

**SELECT BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
SATURDAY, MAY 1, 2021  
APPROVED**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alison Manugian, Chair, Joshua Degen, Vice Chair, Rebecca Pine, Clerk, John Giger, Member, John Reilly, Member

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mark Haddad, Town Manager, Nik Gualco, Conservation Administrator

Ms. Manugian called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Conservation Restriction**

Conservation Administrator Nik Gualco was present to discuss a conservation restriction for the following:

**Grantor:** Trustees of the Groton Conservation Trust

**Grantee:** Town of Groton

**Address of Premises:** Pine Trail, Park Trail and Paul Revere Trail, Groton, Massachusetts

**For Grantor's title see:** Middlesex

South Registry of Deeds Book 13141, Page 237 and  
Book 51050, Page 237

The Conservation Commission has accepted this restriction and the Select Board has to also vote to accept it. After a brief discussion the following vote took place:

*Ms. Pine moved that the Select Board approve the Restriction as presented. Mr. Reilly seconded and the vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.*

**Town Meeting Article – Housing Trust Application for CPA Funds**

Select Board Vice Chair Degen asked the Board to consider supporting an amendment he was planning on making at Town Meeting with regard to the Housing Trust's CPA Application for \$75,000 for affordable housing site assessments. Specifically, he was planning on offering the following amendment at Town Meeting when this project came up for a vote:

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**Town Meeting Article – Housing Trust Application – continued:**

At the end of the main motion add the following wording: “provided the Affordable Housing Trust not expend any of these funds for any purpose until after the Diversity Task Force holds its Affordable Housing Summit and issues an executive summary to the Groton Select Board no later than September 15, 2021.”

*Mr. Degen moved that the Board support this proposed amendment. Ms. Manugian seconded the motion.*

The Board debated the merits of the amendment. Ms. Pine, Mr. Giger and Mr. Reilly expressed concerns with proposed amendment. Ms. Manugian was in support.

*After a spirited debate the Board voted two in favor of the motion (Degen, Manugian), three against the motion (Pine, Giger, Reilly). Motion Defeated.*

**FY 2022 Budget Update**

Mr. Haddad informed the Board that at the conclusion of the Open Enrollment Period for changes to Health Insurance Plans, the anticipated Health Insurance Budget for FY 2022 is out of balance by \$51,000. More employees took the Town’s Health Insurance or changed plans causing the deficit. Since Town Meeting was set to vote on the budget as presented, Mr. Haddad recommended that this shortfall be addressed in the Fall before the tax rate is set. The Board generally agreed.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved: 5/10/21

Mark W. Haddad  
Town Manager

Rebecca H. Pine  
Clerk