Electronic Voting Study Committee, which was charged with evaluating the option of implementing electronic voting at Town Meeting. The Committee, made up of the Town Clerk and four registered voters of the Town appointed by the Town Moderator, has performed a comprehensive review of electronic voting including risks, benefits, costs, and procedures. The Committee will present their findings to Town Meeting along with the cost of acquiring and operating electronic voting, should Town Meeting vote to do so. It is anticipated that the cost to procure this system is \$25,000. This funding will come from Free Cash

Article 11: Remove Building – 159 West Main Street**Requested: \$30,000**

From the Summary in the Warrant: This property is the former Squannacook Sportsman Club. Recently the Federal Environmental Protection Agency, in cooperation with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, conducted a clean-up to remove all lead from this property, building and abutting properties. The 2018 Spring Town Meeting authorized the Select Board to take this property, but the Select Board held off until such time as it was environmentally sound to do so. The Plan is to use this property to supplement the activities of the Center in West Groton by creating walking paths, picnic areas and overflow parking. The purpose of this Article is to provide the necessary funding to remove the former Indoor Shooting Range. It is anticipated that the cost of removal is \$30,000. This funding will come from Free Cash.

Article 12: Out of Cycle Application – Prescott Elevator**Requested: \$250,000**

From the Summary in the Warrant: The 2022 Spring Town Meeting appropriated \$80,000 to hire an architect to design and develop construction drawings for the installation of an elevator at the Prescott School to support a Municipal Americans with Disabilities Act Improvement Grant with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Town hired Helene Karl Architects for this purpose. Helene Karl has been working on this and has established a preliminary budget of \$400,000 to install the elevator. The maximum State Grant under the program stated above is \$250,000, so it will not be enough to cover the installation of the Elevator. The Grant Application was due to the State at the end of September, with an expected Grant Decision sometime in November/December. The Town Manager requested an “Out of Cycle Community Preservation Application” from the Community Preservation Committee requesting \$250,000 to supplement the potential State Grant. Should the Town receive the Grant, approval of this Article will provide sufficient funding to go out to bid immediately for the Elevator Installation. Should the Town not receive the Grant, the Town shall return the funding to the Community Preservation Fund.

Should the Town Meeting agree with these appropriations, \$1,287,050 will come from the Town’s Free Cash Account, leaving a Free Cash balance of \$828,075. For the line item that is reoccurring and will be funded through taxation, the Town will end up \$45,380 under the anticipated Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2023. The estimated tax rate at the Spring Town Meeting was \$18.35. Based on the proposed changes at the Fall Town Meeting, the anticipated tax rate is \$18.33. The following chart is a breakdown of the anticipated rate:

| | | <u>Actual</u> <u>FY 2022</u> | | <u>Proposed</u> <u>FY 2023</u> | | <u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u> | <u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u> |
|--------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Levy Capacity Used | \$ | 34,157,624 | \$ | 35,224,034 | \$ | 1,066,410 | 3.12% |
| Tax Rate on Levy Capacity Used | \$ | 16.18 | \$ | 16.57 | \$ | 0.39 | 2.41% |
| Average Tax Bill | \$ | 8,658 | \$ | 8,867 | \$ | 209 | 2.41% |
| Excluded Debt | \$ | 2,140,460 | \$ | 3,741,491 | \$ | 1,601,031 | 74.80% |
| Tax Rate on Excluded Debt | \$ | 1.01 | \$ | 1.76 | \$ | 0.75 | 74.26% |
| Average Tax Bill | \$ | 540 | \$ | 942 | \$ | 401 | 74.26% |
| Final Levy Used | \$ | 36,298,084 | \$ | 38,965,525 | \$ | 2,667,441 | 7.35% |
| Final Tax Rate | \$ | 17.19 | \$ | 18.33 | \$ | 1.14 | 6.63% |
| Average Tax Bill | \$ | 9,198 | \$ | 9,808 | \$ | 610 | 6.63% |

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Haddad

Mark W. Haddad
Town Manager

Town of Groton
Board of Selectmen
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Groton, MA 01450
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RESIDENTIAL POSTAL PATRON GROTON, MA

Robert L. Collins
Attorney At Law
P. O. Box 2081
Westford, Massachusetts 01886

Telephone (978) 448-3511
Facsimile (978) 448-8511

12 September 2022

Groton Office:
204 Gay Road
Groton, Massachusetts 01450

The Groton Affordable Housing Trust
Town Hall
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

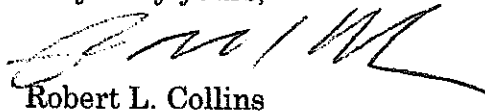
RE: Robert P. Kiley/"Hayes Woods"
Maple Avenue

Dear Board Members:

I represent Robert P. Kiley, Trustee, Maple Avenue Realty Trust under a Declaration of Trust dated July 17, 2021, a Trustee's Certificate for which is duly recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 79367 at Page 196, and Kiley Brock Homes, LLC, owner and developer, respectively, of the property situated on Maple Avenue commonly referred to as "Hayes Woods."

My client has gifted the sum of fifty thousand (\$50,000.00) dollars to the Affordable Housing Trust. It is his intent that the Trust use these funds to assist the Trust with soft costs associated with potential sites the Trust may wish to explore .

Very truly yours,


Robert L. Collins

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, September 19, 2022
UN-APPROVED

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

Finance Committee Members Present: Bud Robertson, Chair; Colby Doody, Gary Green, David Manugian, Scott Whitefield, and Michael Sulprizio

Capital Planning Advisory Committee: David Manugian, Chair; Michael O'Rourke, Vice chair; John Croteau; and Michael Sulprizio, Clerk

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Kara Cruikshank, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

Mr. John Reilly called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

The Select Board met in Joint Session with the Finance Committee and Capital Planning Advisory Committee, to set priorities for Fiscal Year 2024 with the Town Managers proposed Capital Budget.

David Manugian, from the Capital Planning Advisory Committee, called meeting to order at 6:00PM.

Bud Robertson, from the Finance Committee, called meeting to order at 6:00PM.

In Joint Session with the Finance Committee and Capital Planning Advisory Committee-

Mr. Manugian introduced the Members of the Capital Planning Advisory Committee. He explained the reason for this meeting was to briefly go over their charge and focus on the proposed Capital Spending Planning. The Capital Planning Committee has two objectives: 1. For a long-range Capital Plan for the buildings in Groton. 2. To work diligently with the Town Manager on an annual basis for recommendations on the Capital Program. The first charge is still moving forward and they are collecting information and getting up to speed on the Planning process, in hopes to present something by the end of the Fiscal year. Secondly, they want to discuss the different priorities for the upcoming FY24.

Mr. Haddad said the preliminary plan is in the packet, he took last year's plan and updated it for FY24. The Capital Plan included the listing of projects by funding source. The General Fund lists the IT Infrastructure /Computer Purchase. The Bond/Grants Fund lists Prescott School for a placeholder (The Prescott elevator will need an electrical upgrade and HVAC system). The Fire Department will have the replacement of Engine 7 in FY26. Free Cash lists the Master Plan Update, Complete Streets Program and the Driving Range Improvements.

So far, the total capital request is 2.4 million dollars from last year. This will go out to the department's heads in the next couple of weeks, so there may be some adjustments. Mr. Haddad would like the Capital Planning Committee to meet again before it is finalized. The Finance Committee and the Select Board will meet in October to give Mr. Haddad budget guidance on the operating budget. The purpose is to have the Capital Plan together before the Operating Budget.

Looking ahead briefly at the listing of projects and cost for 2025, the Fire Department has a plan for the SCBA Replacement which is \$500,000. The Fire Department has applied for a grant for the SCBA replacement, is it listed as a place holder. If we receive the Grant, we remove it, Mr. Haddad said. This would bring the total cost for 2025 down significantly. The Capital Plan lists everything the town would like to do. Any grant that is received, it is removed from the plan.

Ms. Manugian said she is not quite sure if everyone from the community would know if there is something missing from the plan, so they (the Select Board) are looking for guidance from the Finance and Capital Planning Committee. Ms. Pine said we need to set priorities, hoping the Committees will help to give the Select Board guidance.

Mr. Haddad said there are a lot of new buildings in town, they are in good shape. Over the next five years the Police Station, their sprinkler system, and Prescott will need attention.

Mr. Haddad explained he sent out an email earlier today stating we are applying for a State Grant for \$250,000 to make a handicapped accessible elevator at Prescott. The cost estimate of the elevator is approximately \$450,000 to \$500,000. The Community Preservation Committee out of cycle application will need to be applied for to supplement the State Grant. This will need to be on the Warrant but removed if the CPC doesn't support it. During the Public Hearing, Mr. Haddad said he would like the Select Board to open the Warrant and add that Article. The grant deadline is September 30, 2022. If they receive the grant, they would need to spend the money by June 30th. Therefore, the project will need to be constructed and finished by June 30th, this is the reason for applying for a CPC out of cycle application. They will need the full amount to complete the project. If they do not get the State Grant, they will hold off a year and the CPC will decide what to do with the project. Mr. Manugian said the Capital Planning Committee had a site visit at Prescott. He stated they had some thoughts, including about the elevator. He would like public input prior to Town Meeting. Ms. Pine said she attended a meeting with the architect in Prescott. She thought the location of the elevator was very well thought out and thinks it would be a good idea to get more public input before Town Meeting. Mr. Greg Yanchenko, the architect, is finalizing the drawings, it is more cost efficient to keep it within the envelope of the building.

The Finance Committee explained three things they would like to do as a committee; avoid surprises, look at some of the big items and plan them appropriately. They would like to look at some of the things they do on a regular basis (IE: replacing cruisers etc.). Mr. Haddad said he will schedule a meeting with the department heads to review the preliminary discussion. The Members would like to invite the Park Commission to get an assessment of the conditions and needs of the parks with the Capital Planning Committee and Department Heads.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND REVIEW AGENDA FOR THE PUBLIC

Mr. Reilly reviewed the agenda.

Mr. Cunningham announced this Friday, September 23, 2022, there will be a Covid Clinic at The Center. Please call The Center to set up an appointment if anyone is interested, the Pfizer vaccine will be available there. Also, this Saturday, September 24, 2022 at 12 pm will be the Dedication Ceremony for phase 2 of the Squannacook River Rail Trail in Townsend. Ms. Pine said this Saturday, September 24th is Groton Fest. This past Saturday there was a Ceremony held at the Old Groton Meetinghouse, celebrating the listing on the National Historic Register of Historic Places. She would like to thank everyone who worked on that.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no Public Comments.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Haddad read a letter into the record from Police Chief Luth.

1. Mr. Haddad said that he had made the following appointments and respectfully requested that the Select Board consider ratifying them, effective immediately:

Patrick Timmins – Sergeant for the Groton police Department

Mr. Cunningham made the motion to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Patrick Timmins as requested, effective immediately. Mr. Pisani seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye

Shayla Watson- Communications Officer

Ms. Pine made a motion to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Shayla Watson as requested, effective immediately. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye

2. Update on the Select Board Meeting Schedule Through the End of the Year

Mr. Haddad would like to update the meeting schedule that will take the Board through the end of the year. They will meet:

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Monday, October 3, 2022 | Issue Warrant for 2022 Fall Town Meeting |
| Monday, October 17, 2022 | Fall Town Meeting Prep |
| Saturday, October 22, 2022 | Fall Town Meeting |
| Monday, October 24, 2022 | Meet with FinCom to Establish FY 2024 Budget Guidance |
| Monday, November 7, 2022 | Meet Remotely (due to the room being unavailable because of the Election) |
| Monday, November 14, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, November 21, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, December 5, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, December 12, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, December 19, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |
| Monday, January 9, 2022 | Regularly Scheduled Meeting |

SELECT BOARD ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

None

Former Nod Road Landfill Update

Luke Fabbri was present, from Geological Field Services, Inc. with a Power Point Presentation on the Nod Road Landfill. Luke is a Licensed Site Professional under the Massachusetts Contingency Plan. Mr. Fabbri said they currently do the Cow Pond landfill, they were asked to do a Preliminary Site Assessment, which included a Comprehensive Site Assessment scope of work for the Nod Road Landfill. Mr. Fabbri was there to present what they found for information and present a history of the site. Some facts about Nod Road: a it predates solid waste and site assignment regulations, it received residential solid waste dropped off by residents, ordered to be closed by MADPH in 1974, stopped receiving solid waste in 1975 and is currently listed as inactive with incomplete closure by MADEP which is typical of pre-1987 closures. The landfill operated from 1930's to 1976. In April, there was a site inspection that was done. The landfill was found to be vegetated with heavy ground cover, small trees and there was no evidence of erosion observed or iron oxide. There is lack of oxygen in landfills. Wetlands were filled on the eastern side along Nod Road. The landfill was closed in 1976 prior to the current regulations so it is listed by MADEP as an inactive land fill with an incomplete closure. Mr. Fabbri recommended ways to maintain the current use: Prohibit digging or disturbing the cap, prohibit motorized vehicle and prohibit access to the water from the landfill. He suggested to conduct an annual inspection to ensure cap integrity. DEP is not interested in this landfill unless its disturbed.

7:30 PM Public Hearing- In Joint Session with the Finance Committee- Review the Articles Contained in the 2022 Fall Town meeting Warrant

Mr. Haddad wanted to pause the Nod Road discussion to vote to open the 7:30PM Fall Town Meeting Warrant Public Hearing and to conclude at the end of the Nod Road Discussion.

Mr. Cunningham made a motion to open the public hearing. Ms. Pine seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye.

Former Nod Road Landfill Update

Public Comments/Questions

A resident, who lives across from the dump, stated when she moved into her home, there was an assessment of the soil and it was fine. She said they have not maintained the cap at all. She would like the town to maintain this and is asking what the Town will do. To prevent trees from growing, it can be mowed annually, post it's a landfill and it should be posted there are no vehicles up there and inspected annually. Abutter, Adam Bennett, was present and wanted to point out there is along of garbage and debris on the western side of Nod Brook. He said there is evidence of trees that have fallen. Bob Hill lives at 51 Nod Road wanted to say it is a beautiful natural habitat with lots of nature.

The Nod Road Landfill Update/discussion will continue on a future agenda when more time can be allotted. There were many members of the public in attendance that were passionate about the topic.

7:30 PM Public Hearing- In Joint Session with the Finance Committee- Review the Articles Contained in the 2022 Fall Town meeting Warrant

Mr. Haddad asked the Board to reopen to public hearing.

Ms. Pine made a motion to reopen the public hearing. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Roll Call; Pine, aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye-; Cunningham-1ye; Reilly-aye

Mr. Haddad wanted to go through the warrant articles and help answer any questions. In a memorandum to the Select board and Finance Committee, Mr. Haddad provided the information and recommendations for the various Articles that will be requesting funding in the 2022 Fall Town Meeting Warrant. The memorandum listed the balances in the Town's various Reserve Accounts. He read them off as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|
| Stabilization Fund: | \$2,077,113 |
| Capital Stabilization Fund: | \$ 94,735 |
| GDRSD: Capital Stabilization Fund: | \$ 3,234 |
| Unexpended Tax Capacity: | \$ 53,775 |
| Anticipated Free Cash: | \$2,098,384 |

Article 1: Prior Year Bills – At this time there are no unpaid bill.

Select Board Members are in support of this.

Article 2: Amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Town Operating Budget-

Three changes Mr. Haddad would like to make to the Operating Budget. The adjustments are as follows:

1. Town Clerks Salaries- \$9,021 will need to be added to the Salary line item. The funding will come from Free Cash.
2. Town Clerk Wages- Based on additional hours and stipend from the transition of Michael Bouchard to Dawn Dunbar, Nancy Pierce was appointed Temporary Town Clerk during the transition from Michael Bouchard to Dawn Dunbar. Ms. Pierce received a weekly stipend. \$2,452 will need to be added to the Wage Line Item and this funding would come from Free Cash.
3. Fire Department Wages- The Fire Dept. is requesting an additional \$169,184 in wages to cover overtime costs. \$100,000 out of Ambulance Receipts and \$70,000 to come out of Free Cash.
4. The Building Commissioner opted out of the town's health insurance program. Mr. Garside and is obligated to \$5,600 based off of collective bargaining. This would come out of the Unexpended Tax Capacity because it is reoccurring cost.

Select Board Members are in support of this.

Article 3: Amend the Fiscal Year 2023 Stormwater Enterprise Budget-

The Enterprise Fund Intergovernmental Cost and the Union Agreement Cost will need to be adjusted by \$24,100. This additional amount will come from the Stormwater Fee set aside by the Select Board earlier this summer.

Select Board Members are in support of this.

Article 4: Transfer Money into the Capital Stabilization Fund-

A transfer of \$605,000 from Free Cash to add to this fund is recommended by Mr. Haddad. This fund should have a balance of five percent of our Operating Budget.

Select Board Members are in support of this unanimously.

Article 5: Transfer Money into the Stabilization Fund-

A transfer of \$246,393 from Free Cash to add to this fund is recommended by Mr. Haddad. The Stabilization Fund should have a balance of five percent of our Operating Budget.

Select Board Members are in support unanimously.

Article 6: Transfer Money into the GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund

A transfer of \$250,000 Free Cash to be added to this fund is recommended by Mr. Haddad.

Select Board Members are in support unanimously.

Article 7: Debt Service for Middle School Track

The anticipated debt service for Fiscal Year 2023 is \$8,835. Funding for this article will come from the Unallocated Reserve for the Community Preservation Fund.

Select Board Members are in support unanimously.

Article 8: Additional Funding for the Master Plan

This article is to seek additional \$50,000 from Free Cash. This intent is to have all the money upfront and will be able to provide the Planning Board with the opportunity to solicit bids and enter one contract that is fully funded.

Select Board Members are in support unanimously.

Mr. Haddad would like to recommend the first 8 articles to be part of the consent agenda, as one vote, and would like to know by October 3. The Finance Committee and Select Board will need to be in unanimous support of the agreement.

Article 9: Whitney Pond Well Site Construction

The Board of Water Commissioners is asking to increase the appropriation by \$150,000 for the Whitney Pond Well site construction. These funds will be raised by water rates and fees.

Select Board Members are in support unanimously.

Article 10: Electronic Voting at Town Meeting

The Electronic Voting Study Committee was in attendance with a power point presentation to show how electronic voting works. The Members said the electronic vote will give you accuracy in numbers, which also gives confidence in the accuracy to the voters. Electronic voting will only be used at Town Meeting. The security of the

device has raised concern, the voting computer is not connected to wi-fi or internet and we could easily convert back to hand votes if needed. They had researched and found over 70 Massachusetts Towns for town meetings, State legislature and various federal agencies. The cost would be a one-time purchase of under \$25,000 for 600 voters and will covers tech support for ten years. There are funding options, example ARPA funding. As you check in you will receive a clicker instead of card, the moderator will implement how the clicker operates.

Mr. Haddad recommends to take the \$25,000 out of Free Cash.

Ms. Manugian and Ms. Pine are in support. Mr. Pisani, Mr. Cunningham and Mr. Reilly deferred their recommendation until Town Meeting.

Article 11: Funding to Remove Building-159 West Main Street

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, to remove the building at 159 West Main Street. It is anticipated the removal to cost \$30,000 and the funding to come from Free Cash.

Select Board Members are in support unanimously.

Article 12: Prescott Elevator

At the Spring Town Meeting appropriated \$80,000 to do a study to put an elevator in the Prescott School. The town be applying for a Grant from the Mass Office on Disabilities for \$250,000 towards an elevator. The cost of the elevator installation is approximately \$450,000. A supplemental appropriation will be needed. Mr. Haddad is asking the CPC to approve an out of cycle application. In the CPC does, Mr. Haddad would like to put an Article on the Warrant.

Mr. Haddad asked Select Board to reopen the Warrant and to add Article 12 to the Warrant, then to close the Warrant.

Ms. Pine makes a motion to open the Warrant. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye. Mr. Reilly closed the Warrant.

Mr. Haddad asked the Select Board to add the article for the Supplemental Appropriation through a CPC out of cycle application. This will be Article 12 and move the other Articles down.

Ms. Pine makes a motion to add Article 12, Supplemental Appropriation through a CPC out of Cycle Application. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Ms. Manugian would like to add language: should said grant not be received, money will be reverted to the CPA. Roll call vote: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye. Mr. Reilly Closes the Warrant.

Mr. Haddad asked the Board to close the warrant.

Ms. Pine makes a motion to close the warrant. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye. Mr. Reilly Closes the Warrant.

Article 13: Amend Chapter 105- "Alcoholic Beverages"

This Article is to see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 105.

Ms. Pine would like Mr. Haddad to inquire with Town Counsel about adding onto the last sentence of Chapter 105-1 (d). Ms. Pine suggested adding; from time to time or a more specific time period.

Select Board Members are in support unanimously.

Article 14: Amend Chapter 196- "Signs"

This Article is to see if the Town will vote to amend Section 196-5(J) of the Town of Groton Bylaws.

Select Board Members are in support unanimously.

Article 15: Citizens Petition- Rezone 797 Boston Road

This would rezone the property to Neighborhood Business (NB) zone to allow for the development of an indoor pickleball facility. The proposed facility would require a Special Permit by the ZBA.

Members deferred their recommendation until Town Meeting.

Article 16: Citizens Petition- Extend Center Sewer District:

Mr. Don Black was in attendance asking to extend the Center Sewer District by 1125 feet to 91 Chicopee Row This would be for a single-family home. Other houses would not be allowed to tie into it.

The Select Board is asking for clarification on whether other houses, by right, would be allowed to tie into the Sewer prior to Town Meeting.

Mr. Haddad is going to ask Town Counsel and the moderator about the final three Articles, Citizens Petition. They are not written in Article form; Mr. Haddad will have to check with Town Counsel.

4 Members deferred their recommendation until Town Meeting. Ms. Manugian Opposed.

Article 17: Citizens Petition-Reduce the Tax Rate

Petitioner was not present and is not a legal article.

Members were opposed as it cannot be approved as written.

Article 18: Citizens Petition: Affordable Housing:

This Article needs to be written as a zoning amendment and require a public hearing by the Planning Board but has not.

Members were opposed as it cannot be approved as written.

Article 19: Citizens Petition: Side by Side Comparison

Mr. Haddad gave a side-by-side comparison that evening

Members were opposed as it cannot be approved as written.

Mr. Haddad asked the Board to close the public hearing on the Warrant.

Ms. Pine made a motion to close the warrant. Mr. Pisani seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Pine-aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye. Mr. Reilly Closed the public Hearing.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Cunningham and Ms. Pine saw Senator Kennedy at the First Parish Church Ceremony. Mr. Cunningham said potential ARPA funding for the school is under consideration. He said other districts are in the same situation.

MINUTES

Ms. Pine made a motion to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting on Sept 6, 2022. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine, aye; Manugian-aye; Pisani-aye; Cunningham-aye; Reilly-aye

The meeting was adjourned at. 9:27

Approved: _____
Matthew F. Pisani, Clerk

_____ respectfully submitted: Kara Cruikshank,
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

Date Approved: `