



## TOWN OF GROTON

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## Select Board

Barry A. Pease, *Chairman*  
Alison S. Manugian, *Vice-Chairman*  
John R. Giger, *Clerk*  
Joshua A. Degen, *Member*  
Rebecca H. Pine, *Member*

**Town Manager**  
Mark W. Haddad

**To:** *Select Board*

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

**Subject:** *Weekly Report*

**Date:** *March 25, 2019*

1. In addition to the Town Manager's Report and an update on the on-going issues list, there is one item scheduled on Monday's Agenda. The Board voted last week to continue the public hearing on the 2019 Spring Town Meeting Warrant. Enclosed in the Warrant is the latest draft of the Warrant for your review. One Article that the Board needs to review in greater detail is the proposed Ticket Tax Article. Select Board Member Manugian has proposed some amendments to the Article and I have included with this report a red-lined version of the Article for your review and consideration. We can discuss this in more detail at Monday's meeting.
2. Last week, I informed the Board that we have two vacancies for Communications Officer for the Groton Police and Fire Departments. Last week, the Board ratified my appointment of Leah Pierce to one of the vacancies. To fill the second vacancy, the Police Chief and Fire Chief have requested that I appoint Christopher Cotter of Pepperell to the position of Communications Officer for the Town of Groton. I have enclosed a copy of Christopher's resume with this report for your review. I would respectfully request that the Board ratify this appointment at Monday's meeting.
3. The Great Ponds Advisory Committee has requested time on the Agenda to update the Board on their work restoring the various ponds in Groton. Jim Luening will be in to represent the Committee and make a brief presentation to the Board.
4. As the Board is aware, Section 2.2(b) of the Lease Agreement for the Prescott School between the Town of Groton and the Friends of Prescott calls for the Friends to submit a Business Plan to the Select Board for your review and approval. Specifically, this section reads as follows:

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**4. Continued:**

*(b) The Tenant shall submit to the Select Board in writing the Tenant's final proposed Business Plan clearly identified as the "FINAL PROPOSED BUSINESS PLAN" by the date that is one hundred eighty (180) days from the Commencement Date for approval by Landlord, acting through its Select Board. The Landlord, acting through its Select Board, shall have the right, in the Select Board's sole discretion, to approve, reject or condition the Business Plan or any aspect thereof. In the event that (i) the Landlord rejects all or any aspect of the Business Plan as submitted to Landlord by Tenant or Landlord, and (ii) Landlord and Tenant fail to approve or to agree in writing to a mutually acceptable Business Plan within ninety (90) days of the Landlord's rejection of the Business Plan or some aspect thereof, then Landlord shall have, for ninety (90) days thereafter, have the right, in Landlord's sole discretion, to terminate this Lease upon written notice to Tenant, and if so exercised, this Lease shall be deemed terminated as of the date that is thirty (30) days after the delivery of such written notice of termination without any refund of any Rent.*

Enclosed with this report for your review and approval is the Business Plans submitted by the Friends of Prescott. Alison Manugian, Bud Robertson and I have reviewed the Plan and met with the Friends to discuss issues with the Plan. We will provide an update to the Board at Monday's meeting to help you make a decision. We look forward to discussing this with the Board in more detail at Monday's meeting.

5. At last week's meeting, I presented the Board with a draft Article to seek additional funding for the Town's expense for the Prescott School. I also provided the Board with an update on the anticipated needs to maintain the Building over the next three years. The amount required is \$86,000. The Board tabled that discussion and asked that we continue the discussion at this week's meeting. The Board needs to decide on whether or not to include the Article on the Warrant.
6. As part of the continued Public Hearing on the Warrant, I would ask the Board to consider taking positions on the various Articles at Monday's meeting.
7. As is our practice, I have set aside time on the Agenda for the Board to continue its review on the FY 2020 Proposed Operating Budget. As part of your discussion this week, the Board needs to make a final determination on whether or not to seek an override of Proposition 2½ to fund the addition of two new Firefighter/EMTs and offset the use of E&D by the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Committee. We can discuss this in more detail at the meeting.

MWH/rjb  
enclosures