

Town of Groton



2017 Spring Town Meeting Packet

April 24, 2017

**SPRING TOWN MEETING
MOTIONS
APRIL 24, 2017**

ARTICLE 1: HEAR REPORTS

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to hear and receive the report of the Board of Selectmen and other Town Officers and Committees.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Scheduled to Give Reports: Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee

ARTICLE 2: ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to allow the following compensation for the following elected officials:

Town Clerk	\$80,689
Town Moderator	\$ 65

for the ensuing year.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 3: WAGE AND CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend and adopt for Fiscal Year 2018 the Town of Groton Wage and Classification schedule as shown in Appendix B of the Warrant for the 2017 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 4: FISCAL YEAR 2018 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

MOTION 1: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mover: Bud Robertson

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,946,980 for General Government as represented by lines 1000 through 1182 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 2: LAND USE DEPARTMENTS

Mover: David Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$434,948 for Land Use Departments as represented by lines 1200 through 1281 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 3: PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY

Mover: Art Prest

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved the sum of \$225,000 to Fire & Emergency Medical Services and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,547,214 for a total of \$3,772,214 for Protection of Persons and Property as represented by lines 1300 through 1372 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: SCHOOLS

Mover: Robert Hargraves

a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$607,520 for the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School as represented by line 1400 in the Budget.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

b.) Groton Dunstable Regional School District

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,175,864 for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District for the purposes of Lines 1410 through 1413 in the budget, and as further outlined in the Fiscal Year 2018 budget portion of the Information Packet distributed to voters for this Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 5: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mover: David Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,136,809 for the Department of Public Works as represented by lines 1500 through 1561 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 6: LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES

Mover: Lorraine Leonard

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,595,272 for Library and Citizen's Services as represented by lines 1600 through 1703 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 7: DEBT SERVICE

Mover: Lorraine Leonard

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) the sum of \$132,300 and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,332,019 for a total of \$1,464,319 for Debt Service as represented by lines 2000 through 2007 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 8: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Mover: Lorraine Leonard

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,842,510 for Employee Benefits as represented by lines 3000 through 3012 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 9: WATER ENTERPRISE

Mover: Art Prest

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from Water Rates and Fees the sum of \$972,365 to the Water Enterprise Fund and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$159,571 in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Water Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2018, for a total Water Enterprise budget of \$1,131,936 to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 10: SEWER ENTERPRISE**Mover: Art Prest**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency the sum of \$50,903, appropriate from Sewer Rates and Fees the sum of \$620,948 and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27,989 in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2018, for a total Sewer Enterprise budget of \$699,840 to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 11: LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE**Mover: Jon Sjoberg**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from Local Access Cable Fees the sum of \$153,065 and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$53,389 in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Local Access Cable Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2018 for a total budget of \$206,454 to defray all operating expenses and any reimbursement to the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 12: ELECTRIC LIGHT**Mover: Jon Sjoberg**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the income from the sale of electricity to private consumers or for electricity supplied to municipal buildings or from municipal power and from the sale of jobbing during Fiscal Year 2018 for the Groton Electric Light Department; the whole to be expended by the Manager of that department under the direction and control of the Board of Electric Light Commissioners for the expenses of the ensuing fiscal year as defined in Section 57 of Chapter 164 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth. The total fund to be appropriated is -0-.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 5: APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR OPEB TRUST**Mover: Barry Pease**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) the sum of \$100,000 and to transfer the sum of \$200,000 from Line Item 3010 "Health Insurance/Employee Expenses" of the Fiscal Year 2018 Town Operating Budget adopted under Article 4 of the 2017 Spring Town Meeting, for a total of \$300,000, 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 6: PILOT PROGRAM FOR CALL EMT**Mover: Bud Robertson**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$73,000, to be added to Line Item 1311 "*Fire Department Wages*" of the Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Budget for the purpose of establishing a Pilot Program providing additional compensation as an incentive to sign up for call shifts, and all costs associated and related thereto.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 7: FISCAL YEAR 2018 CAPITAL BUDGET**Mover: Joshua Degen**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$415,692 from the Capital Stabilization Fund; transfer the sum of \$41,000 from Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved; and transfer the sum of \$60,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); for a total of \$516,692, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the following capital items:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
SCBA Compressor	\$ 41,000	Fire/EMS
Intermediate Truck	\$ 70,000	Highway
IT Infrastructure	\$ 40,000	Town Facilities
Dispatch Center Upgrade	\$ 60,000	Town Facilities
Municipal Building Repairs	\$ 25,000	Town Facilities
Police Station Parking Lot	\$ 40,000	Town Facilities
Trash Trailers	\$ 90,000	Transfer Station
Exterior/Parking Lot Lights	\$ 30,000	Library
Police Cruisers	\$ 91,092	Police Department
All Terrain Vehicles	\$ 18,000	Police Department
Boom Sprayer Unit	\$ 6,500	Groton Country Club
Triplex – Greens Mower	<u>\$ 5,100</u>	Groton Country Club
Total	\$516,692	

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3's Majority

ARTICLE 8: PURCHASE NEW LADDER TRUCK**Mover: Peter Cunningham**

MOTION: I move that the Town appropriate the sum of \$995,000, to be expended by the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Ladder Truck for the Groton Fire Department, and all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$995,000 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 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, and, further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3's Majority

ARTICLE 9: ACQUIRE LAND ON FARMERS ROW**Mover: Peter Cunningham**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire from the Lawrence Homestead Trust by gift, purchase, or eminent domain, for general municipal purposes, including, without limitation, for use as a new Senior Center, all or a portion of the parcels of land located on Farmer's Row and shown on Assessors' Map 108 as Parcel 1, Assessors' Map 108 as Parcel 1.2, and Assessors' Map 108 as Parcel 1.3, described in deeds recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 25424, Page 109, said parcels containing 8.4 acres, more or less, in the aggregate, and to appropriate the sum of \$790,000, to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2017, for such acquisition and costs related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$790,000 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 any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount, and further to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into all agreements and execute on behalf of the Town any and all instruments as may be necessary or convenient to effectuate the purpose of this article, provided, however, that no funds may be expended hereunder for this purpose unless and until the Town approves a Proposition 2½ Debt Exclusion pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C, Clause (k).

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3's Majority

ARTICLE 10: SENIOR CENTER LOCATION AND DESIGN

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to approve the location of a new Senior Center as recommended by the Town Meeting Senior Center Committee and the Council on Aging's Feasibility Oversight Committee, and to appropriate the sum of \$400,000, to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2017, for the purpose of hiring an architect and/or engineer, pursuant to the Designer Selection Guidelines adopted by the Board of Selectmen in December, 2010, for the design, or design and construction bidding, of a new Senior Center, and all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$175,000 be transferred from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation and that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$225,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(7) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount; provided, however, that no funds may be expended hereunder for this purpose unless and until the Town approves a Proposition 2½ Debt Exclusion pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 21C, Clause (k).

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3's Majority

ARTICLE 11: CURRENT YEAR LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

Mover: Barry Pease

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer sums of money within the Fiscal Year 2017 Town Operating Budget, being the sums of money identified in the "**Transfer funds from**" line items designated in the Information Packet distributed to voters for this Town Meeting, said sums to be transferred to the various line items in the "**Transfer funds to**" categories designated within the Information Packet, the total amount to be transferred being \$158,749.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Transfer funds from:				
<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Account</u>		<u>Amount</u>	
			<u>To Be Transferred</u>	
1023	Board of Selectmen - Engineering/Consultant		\$	1,700
1032	Town Manager - Expenses		\$	13,800
1060	Board of Assessors - Salaries		\$	450
1182	Postage/Town Hall - Expenses		\$	6,500
1250	Mechanical Inspectors - Salaries		\$	6,000
1311	Fire Department - Wages		\$	31,294
1312	Fire Department - Expenses		\$	19,200
1502	Highway Department - Expenses		\$	10,000
1542	Municipal Buildings - Minor Capital		\$	25,000
1681	Water Safety - Expenses and Minor Capital		\$	7,805
1702	Country Club - Expenses		\$	22,000
1703	Country Club - Minor Capital		\$	15,000
	TOTAL		\$	158,749
Transfer funds to:				
<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Account</u>		<u>Amount</u>	
			<u>Transferred To</u>	
1062	Board of Assessor - Expenses		\$	450
1080	Town Counsel - Expenses		\$	15,000
1120	GIS Committee - Expenses		\$	5,000
1162	Insurance Expense - 111F Deductible		\$	5,000
1181	Postage Town Hall - Telephone Expense		\$	6,500
1370	Police/Fire Communications - Wages		\$	94,799
1501	Highway - Wages		\$	10,000
1701	Country Club - Wages		\$	22,000
	TOTAL		\$	158,749

ARTICLE 12: MONEY - OFFSET SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$50,000 from Overlay Surplus, to be expended by the Town Manager, to reduce the deficit in the Fiscal Year 2017 Snow and Ice Budget, as approved under Article 4 of the 2016 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 13: TRANSFER - WATER ENTERPRISE FUND Mover: Thomas Orcutt

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Groton Water Department to transfer the sum of \$150,000 from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2017 Water Enterprise Department Budget.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 14: TRANSFER - SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

Mover: James Gmeiner

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$100,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2017 Sewer Enterprise Department budget.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 15: TRANSFER - CABLE ENTERPRISE FUND

Mover: Janet Sheffield

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Cable Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2017 Cable Enterprise Department budget.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 16: PRIOR YEAR BILLS

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION A: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$0 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to pay for the payment of unpaid bills from prior fiscal years.

MOTION B: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 17: ALL ARE WELCOME MARKERS

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the installation of "All Are Welcome" markers at the various major road entrances to the Town of Groton, and all cost related and associated thereto; and to authorize the Town Manager to designate or approve the marker locations.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 18: CPA FUNDING ACCOUNTS

Mover: Bruce Easom

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate and allocate the following sums from the Community Preservation Fund to the following sub accounts:

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 10,000
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 65,000
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 65,000
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 65,000
Unallocated Reserve:	\$445,000

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 19: CPA FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

MOTION 1: Affordable Housing Coordinator

Mover: Dan Emerson

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$43,506 from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2018-01 "Affordable Housing Coordinator".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 2: Baddacook Pond Restoration

Mover: Richard Hewitt

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$200,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2018-02 "Baddacook Pond Restoration".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 3: Library Entrance

Mover: Carolyn Perkins

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$15,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resource Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2018-04 "Library Entrance".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: Library Building

Mover: Carolyn Perkins

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resource Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2018-05 "Library Building".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 5: National Register – First Parish Church

Mover: Michael Roberts

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$7,800 from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resource Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2018-07 "National Register – First Parish Church".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 6: Conservation Fund**Mover: Bruce Easom**

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and to appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$25,000 to fund Community Preservation Application 2018-08 "Conservation Fund".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority**MOTION 7: Prescott School Restoration****Mover: Robert DeGroot**

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$15,350 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2018-09 "Prescott School Restoration".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 20: AMENDMENTS TO THE GROTON CHARTER**Mover: Michael Manugian**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to endorse the revised Charter that is set forth in Appendix C of the Warrant for the 2017 Spring Town Meeting, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a special act approving the revised Charter as the Town's Charter and to take such further action as may be necessary for the adoption of the revised Charter; and further provided, that the General Court may make clerical and editorial revisions of form to the bill unless the Board of Selectmen, in consultation with the Charter Review Committee, approves such revisions to the bill prior to enactment by the General Court, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen, with the advice and consent of the Charter Review Committee, to approve such revisions which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 21: ACCEPT REGIONAL SCHOOL AGREEMENT**Mover: Alison Manugian**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to approve the amended Agreement of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District as approved by the Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee and as on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 22: AMEND CHAPTER 218 – ZONING CODE

Mover: Scott Wilson

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning as follows: Add definitions to Section 218-4; Revise Section 218-13, Schedule of Use Regulations; and add Section 218-16.1 “Registered Medical Marijuana Dispensaries” as set forth in the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3’s Majority

ARTICLE 23: AMEND CHAPTER 218 – ZONING

Mover: Russ Burke

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning as follows: Revise Section 218-25, Site Plan Review, Subsection C, as set forth in the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3’s Majority

ARTICLE 24: AMEND ZONING CHAPTER – CONCEPT PLAN **Mover: Russ Burke**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning as follows: Revise Section 218-4, Definitions and Section 218-18, Special Use considerations in R-B, VCB, NB, GB and I Districts, as set forth in the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3’s Majority

ARTICLE 25: MORATORIUM ON REC MARIJUANA

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Town’s Zoning Bylaw by adding a new Section 218-16.2, entitled: “Temporary Moratorium on Recreational Marijuana Establishments,” and adding a reference to that section in the Bylaw’s Table of Contents, as set forth in the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3’s Majority

ARTICLE 26: AMEND CHAPTER 175

Mover: Barry Pease

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton by deleting Chapter 175, “Retail Sales, Hours Of” in its entirety and replacing it with a new Chapter 175, “Retail Sales, Hours Of”, as set forth in the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 27: ADOPT M.G.L. CHAPTER 41, §41B

Mover: Barry Pease

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of section 41B of chapter 41 of the General Laws to authorize the payment of salaries, wages, or other compensation by direct deposit to a bank or other financial institution account.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 28: BOAT EXCISE TAX PAYMENTS

Mover: Alex Woodle

MOTION: I move that the Town vote, pursuant to section 5G of chapter 40 of the General Laws, to establish a municipal waterways improvement and maintenance fund for the receipt of fifty percent of boat excise tax payments made under G.L. c. 60B, §2, and payments from the state or federal government, and the expenditure thereof for waterways maintenance and improvements, and law enforcement and fire prevention as authorized by section 5G.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 29: HANDICAP PARKING FINES

Mover: Michelle Collette

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 22G, to allocate all funds received from fines assessed for violations of handicap parking to the Commission on Accessibility, with all funds so received to be deposited by the Town Treasurer in a separate account used solely for the benefit of persons with disabilities.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 30: INCREASE DEMAND FEE

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to charge, for each written demand issued by the Collector, a fee of \$10.00, to be added to and collected as part of the tax, as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 60, Section 15, effective as of July 1, 2017.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 31: ACCEPT CRYSTAL SPRING LANE**Mover: Anna Eliot**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept as a public way the roadway known as Crystal Spring Lane, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and as shown on a plan entitled "Street Acceptance Plan, Crystal Spring Estates, Groton, Mass, prepared for High Oaks Realty Trust" dated December 23, 2014, Revised February 2, 2016, prepared by Ducharme & Dillis, Bolton, MA, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by gift, purchase, or eminent domain, the fee to or lesser interests in said roadway and all related easements.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 32: ACCEPT ROBIN HILL ROAD**Mover: Anna Eliot**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept as a public way a portion of the roadway known as Robin Hill Road, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and as shown on three plans as follows:

Plan #1 - A plan entitled "Roadway As-Built for Robin Hill Road STA 0+00-9+00 In Groton, Mass. Owner: Fox Meadow Realty Corp.", dated December 15, 2014, prepared by R. Wilson Associates, Acton, MA;

Plan #2 - A plan entitled "Roadway As-Built for Robin Hill Road STA 9+00-18+00 In Groton, Mass. Owner: Fox Meadow Realty Corp.", dated December 15, 2014, prepared by R. Wilson Associates, Acton, MA;

Plan #3 - A plan entitled "Roadway As-Built for Robin Hill Road STA 18+00-24+00 and 24+00 to End In Groton, Mass. Owner: Fox Meadow Realty Corp.", dated December 21, 2015, prepared by R. Wilson Associates, Acton, MA;

copies of which are on file with the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by gift, purchase, or eminent domain, the fee to or lesser interests in said roadway and all related easements.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 33: ACCEPT CARDINAL LANE**Mover: Anna Eliot**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept as a public way the roadway known as Cardinal Lane, as heretofore laid out by the Board of Selectmen and as shown on a plan entitled "Roadway As-Built for Cardinal Lane in Groton, Mass. Owner: Fox Meadow Realty Group", dated December 15, 2014, prepared by R. Wilson Associates, Land Surveyors and Civil Engineers, Acton, MA, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to acquire, by gift, purchase, or eminent domain, the fee to or lesser interests in said roadway and all related easements.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 34: CONVEY LAND**Mover: Donald Black**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer to the custody and control of the Board of Selectmen a certain parcel of land shown on Assessors' Map 128 as Parcel 12 Lot 0 for the purpose of sale or conveyance, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey such land for consideration of \$1.00 to Ms. Linda Grey, and to take all actions and execute all documents required in connection therewith.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3's Majority

ARTICLE 35: CITIZENS' PETITION**Mover: Greg Fishbone**

MOTION: I move that the vote to require the Board of Selectmen to appoint a five (5) member Town Seal Committee charged with soliciting public input into the design for a new Town Seal; selecting from among the submissions received, the design that best embodies Groton's character, history and aspirational values; and presenting that design to a future Town Meeting for approval.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

CONSENT AGENDA: ARTICLES 36 through 41**Mover: John Petropoulos**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 36, 37, 38, 39, 40 and 41 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each, and that, with respect to Article 37, the Town appropriate, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of \$80,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and the sum of \$396,722 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$476,722 to fund the Surrenden Farm debt service for Fiscal Year 2018; 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 4 - FY18 Operating Budget

Revised: 4/20/2017		TOWN OF GROTON	
		FISCAL YEAR 2018	
		REVENUE ESTIMATES	
		BUDGETED	ESTIMATED
		FY 2017	FY 2018
			CHANGE
PROPERTY TAX REVENUE		\$ 28,151,493	\$ 29,129,180 \$ 977,687
DEBT EXCLUSIONS		\$ 2,232,427	\$ 2,172,895 \$ (59,532)
CHERRY SHEET - STATE AID		\$ 860,020	\$ 913,603 \$ 53,583
UNEXPENDED TAX CAPACITY		\$ (178,840)	\$ - \$ 178,840
LOCAL RECEIPTS:			
General Revenue:			
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	\$ 1,400,000	\$ 1,438,435	\$ 38,435
Meals Tax	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ -
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 220,000	\$ 230,000	\$ 10,000
Other Charges for Services	\$ 67,250	\$ 67,250	\$ -
Fees	\$ 325,000	\$ 325,000	\$ -
Rentals	\$ 32,500	\$ 32,500	\$ -
Library Revenues	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ -
Other Departmental Revenue	\$ 611,063	\$ 750,800	\$ 139,737
Licenses and Permits	\$ 275,000	\$ 275,000	\$ -
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ -
Investment Income	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ -
Recreation Revenues	\$ 428,600	\$ 460,487	\$ 31,887
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring			\$ -
Sub-total - General Revenue	\$ 3,608,413	\$ 3,828,472	\$ 220,059
Other Revenue:			
Free Cash	\$ 60,000	\$ 292,300	\$ 232,300
Stabilization Fund for Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Stabilization Fund for Tax Rate Relief	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Asset Stabilization Fund	\$ 426,980	\$ 415,692	\$ (11,288)
EMS/Conservation Fund Receipts Reserve	\$ 225,000	\$ 266,000	\$ 41,000
Community Preservation Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Water Department Surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sewer Department Surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance Reimbursements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Encumbrances	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sub-total - Other Revenue	\$ 711,980	\$ 973,992	\$ 262,012
WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	\$ 1,024,851	\$ 1,131,936	\$ 107,085
SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	\$ 698,276	\$ 699,840	\$ 1,564
LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE	\$ 230,779	\$ 206,454	\$ (24,325)
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE	\$ 37,339,399	\$ 39,056,372	\$ 1,716,973

TOWN OF GROTON		Revised: 4/20/2017
FISCAL YEAR 2018		
TAX LEVY CALCULATIONS		
FY 2018 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		
Town Manager's Proposed Budget		
General Government	\$ 1,946,980	
Land Use Departments	\$ 434,948	
Protection of Persons and Property	\$ 3,772,214	
Regional School Districts	\$ 20,783,384	
Department of Public Works	\$ 2,136,809	
Library and Citizen Services	\$ 1,595,272	
Debt Service	\$ 1,464,319	
Employee Benefits	\$ 3,842,510	
Sub-Total - Operating Budget		\$ 35,976,435
Additional Appropriations At Town Meeting		
Fire Department Call Incentive Pay	\$ 73,000	
OPEB Additional Funding	\$ 100,000	
A. TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS		\$ 36,149,435
B. CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS		\$ 516,692
C. ENTERPRISE FUND REQUESTS		\$ 1,797,281
D. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION REQUEST		
OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED		
1. Amounts certified for tax title purposes	\$ -	
2. Debt and interst charges not included	\$ -	
3. Final court judgments	\$ -	
4. Total Overlay deficits of prior years	\$ -	
5. Total cherry sheet offsets	\$ 1,000	
6. Revenue deficits	\$ -	
7. Offset Receipts	\$ 20,000	
8. Authorized deferral of Teachers' Pay	\$ -	
9. Snow and Ice deficit	\$ 200,000	
10. Other		
E. TOTAL OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED		\$ 221,000
F. STATE AND COUNTY CHERRY SHEET CHARGES		\$ 89,523
G. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS		\$ 100,000
TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		\$ 38,873,931
FY 2018 ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		
ESTIMATED TAX LEVY		
Levy Limit	\$ 29,129,180	
Debt Exclusion	\$ 2,172,895	
A. ESTIMATED TAX LEVY		\$ 31,302,075
B. CHERRY SHEET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		\$ 913,603
C. LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED		\$ 3,828,472
C. OFFSET RECEIPTS		\$ -
D. ENTERPRISE FUNDS		\$ 2,038,230
E. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS		\$ -
F. FREE CASH		\$ 292,300
OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS		
1. Stabilization Fund		
2. Capital Asset Fund	\$ 415,692	
3. EMS/Conservation Fund	\$ 266,000	
G. OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS		\$ 681,692
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		\$ 39,056,372
FY 2018 SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		\$ 182,441

APPENDIX A		TOWN OF GROTON						
		FISCAL YEAR 2018						
				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>							
	MODERATOR							
1000	Salaries	\$ 65	\$ 65	\$ 65	\$ 65	0.00%	\$ 0.01	0.00%
1001	Expenses	\$ 19	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 84	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 145		\$ 0.03	0.00%
	BOARD OF SELECTMEN							
1020	Salaries	\$ 3,891	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1021	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1022	Expenses	\$ 6,284	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	50.00%	\$ 0.64	0.01%
1023	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1024	Minor Capital	\$ 26,717	\$ -	\$ 27,000	\$ 27,000	100.00%	\$ 5.80	0.07%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 36,892	\$ 2,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	1400.00%	\$ 6.44	0.08%
	TOWN MANAGER							
1030	Salaries	\$ 188,596	\$ 197,572	\$ 204,592	\$ 204,592	3.55%	\$ 43.92	0.55%
1031	Wages	\$ 95,178	\$ 102,646	\$ 106,780	\$ 106,780	4.03%	\$ 22.92	0.29%
1032	Expenses	\$ 3,800	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.00%	\$ 0.86	0.01%
1033	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1034	Performance Evaluations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 287,574	\$ 304,218	\$ 315,372	\$ 315,372	3.67%	\$ 67.70	0.85%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
FINANCE COMMITTEE								
1040	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 210	\$ 210	\$ 210	0.00%	\$ 0.05	0.00%
1041	Reserve Fund	\$ 64,441	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	0.00%	\$ 32.20	0.41%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 64,441	\$ 150,210	\$ 150,210	\$ 150,210	0.00%	\$ 32.25	0.41%
TOWN ACCOUNTANT								
1050	Salaries	\$ 81,538	\$ 84,833	\$ 87,395	\$ 87,395	3.02%	\$ 18.76	0.24%
1051	Wages	\$ 40,950	\$ 42,360	\$ 44,067	\$ 44,067	4.03%	\$ 9.46	0.12%
1052	Expenses	\$ 34,267	\$ 30,975	\$ 31,185	\$ 31,185	0.68%	\$ 6.69	0.08%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 156,755	\$ 158,168	\$ 162,647	\$ 162,647	2.83%	\$ 34.91	0.44%
BOARD OF ASSESSORS								
1060	Salaries	\$ 84,818	\$ 84,875	\$ 85,325	\$ 85,325	0.53%	\$ 18.32	0.23%
1061	Wages	\$ 93,510	\$ 50,974	\$ 52,782	\$ 52,782	3.55%	\$ 11.33	0.14%
1062	Expenses	\$ 29,649	\$ 29,135	\$ 23,235	\$ 23,235	-20.25%	\$ 4.99	0.06%
1063	Legal Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 207,977	\$ 164,984	\$ 161,342	\$ 161,342	-2.21%	\$ 34.63	0.44%
TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR								
1070	Salaries	\$ 82,476	\$ 84,125	\$ 84,966	\$ 84,966	1.00%	\$ 18.24	0.23%
1071	Wages	\$ 97,406	\$ 104,236	\$ 104,658	\$ 104,658	0.40%	\$ 22.47	0.28%
1072	Expenses	\$ 20,266	\$ 22,855	\$ 22,855	\$ 22,855	0.00%	\$ 4.91	0.06%
1073	Tax Title	\$ 4,038	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	\$ 4,500	0.00%	\$ 0.97	0.01%
1074	Bond Cost	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.00%	\$ 1.07	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 207,186	\$ 220,716	\$ 221,979	\$ 221,979	0.57%	\$ 47.65	0.60%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2016 ACTUAL	FY 2017 APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
TOWN COUNSEL								
1080	Expenses	\$ 60,269	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.00%	\$ 19.32	0.24%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 60,269	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.00%	\$ 19.32	0.24%
HUMAN RESOURCES								
1090	Salary	\$ 70,359	\$ 73,202	\$ 75,412	\$ 75,412	3.02%	\$ 16.19	0.20%
1091	Expenses	\$ 7,491	\$ 9,550	\$ 9,550	\$ 9,550	0.00%	\$ 2.05	0.03%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 77,850	\$ 82,752	\$ 84,962	\$ 84,962	2.67%	\$ 18.24	0.23%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY								
1100	Salary	\$ 122,698	\$ 100,814	\$ 104,888	\$ 104,888	4.04%	\$ 22.52	0.28%
1101	Wages	\$ 47,286	\$ 47,753	\$ 47,753	\$ 47,753	0.00%	\$ 10.25	0.13%
1102	Expenses	\$ 23,336	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800	0.00%	\$ 5.32	0.07%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 193,320	\$ 173,367	\$ 177,441	\$ 177,441	2.35%	\$ 38.09	0.48%
GIS STEERING COMMITTEE								
1120	Expenses	\$ 2,051	\$ 15,100	\$ 15,100	\$ 15,100	0.00%	\$ 3.24	0.04%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 2,051	\$ 15,100	\$ 15,100	\$ 15,100	0.00%	\$ 3.24	0.04%
TOWN CLERK								
1130	Salaries	\$ 74,544	\$ 77,556	\$ 80,689	\$ 80,689	4.04%	\$ 17.32	0.22%
1131	Wages	\$ 50,992	\$ 54,536	\$ 54,589	\$ 54,589	0.10%	\$ 11.72	0.15%
1132	Expenses	\$ 9,175	\$ 11,655	\$ 11,515	\$ 11,515	-1.20%	\$ 2.47	0.03%
1135	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 134,711	\$ 143,747	\$ 146,793	\$ 146,793	2.12%	\$ 31.51	0.40%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
ELECTIONS & BOARD OF REGISTRARS								
1140	Stipend	\$ 11,472	\$ 11,656	\$ 5,408	\$ 5,408	-53.60%	\$ 1.16	0.01%
1141	Expenses	\$ 12,046	\$ 10,620	\$ 6,831	\$ 6,831	-35.68%	\$ 1.47	0.02%
1142	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 23,518	\$ 22,276	\$ 12,239	\$ 12,239	-45.06%	\$ 2.63	0.03%
STREET LISTINGS								
1150	Expenses	\$ 4,081	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,250	\$ 6,250	4.17%	\$ 1.34	0.02%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 4,081	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,250	\$ 6,250	4.17%	\$ 1.34	0.02%
INSURANCE & BONDING								
1160	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 181,075	\$ 200,000	\$ 222,000	\$ 222,000	11.00%	\$ 47.66	0.60%
1161	Insurance Deductible Reserve - Liability	\$ 3,145	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	0.00%	\$ 2.58	0.03%
1162	Insurance Deductible Reserve - 111F	\$ 9,642	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	0.00%	\$ 5.37	0.07%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 193,862	\$ 237,000	\$ 259,000	\$ 259,000	9.28%	\$ 55.60	0.70%
TOWN REPORT								
1170	Expenses	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.32	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.32	0.00%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	POSTAGE/TOWN HALL EXPENSES							
1180	Expenses	\$ 59,429	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	0.00%	\$ 11.81	0.15%
1181	Telephone Expenses	\$ 31,886	\$ 45,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	-11.11%	\$ 8.59	0.11%
1182	Office Supplies	\$ 14,841	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	0.00%	\$ 3.65	0.05%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 106,156	\$ 117,000	\$ 112,000	\$ 112,000	-4.27%	\$ 24.04	0.30%
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 1,758,227	\$ 1,889,183	\$ 1,946,980	\$ 1,946,980	3.06%	\$ 417.95	5.28%
	LAND USE DEPARTMENTS							
	CONSERVATION COMMISSION							
1200	Salary	\$ 63,551	\$ 66,118	\$ 68,789	\$ 68,789	4.04%	\$ 14.77	0.19%
1201	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1202	Expenses	\$ 3,836	\$ 6,679	\$ 6,699	\$ 6,699	0.30%	\$ 1.44	0.02%
1203	Engineering & Legal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1204	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 67,387	\$ 72,797	\$ 75,488	\$ 75,488	3.70%	\$ 16.20	0.20%
	PLANNING BOARD							
1210	Salaries	\$ 94,923	\$ 80,580	\$ 82,192	\$ 82,192	2.00%	\$ 17.64	0.22%
1211	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1212	Expenses	\$ 6,686	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,850	\$ 7,850	4.67%	\$ 1.69	0.02%
1215	M.R.P.C. Assessment	\$ 3,319	\$ 3,403	\$ 3,488	\$ 3,488	2.50%	\$ 0.75	0.01%
1216	Legal Budget	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 104,928	\$ 91,483	\$ 93,530	\$ 93,530	2.24%	\$ 20.08	0.25%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS								
1220	Wages	\$ 18,455	\$ 18,823	\$ 19,285	\$ 19,285	2.45%	\$ 4.14	0.05%
1221	Expenses	\$ 1,027	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,700	\$ 1,700	0.00%	\$ 0.36	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 19,482	\$ 20,523	\$ 20,985	\$ 20,985	2.25%	\$ 4.50	0.06%
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION								
1230	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1231	Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
BUILDING INSPECTOR								
1240	Salaries	\$ 80,858	\$ 82,475	\$ 84,966	\$ 84,966	3.02%	\$ 18.24	0.23%
1241	Wages	\$ 58,904	\$ 60,174	\$ 61,636	\$ 61,636	2.43%	\$ 13.23	0.17%
1242	Expenses	\$ 1,950	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	-30.00%	\$ 0.75	0.01%
1243	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 141,712	\$ 147,649	\$ 150,102	\$ 150,102	1.66%	\$ 32.22	0.41%
MECHANICAL INSPECTOR								
1250	Fee Salaries	\$ 31,860	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	0.00%	\$ 6.44	0.08%
1251	Expenses	\$ 3,253	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.00%	\$ 1.07	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 35,113	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	0.00%	\$ 7.51	0.09%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
EARTH REMOVAL INSPECTOR								
1260	Stipend	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.32	0.00%
1261	Expenses	\$ 68	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
1262	Minor Capital		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 68	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600	0.00%	\$ 0.34	0.00%
BOARD OF HEALTH								
1270	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1271	Expenses	\$ 673	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	0.00%	\$ 0.21	0.00%
1272	Nursing Services	\$ -	\$ 10,787	\$ 11,325	\$ 11,325	4.99%	\$ 2.43	0.03%
1273	Nashoba Health District	\$ 41,221	\$ 23,636	\$ 24,818	\$ 24,818	5.00%	\$ 5.33	0.07%
1274	Herbert Lipton MH	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	0.00%	\$ 1.72	0.02%
1275	Eng/Consult/Landfill Monitoring	\$ 8,621	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.00%	\$ 2.15	0.03%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 58,515	\$ 53,423	\$ 55,143	\$ 55,143	3.22%	\$ 11.84	0.15%
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES								
1280	Fee Salaries	\$ 1,840	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0.00%	\$ 0.64	0.01%
1281	Expenses	\$ 30	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,870	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,100	0.00%	\$ 0.67	0.01%
TOTAL LAND USE DEPARTMENTS		\$ 429,075	\$ 425,575	\$ 434,948	\$ 434,948	2.20%	\$ 93.37	1.18%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY							
	POLICE DEPARTMENT							
1300	Salaries	\$ 311,278	\$ 316,010	\$ 320,822	\$ 320,822	1.52%	\$ 68.87	0.87%
1301	Wages	\$ 1,637,811	\$ 1,643,942	\$ 1,666,539	\$ 1,666,539	1.37%	\$ 357.75	4.52%
1302	Expenses	\$ 227,571	\$ 192,647	\$ 192,449	\$ 192,449	-0.10%	\$ 41.31	0.52%
1303	Lease or Purchase of Cruisers	\$ 3,960	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.00%	\$ 0.86	0.01%
1304	PS Building (Expenses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1305	Minor Capital	\$ 11,985	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	0.00%	\$ 4.29	0.05%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 2,192,605	\$ 2,176,599	\$ 2,203,810	\$ 2,203,810	1.25%	\$ 473.09	5.97%
	FIRE DEPARTMENT							
1310	Salaries	\$ 98,880	\$ 102,792	\$ 113,086	\$ 113,086	10.01%	\$ 24.28	0.31%
1311	Wages	\$ 683,740	\$ 708,243	\$ 734,332	\$ 734,332	3.68%	\$ 157.64	1.99%
1312	Expenses	\$ 154,381	\$ 168,000	\$ 168,300	\$ 168,300	0.18%	\$ 36.13	0.46%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 937,001	\$ 979,035	\$ 1,015,718	\$ 1,015,718	3.75%	\$ 218.04	2.75%
	GROTON WATER FIRE PROTECTION							
1320	West Groton Water District	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	0.00%	\$ 0.00	0.00%
1321	Groton Water Department	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	0.00%	\$ 0.00	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ 2	\$ 2	0.00%	\$ 0.00	0.00%
	ANIMAL INSPECTOR							
1330	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.00%	\$ 0.45	0.01%
1331	Expenses	\$ 130	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.00%	\$ 0.09	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 2,212	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.00%	\$ 0.53	0.01%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER							
1340	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.00%	\$ 0.45	0.01%
1341	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.00%	\$ 0.09	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.00%	\$ 0.53	0.01%
	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY							
1350	Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1351	Expenses	\$ 13,300	\$ 15,000	\$ 12,750	\$ 12,750	-15.00%	\$ 2.74	0.03%
1352	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 18,500	\$ 18,500	0.00%	\$ 3.97	0.05%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 13,300	\$ 15,000	\$ 31,250	\$ 31,250	108.33%	\$ 6.71	0.08%
	DOG OFFICER							
1360	Salary	\$ 13,973	\$ 13,973	\$ 13,973	\$ 13,973	0.00%	\$ 3.00	0.04%
1361	Expenses	\$ 3,425	\$ 4,250	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	-5.88%	\$ 0.86	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 17,398	\$ 18,223	\$ 17,973	\$ 17,973	-1.37%	\$ 3.86	0.05%
	POLICE & FIRE COMMUNICATIONS							
1370	Wages	\$ 264,775	\$ 465,742	\$ 480,247	\$ 480,247	3.11%	\$ 103.09	1.30%
1371	Expenses	\$ 14,230	\$ 18,250	\$ 18,250	\$ 18,250	0.00%	\$ 3.92	0.05%
1372	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 279,005	\$ 483,992	\$ 498,497	\$ 498,497	3.00%	\$ 107.01	1.35%
	TOTAL PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY	\$ 3,443,603	\$ 3,677,815	\$ 3,772,214	\$ 3,772,214	2.57%	\$ 809.77	10.22%

		FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
				TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	<u>REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGETS</u>							
	NASHOBA VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL							
1400	Operating Expenses	\$ 596,609	\$ 570,080	\$ 607,520	\$ 607,520	6.57%	\$ 130.41	1.65%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 596,609	\$ 570,080	\$ 607,520	\$ 607,520	6.57%	\$ 130.41	1.65%
	GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT							
1410	Operating Expenses	\$ 18,266,196	\$ 18,399,093	\$ 19,038,970	\$ 19,038,970	3.48%	\$ 4,087.04	51.59%
1411	Debt Service, Excluded	\$ -	\$ 1,086,471	\$ 1,077,059	\$ 1,077,059	-0.87%	\$ 231.21	2.92%
1412	Debt Service, Unexcluded	\$ -	\$ 57,103	\$ 59,835	\$ 59,835	4.78%	\$ 12.84	0.16%
1413	Out of District Placement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 18,266,196	\$ 19,542,667	\$ 20,175,864	\$ 20,175,864	3.24%	\$ 4,331.09	54.67%
	TOTAL SCHOOLS	\$ 18,862,805	\$ 20,112,747	\$ 20,783,384	\$ 20,783,384	3.33%	\$ 4,461.51	56.32%
	<u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</u>							
	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT							
1500	Salaries	\$ 96,498	\$ 99,851	\$ 103,824	\$ 103,824	3.98%	\$ 22.29	0.28%
1501	Wages	\$ 597,818	\$ 635,855	\$ 656,020	\$ 656,020	3.17%	\$ 140.83	1.78%
1502	Expenses	\$ 133,700	\$ 134,300	\$ 134,300	\$ 134,300	0.00%	\$ 28.83	0.36%
1503	Highway Maintenance	\$ 84,970	\$ 95,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	-5.26%	\$ 19.32	0.24%
1504	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 912,986	\$ 965,006	\$ 984,144	\$ 984,144	1.98%	\$ 211.26	2.67%

		FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
STREET LIGHTS								
1510	Expenses	\$ 12,500	\$ 20,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	-25.00%	\$ 3.22	0.04%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 12,500	\$ 20,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	-25.00%	\$ 3.22	0.04%
SNOW AND ICE								
1520	Expenses	\$ 98,714	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	0.00%	\$ 35.42	0.45%
1521	Overtime	\$ 266,267	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	0.00%	\$ 30.05	0.38%
1522	Hired Equipment	\$ 54,436	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	0.00%	\$ 7.51	0.09%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 419,417	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	0.00%	\$ 72.99	0.92%
TREE WARDEN BUDGET								
1530	Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1531	Expenses	\$ 2,349	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0.00%	\$ 0.64	0.01%
1532	Trees	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.32	0.00%
1533	Tree Work	\$ 10,258	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.00%	\$ 2.15	0.03%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 12,607	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	0.00%	\$ 3.11	0.04%
MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE								
1540	Wages	\$ 86,266	\$ 87,252	\$ 90,325	\$ 90,325	3.52%	\$ 19.39	0.24%
1541	Expenses	\$ 273,295	\$ 280,850	\$ 280,850	\$ 280,850	0.00%	\$ 60.29	0.76%
1542	Minor Capital	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	25.00%	\$ 5.37	0.07%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 379,561	\$ 388,102	\$ 396,175	\$ 396,175	2.08%	\$ 85.05	1.07%

		FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION							
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL								
1550	Wages	\$ 114,399	\$ 123,051	\$ 128,236	\$ 128,236	4.21%	\$ 27.53	0.35%
1551	Expenses	\$ 50,684	\$ 54,486	\$ 54,486	\$ 54,486	0.00%	\$ 11.70	0.15%
1552	Tipping Fees	\$ 133,857	\$ 130,000	\$ 130,000	\$ 130,000	0.00%	\$ 27.91	0.35%
1553	North Central SW Coop	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	0.00%	\$ 1.26	0.02%
1554	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	-100.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 304,790	\$ 318,387	\$ 318,572	\$ 318,572	0.06%	\$ 68.39	0.86%
PARKS DEPARTMENT								
1560	Wages	\$ 2,541	\$ 2,659	\$ 2,659	\$ 2,659	0.00%	\$ 0.57	0.01%
1561	Expenses	\$ 62,902	\$ 65,759	\$ 65,759	\$ 65,759	0.00%	\$ 14.12	0.18%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 65,443	\$ 68,418	\$ 68,418	\$ 68,418	0.00%	\$ 14.69	0.19%
	TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 2,107,304	\$ 2,114,413	\$ 2,136,809	\$ 2,136,809	1.06%	\$ 458.70	5.79%
	<u>LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES</u>							
COUNCIL ON AGING								
1600	Salaries	\$ 68,597	\$ 70,669	\$ 73,524	\$ 73,524	4.04%	\$ 15.78	0.20%
1601	Wages	\$ 54,426	\$ 67,423	\$ 69,809	\$ 69,809	3.54%	\$ 14.99	0.19%
1602	Expenses	\$ 10,732	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,454	0.00%	\$ 1.81	0.02%
1603	Minor Capital	\$ 2,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 136,255	\$ 146,546	\$ 151,787	\$ 151,787	3.58%	\$ 32.58	0.41%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
SENIOR CENTER VAN								
1610	Wages	\$ 43,699	\$ 58,318	\$ 59,892	\$ 59,892	2.70%	\$ 12.86	0.16%
1611	Expenses	\$ 8,124	\$ 17,673	\$ 17,673	\$ 17,673	0.00%	\$ 3.79	0.05%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 51,823	\$ 75,991	\$ 77,565	\$ 77,565	2.07%	\$ 16.65	0.21%
VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER								
1620	Salary	\$ 3,484	\$ 3,485	\$ 3,485	\$ 3,485	0.00%	\$ 0.75	0.01%
1621	Expenses	\$ 59	\$ 650	\$ 600	\$ 600	-7.69%	\$ 0.13	0.00%
1622	Veterans' Benefits	\$ 33,681	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	0.00%	\$ 10.73	0.14%
1623	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$ 37,224	\$ 54,135	\$ 54,085	\$ 54,085	-0.09%	\$ 11.61	0.15%
GRAVES REGISTRATION								
1630	Salary/Stipend	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	0.00%	\$ 0.05	0.00%
1631	Expenses	\$ 60	\$ 760	\$ 760	\$ 760	0.00%	\$ 0.16	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 310	\$ 1,010	\$ 1,010	\$ 1,010	0.00%	\$ 0.22	0.00%
CARE OF VETERAN GRAVES								
1640	Contract Expenses	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,550	0.00%	\$ 0.33	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,550	0.00%	\$ 0.33	0.00%
OLD BURYING GROUND COMMITTEE								
1650	Expenses	\$ 700	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	0.00%	\$ 0.17	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 700	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	0.00%	\$ 0.17	0.00%

		FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION			BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
LIBRARY								
1660	Salary	\$ 346,391	\$ 357,628	\$ 367,248	\$ 367,248	2.69%	\$ 78.84	1.00%
1661	Wages	\$ 284,245	\$ 294,867	\$ 316,472	\$ 316,472	7.33%	\$ 67.94	0.86%
1662	Expenses	\$ 199,054	\$ 206,217	\$ 195,621	\$ 195,621	-5.14%	\$ 41.99	0.53%
1663	Minor Capital	\$ 12,700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 842,390	\$ 858,712	\$ 879,341	\$ 879,341	2.40%	\$ 188.77	2.38%
COMMEMORATIONS & CELEBRATIONS								
1670	Expenses	\$ 464	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 0.11	0.00%
1671	Fireworks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 464	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 0.11	0.00%
WATER SAFETY								
1680	Wages	\$ 1,836	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	0.00%	\$ 0.57	0.01%
1681	Expenses and Minor Capital	\$ 24,514	\$ -	\$ 27,989	\$ 27,989	0.00%	\$ 6.01	0.08%
1682	Property Maint. & Improvements	\$ -	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	0.00%	\$ 1.93	0.02%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 26,350	\$ 11,640	\$ 39,629	\$ 39,629	240.46%	\$ 8.51	0.11%
WEED MANAGEMENT								
1690	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1691	Expenses: Weed Harvester	\$ 4,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	0.00%	\$ 1.50	0.02%
1692	Expenses: Great Lakes	\$ 17	\$ 2,385	\$ 2,385	\$ 2,385	0.00%	\$ 0.51	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 4,017	\$ 9,385	\$ 9,385	\$ 9,385	0.00%	\$ 2.01	0.03%

		FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
GROTON COUNTRY CLUB								
1700	Salary	\$ 129,180	\$ 137,750	\$ 143,285	\$ 143,285	4.02%	\$ 30.76	0.39%
1701	Wages	\$ 140,006	\$ 135,456	\$ 113,881	\$ 113,881	-15.93%	\$ 24.45	0.31%
1702	Expenses	\$ 129,120	\$ 131,555	\$ 122,454	\$ 122,454	-6.92%	\$ 26.29	0.33%
1703	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 398,306	\$ 404,761	\$ 379,620	\$ 379,620	-6.21%	\$ 81.49	1.03%
	TOTAL LIBRARY AND CITIZEN SERVICES	\$ 1,499,389	\$ 1,565,030	\$ 1,595,272	\$ 1,595,272	1.93%	\$ 342.45	4.32%
	<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>							
DEBT SERVICE								
2000	Long Term Debt - Principal Excluded	\$ 992,670	\$ 917,210	\$ 892,210	\$ 892,210	-2.73%	\$ 191.53	2.42%
2001	Long Term Debt - Principal Non-Excluded	\$ -	\$ 71,390	\$ 36,391	\$ 36,391	-49.03%	\$ 7.81	0.10%
2002	Long Term Debt - Interest - Excluded	\$ 265,920	\$ 230,998	\$ 205,609	\$ 205,609	-10.99%	\$ 44.14	0.56%
2003	Long Term Debt - Interest - Non-Excluded	\$ -	\$ 6,782	\$ 4,909	\$ 4,909	-27.62%	\$ 1.05	0.01%
2006	Short Term Debt - Principal - Town	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 294,100	\$ 294,100	100.00%	\$ 63.13	0.80%
2007	Short Term Debt - Interest - Town	\$ 9,113	\$ 56,333	\$ 31,100	\$ 31,100	-44.79%	\$ 6.68	0.08%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,267,703	\$ 1,282,713	\$ 1,464,319	\$ 1,464,319	14.16%	\$ 314.34	3.97%
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$ 1,267,703	\$ 1,282,713	\$ 1,464,319	\$ 1,464,319	14.16%	\$ 314.34	3.97%
	<u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u>							
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS								
GENERAL BENEFITS								
3000	County Retirement	\$ 1,737,842	\$ 1,844,224	\$ 1,966,279	\$ 1,966,279	6.62%	\$ 422.10	5.33%
3001	State Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
3002	Unemployment Compensation	\$ 21,551	\$ 41,140	\$ 41,140	\$ 41,140	0.00%	\$ 8.83	0.11%
INSURANCE								
3010	Health Insurance/Employee Expenses	\$ 1,272,820	\$ 1,583,628	\$ 1,704,000	\$ 1,704,000	7.60%	\$ 365.79	4.62%
3011	Life Insurance	\$ 2,415	\$ 3,160	\$ 3,160	\$ 3,160	0.00%	\$ 0.68	0.01%
3012	Medicare/Social Security	\$ 116,860	\$ 120,360	\$ 127,931	\$ 127,931	6.29%	\$ 27.46	0.35%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 3,151,488	\$ 3,592,512	\$ 3,842,510	\$ 3,842,510	6.96%	\$ 824.86	10.41%
	TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 3,151,488	\$ 3,592,512	\$ 3,842,510	\$ 3,842,510	6.96%	\$ 824.86	10.41%
	SUB-TOTAL - TOWN BUDGET	\$ 32,519,594	\$ 34,659,988	\$ 35,976,435	\$ 35,976,435	3.80%	\$ 7,723	97.49%

				FY 2018	FY 2018		FY 2018	FY 2018
		FY 2016	FY 2017	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	<u>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS</u>							
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS								
	Capital Budget Request	\$ 404,145	\$ 426,980	\$ 516,692	\$ 516,692	21.01%	\$ 110.92	1.40%
	Offset Reciepts	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	1900.00%	\$ 4.29	0.05%
	Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	-95.00%	\$ 0.21	0.00%
	Snow and Ice Deficit	\$ 155,224	\$ 100,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	100.00%	\$ 42.93	0.54%
	State and County Charges	\$ 106,992	\$ 100,000	\$ 89,523	\$ 89,523	-10.48%	\$ 19.22	0.24%
	Allowance for Abatements/Exemptions	\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	-55.56%	\$ 21.47	0.27%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 912,361	\$ 872,980	\$ 927,215	\$ 927,215	6.21%	\$ 199.04	2.51%
	GRAND TOTAL - TOWN BUDGET	\$ 33,431,955	\$ 35,532,968	\$ 36,903,650	\$ 36,903,650	3.86%	\$ 7,922	100.00%

Articles 9 & 10 - Senior Center

Groton Council on Aging Planning and Background Summary

What Problem are we trying to solve?

Building accessibility and meeting the needs of the growing senior population

Background/Rational:

In the fall of 2014 the Council on Aging Board of Directors established a Planning Committee to assess the current senior center programs and services and establish a long-term plan to address population growth and related program needs based on its research. As part of the study, the committee assessed the current senior center for structure deficiencies, accessibility matters, and program space. The findings resulted in identifying serious building needs and building non-compliance issues. Other concerns were based on senior population trends and related accessibility deficiencies and space/design restraints at the existing senior center. Population growth data and "baby boomer" expectation needs and trends were researched and compiled from a multitude of resources; 6 focus groups, senior center site visits, needs assessment, UMASS Donahue Institute Population Reports, US Census reports, Metropolitan Area Planning Council Population Projections, and community stakeholder interviews.

COA Petitions BoS:

Fall 2015 the COA Board of Directors presented these findings to the Selectman to seek their approval for funding a Building Feasibility Study. The purpose of the Building Feasibility Study, in essence, was to hire an architectural firm to determine the best path forward to rectify the challenges at the current site—from both a building and program alignment needs perspective. It was understood by the committees and was made clear to the public that the architect would be responsible for researching and assessing only three town-owned existing sites. The questions to be addressed were:

- Is it more cost effective to renovate and add on to the current building? or
- Build a new structure on the current site? or,
- To renovate the Prescott School to accommodate a senior center? or
- To renovate the Country Club to accommodate a senior center?

Our goal then, as it is now, is to provide quality programs and services while being fiscally responsible to the taxpayer.

2016 Fall Town Meeting the COA had a proposed Article for design money on the current site as this was the site recommended by the feasibility study. At the urging of the Selectman the committee removed the article to give the committee more time to educate the public on the results of the study. Subsequently there was a motion made from the floor of Town Meeting to change the COA Feasibility Committee to include 3 members of the Municipal Building Committee for Prescott School and 4 members of the COA Feasibility Committee to include further vetting of the Prescott site, and for other sites closer to town center (privately and publically owned) to be considered. That motion passed and the Town Meeting Senior Center Review Committee was formed.

Summary of Background Information:

The current building began as a senior center in 1996 with a Groton senior population of 781 people over the age 60. In 2015 there were 2,327 seniors in Groton. The UMASS Donahue Institute Population Report estimates by 2020 we will see the population rise to 3,177 which will also be the first year Massachusetts will be home to more people age 60 and older than those under 20. Estimates continue to rise with 4,081 seniors by 2025 and an increase to 4,890 by 2035. During this time the 0-59 age group will fall from 8,888 in 2015 to 7,640 in 2035.

During the past five years participation at the senior center has reflected the growing population with a participation increase of 23% since FY11. In FY11, we served 597 people, 8047 times at senior center programs compared to 809 people, 12,198 times in FY16. Total service to seniors (including service programs outside the senior center) was 809 people 14,546 times in FY11 compared to 1,194 people, 17,123 times in FY16. Concurrently the town's senior population has grown 30% during the same time period with the senior center serving all but 7% of that growth.

Groton Council on Aging Planning and Background Summary

What Problem are we trying to solve?

Building accessibility and meeting the needs of the growing senior population

Challenges of Existing Center:

Overall building accessibility is sub-standard due, in part, to the absence of an elevator in this two-story building. A participant with mobility challenges that is participating in the lower level and would like to go to the upper level must walk outside, around the front of the building and continue up a large ramp to access this level. This would be the case in all weather conditions. The building is accessibility deficient in 14 major areas including, but not limited to: 1. Non-regulation slope at exterior entrance, 2. Non-compliant rest rooms, kitchen, stairways and lighting and 3. An accessible emergency exit on the north end of the building does not exist which is a life safety issue.

The current 5,000 square foot senior center, originally designed as a VFW center, presents challenges in meeting the needs of Groton's expanding senior population. Currently we are unable to conduct concurrent programming due to the lack of quiet, separate space, and we are prohibited from offering programs for large groups (50 or more) due room layouts and size. We are at space capacity in our strength training classes, yoga, creative writing, movies and special events. Special events would be expected to draw more than the 50-60 participants that can be served comfortably and safely in the current building therefore we take those programs off-site to the Country Club or Fire Station. Off-site programming is labor intensive and inefficient use of personnel and financial resources, and restrictive in optimizing planning. We can do more with less labor in a full service senior center. The current kitchen is not designed for meal preparation for larger groups or large enough for the amount of staff/volunteers needed for large group meal prep. This also restricts the number of larger program and events that should be offered. Exercise classes are held in the lower level on concrete floors that is counterproductive to those exercising to decrease the symptoms of arthritis and/or other osteo arthritic conditions.

The one classroom in the current building is located in the lower level adjacent to the exercise space and has a limited capacity of about 12 participants. Concurrent programming cannot occur due to the lack of sound reduced or soundproof walls in the lower level.

Commitment to Our Senior Population:

Throughout this 2+-year building and program growth initiative, the COA has remained vigilant its advocacy for the needs of Groton's seniors. The condition and size of the current building compelled the Council on Aging Planning Committee to seek a resolution to these challenges. A new or renovated building will ensure better addressing the needs of the health, wellness and continued independence of senior population. And, most importantly, we will allow one of Groton's most valuable resources—the Senior Citizen's Center—to remain faithful to its mission and purpose.

Town Meeting Senior Center Review Committee: Process Metrics

The Town Meeting Senior Center Review Committee took its task to review and recommend a Senior Center site in time for the Spring Town Meeting from its "Charge". The Committee began its work, at the direction of the Selectmen, to not only consider the three previously listed sites: West Groton, Prescott and the Country Club, but to look beyond these town owned properties to include other town owned and private properties including:

- Florence Roach School
- Boutwell School
- Behind the Library
- Sacred Heart Church
- Fairgrounds
- GELD Station Avenue
- Farmers Row

Our Committee took on this expanded approach in order to seek the best possible site from a broader "community" perspective that would not only meet the needs of our growing senior population but would also help envision the Senior Center's role in contributing to the vibrancy of the Town of Groton for years to come.

Each site offered pros and cons to be considered. During the course of our research and deliberations the list was narrowed to five sites: West Groton, Country Club, Prescott, Farmers Row, and GELD. The Committee designed a "Site Review Guide" for these five sites that would assign letters A-E to eleven criteria in the following manner:

- A. No Concerns
- B. Some Concerns
- C. Many Concerns
- D. Cannot Be Determined at This Time
- E. N/A or TBD

These letter guides were chosen for the following Criteria:

- Location
- Cost/Finances
- Collateral Benefits
- Multi-Generational
- Environmental
- ADA Compliant
- Traffic
- Parking
- Emergency Shelter (if required)
- Warming shelter
- Public Safety

Each site received a corresponding letter and a specific Note which described the opportunity/challenge and potential mitigation strategy.

The Committee organized three “Workshop” meetings around the concept of “How to create the Best Senior Center/Community Center” for the Town of Groton. These site discussion “Workshops” would address similar and specific issues across each location including:

- 1) **Programmatic needs**
Does each site meet the programmatic needs of a Senior/Community Center?
- 2) **Location**
Do the proposed site locations offer adequate access to the town’s residents?
- 3) **Cost**
What are the total costs for renovating and/or building a new Center on each of the proposed sites?
- 4) **Finance Plan**
What is the Finances Plan for each site?
What are the funding sources for each site?
- 5) **Operating Budget**
What is the operating budget for each site?
What are the funding sources for each site?
- 6) **Town Fiscal Environment**
How does the current fiscal environment affect the proposed finance plan for each site?
- 7) **Collateral Benefits**
What are the collateral Town-wide benefits to locating/investing in a renovated/new Center?
- 8) **Each site will have challenges. What are the mitigation strategies to address these challenges?**
 - Environmental Wetlands
 - Access/Secondary Road
 - ADA compliant
 - Traffic to/from and on site
 - Parking on site/municipal
 - Emergency Shelter cooling, warming/disaster
 - Public Safety/evacuation
 - Community Center, i.e. Multi-Generational (accommodations privacy/program scheduling)

Conclusion

The methodology used during this analysis allowed the Committee to evaluate each site as if it were the only site under consideration. This effort led the Committee to form a broad consensus toward choosing a site location. During the course of its research, the Committee identified costs associated with renovating and/or building at each site to meet the needs of the community as a whole well into the future. In choosing the Farmers Row location as its preferred site, the Committee is now prepared to present its findings and recommendation before Town Meeting to seek community support.

Groton Country Club

Groton Country club is a 112 acre town owned parcel of land. This site, located centrally in town along Rt 119, includes a 9-hole golf course and Olympic size swimming pool. In addition to these recreational amenities, there is an existing clubhouse on this site that serves as a clubhouse. A previous committee had Reinhardt Associates review the existing building in terms of use as a senior center. This committee took a fresh look at this site in terms of use as a senior center, focusing largely on a new build, or addition possibility on the site.

Location

The site is centrally located in town. The Country Club has access from Rt. 119 to the east of the town Center. This offers easy access from all corners of town. In addition to equitable accessibility to all towns' people, the open green space of the golf course serves as a large, visible landmark, marking the Town of Groton as a unique community.

While the site is central, it does include some significant topographical changes, including some wetlands. This challenging topography currently poses challenges to accessibility for less mobile residents. The committee believes that this access would be of a particular concern and challenge when developing this site for Senior Center use.

Program

As a new build, this site would offer plenty of space to meet any and all program requirements. It is likely, given the topography, that any building would have to be multi-story, requiring additional square footage.

Collateral Benefits

As this site already serves as a recreational hub, there is potential many co-located town services. The existing golf course and pool present a real opportunity to expand this Senior Center to include a Community Center that serves all ages.

Environmental

The site includes some significant topographical changes and wetlands. While this does not limit the amount of land that can be built upon to a point of incompatibility, it does make providing additional and accessible parking a larger challenge.

Finances

This property is town owned, making it an easy acquisition for Senior Center use. The challenging topography and wetlands would require significant site work in order to build a new Senior Center or add on to the existing Clubhouse. This site work would likely cause a significantly increased development cost.

Conclusion

While this site offers ample space, central location and opportunities for consolidating town services, the cost and challenges posed by the topography would make this site significantly more expensive to develop. In addition, there is concern that the town does not have existing infrastructure to appropriately manage a multi-use recreational facility of this scale. For these reasons, the committee does not feel that this is currently an appropriate site for a Groton Senior Center.

Prescott School

The Prescott School is located in the center of Groton and adjacent to other town center amenities. It is a town owned facility and currently houses the administrative offices of the Groton/Dunstable Regional School District. It sits on a parcel of land that includes parking and a small portion of land in the back that once served as a playground. An article to sell Prescott to a local businessman failed at a Fall Town Meeting a few years back with a decision to retain the building for some form of mixed use that would provide space to local business, art groups, and adult life long learning programming. It was also anticipated that the school district would continue leasing administrative office space for the near future.

Location

As previously mention, Prescott is located in the center of town. While at first glance this may appear to be a positive feature, the majority of seniors partaking of program offerings drive to the senior center. This represents one of the sites challenges given the nature of Main Street traffic with total use counts approaching 20,000 vehicles per day. Vehicle access to Prescott is off of Main Street with the current traffic pattern utilizing one drive as an entrance and the other as an exit. There is a limited emergency secondary access through the adjacent hardware store parking lot. In addition to concerns expressed about elderly drivers' negotiation Main Street traffic, Groton's Fire Chief informed the Committee that he would require a secondary access road through to Broadmeadow Rd. for public safety purposes.

Program

A site plan was prepared by Reinhardt Associates which showed the senior center program would fit inside of Prescott on the basement and first floor level with room left over for other uses. What would present a challenge is providing adequate contiguous outdoor space for senior center outdoor programming, since the demand for the greater number of parking spaces required by the program would restrict and isolate the available green space.

Collateral Benefits

Location in the center of town was considered a possible collateral benefit. Also providing for a dedicated use of Prescott by a town department would address some community concerns about the future viability of the town maintaining the building. However, it would also severely impact a plan that was submitted to the Selectmen by Friends of Prescott to provide for the mixed use programming that was envisioned when Town Meeting decided to not sell the building.

Environmental

This was an area that presented some of the toughest challenges to Prescott as a viable site for the senior center. A current wetland delineation was performed which showed the wetlands had encroached further onto the site from previous studies. This would seriously impact the availability of suitable upland space for the required parking

as well as the useable outdoor green space for outdoor programs. The wetlands also presented a serious barrier to extending a secondary access road out to Broadmeadow Rd.

Finances

Prescott is a town owned facility so there would be no upfront acquisition costs. Converting the school into a senior center would require major renovations, but could be accomplished. There were also potential engineering solutions to some of the environmental issues, but these would be expensive.

Conclusion

The Committee spent a significant portion of it's time considering Prescott as a senior center site. However, it was ultimately determined that the expense and challenges on addressing the environmental issues posed by the needs of siting a senior center there outweighed the benefits. The Committee voted unanimously on it's meeting of March 23rd to remove Prescott from consideration.

GELD Surplus Land

When the Groton Electric Light Department built their new facility on Station Ave., they no longer had a need for the two garage/storage buildings next to the rail trail. One is a cinder block structure and the other is a pole barn. These buildings sit on a parcel that is a little over 1.5 acres and GELD has indicated a willingness to sell it to the town for a potential cost of \$250 K. The town would also be responsible for the demolition costs of the existing structures. A recent RFP for the property which was issued by GELD brought a limited response and the Light Commissioners have decided to retain the property for the time being. During the period when the town was exploring sites for the new center fire station, this parcel was looked at closely but ultimately rejected due to environmental and site specific challenges to siting a large fire station. It is located within close proximity to the town center, Nashua River Rail Trail and occupies land long envisioned by town planners as part of Station Ave. redevelopment.

Location

The location of this land has both advantages and disadvantages. As previously mentioned it is within close proximity to the center of town and the rail trail which would complement senior center program offerings. The site location would also provide for a secondary access to Broadmeadow Road which is a key feature important to public safety officials. The primary access would be Station Ave. which feeds out onto Main Street and this intersection could be problematic due to traffic congestion during certain times. The parcel is also located on land which is partially within the 100 year flood plain and could pose challenges to storm water management.

Program

A preliminary site plan by Reinhardt Associates shows that the proposed senior center program could be accommodated on the GELD site. The site could also accommodate the requisite parking and green space required. There is also the additional programming potential due to the site's proximity to the rail trail and nearby location to the library.

Collateral Benefits

In addition to being near the town center, the site offers a further benefit by lending itself to the larger vision of Station Ave. redevelopment which has been a goal of town planners for a number of years. The parking, green space and through drive access to Broadmeadow Rd. could be realized and would aesthetically enhance Groton's presence from the rail trail.

Environmental

This appears to be the area with the largest set of challenges. As previously mentioned, the town had extensively explored this parcel as a potential site for the center fire station. It was determined that the groundwater in the area was close to the surface, 18" – 24", and would require fill to be brought in to raise the building structure. This was confirmed in collateral contacts with the engineering firm, Places Associates, who had previously performed a site

analysis for the town and GELD. It was also determined that the proximity to contiguous wetlands would present engineering challenges and related costs to required storm water management.

Finances

GELD has indicated a willingness to sell the parcel to the town for an amount between \$200,000 - \$300,000. The town would also be responsible for demolition of the existing structures. And while no specific numbers were sought, it is evident from the parcels location and input from environmental consultants that there could be significant costs in site preparation and storm water management.

Conclusion

While offering a benefit by way of it's proximity to town center, the Town Meeting Senior Center Review Committee voted on 3/27/2017 to eliminate the GELD site from consideration by a vote of 5 against going forward, 1 in favor and 1 undecided. The fundamental driving factor in the committee's decision was the potential cost and challenges presented by storm water management in an area constricted by it's proximity to wetlands.

FINANCING ARTICLES #9 AND #10

Financing a New Senior Center will be a major undertaking for the Town of Groton. For this exercise, we will assume a new Center will be in the \$4 to \$5 million range. Based on the town's AAA Bond Rating, the anticipated cost of debt service each year for 25 years (based on similar financing of the new Center Fire Station) will be between \$300,000 and \$365,000.

ARTICLE #9

With land acquisition costs at \$790,000, we would bond the money and pay it off over ten years. With an annual debt payment of around \$70,000, this is \$0.04 on the average tax bill and translates to \$17.00 on the average tax bill per year.

ARTICLE #10

To fund the \$400,000 design cost, there is a combination of borrowing and money generated from the sale of the Tarbell School and former Center Fire Station. Right now, we have \$175,000 from the sale of those two buildings. We could then borrow another \$225,000 to cover the design costs. When Free Cash is certified in the Fall, should there be sufficient funding, we could pay it off, or roll it into the total project cost.

MOVING FORWARD TO FINANCE A SENIOR CENTER

We would exclude the debt from Proposition 2½.

In FY 2019, the Town will see a significant decrease in excluded debt service. Several projects, totaling \$265,000 in annual debt service will drop off the books, reducing the tax rate by \$0.16, or reducing the average tax bill by \$68.

Should the cost of the new Senior Center be \$5 million, we would essentially replace old excluded debt with new excluded debt and only increase the tax rate by \$0.02 (total cost would be \$0.18 or \$76.50 on the average tax bill) and add only \$8.50 to the average tax bill.

Please keep in mind that should any private donations be made toward the construction of a new Senior Center, which could reduce the overall debt service payments.

OPERATING BUDGET

With regard to the Operating Budget, we would anticipate doubling the amount currently paid to cover the operation of the Center since it would double in size, or another \$22,400 in FY 2019 bringing the total cost of operation to \$44,800. There is no anticipate need to increase staff. There will also be an increase in property insurance that is estimated in the range of \$5,000, bringing the additional budgetary impact for the new center to \$27,400.

1. Why do we need a new senior center?
 - Existing building has sub-standard accessibility and does not meet American Disability Act standards.
 - Increasing senior population
 - Existing space limits program offerings
2. What will be different for seniors if we build a new senior center?

We will provide a safe, accessible environment with expanding programs to carry out the COA mission.
3. What is the cost of a new senior center?

The committee anticipates a cost of \$4-5 million for 10-11,000 sqf new build on either site. However, this number can only be determined through schematic design and design development phase of an architectural study.
4. What happens if Article #10(design money for a senior center)?

Should Article #10 fail and the town chooses to not move forward on design money for a senior center, the town is exposed to potential legal action from the American Disability Act for non-compliance. Should this occur the COA will come to the Fall Town Meeting for up to \$950,000 to bring the current building to code.
5. What happens if both Articles fail?

The Council on Aging will consider coming to Fall Town Meeting with a revised recommendation.
6. How much have we spent on the initiative to date?

\$67,500:
\$40,000 for Feasibility Study on current site, Prescott School and Country Club
\$25,000 for Prescott assessment and conceptual design
\$2,500 for wetlands behind Prescott School
7. Why did the committee recommend the Farmers Row property when the current site is town owned?

The Farmers Row property has a municipal presence with the Fire Station and Police Station and it will also bring the center closer to the center of town and enhance program visibility.
8. Why would we consider building on open land on Farmers Row?

This land is privately owned, not deed restricted, permitted for homes and it is not conservation land. It is a matter of time and economics until the land is sold privately. This can be an opportunity to protect the additional space not used by the senior center.
9. Why was Prescott School and the GELD site eliminated?

Compromised green space for outdoor programming, increase wetland encroachment, and high ground water and GELD has property within the flood plain.
10. Can we put the money into the Prescott School for a senior center as opposed to building a new center?

For 1 1/2 years, two committees, the COA Feasibility Committee and the Town Meeting Senior Center Review Committee concluded that this site does not optimally meet the needs of a senior center. There has been more money and time spent on this site than any other. The Prescott School has a free standing development plan as a mixed use town asset.

11. What is the Finance Plan to pay for a new senior center?

Through a Proposition 2 1/2 debt exclusion

Once a design plan is in place there will be an aggressive plan for potential grant opportunities and private funding.

12. What will the increase be in my property taxes?

Assuming the construction of a new Senior Center cost up to \$5,000,000;

- The tax increase on a excluded debt would be \$0.18/\$1000 (\$76.50/year on a house valued as \$425 K)
- In FY2019, several excluded debt projects will be paid off, reducing tax rate by \$0.16 (\$68/year on a house valued as \$425 K)
- The net tax increase would be \$0.02/\$1000 (\$8.50/year on a house valued as \$425 K)
- For the Farmers Row land purchase at \$790,000, the net tax increase would be \$0.04/\$1000 (\$17.00/year on a house valued as \$425 K) for a 10 year bond.

Once design work is completed, private funding and grants can be pursued.

13. What are the benefits to the Town to build a new senior center?

It will bring the Town's commitment to the senior citizens into the 21st Century with an ADA compliant facility. The level of services provided to the seniors will be on par with the schools, emergency management, libraries and open space.

14. What was the process to develop this recommendation?

The process to examine and support the need for a new senior center began over 4 years. At the 2016 Fall Town Meeting, a motion was made to form a town-wide committee to further examine the Prescott School and other potential sites. As a result, 10 sites were examined. The \$25,000 appropriated at the fall town meeting was spent to provide draft CAD drawings for the Prescott, an updated wetlands delineation plan, and site plans showing potential parking and onsite circulation including fire and safety concerns. After approximately 6 months of research, The Town Meeting Senior Center Review Committee concluded that of the 10 sites that were reviewed, two sites were considered to be the most viable options to build a new center. The Town Meeting Senior Center Review Committee's work resulted in preparing two articles that will be presented to the voters on April 24th.

15. What else is on the horizon financial for the town?

The Senior Center has been part of the town capital plan for four (4) years.

The schools will have a capital plan but the details have not been finalized.

The Prescott School will apply for CPA monies in 2022 in addition to their financial plan.

16. What happens if we postpone a decision on the senior center?

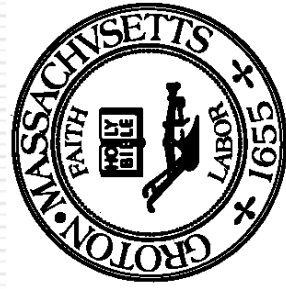
The current building is not code compliant or ADA compliant. Should this initiative be indefinitely delayed, monies (est. \$946,000) will need to be expended to bring the building into compliance.

17. What has changed since Fall 2016:

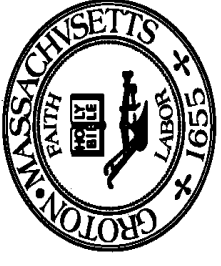
- a. The size of the proposed building has been reduced to facilitate a \$2 million or more price reduction
- b. Two viable sites have been identified: Farmers Row property and the current site.
- c. An additional 7 sites were researched and vetted.
- d. Outstanding questions regarding Prescott School have been address in detail.

Spring 2017 Line Item Transfers

Prepared for
Groton Annual Town Meeting
April 2017



Barry A. Pease, Member, BoS

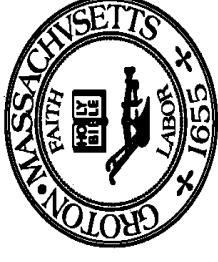


LINE ITEM TRANSPARENCY

Some of this money might normally be returned to free cash.

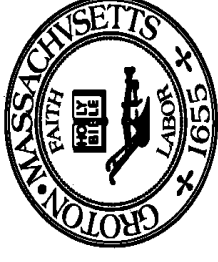
- Three categories
 - Unforeseen needs, transfers within budget functions.
 - Unforeseen needs, transfers from one municipal function to another.
 - New Requests (Funds needed in FY17), transfers from one municipal function to another.
- Town Manager, BoS and Fincom all agree that these are necessary.

Unforeseen Needs



INCURRED/MANDATORY PAYMENTS		FUNDING REQUESTED		FUNDING FROM	
Reason	Line Item Number	Account	Amount Needed	Line Item Number	Amount Used
Longevity Payment to Principal Assessor	1060	Board of Assessors - Salaries	\$ 450	1062 Board of Assessor - Expenses	\$ 450
Charter Committee Expenses	1182	Postage/Town Hall - Expenses	\$ 6,500	1181 Postage Town Hall - Telephone Expense	\$ 6,500
FMLA and Overtime Expense	1311	Fire Department - Wages	\$ 31,294	1370 Police/Fire Communications - Wages	\$ 31,294
Turn out gear for additional recruits	1312	Fire Department - Expenses	\$ 19,200	1370 Police/Fire Communications - Wages	\$ 19,200
Various Issues	1502	Highway Department - Expenses	\$ 10,000	1501 Highway - Wages	\$ 10,000
Increase in Inspections	1250	Mechanical Inspectors - Salaries	\$ 6,000	1120 GIS Committee - Expenses 1370 Police/Fire Communications - Wages	\$ 495 \$ 5,505
Various Issues	1702	Country Club - Expenses	\$ 22,000	1701 Country Club - Wages	\$ 22,000
Fix Fire Code Issue in Function Hall	1703	Country Club - Minor Capital	\$ 15,000	1080 Town Counsel - Expenses	\$ 15,000
Farmer's Row Land Appraisal	1032	Town Manager - Expenses	\$ 4,000	1370 Police/Fire Communications - Wages	\$ 4,000
			\$ 114,444	SUBTOTAL, MANDATORY ITEMS	\$ 114,444

New Requests for FY16



NEW REQUESTS		FUNDING REQUESTED		FUNDING FROM	
Reason	Line Item Number	Account	Amount Needed	Line Item Number	Amount Used
Lost Lake Engineering Study	1023	Board of Selectmen - Engineering/Consultant	\$ 1,700	1120 GIS Committee - Expenses	\$ 1,700
Sargisson Beach Lifeguards (pays for FY17 portion, FY18 portion included in FY18 budget)	1681	Water Safety - Expenses and Minor Capital	\$ 7,805	Insurance Expense - 111F Deductible	\$ 5,000
				1120 GIS Committee - Expenses	\$ 2,805
Town Wide Salary Survey	1032	Town Manager - Expenses	\$ 8,000	Police/Fire Communications - Wages	\$ 8,000
Senior Center Secondary Egress	1542	Municipal Buildings - Minor Capital	\$ 25,000	Police/Fire Communications - Wages	\$ 25,000
Prefund Boat Launch Porta- Potties (pending Excise Tax article)	1032	Town Manager - Expenses	\$ 1,800	Police/Fire Communications - Wages	\$ 1,800
			\$ 44,305	SUBTOTAL, NEW REQUESTS	\$ 44,305
			\$ 114,444	SUBTOTAL, MANDATORY ITEMS	\$ 114,444
				TOTAL, LINE TRANSFERS	\$ 158,749

Article 18 - CPA Funding

Community Preservation Act FY 2018 Revenue Forecast

	Community Housing	Historic	Open Space & Recreation	Unallocated Reserve	Total
Year-End FY2017	\$ 398,993	\$ 9,498	\$ 24,417	\$ 199,817	\$ 632,725
Local Surcharge	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 385,000	\$ 550,000
State Match *	\$ 9,900	\$ 9,900	\$ 9,900	\$ 69,300	\$ 99,000
Interest	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 700	\$ 1,000
Total	\$ 463,993	\$ 74,498	\$ 89,417	\$ 654,817	\$1,282,725

* State match expected on 15 November 2017

FY2016 actual local surcharge revenue \$631,092

FY2017 actual state match \$183,341

Community Preservation Act FY 2018 Expenditure Forecast

	Community Housing	Historic	Open Space & Recreation	Unallocated Reserve	Total
Available in FY18	\$ 463,993	\$ 74,498	\$ 89,417	\$ 654,817	\$1,282,725
Admin Expenses				(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)
Surrenden Farm			(\$80,000)	(\$396,722)	(\$476,722)
Housing Coord	(\$43,506)				(\$43,506)
Baddacook Pond				(\$200,000)	(\$200,000)
Library Entrance		(\$15,000)			(\$15,000)
Library Building		(\$5,000)			(\$5,000)
First Parish		(\$7,800)			(\$7,800)
Conservation Fund				(\$25,000)	(\$25,000)
Prescott School		(\$15,350)			(\$15,350)
Total	\$ 420,487	\$ 31,348	\$ 9,417	\$ 23,095	\$484,347

Article 19 – Motion 2

Baddacook Pond CPC Grant Project Description

This project is to environmentally restore the littoral areas (shallow shoreline areas) of Baddacook Pond and to evaluate management of invasive weeds, using mechanical methods.

The aggressive growth of non-native, invasive weeds has negatively impacted Baddacook ecologically, recreationally, and put its long term viability at risk. Baddacook is a key water resource for Groton. Part of Baddacook is within a Zone 1 water protection area for the town water and all of Baddacook is a Zone 2 recharge area. Baddacook is also an important environmental habitat. In addition, the lake is a popular year round recreational resource with boating, fishing and swimming. Baddacook has a public boat ramp and the pond is stocked several times a year by the state. In the winter, there is ice fishing and skating.

The non-native, invasive weed, Cabomba, has spread to 35 acres or 45% of the total surface area of the pond. Cabomba has many negative impacts.

Impacts of Cabomba:

- Degrades water quality
- Accelerates bio-mass accumulation
- Degrades habitat for wildlife, fish and birds
- Out competes native vegetation
- Dense mats increase safety risks for boaters and swimmers
 - Weeds can entangle propellers or swimmers
 - Create mosquito breeding grounds

The goals of this 3 year project are: 1) to restore portions of Baddacook Pond that have filled with biomass by using hydroraking; 2) to implement aggressive mechanical weed harvesting to reduce available plant starch which will help control invasive weed infestation; and 3) test year over year harvesting to see if it effectively controls the weeds.

Hydro-Raking is basically a back hoe on a barge. Biomass is dredged up and placed onto a support barge which runs the debris back to shore. At the shore, debris is transferred to an appropriate composting location.

Weed Harvesting is accomplished using a Weed Harvester. A weed harvester is essentially a lawn mower. The harvester controls the weeds in place, however, it does nothing to eradicate them. When full, the harvester transports the weeds to shore. The weeds are off loaded and moved to a composting location.

This request is for 2 years of funding. Year 1 for \$108,000 and Year 2 \$92,000. Year 3 will be potentially considered at a future town meeting.

Article 35 - Citizens' Petition

A Conversation

- ...about actions consistent with Groton's "Welcoming to All" identity.
- ...about promoting equal rights and equal representation under the law.
- ...from promoting and preserving Groton's unique history and heritage.

What is Article 35?

Warrant Article 35 is a citizens' petition inspired by a warrant article proposing a set of granite monuments to Groton's status as a town where "All Are Welcome." The new monuments would be placed at the most trafficked entrances to town, including one at the approach to a new Hindu temple that represents the latest addition to modern Groton's rich tapestry of faith communities.

Many have expressed concerns that welcoming words on a monument are empty unless also accompanied by welcoming actions. In the spirit of enabling such an action, proud Groton citizens are proposing a Town Seal Committee, to be appointed by the Board of Selectmen and accountable to Town Meeting, to facilitate a conversation about the 1898 design of Groton's Town Seal.

Through a transparent process that may include surveys, open meetings, and public hearings, the Town Seal Committee would allow residents to express longstanding concerns about the existing design and provide input into any proposed revision.

The committee would then offer recommendations that may or may not include revising the seal design to meet the needs of a 21st century American town while respecting Groton's history, culture, and traditions.

So we're voting to change the town seal?

We're voting on a committee and a conversation. The committee would not be empowered to make any alterations to the town seal, while the conversation would only result in recommendations

made to Town Meeting, which would retain ultimate authority over any changes.

What's unwelcoming about the 1898 design?

Our current seal boasts a retro-Puritan design recalling a mid-17th century society in which Church and State were one, but the design was adopted by a town standing at the doorstep of the 20th century, and functioning under a constitution that requires a separation.

As a result, constitutional issues have long clouded the design, giving us a 120-year tradition of crossing our fingers against an increasingly litigious society in which our risks and liability have risen every year.

Meanwhile, the Town of Groton has changed and evolved over the years, so that the seal design has become less representative of the diversity that represents the strength of its residents today.

Is the 1898 design unconstitutional?

It's more accurate to say that the seal is *arguably* unconstitutional, in that an argument could be made consistent with the current standard that courts use to analyze Establishment Clause cases.

But each case is different and the law can be fuzzy, so nobody can ever claim to know for sure how a given court would rule on any particular fact pattern. All we can say for sure is that a court case of this kind would be traumatic, expensive, and very much not in the town's best interests no matter how it turned out.

The petitioners behind this article do not support such a case being filed by anybody.

The petitioners are hoping to protect the town by eliminating the possibility of anyone initiating such a case against us, now or in the future.

Can't we just opt out of this whole Establishment Clause business?

The Bill of Rights is not a menu for us to pick and choose from. Our federal, state, and municipal governments are required to apply all of its protections equally to everyone.

Governmental actions, even those supported by a majority of residents, may be ruled unconstitutional under the broad protections required to cover the civil rights and civil liberties of all residents.

This includes all resolutions of Town Meeting, including those from 1898, if they infringe the rights of even a single person.

Is anyone threatening to sue the town?

Not that we are aware of, but that could change at any time and without notice. There are numerous issue advocacy groups that care very much about promoting the separation of Church and State and not at all about the history, traditions, finances, reputation, or people of our town.

A potential lead plaintiff may be someone with only a tenuous connection to the town itself.

A person born in Groton, who hasn't lived here in decades, might decide that it's inappropriate for her town-issued birth certificate to include a mandatory image of a bible. Or distant family members might decide that it's inappropriate to have a mandatory image of a bible on the town-issued death certificate of their Great Uncle Joe, a lifelong atheist.

Or an on-point court decision from another town might force a change before we are ready, in a timeframe that's difficult to implement.

Are the petitioners offended by the Bible?

Nobody is offended by the Bible. That is not now, nor has it ever been, an actual thing.

But even people with the greatest respect for the Bible may find it inappropriate for the town to have incorporated a religious icon into its symbol of its governmental authority.

Or may believe that a design which represents the faith tradition of some town residents but not others is violating our common American values of equal rights and equal representation.

Or may believe that the entanglement of religion and government raises serious constitutional issues and a cloud of liability that should best be avoided.

Everyone who respects the Bible and the other works of scripture should defend our individual rights to read, worship, and believe without governmental interference, and without our town government coopting our holy books for political purposes.

The 1898 design reflects Groton's history.

Why do the petitioners hate Groton's history?

From a historical perspective, the 1898 design could just as easily have been used to represent Plymouth, a 1620 town established by people of faith who depended on agricultural labor to survive. Or Boston, a 1630 town established by people of faith who depended on agricultural labor to survive. Or Salem, Cambridge, Dartmouth, Chelmsford, Lancaster, and dozens of other 17th and 18th century New England settlements established by people of faith who depended on agricultural labor to survive.

Here in Groton, where a drumlin swarm formed a wonder of the natural world, at the intersection of an ancient trail with a much-canoed river, a man named John Tinker established a trading post that transformed a long-productive hunting grounds into a center for international commerce, helping to meet England's insatiable demand for American furs and pelts. The trading post expanded into a frontier town, which became a historic battleground in the French and Indian Wars, a rallying point for the colonial troops that helped win

the United States its independence, and a flashpoint of protest during Shaw's Rebellion. In the 19th century, notable Groton abolitionists worked to free the nation's most vulnerable and exploited population, while a new generation fought to preserve and protect the Union. In addition to our proud agricultural heritage, we have a tradition of industry, educational institutions, the ecology of open spaces, culinary establishments, and we are set to become a major destination for music and culture.

These details are what make Groton's history so special, but they are not currently reflected in the 1898 design. Anyone who really cares about preserving and promoting Groton's history should support a redesign for that reason alone.

Why do the petitioners hate Dr. Samuel Green, the notable historian who designed the current seal?

Dr. Green is a hero to many of us for his service to Groton as a town historian and as an institutional benefactor. He was a master of numerous skills, but his prodigious scholarship does not seem to have extended to the Establishment Clause of the U.S. Constitution.

Working from his Boston home, isolated from the Groton community, and under a tight deadline imposed by a new state law requiring a Groton Town Seal to be in place by the end of 1898, Dr. Green submitted an adequate first draft that has only ever served as a placeholder for the town seal we might have had with community input and adequate time for Dr. Green to have created and revised multiple ideas.

As Dr. Green is no longer with us, we are tasked with an obligation to take up his mantle as the stewards of the town's history, representatives of its present, and architects of its future. The petitioners believe that the best way to honor the legacy of Dr. Green is to continue and build upon his work.

Will this article really cost the town \$76,926?

This article, establishing a Town Seal Committee, will not cost a single dime.

But if we eventually vote to redesign the seal, wouldn't that cost the town \$76,926?

No. The speculative figure that's been floated is based on unrealistic assumptions, representing the cost to entirely obliterate every current instance of the town seal in a single bureaucratic swoop. This is a process that nobody has ever proposed.

More realistically, the town seal appears on many objects that are consumed or worn out in a short number of years, whose replacement costs have already been budgeted. Other uses, such as brass plaques on town buildings or flags at the State House, represent heritage uses of the 1898 design that Town Meeting may deem entirely appropriate to leave as they are.

The actual cost of establishing a new town seal design would be minimal.

Heritage uses? Wouldn't the town seal just go away if it were ever replaced?

That would be up to Town Meeting to decide. Many fans of the New England Patriots grew up cheering for a 1960s logo that was later replaced with a modern version. But the old Patriots logo is still available on merchandise, and the team still wears it on its helmets during throwback games.

Likewise, when a new star is added to the American flag to represent a newly-admitted state, all of the previous designs remain official and available for use.

And when we redesign our currency, the previous versions remain in circulation as legal tender. We have dozens of state quarters in use and all of them can be used at any register or vending machine in the country.

Heritage uses of the 1898 design would be up to a future session of Town Meeting to determine.

You make some good points, but if I still like the 1898 design, can I vote to shut down this committee of yours?

Town Meeting may very well choose not to address the town seal's issues this year, but these issues are not going away on their own. Over time they will continue cause division, dissent, and liability until they are ultimately resolved.

Your vote on Article 35 will not change our seal.

Your vote on Article 35 will not “save” our seal.

*Your vote on Article 35 will not resolve the issues that
plague our seal.*

*Your vote will only dictate whether we start a
conversation now or put it off for later.*

When it comes to performing a welcoming action to match our welcoming words, voting yes on this article is literally the least that we can do.



Groton Town Meeting Amendment Work Sheet

Select one sections **ONLY** by marking the box.
Please print neatly and cross through all words that do not apply.

☐

I move to amend the {main motion | amendment}

by striking the words _____

and by substituting the words _____

☐

I move to amend the {main motion | amendment}

by striking in its entirety {Section | Paragraph} # _____

and by substituting in its place the following: {Section | Paragraph} # _____

☐

I move to amend the {main motion | amendment}

by adding the following {words | sentence | paragraph} _____

after the words _____

Name (printed): _____ Signature: _____

Street: _____ Date: _____

See instructions and information on reverse

Continuation

Instructions for using this form:

- ☐ Neatly print all information.
- ☐ Select the shaded section to be used by marking the check box.
- ☐ In the selected section, cross through all words that are not to be part of the amendment.
- ☐ Fill in the identification information and signature at the bottom of the form.
- ☐ Request to be recognized by the Moderator and then move the amendment by reading the completed form.
- ☐ Present the completed and signed form to the Moderator.

From the *Groton Town Meeting Procedures* booklet:

Amendments

If a voter wished to change a motion in some fashion, the procedure is to amend the motion. All motions to amend must be in writing and must state exactly how the voter wishes to change the motion so that the Moderator can know exactly what it is the voter wants to do before ruling on the motion or putting it to a vote. A voter who wishes to amend a *main motion* must have the amendment in writing and available to hand to the Moderator *before* rising to offer the amendment. The Moderator may refuse to put to the Meeting an amendment which is not immediately available in writing – the Moderator also will rule out of order an motion to amend which changes the original motion so drastically that, in the Moderator’s opinion, the motion is no longer within the “four corners” of the article.

An amendment may consist of adding, deleting, or substituting words in the motion. It may take the form of a “motion to substitute”: a different motion. Sometimes a speaker tries to amend “the article,” but this is improper language. It is the motion on the floor, not the article on the Warrant, that is to be amended.

A motion to amend requires only a majority vote, even though the motion to be amended may require two-thirds or more for final passage.

General Information:

- ☐ An amendment may be made to modify either the main motion already on the floor or another amendment that has been previously moved.
- ☐ All motions to amend must be presented to the Moderator in writing.
- ☐ All amendment must keep the amended motion within the general scope of the originally posted warrant article. This is referred to as “within the four corners” of the article.
- ☐ Town counsel may be asked to review an amendment and present an opinion on the legality of the amendment prior to being accepted by the Moderator for consideration by town meeting.
- ☐ Amendments should (if possible) be carefully written and reviewed prior to town meeting.
- ☐ **It is strongly recommended that the Moderator be made aware of the intention to present an amendment well before the start of Town Meeting or as soon as possible within Town Meeting.**