



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

**SELECT BOARD MEETING**  
**MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2023**  
**AGENDA**  
**SELECT BOARD MEETING ROOM**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> FLOOR**  
**GROTON TOWN HALL**

- 6:30 P.M.      Announcements and Review Agenda for the Public
- 6:35 P.M.      Determine Whether or Not to Modify or Uphold the Hearing Officer's Decision to Humanely Euthanize Two Dogs Owned by Daniel Monroe of 828 Martins Pond Road.
- 7:05 P.M.      Public Comment Period
- I.      7:06 P.M.      Town Manager's Report
1. Call for and Open the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting
  2. Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Development Update
  3. Update on Select Board Meeting Schedule Through 2023 Spring Town Meeting
- II.      7:10 P.M.      Items for Select Board Consideration and Action
1. Approve Letter to Community Preservation Committee in Support of Squannacook Greenways Application (#2024-09)
- III.      7:15 P.M.      In Joint Session with the Finance Committee – Presentation of the Town Manager's Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Operating Budget

### 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 December 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:** *January 9, 2023*

### TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Please note that Monday's Meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. 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 are two scheduled Items on Monday's Agenda. First, the Select Board will need to determine whether or not to modify the Hearing Officer's Decision to humanely euthanize two dogs owned by Daniel Monroe of 828 Martins Pond Road. The Hearing Officer's Decision, along with supporting materials, is attached to this Report for your review. Second, the Board will be meeting in Joint Session with the Finance Committee for the presentation of the Town Manager's Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Operating Budget.

1. It is that time of year for the Board to call for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting. As you know, the default date for the Town Meeting is the fourth Monday in April. This year, that date is April 24, 2023. Given the fact that we have successfully been holding Town Meetings on Saturdays for the last two and one-half years, I would like the Board to consider holding the meeting on Saturday, April 29, 2023. Enclosed with this report are two versions of the Town Meeting time line based on the default date and the proposed Saturday date. The one consideration in choosing the Town Meeting date is how it impacts the date of the Annual Election. Should you call for the meeting on April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Election would be on May 16, 2023. If you call for the meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>, the Election would be held on May 23, 2023. We can discuss all of this in more detail at Monday's meeting.
2. Obviously, there is no specific update on the FY 2024 Budget as I will be presenting the Proposed Budget at Monday's meeting. The one issue I would like to discuss with both the Select Board and Finance Committee is to delay the Saturday Morning Budget Meeting until after the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Committee develops its preliminary budget. There is no sense talking about the Municipal Budget in great detail until such time as we fully understand the needs of the School District.



**Select Board**  
**Weekly Agenda Update/Report**  
**January 9, 2023**  
**page two**

3. Please see the update to the meeting schedule that will take the Board through the 2023 Spring Town Meeting:

Wednesday, January 11, 2023	-Public Hearing on Broadmeadow Improvements
Monday, January 16, 2023	-No Meeting (MLK Holiday)
Monday, January 23, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, January 30, 2023	-Destination Groton Committee Update
Monday, February 6, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, February 13, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting (Town Manager Absent)
Monday, February 20, 2023	-No Meeting (President's Day Holiday)
Monday, February 27, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, March 6, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, March 13, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, March 20, 2023	-No Meeting
Monday, March 27, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, April 3, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, April 10, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, April 17, 2023	-No Meeting (Patriot's Day)
Monday, April 24, 2023	-Default Date for 2023 Spring Town Meeting
Saturday, April 29, 2023	-Potential Date for 2023 Spring Town Meeting

**ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND ACTION**

1. At your last meeting, you authorized the issuance of a letter to the Community Preservation Committee in support of the Squannacook Greenways Application. Attached to this report for your approval is a draft of the Support Letter. I would respectfully request that the Board approve and sign the letter at Monday's meeting.

MWH/rjb  
enclosures





**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

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2022 NOV -6 A 8:25

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 140, §157 and Town of Groton Bylaws §128-3, the Town Manager (the "Manager") held a public hearing at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, December 12, 2022 in the Second Floor Meeting Room at the Groton Town Hall, 173 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450, on the complaint of the Animal Control Officer that the dogs named George (License 639) and Harry (License 638) belonging to Daniel W. Monroe, 828 Martin Pond Road, Groton, Massachusetts may be a dangerous dog.

At the hearing, the Assistant Town Clerk swore all witnesses under oath and received testimony from Police Chief Michael Luth, Animal Inspector George Moore, Animal Control Officer John Greenhalgh, Sarah Lampe, Michelle Bedy and Daniel Munroe. The testimony included information about multiple attacks by George and Harry, including an unprovoked attack on Michelle Bedy and her dog, Jackson, and Sarah Lampe and her dog, Ceilidh, on November 30, 2022, an unprovoked attack on Rebecca Schneider and her dog, Frieda, on October 2, 2022, an unprovoked attack on Renee Tourigny and her dog on August 27, 2022, and an unprovoked attack on Neil Sargent and his dog on or about July 2022.

The Manager considered the evidence and testimony presented, and made the determination that none of the circumstances in M.G.L. c. 140, § 157(a)(1)-(4) exist and to issue the following order.

It is hereby Determined and Ordered that:

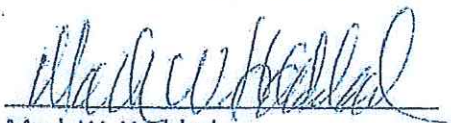
1. George is a dangerous dog and shall be humanely euthanized on or before December 27, 2022.
2. Harry is a dangerous dog and shall be humanely euthanized on or before December 27, 2022.

Pursuant to Groton Town Bylaws § 128-3, this Decision and Order shall become effective upon filing said decision with the Town Clerk. You may appeal it to the Select Board within 10 days of the decision being filed with the Town Clerk. The Select Board shall review the decision in open session and determine whether or not to modify or uphold the decision. The Select Board may conduct a further hearing or accept additional evidence as the Board deems appropriate. You may further appeal the Select Board's final action to the district court pursuant to MGL c. 140, § 157.

Pursuant to G.L. c. 140, §157, if you are aggrieved by this decision, within ten days of the order you may bring a petition in the district court within the judicial district of which the dog is kept, addressed to the justice of the court, praying that the order may be reviewed by the court, or magistrate thereof, and after such notice to the officer or officers involved as the magistrate deems necessary.

The magistrate shall review such action, hear the witnesses and affirm such order unless it shall appear that it was made without proper cause or in bad faith, in which case such order shall be reversed. You or any party shall have the further right to request a de novo hearing on the petition before a justice of the court.

On behalf of the Manager,



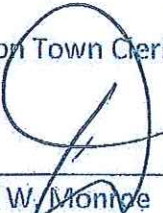
Mark W. Haddad

Town Manager

Dated: December 16, 2022

Filed with the Groton Town Clerk: 

Date: December 16, 2022

Served upon: 

Daniel W. Monroe

Date: December \_\_, 2022

cc: Animal Control Officer  
Groton Police Department

A TRUE COPY, ATTEST



Nancy Pierce  
Assistant Town Clerk



**Monroe Dog Hearing  
Before the Groton Town Manager  
Minutes  
Monday, December 12, 2022**

**In Attendance:** Mark Haddad – Town Manager, Kara Cruikshank, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager

**Also in Attendance:** Police Chief, Michael Luth; Mr. George Moore, Animal Inspector; Michelle Bedy; Michael Bedy; Sarah Lampe; Josh Lampe; Daniel Monroe; John Greenhalgh, Animal Control Officer; Assistant Town Clerk, Nancy Pierce;

This hearing was held in receipt of a dog complaint made on November 30, 2022, alleging two dogs, Harry and George, of 828 Martins Pond Road, attacked Ms. Sarah Lampe and Ms. Michelle Bedy along with their two labs and sustained serious injuries.

The Town Manager reviewed the complainant's statements and the Town of Groton's Bylaw, Chapter 128. This Hearing was a Dangerous Dog Hearing held pursuant to Chapter 128-3 of the Code of the Town of Groton.

Assistant Town Clerk, Ms. Nancy Pierce swore in all the witnesses.

The Police Chief, Michael Luth gave a statement. Patrol Officer, Peter Violette, responded to a call for the report of two women and their dogs being attacked by two other dogs in the conservation area of Rocky Hill Road on November 30, 2022. Two white fox terriers attacked two labs and owners, Ms. Michelle Bedy and Ms. Sarah Lampe. Mr. Daniel Monroe, owner of the fox terriers, was on scene when Officer Violette responded. The two women were walking past 828 Martin's Pond Road when the two fox terriers came out and attacked their white and black lab. There was a pick-up truck nearby, the two women could get the dogs into the truck and themselves, then called 911. Mr. Monroe was spoken to and medical attention for the women was sought. Two other incidents involving the dogs were reported previously, August 27, 2022 and October 2, 2022. Reports of multiple bites were made for both incidents.

Animal Inspector, George Moore said two orders of quarantines were issued. On October 8, 2022, a 10-day quarantine was issued and stated the dogs cannot be loose and a second similar order was issued on November 30, 2022. Mr. Haddad asked if they abided the quarantine. Mr. Moore stated that he believed so to the best of his knowledge.

Animal Control Officer, John Greenhalgh read aloud his written statement (attached to these minutes). Mr. Greenhalgh asked for the two women to submit a written statement of what occurred. Those statements are also attached to these minutes.

Ms. Lampe asked if the dogs are supposed to be muzzled and for how long. Mr. Greenhalgh said until the order is released. Ms. Lampe stated the white lab was attacked and Ms. Michelle Bedy fell repeatedly, letting go of the leash. Ms. Bedy screamed for her dog to run. She was bit several times. Once her dog was out of reach, they went for the other dog. The black lab had several stitches on her stomach and a few bite marks on her legs. Ms. Bedy provided photos.



Mr. Haddad said we have a leash law in Town. Mr. Monroe said he is very sorry this happened and he has resided there for 20 years. Mr. Monroe stated traffic has increased the last few years and has fenced in a large part of his yard. He said currently there is a tenant living in the front of the house. Mr. Monroe understands he violated the law and said it will not happen again. Mr. Monroe believes the dogs were trying to play. Mr. Haddad said this is the third time they have attacked other people.

Under the Bylaw, if the hearing authority has deemed the dogs as a dangerous dog, they may order one or more of the following remedies:

- A) The dog be humanely restrained, but no order shall require the dog to be chained or tethered to an inanimate object such as a tree, post or building;
- B) The dogs to be confined to premises of the owner or keeper;
- C) When removed from premises of the owner or keeper, the dogs must be securely and humanely muzzled and restrained with a tethering device and a maximum of three feet;
- D) The owner or keeper provide (i) proof of insurance of at least \$100,000 insuring the owner or keeper against any claim, loss, damage, or injury to persons, domestic animals, or property resulting from the intentional or unintentional acts of the dog;
- E) Provide to the Town Clerk, the Animal Control Officer, or other entity as directed with identifying information for the dog including but not limited to photographs, videos, veterinary records, tattooing, microchip implantations or a combination of these;
- F) The dog be altered so as not to be reproductively intact, unless the owner or keeper provided evidence of a veterinary opinion that the dog is medically unfit for such alteration; or
- G) The dogs to be humanely euthanized.

Mr. Haddad asked the Police Chief, Animal Inspector and Animal Control Officer for their recommendations. Chief Luth recommended that the dogs be deemed as dangerous dogs and be humanely euthanized. Mr. Moore and Mr. Greenhalgh recommended that the dogs be deemed as dangerous dogs and to confine them permanently to the premises.

Mr. Haddad closed the hearing and said that he would issue an order by the end of the week. He stated that his decision could be appealed to the Select Board. Further, he ordered that the two dogs, Harry and George are to continue to be restrained on the property and muzzled when off the property.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Cruikshank  
Executive Assistant to the Town Manager



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Rebecca H. Pine, *Member*

December 2, 2022

Mr. Daniel W. Monroe  
828 Martins Pond Road  
Groton, MA 01450

Dear Mr. Monroe,

I am in receipt of a dog complaint alleging that your dogs, Harry and George, attacked Ms. Michelle Bedy, Ms. Sarah Lampe and their dogs on November 30, 2022. After reviewing the complainant's statement and the Town of Groton's Dog Bylaw, Chapter 128, a dangerous dog hearing has been scheduled for Monday, December 12, 2022 at 1:00pm in the Select Board's Meeting Room, Second Floor, Groton Town Hall, 173 Main Street, Groton. Your attendance is hereby requested.

Please let me know if you should have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Mark W. Haddad  
Town Manager

cc: Animal Inspectors George Moore & R. Thomas Delaney  
Police Chief Michael Luth



Officer John Greenhalgh

Groton Animal Control

11/30/2022

Received a call from Groton dispatch at 10:58 November 30, 2022 for the report of two women and their dogs being attacked by 2 other dogs in the conservation area of Rocky hill Road.

I asked Groton dispatch for the phone number of resident Daniel Monroe to call and see if his dogs were home as his residence is the last house before the trail. I did make contact with Mr. Munroe and he immediately left the conversation to find his dogs.

I then called victim Sarah Lampe who informed me that she and her friend Michelle Bedy and both of their labs had sustained injuries. I advised the women that rather than wait on scene for me that they should seek medical attention for all injuries immediately and that I would find them at the veterinarian's office.

I then did meet Sarah at the Veterinary Health Care of Groton located at 10 Hollis St in Groton where her black lab, was being treated for a bite wound to the abdomen. Sarah herself was uninjured. Michelle had transported herself to urgent care in Nashua for treatment of bite wounds to her leg and hand.

Sarah told me that two fox terriers approached and attacked the women and their dogs on the road and that they had to jump into the bed of a truck to end the assault. At that time they did call 911 and Groton PD did respond. I did advise that both women to write down a detailed account of what happened once their medical needs were tended to.

At approximately 12:40 that afternoon I met Mr. Munroe and Officer Violette at the Groton Police Department. Mr. Munroe showed the dogs vaccine records and proof of licensing and I issued a state mandatory 10-day quarantine for both dogs. I also advised Mr. Munroe that he should expect there to be a dangerous dog hearing in the near future that his dogs were to be muzzled and leashed at all times.



Groton Police Department  
Incident Report

Page: 1  
12/01/2022

Incident #: 22GRO-570-OF  
Call #: 22-40294

Date/Time Reported: 11/30/2022 1058  
Report Date/Time: 11/30/2022 1149  
Status: No Crime Involved

Reporting Officer: Patrol Peter Violette  
Approving Officer: Sergeant ROBERT BREAVLT

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# EVENTS(S)

LOCATION TYPE: Highway/Road/Alley/Street Zone: Groton Sector 1  
830 MARTINS POND RD @ 1 ROCKY HILL RD  
GROTON MA 01450

1 ANIMAL BITE

#	VICTIM(S)	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
1	BEDY, MICHELLE 15 HOYTS WHARF RD GROTON MA 01450-1547  DOB: ***** ETHNICITY: Not of Hispanic Origin RESIDENT STATUS: Resident VICTIM CONNECTED TO OFFENSE NUMBER(S): 1	F	W	45	*****	*****

#	PERSON(S)	PERSON TYPE	SEX	RACE	AGE	SSN	PHONE
1	LAMPE, SARAH M 522 MARTINS POND RD GROTON MA 01450-1475 DOB: *****	REPORTING PARTY	F	W	47	*****	██████████
2	MONROE, DANIEL W 828 MARTINS POND RD GROTON MA 01450-1525 DOB: *****	PARTICIPANT	M	W	61	*****	██████████

Attachments for 22GRO-570-OF

Description	Type
Bedy Statement Attachment#: 5A9F8B582ACB4EF68FBD2CA0D7FE48C8	PDF
Lampe Statement Attachment#: 9BE0B5BB990046E290BFC5C2324E2510	PDF



Groton Police Department

Page: 1

NARRATIVE FOR PATROL PETER D VIOLETTE

Ref: 22GRO-570-OF

On the above date and time, I, Officer Peter was on uniformed cruiser patrol for the Town of Groton. I had the occasion to be dispatched to the conservation area on Rocky Hill Road, for a dog that attacked another dog. Upon arrival, I observed 2 female subjects sitting in the back of a pickup with 2 dogs at the entrance to the conservation area. One of the dogs was a black Lab, and the other dog was a white Lab. The two females ID'd themselves to be (Michelle Bedy) and (Sara Lampe). I also observed (Daniel Monroe) who is known to me from prior encounters to be standing near the pickup by Bedy and Lampe.

I exited my cruiser and approached them. I asked Monroe what was going on? Monroe stated his dogs (White Fox Terriers) had been attacked by the 2 Labs. Monroe opened his car door and showed me his 2 Terrier's which I observed them to have puncture and bite marks on their facial and head area.

I approached Bedy and Lampe, who were still sitting with their dogs in the back of the pickup. Through speaking with them, I learned the following. Bedy and Lampe were walking their Labs and walked past Monroe's residence towards the conservation area. As they were approximately 1000 feet from the conservation area entrance, 2 White Fox Terriers came out of the woods and into the road. The two Terriers began to attack and focus on the black Lab, biting the Lab's legs. Bedy and Lampe were yelling and screaming in fear, and were kicking at the two Terrier's to get them off the black Lab. As they were doing this, the Terriers began to attack the white Lab also.

Bedy and Lampe had their dogs on leashes, and were attempting to get the Terriers to stop attacking their dogs. Bedy and Lampe were able to get into the back of a pickup that was parked at the conservation area. As they were trying to get their dogs and themselves into the back of the pickup, the Terriers became more frenzied and more focused on attacking the Labs. The Terriers were circling around the pickup while Bedy and Lampe and their dogs were seeking refuge in the back of the pickup. Lampe was able to call 911 from her cell phone, and shortly after Monroe showed up to take control of his dogs.

Bedy had a puncture wound from being bit on her right hand from attempting to fend off the attack. I asked Bedy if she wanted Groton EMS to respond to evaluate her hand. Bedy declined and stated she would go to the hospital with her husband later in the day.

I observed the white Lab to have a puncture wound to it's rear area, and open wounds on it's rear legs. On the black Lab, I observed an open wound approximately 3 inches long on it's under side by the right leg. Also the black Lab had open wounds on it's leg.

Monroe had left the scene with his Terriers, and ACO Greenhalgh called Lampe and advise her to have the dogs taken to the Vet for immediate care. While I had conversation with the parties involved, they had advised me that their dogs were up to date with their shots and all currently registered with the town.

At approximately 12:40pm, I met with ACO Greenhalgh in the station's lobby. Approximately 5 minutes later, Monroe arrived at the station, which Greenhalgh issued Monroe a citation, and advised Monroe that his Terriers are to be on a 10 day quarantine, and to be muzzled until further notice. Monroe was also advised that there will be a hearing at Town Hall regarding the Terriers.

Groton Police Department

Page: 1

SUPPLEMENTAL NARRATIVE FOR PATROL PAUL R CONNELL

Ref: 22GRO-570-OF

On 12/01/2022 at approximately 11:50 am I spoke with Ms. Michelle Bedy & Ms. Sarah Lampe. They had a few questions on the status of the dog incident that occurred yesterday and also wanted to add their statements to the report. *(See attached two statements).*



I was taking a walk on 11/30/22 around 10 AM with my 11 month old dog, Jackson, my friend Sarah Lampe and her dog, Ceilidh. We started at my home, 15 Hoyt's wharf road. Both of our dogs were leashed. We took a left on Old Dunstable Road and then a left on Rocky Hill Road. We walked to the end of Star House Lane and then turned around to go home. We walked past 828 Martins Pond Road. I'm not sure how far but we were out of sight of the home when we turned around and saw the 2 dogs (terriers I believe) approaching us. I know these dogs as I have seen them in their yard at 828 Martins Pond Road. They were fenced in but they have bared their teeth, snarled and barked at us often. I have also seen them fight each other very aggressively. But I did not see them outside yesterday at their home.

First they sniffed Ceilidh and then sniffed Jackson. They then immediately started biting my dog on various parts of the body. My dog tried to run several times but the dogs pursued him and bit at his hind legs, tail, bottom and sides. I tried to get the dogs to go away by yelling at them, pushing them off and kicking them but I was unable to stop them. At one point I tried laying on top of my dog to protect him but they continued to bite both myself and my dog. I have puncture wounds, bruising and cuts on both hands and bruising on my legs.

Sarah Lampe then called the police for assistance. I was screaming for help and screaming for Jackson to run. We got to the trailhead at Wharton Plantation eventually and my friend opened up a persons pick up truck back and we helped Jackson to jump in. This was not an easy task as the dogs continued to bite him, Jackson couldn't jump and we had to lift him at over 70 pounds. After Jackson was safely in the truck, the 2 dogs attacked Ceilidh. She has several wounds on her as well. One was very deep on her stomach. We got her in the truck in the same Manner as Jackson and then we both climbed in the truck too. The dogs were trying to jump in the truck and we were stopping them from

Michelle Bedy

15 Hoyt's Wharf Road

Michelle Bedy

603-320-6659




12/1/22

At 10 a.m. on Thursday, November 29th my friend Michelle Bedy and I met at her house on Hoyts Wharf Road to walk our dogs together. We walked down Old Dunstable, to Rocky Hill Road, turned around at Star House Lane (off Martins Pond Road) and headed back to her house. Near the end of Martins Pond Road, where the road turns to dirt we noticed two terriers following us. They are the two dogs that live at 828 Martins Pond Road. I recognized them, as I frequently run by that house. They weren't barking or threatening, just approaching quickly. Our dogs are slow walkers and when these terriers caught up to us they immediately attacked my friend's dog, ferociously attacking the hind legs and not letting go as my friend's dog tried to run away. We started screaming and shouting and kicking the terriers to try to get them off of my friend's dog. Twice my friend fell letting go of the leash and her dog tried to run away, she screamed for her dog to run... but her dog was not fast enough and twice the terriers brought her dog down... screaming in pain from the bites. I called 9-1-1 at 10:57 a.m. My friend's dog was bleeding, my friend had fallen repeatedly and I could see her hand was bleeding. We eventually made it to the trail head of Dan Parker Road and there were two trucks and a car parked there. I quickly pulled down the truck bed of a small blue Toyota Tacoma and screamed at my friend to get her dog into the truck bed. She managed to do this and then the terriers attacked my dog. They started biting the hind legs of my dog and they tore open her abdomen. My dog was squealing in pain, I was screaming and I somehow managed to lift my 83 pound dog into the truck bed and close it. That truck bed saved our dogs lives. His dogs continued to bark and jump at us as we sat in the truck bed waiting for the police. A few minutes later, the man who owned the dogs pulled up and started screaming at his dogs to get in the car, which they did. I told the man his dogs tried to kill us all and that I did not want to talk to him... he came over to us and was trying to pet our dogs in the truck. Just a minute or two later the police showed up.

I am suffering anxiety and trauma from this incident. My dog had emergency surgery yesterday with many lacerations and a gaping abdominal wound with internal stitches covered by staples and a wound drain. My friend, Michelle, had to go to the ER for two dog bites and received stitches. I am certain that if we had not been able to get into that truck bed, I would have watched my friend's dog (and likely mine) die from these terriers. Given that the dogs were attacking us as adults, these dogs are a danger to all of us. We dodged a bullet, escaping from this situation, and I breathe a sigh of relief that it wasn't my kids walking our dog at the time. The animal control officer told me we are the THIRD VICTIMS of these dogs. I hope to hear from the town regarding this incident, and what plans will be put in place to keep us safe.

Sarah Lampe  
522 Martins Pond Road

*Sarah Lampe*



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**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

**To:** *All Departments, Boards, Committees and Commissions*

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

**Subject:** *Spring Town Meeting – Monday, April 24, 2023*

**Date:** *January 10, 2023*

Please be advised that at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Select Board held on Monday, January 9, 2023, the Board voted to open the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting. Please note that the Town Meeting will be held on Monday, April 24, 2023. The Warrant will close at the close of business on Friday, February 24, 2023.

All articles should be submitted in writing to the Select Board as soon as possible to allow for as much time as possible for legal and financial review. All articles should be submitted with a written summary. These summaries will be included in the Spring Town Meeting Warrant so they must be submitted with the proposed Article. The following is the proposed timeline:

Tuesday, January 10, 2023 -	Warrant for 2023 Spring Town Meeting Opens
Friday, February 24, 2023 -	Warrant for 2023 Spring Town Meeting Closes
Monday, February 27, 2023 -	Select Board conduct first review of Articles
Monday, March 13, 2023 -	SB – FinCom Public Hearing on Articles
Monday, April 3, 2023 -	Select Board Finalize Warrant
Friday, April 7, 2023 -	Post Warrant
Monday, April 24, 2023 -	Spring Town Meeting

As has been the case in the past, please plan on attending any meeting of the Select Board in which they review an article you have submitted. I will provide all Departments, Boards, Committees and Commissions with a schedule once it is developed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or concerns.

MWH/rjb

cc: Select Board  
Finance Committee  
Dawn Dunbar – Town Clerk  
Jason Kauppi – Town Moderator  
Brian Falk – Town Counsel





## TOWN OF GROTON

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

## Select Board

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

**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

**To:** *All Departments, Boards, Committees and Commissions*

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

**Subject:** *Spring Town Meeting – Saturday, April 29, 2023*

**Date:** *January 10, 2023*

Please be advised that at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Select Board held on Monday, January 9, 2023, the Board voted to open the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting. Please note that the Town Meeting will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2023. The Warrant will close at the close of business on Friday, February 24, 2023.

All articles should be submitted in writing to the Select Board as soon as possible to allow for as much time as possible for legal and financial review. All articles should be submitted with a written summary. These summaries will be included in the Spring Town Meeting Warrant so they must be submitted with the proposed Article. The following is the proposed timeline:

Tuesday, January 10, 2023 -	Warrant for 2023 Spring Town Meeting Opens
Friday, February 24, 2023 -	Warrant for 2023 Spring Town Meeting Closes
Monday, February 27, 2023 -	Select Board conduct first review of Articles
Monday, March 13, 2023 -	SB – FinCom Public Hearing on Articles
Monday, April 10, 2023 -	Select Board Finalize Warrant
Friday, April 14, 2023 -	Post Warrant
Saturday, April 29, 2023 -	Spring Town Meeting

As has been the case in the past, please plan on attending any meeting of the Select Board in which they review an article you have submitted. I will provide all Departments, Boards, Committees and Commissions with a schedule once it is developed.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me with any additional questions or concerns.

MWH/rjb

cc: Select Board  
Finance Committee  
Dawn Dunbar – Town Clerk  
Jason Kauppi – Town Moderator  
Brian Falk – Town Counsel



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**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

January 10, 2023

Community Preservation Committee  
Town of Groton  
173 Main Street  
Groton, MA.

RE: Squannacook Greenways CPA application: # 2024-09

Dear Committee Members:

We are writing to offer our strong support for the application of Squannacook Greenways for funds to complete the Groton portion of the Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) phase 4, from the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing to the Groton/Townsend town line for a total distance of .25 miles. The \$50,000 being requested by Squannacook Greenways will serve as the local match for a \$100,000 Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR) MassTrails grant application. Squannacook Greenways has successfully used this approach in development of the SRRT to date in Townsend where the final phase of construction is underway now between Townsend center and the Townsend harbor area. In Groton, construction is currently underway on phase 3 of the SRRT which runs from the Bertozzi WMA to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing. This portion was subject of CPA application #2022-06, which this board previously supported.

Development of the SRRT has been underway for a number of years and was subject of previous CPA grants: # 2007-11; SRRT Environmental and Engineering Assessment, and #2022-06 phase 3 construction, both of which this board supported. The Select Board recognizes the benefits of rail trails to our community based on the experience of the Nashua River Rail Trail. The Town of Groton's Master Plan as well as it's Open Space and Recreation Plan have both emphasized the benefits of completing the SRRT as it links with other trail networks and provides a passive recreational connection with a neighboring community. The recent COVID pandemic has also underscored the need and importance of trails that provide an outdoor resource for townspeople to enjoy the open space that is a hallmark of Groton.

Squannacook Greenways has made great progress in the development of the SRRT and this application will represent the final completion of the SRRT. We strongly encourage you to look favorably on this CPA application so this recreational asset can finally become a reality.

Sincerely yours,

**Groton Select Board**

John F. Reilly, Chair

Rebecca H. Pine, Vice Chair

Matthew Pisani, Clerk

Peter S. Cunningham, Member

Alison S. Manugian, Member



**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, December 19, 2022  
UN-APPROVED**

**SB Members Present:** John F. Reilly, Chair; Rebecca H. Pine, Vice Chair; Alison S. Manugian, Member;

**SB Members Virtually Present:** Peter S. Cunningham, Member

**SB Members Absent:** Matthew F. Pisani, Clerk

**Also Present:** Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Kara Cruikshank, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager; Patricia Dufresne, Town Accountant; Melisa Doig, Human Resource Director; Finance Committee; Laura Chesson, GDRSD Superintendent; Sherry Kersey, GDRSD Director of Business and Finance; Megan Foster, Principal Assessor; Hannah Moller, Treasurer/Collector; Michael Hartnett, Assistant Treasurer/Collector; Brian Leblanc, President of the School Committee

John Reilly called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and reviewed the agenda.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Haddad said on Wednesday, January 4, 2023 from 1:00pm to 2:30pm, the Center in West Groton will feature Members of the Nashoba Valley Artist Guild with a presentation of their artwork. All are welcome.

There will be a public hearing held on January 11, 2023, at 7:00pm, for the proposed Broadmeadow Road improvements. The public hearing will be held at The Center in West Groton.

Mr. Bud Robertson called the Finance Committee to order.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A member of the public, Rebecca Tabaski, wanted to primarily speak to black youth and adults of the community. She wanted to let them know there are people of the Groton community that are here to stand with them. Ms. Tabaski said last week there was an incident at the middle school. The principal of the Groton Dunstable Middle School sent a letter out to families stating there was an 8<sup>th</sup> grade classroom using an online review game. A student(s) created anonymous hateful/hurtful user names. Ms. Tabaski wanted to raise awareness and acknowledge these issues.

**TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT**

**1. Update from Finance Team on New Growth and its impact on the Operating Budget:**

Mr. Haddad thought it would be important for the Finance Team to present a presentation about what new growth is and how it is calculated. Principal Assessor, Megan Foster prepared a power point and a video from the Department of Revenue. Ms. Foster said the State of Massachusetts defines new Growth as the calculation of the new increase in municipal property values because of new construction/subdivision and a return of exempt property to the tax role. Ms. Foster said there are different types of new growth we are seeing here in Groton. The construction of residential homes and condos, new construction of commercial and industrial buildings, personal property growth of new businesses occupying existing buildings, new lots created from a subdivision and change of property use code.

**2. Consider Accepting the Nomination by the Town Manager and Appointing Chris Furcolo to the Williams Barn Committee:**

*Ms. Pine made a motion to appoint Chris Furcolo to the Williams Barn Committee with term to expire June 30, 2023. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Roll Call vote: Manugian-aye; Reilly-aye; Cunningham-aye; Pine-aye.*



### 3. FY24 Budget Development Update:

The Select Board and Finance Committee met in Joint Session to discuss additional FY 2024 Budget Guidance. The School Committee, School Superintendent and Business Manager were all in attendance for the discussion. Mr. Haddad said he wanted to discuss where we are with the budget and why we are there tonight. He also wanted to give time for the School Superintendent and Business Manager to walk everyone through where they are with their budget request at this time. Then, he would like to talk about the guidance from the Finance Committee and Select Board.

Mr. Haddad said this past week we met with GDRSD Superintendent Laura Chesson, Assistant School Superintendent Kristin DeFrancisco and Director of Business and Finance Sherry Kersey to receive an update on where they stand for the FY24 budget. The Finance Team cannot meet the guidance given the anticipated request of the School Department at this time. An override might be required, but the Finance Team needs additional guidance. Mr. Haddad wanted to start with reviewing his budget memo to show where the budget stands. Mr. Haddad walked the Board and Finance Committee through his memo (**please see attached memo**).

Ms. Laura Chesson and Ms. Sherry Kersey delivered a power point presentation on the status of their budget. Ms. Chesson said there are two types of Budgets that they were going to present, a level funded budget and level services budget.

- Level Funded Budget- the number requested is the same as the year prior.
- Level Services Budget- the same services requested as last year and one additional ELL teacher.

Ms. Kersey said since the beginning of COVID, the School District has received relief funds directly from the state and indirectly from the member Towns. This funding included ESSER I, ESSER II, ESSR III, Groton ARPA and Dunstable ARPA. There are many unforeseen increases that have developed, including medical contract services, health insurance, Middlesex County Retirement, Regular Ed transportation, Utility Costs, Custodial Contracted Services, Teacher Retirement Incentives, Substitutes, Paraprofessional, and ABA Contracted Service. Ms. Kersey wanted to reiterate that this budget is preliminary at this point. The official presentation to the School Committee will be February 8, 2023. The administration has been assessing all ARPA positions.

Mr. Haddad put together and explained one Potential FY24 Budget Breakdown for GDRSD on an excel spreadsheet. It would require reductions in both budgets and eliminate the capital budget for the School District in FY 2024. Mr. Haddad said this is just an idea and he is not in favor of this action, but he is asked to present a balanced budget. The idea proposed would not be good for neither the town or school district. Finance Committee Chair, Mr. Bud Robertson said he is in favor of the Potential FY24 Budget Breakdown. He said we need to have an objective to not have an override. Also, to not affect our AAA bond rating. In the preliminary budget, Mr. Haddad usually puts a number in and the school abides by that number. Mr. Haddad does not want to leave an unrealistic expectation for the school budget. Mr. Haddad and Ms. Chesson will work collaboratively and have in years past.

Ms. Manugian thinks the School and the Town need to continue to work collaboratively. Mr. Haddad said he can present a balanced budget, Potential FY24 Budget Breakdown that was presented, and explain the devastation to both sides. Ms. Pine said she is opposed to having an override and does not think anyone else would want an override.

Finance Committee Member, Mr. Gary Green said he believes it would be a mistake to present a balanced budget implying they do not need \$3.2 Million. It needs to be clear \$3.2 Million is a need. He said this is a starting point. How does he present a balanced budget without locking them in. Ms. Manugian believes delaying Capital investments in the past has hurt us and has cost us more in the future. It is a risk. Ms. Pine said it is important to



explain that the 2 million short fall, as a potential override, is caused by certain unexpected increases in the state and the school budget. Our students are having more needs now than pre-COVID. This is a big part of why cutting personnel in the schools is not a solution to this problem.

No specific budget guidance was provided to the Town Manager. It is up to the Town Manager to provide a balanced budget. Mr. Haddad stated that he will provide a balanced budget as required, along with options to address a potential shortfall caused by the anticipated request of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District.

**4. Consider Proposed Meeting Schedule Through 2023 Spring Town Meeting:**

Monday, January 9, 2023	-FY 2024 Town Manager's Budget Presentation
	-Open Warrant for 2023 Spring Town Meeting
Wednesday, January 11, 2023	-Public hearing on Broadmeadow Improvements
Monday, January 16, 2023	-No Meeting (MLK Holiday)
Monday, January 23, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled meeting
Monday, January 28, 2023	-Potential FinCom Budget Hearing
Monday, January 30, 2023	-Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Saturday, February 4, 2023	-Potential FinCom Budget Hearing
Monday, February 6, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, February 13, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, February 20, 2023	- No Meeting (President's Day)
Monday, February 27, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, March 6, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, March 13, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, March 20, 2023	- No Meeting
Monday, March 27, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, April 3, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, April 10, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, April 17, 2023	- No Meeting (Patriot's Day)
Saturday, April 22, 2023	- Potential Date for 2023 Spring Town Meeting
Monday, April 24, 2023	-Default Date for 2023 Spring Town Meeting
Saturday, April 29, 2023	- Potential Date for 2023 Spring Town Meeting

**SELECT BOARD ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ACTION**

- 1. Consider Increasing the Maximum Abatement for Individuals Participating in the Senior Work off Program from \$750 to \$1,000.**

In an effort to assist some of our Seniors offset the property tax impact of the Florence Roche Elementary School Construction project, Mr. Haddad respectfully requested that the Select Board consider increasing the maximum abatement for individuals participating in the Senior Work- Off Program from \$700 to \$1,000. This would increase the number of hours from 50 to 66. Ms. Manugian asked the Town Manager to provide what the impact would be if they raised the abatement to the maximum amount to \$1500.

*Ms. Pine made a motion to increase the maximum abatement in the senior work off program to \$1000. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Manugian-aye; Reilly-aye; Cunningham-aye; Pine-aye.*

- 2. Consider Amending Charge of the Capital Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) to Limit the Number of Members Serving on Both the CPAC and Finance Committee.**

Select Board Member Pine has requested that the Select Board consider amending the Charge of the Capital Planning Advisory Committee (CPAC) to limit the number of members serving on both the CPAC and Finance

Committee. She is recommending that no more than two members of the Finance Committee can serve on the CPAC. Ms. Pine said when the committee was formed, they saw this as a different task than what the Finance Committee does. They wanted different people to focus on the Capital side of the budget. There are currently two members of the Finance Committee on the Capital Planning Advisory Committee.

Ms. Manugian thinks the Finance Committee should be reviewing the Capital Planning. Mr. Robertson believes the charge should remain as is. Mr. Cunningham did not have strong feelings either way and Mr. Reilly does not believe it should be changed.

The Select Board decided the Charge of the Capital Planning Advisory Committee to remain the same.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Consider Issuing Letter of Support to the Community Preservation Committee for the Application by Squannacook Greenways (#2024-09) for a Grant for the Completion of the Squannacook River Rail Trail**

Mr. Cunningham, President of the Squannacook Greenways, would like the Select Board to consider writing a letter of support to the CPC. They are working on the third phase of the Squannacook River Rail Trail that will be constructed this year. This will be the Groton portion of the trail. They are looking for a letter of support from the Select Board to the CPC for this phase of the trail to be completed in Groton. Ms. Manugian thinks it would be helpful for Mr. Cunningham to provide a copy of the plan and the cost. Mr. Haddad agreed to draft a letter and Mr. Cunningham will send Mr. Haddad a copy of the plan and cost. He will send the copies to the Select Board Members.

#### **MINUTES**

*Ms. Pine made a motion to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting on December 12, 2022 as revised. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Roll Call: Pine-aye; Cunningham-aye; Manugian-aye; Reilly- abstained.*

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15PM

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Matthew F. Pisani, Clerk

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

Date Approved:





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Peter S. Cunningham, *Member*

**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

**To:** *Select Board  
Finance Committee*

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

**Subject:** *Additional Budget Guidance Request*

**Date:** *December 14, 2022*

On October 24, 2022, the Finance Team and I met with the Select Board and Finance Committee in joint session to receive guidance to develop the Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget. At that time, the Select Board and Finance Committee voted the following guidance:

1. The Town Manager shall prepare a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2024 with no proposed Override of Proposition 2½.
2. The Town Manager shall work with representatives of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District and Nashoba Valley Technical School District to balance the budget.

Since that time, the Finance Team and I have been working on the Proposed Operating Budget in compliance with this guidance, including working with Representatives of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District.

In order to balance the budget, the Finance Team and I pushed Revenues to the highest level we have ever considered in developing a proposed operating budget. In addition to the normal two and one half (2½%) percent increase in the levy, we have estimated New Growth at Eighteen (\$18,000,000) Million Dollars, generating an additional \$281,520 in levy capacity, increased State Aid by Seventy-Five (\$75,000) Thousand Dollars to account for full reimbursement for the Senior Van Service, increased Ambulance Receipts to support the Operating Budget by \$50,000, and increased Estimated Receipts by \$568,764, or 11.8% (the highest increase in my 14 years as Town Manager).

All this said, we are estimating an increase in Revenues of \$1,859,881, or 4.5%. Please see the following chart showing this increase in revenues:

<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Budgeted FY 2023</u>	<u>Proposed FY 2024</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Property Tax	\$ 35,383,886	\$ 36,550,003	\$ 1,166,117	3.30%
State Aid	\$ 1,077,749	\$ 1,152,749	\$ 75,000	6.96%
Local Receipts - Excluding Country Club	\$ 4,209,907	\$ 4,683,938	\$ 474,031	11.26%
Country Club Revenue	\$ 605,267	\$ 700,000	\$ 94,733	15.65%
EMS Receipts	\$ 300,000	\$ 350,000	\$ 50,000	16.67%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 41,576,809</b>	<b>\$ 43,436,690</b>	<b>\$ 1,859,881</b>	<b>4.47%</b>

The Finance Team and I are confident that these revenues will be achievable in Fiscal Year 2024. Based on this, we developed a Municipal Budget Proposal for FY 2024 that would increase by \$367,660 over the Fiscal Year 2023 Final Budget, or 2.21%. That said, due to needs within the Fire Department and Town Clerk's Office, the FY 2023 Budget used one-time revenues totaling \$223,823, which will not be repeated in FY 2024. This means that the actual increase in recurring revenues to fund the proposed FY 2024 Municipal Operating Budget is \$591,483, or 3.5%. This leaves \$1,218,398 to support an increase in the Operating Assessment for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District (an increase of 5.01%). The amount of new revenues set aside for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Operating Assessment in FY 2024 is Sixty-Six (66%) Percent of anticipated new revenues.

In addition to developing the Operating Budget, we also had to address Debt Service in FY 2024, specifically, Excluded Debt Service. In FY 2024, we anticipate borrowing an additional \$27 million for the Florence Roche Elementary School Construction Project. We would use Bond Anticipation Notes (BANs) for this borrowing and pay only interest in FY 2024 (estimated interest payment of \$1,217,250). Based on all of this, the current anticipated impact on the tax rate for Fiscal Year 2024 is as follows:

	<u>Actual FY 2023</u>	<u>Proposed FY 2024</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Levy Capacity Used	\$ 35,383,886	\$ 36,550,003	\$ 1,166,117	3.30%
Tax Rate on Levy Capacity Used	\$ 14.13	\$ 14.49	\$ 0.36	2.55%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 8,958	\$ 9,186	\$ 228	2.55%
Excluded Debt	\$ 3,783,842	\$ 4,911,930	\$ 1,128,088	29.81%
Tax Rate on Excluded Debt	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.95	\$ 0.44	29.14%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 957	\$ 1,236	\$ 279	29.14%
Final Levy Used	\$ 39,167,728	\$ 41,461,933	\$ 2,294,205	5.86%
Final Tax Rate	\$ 15.64	\$ 16.44	\$ 0.80	5.12%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 9,916	\$ 10,423	\$ 507	5.12%



It needs to be understood that in developing the FY 2024 Proposed Operating Budget, the Finance Team's intent was to provide a Budget that maintained services. At this time, we believe the Proposed Budget meets this goal on the Municipal side, but it appears it will not provide adequate funding for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District based on preliminary numbers provided to the Finance Team by the School District.

This past week, we met with School Superintendent Dr. Laura Chesson, Assistant School Superintendent Kristin DeFrancisco and Director of Business and Finance Sherry Kersey to receive an update on where they stand in their budget development. It should be noted that they are just beginning their budget process and the School Committee will not begin their deliberations in budget development until early next year. Attached to this memorandum is a document provided by the School District that outlines their anticipated needs in FY 2024. It appears that they will need an increase in the Operating Assessment of \$3,230,982, or 13.3%. This Anticipated Assessment is based on an Operating Budget Increase of 9.84%. This anticipated Assessment would put the current Proposed Operating Budget out of balance by \$2,012,584.

There is no way to provide a balanced budget in FY 2024 that meets the Anticipated Operating Assessment of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District. To cut \$2,012,584 out of the Municipal Budget would eviscerate the Municipal Budget. The Town Manager is required to submit a balanced budget that does not require an override of Proposition 2½. The Finance Team and I need additional guidance from the Select Board and Finance Committee to address this issue.

For discussion purposes, an Override of Proposition 2½ in the amount of \$2,012,584 would have the following impact on the Tax Bill:

	<u>Actual</u> <u>FY 2023</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>FY 2024</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
Levy Capacity Used	\$ 35,383,886	\$ 36,550,003	\$ 1,166,117	3.30%
Tax Rate on Levy Capacity Used	\$ 14.13	\$ 14.49	\$ 0.36	2.55%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 8,958	\$ 9,186	\$ 228	2.55%
Override	\$ -	\$ 2,012,584	\$ 2,012,584	100.00%
Tax Rate on Override	\$ -	\$ 0.80	\$ 0.80	100.00%
Average Tax Bill	\$ -	\$ 507	\$ 507	100.00%
Excluded Debt	\$ 3,783,842	\$ 4,911,930	\$ 1,128,088	29.81%
Tax Rate on Excluded Debt	\$ 1.51	\$ 1.95	\$ 0.44	29.14%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 957	\$ 1,236	\$ 279	29.14%
Final Levy Used	\$ 39,167,728	\$ 43,474,517	\$ 4,306,789	11.00%
Final Tax Rate	\$ 15.64	\$ 17.24	\$ 1.60	10.23%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 9,916	\$ 10,930	\$ 1,014	10.23%

The Finance Team and I look forward to discussing this in more detail with the Select Board and Finance Committee at your joint meeting on Monday, December 19, 2022. I have invited the Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee, School Superintendent and Director of Business and Finance to the meeting to assist in this discussion.

MWH/rjb

cc: Patricia DuFresne – Town Accountant  
Hannah Moller – Town Treasurer/Tax Collector  
Michael Hartnett – Assistant Town Treasurer/Tax Collector  
Megan Foster – Principal Assessor  
Dawn Dunbar – Town Clerk  
Melisa Doig – Human Resources Director  
Kara Cruikshank – Executive Assistant to the Town Manager  
Dr. Laura Chesson – GDRSD School Superintendent  
Sherry Kersey – GDRSD Director of Business and Finance

enclosure