

Warrant, Summary, and Recommendations

TOWN OF GROTON



SPECIAL TOWN MEETING SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

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

Beginning Monday, September 12, 2022 @ 7:00 P.M.

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers

Please bring this Report to Town Meeting

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT
SEPTEMBER 12, 2022**

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 twelfth day of September, 2022 at Seven O'clock in the evening, to consider the following:

Article 1: *Additional Funding for the Florence Roche Elementary School Construction*

To see if the Town will appropriate a sum of money to pay costs of designing and constructing a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto, which amount shall be expended in addition to the \$76,495,360 previously appropriated for this project under Article 8 of the Warrant at the Town Meeting held on May 1, 2021; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by borrowing or otherwise provided, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Select Board

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *Permission is respectfully sought for authorization to increase the borrowing for the Florence Roche Elementary School Project by \$9.5 million. As a Town, we recognized the importance and need for a new elementary school for our youngest residents when the Town authorized funding for the Project. This need has not changed, and the reasons why this school is needed in our Town are the same.*

Voter approvals in May of 2021 authorized borrowing for \$76,495,360 for the construction of the project, which is funded in part by a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority. The grant is anticipated to be \$26.1 million, with the remaining amount funded by the Town of Groton. Construction of the project is well underway.

There has been unprecedented escalation in construction costs across the Commonwealth since the project was approved in May of 2021. The current estimated project cost is \$85.9 million, \$9.5 million more than was previously authorized.

Therefore, permission is respectfully sought for authorization to increase the borrowing for the Florence Roche Elementary School Project by \$9.5 million.

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 22nd Day of August in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-Two.

John F. Reilly

John F. Reilly, Chair

Rebecca H. Pine

Rebecca H. Pine, Vice Chair

Matthew F. Pisani

Matthew F. Pisani, Clerk

Alison S. Manugian

Alison S. Manugian, Member

Peter S. Cunningham

Peter S. Cunningham, 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



Groton Town Meeting Amendment Work Sheet

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

☐

I move to amend the {main motion | amendment}

by striking the words _____

and by substituting the words _____

☐

I move to amend the {main motion | amendment}

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

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

☐

I move to amend the {main motion | amendment}

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

after the words _____

Name (printed): _____ Signature: _____

Street: _____ Date: _____

See instructions and information on reverse

Continuation

Instructions for using this form:

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

From the *Groton Town Meeting Procedures* booklet:

Amendments

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

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

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

General Information:

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

**TOWN OF GROTON
COMMITTEE INTEREST FORM**

Town Government needs citizens who are willing to give time in the service of their community. If you are interested in serving, on a voluntary basis, on boards and committees within the Town, please complete this form and return to:

**TOWN OF GROTON, SELECT BOARD
173 MAIN STREET, GROTON, MA 01450**

Date: _____

Name _____
First M.I. Last

Mailing Address _____

Circle One GROTON, 01450 WEST GROTON, 01472

Telephone No. (home) _____ (cell) _____

Preferred e-mail Address _____

Occupation _____

Background _____

Specific committees in which you are interested:

Department Name	Vacancies
Affordable Housing Trust	1
Agricultural Commission	1
Cable Advisory Committee	1
Commemorations & Celebrations Committee	1
Commission on Accessibility	1
Diversity Task Force	1
Great Pond Advisory Committee	3
Historic District Commission	2
Historical Commission	1
Housing Partnership	1
Invasive Species Committee	1
Local Cultural Council	5
Old Burying Ground Commission	2
Park Commission	1
Personnel Board	1
Scholarship Committee	2
Sustainability Commission	1
Weed Harvester Committee	2
Williams Barn Committee	1
Zoning Board of Appeals (Alternates)	1

Town of Groton
Select Board
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

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