

**MINUTES  
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
MAY 1, 2000**

At 8:04 pm there were 181 voters present. The quorum requirement was 118 voters. The Special Town Meeting was called to order by Moderator Robert Gosselin. The STM was then recessed to allow for the ATM to finish the presentation of article 14. A motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of the warrant. The motion carried unanimously.

**ARTICLE 1:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer certain sums of money within the Fiscal 2000 budget, as printed in the handout distributed to this town meeting. (See Attached)

**Article 1 carried unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 2:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to accept as a public way a portion of a private way known as Cow Pond Brook Road from station 0+00 to station 44+00 as laid out by the Board of Selectmen and more fully shown on a plan entitled "Cow Pond Brook Road Existing Plan and Profile, Groton, MA" dated March 26, 1999 by Bill Boston Survey, Inc. ("1999 Plan") and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire by gift and to accept a deed to the Inhabitants of the Town of a fee simple interest in Cow Pond Brook Road as described in the Plan, upon such terms and conditions as it shall determine appropriate, for the purposes of a public way, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to release all right, title, and interest of the Town in that portion of the way shown as Cow Pond Brook Road on a plan entitled "Road Layout Plan in Groton, Mass. Laid Out for The Town of Groton" dated March 30, 1976, prepared by Richard L. McGlinchey, Surveyor and recorded in Book 13059, Page 690 ("1976 Plan") which is located outside of the layout described in the 1999 Plan but only that portion which is located within the bounds of the land now or formerly owned by V.H. Shea Corporation as shown on the 1999 Plan, upon such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen shall determine to be appropriate, copies of both the 1999 Plan and the 1976 Plan being on file in the Office of the Town Clerk on September 30, 1999.

**Article 2 carried unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 3:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus \$33,216 to the Police Chief Salary Account to fund benefits due to the Chief of Police upon retirement

Sick Leave Buy Back \$22,028  
Unused Vacation 9,638  
Longevity (6mo) 800  
Career Incentive 750

**Article 3 carried unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 4:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer \$199,669 from Line Item 3020 in the fiscal 2000 budget (Groton-Dunstable Regional School District Assessment) to the Stabilization Fund.

The Selectman and Fincom voted to support.

**Article 4 carried unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 5:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus \$19,500 to the Town Counsel Expense Account.

Selectmen and Fincom voted to support.

**Article 5 carried unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 6:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus \$7,500 to conduct an assessment center for Police Chief candidates.

This would fund an assessment center for evaluating potential candidates for the Police Chief. Selectmen support, Fincom took no position.

Paula Martin asked who would make the decision regarding who would go through the assessment center. Mr. Cunningham said it would be used for finalists and it is anticipated that 3-5 candidates might be put through the process.

Dr. Bruner questioned how we will know if it will work. Mr. Cunningham stated that it will work because it will show inconsistencies and the manner in which a potential chief will make decisions.

Bruce Clemens questioned why this was necessary for the Police Chief but not used for the selection of the Fire Chief. Mr. Cunningham responded that they are clearly different types of positions, with different responsibilities and decision-making capabilities.

Chief Rider supports the concept of the Assessment Center because he saw it work first hand in Carlisle.

Peter Carson wanted to know if a consultant had already been chosen or if it would go out to bid. Mr. Cunningham stated that since the cost was only \$7,500, it wasn't necessary to go out to bid and that they had looked into several options.

Mr. Miller moved the question. Carried unanimously.

**Article 6 carried by majority vote.**

**ARTICLE 7:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 48 Personnel, Section 12 Administrative Order No. 6: Classification and Wage/Salary as printed in the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Selectman and Fincom voted to support this article.

**Article 7 carried unanimously.**

**ARTICLE 8:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 48 Personnel, Section 15 Additional Benefits as printed in the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Selectman and Fincom voted to support.

**Article 8 carried by majority.**

**ARTICLE 9:** Moved and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from Overlay Surplus \$9,600 to hire a consultant to conduct a boundary survey and to determine the wetlands boundaries of a portion of the property shown on Assessors Map 234 Parcel 4, containing approximately 112 acres, and a portion of the property shown on Assessors Map 234 Parcel 18, containing approximately 11 acres.

This parcel is the Brownloaf (Rt 40) property. The survey would determine if there was enough land to use for various municipal uses. Selectmen voted to support. Fincom took no position.

**Article 9 carried by majority.**

**A motion was made and seconded to dissolve the Special Town Meeting.**

**The meeting was dissolved at 8:50**