

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

MARCH 15, 2004

Middlesex:

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

To any Constable in the Town of Groton

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth aforesaid, you are hereby required to notify and warn said inhabitants of said Town qualified to vote on Town affairs to assemble in the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium in said Town on Monday, the fifteenth day of March next, at 7:00 P.M. in the evening, to consider the following:

ARTICLE 1. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by eminent domain or otherwise, a temporary easement over, on, through and under the following described land:

Property in the Town of Groton off Gilson Road, Groton Assessors' Map 135, Lot 38 and Map 253, Lot 2, adjacent to the Littleton town line for the purpose of conducting such site investigations and assessments as are necessary to determine the suitability of the said land for the site of an elementary school, or take any action thereon.

Sponsored By: **Board of Selectmen**

Summary: *At the 2003 Annual Town Meeting, voters appropriated \$75,000 for costs associated with the evaluation of property on Gilson Road for the purpose of determining its suitability for use as an elementary school site, including land appraisal, engineering and legal costs. However, no engineering work has been done to date because the landowner refused to grant the Town permission access to the site without an offer to purchase the property. The Town conducted a real estate appraisal and submitted an offer to purchase, but the landowner's representative decided to sell the property to another party. The temporary taking will enable the Town to proceed with the Phase II engineering studies required to determine whether the site is a suitable for an elementary school. If the site is suitable, the decision to acquire the land will be subject to another vote at a future Town Meeting.*

And you will serve this warrant by posting a true and attested copy of the same in at least four public places in said Groton, fourteen days before the day appointed for said meeting.

Hereof fail not and make return of your doings to the Town Clerk on or before time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this twenty-third day of February in the year of our Lord, two thousand four.

OFFICER'S RETURN

Groton Middlesex

Thomas D. Hartnett, Chairman

Pursuant to the within Warrant,

I have this day notified the

INHABITANTS to assemble at the

George F. Dillon Jr., Vice Chair

Time, Place and for the purpose

within mentioned as within directed.

Personally posted by constable.

John L. Saball, Clerk

Virginia C. Wood, Member

Peter S. Cunningham, Member