

Town of Groton



2021 Spring Town Meeting Packet

May 1, 2021

**SPRING TOWN MEETING
MOTIONS
MAY 1, 2021**

CONSENT MOTION #1 – Articles 1 through 4

Mover: John Reilly

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles as set forth in the motions in the Town Meeting Information Handout, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, 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 1: HEAR REPORTS

MOTION: I move that the Town's 2020 Annual Report be accepted and placed in the permanent records of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 2: ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

MOTION: I move that the following compensation be set for the following elected officials for the ensuing year:

Town Clerk	\$90,853
Town Moderator	\$ 65

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 3: WAGE AND CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

MOTION: I move that the Town of Groton Wage and Classification Schedule be amended and adopted for Fiscal Year 2022 as printed in Appendix B of the Warrant for the 2021 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 4: APPROPRIATE FUNDING FOR OPEB TRUST

MOTION: I move that the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand and Ninety-Four Dollars (\$177,094), be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) 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.

ARTICLE 5: FISCAL YEAR 2022 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

CONSENT MOTION #2 – Operating Budget

Mover: Bud Robertson

I move that the town take affirmative action on Motion 1 through Motion 14, under Article 5, as set forth in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided however that if any voter requests the right to debate a specific budget motion, then said motion shall be debated and voted upon separately.

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

MOTION 1: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

MOTION: I move that Two Million One Hundred Fifty Three Thousand Four Hundred Ten Dollars (\$2,153,410) be hereby appropriated for General Government as represented by lines 1000 through 1182 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$14,035 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and the sum of \$2,139,375 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 2: LAND USE DEPARTMENTS

MOTION: I move that Four Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$452,856) be hereby appropriated for Land Use Departments as represented by lines 1200 through 1281 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$5,167 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and the sum of \$447,689 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 3: PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY

MOTION: I move that Four Million Three Hundred Sixty Two Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$4,362,268) be appropriated for Protection of Persons and Property as represented by lines 1300 through 1372 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$46,860 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); the sum of \$300,000 be appropriated from Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved; and the sum of \$4,015,408 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: SCHOOLS

a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School

MOTION: I move that the sum of Eight Hundred Seven Thousand Four Hundred Seventy-Four Dollars (\$807,474) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School as represented by line 1400 in Appendix A of the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

b.) Groton Dunstable Regional School District

MOTION A: I move that the sum of Twenty-Four Million, Twenty-Three Thousand, One Hundred Thirty-Four Dollars (\$24,023,134) be hereby raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District as represented by lines 1410 through 1413 as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION B: I move that the sum of Two Hundred Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Eight (\$217,298) be hereby transferred from the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Capital Stabilization Fund to the Groton Dunstable Regional School District to pay for the capital assessment from said School District as represented by line 1414 in Appendix A of the Warrant.

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

MOTION 5: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

MOTION: I move that Two Million Two Hundred Two Thousand Three Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$2,202,359) be hereby appropriated for the Department of Public Works as represented by lines 1500 through 1561 as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, \$16,645 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and \$2,185,714 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 6: LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES

MOTION: I move that the sum of One Million Six Hundred Sixty Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$1,660,560) be hereby appropriated for Library and Citizen's Services as represented by lines 1600 through 1703 as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$15,904 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and \$1,644,656 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 7: DEBT SERVICE

MOTION: I move that One Million Eight Hundred Eighty Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty-Seven Dollars (\$1,880,887) be hereby appropriated for Debt Service as represented by lines 2000 through 2007 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation the sum of \$91,974 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and the sum of \$1,788,913 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 8: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

MOTION: I move that the sum of Four Million Three Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars (\$4,339,499) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for Employee Benefits as represented by lines 3000, 3002, 3010, 3011 and 3012 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 9: WATER ENTERPRISE

MOTION: I move that One Million Four Hundred Four Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Four Dollars (\$1,404,564) be appropriated to be spent by the Groton Water Commission to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town of the Groton Water Enterprise Fund as represented in the Water Enterprise Budget in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$1,183,579 be appropriated from Water Rates and Fees; the sum of \$50,000 be hereby transferred from Water Enterprise Excess and Deficiency; and the sum of \$170,985 in the Town's General Fund Operating Budget be raised and appropriated to be allocated to the Water Enterprise for FY 2022.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 10: SEWER ENTERPRISE

MOTION: I move that Seven Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars (\$798,747) be appropriated to be spent by the Groton Sewer Commission to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town for the Groton Sewer Enterprise Fund as represented in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$728,061 be appropriated from Sewer Rates and Fees; the sum of \$35,837 be hereby transferred from Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency; and the sum of \$34,849 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2022.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 11: LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE

MOTION: I move that Two Hundred Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Five Dollars (\$215,905) be hereby appropriated to be spent by the Cable Access Commission to defray all operating expenses and any reimbursements to the Town of the Local Access Cable Enterprise Fund as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant report; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$116,670 be appropriated from Local Access Cable Fees; the sum of \$33,921 be hereby transferred from Local Cable Access Excess and Deficiency; and the sum of \$65,314 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Local Access Cable Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2022.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 12: FOUR CORNERS SEWER ENTERPRISE

MOTION: I move that Sixty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Nine Dollars (\$68,769) be appropriated for a Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant report; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$42,450 be appropriated from Four Corners Sewer Rates and Fees; and the sum of \$26,319 be hereby transferred from Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 13: STORMWATER UTILITY ENTERPRISE

MOTION: I move that Two Hundred Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-Three Dollars (\$209,753) be appropriated for a Fiscal Year 2022 Budget for the Stormwater Utility Enterprise as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant report; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$209,753 be hereby transferred from Stormwater Utility Rates and Fees.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 14: ELECTRIC LIGHT

MOTION: I move that the income from sales of electricity to private customers or for electricity supplied to municipal buildings, together with receipts from jobbing accounts, be appropriated for the Groton Electric Light Department, the whole to be expended by the Manager of the Groton Electric Light Department under the direction and control of the Groton Board of Electric Light Commissioners, for expenses of the Department for Fiscal Year 2022, as defined in Section 57 of Chapter 164 of the Mass. General Laws, and that, if said sum and said income shall exceed said expense for said year, such excess shall be transferred to the construction fund of said plant and appropriated and used for such additions thereto as may thereafter be authorized by the Board of Electric Light Commissioners.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 6: FISCAL YEAR 2022 CAPITAL BUDGET

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION A: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$185,000), be appropriated to be expended by the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Dump Truck for the Highway Department, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$185,000 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 therefore; and, further, 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

MOTION B: I move that Six Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$625,000) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the capital items shown below; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$100,000 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); the sum of \$50,000 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town; and, the sum of \$425,000 be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
Engine 1 Refurbishment	\$225,000	Fire/EMS
Dump Truck	\$ 60,000	Highway
IT Infrastructure	\$ 40,000	Town Facilities
Municipal Building Repairs	\$ 25,000	Town Facilities
Tractor Trailer Unit	\$ 20,000	Transfer Station
Reconstruct Library Parking Lot	\$ 45,000	Library
Property Improvements	\$ 25,000	Park Department
Golf Carts	\$ 25,000	Country Club
Cart Path/Tee Box Repairs	\$ 10,000	Country Club
Country Club Roof	\$ 50,000	Town Facilities
Police Cruisers	<u>\$100,000</u>	Police Department
Total	\$625,000	

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

ARTICLE 7: CPA RECOMMENDATION – MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK Mover: Bud Robertson

MOTION: I move to adopt and approve the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee established pursuant to Chapter 44B, Section 5 of the General Laws, and to appropriate One Million Four Hundred and Five Thousand, Three Hundred and Seventy Four Dollars (\$1,405,374) to construct a new Middle School Track, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and to implement such recommendation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$1,405,374, to be expended by the Town Manager, 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 therefore; and, further, 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 8: FLORENCE ROCHE CONSTRUCTION Mover: Bud Robertson

MOTION: I move that the Town appropriates the amount of Seventy-Six Million Four Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Three Hundred Sixty dollars (\$76,495,360) for the purpose of paying costs of the design and construction of a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation and construction of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto (the "Project"), which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children for at least 50 years, and for which the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Florence Roche

Elementary School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under G.L. c. 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town; provided further that any grant that Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-three and thirty-nine hundredths percent (53.39%) of eligible, approved Project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; provided that any appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by G.L. c. 59, §21C (Proposition 2½); and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA. Any premium received 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 G.L. c. 44, §20, 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: ENGINEERING FUNDS – WHITNEY POND FACILITY Mover: Greg Fishbone

MOTION: I move that Seven Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$722,300) be appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay costs of engineering design services and owners project manager services related to improving the Whitney Pond Water Treatment Facility, commencing in Fiscal Year 2021, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$722,300, under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(4) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, 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 10: ENGINEERING FUNDS – WHITNEY POND WELL #3 Mover: Greg Fishbone

MOTION: I move that Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) be appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay costs of engineering design services and owners project manager services related to developing the new Whitney Pond Well #3, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$300,000, under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(3A) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, 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 11: EXTEND GROTON CENTER SEWER DISTRICT Mover: Jim Gmeiner

MOTION: I move that the "Groton Center Sewer District" as established by the vote of the Special Town Meeting of February 6, 1989, under Article 7, and as shown most recently on the plan approved under Article 14 of the Annual Town Meeting of April 25, 2005, be extended to include the property shown on Assessors' Map 109, Lot 43-0 (108 Pleasant Street) but only for the exclusive use of 108 Pleasant Street unless otherwise provided by applicable law, and its successors or assigns, and provided that all costs of designing, laying, and construction of the extension and any associated connection and the cost of additional capacity and the property owner's proportionate share of the general benefit facilities, and all other costs associated therewith, are paid by the owner of the property benefited thereby, by the assessment of betterments or otherwise.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 12: SEWER CONNECTION – 227 BOSTON ROAD Mover: Rebecca Pine

MOTION: I move that the Select Board be authorized to grant an easement to Christine R. and Kevin J. Lindemer, and their successors and assigns, for the purpose of placing and maintaining a subsurface sewage disposal line to service 227 Boston Road below existing grade surface and under the surface of Town owned property under the control of the Select Board located at 94 Lovers Lane, shown on Assessors Map 115, Parcel 34, Recorded Deed Book 20265, Page 302 at the South Middlesex Registry of Deeds, as shown on the plan posted on the Town's website, on terms and conditions deemed by the Select Board to be in the best interest of the Town.

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

MOTION 3: Non-Point Sources of Pollution

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-03 “Non-Point Sources of Pollution.”

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: Site Assessment Study

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-04 “Site Assessment Study”.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 5: Squannacook River Rail Trail

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and the sum of Twenty-Eight Thousand Dollars (\$28,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$30,000, to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-06 “Squannacook River Rail Trail”.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 6: Duck Pond Restoration, Phase 2

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Nineteen Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$19,800) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-07 “Duck Pond Restoration, Phase 2”.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 7: Housing Coordinator

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of Fifty-One Thousand Six Hundred Seventeen Dollars (\$51,617) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-08 “Affordable Housing Coordinator”.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 8: Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of Two Hundred Thirty Thousand, Two Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$230,232) be hereby appropriated to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-09 "Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan"; that to meet this appropriation the sum of One Hundred Seventy Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$170,232) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Unallocated Reserve; and further, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$50,000, to be expended by the Town Manager, 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 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

MOTION 9: Conservation Fund

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-10 "Conservation Fund".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 10: Multi-Use Recreational Courts

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of One Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Dollars (\$157,480) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-12 "Multi-Use Recreational Courts at the Groton Country Club, Restoration Project".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 11: Original Interior Skylight Restoration

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Historic Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-13 "Original Interior Skylight Restoration".

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 15: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – CLARIFICATIONS

Mover: Russell Burke

MOTION: I move that the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapters 218-9.4 and 218-13 “Schedule of Use Regulations” be amended as set forth in the Warrant for the 2021 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: To Be Announced at Town Meeting

ARTICLE 16: BYLAW PROHIBITING POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS Mover: Jason Weber

MOTION: I move that the Town amend the General Bylaws by adding a new Chapter 199 of the Code of the Town of Groton, entitled “Polystyrene Container Restrictions for Food Service Establishments” as set forth in the Warrant for the 2021 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 17: TRANSFER CONTROL OF LAND

Mover: Nate Shapiro

MOTION: I move that the jurisdiction, care, custody, and control of a parcel of land shown on a Plan of Land entitled Community Preservation Act Acquisition by the Town of Groton, Massachusetts, prepared by Beals Associates, Inc. and dated April 21, 2006, be hereby transferred from the Select Board to the Groton Conservation Commission, for open space and recreation purposes.

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

CONSENT MOTION #4 – Articles 18 through 31

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles as set forth in the motions in the Town Meeting Information Handout, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, 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: 4/5’s Majority

ARTICLE 18: CURRENT YEAR LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

MOTION: I move that Article 18 be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 19: APPROPRIATE MONEY TO OFFSET SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT

MOTION: I move that Article 19 be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 20: TRANSFER WITHIN WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$122,000 be transferred from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Water Enterprise Department Budget for general expenses.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 21: TRANSFER WITHIN CENTER SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$210,000 be transferred from the Center Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Center Sewer Enterprise Department Budget for general expenses.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 22: TRANSFER WITHIN FOUR CORNERS SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$35,000 be transferred from the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Department Budget for general expenses.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 23: TRANSFER WITHIN CABLE ENTERPRISE FUND

MOTION: I move that the sum of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000) be transferred from the Cable Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Cable Enterprise Department Budget.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 24: PRIOR YEAR BILLS

MOTION: I move that the sum of Eight Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars and Fifty-Five Cents (\$862.55) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) for the payment by the Town Manager of the following bills of a prior fiscal year:

Turf Unlimited	\$193.25
Tuft Unlimited	\$219.30
Turf Unlimited	\$200.00
A-1 Odd Jobs	<u>\$250.00</u>

Total \$862.55

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 4/5's Majority

ARTICLE 25: AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM FREE CASH

MOTION: I move to transfer the sum of \$71.92 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the FY20, 911 EMD Grant and, furthermore, transfer the further sum of \$167.16 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the FY20 911 Training Grant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 26: AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM FREE CASH

MOTION: I move to transfer the sum of \$1,861.04 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the Fire Details Agency Account.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 27: DEBT SERVICE FOR SURRENDEN FARMS

MOTION: I move that, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of One Hundred Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$145,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and the sum of Fifty-Nine Thousand One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$59,150) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve, for a total of \$204,150 to fund the Surrenden Farm debt service for Fiscal Year 2022.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 28: ASSESSORS QUINQUENNIAL CERTIFICATION

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$29,200 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Board of Assessors, for the purpose of completing the five-year full certification program necessary to achieve full and fair cash value in accordance with the requirements of G.L. c. 40, § 56 and c. 58, §§1, 1A and 3 and the Massachusetts Department of Revenue.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 29: ESTABLISHING LIMITS FOR THE VARIOUS REVOLVING FUNDS

MOTION: I move that pursuant to the provisions of G.L. chapter 44 section 53E ½ and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, the FY 2022 spending limits for the various revolving funds be set as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY 2022 Spending Limit
Stormwater Management	\$20,000
Conservation Commission	\$50,000
Building Rental Fund	\$50,000
Affordable Housing Marketing	\$20,000
Home Recycling Equipment	\$10,000
Access for Persons with Disabilities	\$10,000
Boat Excise Tax Fund	\$ 5,000
Transfer Station Glass	\$10,000
Senior Center Fitness Equipment	\$10,000

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 30: ACCEPT LAW INCREASING REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS

MOTION: I move that the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, §5C1/2, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, be hereby accepted for the purpose of increasing the real estate tax exemptions by 100 percent to all persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C1/2, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 22F, 22G, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C, 41C½, 42, 43, 56 or 57 of G.L. c. 59, §5.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

ARTICLE 31: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, §5, CLAUSE 22F

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, §5, last paragraph/sub-clause of clause 23 be accepted, which clause, for clauses 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E and 22F of section 5, allows the Town to reduce from five consecutive years to one year the residency requirement for, making certain veterans and their surviving spouses or parents, eligible for the property tax exemptions of said clauses 22 through 22F under Mass. General Laws.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 5: Motion 4b



GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

344 Main St • Groton, MA 01450-0729 • Tel.: 978.448.5505 • Fax: 978.448.1202

FY 2021-2022 BUDGET

Budget Assumptions

The 2020-2021 school year was not a typical school year. School staff, parents and students adapted to teaching and learning during a worldwide pandemic. Many unplanned budgetary expenses were necessary to ensure safe learning environments when the students returned in September 2020. That included, but was not limited to:

- Additional 30 staff members to support remote learning in classrooms
- Complete evaluation and repair of ALL HVAC units in every building to safeguard our staff and students. Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization devices were installed in all units to reduce the chances of Coronavirus surviving on classroom surfaces.
- PPE, Plexiglass desk shields and sanitizing supplies/equipment were purchased
- Additional cleaning staff for high touch areas
- Tents on site for outdoor learning spaces
- Additional technology devices and software solutions to support remote learning
- Storage fees for classroom furniture and materials to create 6' distancing in the classroom

Most of these additional costs were covered with DESE funding, FEMA grants and the Towns generously sharing their CARES Act funding with the school district. These are all one-time funding sources that are not guaranteed to be repeated. When building the FY 2021-2022 budget, the Administration and School Committee believed that most of the pandemic related expenses would not be repeated in the upcoming budget year due in large part to the vaccine being made available. The assumptions made regarding Coronavirus related expenses are:

- PPE purchases are limited to replacing disposable protective wear (gowns, masks, gloves)
- No additional staff needed for social distancing in schools
- No need to offer remote instruction for any students
- No need to have “in classroom” substitutes for “remote teaching” teachers due to health concerns
- No need to have limitations on transportation numbers (limited seating on buses)

Revenue Assumptions

The school district maintains a 5-year projection of revenues and expenses which it openly shares with the towns to provide transparency and clarity of what the school district anticipates as budgetary requests in the future. School Administration and School Committee scrutinized all revenue sources in an effort to anticipate the impact of the pandemic on each funding source. As a result, the following revenue assumptions were made:

Article 5: Motion 4b

Groton & Dunstable Assessments – The towns needed to downwardly adjust their town revenues, thus there would be a reduction to the projection available to the school district.

Chapter 70 Funding – Chapter 70 is the state’s contribution to funding public education in these communities. These revenues were anticipated to increase by \$69,000 in FY 21, however that increase was not received. Thus, the FY 22 estimate was held harmless for the upcoming school year anticipating that the Commonwealth would also see a decline in revenues.

Transportation Reimbursement – As we are a regional school district, we are eligible to receive a reimbursement of our prior year regular education transportation costs. It is typically around 70-75% of our costs. As our transportation costs were reduced in FY 20 due to the lack of transportation after March 13, 2020, it follows that the reimbursement will be less.

Excess & Deficiency (E&D) – Excess and Deficiency is the equivalent of “Free Cash” in the Towns. In FY21, \$800,000 was used to reduce the assessments to the towns in order to balance the budget. Due to the schools becoming remote in March 2020, the school district was able to replenish that balance. Working collaboratively with the Towns, understanding that town revenues were being adjusted downward, the School Committee debated and decided to once again use \$800,000 of E & D to reduce the assessments to the towns.

Expense Assumptions

There are costs that have been identified that will be in excess of what the school district anticipated when planning its 5-year outlook. Some will be ongoing expenses and others may be a one-year increase. The largest expenses of concern are:

Additional nursing/counseling/health support - \$100,000 – Based on trends the school district Administration has observed, there is an increased need to provide these support services to our students and potentially our staff.

Additional compensatory services for Special Ed students - \$100,000 – Our students that have Individual Education Plans have specific support services and therapies afforded to them. The school district is required by law to provide these services. Due to the closure in March 2020 as well as remote learning limitations, the school district is falling behind these services and will need to make the up.

Reduced Circuit Breaker Offset – \$200,000 - Out of District (OOD) Placement costs are typically offset by the receipt of Circuit Breaker Reimbursement. The school district anticipates that these reimbursements will be less for two reasons: OOD expenditures in FY20 were less than 5-year projection and the reimbursement rate is anticipated to be less. This means that the school district has to budget more to cover the cost.

Health Insurance increases - \$152,000 – The school district has been experiencing higher than anticipated renewals due to market trends as well as actual claims of our staff.

Article 5: Motion 4b

The good news is that the school district is able to shift other costs within the budget to cover these large anticipated increases and it is not necessary to request additional funding from the towns.

Capital Plan Assumptions

The school district has a 5-year capital plan in addition to a 5-year operating plan. The School Committee, Select Boards and Finance Committees worked together to provide appropriate funding of necessary projects. The School Committee gave Administration guidance that all projects that were not health, safety or technology related should be put on hold for future consideration. This mirrored actions taken to close the funding gap in FY 21. The total capital requests were reduced from in total from \$789,500 to \$281,500 in order to minimize assessments to the towns. The projects that have been brought forth include:

Dept	Loc	Description	Project		
			Cost	Groton	Dunstable
Facilities	MSN	MSN HVAC Controls Systems	\$20,000	\$15,526	\$4,474
Technology	DW	Student Chromebook Lease	\$97,500	\$75,230	\$22,270
Technology	DW	Teacher Device Lease	\$50,000	\$38,580	\$11,420
Technology	DW	Lab Computer Lease	\$8,500	\$6,559	\$1,941
Technology	DW	iPad Lease	\$15,500	\$11,960	\$3,540
Facilities	DW	Field Repair	\$10,000	\$7,716	\$2,284
Facilities	DW	Natural Grass Renovations	\$10,000	\$7,716	\$2,284
Facilities	DW	Door Replacement/Repairs	\$10,000	\$7,716	\$2,284
Facilities	DW	Lawn Mowers	\$60,000	\$46,296	\$13,704
		Totals	\$281,500	\$217,298	\$64,202

Groton Assessment

	FY 21	FY 22
Operating	\$ 22,020,595	\$ 23,481,350
Debt Service	\$ 706,644	\$ 541,784
Capital	\$ 265,172	\$ 217,298
Total Assessment	\$ 22,992,411	\$ 24,240,432

Article 13

FY2022 Groton Community Preservation Act Project Funding Scenario

	Community Housing Reserve Unreserved	Historic Reserve Unreserved	Open Space & Recreation Reserve Unreserved	Unallocated Reserve Unreserved	Total
Account balances on 1 July 2021	\$410,645.45	\$39,738.44	\$69,252.57	\$244,627.76	\$764,264.22
FY2022 local surcharge revenue forecast	\$67,000.00	\$67,000.00	\$67,000.00	\$469,000.00	\$670,000.00
FY2022 state match revenue forecast	\$21,641.00	\$21,641.00	\$21,641.00	\$151,487.00	\$216,410.00
FY2022 interest revenue forecast	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$700.00	\$1,000.00
FY2022 CPC Administrative expenses (3.3%)				(\$20,500.00)	(\$20,500.00)
FY2022 Surrenden Farm debt service				(\$59,150.00)	(\$204,150.00)
	\$499,386.45	\$128,479.44	\$12,993.57	\$786,164.76	\$1,427,024.22
2022-01 Cemetary Restoration		(\$65,000)			(\$65,000)
2022-02 Field Feasibility Study				(\$20,000)	(\$20,000)
2022-03 Lost Lake Pollution				(\$40,000)	(\$40,000)
2022-04 Affordable Housing Site Assessment	(\$75,000)				(\$75,000)
2022-06 Squannacook River Rail Trail				(\$28,000.00)	(\$30,000)
2022-07 Duck Pond Phase 2				(\$19,800)	(\$19,800)
2022-08 Housing Coordinator	(\$51,617)				(\$51,617.44)
2022-09 Stadium Field				(\$170,232)	(\$180,232) See Note 2
2022-10 FY22 Conservation Fund				(\$350,000)	(\$350,000)
2022-12 Country Club Courts				(\$157,480)	(\$157,480)
2022-13 Library Skylight					
2022-14 Middle School Track		(\$3,000)			(\$3,000)
Total requests	(\$126,617)	(\$68,000)	(\$12,000)	(\$785,512)	(\$992,129)
Unreserved bin balances on 30 June 2022	\$372,769.01	\$60,479.44	\$993.57	\$652.76	\$434,894.78
Note 1	Principal	Period [yrs]	Int [%/yr]	Annual Pmt	
	\$1,405,374.00	5	3.5	\$311,264.16	
Note 2	\$50,000.00	5	3.5	\$11,074.07	

Article 14: Motion 4

Article 14, CPC Proposal D - Site Assessment Study

Why is this Important Now?

- The Town of Groton has not initiated or built any Affordable Housing Projects in the past ten years.
- Other than Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, there is no money in the Town's budget to investigate properties or build Affordable Housing.
- Groton is far behind on building much-needed Affordable Housing for our Seniors, young people who've grown up here, and early-career Police, Fire, and school employees.
- The time is right to build Affordable Housing. The Commonwealth of MA has provided generous funding to many towns near us to build Affordable Housing. We need to begin the work now, to apply for our share of these funds.

What will Happen if this Article Passes?

- \$75,000 of CPA Community Housing money will become available for any Affordable Housing activities described in the Warrant Article and allowed by CPA regulations.
- Groton will be able to move beyond talking and take the first action steps toward building the Affordable Housing we need.
- The Affordable Housing Trust will begin evaluating the feasibility of town owned land for development, following the strategy laid out in the professionally researched and written Housing Production Plan approved by the Planning Board, the Select Board, and the Commonwealth of MA.

What about Other Approaches to Create Affordable Housing?

- Allocating CPA money to the Affordable Housing Trust at Town Meeting does not prevent any other plans for Affordable Housing from moving forward.
- We need multiple solutions to overcome our lack of Affordable Housing. Allocating money to the Affordable Housing Trust will allow us to make progress toward town-initiated construction, while other worthwhile efforts proceed at the same time.

The CPA money to be allocated cannot be used for any purpose other than Affordable Housing.

Passing this article will have no impact on your taxes.

The Affordable Housing Trust urges you to vote YES on Article 14, Proposal D

The Affordable Housing Trust (Members Becky Pine, Carolyn Perkins, Cindi Lane-Hand, Rick Perini) is charged with creating affordable housing, and is allowed by state law to purchase land and spend allocated money without Town Meeting approval, in order to meet this charge.

The Housing Production Plan is available on the Affordable Housing Trust page of the Town Website <https://www.grotonma.gov/government/boards-and-committees/affordable-housing-trust/>

Article 14: Motion 8

GROTON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND EXPLANATION

Groton-Dunstable Regional High School Stadium Field

On October 28, 2020, our District submitted a CPA Project Summary to restore three of our athletic fields to a safe and usable conditions for both students and the community in general. The Groton-Dunstable Regional School District is now submitting our formal project application.

History/Background

Since the original Summary was submitted, the Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee, Groton Select Board, and the Groton-Dunstable Regional School Building Committee have voted to submit a joint application to build a MIAA regulated track on the land behind the GDRMS South as a supplement to our original Summary. Therefore, this application has been updated to only include the GDRHS Stadium Field and GDRHS Softball Field and is a standalone regional project application. An application has been submitted to both the Groton and Dunstable CPC.

The GDRSD Director of Buildings and Grounds, John Robichaud after assessing the conditions of 25 acres of athletic fields in the district, identified three (3) field restoration projects that need to be completed for the fields to be considered safe and usable for our student athletes and community usage. Two of those fields are included in this application. The projects in the GDRSD Natural Field Restoration Plan include total replacement and restoration of the stadium high school natural turf field and resolve tree overgrowth at the high school softball field to address the wet field preventing the use of the field.

GD@Play has been working extremely hard over the last few years to raise money for an artificial turf field to replace the natural turf field at the GDRHS Stadium, unfortunately they were unsuccessful in meeting their goal.

Funding/Donation

The GDRSD Director of Buildings and Grounds, Mr. Robichaud and the GDRSD Athletics Director, Matt Ricard have been working collaboratively with GD@ Play to explore restoring the natural turf stadium field at the GDRHS. GD@Play has donated \$100,000 towards the cost of restoring and maintaining the district natural turf fields as well as fencing to provide a level of security for the investment. In addition to the financial donation, the engineering for the natural turf project has been donated by Robert Pine of Pine and Swallow Environmental Landscape. Mr. Pine has committed to providing engineering services to complete the natural turf project.

Support

Support letters from GD @ Play, the Council of Aging, Groton-Dunstable Athletic Booster Club, Groton-Dunstable SEPAC, and the Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee accompany this application.

Article 14: Motion 8

GROTON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND EXPLANATION

Town of Dunstable-Proportionate Share of Project

The Dunstable Community Preservation Committee met on February 10, 2021 to review the CPA application for the Natural Turf Restoration Projects. They voted to support their proportionate share of up to \$74,268 to be presented at the upcoming Town Meeting.

Equipment

Equipment to maintain GDRSD natural turf fields will be funded with a portion of the GD@Play donation and the remainder will be utilized towards project restoration cost of the GDRHS Stadium Field. Quotes for the equipment were obtained by 3 separate vendors to obtain the best price. All vendors are prequalified through the FAC88 State Contract (pre-bid and vetted).

Equipment to be procured include:

Utility Tractor w/ Loader:	\$46,900
Core Aerator Attachment	\$ 3,700
Linear Aerator:	\$20,100
Top Dresser:	<u>\$10,800</u>
Total	\$81,500

GD @ Play has donated \$100,000 toward the field restoration and maintenance. Dedicating \$81,500 to cover the cost of equipment leaves \$18,500 to be applied toward the cost of the field restoration.

Natural Field Restoration Contractor Selection

An Invitation for Bids for the Natural Turf Field Restoration Project was made available on February 1, 2021. To date, there have been 13 vendors who have requested bid packages. Eight (8) of those vendors attended a pre-bid Zoom meeting on February 9, 2021 to ask clarification questions. An Addenda was issued with additional information on February 12, 2021. Bids are due on Friday, February 26, 2021. Vendors are aware this project is potentially being funded with CPC funds and indicated our estimated project cost is reasonable.

Diamond Turf provided the estimate and is included in the application package. The estimate for the Stadium Field restoration is:

Natural Turf Field Restoration	\$275,000
Fencing	<u>\$ 10,000</u>
Total Stadium Field	\$385,000

Article 14: Motion 8

GROTON COMMUNITY PRESERVATION APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND EXPLANATION

Softball Field

The softball field at the high school has been unusable or cost of the Spring sports season for the past few years. The tree overgrowth does not permit enough sunlight to melt snow and dry the field in one corner of the outfield. Contracting with a tree service will expose the field to more sunlight and render the field safe for play.

Tree Contractor	\$10,000
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Total estimated cost of the GDRSD Natural Fields Restoration Plan is \$323,000

Natural Field Restoration Contractor:	\$275,000
Fencing:	\$ 10,000
Softball Field Tree Pruning:	\$ 10,000
Contingency:	<u>\$ 28,000</u>
Total Proposed Project:	\$323,000

Funding:	
Groton CPC	\$230,232
Dunstable CPC	\$ 74,268
GD@Play Donation	<u>\$ 18,500</u>
Total Proposed Funding:	\$323,000

Note: The Dunstable Capital Planning Committee is supporting and recommending for funding the Dunstable's proportionate share of \$74,268.



TOWN OF GROTON
Water Department
173 Main Street. Town Hall
Groton, Massachusetts 01450

Office: 978-448-1122
Fax: 978-448-1123

Superintendent:
Thomas D. Orcutt

Business Manager:
Lauren E. Crory

Commissioners:
John J. McCaffrey Jr.
Greg R. Fishbone
James L. Gmeiner

PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances) Summary

The following information is being provided by the Groton Water Department, West Groton Water Supply District, Board of Health and the Select Board. This summary sheet is an update to keep all residences in Groton informed of the substance Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl, of which there are too many to count, that may be found, not only in public drinking water sources, but also in private drinking water wells and in our general environment. PFOS is the most concerning substance in the PFAS Group.

What you should know about PFAS:

PFAS are a group of man-made compounds, including some with toxic and potentially carcinogenic effects. Decades of use in consumer products, firefighting foams, industrial processes and household products, have made them pervasive in the environment with detectable levels in 99% of Americans. Studies have shown some of these compounds to have detrimental health effects, and that blood serum levels of PFAS can be lowered by limiting further exposures. A list of PFAS-free consumer products, including clothing, shoes, textiles, cookware, carpeting, furniture, and personal care products, is maintained at <https://pfascentral.org/pfas-free-products>.

PFAS in drinking water:

One possible source of PFAS exposure is through drinking water. Concerning levels of PFAS compounds have been detected in the groundwater of nearby communities that border Groton, requiring remediation. Trace levels of PFAS compounds have been found in two Groton Water Department sources and one West Groton Water District source and are likely also present in private wells.

Regulatory Summary:

On October 2, 2020, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) published final regulations establishing stricter standards and a regime for ongoing testing for six of the most concerning PFAS compounds in public and community water systems. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is 20 parts per trillion (ppt) for the sum of these six PFAS compounds: PFOS, PFOA, PFHxS, PFNA, PFHpA, and PFDA. Testing for private wells is not mandated.

The Groton Water Department and the West Groton Water District will be required to conduct mandatory testing commencing in October of 2021 for four consecutive quarters and report them to MassDEP as well our customers.

Groton Water Department preliminary test results:

Water Source	Date sampled	Test Results	DEP MCL
Baddacook Pond Well	11/09/19	4.7 ppt	20 ppt
Whitney Pond Well #1	11/09/19	2.4 ppt	20 ppt
Whitney Pond Well #2	11/09/19	ND	20 ppt

ppt = part per trillion, DEP = Department of Environmental Protection, MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level, ND = Non-Detect

Common household products known to contain PFAS

- **Prepackaged food**
- **Insect-repellent chemicals**
- **Fabric softener**
- **Nail polish**
- **Eye makeup**
- **Moisturizers & hand creams**
- **Antiperspirant/deodorant**
- **Body wash/shampoo/conditioner**
- **Dental floss & plaque removers**

- **Non-stick cookware & containers**
- **Aluminum foil**
- **Wrinkle-free clothing**
- **Water-proof jackets**
- **Water-proof boots**
- **Stain-resistant carpeting**
- **Furniture fabric**
- **Plastic building materials**
- **Fast-food wrappers**
- **Pizza boxes**



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.**