

Minutes

TOWN OF GROTON



2019 SPRING TOWN MEETING

Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium
344 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts 01450

Beginning Monday, April 29, 2019 @ 7:00 PM

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers

Please bring this Report to Town Meeting

***THE BUDGET HANDOUT FOR ARTICLE 4 IS AVAILABLE
IN THE BACK OF THE WARRANT***



Town Meeting Access for Voters with Disabilities

Parking – Universally accessible parking spaces are available in the parking lot in front of the Groton Dunstable Middle School South. There is a ramp providing access from the parking lot to the front door of the Middle School.

Wheelchair Accessible & Companion Seating – Wheelchair spaces, seating for people with mobility issues and companion seats are available in the center aisle on both sides of the auditorium.

Sign Language – A Sign Language Interpreter will be provided for the hearing impaired, upon request, at least one week prior to the meeting.

Speaking at Town Meeting – There will be volunteers available to bring hand-held microphones to voters who have mobility issues or cannot stand in line and wait at the microphones.

Restrooms – Accessible restrooms are available near the entrance to the auditorium.

Transportation to Town Meeting - The Council on Aging van will be available to Groton residents attending Town Meetings at no charge. All riders will be at the meeting prior to the start. However, the van will depart the school at 10 PM regardless of the status of the meeting. The van is wheelchair accessible. Your reservation can be made by calling the Senior Center at 978-448-1170. Seats will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

Questions or concerns - If you or a member of your household has questions or would like to request a sign language interpreter, please contact the Select Board's Office at Town Hall at 978 448-1111 at least one week before the Town Meeting.

**SPRING TOWN MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 29, 2019**

Town Moderator:
Jason Kauppi

Deputy Moderator
Stuart Schulman

Board of Selectmen:
Joshua Degen
Alison Manugian, Vice-Chair
Barry Pease, Chair
John Giger
Becky Pine

Finance Committee:
Gary Green, Chairman
Lorraine Leonard
David Manugian
Arthur Prest
Bud Robertson
Scott Whitefield

Town Manager:
Mark W. Haddad
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Town Clerk:
Michael Bouchard

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Mr. Jason Kauppi presided as Moderator. There is no quorum requirement. 148 attendees were present at 7:00. Later in the first session of the meeting, 344 voters were in attendance.

Mr. Kauppi explained the role of the Moderator at Town Meeting. He also explained how attendees would be voting at the meeting. He then asked for a moment of silence in memory of recent passings in the Groton community.

Announcements regarding the Annual Town election to be held May 21, and a Candidates Night to be held May 14 at 7:30 PM at the Performing Arts Center were made.

Destination Imagination team member Middle School Students led the Meeting in a Pledge of Allegiance. These students are members of the Bilge Busters and Team Ununinium (oo-new-new-nee-um), two Destination Imagination teams from Groton-Dunstable who have advanced to participate in the Global Finals tournament in Kansas City next month. There they will compete against teams from across the US and more than 15 other countries.

The Meeting unanimously consented to appoint Stuart Schulman as Deputy Moderator. Town Clerk Michael Bouchard administered the oath of office.

A **MOTION** was offered by Michelle Collette to limit debate to three minutes, except for the main proponents and opponents of an article who are to be allowed 7 minutes and at the discretion of the moderator.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of vote: 2/3rds Majority

Vote: Passed by a 2/3 Majority

The Moderator deemed that the warrant was duly posted and asked for a motion to waive the reading of the warrant. The motion was seconded and passed by a unanimous vote.

**SPRING TOWN MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 29, 2019
ELECTION WARRANT**

Middlesex, ss.
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
To any Constable in the Town of Groton

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby required to notify and warn said inhabitants of the Town of Groton qualified to vote on Town affairs to assemble in the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium in said Town on Monday, the twenty-ninth day of April, 2019 at Seven O'clock in the evening, to consider all business other than the election of Town Officers and on the twenty-first day of May, 2019 at an adjourned session thereof to give their ballots for:

Vote for One	Board of Assessors	3 Years
Vote for One	Board of Health	3 Years
Vote for Two	Select Board	3 Years
Vote for One	Commissioner of Trust Funds	3 Years
Vote for Two	Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee	3 Years
Vote for One	Groton Electric Light Commission	3 Years
Vote for Two	Park Commission	3 Years
Vote for One	Park Commission	1 Year
Vote for Two	Planning Board	3 Years
Vote for One	Planning Board	1 Year
Vote for One	Sewer Commission	3 Years
Vote for Two	Trustees of the Groton Public Library	3 Years
Vote for One	Water Commission	3 Years
Vote for One	Groton Housing Authority	5 Years

QUESTION 1:

Shall the Town of Groton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to renovate and reconstruct the Department of Public Works Facilities located at 600 Cow Pond Brook Road, Groton, MA?

Yes _____ No _____

QUESTION 2:

Shall the Town of Groton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of Proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bonds issued in order to install a new roof on the Groton Public Library located at 99 Main Street, Groton, MA?

Yes _____ No _____

ARTICLE LISTINGS

Action

Article 1:	Hear Reports	Passed
Article 2:	Elected Officials Compensation	Passed
Article 3:	Wage and Classification Schedule	Passed
Article 4:	Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Operating Budget	
	Motion 1 General Government	Passed
	Motion 2 Land Use Departments	Passed
	Motion 3 Protection of People and Property	Passed
	Motion 4 a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School	Passed
	Motion 4 b.) A Groton-Dunstable Regional School District – Operating \$\$	Passed
	Motion 4 b.) B Groton-Dunstable Regional School District – Capital \$\$	Passed
	Motion 5 Department of Public Works	Passed
	Motion 6 Library and Citizen’s Services	Passed
	Motion 7 Debt Service	Passed
	Motion 8 Employee Benefits	Passed
	Motion 9 Water Enterprise	Passed
	Motion 10 Sewer Enterprise	Passed
	Motion 11 Local Cable Access Enterprise	Passed
	Motion 12 Four Corners Sewer Enterprise	Passed
	Motion 13 Electric Light	Passed
Article 5:	Appropriate FY 2020 Contribution to the OPEB Trust Fund	Passed
Article 6:	Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Budget	Passed
Article 7:	Renovation and Upgrade – DPW Facilities	Passed
Article 8:	Library Roof	Passed
Article 9:	Increase Local Room Occupancy Excise	Passed
Article 10:	Petition Legislature to Establish a Ticket Tax in Groton	Defeated
Article 11:	Community Preservation Funding Accounts	Passed
Article 12:	Community Preservation Funding Recommendations	Passed
Article 13:	Nashoba Valley Tech Roof and Window Project Approval	Passed
Article 14:	Operational Funding for the Prescott School	Passed
Article 15:	Provide Funding for Accessibility Improvements	Passed
Article 16:	Maintenance of James Brook	Passed
Article 17:	Amend General Bylaws to Adopt the Stretch Code	Passed
Article 18:	Amend Zoning Bylaw – Off-Site Off-Street Parking	Passed
Article 19:	Amend Zoning Bylaw – Housekeeping Changes	Passed
Article 20:	Agreement – Forestry Activity	Passed
Article 21:	Amend General Bylaws – Discharge of Water onto a Public Way	Passed
Article 22:	Petition General Court for Additional Liquor Licenses	Passed
Article 23:	Amend Chapter 198 – Stormwater Management	Passed
Article 24:	Revote Groton Charter	Indefinitely Postponed
Article 25:	Citizens’ Petition – Town Center Overlay District	Passed
Article 26:	Citizens’ Petition – Use Conservation Land for Drainage	Passed as amended
CONSENT AGENDA	Articles 27 through 36	Passed
Article 27:	Current Year Line Item Transfers	
Article 28:	Appropriate Money to Offset the Snow and Ice Deficit	
Article 29:	Transfer Money within the Water Enterprise Fund	
Article 30:	Transfer Money within the Sewer Enterprise Fund	
Article 31:	Transfer Money within the Cable Enterprise Fund	

Article 32:	Prior Year Bills	
Article 33:	Debt Service for Surrenden Farms	
Article 34:	Establishing Limits for the Various Revolving Funds	
Article 35:	Accept Law Increasing Real Estate Tax Exemption	
Article 36:	Accept Provisions of M.G.L., c. 59, §5	
	Budget Report of the Town Manager and Finance Committee to Town Meeting	Appendix
	Appendix A – Fiscal Year 2019 Proposed Operating Budget	Appendix
	Appendix B – Fiscal Year 2019 Wage and Classification Schedule	Appendix

ARTICLE 1: HEAR REPORTS

To see if the Town will vote to hear and act on the report of the Select Board and other Town Officers and Committees, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *To hear reports of Town Boards, Committees and Commissions and to accept the annual report and other reports that may be presented to Town Meeting.*

Mover: Rebecca Pine

MOTION: I move that the Town’s 2018 Annual report be accepted and placed in the permanent records of the Town

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 1 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 2: ELECTED OFFICIALS’ COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to allow the following compensation for the following elected officials: Town Clerk - \$88,430; Town Moderator - \$65; for the ensuing year, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *To provide compensation for elected officials as proposed by the Town Manager.*

Mover: John Giger

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

Town Clerk	\$88,430
Town Moderator	\$ 65

for the ensuing year.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote on Article 2 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 3: WAGE AND CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

To see if the Town will vote to amend and adopt for Fiscal Year 2020 the Town of Groton Wage and Classification schedule as shown in Appendix B of this Warrant, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The purpose of this Article is to set the wage and classification schedule for the three (3) employees covered by the Personnel Bylaw. Under the policy of the Select Board, these employees receive the same benefits as contained in the Town Supervisors' Union Contract. These employees will receive a two (2) percent cost of living adjustment in Fiscal Year 2020.*

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town of Groton Wage and Classification Schedule be amended and adopted for Fiscal Year 2020 as printed in Appendix B of the Warrant for the 2019 Spring Town Meeting.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote on Article 3 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 4: FISCAL YEAR 2020 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the next fiscal year (2020), and act upon the budget of the Finance Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER**

Select Board: Recommended (3 In Favor, 2 Against – Degen, Pine)
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *In accordance with Section 6 of the Town Charter, the Finance Committee conducts its annual budget process by receiving the Town Manager's proposed balanced budget on or before December 31st; meeting with department heads and boards; holding public budget hearings in preparation for issuing its recommendations to Town Meeting; and presenting its budget recommendations at the Spring Town Meeting. The budget handout for this Article is contained in Appendix A of this Warrant. Please also see the Finance Committee's and Town Manager's Report which includes the Finance Committee's and Select Board's recommendations.*

MOTION 1: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Mover: Gary Green

MOTION: I move that Two Million Eighty Six Thousand One Hundred and Three Dollars (\$2,086,103) 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 \$15,126 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and the sum of \$2,070,977 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Discussion centered on the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District's use of \$308,000 in Excess and Deficiency Funds to fund part of the District's budget. This use of "one-time" funds for operating expense did result in a lower assessment in FY2020 to the Groton and Dunstable municipalities, but depletes the District's E&D account.
- Mr. Degen favored the District not to use those finds, but rather that the Town ask for an override. He believes a large override will be necessary in FY2021 to fund the District's assessment. He would rather have two smaller overrides (in FY2020 and FY2021) than one larger (in FY2021).

- Mr. Robertson and Mr. Green presented a counter argument that any potential override in FY2021 is an unknown quantity right now. There appears to be a major financial challenge with this issue in FY2021, but there may be other ways to address it. They were in favor of the budget as proposed.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

Vote on Motion to Move the Question: Passed by 2/3rds Majority Vote

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 1: Passed by Majority Vote

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MOTION 2: LAND USE DEPARTMENTS

Mover: Lorraine Leonard

MOTION: I move that Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Three Hundred Sixty One Dollars (\$450,361) 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 \$4,386 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and the sum of \$445,975 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 2: Passed by Majority Vote

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MOTION 3: PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY

Mover: Scott Whitefield

MOTION: I move that Four Million, Three Hundred Fifty Eight Thousand Forty One Dollars (\$4,358,041) 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 \$5,597 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), the sum of \$300,000 be appropriated from Fire & Emergency Medical Services Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved and the sum of \$4,052,444 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Ms. Pine spoke in opposition to this section of the budget due to the inclusion of two new firefighters, citing that the Department has gone from 5 members to 9 members in less than a year. The recent report of the Fire Department Study Task Force argued against the addition of members because it believed the benefits of 24 x 7 coverage were not justified by the expense. Ms. Pine stated that the Groton EMS level allowed Basic Life Support, but that Advanced Life Support is needed from other communities, even if 24 x 7 support was available.

- Mr. Giger wanted to be sure that it was known that Groton EMS will respond to ALS calls. BLS services often make a big difference if applied in a timely manner before ALS arrives. Mr. Giger encouraged members to follow the guidance of the fire chief.
- Further discussion that adding members to the fire department was not about moving away from the call firefighter model. Nationwide, Call Departments have been having a hard time with adequate staffing. Groton is seeing the same trend. Call members have day jobs and are feeling increased pressures trying to maintain and respond to off-hours fire calls. With fewer call members, more burden is placed on those who remain. Adding full time embers relieves some of the pressure and helps improve response times. It helps the force stabilize.
- Chief McCurdy thanked all the call firefighters on the department. He stated that in his years of service, he has seen other departments undergo similar changes. He stated this is not about the numbers, but about managing a number of issues that, if not addressed, would likely result in crisis.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

Vote on Motion to Move the Question: Passed by 2/3rds Majority Vote

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 3: Passed by Majority Vote

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MOTION 4: SCHOOLS

Mover: Bud Robertson

a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School

MOTION: I move that the sum of Seven Hundred Twenty-Eight Thousand Eight Hundred and Two Dollars (\$728,802) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2020 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.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 4 a.): Passed by Unanimous Vote

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b.) Groton Dunstable Regional School District

Mover: Bud Robertson

MOTION A: I move that the sum of Twenty-Two Million, Sixty-Three Thousand, Two Hundred Fifty-Six Dollars (\$22,063,256) be hereby raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2020 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.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 4 b.) A: Passed by Majority Vote

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MOTION B: I move that the sum of Four Hundred Seventy-Nine Thousand Twelve Dollars (\$479,012) 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.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 4 b.) B: Passed by Majority Vote

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MOTION 5: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Mover: David Manugian

MOTION: I move that Two Million Two Hundred Thirty Seven Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Two Dollars (\$2,237,722) 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, \$3,988 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and \$2,233,734 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 5: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION 6: LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES

Mover: Art Prest

MOTION: I move that the sum of One Million Six Hundred Seventy Four Thousand Five Hundred Seventy Two Dollars (\$1,674,572) 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 \$4,046 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and \$1,670,526 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 6: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION 7: DEBT SERVICE

Mover: Bud Robertson

MOTION: I move that One Million Six Hundred and Seven Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Nine Dollars (\$1,607,259) 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 \$98,714 be transferred from the Excess and

Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) and the sum of \$1,508,545 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2020 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote on Article 4 – Motion 7: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION 8: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Mover: Lorraine Leonard

MOTION: I move that the sum of Four Million Thirty-Six Thousand One Hundred Six Dollars (\$4,036,106) be raised and appropriated for Employee Benefits as represented by lines 3000 through 3012 in Appendix A of the Warrant; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote on Article 4 – Motion 8: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION 9: WATER ENTERPRISE

Mover: David Manugian

MOTION: I move that One Million Two Hundred Sixty Two Thousand Two Hundred Nineteen Dollars (\$1,262,219) 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 \$75,000 be hereby transferred from the Water Enterprise Excess and Deficiency Fund, the sum of \$1,036,977 be appropriated from Water Rates and Fees and the sum of \$150,242 in the Town's General Fund Operating Budget be raised and appropriated to be allocated to the Water Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2020.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote on Article 4 – Motion 9: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION 10: SEWER ENTERPRISE

Mover: David Manugian

MOTION: I move that Seven Hundred Twenty Five Thousand Four Hundred and Eight Dollars (\$725,408) be hereby appropriated for the Groton Sewer Commission to expend 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 \$71,518 be hereby transferred from Sewer Enterprise Excess and

Deficiency, the sum of \$626,273 be appropriated from Sewer Rates and Fees and, and the sum of \$27,617 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2020..

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 10: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION 11: LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE

Mover: Colby Doody

MOTION: I move that Two Hundred Eleven Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Six Dollars (\$211,776) 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 \$153,347 be appropriated from Local Access Cable Fees and the sum of \$58,429 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Local Access Cable Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2020.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 11: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION 12: FOUR CORNERS SEWER ENTERPRISE

Mover: David Manugian

MOTION: I move that the amount of \$20,618 be appropriated for a Fiscal Year 2020 Budget for the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant report

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 4 – Motion 12: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION 13: ELECTRIC LIGHT

Mover: Scott Whitefield

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 2020, 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 Groton Board of Electric Light Commissioners.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote on Article 4 – Motion 13: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 5: APPROPRIATE FY 2020 CONTRIBUTION TO THE OPEB TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, 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, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER**

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *The purpose of this article is to fund the Town's OPEB Liability. The Select Board and Finance Committee have adopted a funding policy for this purpose. One of the funding goals is to commit to an annual appropriation to the Trust that would keep the Net Present Value Liability from growing until such time as the Town can begin to pay down the liability. In Fiscal Year 2020, the anticipated amount necessary for this purpose is estimated to be \$169,000. This Article will seek an appropriation of \$169,000 from Free Cash to add to the OPEB Liability Trust Fund.*

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) the sum of \$169,000, 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.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote on Article 5: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 6: FISCAL YEAR 2020 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the purpose of funding the Fiscal Year 2020 Capital Budget, or to take another other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Summary: *The following is the proposed Town Manager's Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2020:*

Item #1 – Engine 3 Replacement **\$140,875** **Fire/EMS**

Summary: *The Fire Chief has instituted an equipment replacement program to improve the equipment of the Department, while reducing the overall fleet. The second major reduction in the fleet will occur with the replacement of Engine 3 and Rescue 1. Like the Ladder and Engine 2 replacement last year, a truck can be designed to meet the multi-role aspect of today and tomorrow's fire service. At a cost today of \$650,000 the rescue-pumps of the future allow multi-role capability that will work equally well at fighting fires, but also be able to carry the equipment seen on a conventional rescue truck. The replacement of these two trucks separately would cost \$875,000 or more yielding a significant savings in capital costs. It is proposed that the Town borrow the funds required for FY 2020 through the Commonwealth's State House Notes method and pay off the debt over five years.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #2 – Service 1 Replacement **\$60,000** **Fire/EMS**

Summary: *The service truck is used by the duty staff to answer lower priority calls during the day and night hours. By utilizing the service truck, it saves the number of times that larger apparatus need to respond to emergencies. Having a couple of smaller vehicles ultimately prolongs the life of front line apparatus thus saving maintenance and replacement costs.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #3 – Rubber Tire Excavator **\$140,000** **Highway**

Summary: *This type machine will allow the DPW to work in the street with better visibility for the workers in and around the work site. It will be the primary machine doing any road excavation and will take up less of the travel lane compared to a traditional backhoe. It will also be equipped with a mower head and be one of the primary mowers on the road that can reach back and clear and trim the road side. GELD will also contribute to the cost of the machine. The Town is purchasing one machine instead of two, backhoe and mower, to keep costs down compared to two different machines thereby saving on insurance and maintenance.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #4 – Dump Truck **\$40,000** **Highway**

Summary: At the 2018 Spring Town Meeting, the Meeting authorized the acquisition of a new Dump Truck for the Highway Department by borrowing the necessary funds (\$185,000) through the Commonwealth's State House Notes method and pay off the debt over five years. This will be the second of five payments for the Dump Truck.

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Item #5 – IT Infrastructure \$40,000 Town Facilities

Summary: This item in the Capital Budget was established eight years ago and has been very successful. In Fiscal Year 2020, the following items will be purchased/upgraded with this allocation: Ten (10) new computers; replace aging servers and storage arrays with newer equipment; investment to expand the network and keep equipment and maintenance costs current; and network switch upgrades and increased wireless coverage.

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Item #6 – Dispatch Center Upgrade \$60,000 Town Facilities

Summary: The Public Safety Dispatch center was recently upgraded and remodeled in FY 2010 with Grant funds obtained by the Town. In order to keep the Public Safety Dispatch Center up to date and current, it was proposed that another update/remodel take place in 2018. Town Meeting has appropriated \$60,000 in each of the last two Fiscal Years for this purpose. In an effort to continue to update and improve the facility, the Chief of Police has requested an additional appropriation of \$60,000 in FY 2020. It is the Town's intention to apply for further Public Safety Grants to pay for this update, but it needs to be planned for in the Capital Improvement Plan.

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Item #7 – Municipal Building Repairs \$25,000 Town Facilities

Summary: This appropriation will be used to continue to maintain all municipal buildings by performing various maintenance activities to prevent major breakdowns in our municipal building infrastructure. Priorities continue to change when it comes to the minor repairs and upgrades in our municipal buildings. With a set line item which is separate from minor capital, the Town can be flexible and change priorities instead of just 'doing it because it is on a list.'

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Item #8 – Paint Police Station/Roof Repairs \$20,000 Town Facilities

Summary: The Police Station was painted seven years ago. It is scheduled to be repainted in Fiscal Year 2020. This will help maintain the building and add to its longevity. In addition, the roof of the building will need to be repaired as it is coming up on 25 years since it was first constructed.

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION A: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$650,000, to be expended by the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Engine 3 for the Fire Department, and 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 \$650,000 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 sum of \$140,875 be transferred from the Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved for Appropriation to pay costs of debt service on the borrowing authorized by this vote that will be payable in Fiscal Year 2020, 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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3rds Majority

Vote on Article 6 – Motion A: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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MOTION B: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$60,000 from the Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved for Appropriation and to transfer the sum of \$504,945 from the Capital Stabilization Fund, for a total sum of \$564,945, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the following capital items:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
Service 1 Replacement	\$ 60,000	Fire/EMS
Rubber Tire Excavator	\$140,000	Highway
Dump Truck	\$ 40,000	Highway
IT Infrastructure	\$ 40,000	Town Facilities
Dispatch Center Upgrade	\$ 60,000	Town Facilities
Municipal Building Repairs	\$ 25,000	Town Facilities
Police Station Improvements	\$ 20,000	Town Facilities
Tractor Trailer Unit	\$ 40,000	Transfer Station
Police Cruisers	\$109,845	Police Department
Pool Improvements	\$ 15,000	Country Club
Cart Path Improvements	\$ 10,000	Country Club
Triplex – Greens Mower	<u>\$ 5,100</u>	Country Club

Total \$564,945

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3rds Majority

Vote on Article 6 – Motion B: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLE 7: RENOVATION & UPGRADE – DPW FACILITIES

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2019 and thereafter, for the purpose of reconstructing, equipping, furnishing and new construction to upgrade the Department of Public Works Facilities and all other costs associated and related thereto, including construction administration, on the site of the existing Department of Public Work Facilities located at 600 Cow Pond Brook Road, Groton, MA; and to authorize the Town Manager to contract for and in the name of the Town for such purpose and to do all things necessary for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or other sources for such construction, 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, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**TOWN MANAGER
PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Select Board: Recommended (4 In Favor, 1 Against - Manugian)

Finance Committee: Recommended (5 In Favor, 2 Against – Colby, Green)

Summary: *The 2018 Fall Town Meeting appropriated funding to design and put out to bid improvements to the current DPW Facility, as well as, new construction to meet the needs of our Public Works Department. Since funding was approved, the Town Manager appointed a Building Committee to assist in the design and oversight of the proposed improvements. The final construction documents have been advertised for bid, with bids due prior to Town Meeting. A full presentation of costs and tax impact will be made to the 2019 Spring Town Meeting. If approved, this article would be contingent on a debt exclusion vote at the Annual Town Election on May 21, 2019.*

Mover: John Giger

MOTION I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$4,620,250, to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2019 and thereafter, for the purpose of reconstructing, equipping, furnishing and new construction to upgrade the Department of Public Works Facilities and all other costs associated and related thereto, including construction administration, on the site of the existing Department of Public Work Facilities located at 600 Cow Pond Brook Road, Groton, MA; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow

the sum of \$4,620,250 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 to authorize the Town Manager to contract for and in the name of the Town for such purpose and to do all things necessary for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or other sources for such construction, 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(k) and Section 21C(m).

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- A presentation was made by Tom Delaney, Greg Yanchenko and Mark Haddad about the need for the new facilities, the proposal and the finances of the project.
- There were many general questions from the town meeting attendees about specifics of the project.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

Vote on the Motion to Move the Question: Passed by Unanimous Vote

VOTE on Article 7 – Main Motion: Passed by 2/3rds Majority. 7 voters did not contest the ruling of the Moderator.

MOTION to Adjourn to May 6, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Performing Arts Center.

Moved and Seconded

Vote on Motion to Adjourn: Passed by Unanimous Vote

The first session of the Spring 2019 Town Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM on April 29.

The First Adjourned Session of the Spring 2019 Town Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM on May 6, 2019. 190 voters attended the session.

ARTICLE 8: LIBRARY ROOF

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Groton Board of Library Trustees in Fiscal Year 2019 and thereafter, for the purpose of reconstructing, repairing and replacing the roof on the Groton Public Library and all other costs associated and related

thereto, including construction administration, on the Groton Public Library located at 99 Main Street, Groton, MA; and to authorize the Groton Board of Library Trustees to contract for and in the name of the Town for such purpose and to do all things necessary for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or other sources for such construction, 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, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Select Board: *Recommended (4 In Favor, 1 Against - Manugian)*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *Similar to the previous Article, the 2018 Fall Town Meeting appropriated funds to design and put out to bid a project that would provide for a new roof and various improvements at the Groton Public Library. Since design funding was provided, the Board of Library Trustees have been working with their hired consultant to determine the best options for these improvements. The final construction documents have been advertised for bid, with bids due prior to Town Meeting. A full presentation of costs and tax impact will be made to the 2019 Spring Town Meeting. If approved, this article would be contingent on a debt exclusion vote at the Annual Town Election on May 21, 2019.*

[Town Clerk Note: With no objections, the Chair postponed consideration of Article 8 until after Article 12]

Mover: David Zeiler

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$1,131,041, to be expended by the Groton Board of Library Trustees in Fiscal Year 2019 and thereafter, for the purpose of reconstructing, repairing and replacing the roof on the Groton Public Library and all other costs associated and related thereto, including construction administration, on the Groton Public Library located at 99 Main Street, Groton, MA; and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$1,131,041 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 to authorize the Groton Board of Library Trustees to contract for and in the name of the Town for such purpose and to do all things necessary for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or other sources for such construction, 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(k) and Section 21C(m)..

Moved and Seconded

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

Vote on Article 8 – Main Motion: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLE 9: INCREASE LOCAL ROOM OCCUPANCY EXCISE

To see if the Town will vote to increase the local room occupancy excise pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 64G, §3A from three (3%) percent to six (6%), said rate to take effect on or after July 1, 2020, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The 2018 Spring Town Meeting accepted Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 64G, §3A which authorized the Department of Revenue to collect and deliver to the Town of Groton a local excise on the rental of rooms in hotels, motels, lodging houses and bed and breakfast establishments. Town Meeting set the rate at three (3%) percent in the first year (effective July 1, 2019). The Select Board intended to return to Town Meeting and request that the tax be increased to six (6%) percent in the second year (effective July 1, 2020), which is the maximum rate that communities may impose. The purpose of this Article is to request that the rate be increased to the maximum rate effective on July 1, 2020.*

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to increase the local room occupancy excise pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 64G, §3A from three (3%) percent to six (6%), said rate to take effect on or after July 1, 2020.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 9 – Main Motion: Passed by Majority Vote

ARTICLE 10: PETITION LEGISLATURE TO ESTABLISH A TICKET TAX IN GROTON

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to enact legislation that would authorize the Town of Groton to collect a tax in an amount to be set by the Select Board but not to exceed 5% on purchases of tickets for admission to any live performance or event in Venues located in the Town of Groton, which legislation shall be substantially in the form below, and to authorize the Select Board to approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or to take any other action relative thereto

Authorization for the Town of Groton to Impose and Collect a Tax on the Admission Charge for Certain Events Open to the Public in the Town of Groton

Section 1: The following definitions shall apply

“Admission or Admissions” means the charge levied by any Venue located in the Town of Groton and paid by a person to gain entrance to any performance or event at such a Venue. Admissions includes,

but is not limited to, charges for season tickets, ticket packages and cover charges. Admissions does not include any charge levied for parking.

“Event” means a performance by paid professionals in a venue with a capacity of two hundred (200) or more, giving a live performance within their professional field.

“Venue” means any facility within the Town of Groton which holds any live performance or event, with a capacity of two hundred (200) or more.

“Person” means, but is not limited to, an individual, group, corporate entity, or other legally-defined entity.

“Vendor” means any facility that is a Venue.

Section 2: Establishment and Imposition of Tax

Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, for the purpose of providing revenue for operational costs of the Town of Groton, there is hereby levied upon persons purchasing admission, and shall be paid and collected, an admissions tax of an amount to be set by the Select Board but not to exceed five percent (5%) on the amounts persons pay as admission to any Venue. The tax shall apply to every admission at such Venue for any performance, or event in which a fee is charged to a person and collected by a Vendor.

Section 3: Intended Use

All revenues received by the Town from the admissions tax levied pursuant to Section 2 shall be designated for the purpose of supporting the operational budget, including municipal and schools, of the Town of Groton.

The full amount of the revenue collected by the Town from the admissions tax shall be allocated to the general fund and subject to appropriation and approval by the Groton Town Meeting. The Select Board of the Town of Groton is authorized to set the amount of the tax in an amount up to and including five percent (5%) but not any percentage beyond 5% and is authorized to adopt rules and regulations regarding the manner of collection of the tax authorized by Section 2.

Section 4: Effective Date

The tax levied and imposed pursuant to the provisions of this chapter shall apply to any and all performances or events taking place on and after July 1, 2020.

Section 5: Collection and Remittance

Said Vendor shall on or before the twentieth day of the month following the end of each quarter (January, April, July and October) make and file a return for the preceding quarter, on forms prescribed by the Town Manager of the Town of Groton, showing the receipts from admissions charged, the amount of tax Vendor collected from persons purchasing such admissions, showing the amount due from the Vendor to the Town of Groton for the period covered by the return and such other information as the Town Manager deems necessary for the proper administration of the tax. The return shall be signed by the Vendor or an authorized agent thereof. Returns shall be filed by mailing or hand delivery

to the Office of the Town Manager together with payment to the Town Treasurer in the amount of tax shown to have been collected by Vendor and due thereon. Failure to timely file and pay shall result in the assessment of a penalty of ten (10%) of the tax owed for that period. The Town Manager may for good cause extend the time for making and filing returns. Additionally, the Town Manager, if it is deemed necessary in order to ensure the payment of the tax imposed by this chapter, may require returns and payment to be made for other than quarterly periods.

Section 6: This act shall take effect upon its passage.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *(2 In Favor – Degen, Manugian, 3 Against – Pease, Pine, Giger)*

Finance Committee: *Not Recommended (5 Against, 1 In Favor – Leonard, 1 No Position – Prest)*

Summary: *The purpose of this article is to impose a ticket tax of an amount up to and including five (5%) percent on persons paying for all tickets sold for admission to any live performance or event in Venues located in the Town of Groton. The implementation of this tax will be borne by the end user and should not have a negative financial impact on the Venues to which this tax is imposed.*

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to enact legislation that would authorize the Town of Groton to collect a tax in an amount to be set by the Select Board but not to exceed 5% on purchases of tickets for admission to any live performance or event in Venues located in the Town of Groton, which legislation shall be substantially in the form as set forth in the Warrant for the 2019 Spring Town Meeting, and to authorize the Select Board to approve amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Representative Sheila Harrington spoke as the main opponent of this article. Her points included:
 - Impression is that impetus for the ticket tax in Groton is Indian Hill.
 - Feedback from her conversations with the House Ways and Means and the Revenue Committees indicated that, if submitted, it would not make it out of Committee; that taxing non-profit organizations is against the social policy agenda of the state house.
 - Her conversation with Senator Kennedy informed that the Massachusetts Constitution states municipalities cannot institute new taxes. Even if this did pass the legislature, the sales tax would go to the Commissioner of Revenue, not to the town.
 - Ms. Harrington opposes the article.
- The Finance Committee did not recommend this article because not enough information was available.
- Ms. Manugian stated that the tax was not targeted at Indian Hill, and that it could be considered a local excise tax. She recommends the article be supported.
- Audience comment - even if it would not pass the legislature, it should be voted at town meeting so that the issue of non-profit support is raised.

- Mr. Haddad stated that this article is being presented so that it can go to the legislature.
- Ms. Pine thought it was fair to explore ways the Indian Hill could fund services provided by the town, but opposes the ticket tax.
- Mr. Lyman argued this was a waste of time given Ms. Harrington's report.
- Mr. Sheldon urged the Select Board to "re-think" about the relationship with Indian Hill to be more positive for both.
- Ms. Fiorentino, CEO of Indian Hill and Groton resident, stated that Indian Hill is thrilled to be coming to Groton wanted a positive relationship. She mentioned that Indian Hill will be paying for police details related to its events (mentioned earlier in audience discussion). Once operational, they will discuss PILOT payments with the town. The organization opposes the ticket tax because it taxes non-profit organizations and sets a precedent.
- Ms. Jennings argued that the meeting shouldn't send this proposal to the legislature if it isn't well thought out. She also asked if the town was ready for the implications of the tax by having thought out the operations of assessing and collecting the taxes. She thought the town shouldn't discourage non-profit organizations.

MOTION to MOVE the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

Vote on the Question to Move the Question: Passed Unanimously

VOTE on Article 10- Main Motion: Defeated

ARTICLE 11: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING ACCOUNTS

To see if the Town will vote to make the following appropriations from the Community Preservation Fund: Allocation of Community Preservation Funds to the following sub accounts:

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 5,000
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 73,800
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 73,800
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 73,800
Unallocated Reserve:	\$511,600

or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *This is an accounting procedure that is necessary to ensure the Community Preservation Committee will have access to the funds raised during Fiscal Year 2020. Except for the CPC Operating Expenses, none of these funds will be spent without additional approval at Town Meeting. The following chart shows the current balances in each Reserve, and what the balance will be when these funds are transferred into those accounts:*

<u>Funding Account</u>	<u>Current Balance</u>	<u>Balance After FY 2020 Appropriation*</u>
Open Space Reserve	\$ 29,963	\$ 103,763
Historic Resource Reserve	\$ 31,917	\$ 105,717
Community Housing Reserve	\$ 495,142	\$ 568,942
Unallocated Reserve	\$ 266,859	\$ 783,459

*This is the amount of funding available to fund various projects presented in Article 12 and to pay Surrenden Farm Debt Service.

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:	\$ 5,000
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 73,800
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 73,800
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 73,800
Unallocated Reserve:	\$511,600

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Mr. Easom presented the current accounts and balances in each of the CPC

VOTE on Article 11 – Main Motion: Passed by Majority Vote

ARTICLE 12: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to adopt and approve the recommendations of the Community Preservation Committee for Fiscal Year 2020, and vote to implement such recommendations by appropriating a sum or sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the General Laws, and by authorizing the Select Board, with the approval of the Community Preservation Committee, to acquire, by purchase, gift or eminent domain, such real property interests in the name of the Town, or enforceable by the Town, including real property interests in the form of permanent affordable housing restrictions and historical preservation restrictions that will meet the requirements of Chapter 184 of the General Laws, as may be necessary or proper to carry out the foregoing, or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

CPC Proposal A: Housing Coordinator FY20

\$48,882

Summary: *The Town established the position of Housing Coordinator in 2009, with the salary being paid out of the Community Preservation Administrative Account. Five years ago, the Community Preservation Committee approved the increase of the position to 25 hours and requested that it become an annual funding item to be approved by Town Meeting, with the funding to come from the Community Housing Reserve. Town Meeting has approved this for the last five years. This will be the sixth year that this position will be funded in this manner.*

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended Unanimously

MOTION 1: Affordable Housing Coordinator

Mover: Daniel Emerson

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$48,882 from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2020-12 "Affordable Housing Coordinator".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

VOTE on Article 12- Motion 1: Passed by Majority Vote

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CPC Proposal B: Historic Volumes Storage Cabinet

\$5,627

Summary: *This request is to make a one-time purchase of a lockable fire-resistant storage cabinet to store the recently preserved historic volumes of the Town. From 2005 to 2011, the CPC allocated CPA funds to restore approximately 100 historic volumes, which are securely stored in the Town Clerk's vault. These volumes occupy approximately 50% of the space. The vault is out of capacity, and additional records are added on a continuous basis. The benefits of obtaining this cabinet would be increased secure storage capacity, dedicated storage for historic records, facilitated public access to the documents (under Clerk's Office supervision) and to free up space in the main vault.*

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended Unanimously

MOTION 2: Historic Volumes Storage Cabinet

Mover: Robert DeGroot

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$5,627 from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resource Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2020-02 "Historic Volumes Storage Cabinet".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

VOTE on Article 12 – Motion 2: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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CPC Proposal C: Conservation Fund

\$100,000

Summary: *The Conservation Commission is requesting \$100,000 in CPA funds to be added to the Town's Conservation Fund to help preserve open space, protect water resources and wildlife habitat, and preserve land for agricultural, recreational, and forestry activities. The Conservation Fund allows the Town to move quickly in the event a priority parcel becomes available. The Commission's goal is to maintain an amount between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 in the Conservation Fund. As of January 10, 2019, the Conservation Fund balance is \$657,338.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

MOTION 3: 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 \$3,763 from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and to appropriate the sum of \$96,237 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$100,000 to fund Community Preservation Application 2020-03 "Conservation Fund".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

VOTE on Article 12 – Motion 3: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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CPC Proposal D: Fitch's Bridge Wall Repair

\$45,000

Summary: *This application is requesting funding to disassemble and rebuild the existing retaining wall on historic Fitch's Bridge where it is beginning to fail. The DPW will disassemble and repair the existing retaining wall on the bridge and rebuild using granite blocks obtained from an outside source. The bridge was restored using CPC funds but this portion of the project was not included at the time. The repairs are needed to protect the installed bridge from damage. All permitting will be done by the Town.*

Select Board: *Recommended (4 In Favor, 1 No Position – Degen)*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

MOTION 4: Fitch's Bridge Wall Repair

Mover: Timothy Siok

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$45,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resource Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2020-10 "Fitch's Bridge Wall Repair".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
VOTE on Article 12 – Motion 4: Passed by Unanimous Vote

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CPC Proposal E: 1893 Library Roof Preservation \$300,561

Summary: *The Board of Library Trustees submitted for CPA funding support for up to \$395,000 to preserve and protect Groton’s beautiful and historic 1893 library building from ongoing ice dam issues and water infiltration under its current (original) slate roof. Building Envelope Scientists have studied all issues and recommend all new underlayments with ice and snow shield six feet up under the slate roof to fix the problem; but in order to do this, 20-25% or more of the original slate would have to be removed, and the National Park Service Historic Preservation Brief 29 recommends that if removing that much slate on a roof nearing the end of its life, it is best to replace the entire roof, as many of the slates would be damaged during reinstallation. A new roof would also necessitate replacement of supporting components of copper gutters, flashings, and downspouts. This project is being requested in conjunction with a FY 2020 Town Capital Project Request for \$1.125 million to redo both the 1893 building roof and drainage with the 1999 addition steep slope composite slate and low slope membrane roof and drainage systems, as the 1999 systems are all experiencing widespread failure, and have been for many years, resisting all attempts at repairs and solutions.*

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously
Community Preservation Committee: Recommended Unanimously

MOTION 5: 1893 Library Roof Preservation Mover: Robert DeGroot

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$300,561 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2019-06 “1893 Library Roof Preservation”.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

- Discussion:**
- Mr. Wilder presented an overview of the roof issues, and the scope of the project
 - There was general audience discussion, questions and answers

MOTION to MOVE the Question
Moved and Seconded
Quantum: 2/3rds Majority
VOTE on MOTION to MOVE the Question: Passed by Unanimous Vote

VOTE on Article 12 – Motion 5: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 13: NASHOBA VALLEY TECH ROOF AND WINDOW PROJECT APPROVAL

To see if the Town will approve the Three Million, Seven Hundred Four Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixteen Dollars (\$3,704,616) borrowing authorized by the Nashoba Valley Technical High School District for the purpose of paying costs of the Replacement of Roofs, Windows, and Doors at Nashoba Valley Technical High School, 100 Littleton Road, Westford, MA 01886, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended at the direction of the School Committee. The MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any Project costs the District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member municipalities. Any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-five percent (55%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA, with a failure to vote approval being deemed a denial, or take any other action relative thereto.

NASHOBA VALLEY TECH SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Nashoba Valley Technical High School Committee has requested that this Article be placed on the Warrant for the 2019 Spring Town Meeting. The School has been accepted into the Massachusetts School Building Authority's (MSBA) Accelerated Repair Program for roof and window replacement for the Nashoba Valley Technical High School located at 100 Littleton Road in Westford Massachusetts. A majority of the member Towns must vote to approve this project. Please note that should this project be approved, the debt service for this project will be apportioned among the member communities based on student population from each community in a given year. It is estimated that the debt on this project will be paid back in 20 years. In FY 2020, the Town of Groton's assessment for this project is estimated to be approximately \$37,000.*

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town hereby approves the Three Million, Seven Hundred Four Thousand, Six Hundred and Sixteen Dollars (\$3,704,616) borrowing authorized by the Nashoba Valley Technical High School District, for the purpose of paying costs of the Replacement of Roofs, Windows, and Doors at Nashoba Valley Technical High School, 100 Littleton Road, Westford, MA 01886, including the payment of all costs incidental or related thereto (the "Project"), which proposed repair project would materially extend the useful life of the school and preserve an asset that otherwise is capable of supporting the required educational program, and for which the District may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended at the direction of the School Committee; that 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 District incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the District and its member municipalities; provided further that any grant that District may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-five percent (55%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; and that the amount of borrowing authorized by the

District shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- \$37,000 annual impact to the town
- Must be approved by a majority of towns in the district

VOTE on Article 13 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 14: OPERATIONAL FUNDING FOR PRESCOTT SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the purpose of providing funding to maintain and operate the Prescott School in future fiscal years, said funds to be used to supplement any rental income received from tenants of the building, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: Recommended (3 In Favor – 2 Against - Manugian, Degen)
Finance Committee: Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Against – Prest)

Summary: *The 2018 Spring Town Meeting appropriated \$32,000 to operate the Prescott School and the 2018 Fall Town Meeting appropriated an additional \$30,000 for a total of \$62,000. The Select Board has entered into a three (3) year lease of the Prescott School with the Friends of Prescott to manage and operate the Building. The Friends will be leasing space within the building to various tenants in compliance with local zoning. They have agreed to ensure that they will cover \$20,000 of the operational costs of the Prescott School by the third year of the lease. The \$62,000 was supposed to cover the Town's obligations over three (3) years, but the first-year costs have exceeded earlier estimates. The purpose of this Article is to appropriate the additional funding necessary to cover the Town's expenses over the life of the lease. It is estimated that this additional expense will be \$77,000.*

Mover: Rebecca Pine

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$77,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager, for the purpose of providing funding to maintain and operate the Prescott School in future fiscal years, said funds to be used to supplement any rental income received from tenants of the building.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- This funding is needed to show stability to potential renters.
- This is an old building. How much more will this cost over time. This is a "want" for the town, not a "need".

- This funding is for the town to meet its obligation under the lease with the Friends of Prescott. The funding is for maintenance items only; no capital improvements.
- There is a three year lease with the town, which began 6 months ago. The Friends of Prescott is helping the town keep the building by utilizing it, paying for basic utilities and a future payment to the town of \$20,000 in the third year of the lease.

MOTION to MOVE the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

VOTE on MOTION to MOVE the Question: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

VOTE on Article 14 – Main Motion: Passed by Majority Vote. 7 voters did not contest the ruling of the Chair.

ARTICLE 15: PROVIDE FUNDING FOR ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2019, to implement the recommendations of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self Evaluation and Transition Plan for Town Buildings and all costs associated and related thereto, pursuant to 28 CFR §35.150(d), prepared by the Northeast Independent Living Program, dated January 2019, or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *The Commission on Accessibility worked with the Northeast Independent Living Program (NILP) in 2018 to update the Town’s ADA Self Evaluation/Transition Plan originally prepared in 1996. The Commission and NILP evaluated ten Town-owned buildings. The study includes recommendations and deadlines for necessary improvements to bring the Town facilities into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and Architectural Access Board Regulations, 521CMR. Improvements for accessibility are required at the Groton Country Club, Legion Hall, Lost Lake Fire Station, Police Station, Groton Public Library, Town Hall and the Transfer Station. (Please note that Prescott School, while requiring accessibility improvements, is not being dealt with until such time as a final renovation/reconstruction plan is determined for that building). The Commission is requesting \$60,000 to implement the plan and bring these buildings into ADA Compliance. The Self-Evaluation/Transition Plan and cost estimates are on file in the Town Clerk’s office, the Land Use Department, and on the Town’s website.*

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$60,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2019 and thereafter, to implement the recommendations of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Self Evaluation and Transition Plan for Town Buildings and all costs associated and related thereto, pursuant to 28 CFR §35.150(d), prepared by the Northeast Independent Living Program, dated January 2019.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Commission on Accessibility voted unanimously to support this article
- Concern expressed that the expenses of this article attributed to the Country Club would not be covered by its revenue.

VOTE on Article 15 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 16: MAINTENANCE OF JAMES BROOK

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the maintenance of James Brook as it impacts Broadmeadow Road, and all costs associated and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *For the last several years, Broadmeadow Road has experienced a significant number of closings due to flooding on the Road because of drainage issues with James Brook. In an effort to improve the situation and allow for better drainage, the DPW Director has recommended to the Select Board that routine maintenance and partial dredging of the channels of James Brook be completed. This work will allow for the better flow of James Brook and reduce flooding of Broadmeadow Road. It is anticipated that this work will cost approximately \$50,000. A full report will be made to the 2019 Spring Town Meeting.*

Mover: John Giger

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$50,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager, for the maintenance of James Brook as it impacts Broadmeadow Road, and all costs associated and related thereto.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Q: Is this a “one-time” expense?
 - R: Likely would need to be done every 15-20 years. The alternative would be to rebuild the road above flood stage at a likely cost of “millions” due to the complexity of building in the flood area.
- This project is cleaning out existing brook channels. Permits would be required. No new channels are being built.

VOTE on Article 16 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 17: AMEND GENERAL BYLAWS TO ADOPT THE STRETCH CODE

To see if the Town will vote to enact a new Chapter 168 of the Town of Groton General Bylaws, entitled “Stretch Energy Code” for the purpose of regulating the design and construction of buildings for the effective use of energy, pursuant to Appendix 115.AA of the Massachusetts Building Code, 780 CMR, the Stretch Energy Code, including future editions, amendments or modifications thereto, with an effective date of January 1, 2020, as follows:

CHAPTER 168 – STRETCH ENERGY CODE

- §168-1 Definitions**
- §168-2 Purpose**
- §168-3 Applicability**
- §168-4 Stretch Code**

§168-1 Definitions

International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) - The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a building energy code created by the International Code Council. It is a model code adopted by many state and municipal governments in the United States for the establishment of minimum design and construction requirements for energy efficiency and is updated on a three-year cycle. The baseline energy conservation requirements of the MA State Building Code are the IECC with Massachusetts amendments, as approved by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards.

Stretch Energy Code - Codified by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards as 780 CMR Appendix 115.AA of the Massachusetts building code, the Stretch Energy Code is an appendix to the Massachusetts building code, based on further amendments to the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) to improve the energy efficiency of buildings built to this code.

§168-2 Purpose

The purpose of 780 CMR 115.AA is to provide a more energy efficient alternative to the Base Energy Code applicable to the relevant sections of the building code for new buildings.

§168-3 Applicability

This code applies to residential and commercial buildings. Buildings not included in this scope shall comply with 780 CMR 115.AA, as indicated.

§168-4 Stretch Code

The Stretch Code, as codified by the Board of Building Regulations and Standards as 780 CMR Appendix 115.AA, including any future editions, amendments or modifications, is herein incorporated by reference into the Town of Groton General Bylaws, Chapter 168. The Stretch Code is enforceable by the inspector of buildings or building commissioner and effective as of January 1, 2020.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *The Select Board has voted to pursue a Green Community Designation for the Town of Groton. Seeking this designation will allow the Town to apply for State Grants that can pay for energy improvements in the many Town facilities. The first step in applying for this designation is the adoption of the so-called Stretch Energy Code that requires all new construction in the Town of Groton to meet various energy efficiencies. It's important to point out that additions or renovations to existing houses in Groton do not have to comply with this Code. Furthermore, the current edition of the Massachusetts Building Code has already incorporated many of the requirements in the Stretch Energy Code. A full presentation of the requirement of the Stretch Energy Code will be made at Town Meeting.*

Mover: Rebecca Pine

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to enact a new Chapter 168 of the Town of Groton General Bylaws, entitled "Stretch Energy Code" with an effective date of January 1, 2020, as printed in the Warrant.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Ms. Pine presented a case as to why the meeting should accept this article
 - The Stretch Code applies to new construction only, not renovations or repairs
 - All surrounding towns except Dunstable are green communities
 - This is a first step to enable the town to apply for Green Communities Program grants
 - A green community is eligible for grants to reduce energy use on municipal buildings
- Mr. Hersh stated that Groton Electric Light Commission is opposed to this article
 - The bylaw requires that the town be enrolled in all future revisions of the stretch code
 - The town should be able to make a case-by-case decision

VOTE on Article 17 – Main Motion: Passed by Majority Vote

**ARTICLE 18: AMEND ZONING BYLAW - §§218-4, 218-13, 218-25 AND 218-28
OFF-SITE OFF-STREET PARKING**

To see if the Town will vote to amend Zoning By-Laws as follows:

1. Amend Section 218-4 by adding the definition of “Off-site Off-Street Parking” with new word definitions being incorporated into the existing text in order alphabetically with the existing word definitions, as follows:

Off-Site Off-Street Parking: Parking area on a lot for the benefit of and serving the parking needs of a use on a separate non-contiguous lot, subject to the provisions of Sections 218-25, 218-28, and 218-32.1

2. By amending Section 218-13 Schedule of Use Regulations, by adding a new line item 114 – Off-Site Off-Street Parking as stated below:

		RA	RB	NB	VB	GB	I	P	O
114	Off-Site Off-Street Parking	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	N	N

3. By amending Section 218-25, Site Plan Review by adding a new subsection 218-25(B)(2)(e) as follows:

218-25(B)(2)(e) Off-site Off-street Parking

4. By amending Chapter 218, by adding a new Section 218-28, entitled “Off-Site Off-Street Parking as follows:

Section 218-28 Off-site Off-Street Parking

A. Purpose

To provide relief and standards for properties that cannot provide or satisfy the off-street parking requirements on-site due to unique circumstances including but not limited to topography, lot size, lot shape, existing building placement, or an authorized change of use where off street parking can be secured off site on property under the same ownership or control in a manner that is compatible with the surrounding uses.

B. Applicability

A property owner or lessee, consistent with the applicable provisions herein, may petition for Off-site Off-street Parking on a non-contiguous property under their control and demonstrate the unique circumstances associated with their property for which parking cannot be provided on site. The petitioner must demonstrate the proposed parking will address the unique circumstance associated with satisfying off street parking on their property in a manner consistent with the character of its surroundings.

C. Standards/Conditions

- A locus plan showing the location of the proposed Off-site Off-street Parking in relation to the property being served with sufficient detail for the Planning Board to determine adequate proximity exists

- Lighting overspill, glare, headlights
- Visual Impact mitigation measures such as setbacks, landscaping, visual screening
- Noise
- Applications shall be subject to Section 218-25 Site Plan Review
- Applications shall be subject to Section 218-32.1 Special permit
- Parking layout and construction
- Circulation and traffic consideration
- Applicant must have controlling interest in both properties (ownership or leasehold)
- Special permit will run with the applicant unless the applicant owns both properties and records a deed restriction binding both lots to common ownership for the special permit to remain in force
- The use requiring the parking must be a permissible use (Y/SP) on the Off-site lot
- Use limited to parking of registered motor vehicles. Commercial vehicles over 7,500 pounds (curb weight) shall not be permitted. Storage of equipment, pods, trailers, shall not be permitted.
- Third party, paid parking is not permitted.
- Specify/limit number of spaces
- The provisions of this section may be used in conjunction with 218-23D Shared Parking

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board: *Recommended (Six In Favor, 1 Abstention – Widmayer)*

Summary: *The proposed Zoning Bylaw amendment establishes Off-site Off-street Parking on a non-contiguous lot as a new use allowable by grant of a Special Permit by the Planning Board. The purpose of the amendment is to provide relief in certain cases where off-street parking space is not available on the lot where the principal structure is situated, and where the non-contiguous lot is under the applicant's control. Applications under this Zoning Bylaw amendment would be subject to the provisions of Site Plan Review and the Special Permit process.*

Mover: Russell Burke

MOTION: I move that Section 218-4 of the Code of the Town of Groton Zoning be hereby amended as printed in the Warrant.

Moved and Seconded

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

Planning Board Recommended to support this article.

VOTE on Article 18 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 19: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – HOUSEKEEPING CHANGES

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218, Zoning, as follows:

1. Amend §218-18.C(1)(d)[3] to correct a typographical error as follows:

§218-18.C(1)(d)[3] – correct typographical error:

Replace the word “massive” with the word “massing”.

2. By amending §§218-4, 218-20, and 218-27.B, Subsidized Elderly Housing; change to “Age Restricted Housing as follows:

§218-4 – Definitions – Change the term “Subsidized Elderly Housing” to “Age Restricted Housing”.

§218-20 – Schedule of Intensity Regulations - Change the reference to “subsidized elderly housing” in Note 1 to “age restricted housing”.

§218-27.B - Change the title of the section and all other references in the section, from “subsidized elderly housing” to “age restricted housing”.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The purpose of this article is to make housekeeping updates to the Zoning Bylaw, Chapter 218 of the Town Code. The typographical error in Section 218-18.C(1)(d)[3] needs to be corrected in order to restore the original intent of the provision as it relates to the use of certain architectural design elements. Zoning provisions relative to housing for persons 55 years of age and older were adopted in 1982 under the name of “Subsidized Elderly Housing”. Replacing this term with “Age Restricted Housing” reflects changes in common nomenclature since the adoption of the provisions nearly four decades ago.*

Mover: Carolyn Perkins

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218, Zoning, as printed in the Warrant.

Moved and Seconded

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

Planning Board Recommended Unanimously to support this Article

VOTE on Article 19-Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 20: AGREEMENT – FORESTRY ACTIVITIES

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Town Manager, on behalf of the Conservation Commission and Water Commission, to enter into an agreement with an individual/individuals to conduct forestry activities on properties managed by the Conservation Commission and Water Commission for a term not to exceed ten (10) years, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *No Position*
Conservation Commission: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Conservation Commission and Water Commission manage approximately 2,100 acres of Town-owned land of which 85% is classified as forested. In 2018, the Conservation Commission began a comprehensive evaluation of all its lands and defined 11 management areas consisting of blocks of adjacent parcels as well as lands recently or presently being managed (e.g., Surrenden Farms, Shattuck Homestead). In total, these management areas account for 75% of all lands under the custody of the Conservation Commission. A 10-year contract term will allow for continuity of management services between the Forester and the Town. A major goal the Commission seeks to accomplish during the term of this contract is to work with the Forester to create and implement stewardship management plans for each identified management area. The Forester shall provide watershed, forestry and vegetative management services in order to: 1) protect the forests from fire, insects, invasive plants, disease and vandalism; 2) improve the forest through cutting practices which favor the creation of the ideal watershed forest; 3) enhance wildlife habitat; 4) maintain forest aesthetics; and 5) provide a revenue source to fund land management initiatives.*

Mover: Peter Morrison

MOTION: I move that the Town Manager, on behalf of the Conservation Commission and Water Commission, be authorized to enter into an agreement with an individual/individuals to conduct forestry activities on properties managed by the Conservation Commission and Water Commission for a term not to exceed ten (10) years.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
VOTE on Article 20-Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 21: AMEND BYLAWS – DISCHARGE OF WATER ONTO A PUBLIC WAY

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws of the Town by creating a new Chapter 127 entitled “Discharge of Water Onto A Public Way” as follows:

CHAPTER 127 – DISCHARGE OF WATER ONTO A PUBLIC WAY

§127-1 Discharge Prohibited

Discharge of water onto a public way is prohibited. No person shall alter existing conditions as to allow, or cause, the man-made diversion or backup of water onto a public roadway or sidewalk of the Town, by pump, down spout, swale, grading of land, or any other method, so as to create a hazard to vehicle or pedestrian travel on such roadway or sidewalk.

§127-2 Violations

Whoever violates this Bylaw shall, within 30 days of receiving a notice of violation, take any and all corrective actions necessary to prevent future violations of this Bylaw, or submit to the Department of Public Works a plan of action to prevent future violations of this Bylaw.

§127-3 Enforcement

As an alternative to criminal prosecution, the Director of Public Works or any police officer of the Town may elect to enforce this Bylaw by utilizing the non-criminal disposition procedure set forth in M.G.L., c.40, §21D, as may be amended from time to time. The fine for each non-criminal violation shall be \$300 and each day or portion of a day on which a violation exists shall constitute a separate offense.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *The purpose of this Article is to create a Bylaw that would prohibit the discharge of water from private property onto a public way. It would provide for the enforcement and ability to fine individuals who violate this proposed Bylaw.*

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the General Bylaws of the Town be hereby amended by creating a new Chapter 127 entitled “Discharge of Water Onto A Public Way” as printed in the Warrant.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

VOTE on Article 21-Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 22: PETITION THE GENERAL COURT FOR ADDITIONAL LIQUOR LICENSES

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court for special legislation increasing the number of liquor licenses available in the Town of Groton as follows:

Three (3) additional licenses for the sale of on premises all alcoholic beverages
Two (2) additional licenses for the sale of off premises all alcoholic beverages

And to authorize the General Court to make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and the Select Board shall be authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *This article will request that the General Court increase the number of liquor licenses allowed under State Law in the Town of Groton. The Select Board's office has received several inquiries for additional licenses and the purpose of this article is to petition the Legislature for this increase in an effort to create more business opportunities in the Town of Groton.*

Mover: Barry Pease

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court for special legislation increasing the number of liquor licenses available in the Town of Groton as follows: Three (3) additional licenses for the sale of on premises all alcoholic beverages; Two (2) additional licenses for the sale of off premises all alcoholic beverages. And to authorize the General Court to make clerical and editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments to the bill before enactment by the General Court, and the Select Board shall be authorized to approve amendments which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of the petition.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

VOTE on Article 22-Main Motion: Passed by Majority Vote

ARTICLE 23: AMEND CHAPTER 198 – STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 198, Stormwater Management - Low Impact Development, of the Code of the Town of Groton, Section 198-14 Extension, by striking out the words "two years" and inserting in their place the words "three years," as follows:

§198-14. Extension.

A full or limited stormwater management permit shall be valid for three years from the date the permit is issued. The Committee may grant extensions for additional time upon written request for renewal no later than 30 days prior to expiration of the permit.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

EARTH REMOVAL STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *The Committee is proposing an amendment to the Stormwater Management By-law so permits lapse in three years rather than two years. If adopted, the three-year time period for Stormwater Permits will be consistent with Orders of Conditions issued by the Conservation Commission. Additionally, Chapter 40A, section 9, of MGL was amended in 2016 to extend the time within which a special permit may lapse from two years to not more than three years.*

Mover: Michelle Collette

MOTION: I move that Chapter 198, Stormwater Management - Low Impact Development, of the Code of the Town of Groton, Section 198-14 Extension, be hereby amended by striking out the words "two years" and inserting in their place the words "three years".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

VOTE on Article 23-Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 24: PETITION LEGISLATURE TO ESTABLISH AN UPDATED CHARTER

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court to enact legislation that would establish an updated charter for the Town of Groton substantially in the form on file with the office of the Town Clerk and to authorize the General Court to make amendments thereto before enactment by the General Court which shall be within the scope of the general public objectives of this petition, subject to the approval of the Groton Select Board, or to take any other action relative thereto

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *The General Court was unable to enact before expiration of the 2017-2018 legislative session the Groton Home Rule Petition that updated our Charter. Originally voted upon by the Town in 2017, and then edited thereafter at the request of the General Court, that proposed legislation has been refiled for the new legislative session that started this year in 2019. This warrant article is submitted in case the General Court needs action upon this article in order to complete its work on the proposed charter update.*

Mover: Barry Pease

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Article is not needed as the Charter is moving forward in the Legislature
- Current status of the Charter: Pending a Senate Floor vote and then goes to the House

VOTE on Article 24-Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 25: CITIZENS’ PETITION – TOWN CENTER OVERLAY DISTRICT

To see if the Town will vote to include the property situated at 11 Lowell Road which is shown on the Groton Assessors’ Maps as Map 113 Block 11 and described in a deed recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 71584, Page 410 in the Town Center Overlay District, Section 218-30.2 of the Groton Zoning By-Law, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CITIZENS’ PETITION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
John B. Amaral	62 Flavell Road	Therese J. Keoseian	34 Flavell Road
Diane M. Amaral	62 Flavell Road	Mihran Keoseian	34 Flavell Road
Andrea L. Myette	69 School House Road	Gregg Yanchenko	61 Skyfields Drive
Peter C. Myette	69 School House Road	George Faircloth	61 Paquawket Path
Peter MacGregor	291 Old Ayer Road	Michelle Collette	43 Windmill Hill Road

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: No Position

Summary: The following summary was prepared by the petitioners and represents their view on the Article: *This article requests that voters approve the inclusion of the property known as 11 Lowell Road, aka The Water’s House, in the Town Center Overlay District (TCOD). The property is zoned RA. The applicant is proposing to develop a mixed-use project consisting of residential, small retail/office and hospitality. The development will adhere to the purpose of the TCOD: “to promote a socially and economically vibrant town center by enabling civic, commercial and residential development that is consistent with the design guidelines for the district and with the Town’s Comprehensive Master Plan”. The plan will incorporate green space and landscaping similar to The Groton Inn, the abutting property.*

ARTICLE 25: CITIZENS’ PETITION – OVERLAY DISTRICT

Mover: John Amaral

MOTION: I move that geographic limits of the Town Center Overlay District, Section 218-30.2 of the Groton Zoning By-Law be amended to include within the District boundaries the property situated at 11 Lowell Road which is shown on the Groton Assessors’ Maps as Map 113 Block 11 and described in a deed recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 71584, Page 410.

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

Discussion:

- Planning Board Unanimous in support of this article

- Sewer Commission: There is sufficient capacity to meet the needs of this proposal

VOTE on Article 25-Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 26: CITIZENS’ PETITION – USE CONSERVATION LAND FOR DRAINAGE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board and the Conservation Commission to enter into an agreement with the Reedy Meadow Estates Trust, by lease or otherwise, for use of a portion of Town of Groton Conservation property shown as Assessors Map 228, Parcel 59, for purposes of a drainage easement, said easement area being shown on a plan entitled “Overview Plan in Groton, MA, Reedy Meadow Estates, Date: February 4, 2019, revised February 18, 2019, prepared for Reedy Meadow LLC, Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, Prepared by Land Engineering & Environmental Services, Inc.” on file in the Office of the Town Clerk; and to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court for any legislation necessary therefore, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CITIZENS’ PETITION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Andrew George	13 Olivia Way	Scott Hepburn	14 Olivia Way
Angela George	13 Olivia Way	Joel Meiners	6 Olivia Way
Elizabeth Esielionis	3 Olivia Way	Brianne Harris	2 Olivia Way
Benjamin Kichen	3 Olivia Way	Jason Brown	2 Olivia Way
Kristina Csaplár	14 Olivia Way	Sandra McNabb	5 Olivia Way

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: No Position

Summary: The following summary was prepared by the petitioners and represents their view on the Article: *We the homeowners of Reedy Meadow Estates Trust are seeking a drainage easement onto Map 228, Parcel 59. We believe this drainage easement would address the following issues: 1. Continuous flooding impacting road access on Red Pepper Lane and Olivia Way; 2. Continuous pumping to alleviate flooding in basements, causing significant health and safety risks; 3. Ponding in back yards which lead to potential standing water health hazards; 4. Erosion damage to the central common area; 5. Availability of emergency vehicle access & commercial services to residents; 6. Allowing the excess overflow to be handled in an environmentally conscious and controlled manner. Since the flooding issues have arisen, we have been consulting with the Groton Earth Removal & Stormwater Advisory Committee, the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board to ensure that we are requesting the best possible action. We thank the town for their continued support.*

Mover: Andrew George

MOTION: I move that the Select Board and the Conservation Commission be authorized to enter into an agreement with the Reedy Meadow Estates Trust, by lease or otherwise, for use of a portion of Town of Groton Conservation property shown as Assessors Map 228, Parcel 59, for purposes of a drainage easement, said easement area being shown on a plan entitled “Overview Plan in Groton, MA, Reedy Meadow Estates, Date: February 4, 2019, revised February 18, 2019, prepared for Reedy Meadow LLC, Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, Prepared by Land Engineering & Environmental Services, Inc.” on file in the Office of the Town Clerk; that the Town acting by and through the Select Board and/or the Conservation Commission be authorized to acquire by purchase, gift or eminent domain, in mitigation thereof the land and property shown of a plan entitled “Land Swap Plan, Red Pepper Lane,

Groton, Massachusetts, dated April 23, 2019, Prepared for Reedy Meadow LLC, Prepared by Land Engineering & Environmental Services” and that the Select Board be hereby authorized to petition the General Court for such legislation necessary therefore.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3rds Majority

MOTION to Amend Article 26-Main Motion

Mover: Michelle Collette

I move to amend Article 26 by deleting the plan reference:

“Overview Plan in Groton, MA, Reedy Meadow Estates, Date: February 4, 2019, revised February 18, 2019, prepared for Reedy Meadow LLC, Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, Prepared by Land Engineering & Environmental Services, Inc.”

And by inserting in its place the plan reference:

“Easement Plan in Groton, Massachusetts, Olivia Way, Date: April 9, 2019, prepared for Reedy Meadow LLC, Tyngsboro, Massachusetts, Prepared by Land Engineering & Environmental Services, Inc.”

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- This article effects an exchange of land of equal or greater value to replace conservation land to be used as flood runoff, as required by the Massachusetts Constitution Article 97.
- The flood runoff is needed to alleviate flooding in the Olivia’s Way development.
- The amendment to the main motion is to update the plan of record
- Conservation Commission voted Majority Support of the April 23 plan
- Planning Board voted unanimous support of the citizen’s petition to effect drainage
- Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee recommends approval of the citizen’s petition

VOTE on Motion to Amend Article 26-Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

VOTE on Article 26-Main Motion As Amended: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLES 27 THROUGH 36 WILL BE PART OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. PLEASE SEE EXPLANATION PROVIDED BY THE TOWN MODERATOR AFTER ARTICLE 37.

CONSENT AGENDA: ARTICLES 27 through 36 Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35 and 36 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.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

The Moderator listed each article in the consent agenda, and asked the meeting if there was to be a hold. No holds were called.

ARTICLE 27: CURRENT YEAR LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer certain sums of money within the Fiscal Year 2019 budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *To transfer money within the Fiscal Year 2019 Budget should the need arise. A handout explaining any necessary transfers will be available at Town Meeting.*

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

ARTICLE 28: APPROPRIATE MONEY TO OFFSET SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, to reduce the deficit in the Fiscal Year 2019 Snow and Ice Budget, as approved under Article 4 of the 2018 Spring Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *This article will allow the Town to fund any deficit in the Snow and Ice Account in Fiscal Year 2019.*

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$65,000 from Overlay Surplus, to be expended by the Town Manager, to reduce the deficit in the Fiscal Year 2019 Snow and Ice Budget, as approved under Article 4 of the 2018 Spring Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 29: TRANSFER WITHIN WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Groton Water Department to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2019 Water Department Budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*
Water Commission: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article allows the Water Department to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.*

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Groton Water Department to transfer the sum of \$110,000 from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2019 Water Department Budget.

ARTICLE 30: TRANSFER WITHIN SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2019 Sewer Enterprise Department budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*
Sewer Commission: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article allows the Sewer Department to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.*

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$130,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2019 Sewer Enterprise Department budget.

ARTICLE 31: TRANSFER WITHIN CABLE ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Cable Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2019 Cable Enterprise Department budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*
Cable Advisory Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article allows the Cable Advisory Committee to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2019 budget. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.*

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Cable Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2019 Cable Enterprise Department budget.

ARTICLE 32: PRIOR YEAR BILLS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money for the payment of unpaid bills from prior fiscal years, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *Town Meeting approval is required to pay bills from a prior fiscal year. A list of unpaid bills will be provided at Town Meeting.*

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

ARTICLE 33: DEBT SERVICE FOR SURRENDEN FARMS

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, a sum or sums of money, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5 for debt service for Fiscal Year 2020 for the Surrenden Farm Land Acquisition, as authorized under Article 1 of the April 24, 2006 Special Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*
Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article appropriates the debt payments for the Surrenden Farm Land Purchase. Funding for this article will come from Community Preservation Funds. The anticipated debt service for*

Fiscal Year 2020 is \$481,660. To fund this, \$70,000 would be paid from the Open Space Reserve and \$411,660 would be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of \$70,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and the sum of \$411,660 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$481,660 to fund the Surrenden Farm debt service for Fiscal Year 2020.

ARTICLE 34: ESTABLISHING LIMITS FOR THE VARIOUS REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 44 sec 53E½ and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, to amend the Revolving Fund Bylaw to add or delete any revolving account and/or to set the FY 2020 spending limits for the various revolving funds as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY 2020 Spending Limit
Stormwater Management	\$20,000
Conservation Commission	\$50,000
Building Rental Fund	\$50,000
Affordable Housing Marketing	\$50,000
Home Recycling Equipment	\$10,000
Access for Persons with Disabilities	\$10,000
Boat Excise Tax Fund	\$ 5,000

or take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommend Unanimously*

Summary: *This Article sets the limit of annual spending for the various revolving funds authorized by previous Town Meeting vote and currently set forth in the Town’s Bylaw for said purpose.*

MOTION: I move that the Town vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. chapter 44 section 53E ½ and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, to set the FY 2020 spending limits for the various revolving funds as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY 2020 Spending Limit
Stormwater Management	\$20,000
Conservation Commission	\$50,000
Building Rental Fund	\$50,000
Affordable Housing Marketing	\$50,000
Home Recycling Equipment	\$10,000
Access for Persons with Disabilities	\$10,000
Boat Excise Tax Fund	\$ 5,000

ARTICLE 35: ACCEPT LAW INCREASING REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, §5C1/2, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, 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, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article is geared toward 70+ seniors, surviving spouses (widows/widowers), legally blind persons and veterans with service-connected disabilities. It would increase the exemption under state statute up to 100% of the exemption. These state exemption programs all have different eligibility requirements (inquire within the Assessor's office for specific eligibility requirements) in order to receive the specific exemption and are designed to help the neediest within our community to continue to remain in their homes by helping to relieve some of the property tax burden.*

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, §5C1/2, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, 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.

ARTICLE 36: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, §5

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, §5, last paragraph/sub-clause of clause 23 which, 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, to be eligible for the property tax exemptions of said clauses 22 through 22F under Massachusetts General Laws, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Town of Groton has adopted the provisions of MGL Chapter 59, Section 5 Clause 22 for a Veteran domiciled in Massachusetts for 6 consecutive months before entering the service or domiciled in Massachusetts for not less than 5 years prior to filing for his/her exemption. By local option, the residency requirement can be reduced to 1 year by a vote of Town Meeting.*

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 which, 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 Massachusetts General Laws.

VOTE on CONSENT AGENDA – MAIN MOTION: Passed by Unanimous Vote

MOTION to DISSOLVE the Spring 2019 Town Meeting

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority

VOTE on Motion to Dissolve: Passed by Majority Vote

The Spring 2019 Town Meeting was dissolved at 9:41 PM on May 6, 2019.

Moderator's Consent Agenda to Save Time at Town Meeting

To save time at Town Meeting, the Moderator will use a procedure known as a consent agenda. It is the bundling of non-controversial articles into a single motion to be voted on by Town Meeting. Routinely used in other towns, the consent agenda can save time by not requiring a main motion, a second, an explanation and a vote on every routine article to which there is no objection or question.

What Articles Are Included

The consent agenda will generally consist of regular housekeeping articles unanimously supported by the Select Board and Finance Committee. The warrant identifies which articles are proposed for the consent agenda. If the articles in the consent agenda changes prior to Town Meeting but after the printing of the warrant, voters will be advised at Town Meeting.

How Consent Agendas Work

When the meeting reaches the first article to be included in the consent agenda, the moderator will explain the process. The moderator will read the title of every article included in the consent agenda. He will pause after each article to allow any voter who has a question on the article to loudly state, "hold."

The held article will be set aside for individual consideration apart from the consent agenda. The voter who holds an article will be asked to identify him- or herself and be prepared to speak to the article later in the meeting.

After the meeting agrees on which articles to include in the consent agenda, there will be no debate and the moderator will immediately call for a vote. Every article included in the consent agenda will either pass or fail depending on the majority vote.

The articles held from the consent agenda will then be taken up individually in the order in which they appear in the warrant.

What Voters Need to Do

Town Meeting voters should review in advance the articles in the consent agenda and be ready to state which article(s) they wish to hold for individual consideration

Any voter with questions about Town Meeting procedure may call Town Moderator Jason Kauppi at (978) 391-4506 or email him at moderator@townofgroton.org.

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

Given under our hands this 8th Day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen.

Barry A. Pease

Barry A. Pease, Chairman

Alison S. Manugian

Alison S. Manugian, Vice Chairman

John R. Giger

John R. Giger, Clerk

Joshua A. Degen

Joshua A. Degen, Member

Rebecca H. Pine

Rebecca H. Pine, Member

OFFICERS RETURN

Groton, Middlesex

Pursuant to the within Warrant, I have this day notified the Inhabitants to assemble at the time, place, and for the purpose mentioned as within directed. Personally posted by Constable.

Constable

Date Duly Posted

BUDGET MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

TOWN OF GROTON FISCAL YEAR 2020

Pursuant to Article 6, Sections 6-3 and 6-4 of the Charter of the Town of Groton, Massachusetts, the Finance Committee, Select Board and Town Manager are pleased to submit for your consideration the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget for the Town of Groton. This is the fourth year that the Select Board and Finance Committee provided direction prior to the development of the proposed budget in compliance with the revised Financial Policies of the Town (and soon to be approved Revised Charter).

The Finance Committee and Board met with the Finance Team prior to the issuance of the initial budget instructions to review objectives and develop specific goals that would be followed during the development of the Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Operating Budget. The direction provided by the Select Board and Finance Committee was as follows:

1. The total increase in the Municipal Budget (minus excluded debt) shall be no greater than 2.54%.
2. The Town Manager shall submit a balanced budget, without the need of an override of Proposition 2½.
3. With the possible exception of fully funding two new Firefighter Positions in FY 2020, there shall be no new benefited positions proposed.
4. The Town Manager shall track changes in revenue projections (limited to three times per year) and provide revised estimates on December 31, 2018, March 31, 2019 and October 31, 2019.

The budget submitted to the Finance Committee and Select Board on December 21, 2018 met these directives. The Proposed Budget kept municipal spending to an increase of 1.93%, which was well under the 2.54% guidance while continuing to provide the same level of services that our residents currently receive. The initial proposed budget also set aside funding for both the Groton Dunstable Regional School District and the Nashoba Valley Technical School District that was in line with previous long-term projections. At the time the budget was submitted in December, it utilized all anticipated levy capacity expected in Fiscal Year 2020. Based on historical experience and by following the Town of Groton's Financial Policies, the original budget provided confidence that the revenue forecast for Fiscal Year 2020 was healthy and would allow the Town to maintain current service levels.

Since the original budget was submitted, Governor Charlie Baker has submitted his proposed State Budget, that included an anticipated increase in state aid to Groton of approximately \$55,000. In addition to this anticipated increase in state aid, there are two other issues that allowed the Town Manager to provide a proposed budget under the guidance. First, in FY 2019, the Town paid off its early retirement assessment to the Middlesex County Retirement System. This provided a reduction of \$200,000 in FY 2020, that allowed the Town to reduce the total assessment by \$108,646, when taking into consideration the FY 2020 increase in our unfunded pension liability. Second, the Town was successful during Collective Bargaining last year in decreasing the Town's health insurance cost share from eighty (80%) percent to seventy (70%) percent over two fiscal years (FY 2019 and FY 2020). This has allowed the Town to absorb an increase in health insurance rates of seven (7%) percent, while the overall employee benefit line item decreased by 0.94%.

The following chart shows what we expect to receive in revenues for FY 2020 that can be used to fund the Proposed Operating Budget:

<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Actual</u> <u>FY 2019</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>FY 2020</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
Property Tax**	\$ 30,650,535	\$ 31,778,998	\$ 1,128,463	3.68%
State Aid	\$ 909,717	\$ 965,342	\$ 55,625	6.11%
Local Receipts	\$ 3,993,241	\$ 4,120,480	\$ 127,239	3.19%
Enterprise Fund Reimbursement for Benefits	\$ 237,633	\$ 236,288	\$ (1,345)	-0.57%
Free Cash	\$ -	\$ 33,143	\$ 33,143	100.00%
Other Available Funds	\$ 305,000	\$ 300,000	\$ (5,000)	-1.64%
TOTAL	\$ 36,096,126	\$ 37,434,251	\$ 1,338,125	3.71%

**Includes two and one-half percent increase allowed by law and \$20 million in new growth.

There are some areas of the budget that the Finance Committee and Town Manager would like to call to your attention as you review the Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget. First, the Town has seven (7) Collective Bargaining Units. Fiscal Year 2020 will be the second year of three-year agreements with all seven (7) unions. Six (6) of the Unions call for Cost of Living Adjustments of two (2%) percent, while one agreement (Communications Union) calls for an increase of one and three quarters (1.75%) percent. As has been the Town's practice, the remaining three (3) By-Law employees receive the same adjustment as the Supervisors' Union, a wage adjustment of two (2%) percent. When you take into consideration these agreements, along with the employees that have contracts, salaries and wages will increase by \$139,041 in FY 2020.

While the performance incentive program remains in effect for many of our union employees, the way it is paid in FY 2020 will change for members of the Supervisors Union. For this Union, the incentive will be paid as a one-time cash bonus and will not be added to their base when calculating the FY 2021 Cost of Living Adjustment. This will allow the Town to use Free Cash for this portion of the budget since it can be considered a one-time expense. The total amount of the Incentive Program for all Unions is \$58,867, of which \$25,123 is for Supervisor Incentives and will be paid out of Free Cash. The tax levy will cover only \$33,744 of this increase. All told, contractual salary adjustments, including performance incentives, will increase by a total of \$197,908 in Fiscal Year 2020.

Second, there are significant changes to the town’s Debt Service in Fiscal Year 2020. The proposed budget carries the first-year full debt service for the Senior Center. This has increased excluded debt by \$396,417 from \$865,445 to \$1,261,862, or 45.8%. Residents will see an increase in their tax bills of approximately \$55 for this when you take into consideration a reduction in other excluded debt. The Town has also stabilized debt service within the operating budget. In Fiscal Year 2019, the Town followed a plan established in FY 2017 in which the Town temporarily borrowed funds to pay the debt service for the Lost Lake Fire Protection Project and Public Safety Radio Project. Added to the plan last year was the anticipated temporary debt service for the new Fire Department Ladder Truck. As part of this plan, instead of permanently borrowing the funds, the Town used the Excess and Deficiency Fund (“Free Cash”) to pay down principal in FY 2019, with the intent of paying off the debt by Fiscal Year 2028. In Fiscal Year 2019, the Town Meeting voted to transfer \$272,000 from Free Cash for this purpose.

The main purpose of this plan was to stabilize the amount of money within the tax levy at around \$250,000. The Finance Team reviews this plan each year to determine if following this plan and paying down principal with Free Cash continues to be in the best interest of the Taxpayer. When reviewing debt this year in anticipation of permanently borrowing for the Senior Center, it was determined that interest on temporary notes was getting closer to the rates charged for permanent financing. Based on this, it was decided that the time was right to permanently borrow for the Ladder Truck and Lost Lake Fire Protection, while continuing the use of Bond Anticipation Notes for the Radio Project. Due to very favorable rates on permanent financing (3.26%), the Town was able to keep in-levy debt service at around \$250,000, while reducing the need for Free Cash from \$272,946 in FY 2019 to \$98,714 in FY 2020. The following chart shows a comparison between FY 2019 and FY 2020:

	<u>FY 2019</u>		<u>FY 2020</u>
Long Term Debt - Principal Non-Excluded	\$ 40,040	\$	159,250
Long Term Debt - Interest - Non-Excluded	\$ 3,148	\$	87,433
Short Term Debt - Principal	\$ 429,438	\$	85,714
Short Term Debt - Interest	\$ 50,319	\$	13,000
Total	\$ 522,945	\$	345,397
Less Free Cash Offset	\$ 272,946	\$	98,714
Total Taxation for Debt Service	\$ 249,999	\$	246,683

Third, at the 2018 Fall Town Meeting, due to staffing needs in the Fire Department, the Town Meeting approved the hiring of two (2) additional Firefighter/EMT’s. Adding these two positions allowed the Fire Chief to assign increased coverage and provide consistency in supervision, which allowed the

Department to bolster their coverage seven (7) days a week to prevent any further staffing crises that the Department experienced last summer. To pay for these additional Firefighters in both Fiscal Years 2019 and 2020, Ambulance Receipts and Meals Tax revenues were increased as offsets to the Operating Budget. While these two new Firefighter/EMTs have joined the department and began providing additional coverage, the Fire Department Task Force Study Committee has completed its work which resulted in the recommendation to hire two (2) additional Firefighter/EMTs. The full report of the Fire Department Task Force Study Committee can be found at:

<http://townofgroton.org/Town/BoardsCommittees/FireDepartmentTaskForceStudyCommittee.aspx>

After consultation with the Fire Chief, both the Finance Committee and Select Board voted to add the two additional Firefighter/EMTs to the Fire Department in Fiscal Year 2020. These additions will further relieve staffing pressures, providing an environment that will allow the Fire Chief to focus on strengthening the Town's on-call Fire Department with the added benefit of providing 24/7 full-time Coverage. On-call personnel are a critical component of our response plan. Without the on-call members, the Town would be forced to invest in staffing a full-time 24/7 department. The net cost of adding these two positions in Fiscal Year 2020 is \$64,039 due to offsets in the proposed operating budget for expenses that are no longer needed with the addition of these two new positions. The following chart shows a breakdown of how this number was derived:

Fire Wages Proposed In the Town Manager's Budget	\$	981,602
2 Additional FF/EMTs	\$	117,240
EMT Incentive Pay	\$	(60,000)
Holiday/Stand-By Pay	\$	17,800
Call Firefighter/EMT Pay	\$	(11,001)
Fire Wages Needed	\$	1,045,641
Difference	\$	64,039

Fourth, although the operating budget of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District increased by 4.99%, the lack of an increase in state matching funds to the district resulted in Groton's assessment increasing by 5.19 percent or \$1,048,866. As stated in last year's Report, the cooperation and sharing of information between the Administration of the School Department, the Town Financial Staff, Regional School Committee, Select Board and Finance Committee continues to be strong and has allowed for the creation of a Budget that meets the needs of both the Municipal Government and School Department. As required by the Town Charter, the Town Manager submitted his proposed budget which included a 5.35 percent increase in the Town's assessment, or an increase of \$1,081,112. This amount was used as a place holder to balance the budget and was based on the five (5) year budget projection developed in Fiscal Year 2019.

The Superintendent's proposed budget was submitted to the School Committee in February, 2019, and included a proposed Groton Assessment of \$1,357,597, or an increase of 6.72%. The submitted budget reflected the impact of approximately \$400,000 in unanticipated expenses associated with state mandated programs and school enrollment changes. While this amount put the Town's budget out of balance, the proposed budget met the guidance of the School Committee and allows the district to continue to provide a quality education to the children of Groton and Dunstable.

The final budget was approved by the Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee after much deliberation and consideration of the ability of its member Towns (Groton and Dunstable) to meet its School Assessment obligations. The Regional School Committee determined that it would use a portion of its Excess and Deficiency Fund to offset the proposed assessments to both Towns, thereby reducing the Town of Groton's assessment by \$308,731, to \$21,264,294 in Fiscal Year 2020. The Town of Groton's approved financial policies, signed by both the Select Board and the Finance Committee, include the following statement:

"Ongoing operating costs will be funded by ongoing operating revenue sources. This protects the Town from fluctuating service levels and avoids concern when one-time revenues are reduced or removed."

Based on this policy and its underlying purpose, the Finance Committee is concerned with the use of the District's Excess and Deficiency Fund and the potential for it to cause a significant operating deficit going into the Fiscal Year 2021 budgeting process. Due to the fact that the district has stated that the use of free cash is expected to be a one-time occurrence, the towns may have to cover the loss of this funding source in addition to meeting any possible growth in the district's annual operating budget. To address this potential situation, the Select Board, Finance Committee and Regional School Committee have formed a Tri-Board to study both the Town's and Regional School's budgets to develop a strategy to address the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget.

Section 6-5 of the Groton Charter requires the Finance Committee to provide a report that details the differences between the Town Manager's Proposed Budget and their final Proposed Budget. The following Chart shows the differences between the budget received by the Finance Committee from the Town Manager on December 31, 2018 and the budget that will be proposed to the 2019 Spring Town Meeting:

Line	Department/Description	Original Proposed	Committee Approved
1030	Town Manager Salaries	\$ 216,997	\$ 225,163
1302	Police Expenses	\$ 216,400	\$ 213,400
1311	Fire Wages	\$ 981,602	\$ 1,045,641
1400	Nashoba Tech Operating Expenses	\$ 685,295	\$ 728,802
1410	GDRSD Operating Expenses	\$ 21,296,540	\$ 21,264,294
1610	Senior Center Van Wages	\$ 61,665	\$ 51,665
3010	Health Insurance/Employee Expenses	\$ 1,742,553	\$ 1,729,553

The following is a breakdown of the Finance Committee's Proposed Fiscal Year 2020 Operating Budget by function:

<u>Category</u>	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>FY 2020</u>	<u>Dollar Difference</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
General Government	\$ 2,029,219	\$ 2,086,103	\$ 56,884	2.80%
Land Use	\$ 432,378	\$ 450,361	\$ 17,983	4.16%
Protection of Persons and Property	\$ 4,128,335	\$ 4,358,041	\$ 229,706	5.56%
Department of Public Works	\$ 2,193,757	\$ 2,237,722	\$ 43,965	2.00%
Library and Citizen Services	\$ 1,658,318	\$ 1,674,572	\$ 16,255	0.98%
Sub-Total - Wages and Expenses	\$ 10,442,006	\$ 10,806,799	\$ 364,793	3.49%
Debt Service	\$ 1,388,390	\$ 1,607,259	\$ 218,869	15.76%
Employee Benefits	\$ 4,074,260	\$ 4,036,106	\$ (38,154)	-0.94%
Sub-Total - All Municipal	\$ 15,904,656	\$ 16,450,164	\$ 545,508	3.43%
Nashoba Tech	\$ 557,295	\$ 728,802	\$ 171,507	30.77%
Groton-Dunstable Operating	\$ 20,215,428	\$ 21,264,294	\$ 1,048,866	5.19%
Groton-Dunstable Excluded Debt	\$ 814,060	\$ 739,429	\$ (74,631)	-9.17%
Groton-Dunstable Debt	\$ 57,181	\$ 59,533	\$ 2,352	4.11%
Groton Dunstable Capital	\$ 425,425	\$ 479,012	\$ 53,587	12.60%
Sub-Total - Education	\$ 22,069,389	\$ 23,271,070	\$ 1,201,681	5.45%
Grand Total - Town Budget	\$ 37,974,045	\$ 39,721,234	\$ 1,747,189	4.60%

The total Fiscal Year 2020 Proposed Operating Budget, including Regional School Assessments and excluded debt, is \$39,721,234 or an increase of 4.60%. This proposed budget is expected to be \$197,995 under the anticipated FY 2020 Proposition 2½ Levy Limit. When you take into consideration the proposed Capital Budget, Enterprise Fund Budgets and additional appropriations raised on the recap sheet, the total proposed budget is \$42,672,563. The Fiscal Year 2019 Tax Rate has been certified at \$18.11. Based on the Proposed Budget, the estimated Tax Rate in Fiscal Year 2020 is \$18.59, or an increase of \$0.48. In Fiscal Year 2019, the average Tax Bill in the Town of Groton (based on a home valued at \$459,000) is \$8,312. Under this proposed budget, that same homeowner can expect a tax bill of \$8,533 or an increase of \$220. The following chart shows a comparison between FY 2019 and FY 2020:

	<u>Actual</u> <u>FY 2019</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>FY 2020</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
Levy Capacity Used*	\$ 30,575,728	\$ 31,581,003	\$ 1,005,275	3.29%
Tax Rate on Levy Capacity Used	\$ 17.12	\$ 17.48	\$ 0.36	2.10%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 7,858	\$ 8,023	\$ 165	2.10%
Excluded Debt	\$ 1,775,336	\$ 2,000,028	\$ 224,692	12.66%
Tax Rate on Excluded Debt	\$ 0.99	\$ 1.11	\$ 0.12	12.12%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 454	\$ 509	\$ 55	12.12%
Final Levy Used	\$ 32,351,064	\$ 33,581,031	\$ 1,229,967	3.80%
Final Tax Rate	\$ 18.11	\$ 18.59	\$ 0.48	2.65%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 8,312	\$ 8,533	\$ 220	2.65%

*The FY 2020 Levy Limit Used includes FY 2019 unexpended tax capacity of \$76,942 and \$20 million in New Growth

Significant Budget Drivers

The Town Manager presented a number of issues that resulted in significant discussion amongst the Select Board, School Committee, Finance Committee, and Finance Team. They included discussions of potential overrides, funding of Firefighters, funding of Prescott maintenance, rising costs of non- or partially-funded school mandates, Library roof repairs and the Highway garage project. Current five-year budget projections show a significant chance of the need for an operational override, particularly in FY2021. Discussions focused around the Town's options including identifying and cutting spending to match projected revenues, moving forward in FY2020 with a budget override, or moving forward in FY2021 with a budget override. Bringing spending in line with revenue provides for long-term sustainability, but requires significant discussions about services, staffing, and other long-term commitments. An override proposal in FY2020 would allow the Town to have a buffer as it enters the difficult FY2021 year. An override in FY2021 would allow the Town further time for planning. Multiple-year overrides were also proposed; they allow smaller increases based on immediate needs but may not put into perspective the overall budget picture.

Funding of firefighters has been a topic of discussion town-wide over the last six months. The Finance Committee tasked itself less with whether the firefighters were needed and more with how they might be funded. It ultimately recommended that the firefighters be funded to prevent the town from being put in a position of having to fund the staffing of a 24/7 fire department. In February the Groton Dunstable Regional School District hosted a combined meeting with both Groton's and Dunstable's Select Boards and Finance Committees. Some of the factors affecting the assessment increase to Groton and Dunstable included mandated programs such as increasing out-of-district tuitions; charter school assessments; country retirement assessments; and in-district collocates programs. While these program costs have increased, state aid for the regional school district has not increased proportionately and so assessments to the town must absorb the increases.

The Library is in need of a new roofing system. The Library Trustees commissioned an architect to evaluate the current roofing system and recommend a new roof. Part of the problem stems from

undersized roof drains while another part stems from a poor interface between the oldest roof over the original library and the roof over the addition. The Library Trustees have proposed a slate roof for the entire roof system and has also priced out a slate-styled shingle for a cost comparison. Although there are products that can reduce the initial cost to install the roof, it was decided that any such short-term savings would be lost as the cost to maintain and ultimately repair the less expensive roof would surpass the initial cost savings. The Highway Garage has not had an upgrade since 1989 and is in need of repair. Funding for design was approved at the Fall 2018 Town Meeting. Any upgrades by their nature trigger building code, life safety, and accessibility requirements for the facility as a whole. The Finance Committee is awaiting bid results and will report their recommendation to the 2019 Spring Town Meeting.

Prescott maintenance funding has become significantly higher than originally anticipated while no revenue for the Town is anticipated in the next two years. An additional \$77,000 has been requested over the original \$62,000 set aside in FY 2019. Both of these amounts are estimated to cover three years of maintenance and minor capital items. Although the Finance Committee is concerned with these unanticipated costs, in the short term, the town's responsibility for the building requires annual operating expenditures for insurance, plowing and critical repairs. The Finance Committee will continue to closely monitor expenses and of the ability of the lease holder to pick up operating expenses over time as the lease agreement requires. The Finance Committee recommends approval of this appropriation from the Town's Free Cash Account.

The Town Manager and Finance Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank the Select Board, Town Accountant Patricia DuFresne, Town Treasurer/Collector Michael Hartnett, Principal Assessor Jonathan Greeno, Human Resources Director Melisa Doig, Executive Assistant Dawn Dunbar and all of the Departments, Boards, Committees and Commissions for their outstanding work and cooperation in assisting in the preparation of the Proposed Operating Budget. In addition, the outstanding support and cooperation by Superintendent Dr. Laura Chesson, Business Manager Michael Knight and the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Committee was extremely important in developing this budget.

The Finance Committee encourages the public to attend its meetings and contribute through asking questions, providing comments, and listening to others debate the many important financial issues before the Town today.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Haddad

Groton Town Manager

Respectfully submitted,

Gary Green, Chair

Bud Robertson, Vice Chair

Colby Doody

Lorraine Leonard

David Manugian

Arthur Prest

Scott Whitefield

Town of Groton Finance Committee

TOWN OF GROTON FISCAL YEAR 2020 REVENUE ESTIMATES				
	BUDGETED	ESTIMATED		
	FY 2019	FY 2020	CHANGE	
PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	\$ 30,650,535	\$ 31,778,998	\$ 1,128,463	
DEBT EXCLUSIONS	\$ 1,677,855	\$ 2,000,028	\$ 322,173	
CHERRY SHEET - STATE AID	\$ 909,717	\$ 965,342	\$ 55,625	
UNEXPENDED TAX CAPACITY	\$ (76,942)	\$ -	\$ 76,942	
LOCAL RECEIPTS:				
General Revenue:				
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	\$ 1,549,739	\$ 1,577,642	\$ 27,903	
Meals Tax and Room Occupancy Tax	\$ 120,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 80,000	
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ -	
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ -	
Other Charges for Services	\$ 67,000	\$ 82,000	\$ 15,000	
Fees	\$ 325,000	\$ 300,000	\$ (25,000)	
Rentals	\$ 35,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 5,000	
Library Revenues	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ -	
Other Departmental Revenue	\$ 680,000	\$ 700,000	\$ 20,000	
Licenses and Permits	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ -	
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ -	
Investment Income	\$ 20,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 20,000	
Recreation Revenues	\$ 509,502	\$ 493,838	\$ (15,664)	
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Sub-total - General Revenue	\$ 3,993,241	\$ 4,120,480	\$ 127,239	
Other Revenue:				
Free Cash	\$ 372,946	\$ 300,857	\$ (72,089)	
Capital Stabilization Fund for GDRSD	\$ 425,425	\$ 479,012	\$ 53,587	
Stabilization Fund for Tax Rate Relief	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Capital Asset Stabilization Fund	\$ 455,558	\$ 504,945	\$ 49,387	
EMS/Conservation Fund Receipts Reserve	\$ 305,000	\$ 500,875	\$ 195,875	
Community Preservation Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Water Department Surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Sewer Department Surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Insurance Reimbursements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Encumbrances	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Sub-total - Other Revenue	\$ 1,558,929	\$ 1,785,689	\$ 226,760	
WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	\$ 1,278,160	\$ 1,262,219	\$ (15,941)	
SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	\$ 728,261	\$ 725,408	\$ (2,853)	
LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE	\$ 210,724	\$ 211,776	\$ 1,051	
FOUR CORNER SEWER ENTERPRISE	\$ 31,424	\$ 20,618	\$ (10,806)	
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE	\$ 40,961,904	\$ 42,870,558	\$ 1,908,654	

TOWN OF GROTON		
FISCAL YEAR 2020		
TAX LEVY CALCULATIONS		
FY 2020 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		
Finance Committee's Proposed Budget		
General Government	\$	2,086,103
Land Use Departments	\$	450,361
Protection of Persons and Property	\$	4,358,041
Regional School Districts	\$	23,271,070
Department of Public Works	\$	2,237,722
Library and Citizen Services	\$	1,674,572
Debt Service	\$	1,607,259
Employee Benefits	\$	4,036,106
Sub-Total - Operating Budget		\$ 39,721,234
A. TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS		\$ 39,721,234
B. CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS		\$ 705,820
C. ENTERPRISE FUND REQUESTS		\$ 1,983,733
D. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION REQUEST		
OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED		
1. Amounts certified for tax title purposes	\$	-
2. Debt and interest charges not included	\$	-
3. Final court judgments	\$	-
4. Total Overlay deficits of prior years	\$	-
5. Total cherry sheet offsets	\$	-
6. Revenue deficits	\$	-
7. Offset Receipts	\$	18,084
8. Authorized deferral of Teachers' Pay	\$	-
9. Snow and Ice deficit	\$	-
10. Other		
E. TOTAL OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED		\$ 18,084
F. STATE AND COUNTY CHERRY SHEET CHARGES		\$ 93,692
G. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS		\$ 150,000
TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		\$ 42,672,563
FY 2020 ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		
ESTIMATED TAX LEVY		
Levy Limit	\$	31,778,998
Debt Exclusion	\$	2,000,028
A. ESTIMATED TAX LEVY		\$ 33,779,026
B. CHERRY SHEET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		\$ 965,342
C. LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED		\$ 4,120,480
C. OFFSET RECEIPTS		\$ -
D. ENTERPRISE FUNDS		\$ 2,220,021
E. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS		\$ -
F. FREE CASH		\$ 300,857
OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS		
1. Stabilization Fund		
2. Capital Asset Fund	\$	983,957
3. EMS/Conservation Fund	\$	500,875
G. OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS		\$ 1,484,832
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		\$ 42,870,558
FY 2020 SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		\$ 197,995

APPENDIX A		TOWN OF GROTON								
		FISCAL YEAR 2020								
				FY 2020	FY 2020		FY 2020	FY 2020		
		FY 2018	FY 2019	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	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%		
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 65	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 145	123.08%	\$ 0.03	0.00%		
BOARD OF SELECTMEN										
1020	Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%		
1021	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%		
1022	Expenses	\$ 4,338	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	6.45%	\$ 0.69	0.01%		
1023	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%		
1024	Minor Capital	\$ 27,000	\$ 27,000	\$ 25,683	\$ 25,683	-4.88%	\$ 5.39	0.06%		
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 31,338	\$ 30,100	\$ 28,983	\$ 28,983	-3.71%	\$ 6.08	0.07%		
TOWN MANAGER										
1030	Salaries	\$ 204,592	\$ 211,121	\$ 225,163	\$ 225,163	6.65%	\$ 47.22	0.55%		
1031	Wages	\$ 106,371	\$ 114,138	\$ 120,592	\$ 120,592	5.65%	\$ 25.29	0.30%		
1032	Expenses	\$ 13,421	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	3.57%	\$ 3.04	0.04%		
1033	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%		
1034	Performance Evaluations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%		
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 324,384	\$ 339,259	\$ 360,255	\$ 360,255	6.19%	\$ 75.55	0.89%		

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
FINANCE COMMITTEE								
1040	Expenses	\$ 210	\$ 210	\$ 215	\$ 215	2.38%	\$ 0.05	0.00%
1041	Reserve Fund	\$ 86,806	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	0.00%	\$ 31.46	0.37%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 87,016	\$ 150,210	\$ 150,215	\$ 150,215	0.00%	\$ 31.50	0.37%
TOWN ACCOUNTANT								
1050	Salaries	\$ 87,395	\$ 91,110	\$ 95,155	\$ 95,155	4.44%	\$ 19.96	0.23%
1051	Wages	\$ 43,898	\$ 46,187	\$ 47,792	\$ 47,792	3.48%	\$ 10.02	0.12%
1052	Expenses	\$ 34,185	\$ 32,140	\$ 34,056	\$ 34,056	5.96%	\$ 7.14	0.08%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 165,478	\$ 169,437	\$ 177,003	\$ 177,003	4.47%	\$ 37.12	0.44%
BOARD OF ASSESSORS								
1060	Salaries	\$ 71,244	\$ 75,555	\$ 78,580	\$ 78,580	4.00%	\$ 16.48	0.19%
1061	Wages	\$ 39,823	\$ 52,675	\$ 62,321	\$ 62,321	18.31%	\$ 13.07	0.15%
1062	Expenses	\$ 17,521	\$ 22,630	\$ 25,281	\$ 25,281	11.71%	\$ 5.30	0.06%
1063	Legal Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 128,588	\$ 150,860	\$ 166,182	\$ 166,182	10.16%	\$ 34.85	0.41%
TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR								
1070	Salaries	\$ 84,966	\$ 88,165	\$ 91,700	\$ 91,700	4.01%	\$ 19.23	0.23%
1071	Wages	\$ 104,478	\$ 111,864	\$ 114,899	\$ 114,899	2.71%	\$ 24.10	0.28%
1072	Expenses	\$ 20,422	\$ 21,865	\$ 20,690	\$ 20,690	-5.37%	\$ 4.34	0.05%
1073	Tax Title	\$ 9,235	\$ 4,500	\$ 5,950	\$ 5,950	32.22%	\$ 1.25	0.01%
1074	Bond Cost	\$ 3,200	\$ 6,000	\$ 4,975	\$ 4,975	-17.08%	\$ 1.04	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 222,301	\$ 232,394	\$ 238,214	\$ 238,214	2.50%	\$ 49.96	0.59%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
TOWN COUNSEL								
1080	Expenses	\$ 50,831	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.00%	\$ 18.87	0.22%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 50,831	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.00%	\$ 18.87	0.22%
HUMAN RESOURCES								
1090	Salary	\$ 75,412	\$ 79,104	\$ 82,673	\$ 82,673	4.51%	\$ 17.34	0.20%
1091	Expenses	\$ 20,030	\$ 10,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000	10.00%	\$ 2.31	0.03%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 95,442	\$ 89,104	\$ 93,673	\$ 93,673	5.13%	\$ 19.64	0.23%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY								
1100	Salary	\$ 104,888	\$ 109,759	\$ 114,722	\$ 114,722	4.52%	\$ 24.06	0.28%
1101	Wages	\$ 48,048	\$ 56,635	\$ 58,848	\$ 58,848	3.91%	\$ 12.34	0.14%
1102	Expenses	\$ 20,637	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800	0.00%	\$ 5.20	0.06%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 173,573	\$ 191,194	\$ 198,370	\$ 198,370	3.75%	\$ 41.60	0.49%
GIS STEERING COMMITTEE								
1120	Expenses	\$ 5,408	\$ 18,600	\$ 18,600	\$ 18,600	0.00%	\$ 3.90	0.05%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 5,408	\$ 18,600	\$ 18,600	\$ 18,600	0.00%	\$ 3.90	0.05%
TOWN CLERK								
1130	Salaries	\$ 80,688	\$ 83,936	\$ 88,430	\$ 88,430	5.35%	\$ 18.54	0.22%
1131	Wages	\$ 55,252	\$ 61,274	\$ 61,618	\$ 61,618	0.56%	\$ 12.92	0.15%
1132	Expenses	\$ 4,157	\$ 11,690	\$ 9,575	\$ 9,575	-18.09%	\$ 2.01	0.02%
1135	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 140,097	\$ 156,900	\$ 159,623	\$ 159,623	1.74%	\$ 33.48	0.39%

		FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020		FY 2020	FY 2020
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ELECTIONS & BOARD OF REGISTRARS								
1140	Stipend	\$ 4,373	\$ 14,346	\$ 7,964	\$ 7,964	-44.49%	\$ 1.67	0.02%
1141	Expenses	\$ 5,841	\$ 11,070	\$ 11,276	\$ 11,276	1.86%	\$ 2.36	0.03%
1142	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 10,214	\$ 25,416	\$ 19,240	\$ 19,240	-24.30%	\$ 4.03	0.05%
STREET LISTINGS								
1150	Expenses	\$ 3,808	\$ 5,100	\$ 5,100	\$ 5,100	0.00%	\$ 1.07	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 3,808	\$ 5,100	\$ 5,100	\$ 5,100	0.00%	\$ 1.07	0.01%
INSURANCE & BONDING								
1160	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 208,670	\$ 230,000	\$ 230,000	\$ 230,000	0.00%	\$ 48.23	0.57%
1161	Insurance Deductible Reserve - Liability	\$ 2,160	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	0.00%	\$ 2.52	0.03%
1162	Insurance Deductible Reserve - 111F	\$ 17,229	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	0.00%	\$ 5.24	0.06%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 228,059	\$ 267,000	\$ 267,000	\$ 267,000	0.00%	\$ 55.99	0.66%
TOWN REPORT								
1170	Expenses	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.31	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 1,400	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.31	0.00%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
POSTAGE/TOWN HALL EXPENSES								
1180	Expenses	\$ 48,224	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	0.00%	\$ 11.53	0.14%
1181	Telephone Expenses	\$ 31,592	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	0.00%	\$ 8.39	0.10%
1182	Office Supplies	\$ 14,243	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	0.00%	\$ 3.57	0.04%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 94,059	\$ 112,000	\$ 112,000	\$ 112,000	0.00%	\$ 23.49	0.28%
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT		\$ 1,762,061	\$ 2,029,219	\$ 2,086,103	\$ 2,086,103	2.80%	\$ 437.48	5.13%
LAND USE DEPARTMENTS								
CONSERVATION COMMISSION								
1200	Salary	\$ 60,752	\$ 65,796	\$ 70,169	\$ 70,169	6.65%	\$ 14.72	0.17%
1201	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1202	Expenses	\$ 6,748	\$ 6,724	\$ 7,336	\$ 7,336	9.10%	\$ 1.54	0.02%
1203	Engineering & Legal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1204	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 67,500	\$ 72,520	\$ 77,505	\$ 77,505	6.87%	\$ 16.25	0.19%
PLANNING BOARD								
1210	Salaries	\$ 77,115	\$ 80,235	\$ 83,043	\$ 83,043	3.50%	\$ 17.42	0.20%
1211	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1212	Expenses	\$ 5,881	\$ 7,850	\$ 8,650	\$ 8,650	10.19%	\$ 1.81	0.02%
1215	M.R.P.C. Assessment	\$ 3,487	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,664	\$ 3,664	1.78%	\$ 0.77	0.01%
1216	Legal Budget	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 86,483	\$ 91,685	\$ 95,357	\$ 95,357	4.01%	\$ 20.00	0.23%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS								
1220	Wages	\$ 19,945	\$ 19,630	\$ 20,460	\$ 20,460	4.23%	\$ 4.29	0.05%
1221	Expenses	\$ 1,314	\$ 1,700	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	17.65%	\$ 0.42	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 21,259	\$ 21,330	\$ 22,460	\$ 22,460	5.30%	\$ 4.71	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	\$ 84,966	\$ 88,165	\$ 91,253	\$ 91,253	3.50%	\$ 19.14	0.22%
1241	Wages	\$ 62,321	\$ 58,327	\$ 61,762	\$ 61,762	5.89%	\$ 12.95	0.15%
1242	Expenses	\$ 2,294	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,100	-11.43%	\$ 0.65	0.01%
1243	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 149,581	\$ 149,992	\$ 156,115	\$ 156,115	4.08%	\$ 32.74	0.38%
MECHANICAL INSPECTOR								
1250	Fee Salaries	\$ 33,285	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	0.00%	\$ 6.29	0.07%
1251	Expenses	\$ 2,503	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.00%	\$ 1.05	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 35,788	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	0.00%	\$ 7.34	0.09%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018 ACTUAL	FY 2019 APPROPRIATED	FY 2020		PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	
				TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
EARTH REMOVAL INSPECTOR								
1260	Stipend	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.31	0.00%
1261	Expenses	\$ 77	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
1262	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,577	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,600	0.00%	\$ 0.34	0.00%
BOARD OF HEALTH								
1270	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1271	Expenses	\$ 886	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,175	\$ 1,175	17.50%	\$ 0.25	0.00%
1272	Nursing Services	\$ -	\$ 11,892	\$ 12,487	\$ 12,487	5.00%	\$ 2.62	0.03%
1273	Nashoba Health District	\$ 44,143	\$ 26,059	\$ 27,362	\$ 27,362	5.00%	\$ 5.74	0.07%
1274	Herbert Lipton MH	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	0.00%	\$ 1.68	0.02%
1275	Eng/Consult/Landfill Monitoring	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.00%	\$ 2.10	0.02%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 63,029	\$ 56,951	\$ 59,024	\$ 59,024	3.64%	\$ 12.38	0.15%
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES								
1280	Fee Salaries	\$ 1,360	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200	0.00%	\$ 0.67	0.01%
1281	Expenses	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,460	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	0.00%	\$ 0.69	0.01%
TOTAL LAND USE DEPARTMENTS		\$ 426,677	\$ 432,378	\$ 450,361	\$ 450,361	4.16%	\$ 94.45	1.11%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018 ACTUAL	FY 2019 APPROPRIATED	FY 2020		PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	
				TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY								
POLICE DEPARTMENT								
1300	Salaries	\$ 324,717	\$ 326,053	\$ 329,473	\$ 329,473	1.05%	\$ 69.09	0.81%
1301	Wages	\$ 1,704,868	\$ 1,815,832	\$ 1,877,967	\$ 1,877,967	3.42%	\$ 393.84	4.62%
1302	Expenses	\$ 199,499	\$ 210,969	\$ 213,400	\$ 213,400	1.15%	\$ 44.75	0.52%
1303	Lease or Purchase of Cruisers	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.00%	\$ 0.84	0.01%
1304	PS Building (Expenses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1305	Minor Capital	\$ 18,921	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	0.00%	\$ 4.19	0.05%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,252,005	\$ 2,376,854	\$ 2,444,840	\$ 2,444,840	2.86%	\$ 512.72	6.01%
FIRE DEPARTMENT								
1310	Salaries	\$ 113,086	\$ 116,478	\$ 125,000	\$ 125,000	7.32%	\$ 26.21	0.31%
1311	Wages	\$ 770,427	\$ 909,540	\$ 1,045,641	\$ 1,045,641	14.96%	\$ 219.29	2.57%
1312	Expenses	\$ 166,289	\$ 172,700	\$ 174,700	\$ 174,700	1.16%	\$ 36.64	0.43%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,049,802	\$ 1,198,718	\$ 1,345,341	\$ 1,345,341	12.23%	\$ 282.14	3.31%
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%	\$ 0.44	0.01%
1331	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.00%	\$ 0.08	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,082	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.00%	\$ 0.52	0.01%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER								
1340	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.00%	\$ 0.44	0.01%
1341	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.00%	\$ 0.08	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,082	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.00%	\$ 0.52	0.01%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY								
1350	Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1351	Expenses	\$ 11,806	\$ 12,750	\$ 12,750	\$ 12,750	0.00%	\$ 2.67	0.03%
1352	Minor Capital	\$ 17,749	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 29,555	\$ 12,750	\$ 12,750	\$ 12,750	0.00%	\$ 2.67	0.03%
DOG OFFICER								
1360	Salary	\$ 13,973	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.00%	\$ 3.15	0.04%
1361	Expenses	\$ 3,334	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.00%	\$ 0.84	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 17,307	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,000	\$ 19,000	0.00%	\$ 3.98	0.05%
POLICE & FIRE COMMUNICATIONS								
1370	Wages	\$ 442,099	\$ 497,797	\$ 512,769	\$ 512,769	3.01%	\$ 107.53	1.26%
1371	Expenses	\$ 17,767	\$ 18,250	\$ 18,375	\$ 18,375	0.68%	\$ 3.85	0.05%
1372	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 459,866	\$ 516,047	\$ 531,144	\$ 531,144	2.93%	\$ 111.39	1.31%
TOTAL PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY		\$ 3,812,699	\$ 4,128,335	\$ 4,358,041	\$ 4,358,041	5.56%	\$ 913.94	10.71%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGETS								
NASHOBA VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL								
1400	Operating Expenses	\$ 607,250	\$ 557,295	\$ 728,802	\$ 728,802	30.77%	\$ 152.84	1.79%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 607,250	\$ 557,295	\$ 728,802	\$ 728,802	30.77%	\$ 152.84	1.79%
GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT								
1410	Operating Expenses	\$ 20,175,864	\$ 20,215,428	\$ 21,264,294	\$ 21,264,294	5.19%	\$ 4,459.41	52.26%
1411	Debt Service, Excluded	\$ -	\$ 814,060	\$ 739,429	\$ 739,429	-9.17%	\$ 155.07	1.82%
1412	Debt Service, Unexcluded	\$ -	\$ 57,181	\$ 59,533	\$ 59,533	4.11%	\$ 12.48	0.15%
1413	Out of District Placement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1414	Capital Assessment	\$ -	\$ 425,425	\$ 479,012	\$ 479,012	12.60%	\$ 100.46	1.18%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 20,175,864	\$ 21,512,094	\$ 22,542,268	\$ 22,542,268	4.79%	\$ 4,727.42	55.40%
TOTAL SCHOOLS		\$ 20,783,114	\$ 22,069,389	\$ 23,271,070	\$ 23,271,070	5.45%	\$ 4,880.26	57.19%
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS								
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT								
1500	Salaries	\$ 103,824	\$ 108,592	\$ 112,891	\$ 112,891	3.96%	\$ 23.67	0.28%
1501	Wages	\$ 651,064	\$ 682,727	\$ 702,999	\$ 702,999	2.97%	\$ 147.43	1.73%
1502	Expenses	\$ 130,570	\$ 136,900	\$ 136,900	\$ 136,900	0.00%	\$ 28.71	0.34%
1503	Highway Maintenance	\$ 76,770	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.00%	\$ 18.87	0.22%
1504	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 962,228	\$ 1,018,219	\$ 1,042,790	\$ 1,042,790	2.41%	\$ 218.69	2.56%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018 ACTUAL	FY 2019 APPROPRIATED	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
				TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
STREET LIGHTS								
1510	Expenses	\$ 9,375	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.00%	\$ 3.15	0.04%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 9,375	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.00%	\$ 3.15	0.04%
SNOW AND ICE								
1520	Expenses	\$ 164,894	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	0.00%	\$ 34.60	0.41%
1521	Overtime	\$ 302,663	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	0.00%	\$ 29.36	0.34%
1522	Hired Equipment	\$ 93,794	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	0.00%	\$ 7.34	0.09%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 561,351	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	0.00%	\$ 71.30	0.84%
TREE WARDEN BUDGET								
1530	Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1531	Expenses	\$ 1,155	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0.00%	\$ 0.63	0.01%
1532	Trees	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.31	0.00%
1533	Tree Work	\$ 6,185	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.00%	\$ 2.10	0.02%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 7,340	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	0.00%	\$ 3.04	0.04%
MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE								
1540	Wages	\$ 121,420	\$ 135,700	\$ 145,276	\$ 145,276	7.06%	\$ 30.47	0.36%
1541	Expenses	\$ 269,376	\$ 260,850	\$ 260,850	\$ 260,850	0.00%	\$ 54.70	0.64%
1542	Minor Capital	\$ 26,878	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	0.00%	\$ 4.19	0.05%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 417,674	\$ 416,550	\$ 426,126	\$ 426,126	2.30%	\$ 89.36	1.05%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL								
1550	Wages	\$ 123,095	\$ 133,393	\$ 138,211	\$ 138,211	3.61%	\$ 28.98	0.34%
1551	Expenses	\$ 52,457	\$ 44,486	\$ 44,486	\$ 44,486	0.00%	\$ 9.33	0.11%
1552	Tipping Fees	\$ 132,890	\$ 130,000	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000	3.85%	\$ 28.31	0.33%
1553	North Central SW Coop	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	0.00%	\$ 1.23	0.01%
1554	Minor Capital	\$ 5,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.00%	\$ 2.10	0.02%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 319,292	\$ 323,729	\$ 333,547	\$ 333,547	3.03%	\$ 69.95	0.82%
PARKS DEPARTMENT								
1560	Wages	\$ 367	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1561	Expenses	\$ 65,617	\$ 65,759	\$ 65,759	\$ 65,759	0.00%	\$ 13.79	0.16%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 65,984	\$ 65,759	\$ 65,759	\$ 65,759	0.00%	\$ 13.79	0.16%
TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS		\$ 2,343,244	\$ 2,193,757	\$ 2,237,722	\$ 2,237,722	2.00%	\$ 469.28	5.50%
<u>LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES</u>								
COUNCIL ON AGING								
1600	Salaries	\$ 73,523	\$ 76,790	\$ 79,489	\$ 79,489	3.51%	\$ 16.67	0.20%
1601	Wages	\$ 59,494	\$ 75,451	\$ 77,707	\$ 77,707	2.99%	\$ 16.30	0.19%
1602	Expenses	\$ 7,572	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,454	0.00%	\$ 1.77	0.02%
1603	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 140,589	\$ 160,695	\$ 165,650	\$ 165,650	3.08%	\$ 34.74	0.41%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
SENIOR CENTER VAN								
1610	Wages	\$ 48,642	\$ 60,200	\$ 51,665	\$ 51,665	-14.18%	\$ 10.83	0.13%
1611	Expenses	\$ 7,999	\$ 17,673	\$ 17,673	\$ 17,673	0.00%	\$ 3.71	0.04%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 56,641	\$ 77,873	\$ 69,338	\$ 69,338	-10.96%	\$ 14.54	0.17%
VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER								
1620	Salary	\$ 3,484	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.00%	\$ 1.05	0.01%
1621	Expenses	\$ 65	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	0.00%	\$ 0.23	0.00%
1622	Veterans' Benefits	\$ 33,772	\$ 50,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	-16.00%	\$ 8.81	0.10%
1623	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 37,321	\$ 56,100	\$ 48,100	\$ 48,100	-14.26%	\$ 10.09	0.12%
GRAVES REGISTRATION								
1630	Salary/Stipend	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	0.00%	\$ 0.05	0.00%
1631	Expenses	\$ 760	\$ 760	\$ 760	\$ 760	0.00%	\$ 0.16	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,010	\$ 1,010	\$ 1,010	\$ 1,010	0.00%	\$ 0.21	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	\$ 167	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	0.00%	\$ 0.17	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 167	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	0.00%	\$ 0.17	0.00%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
LIBRARY								
1660	Salary	\$ 367,599	\$ 379,281	\$ 393,185	\$ 393,185	3.67%	\$ 82.46	0.97%
1661	Wages	\$ 282,798	\$ 326,922	\$ 331,213	\$ 331,213	1.31%	\$ 69.46	0.81%
1662	Expenses	\$ 199,547	\$ 200,498	\$ 205,304	\$ 205,304	2.40%	\$ 43.06	0.50%
1663	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 849,944	\$ 906,701	\$ 929,702	\$ 929,702	2.54%	\$ 194.97	2.28%
COMMEMORATIONS & CELEBRATIONS								
1670	Expenses	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 0.10	0.00%
1671	Fireworks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 0.10	0.00%
WATER SAFETY								
1680	Wages	\$ 2,713	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,118	\$ 4,118	-1.95%	\$ 0.86	0.01%
1681	Expenses and Minor Capital	\$ 22,129	\$ 28,747	\$ 30,301	\$ 30,301	5.41%	\$ 6.35	0.07%
1682	Property Maint. & Improvements	\$ 6,103	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	0.00%	\$ 1.89	0.02%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 30,945	\$ 41,947	\$ 43,419	\$ 43,419	3.51%	\$ 9.11	0.11%
WEED MANAGEMENT								
1690	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1691	Expenses: Weed Harvester	\$ 4,397	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	\$ 7,000	0.00%	\$ 1.47	0.02%
1692	Expenses: Great Lakes	\$ 2,340	\$ 2,385	\$ 2,385	\$ 2,385	0.00%	\$ 0.50	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 6,737	\$ 9,385	\$ 9,385	\$ 9,385	0.00%	\$ 1.97	0.02%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2020	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2020	FY 2020
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET		AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
GROTON COUNTRY CLUB								
1700	Salary	\$ 143,285	\$ 149,336	\$ 157,118	\$ 157,118	5.21%	\$ 32.95	0.39%
1701	Wages	\$ 102,441	\$ 112,481	\$ 114,461	\$ 114,461	1.76%	\$ 24.00	0.28%
1702	Expenses	\$ 152,061	\$ 139,940	\$ 133,540	\$ 133,540	-4.57%	\$ 28.01	0.33%
1703	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 397,787	\$ 401,757	\$ 405,119	\$ 405,119	0.84%	\$ 84.96	1.00%
TOTAL LIBRARY AND CITIZEN SERVICES		\$ 1,523,191	\$ 1,658,318	\$ 1,674,572	\$ 1,674,572	0.98%	\$ 351.18	4.12%
DEBT SERVICE								
DEBT SERVICE								
2000	Long Term Debt - Principal Excluded	\$ 928,600	\$ 682,210	\$ 894,840	\$ 894,840	31.17%	\$ 187.66	2.20%
2001	Long Term Debt - Principal Non-Excluded	\$ -	\$ 40,040	\$ 159,250	\$ 159,250	297.73%	\$ 33.40	0.39%
2002	Long Term Debt - Interest - Excluded	\$ 210,517	\$ 183,235	\$ 367,022	\$ 367,022	100.30%	\$ 76.97	0.90%
2003	Long Term Debt - Interest - Non-Excluded	\$ -	\$ 3,148	\$ 87,433	\$ 87,433	2677.41%	\$ 18.34	0.21%
2006	Short Term Debt - Principal - Town	\$ -	\$ 429,438	\$ 85,714	\$ 85,714	-80.04%	\$ 17.98	0.21%
2007	Short Term Debt - Interest - Town	\$ 37,917	\$ 50,319	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	-74.16%	\$ 2.73	0.03%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,177,034	\$ 1,388,390	\$ 1,607,259	\$ 1,607,259	15.76%	\$ 337.06	3.95%
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE		\$ 1,177,034	\$ 1,388,390	\$ 1,607,259	\$ 1,607,259	15.76%	\$ 337.06	3.95%
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS								
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS								
GENERAL BENEFITS								
3000	County Retirement	\$ 1,966,279	\$ 2,081,699	\$ 1,973,053	\$ 1,973,053	-5.22%	\$ 413.78	4.85%
3001	State Retirement	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ 169,000	\$ 169,000	69.00%	\$ 35.44	0.42%
3002	Unemployment Compensation	\$ 10,626	\$ 35,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	-57.14%	\$ 3.15	0.04%
INSURANCE								
3010	Health Insurance/Employee Expenses	\$ 1,458,725	\$ 1,716,301	\$ 1,729,553	\$ 1,729,553	0.77%	\$ 362.71	4.25%
3011	Life Insurance	\$ 3,145	\$ 3,160	\$ 3,400	\$ 3,400	7.59%	\$ 0.71	0.01%
3012	Medicare/Social Security	\$ 122,813	\$ 138,100	\$ 146,100	\$ 146,100	5.79%	\$ 30.64	0.36%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 3,661,588	\$ 4,074,260	\$ 4,036,106	\$ 4,036,106	-0.94%	\$ 846.43	9.92%
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		\$ 3,661,588	\$ 4,074,260	\$ 4,036,106	\$ 4,036,106	-0.94%	\$ 846.43	9.92%

				FY 2020	FY 2020		FY 2020	FY 2020
		FY 2018	FY 2019	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	\$ 516,692	\$ 455,558	\$ 705,820	\$ 705,820	54.94%	\$ 148.02	1.73%
	Offset Reciepts	\$ 18,953	\$ 18,998	\$ 18,084	\$ 18,084	-4.81%	\$ 3.79	0.04%
	Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	Snow and Ice Deficit	\$ 208,145	\$ 171,350	\$ -	\$ -	-100.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	State and County Charges	\$ 89,523	\$ 91,612	\$ 93,692	\$ 93,692	2.27%	\$ 19.65	0.23%
	Allowance for Abatements/Exemptions	\$ 95,516	\$ 200,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	-25.00%	\$ 31.46	0.37%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 928,829	\$ 937,518	\$ 967,596	\$ 967,596	3.21%	\$ 202.92	2.38%
	GRAND TOTAL - TOWN BUDGET	\$ 36,418,437	\$ 38,911,563	\$ 40,688,830	\$ 40,688,830	4.57%	\$ 8,533	100.00%

FY 2020 ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGETS							
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2017 ACTUAL	FY 2018 ACTUAL	FY 2019 APPROPRIATED	FY 2020 DEPARTMENT REQUEST	FY 2020 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE
WATER DEPARTMENT							
	WD Salaries	\$ 122,031	\$ 122,759	\$ 126,957	\$ 145,271	\$ 145,271	14.43%
	WD Wages	\$ 171,307	\$ 193,076	\$ 215,106	\$ 167,539	\$ 167,539	-22.11%
	WD Expenses	\$ 619,773	\$ 510,616	\$ 535,704	\$ 547,269	\$ 547,269	2.16%
	WD Debt Service	\$ 356,716	\$ 398,045	\$ 400,393	\$ 402,140	\$ 402,140	0.44%
100	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,269,827	\$ 1,224,496	\$ 1,278,160	\$ 1,262,219	\$ 1,262,219	-1.25%
SEWER DEPARTMENT							
	Sewer Salaries	\$ 18,301	\$ 18,200	\$ 18,642	\$ 19,395	\$ 19,395	4.04%
	Sewer Wages	\$ 34,079	\$ 39,119	\$ 37,461	\$ 38,974	\$ 38,974	4.04%
	Sewer Expense	\$ 619,440	\$ 595,119	\$ 633,821	\$ 629,420	\$ 629,420	-0.69%
	Sewer Debt Service	\$ 4,938	\$ 4,050	\$ 38,338	\$ 37,619	\$ 37,619	-1.87%
200	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 676,758	\$ 656,488	\$ 728,261	\$ 725,408	\$ 725,408	-0.39%
FOUR CORNERS SEWER DEPARTMENT							
	Four Corners Sewer Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	Four Corners Sewer Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	Four Corners Sewer Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,424	\$ 20,618	\$ 20,618	-34.39%
	Four Corners Sewer Debt Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
300	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,424	\$ 20,618	\$ 20,618	-34.39%
LOCAL ACCESS CABLE DEPARTMENT							
	Cable Salaries	\$ 67,795	\$ 70,921	\$ 75,731	\$ 77,180	\$ 77,180	1.91%
	Cable Wages	\$ 41,188	\$ 50,079	\$ 52,210	\$ 54,259	\$ 54,259	3.92%
	Cable Expenses	\$ 62,862	\$ 64,174	\$ 72,783	\$ 75,337	\$ 75,337	3.51%
	Cable Minor Capital	\$ 45,187	\$ 6,462	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	-50.00%
400	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 217,032	\$ 191,636	\$ 210,724	\$ 211,776	\$ 211,776	0.50%
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUNDS		\$ 2,163,617	\$ 2,072,620	\$ 2,248,570	\$ 2,220,021	\$ 2,220,021	-1.27%

		APPENDIX B		FACTOR:	1.0200
		Town of Groton Personnel By-Law			
		Wage and Classification Schedule			
		Fiscal Year 2020 (Effective July 1, 2019)			
Grade	Position Title	Low			High
4	Salary				
		38,877			48,112
	Wages				
		18.72			23.12
5	Salary				
		41,097			50,866
	Wages				
		19.78			24.46
7	Salary				
		47,520			60,192
	Wages				
		23.39			28.93
8	Salary				
		53,946			66,795
	Wages				
		25.94			32.11
9	Salary				
		55,246			68,364
	Wages				
		26.56			32.87
10	Salary				
	Executive Assistant to Town Manager	63,360			79,969
	Wages				
		30.47			40.94
11	Salary				
	Human Resources Director	68,069			84,234
	Wages				
		32.73			40.50
12	Salary				
		68,274			84,528
	Wages				
		32.84			40.65

		APPENDIX B		FACTOR:	1.0200
		Town of Groton Personnel By-Law			
		Wage and Classification Schedule			
		Fiscal Year 2020 (Effective July 1, 2019)			
Grade	Position Title	Low			High
13	Salary	70,712			89,749
	Wages	33.71			41.72
14	Salary	70,701			87,489
	Wages	34.00			42.06
15	Salary	74,554			92,256
	Wages	35.83			44.35
16	Salary	77,247			95,645
	Wages	37.14			45.96
17	Salary	86,541			107,060
	Wages	41.61			51.48
18	Salary	93,589			115,824
	IT Director				
	Wages	45.00			55.69
19	Salary	96,047			118,843
	Wages	46.17			57.16
20	Salary	102,986			126,659
	Wages	49.52			60.90

APPENDIX B				
NON-CLASSIFIED, TEMPORARY SEASONAL AND STIPEND POSITIONS				
NON-STEP AND STIPEND POSITIONS				
FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT			Country Club Seasonal Employees	
Deputy Chief: Fire	25.34		Pro Shop Staff	12.75 - 17.00
Call Captain: Fire	24.51		Pool Staff	12.75 - 17.00
Call Lieutenant: Fire	24.02		Lifeguards	12.75 - 18.00
Call Firefighter	21.01		Swim Coaches	12.75 - 21.75
Call Emergency Medical Technician	21.01		Camp Staff	12.75 - 17.00
Probationary Firefighter	17.50		Counselors	12.75 - 18.00
Probationary Emergency Medical Technician	17.50		Buildings & Grounds	12.75 - 26.75
			Library Shelves	12.75 - 18.00
MISCELLANEOUS				
Veteran's Agent	1,742			
Director of Veteran's Services	1,742			
Earth Removal Inspector	1,500			
Dog Officer	15,000			
Animal Inspector	2,082			
Animal Control Officer	2,082			
Town Diarist	1.00			
Keeper of the Town Clock	1.00			
Per Diem Van Driver	18.66 - 21.00			
Park Ranger	12.75			
Graves Registration Officer	250			
Emergency Management Director	1,270			
Election Worker: Warden	Minimum Wage			
Election Worker: Precinct Clerk	Minimum Wage			
Election Worker: Inspectors (Checker)	Minimum Wage			