



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, APRIL 24, 2023

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

1. Request from COA Director for Public Recognition of National Older Americans Month in May
2. Fiscal Year 2023 Third Quarter Financial Review, Including Update on PILOT Payments
3. Update On Fiscal Year 2023 Goals and Objectives
4. Proposed Select Board Meeting Schedule for Summer 2023 Through Labor Day

II. 7:10 P.M. Items for Select Board Consideration and Action

1. Update/Reconsider Decision on PFAS Solution for Groton Dunstable Regional School District High School
2. Review Motions and Article Assignments for 2023 Spring Town Meeting
3. Vote to Approve Grant Agreement for Affordable Housing Trust's CPA Project

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

III. Minutes: GDRSD Meeting of April 4, 2023
 Regularly Scheduled Meeting of April 10, 2023

ADJOURNMENT

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



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Town Manager
Mark W. Haddad

To: *Select Board*

From: *Mark W. Haddad – Town Manager*

Subject: *Weekly Agenda Update/Report*

Date: *April 24, 2023*

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Other than the Town Manager's Report, Items for Select Board Consideration and Action and a review of the On-going Issues List, there are no specific items scheduled on Monday's Agenda.

1. Council on Aging Director Ashley Shaheen will be in attendance at Monday's meeting to request that the Select Board recognize May as National Older Americans Month. Enclosed with this report is a memorandum from Ms. Shaheen concerning this recognition. We will be requesting that the Select Board make this recognition at Monday's meeting.
2. Enclosed with this report is the Fiscal Year 2023 Third Quarter Financial Report as prepared by the Town Accountant. I would like to spend some time at Monday's meeting reviewing this Report with the Board. In addition, the Town Accountant and Town Treasurer/Tax Collector have prepared a spreadsheet showing PILOT payments from our Non-Profit Partners over the last five years. I would like to review this information with the Board as well.
3. As is our practice when reviewing the quarterly financials, I have set aside time for the Board to review the status of your FY 2023 Goals. Enclosed with this report is a status update on the goals. We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.
4. I would like to propose the following meeting schedule that will take the Board through Labor Day:

Saturday, April 29, 2023
Monday, May 1, 2023
Monday, May 8, 2023
Monday, May 15, 2023

2023 Spring Town Meeting
Regularly Scheduled Meeting
No Meeting
Regularly Scheduled Meeting

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Select Board
Weekly Agenda Update/Report
April 24, 2023
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4. Continued:

Monday, May 22, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, May 29, 2023	No Meeting – (Memorial Day Holiday)
Monday, June 5, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, June 12, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, June 19, 2023	No Meeting (Juneteenth Holiday)
Monday, June 26, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, July 3, 2023	No Meeting (July 4 th Holiday)
Monday, July 10, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, July 17, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, July 24, 2023	No Meeting
Monday, July 31, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, August 7, 2023	No Meeting
Monday, August 14, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, August 21, 2023	No Meeting
Monday, August 28, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Monday, September 4, 2023	No Meeting (Labor Day Holiday)
Monday, September 11, 2023	Regularly Scheduled Meeting

We can discuss this schedule in more detail at Monday's meeting.

ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

1. At your April 3rd Special Meeting, I recommended that the Select Board pursue the Pepperell/Dunstable/Groton Alternative to address the PFAS Issue at the Groton Dunstable Regional School District High School. I made this recommendation based on the cost and the fact that I was told that Dunstable's water source has repeatedly tested as "non-detect" for PFAS. The Select Board approved my recommendation and directed me to move forward with this Alternative. To pursue this Alternative, we set up a meeting with representatives from the Town of Groton, Town of Pepperell, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Conservation and Recreation and the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs. Enclosed with this report is a summary of that meeting that was prepared by Tyler Schmidt of Environmental Partners (our engineering consultant on the project).

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Weekly Agenda Update/Report
April 24, 2023
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1. **Continued:**

During this meeting, we were informed that Dunstable has tested at 4ppt of PFAS. I was taken aback and very frustrated by this information. I was misled, intentionally or not, and made a recommendation to the Select Board based on faulty information. In hindsight, I should have double checked the testing information provided to me. It is important to note that the PFAS level currently found in Dunstable's water source is significant because all indications are this will be the level set by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency in the next several months. One of the main reasons we did not pursue having Pepperell provide water to the High School is because we did not want to solve a PFAS problem with another PFAS problem. It appears that is what we will be doing by pursuing the Pepperell/Dunstable/Groton Option. If we need to treat PFAS from any water source, it should be from Groton's water source at Whitney Well. That said, I would respectfully request that the Select Board reconsider the decision made on April 3rd and consider pursuing the Groton Alternative to deal with PFAS at the GDRSD High School. I have invited Tom Orcutt to Monday's meeting to help the Board determine the best path forward. Please note that the Select Board rightfully decided to keep the Groton Alternative on the 2023 Spring Town Meeting Warrant. I do apologize to the Board for how this has transpired.

2. Enclosed with this report are the Motions (including proposed motion makers) for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting. We can review this in more detail at Monday's meeting.
3. As you are aware, the Affordable Housing Trust submitted an application to the Community Preservation Committee for \$200,000 from the Community Preservation Community Housing Fund for the purpose of pursuing affordable housing opportunities. The CPC has approved the Project for submittal to the 2023 Spring Town Meeting for approval. As part of the approval by the CPC, they have requested that the Affordable Housing Trust enter into a Grant Agreement with the Town that would describe the conditions for which the Affordable Housing Trust can spend the CPA Funds. I have enclosed a copy of the Grant Agreement with this Report for your review. Town Counsel has approved it as to form. This Grant Agreement must be approved by the Select Board. I would respectfully request that the Select Board approve this in advance of Saturday's Town Meeting. We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.

MWH/rjb
enclosures



The Groton Center

Groton Council on Aging
The Center That Builds Community

The Groton Center
163 West Main Street
Groton, MA 01450
978-448-1170

To: Mark Haddad, Town Manager

From: Ashley Shaheen, Groton Council on Aging Director

Date: April 13, 2023

Re: National Older Americans Month – Request for Recognition

On behalf of Groton's Council on Aging Department, I am writing to request public recognition of National Older Americans Month in May. President John Kennedy first designated May as Senior Citizens Month in 1963, and it was later renamed Older Americans Month. The intent is to honor and celebrate older Americans and their contributions to their communities and nation.

The Administration for Community Living leads our nation's observance of Older Americans Month, and this year's theme is "Aging Unbound," which offers an opportunity to explore diverse aging experiences and how communities can combat stereotypes. We are encouraging all of Groton to join us in promoting flexible thinking about aging and how we can all benefit as a community when we remain engaged and connected. Older adults are a key source of strength, and through their experiences they have built resilience that helps face new challenges. We are recognizing the strength of older adults and the Aging Network, with focus on the power of connection and engagement in building strong communities . . . like ours.

In addition to requesting public recognition of this important month, the Council on Aging will celebrate Older Americans Month by encouraging participation in our first Senior Spirit Week, May 8-12. We will invite all members of the community to celebrate, share experiences, and continue to build connection through specific programming opportunities, such as the Senior Summer Appreciation Kick-Off event on Wednesday, May 10.

For additional information, visit the official Older Americans Month website, and/or follow Administration for Community Living on Twitter and Facebook.

Sincerely,
Ashley Shaheen
Council on Aging Director

Town of Groton
General Fund Statement of Revenues & Expenditures
March 31, 2023

	Current Budget FY23	July - Mar Actual FY23	Variance to FY23 Budget	3rd Qtr % of Budget	Final FY22 Budget	July - June Actual FY22	July - Mar Actual FY22	3rd Qtr to FY22 Budget	Variance	3rd Qtr % of Budget	% of Budget Change	Notes
Revenue												
State Aid (Lottery/Exempts/Van)	1,077,749	889,318	(188,431)	82.52%	1,014,099	1,039,205	778,914	(235,185)		76.81%	107.43%	LRTA Van reimb up \$74k
Motor Vehicle/Boat Excise	1,778,290	1,425,209	(353,081)	80.14%	1,738,094	1,844,521	1,412,701	(325,393)		81.28%	98.60%	
Local Option Meals Tax	250,000	194,231	(55,769)	77.69%	175,000	215,759	163,141	(11,859)		93.22%	83.34%	
Local Option Room Occupancy Tax	100,000	151,328	51,328	151.33%	75,000	136,445	101,206	26,206		134.94%	112.15%	
Penalties and Interest on Taxes	110,000	96,484	(13,516)	87.71%	120,000	157,400	113,542	(6,458)		94.62%	92.70%	
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	300,000	208,275	(91,725)	69.43%	265,000	298,231	12,678	(252,322)		4.78%	1452.51%	Groton School pd early in FY23
Other Charges for Service (Dunst)	90,000	93,323	3,323	103.69%	82,000	81,746	81,596	(404)		99.51%	104.20%	Dunstable Regional Dispatch
Country Club Revenue	605,267	450,849	(154,418)	74.49%	600,000	739,701	431,216	(168,784)		71.87%	103.65%	
Fees (incl Van vouchers)	385,446	306,630	(78,816)	79.55%	340,000	428,207	323,036	(16,964)		95.01%	83.73%	FY23 MLC's/Police Details/Solid Waste trending down
Rentals (Cell Towers)	32,000	65,580	33,580	204.94%	28,000	47,304	36,779	8,779		131.35%	156.03%	Contract escalators boosting FY23
Library Fines	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	169	169	169		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	
Other Departmental Revenue	775,000	559,038	(215,962)	72.13%	775,000	780,772	522,328	(252,672)		67.40%	107.02%	Benefit Reimbursements GELD/CPC/Trust
Licenses and Permits	315,681	630,200	314,519	199.63%	300,000	537,500	384,297	84,297		128.10%	155.84%	FY23 New Homes & Whitney Well Permits
Fines and Forfeits	10,000	9,788	(212)	97.88%	20,000	16,120	13,463	(6,537)		67.32%	145.40%	Budget adj for FY23 to reflect actual performance
Investment Income	50,000	242,929	192,929	485.86%	40,000	41,957	28,544	(11,456)		71.36%	680.86%	Int Rates & Project Funds on Deposit FY23
Misc Non-recurring (State Aid)	6,936	36,722	29,786	529.44%	0	0	0	0				W/C reimbursements FY23
Misc (Bond Prem Amort & Other)	0	0	0	#DIV/0!	0	131,983	53,880	53,880		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	FY22:Easeement Fee/Agency Closeout/Covid Sick Leave
Enterprise Allocation for Indirects	291,664	218,828	(72,836)	75.03%	271,148	273,790	204,780	(66,368)		75.52%	99.35%	
Real Estate and Personal Prop	39,160,747	28,551,812	(10,608,935)	72.91%	36,277,152	36,386,848	27,145,225	(9,131,927)		74.83%	97.43%	Var=FlRoR debt hits only 3rd/4th qtr tax bills
Total Revenue	45,338,780	34,130,544	(11,208,236)	75.28%	42,120,493	43,157,658	31,807,495	(10,312,998)		75.52%	99.68%	
Expenditures (Operating Expenses)												
General Government	2,735,455	1,998,160	737,295	73.05%	2,583,655	2,372,609	1,817,313	766,342		70.34%	103.85%	
Public Safety General Fund**	4,840,213	3,391,919	1,448,294	70.08%	4,461,664	4,378,645	3,229,905	1,231,759		72.39%	96.81%	
Department of Public Works	2,345,816	1,855,323	490,493	79.09%	2,256,398	2,360,432	1,781,572	474,826		78.96%	100.16%	
Culture, Rec, & Citizen's Svcs	1,892,083	1,422,477	469,606	75.18%	1,705,507	1,668,759	1,154,752	550,755		67.71%	111.03%	COA-Van LRTA/Country Club Programming
Employee Benefits and Other*	4,635,006	4,192,702	442,304	90.46%	4,310,992	4,290,300	3,824,197	486,795		88.71%	101.97%	
Total Operating Expenses	16,448,573	12,860,581	3,587,992	78.19%	15,318,216	15,070,745	11,807,739	3,510,477		77.08%	101.44%	
Expenditures (Non -Operating Exp.)												
Special Articles Voted for Current Yr	711,700	206,183	505,517	28.97%	761,900	453,548	244,771	517,129		32.13%	90.16%	
PY Articles/Enc(SeeUse of Enc Below)	652,820	248,879	403,941	38.12%	560,887	227,289	208,222	352,665		37.12%	102.69%	
Education	26,189,285	19,844,473	6,344,812	75.77%	25,047,906	25,047,906	18,987,798	6,060,108		75.81%	99.95%	
Debt Service	3,615,438	3,072,248	543,190	84.98%	1,912,869	1,907,807	1,366,381	546,488		71.43%	118.97%	FlRoR Debt \$1.7 Mil thru 3rd Qtr FY23
Intergovernmental (State Offsets)	95,249	71,437	23,812	75.00%	97,077	97,077	72,808	24,269		75.00%	100.00%	
Total Non - Operating Expenses	31,264,492	23,443,220	7,821,272	74.98%	28,380,639	27,733,627	20,879,980	7,500,659		73.57%	101.92%	
Excess (Deficiency) Before OFS&U	(2,374,285)	(2,173,257)	201,028	91.53%	(1,578,362)	353,286	(880,224)	698,138		55.77%	164.12%	
Other Financing Sources												
Transfers from Other Funds	1,474,250	1,474,250	0	100.00%	1,145,298	1,207,287	1,037,223	108,075		90.56%	110.42%	
Use of Avail. Funds: Encumbrances	652,820	652,820	0	100.00%	549,285	549,285	549,285	0		100.00%	100.00%	
Avail. Funds: F. C./Overlay Surplus	804,705	724,048	(80,657)	89.98%	595,001	595,001	595,001	0		100.00%	89.98%	
Total OFS	2,931,775	2,851,118	(80,657)	97.25%	2,289,584	2,351,573	2,181,509	108,075		95.28%	102.07%	
Other Financing Uses												
Overlay & Deficits to be Raised	229,560	229,560	0	100.00%	370,954	370,954	370,954	0		100.00%	100.00%	Snow & Ice/Library Offset/Overlay Raised
Transfers to Other Funds	327,930	288,196	39,734	87.88%	340,268	340,268	340,268	0		100.00%	87.88%	OPEB Funding/BAN Paydowns
Total OFU	557,490	517,756	39,734	92.87%	711,222	711,222	711,222	0		100.00%	92.87%	
Excess (Deficiency) Incl. OFS&U	0	160,105	160,105		0	1,993,637	590,063	590,063				

***\$245,373 = Dispatch Grants Awarded for FY23, \$94,097 offset to Dispatch Budget thru 3/31/23

***\$291,620 = Dispatch Grants Awarded for FY22, \$148,203 offset to Dispatch Budget thru 3/31/22

Town of Groton
General Fund Statement of Revenues & Expenditures
 March 31, 2023

	Current Budget FY23	July - Mar Actual FY23	Variance to FY23 Budget	3rd Qtr % of Budget	Final FY22 Budget	July - June Actual FY22	July - Mar Actual FY22	3rd Qtr to FY22 Budget	Variance	3rd Qtr % of Budget	% of Budget Change
Salaries/Wages Expenditures by Function of Government											
General Government:											
BOS/Town Manager	359,619	273,292	86,327	75.99%	347,495	346,701	263,969	83,526	75.96%	100.04%	
Accountant	154,031	118,257	35,774	76.77%	147,273	147,273	112,846	34,427	76.62%	100.20%	
Assessors	150,831	114,210	36,621	75.72%	142,963	141,149	108,085	34,878	75.60%	100.16%	
Treasurer/Collector	218,497	164,522	53,975	75.30%	215,457	213,870	164,247	51,210	76.23%	98.78%	
Personnel	87,984	68,682	19,302	78.06%	82,822	82,822	63,992	18,830	77.26%	101.04%	
Information Technology	183,250	140,140	43,110	76.47%	174,801	173,924	132,316	42,485	75.70%	101.02%	
Town Clerk/Elections	202,273	158,841	43,432	78.53%	162,394	160,650	117,097	45,297	72.11%	108.90%	
Land Use Conservation Comm.	73,971	57,780	16,191	78.11%	69,481	69,481	53,684	15,797	77.26%	101.10%	
Land Use Inspection Services	208,229	155,783	52,446	74.81%	198,438	196,327	140,564	57,874	70.84%	105.60%	
Land Use (Planning/ZBA)	89,236	69,658	19,578	78.06%	84,016	84,016	64,914	19,102	77.26%	101.04%	
Total General Government	1,727,921	1,321,165	406,756	76.46%	1,625,140	1,616,213	1,221,714	403,426	75.18%	101.70%	
Public Safety:											
Police Department	2,371,593	1,710,055	661,538	72.11%	2,251,172	2,247,609	1,691,629	559,543	75.14%	95.97%	
Fire Department/EMS	1,485,370	1,051,005	434,365	70.76%	1,278,821	1,274,806	965,921	312,900	75.53%	93.68%	
Dispatch (paid from Gen Fund) **	500,359	337,794	162,565	67.51%	453,497	453,495	335,189	118,308	73.91%	91.34%	
Animal Cntrl/Dog Officer	19,164	14,742	4,422	76.93%	19,164	19,164	14,742	4,422	76.93%	100.00%	
Total Public Safety	4,376,486	3,113,596	1,262,890	71.14%	4,002,654	3,995,074	3,007,481	995,173	75.14%	94.68%	
Department of Public Works:											
Municipal Buildings	159,057	118,384	40,673	74.43%	150,672	150,671	112,038	38,634	74.36%	100.09%	
Highway	863,638	647,479	216,159	74.97%	799,241	798,836	587,993	211,248	73.57%	101.90%	
Snow & Ice	140,000	163,053	(23,053)	116.47%	140,000	154,236	146,725	(6,725)	104.80%	111.14%	
Parks	17,481	10,312	7,169	58.99%	21,017	15,817	11,117	9,900	52.90%	111.51%	
Solid Waste	150,995	108,390	42,605	71.78%	142,722	140,322	104,278	38,444	73.06%	98.25%	
Total DPW	1,331,171	1,047,618	283,553	78.70%	1,253,652	1,259,882	962,151	291,501	76.75%	102.54%	
Culture, Rec, & Citizen's Svcs:											
COA/COA Van	261,776	198,203	63,573	75.71%	175,706	174,524	123,588	52,118	70.34%	107.63%	COA fully staffed FY23
Vets Svcs/Water Safety/Graves	10,668	6,695	3,973	62.76%	10,650	9,369	6,361	4,289	59.73%	105.07%	
Library	770,599	576,281	194,318	74.78%	702,982	701,936	526,351	176,631	74.87%	99.88%	
Country Club	363,414	293,260	70,154	80.70%	338,961	338,869	234,103	104,858	69.06%	116.85%	Reclass of Aquatics Dir & Add'l Pool/Greens Staff
Total Culture, Rec. & Citizen's Svcs	1,406,457	1,074,439	332,018	76.39%	1,228,299	1,224,698	890,403	337,896	72.49%	105.38%	
Grand Total Salaries & Wages	8,842,035	6,556,818	2,285,217	74.18%	8,109,745	8,095,867	6,081,749	2,027,996	74.99%	98.89%	
Benefits:											
County Retirement	2,538,910	2,538,910	0	100.00%	2,385,255	2,385,255	2,385,255	0	100.00%	100.00%	
Health / Life Insurance *	1,929,396	1,521,443	407,953	78.86%	1,773,437	1,752,862	1,325,149	448,288	74.72%	105.54%	
Other Benefits (Medicare/Unemplmnt)	166,700	132,349	34,351	79.39%	152,300	152,182	113,793	38,507	74.72%	106.25%	\$18k Unemployment Bill FY23 in litigation
Total Benefits	4,635,006	4,192,702	442,304	90.46%	4,310,992	4,290,299	3,824,197	486,795	88.71%	101.97%	
Total Salaries/Wages/Benefits	13,477,041	10,749,520	2,727,521	79.76%	12,420,737	12,386,166	9,905,946	2,514,791	79.75%	100.01%	

** \$133,330 = Dispatch Wage Grants Awarded for FY23; \$76,505 offset to Dispatch Budget thru 3/31/23

** \$139,440 = Dispatch Wage Grants Awarded for FY22; \$86,546 offset to Dispatch Budget thru 3/31/22

Town of Groton

PILOT Payments 5-Yr History

PILOT Organizations	Fiscal Year=	thru 3/31/23							
		2018 Actual	2019 Actual	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Actual	2023 Actual	2024 BUDGETED	
Groton School*	\$	113,000	\$ 145,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 153,000	\$ 191,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	
Lawrence Academy	\$	56,244	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000		\$ 82,500	
Shanklin Music Hall	\$	8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	
Groton Housing Authority	\$	4,592	\$ 4,581			\$ 4,678		\$ 4,700	
RCAP Solutions	\$	1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000	
Groton Electric Department	\$	32,720	\$ 33,342	\$ 33,800	\$ 34,000	\$ 35,153		\$ 38,668	
Seven Hills	\$	17,119	\$ 17,119	\$ 17,119	\$ 17,119	\$ 17,119		\$ 17,119	
Amaresco Landfill Solar	\$	15,000	\$ 15,225	\$ 15,453	\$ 15,685	**			
Grotonwood Camp			\$ 11,922		\$ 14,941	\$ 12,500		\$ 12,500	
MIT	\$	14,400	\$ 14,760	\$ 15,130	\$ 15,510	\$ 15,900	\$ 16,298	\$ 16,705	
Groton Hill Music						\$	8,156	\$ 25,000	
Totals Received by Fiscal Yr	\$	262,075	\$ 310,948	\$ 300,502	\$ 334,254	\$ 360,350	\$ 222,454	\$ 396,192	

*2022 Payment Includes \$35,000 for Old Ayer Road Sidewalk

***At Auditors Recommendation, this was added to the Personal Property Tax Rolls

FISCAL YEAR 2023

GOALS OF THE GROTON SELECT BOARD

1. Environmental Contamination Issues

Select Board Member Assigned: Peter Cunningham

Goal:

1. Monitor/Manage efforts to mitigate contamination and protect public health. Become better informed as a Board to the emerging environmental issues that are/will confront Groton.
2. Monitor PFAS issues already identified, and work to reduce further PFAS contamination
3. Monitor and address Nod Road Landfill site to the extent necessary

Measurable Benchmark:

Develop monitoring plan by December 31, 2022 to keep Board apprised of steps taken to address said issues.

11-7-22 Update

A meeting was held with representatives from DEP, Groton, Groton Water, Dunstable, Groton Dunstable Regional School District, Pepperell DPW and Consulting Engineers to review the PFAS Issue at the High School. The Consulting Engineers will develop various plans to bring municipal water to the High School as well as surrounding homes. It is anticipated that a draft of options will be available in mid-December.

The Select Board held two meetings to review the Nod Road Landfill and decided to do no further testing and to post the property as No Trespassing. DEP was informed of the Draft Initial Site Assessment by members of the Greenway Committee and will conduct an inspection of the Former Landfill. What further action needs to be taken will be discussed at a future meeting.

1-23-23 Update

At the November 21, 2022 Meeting, the Select Board discussed various options on how to address the PFAS Issue at the Groton Dunstable Regional High School. Options include tying the High School into the Pepperell Water System, the Dunstable Water System or the Groton Water System. The Select Board, while not making a final decision, would prefer a Groton Water option. The Town Manager and Water Superintendent have asked the Town's consulting engineer to determine what is the best short-term

solution while a permanent solution is developed in conjunction with DEP, the School District and the Towns of Pepperell and Dunstable.

4-24-23 Update

The Select Board held a meeting with the Water Commission and representatives from the Groton Dunstable Regional School District and the Town of Pepperell on April 3rd to discuss moving forward with a permanent solution of the PFAS issue at the High School. It was determined that the best course of action was to pursue the Pepperell/Dunstable/Groton option. The Select Board also determined that they would place an article on the 2023 Spring Town Meeting Warrant for funding a Groton only option if it is determined that the Pepperell option is not viable. A meeting was held with the DEP and DCR to discuss this option in more detail. During that meeting, it was discovered that the Town of Dunstable has PFAS in its water source. The Town Manager will be asking the Select Board to reconsider this option and consider the Groton Water System option at its April 24th meeting.

With regard to the Nod Road Landfill, DEP has not rescheduled an inspection. As of now, the matter is considered closed.

2. Climate Change

Select Board Member Assigned: Alison Manugian

Goal:

Explore opportunities to address climate change and reduce the use of fossil fuels in town-owned buildings. Support efforts to inform and educate Town residents about opportunities to reduce energy use and costs.

Measurable Benchmark:

Schedule workshop with the Sustainability Commission by December 31, 2022 to discuss developing policies and processes to address this goal.

11-7-22 Update

The Sustainability Commission is scheduled to come to either the December 5th or December 12th Select Board Meeting for this workshop.

1-23-23 Update

The Sustainability Commission and the Select Board held a workshop on December 12, 2022 in which the Sustainability Commission updated the Board on their efforts. The Sustainability Commission requested that the Select Board support providing

funding for educational tools and the pollinator garden at the Center in West Groton.

4-24-23 Update

An Article seeking \$15,000 in funding for the Sustainability Commission has been included on the 2023 Spring Town Meeting Warrant. In addition, an Article has been included on the Warrant to allow the Select Board to amend the charge of the Commission without having to go back to Town Meeting. The amended Charge will incorporate Climate Change, as well as the ability to increase membership.

3. Reducing Costs of Government

Select Board Member Assigned: Matt Pisani and John Reilly

Goal:

Explore ways to reduce costs of Government. Continue to review and explore ways to expand PILOTS. Seek Federal and State Grants for town projects whenever possible.

1. Work with Capital Planning Advisory Committee to understand long term capital needs of all Town Buildings and Facilities
2. Meet with Town Finance Team to review and update previous attempts to understand limits of Commercial Growth.
3. Continue to work with the various Non-Profit organizations in Groton on PILOT payments
4. Monitor the use of ARPA funds to ensure they are being used for the greatest benefit to Groton residents.
5. Review progress on Green Communities energy-reduction requirements, and future Green Communities Grant Applications. Understand impact of Green Community funds toward reducing costs for taxpayers.

Measurable Benchmark:

Schedule Meeting with Finance Team by December 31, 2022 to discuss Tax Policy and how new Growth is determined. Revisit PILOTS with various organizations by March 31, 2023

11-7-22 Update

The Select Board met in joint session with the Finance Committee and Capital Planning Advisory Committee to review the Capital Plan and to determine how to address the long-term capital needs. The CPAC has scheduled time on their November 7th Agenda to discuss this issue.

A meeting with the Finance Team will be scheduled with the Select Board to review tax policy and new growth. Select Board Member Pisani and the Town Manager have had initial conversations on how to proceed with PILOT review.

1-23-23 Update

At the December 19, 2022 Meeting, the Finance Team made a presentation on how Growth is determined and what can be done to promote growth. The Town received its first quarterly payment from Groton Hill Music on the ticket surcharge. During the Town Manager's 2024 Proposed Budget Presentation, a commitment was made to reach back out to the Private Schools to follow-up on the potential of the Schools' help to offset the costs of the FloRo Elementary School Construction Project.

The Green Communities Grant projects at the Library and Center Fire Station to install energy efficient lighting have been completed. The Town will attempt to apply for another Green Communities Grant in the Spring, 2023, although there is still one outstanding project (educational training for the Town's Maintenance Foreman) that may not be completed in time.

The Capital Planning Advisory Committee has scheduled a public forum/hearing on January 30, 2023 to discuss the long-term capital needs of the Prescott School. The Friends of Prescott have been invited to the forum to provide an update on their future plans with the building. The Town received a grant from the State to install an elevator at the Prescott School. The project has been advertised for bids and they are due at the beginning of February.

4-24-23 Update

Groton School, Lawrence Academy and the Groton Electric Light Department have all increased their PILOT's based on a request from the Town. This allowed for an increase of over \$40,000 in PILOTs for FY 2024. The Town will not be able to apply for a Green Communities Grant until the Fall, 2023, but is working with Rise Engineering on other Green initiatives, including solar, at the Groton Dunstable Regional Middle School.

The Capital Planning Advisory Committee held a Public Hearing on January 30th concerning the long-term needs of the Prescott School. They have held two additional meetings since the public hearing and will continue to meet with the goal to formulate a report for the Select Board on the Prescott School by the end of Summer, 2023.

4. Affordable Housing and Housing Diversity
Select Board Member Assigned: Peter Cunningham and Becky Pine

Goal: Support the work of the Affordable Housing Trust, the Groton Housing Authority, and the Housing Partnership to make tangible progress on increasing the number of Affordable Housing Units on the MA Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI). Analyze current open market housing values and affordable sale prices. Consider setting up a program to purchase homes for sale in Groton and sell them as an affordable in perpetuity. Support efforts by all of Groton's Housing Committees, and any needed Zoning changes, to increase the supply of Affordable Housing. Work with Planning Board on updating the town's Master Plan. Explore potential zoning revisions to promote less-expensive housing in Groton.

Measurable Benchmark: This is the second year of a two-year goal and the benchmark will be developed as progress is made. Benchmarks may include identifying properties for affordable housing, supporting warrant articles to create more Affordable Housing and issuing RFPs for the creation of affordable housing.

11-7-22 Update Both the Town Manager and Affordable Housing Trust have had conversations with the Community Preservation Committee about providing funding to the Affordable Housing Trust to provide them with the necessary capital to pursue creating affordable housing. Initial feedback has been positive and an application will be made to the CPC for funding.

1-23-23 Update The Affordable Housing Trust is filing a CPA Application for funding in FY 2024 to promote affordable housing. The Affordable Housing Trust is scheduled to attend the February 6th Select Board meeting to provide an update/report to the Select Board on their progress to create/promote affordable housing.

4-24-23 Update The Affordable Housing Trust met with the Select Board on February 6th and provided an update on their activities. They continue to pursue Affordable Housing projects in Town. To assist them in their endeavors, the Community Preservation Committee has approved requesting a \$200,000 appropriation at the 2023 Spring Town Meeting for this purpose. In addition, the Planning Board is about to award a contract with a Planning Firm to update the Town's Master Plan.

5. **Diversity, Equality and Inclusion**
Select Board Member Assigned: Becky Pine

Goal: Work with the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to formulate impactful Select Board and Groton-wide interventions to recognize, denounce, and prevent incidents of prejudicial hatred and injustice, such as Anti-Semitism, Racial and Religious Bigotry, Homophobia, and White Supremacy.

Measurable Benchmark: Schedule Workshop with Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee by February 15, 2023

11-7-22 Update No action to report.

1-23-23 Update The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee has been invited to the February 13, 2023 meeting for a workshop/update on their work.

4-24-23 Update The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee attended the February 13, 2023 Select Board meeting and provided an update on their activities. At the meeting, the Committee reported that annually the Select Board would be provided a report from the DEI Committee on incidents of hate and hate crimes within the Town. In addition, forum has been planned for May 2nd to educate the community about official hate incidents and crimes. Marian Ryan, Middlesex District Attorney, has been asked to attend the forum. The Committee will be celebrating Juneteenth by partnering with neighboring towns to coordinate a series of activities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

MEETING WITH DEP AND DCR

PFAS ISSUE AT THE GDRSD HIGH SCHOOL

PROVIDED BY TYLER SCHMIDT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PARTNERS

Attendees

- Town of Groton
 - Mark Haddad – Town Manager
 - Kara Cruikshank - Executive Assistant to the Town Manager
 - Jim Gmeiner – Water Commission Member
 - Tom Orcutt – Water Department Superintendent
- Environmental Partners
 - Tyler Schmidt – Groton Engineering Consultant
- Town of Pepperell - (operates the Dunstable water system)
 - Ken Kalinowski – DPW Director
 - Paul Brinkman – DPW Business Manager
- Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)
 - ❖ Vandana Rao – Director (Water) / Water Resources Commission Designee
 - Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
 - ❖ Headquarters (Boston)
 - 1. Duane LeVangie – Water Program Chief
 - ❖ Central Region
 - 1. Marielle Stone – Bureau of Water Resources
 - Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)
 - ❖ Anne Carroll – Director of the Office of Water Resources / Water Resources Commission Designee
 - ❖ Vanessa Curran – Assistant Director of the Office of Water Resources

This meeting was intended to be an informal, candid discussion with EEA, DEP, and DCR regarding the feasibility, permitting implications, and potential timeline for permit review of the two alternatives presented in the attached locus map. No permits have been filed, and no parties should interpret anything mentioned as regulatory direction (approval or denial).

Alternative I – Dunstable/Pepperell alignment

1. This is the preferred alternative of the three Towns because it solves problems in each community and because of the favorable cost share between the three communities.
 - a. Inter-Basin Transfer Act (IBTA)
 - i. Review can proceed on an accelerated schedule if parameters are met for an Insignificant Determination. Parameters include a transfer of fewer than 1 Million Gallons per Day (MGD) or less than 5% of numerical streamflow criteria of the basin (whichever is less), among other conditions, such as environmental impacts of the project (the project area

is within an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC)). An Insignificant determination would not require the submission of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), alternatives analysis, and other items required for a full IBTA determination of Approval.

- A determination of Insignificance could be provided within 90 days of submission of a complete application. If DCR has comments on the application, the review clock resets.
- ii. If a Full Determination of Approval is required, the process will not start until the Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) EIR process is completed (+/- 1 year). A detailed alternatives analysis will also need to be submitted with clarification of why other wells within the same basin cannot be utilized over Dunstable wells (wells in Pepperell or Groton), possibly including a new source investigation. Economic feasibility is a factor that the Water Resources Commission will consider when reviewing the analysis, but proposed improvements to Pepperell's wells, including PFAS treatment, may also be considered.
 - A determination of approval could be provided within 120 days of the submission of the complete application, and after the review of an EIR, If DCR has comments on the application, the review clock resets.

b. Water Management Act (WMA)

- i. Timeline cannot be accelerated. Review can be completed concurrently with IBTA determination. Requested withdrawals need to be tallied, and offsets need to be provided (direct/indirect). Offsets can include the removal of private wells (100% offset) and water discharges to septic systems (85% offset). The permit will require a category change for Dunstable's wells. This will trigger an alternatives analysis similar to that mentioned above for the IBTA determination. The alternatives analysis will need to prove this is the most viable option; economic feasibility is an acceptable factor here.
 - The average review timeline is approximately nine (9) months to 1 year from the submission of the application. If DEP has comments, the review clock resets.

Alternative II – Groton alignment

a. Inter-Basin Transfer Act (IBTA)

- 1. The majority of water use will be within Groton and exempt from IBTA. A small number of residential properties in Dunstable will trigger IBTA (about 40 homes), the volume of water is likely small enough to trigger a Determination of Insignificance (provided other parameters are met as stipulated in the regulation).

b. Water Management Act (WMA)

- 1. Amendments to Groton's existing WMA permit are not anticipated to be needed to supply the additional water for this system extension.

Action Items

1. Environmental Partners
 - a. Send updated water use estimates to DCR using max day demand, not average day demand.
2. MassDCR
 - a. Look into numerical streamflow criteria of the river basins and verify if 1 MGD is the threshold for an Insignificant Determination or if the threshold is lower.
3. MassDEP
 - a. Follow up with the Waste Site Cleanup Group regarding testing for additional PFAS contamination in private wells around the High School
 - b. Look into reported PFAS data of the Dunstable wells.
 - c. Confirm Emergency SRF funding can proceed before permits are obtained.

Groton Water Department

PFAS Results:

Chemical Compound	Baddacook-T	Whitney #1-R	Whitney #2-R	Whitney Combined-T
10/28/2019				
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	2.73	2.44	-	NTR
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid	2.04	-	-	NTR
Total Reported	4.77	2.44	-	NTR
10/18/2021				
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	1.82	2.17	1.46	1.92
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid	1.6	1.91	1.86	2.03
Total Reported Qtr. #1	ND	2.17	ND	2.03
1/11/2022				
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	1.68	NTR	NTR	1.98
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid	1.23	NTR	NTR	1.43
Total Reported Qtr. #2	ND			ND
4/13/2022				
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	1.8	NTR	NTR	1.62
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid	1.28	NTR	NTR	2.15
Total Reported Qtr. #3	ND			2.15
7/19/2022				
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	6.08*	NTR	NTR	2.99
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid	2.45	NTR	NTR	1.91
Total Reported Qtr. #4	8.53			2.99
11/30/2022				
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	2.58	NTR	NTR	2.04
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid	1.79	NTR	NTR	1.68
	2.58			2.04

Key

All results are in parts per trillion

Blue area indicates the required monitoring period (4 quarters)

ND = Below the 2.0 ppt that laboratory equipment can validate

NTR = No Test Required

* Water sample taken 1 week after new well pump installed in Baddacook Cistern

**SPRING TOWN MEETING
MOTIONS**

APRIL 29, 2023

CONSENT MOTION #1 – Articles 1 through 4

Mover: Alison Manugian

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 1: Hear Reports

MOTION: I move that the Town's 2022 Annual Report be accepted and placed in the permanent records of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 2: Elected Officials' Compensation

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 3: Wage and Classification Schedule

MOTION: I move that the Town of Groton Wage and Classification Schedule be amended and adopted for Fiscal Year 2024 as printed in Appendix B of the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 4: Appropriate Funding for OPEB Trust

MOTION: I move that One Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$185,000) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to be expended by the Town Manager, to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32B, Section 20.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 5: Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Operating Budget

CONSENT MOTION #2 – Operating Budget

Mover: Bud Robertson

I move that the town take affirmative action on Motion 1 through Motion 14, under Article 5, as set forth in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter requests the right to debate a specific budget motion, then said motion shall be debated and voted upon separately.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

MOTION 1: General Government

MOTION: I move that Two Million Three Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand One Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars (\$2,349,147) be hereby appropriated for General Government as represented by lines 1000 through 1182 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$19,930 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); and the sum of \$2,329,217 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 2: Land Use Departments

MOTION: I move that Four Hundred Ninety-Two Thousand Five Hundred Eight Dollars (\$492,508) be hereby appropriated for Land Use Departments as represented by lines 1200 through 1281 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$6,358 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); and the sum of \$486,150 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 3: Protections of Persons & Property

MOTION: I move that Four Million Seven Hundred Thirty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Seven (\$4,737,597) be appropriated for Protection of Persons and Property as represented by lines 1300 through 1372 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$787 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); the sum of \$350,000 be transferred from Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved; and the sum of \$4,386,810 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: SCHOOLS

a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School

MOTION: I move that the sum of Seven Hundred Sixty-Two Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$762,656) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School as represented by line 1400 in Appendix A of the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

b.) Groton Dunstable Regional School District

MOTION A: I move that the sum of Twenty-Six Million Four Hundred Three Thousand Five Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$26,403,512) be hereby raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District as represented by lines 1410 through 1413 as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION B: I move that the sum of Two Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars (\$298,796) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); and the sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Seven Dollars (\$253,407) be hereby transferred from the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Capital Stabilization Fund, for a total sum of \$552,203, to the Groton Dunstable Regional School District to pay for the capital assessment from said School District as represented by line 1414 in Appendix A of the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

MOTION 5: Department of Public Works

MOTION: I move that Two Million Three Hundred Fifty-One Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Five Dollars (\$2,351,495) be hereby appropriated for the Department of Public Works as represented by lines 1500 through 1561 as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, \$5,788 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); and \$2,345,707 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 6: Library and Citizens' Services

MOTION: I move that the sum of One Million Nine Hundred Forty-Five Thousand Two Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$1,945,270) be hereby appropriated for Library and Citizens' Services as represented by lines 1600 through 1703 as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$8,494 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); and \$1,936,776 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 7: Debt Service

MOTION: I move that Four Million Nine Hundred Eighty Thousand Seven Hundred Seven Dollars (\$4,980,707) be hereby appropriated for Debt Service as represented by lines 2000 through 2005B in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation the sum of \$137,674 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); the sum of \$105,951 be transferred from Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved; and the sum of \$4,737,082 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 8: Employee Benefits

MOTION: I move that Four Million Nine Hundred Thirty Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Three Dollars (\$4,930,663) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2024 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for Employee Benefits as represented by lines 3000, 3002, 3010, 3011 and 3012 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 9: Water Enterprise

MOTION: I move that One Million Nine Hundred Forty Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Three Dollars (\$1,940,823) be appropriated to be spent by the Groton Water Commission to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town of the Groton Water Enterprise Fund as represented in the Water Enterprise Budget in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$1,556,653 be appropriated from Water Rates and Fees; the sum of \$175,368 be hereby transferred from Water Enterprise Excess and Deficiency; and the sum of \$208,802 in the Town's General Fund Operating Budget be raised and appropriated to be allocated to the Water Enterprise for FY 2024.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 10: Sewer Enterprise

MOTION: I move that Eight Hundred Eighty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars (\$889,498) be appropriated to be spent by the Groton Sewer Commission to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town for the Groton Sewer Enterprise Fund as represented in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$858,404 be appropriated from Sewer Rates and Fees; and the sum of \$31,094 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2024.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 11: Four Corners Sewer Enterprise

MOTION: I move that Seventy-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Twelve Dollars (\$77,812) be hereby appropriated for the Fiscal Year 2024 Budget for the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant report; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$53,728 be appropriated from Four Corners Sewer Rates and Fees; the sum of \$21,150 be hereby transferred from Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency; and the sum of \$2,934 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2024.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 12: Local Access Cable Enterprise

MOTION: I move that Two Hundred Thirty Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Seven Dollars (\$230,137) be hereby appropriated to be spent by the Cable Access Commission to defray all operating expenses and any reimbursements to the Town of the Local Access Cable Enterprise Fund as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant report; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$114,331 be appropriated from Local Access Cable Fees; the sum of \$73,172 be hereby transferred from Local Cable Access Excess and Deficiency; and the sum of \$42,634 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Local Access Cable Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2024.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 13: Stormwater Utility Enterprise

MOTION: I move that Two Hundred Forty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$242,520) be hereby appropriated to be spent by the Town Manager to defray all operating expenses and any reimbursements to the Town of the Stormwater Utility Enterprise as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant report; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$191,498 be hereby transferred from Stormwater Utility Rates and Fees; and the sum of \$51,022 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Stormwater Utility Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2024.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 14: Electric Light

MOTION: I move that the income from sales of electricity to private customers or for electricity supplied to municipal buildings, together with receipts from jobbing accounts, be appropriated for the Groton Electric Light Department, the whole to be expended by the Manager of the Groton Electric Light Department under the direction and control of the Groton Board of Electric Light Commissioners, for expenses of the Department for Fiscal Year 2024, as defined in Section 57 of Chapter 164 of the Mass. General Laws, and that, if said sum and said income shall exceed said expense for said year, such excess shall be transferred to the construction fund of said plant and appropriated and used for such additions thereto as may thereafter be authorized by the Board of Electric Light Commissioners.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 6: Fiscal Year 2024 Capital Budget**Mover: John Reilly**

MOTION A: I move that Four Hundred Forty-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$442,900) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Ambulance 1 for the Fire Department, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$442,900 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

MOTION B: I move that Six Hundred Ninety Thousand One Hundred Forty-Two Dollars (\$690,142) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2023 and thereafter, for the capital items as set forth under Article 6 in the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$70,000 be transferred from the Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved; and the sum of \$620,142 be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
Command Vehicle	\$ 70,000	Fire and EMS
Loader	\$220,000	Highway
IT Infrastructure	\$ 50,000	Town Facilities
Municipal Building Repairs	\$ 25,000	Town Facilities
Building Maintenance Van	\$ 60,000	Town Facilities
Property Improvements	\$ 25,000	Park Department
Police Cruisers	\$125,142	Police Department
Hazmat Storage Evidence Locker	\$ 30,000	Police Department
Golf Carts	\$ 25,000	Country Club
Driving Range Improvements	\$ 50,000	Country Club
Greens Equipment	<u>\$ 10,000</u>	Country Club
Total	\$690,142	

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

Article 7: Opioid Settlements Special Purpose Stabilization Fund Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move pursuant to Chapter 40, Section 5B, of the Massachusetts General Laws, to establish a special purpose stabilization fund, known as the Opioid Settlement Stabilization Fund, for money received from judgments or settlements in litigation or claims against opioid manufacturers or distributors, to be expended for all of the purposes allowed by law, including those outlined in applicable opioid litigation settlement documents and consistent with any state guidelines or regulations further clarifying allowable uses of opioid litigation settlement funds; and further, to accept the provisions of the fourth paragraph of said Section 5B and dedicate all of the money received from judgments or settlements in litigation or claims against opioid manufacturers or distributors to the special purpose stabilization fund established under this Article, effective for Fiscal Year 2024 beginning on July 1, 2023; and further, to transfer from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) \$4,990.48 received from opioid settlements to the special purpose stabilization fund established under this Article.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

Article 8: Funding for Destination Groton Committee Mover: John Reilly

MOTION: I move that Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager, in Fiscal Year 2023 and thereafter, for the purpose of providing funding for the Destination Groton Committee to carry out the Charge of the Committee and all costs associated and related thereto.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 9: Funding for Sustainability Commission Mover: Becky Pine

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 10: Amend the Charge of the Sustainability Commission Mover: Becky Pine

MOTION: I move to amend the vote taken under Article 20 of the April 28, 2008 Spring Town Meeting, which created the Sustainability Commission, by authorizing the Select Board, in conjunction with the Sustainability Commission, to create a new Charge of the Commission, including the number of members of the Commission and length of terms, and authorize the Select Board to amend said Charge and Membership from time to time as the Board deems appropriate at a duly posted meeting of the Select Board.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 11: Election Equipment Purchase – Poll Pads Mover: Matt Pisani

MOTION: I move that Thirteen Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$13,600) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager, to purchase Poll Pads for use by the Town Clerk to check-in voters at all elections and Town Meetings, including all costs associated and related thereto.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 12: Construct New Water Main to Address PFAS Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town appropriate Sixteen Million Seven Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$16,780,000) for the purposes of financing the planning, designing, permitting, and constructing of a new water main from the Groton Water Distribution System to the Groton-Dunstable Regional High School and on Kemp Street and Groton Street in Dunstable and a portion of North Street in Groton in order to bring potable drinking water to the School and private homes, required for the treatment of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in said water supply sources, and all incidental and related costs, including without limitation all costs thereof as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 29C of the Massachusetts General Laws; and that to meet this appropriation, the Town Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow \$16,780,000 under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §8(5) or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor, and to authorize the Treasurer to borrow all or a portion of said sum from the Massachusetts Water Pollution Abatement Trust established pursuant to Chapter 29C of the General Laws and to enter into a loan agreement and/or security agreement with the Trust and otherwise to contract with the Trust and the Department of Environmental Protection with respect to such loan; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purpose.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

Article 13: Community Preservation Funding Accounts

Mover: Bruce Easom

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

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 20,000
Open Space Reserve:	\$106,991
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$106,991
Community Housing Reserve:	\$106,991
Unallocated Reserve:	\$728,937

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 14: Community Preservation Funding Recommendations

MOTION 1: Housing Trust Funds Request - \$200,000

Mover: Dan Emerson

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2024-01 "Housing Trust Funds Request".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 2: Preservation of Lake Massapoag - \$4,000

Mover: Richard Hewitt

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Four Thousand Dollars (\$4,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2024-02 "Preservation of Lake Massapoag".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 3: Conservation Fund – FY 2024 - \$400,000

Mover: Carolyn Perkins

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that One Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$115,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$215,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$400,000, to fund Community Preservation Application 2024-03 "Conservation Fund – FY 2024".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: Rebuild Major League Baseball Diamond - \$80,000

Mover: Anna Eliot

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2024-04 "Rebuild Major League Baseball Diamond".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 5: Construct Softball Diamonds at Cutler Field - \$90,000

Mover: Anna Eliot

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2024-05 "Construct Softball Diamonds at Cutler Field".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 6: Housing Coordinator – FY 2024 - \$55,857

Mover: Russ Burke

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Fifty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-Seven Dollars (\$55,857) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2024-07 "Housing Coordinator – FY 2024".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 7: Squannacook River Rail Trail - \$90,000

Mover: Carolyn Perkins

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Ninety Thousand Dollars (\$90,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2024-09 "Squannacook River Rail Trail".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 15: An Act Merging Certain Voting Precincts

Mover: Matt Pisani

MOTION: I move to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to enact special legislation to merge Precincts 1 and 3A into one Precinct known as Precinct 1, as set forth under Article 15 of the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 16: Amend Charter – Article 3, Section 3.2.2 (v)

Mover: Becky Pine

MOTION: I move to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to enact special legislation to amend Article 3, Section 3.2.2 (v), of the Groton Town Charter, as set forth under Article 16 of the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 17: Amend Charter – Article 4, Sections 4.2(iii) & 4.2(iv)

Mover: Matt Pisani

MOTION: I move to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to enact special legislation to amend Article 4, Sections 4.2(iii) and 4.2(iv), of the Groton Town Charter, as set forth under Article 17 of the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 18: Amend General Bylaws – Dog Hearings

Mover: John Reilly

MOTION: I move to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 128, Dogs, by amending Section 128-3, Enforcement, as set forth under Article 18 of the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 19: Amend Zoning Bylaw – Accessory Apartment

Mover: Russ Burke

MOTION: I move to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218, Zoning, Sections 218-3, Definitions, and Section 218-9.4, Accessory Apartment, as set forth under Article 19 of the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

Article 20: Conservation Land Purchase

Mover: Olin Lathrop

MOTION: I move to appropriate from the Town's Conservation Fund the sum of \$601,500, for the purpose of acquiring for conservation and passive recreation purposes, by eminent domain, negotiated purchase, or otherwise, certain real property known as the "Casella Property", consisting of 119 acres, more or less, owned by the Casella Realty Trust, as shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Groton, Massachusetts" prepared by Dillis & Roy Civil Design Group, dated 03/01/2023, which is on file in the Town's Conservation Commission Office, said parcel to be acquired by the Conservation Commission and held under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 8C, of the Massachusetts General Laws; and further, to authorize the Conservation Commission to file on behalf of the Town any and all applications deemed necessary for grants and/or reimbursements under Chapter 132A, Section 11 and/or any other applicable statute for said acquisition; and further, to authorize the Conservation Commission to enter into all agreements and execute any and all instruments on behalf of the Town as may be necessary for said acquisition; and further, to authorize the Select Board and the Conservation Commission to grant a conservation restriction with respect to said parcel to a qualified entity under terms and conditions the Select Board and the Conservation Commission deem to be in best interest of the Town and in accordance with M.G.L. c. 184, Sections 31 through 33.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 21: Grant Conservation Restrictions on Various Parcels

Mover: Olin Lathrop

MOTION: I move to authorize the Select Board and the Conservation Commission to grant conservation restrictions with respect to all or a portion of the parcels set forth under Article 21 of the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting, upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board and the Conservation Commission deem to be in the best interest of the Town and in accordance with Chapter 184, Sections 31 through 33, of the Massachusetts General Laws, and further, to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for special legislation to authorize any of said conservation restrictions in accordance with Article 97 of the Massachusetts Constitution, provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments thereto before enactment by the General Court, which amendments shall be within the public purposes of said petition.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 22: Grant Conservation Restriction

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move to modify the vote taken under Article 19 at the 2011 Spring Town Meeting and authorize the Select Board and the Conservation Commission to grant a conservation restriction with respect to all or a portion of the real property located off of Lowell Road (Groton Assessor's Parcel 234-04) described in a deed to the Town of Groton recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds on July 21, 1999, in Book 30446 at Page 61, to the Massachusetts Department of Fish & Game, upon such terms and conditions as the Select Board and the Conservation Commission deem to be in the best interest of the Town and in accordance with Chapter 184, Sections 31 through 33, of the Massachusetts General Laws; and further to authorize the Select Board to transfer the care, custody, and control of said parcel to the Conservation Commission after granting said conservation restriction to the Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 23: Citizens' Petition – Rezone 797 Boston Road

Mover:

MOTION: I move 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).

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

CONSENT MOTION #3 – Articles 24 through 33

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles as set forth in the motions in the Town Meeting Information Handout, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter, prior to the taking of the vote, requests the right to debate a specific article, then said article shall be removed from this motion and acted upon in the ordinary course of business.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 24: Transfer within the Water Enterprise Fund

MOTION: I move that Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) be transferred from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2023 Water Department Operating Budget for general expenses.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 25: Transfer Within the Center Sewer Enterprise Fund

MOTION: I move that One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) be transferred from the Center Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2023 Center Sewer Enterprise Department Budget for general expenses.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 26: Transfer Within the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Fund

MOTION: I move that Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) be transferred from the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2023 Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Department Budget for general expenses.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 27: Transfer Within Cable Enterprise Fund

MOTION: I move that Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) be transferred from the Cable Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2023 Cable Enterprise Department Budget for general expenses.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 28: Prior Year Bills

MOTION: I move that Article 28 be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 29: Current Year Line-Item Transfers

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer sums of money within the Fiscal Year 2023 Town Operating Budget, being the sums of money identified in the “**Transfer funds from**” line items designated below, said sums to be transferred to the various line items in the “**Transfer funds to**” categories designated below, the total amount to be transferred being \$80,355.

Transfer funds from:

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Amount To Be Transferred</u>
3010 – Health Insurance	<u>\$80,355</u>
Total	\$80,355

Transfer funds to:

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Amount Transferred To</u>
1242 – Building Inspector - Expenses	\$20,000
1275 – Board of Health – Consulting	\$ 5,355
1701 – Country Club – Wages	\$44,000
1702 – Country Club – Expenses	<u>\$11,000</u>
Total	\$80,355

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 30: Appropriate Money to Offset the Snow and Ice Deficit

MOTION: I move that One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) be appropriated from American Rescue Plan Act Funds, to be expended by the Town Manager, to reduce the deficit in the Fiscal Year 2023 Snow and Ice Budget, as approved under Article 5 of the 2022 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 31: Amend Funding Distribution for Middle School Track

MOTION: I move that the Town appropriate \$880,000 to pay additional costs of designing, constructing and equipping a new Middle School track, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, said amount shall be transferred, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, from the Community Preservation Fund as follows: Sixty-Six Thousand Dollars (\$66,000) appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and Seven Hundred Ninety-Four Thousand Dollars (\$794,000) appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$880,000, and, further, that the \$1,000,000 authorized to be borrowed by vote of the Town under Article 9 of the Warrant of the 2022 Spring Town Meeting for this purpose is hereby reduced by \$880,000.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 32: Debt Service for Middle School Track

MOTION: I move that the Town appropriate, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of \$55,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund the debt service for Fiscal Year 2024 for the Middle School Track Project, as authorized under Article 7 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting and Article 9 of the April 30, 2022 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 33: Establishing Limits for the Various Revolving Funds

MOTION: I move, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 44 sec 53E½ and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, to set the FY 2024 spending limits for the various revolving funds as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY 2024 Spending Limit
Stormwater Management	\$20,000
Conservation Commission	\$50,000
Building Rental Fund	\$50,000
Affordable Housing Marketing	\$20,000
Home Recycling Equipment	\$10,000
Access for Persons with Disabilities	\$10,000
Council on Aging Program Fund	\$50,000
Boat Excise Tax Fund	\$ 5,000
Transfer Station Glass	\$10,000
Senior Center Fitness Equipment	\$10,000

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

TOWN OF GROTON
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT
AFFORDABLE HOUSING GRANT AGREEMENT

THIS GRANT AGREEMENT (this "Agreement") made this _____ day of _____, 2023, is by and between the **Town of Groton**, a municipal corporation duly organized under the laws of Massachusetts and having its usual place of business at 173 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts 01450, acting by and through its Select Board (the "Town"), and the **Town of Groton Affordable Housing Trust**, established pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, Section 55C, and under Declaration of Trust recorded with the Middlesex Southern District Registry of Deeds in Book 58159, Page 199, and having its usual place of business at 173 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts 01450, acting by and through its Board of Trustees (hereinafter, the "Trust"). The Town and the Trust are together the "Parties" and individually a "Party."

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Town's Community Preservation Committee (the "Committee"), invited the submission of proposals for grants of funds for purposes consistent with the Community Preservation Act ("CPA"), M.G.L. c. 44B;

WHEREAS, the Trust submitted a proposal for funding for purposes of pursuing affordable housing opportunities in the Town of Groton in accordance with M.G.L. c. 44, Section 55C, the Trust's Declaration of Trust, and the Town's Bylaws (the "Project"), and the Committee reviewed the Project and recommended that the Groton Town Meeting vote on appropriating the funds described in this Agreement for the purposes of the Project;

WHEREAS, the Groton Town Meeting voted on April __, 2023, under Article __ (the "Article") to appropriate _____ Dollars (\$ _____) from the Town's Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserves Account (the "Funds");

WHEREAS, the purpose of this Agreement is to ensure that the Funds are used for the acquisition, creation, preservation, and support of community housing as defined by the CPA; and

WHEREAS, the Town's Select Board has conferred with the Committee concerning the terms of this Agreement, and both have approved the terms of this Agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, the Town and the Trust agree as follows:

1. Contract Documents. The Contract Documents consist of this Agreement, the CPA application approved by the Committee dated _____, 202__ (the "Application", copy attached as "Exhibit A"), and the Article (copy attached as "Exhibit B"). The Contract Documents constitute the entire agreement between the Parties.

2. Term. This Agreement shall remain in effect for as long as the Trust holds the Funds or any portion of the Funds.

3. The Project. The Project shall be as described in the Application, modified by the following conditions:

(a) The Funds shall be expended pursuant to this Agreement and shall be limited to the allowable spending purposes as defined under the CPA.

(b) Not later than March 15 and September 15 of each year during the Term, the Trust shall provide the Committee with a written update on its progress regarding the Project.

(c) Not more than ten percent (10%) of Funds may be used for expenses related to the administration and operation of the Trust.

(d) Consistent with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44B, Section 5(b)(2), under no circumstances shall the Funds be used to rehabilitate existing community housing units not created with CPA funds.

(e) Consistent with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44B, Section 5(b)(2), when creating community housing the Trust shall, wherever possible, reuse existing buildings or construct new buildings on previously developed sites.

(f) Consistent with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 44B, Section 6, the Funds shall not replace existing Town operating funds nor reimburse the Town for services provided to the Trust.

(g) If the Funds are the sole funding source for the acquisition of real property, the property shall only be used for "community housing" as defined in M.G.L. c. 44B, Section 2. In all other cases, the Funds may be used to cover a share of Project expenses proportionate to the part of the Project that will qualify as such community housing. The Trust shall track the cost of the allowable scope through a reasonable means of cost estimating, and only use the Funds for the allowable portion of the Project cost.

4. Contact. The Trust shall identify in writing a contact person responsible for the administration of the Project.

5. Restriction. With respect to any real property purchased using the Funds or housing created or preserved using the Funds, the Trust shall execute or obtain a perpetual affordable housing restriction meeting the statutory requirements of M.G.L. c. 184 and M.G.L. c. 44B, Section 12, and running to the benefit of the Town. The deed restrictions executed for each unit of housing created or preserved pursuant to this grant must be approved and accepted by the Town.

6. Funding. The Town shall pay the Trust the Funds within 30 days of the execution of this Agreement. The Trust shall manage the Funds in accordance with its Declaration of Trust.

7. Limitation of Liability. The Town's liability under this Agreement shall be to make the payment specified in Paragraph 6 and the Town shall be under no further obligation or liability. Nothing in this Agreement shall be construed to render the Town or any elected or appointed official or employee of the Town, or their successors in office, personally liable for any obligation under this Agreement.

8. Record Keeping. The Trust shall keep such records with respect to the utilization of the Funds as are kept in the normal course of business and such additional records as may be required by the Town. Should the Trust have multiple funding sources, the Trust shall track specific expenditures of the Funds separate from other funding sources. The Town shall have full and free access to such records and may examine and copy such records. The Trust further agrees to meet from time to time with the Committee or its designee(s), upon reasonable request, to discuss expenditures of the Funds.

9. Successors and Assigns. This Agreement is binding upon the Parties, their successors, assigns, and legal representatives. The Trust shall not assign or otherwise transfer this Agreement, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of the Town.

10. Termination. This Agreement shall terminate upon the Trust's final expenditure of the Funds and the delivery of copies of any restrictions recorded pursuant to Paragraph 5. In the event that the Trust fails to fulfill its obligations under the terms of this Agreement as determined by the Town, the Town shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate this Agreement upon written notice to the Trust. Upon receipt of such notice, the Trust shall refund all unexpended Funds to the Town, and such funds shall be returned to the CPA account from which the Funds were appropriated.

11. Compliance with Laws. The Trust shall comply with all Federal, State and local laws, rules, regulations and orders applicable to the Project.

12. Notice. Except as otherwise provided in this Agreement, any notices given under this Agreement shall be addressed as follows:

If to the Town:

Town of Groton
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450
ATTN: Town Manager
Email: townmanager@grotonma.gov

If to the Trust:

ATTN: _____

Email: _____

Notice shall be deemed given: (a) two (2) business days after the date when it is deposited with the U.S. Post Office, if sent by U.S. first-class or certified mail; (b) one (1) business day after the date when it is deposited with an overnight courier, if next business day delivery is required; (c) upon the date personal delivery is made; or (d) upon the date when it is sent by email, if the sender receives reply email confirming such delivery has been successful and the sender mails a copy of such notice to the other Party by U.S. first-class mail on such date.

13. Severability. If any term or condition of this Agreement or any application thereof shall to any extent be held invalid, illegal, or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the validity, legality, and enforceability of the remaining terms and conditions of this , Agreement shall not be deemed affected thereby unless one or both Parties would be substantially or materially prejudiced.

14. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be governed by, construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Trust submits to the jurisdiction of any of its appropriate courts for the adjudication of disputes arising out of this Agreement.

15. Execution in Counterparts. This Agreement may be simultaneously executed in several counterparts each of which shall be an original and all of which shall constitute but one and the same instrument.

[Signatures on next page].

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed on the day and year first above written.

Town of Groton

Groton Affordable Housing Trust

Mark Haddad, Town Manager,
Duly Authorized by a vote of the Groton Select
Board on _____, 2023

_____,
Duly Authorized by a vote of the Groton
Affordable Housing Trust Board of Trustees
on _____, 2023

Acknowledged By:

**Groton Community Preservation
Committee**

_____,
Duly Authorized by a vote of the Groton
Community Preservation Committee on
_____, 2023

**Groton-Dunstable Regional School District
School Committee
April 4, 2023 - 6:30pm**

Call to Order - 6:30 PM

Vote to enter into Executive Session for the purpose to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 30A, Sec. 21 a-3 (Unit A) to return to regular session.

So Moved - L. McCabe

Second - F. Raynor

Discussion - None

Roll Call - Y. Cheema, yes; R. Glod, yes; L. McCabe, yes; B. LeBlanc, yes; F. Raynor, yes; R. Casavecchia, yes

Members Present:

Rosanna Casavecchia, Yasmeen Cheema, Rafael Glod, Brian LeBlanc, Lacey McCabe, Fay Raynor

Administration Present: Dr. Laura Chesson

Call to Order to Return to Regular Session - 7:00 PM

Members Present:

Rosanna Casavecchia, Yasmeen Cheema, Rafael Glod, Jeff Kubick, Brian LeBlanc, Lacey McCabe, Fay Raynor

Administration Present: Dr. Laura Chesson, Superintendent; Sherry Kersey, Director of Finance & Operations

Others: Kristyn MacInnis, SEPAC Representative

Call to Order -

Groton Selectboard – Members Present – John Reilly, Chair, Becky Pine, Vice Chair, Peter Cunningham – Member. Also Present – Mark Haddad – Town Manager

Groton Finance

Budget - Discussion/Vote

The Chair opened the discussion up to Superintendent Chesson to present the Budget Update for April 4, 2023. Dr. Chesson reviewed the budget modification prior to March which reflected salary modifications and a total reduction in the operating budget of \$338,482. Under non-salary the total reduction reflected in the operating budget was \$651,813; total budget modification prior to March was \$990,295. She then explained the current reductions/changes in reduction for consideration with an adjustment. “reduction of two 261 day building secretaries to 204” of \$20,740 would be removed and “moving expenses, OT reduction Unit C, AP salary differential” of \$20,740 would be added. The total salary reductions would total: \$484,966.

The SC vote on March 22 added \$310,000 with limited information about what expenses (positions, stipends) this money should be appropriated for. Dr. Chesson turned the discussion over to the Chair for clarification on the addition of the \$310,000.

Mr. Kubick presented his position on increasing other fees such as athletics, student activity, parking, and Peter Twomey Youth Center's Before and After School Care fees. He feels it would be a good place to start to raise revenue. Dr. Chesson offered that there is now competition with the Prescott Center for the before and after school care so to ask for higher fees would create a difficult situation. She also explained that GDRSD has the highest athletic and parking fees already in the "Market Basket" comparison. Ms. Casavecchia suggested that the \$310,000 be reduced to \$111,740 with a portion of the money being taken from Excess & Deficiency and the district continue to look for additional funding opportunities.

To get the Committee to discussion, the chair took an informal vote:

The Chair entertained a motion to approve the budget as recommended back on February 25 with the addition of \$111,740 as recommended by the Superintendent tonight funded by the usage of E&D.

So Moved - F. Raynor

Second - R. Casavecchia

Discussion - clarification of the FTE to be saved. The schedule will have to be run before the decision is made as to the subject area that would be affected. Dr. Chesson said that this would be a solution for this year only. Clarification on reductions - SU Tech teacher reduced to .5, elimination of 1 full year Asst. Principal/HS, reduction of overtime for Unit C, reduction of 1 HS World Language Teacher, reduction of 1 HS Guidance Counselor, reduction of 1 ELA FTE at the HS (currently open due to resignation).

All in Favor (informal vote)

Motion Approved 6 - 1

The Chair moved that the total appropriation for the Groton-Dunstable Regional School district for the fiscal year July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 be set at \$48,941,486 as presented by the following functions:

1000 (District Leadership and Administration):	\$ 1,296,176
2000 (Instructional Services):	\$ 25,771,459
3000 (Other School Services):	\$ 3,389,611
4000 (Maintenance):	\$ 3,259,464
5000 (Fixed Charges):	\$ 10,751,584
7000 (Fixed Assets):	\$ 1,116,538
8000 (Debt Retirement and Service):	\$ 596,800
9000 (Programs with Other Districts):	\$ 2,759,854

Second - R. Glod

Discussion - None

Roll Call - Y. Cheema, yes; R. Glod, yes; L. McCabe, yes; B. LeBlanc, yes; J. Kubick, No; F. Raynor, yes; Rosanna Casavecchia, yes

Motion Approved 6 - 1

The Chair moved that member towns be assessed in accordance with the Education Reform Law and the terms of the Agreement and amendments thereto as follows:

Groton Operating	\$ 25,937,716
Groton Capital	\$ 542,257
Groton Debt	\$ 465,796
Groton Total	\$ 26,945,769

Dunstable Operating	\$ 7,742,721
Dunstable Capital	\$ 188,281
Dunstable Debt	\$ 130,148
Dunstable Total	\$ 8,061,150

Second - R. Glod

Discussion-None

Roll Call - Y. Cheema, yes; R. Glod, yes; L. McCabe, yes; B. LeBlanc, yes; J. Kubick, yes; F. Raynor, yes; Rosanna Casavecchia, yes

Motion Approved 7 - 0

Dr. Chesson shared that every person in the district who is a Unit A member whose position is up for reduction will be offered another position in the district, that's available due to retirement. B. Pine, Groton Selectboard, thanked the Committee for making these difficult decisions but they are the right decisions for the town and it may be a good idea for next year that the process should start earlier. R. Casavecchia, acknowledged J. Kubick's efforts to think outside the box in finding other ways to save money.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:34 PM

Jo Ann Sivazlian, Secretary

Documents shared:

Agenda

April Budget Update

March Budget Update

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 10, 2023
UN-APPROVED**

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

Also Present: Mark Haddad, Town Manager; Kara Cruikshank, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager; Nikolas Gualco, Conservation Administrator; Patricia Dufresne, Town Accountant

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Pine stated at the last Select Board meeting that she had read a Proclamation in honor of the Groton Garden Club's 100th birthday. She said the Groton Garden Club distributed a very well-done book commemorating their 100 years. Ms. Pine said copies of the book were available at the library and that they had donated one copy to the Town Hall. Ms. Pine also said they were available to purchase by contacting the Groton Garden Club. Ms. Pine also announced that the Garden Club would be holding their Annual Plant Sale at Legion Common on Saturday, May 13th.

Mr. Haddad said on Thursday, April 13th at 3:00 pm a ribbon cutting ceremony would be held at the Middle School Track now that construction of the new track had been completed. Mr. Haddad also announced that Groton Voters were invited to participate in an Electronic Voting Demonstration before the Spring Town Meeting. Voters will be able to use the handsets and can ask the Moderator questions about the procedures for voting during Town Meeting. Mr. Haddad said that there will be two demonstrations held; Thursday, April 20th, from 12 to 1:00 pm, at The Center located in West Groton where a lunch provided to those who pre-register for this demonstration; and on Tuesday, April 25th from 6 to 7:00 pm, at the GDRSD Middle School Performing Arts Center.

Mr. Haddad said that Vote by Mail would be available for the May 23rd Town Election. He invited voters to visit the homepage of the town's website, www.grotonma.gov for more information. Mr. Haddad announced that the last day to register to vote and participate in both the Town Meeting on April 29th and the Annual Town Election on May 23rd was Wednesday, April 19th by 5:00 PM. He invited voters to contact the Clerk's office at (978) 448-1100 to inquire about more ways to register.

Ms. Pine said that Candidate's Night was scheduled for April 25th at 7:00 pm at the Center in West Groton.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

TOWN MANAGERS REPORT

1. Approve the Installation of Conservation Markers on the Bissell Property (Parcel 202-83) and the Norris Property (213-60)

Mr. Haddad said during a recent inspection of the Bissell Property (open space parcel off of Townsend Road under the control of the Select Board) by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, they were requesting permission for the State to install conservation markers along the edge of the property. Mr. Haddad said that the Conservation Commission was recommending that the Select Board approve this request. Mr. Haddad said he believed DCR would be paying for the markers and the installation. Conservation Administrator, Nikolis Gualco was in attendance at Monday's meeting to review this request with the Board and to help answer any questions they had. Mr. Haddad respectfully requested the Board approve this request and grant the requested permission. Ms. Pine asked if they were going to provide them for any other properties. Mr. Gualco said the request was to put the property boundaries on any of the properties they hold conservation restrictions on in Groton.

Ms. Pine made a motion to authorize the installation of Conservation Markers on the Bissell Property (Parcel 202-83) and the Norris Property (213-60). Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Consider Supporting Fitchburg's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Regional Grant Application

Mr. Haddad said they had been approached by the City of Fitchburg to support their Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Action Grant application. Mr. Haddad said this would be a regional grant application to protect the Nashua River Watershed. He said that the intent of the project was to identify nature-based projects within the Watershed to mitigate climate impacts. Mr. Haddad said the initial application was for the planning phase. Mr. Haddad said that he had drafted a letter of support and respectfully requested that the Board support signing onto the Regional Grant Application.

Mr. Cunningham made a motion to support Fitchburg's Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Regional Grant Application. Mr. Pisani seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Fiscal Year 2024 Budget Development Update

Mr. Haddad said the Groton Dunstable Regional School District School Committee had voted to reduce their Fiscal Year 2024 Budget, which brought their proposed Operational Assessment to \$25,937,716, which was the amount they had set aside in the Balanced Budget. Mr. Haddad said that this would eliminate the need to seek an Override of Proposition 2½ for FY 2024. Mr. Haddad said he was pleased and appreciated the School Committee's willingness to work within the Town's budgetary constraints. Mr. Haddad said that School Superintendent, Dr. Laura Chesson had been a true partner of the Town throughout this year's budget development. He said this still left a serious issue with regard to the balanced budget. Mr. Haddad said that one of the reductions they made to balance the budget was eliminating the FY 2023 Snow and Ice Deficit during the current fiscal year, and not raising the deficit on next year's Tax Recap. Mr. Haddad said originally, the amount set aside was \$100,000 and they were going to utilize Free Cash to eliminate the deficit. He said, unfortunately, due to the late-season storms in March, the deficit had grown to approximately \$150,000. Mr. Haddad said using Free Cash to offset this deficit would zero out Free Cash and that he was not in favor of doing that. Mr. Haddad respectfully requested that the Select Board authorize the use of ARPA Funds to eliminate the deficit. Mr. Haddad

said they had set aside approximately \$450,000 for Sewer Department upgrades (Nod Road Pump Station and inflow and infiltration repairs). Mr. Haddad said he discussed this with the Chair of the Sewer Commission, and they had reduced the set aside to a maximum of \$195,000 for this work, leaving a balance of \$255,000. Mr. Haddad said he would like to use some of this balance to offset the Snow and Ice Deficit.

Mr. Haddad let the board know that after discussing his proposal to seek a stipend for the Council on Aging Director with several members of the Board, that he had decided to wait until the Fall to pursue this request.

Ms. Pine moved that the Board authorize up to \$150,000 in the expenditure of ARPA funds to offset the Snow and Ice Deficit in FY 2023. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Update on Select Board Meeting Schedule Through the 2023 Spring Town Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023	- No Meeting (Patriot's Day)
Monday, April 24, 2023	- Regularly Scheduled Meeting
Saturday, April 29, 2023	- 2023 Spring Town Meeting

ITEMS FOR SELECT BOARD CONSIDERATION AND ACTION

1. Approve and Issue the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting

Mr. Haddad said that he had provided the Board with the Final Draft of the 2023 Spring Town Meeting Warrant. He respectfully requested that the Select Board to take a position on the Budget and consider supporting it unanimously.

The Board was unanimously in favor of supporting the Budget.

Mr. Haddad respectfully requested that the Select Board change their position on CPC Proposal E: Construct Softball Diamonds at Cutler Field, to Defer Until Town Meeting until he received more information.

The Board changed its position on CPC Proposal E to Deferred Until Town Meeting.

Article 12: Construct New Water Main to Address PFAS Issue at GDRSD High School-

Mr. Haddad said he would like to leave the Article on the Warrant for now. Mr. Haddad said his original concern was taking on more debt. He said the Town has a bond rating call in early June with Wall Street and explained that this call was to discuss bonding and additional \$27 million for the Florence Roche project. Mr. Haddad said he asked the Town Treasurer, Ms. Hannah Moller, to reach out to the Town's Financial Advisor to ask for her opinion. Mr. Haddad said that the Town's Financial Advisor said this would not impact our bond rating and that Mr. Haddad would have to disclose that they may be potentially taking on more debt. Mr. Haddad said that based on this information he would like to leave this Article on the warrant as a placeholder until he received more information from DEP.

Mr. Haddad respectfully requested that the Board vote to issue the Warrant for the 2023 Spring Town Meeting to be held on Saturday, April 29th at 9:00 am at the Performing Arts Center.

Mr. Cunningham made a motion that they authorize the Town Manager to issue the Warrant. Mr. Pisani seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- 2. Approve Annual Fuel Storage Permits-** Mr. Haddad asked the Board to consider approving the Annual Fuel Storage Licenses as presented in the packet.

Mr. Cunningham made a motion to approve the Annual Fuel Storage Licenses. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3. Consider Appointing Charlotte Weigel to the Sustainability Commission**

Ms. Pine made a motion to appoint Ms. Charlotte Weigel to the Sustainability Commission term to expire in June of 2023. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- 4. Consider Making Associate Member Appointments to the Zoning Board of Appeals**

Mr. Haddad said the Zoning Board of Appeals had requested that the Select Board appoint Mr. Russ Harris as an Associate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ms. Manugian asked how many vacancies there currently were. Mr. Haddad said there were two other vacancies in addition to the vacancy he was asking them to fill with Mr. Harris that evening. Ms. Manugian questioned if there may be a conflict of interest with Mr. Harris. Ms. Connie Sartini from the Groton Herald stated she would be the reporter of record covering the Zoning Board of Appeals meetings and her story would be printed. Mr. Cunningham said a potential conflict could be addressed by filing a disclosure. Mr. Haddad said Mr. Harris didn't believe he had any conflict other than he was a local reporter.

Ms. Cunningham made a motion to appoint Mr. Russ Harris as an Associate Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals with term to expire on June 30, 2023. Mr. Pisani seconded the motion. Motion approved by a majority vote of 4 in Favor, 1 Against- Manugian.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ON-GOING ISSUES

- A. PFAS Issue-** the Select Board voted to pursue the Groton/Pepperell/Dunstable Option. The DEP meeting will be held, via Zoom, on Friday to start the process and to understand the permitting. Mr. Haddad gave a summary of the Groton/Pepperell/Dunstable option that was voted on by the Select Board at their meeting on April 3, 2023. Mr. Haddad said he would have a full report next week after speaking with DEP. Mr. Haddad told the Board that the application for state funding had to be submitted by August.

Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2023

Ms. Pine made a motion to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting from March 27, 2023, and April 3, 2023 as presented. Ms. Pisani seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Pine asked Ms. Cruikshank to add the time of the Special Meeting in the heading from the April 3, 2023 meeting minutes. Ms. Cruikshank agreed to add the time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 pm

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

Date Approved: