

Town of Groton



2026 Spring Town Meeting Packet

May 2, 2026

**SPRING TOWN MEETING
MOTIONS
MAY 2, 2026**

CONSENT MOTION #1 – Articles 1 through 4

Mover: Matt Pisani

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles as set forth in the motions in the Town Meeting Information Handout, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter, prior to the taking of the vote, requests the right to debate a specific article, then said article shall be removed from this motion and acted upon in the ordinary course of business.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 1: Hear Reports

MOTION: I move that the Town’s 2025 Annual Report be received and placed in the permanent records of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 2: Elected Officials’ Compensation

MOTION: I move that the following compensation be set for the following elected officials for the ensuing year: Town Moderator - \$1,000.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 3: Wage and Classification Schedule

MOTION: I move that the Town of Groton Wage and Classification Schedule be amended and adopted for Fiscal Year 2027 as printed in Appendix B of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 4: Appropriate Funding for OPEB Trust

MOTION: I move that Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund authorized by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32B, Section 20.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 5: Fiscal Year 2027 Annual Operating Budget

MOTION 1: General Government **Mover: Bud Robertson**

MOTION: I move that Two Million Seven Hundred One Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars (\$2,701,294) be hereby appropriated for General Government as represented by lines 1000 through 1182 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$22,250 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), and the sum of \$2,679,044 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

CONSENT MOTION #2 – Motions 2-13 **Mover: Bud Robertson**

I move that the Town take affirmative action on Motion 2 through Motion 13, under Article 5, as set forth in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter requests the right to debate a specific budget motion, then said motion shall be debated and voted upon separately.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 2: Land Use Departments

MOTION: I move that Five Hundred Ninety-Six Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Two Dollars (\$596,422) be hereby appropriated for Land Use Departments as represented by lines 1200 through 1281 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$8,125 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), and the sum of \$588,297 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 3: Protection of Persons & Property

MOTION: I move that Five Million Sixty Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars (\$5,060,927) be appropriated for Protection of Persons and Property as represented by lines 1300 through 1372 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$758 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), the sum of \$350,000 be transferred from Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved, and the sum of \$4,710,169 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: SCHOOLS

a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School

MOTION: I move that the sum of Nine Hundred Thirty-Nine Thousand Six Hundred Nine Dollars (\$939,609) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School as represented by line 1400 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

b.) Groton Dunstable Regional School District

MOTION: I move that Thirty Million One Thousand Four Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$30,001,459) be hereby appropriated for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District as represented by lines 1410 through 1414 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$250,000 be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District; the sum of \$174,500 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); the sum of and the sum of \$29,576,959 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 5: Department of Public Works

MOTION: I move that Two Million Two Hundred Forty-Seven Thousand Twenty Dollars (\$2,247,020) be hereby appropriated for the Department of Public Works as represented by lines 1500 through 1561 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, \$3,880 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), and \$2,243,140 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 6: Library and Citizens Services

MOTION: I move that the sum of Two Million Four Hundred Eighty-Nine Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty-One Dollars (\$2,489,751) be hereby appropriated for Library and Citizens' Services as represented by lines 1600 through 1713 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$65,463 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), the sum of \$130,000 be transferred from Local Access Cable Receipts Reserved, and \$2,294,288 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 7: Debt Service

MOTION: I move that Six Million Seven Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Thirty-Three Dollars (\$6,775,033) be hereby appropriated for Debt Service as represented by lines 2000 through 2005B as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$198,725 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), the sum of \$98,680 be transferred from Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved, and the sum of \$6,477,628 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 8: Employee Benefits

MOTION: I move that Four Million Eight Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-One Dollars (\$4,848,431) be raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2027 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for Employee Benefits as represented by Line Items 3000, 3002, 3010, 3011 and 3012 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 9: Water Enterprise

MOTION: I move that Two Million One Hundred Twelve Thousand Six Hundred Ten Dollars (\$2,112,610) 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 as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$1,814,242 be appropriated from Water Rates and Fees, the sum of \$74,380 be hereby transferred from Water Enterprise Excess and Deficiency, the sum of \$33,000 be transferred from the 3M Settlement Receipts Reserved for Appropriation, and the sum of \$190,988 in the Town’s General Fund Operating Budget be raised and appropriated to be allocated to the Water Enterprise for FY 2027.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 10: Sewer Enterprise

MOTION: I move that One Million Thirty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-One Dollars (\$1,035,771) be appropriated to be spent by the Groton Sewer Commission to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town for the Groton Sewer Enterprise as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$924,643 be appropriated from Sewer Rates and Fees, the sum of \$74,759 be hereby transferred from Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency, and the sum of \$36,369 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2027.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 11: Four Corners Sewer Enterprise

MOTION: I move that One Hundred Three Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Nine Dollars (\$103,539) be hereby appropriated to be spent by the Groton Sewer Commission for the Fiscal Year 2026 Budget for the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$62,163 be appropriated from Four Corners Sewer Rates and Fees, the sum of \$35,150 be hereby transferred from Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency, and the sum of \$6,226 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2027.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 12: Stormwater Utility Enterprise

MOTION: I move that Two Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Five Dollars (\$282,565) be hereby appropriated to be spent by the Town Manager to defray all operating expenses and any reimbursements to the Town of the Stormwater Utility Enterprise as shown in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$246,869 be hereby transferred from Stormwater Utility Rates and Fees, and the sum of \$35,696 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Stormwater Utility Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2027.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 13: Electric Light

MOTION: I move that the income from sales of electricity to private customers or for electricity supplied to municipal buildings, together with receipts from jobbing accounts, be appropriated for the Groton Electric Light Department, the whole to be expended by the Manager of the Groton Electric Light Department under the direction and control of the Groton Board of Electric Light Commissioners, for expenses of the Department for Fiscal Year 2027, as defined in the Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 154, Section 57, and that, if said sum and said income shall exceed said expense for said year, such excess shall be transferred to the construction fund of said plant and appropriated and used for such additions thereto as may thereafter be authorized by the Board of Electric Light Commissioners.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 6: Fiscal Year 2027 Capital Budget

Mover: John Reilly

MOTION A: I move that Five Hundred Thousand (\$500,000) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Ambulance 2 for the Fire Department, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$500,000 under and pursuant to the Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

MOTION B: I move that Seven Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-One Dollars (\$775,681) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2026 and thereafter, for the capital items identified as Item 2 through Item 19 as set forth in Article 6 of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$50,000 be transferred from the Fire & Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved, and the sum of \$725,681 be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
PFAS Free Structural FF Gear	\$ 50,000	Fire and EMS
Pick-Up Truck	\$ 75,000	Highway
Brush Mower/Field Mower	\$ 30,000	Highway
Truck Painting	\$ 25,000	Highway
IT Infrastructure	\$ 40,000	Town Facilities
Municipal Building Minor Capital	\$120,000	Town Facilities
Property Improvements	\$ 25,000	Park Department
Police Cruisers	\$147,010	Police Department
Police Minor Capital	\$ 34,750	Police Department
Electronic Control Devices - Tasers	\$ 10,500	Police Department
Golf Carts	\$ 27,000	Country Club
Ventrac Attachments	\$ 10,918	Country Club
Greens Equipment – Truckster XD	\$ 14,736	Country Club
Greens Equipment – Greens Mower	\$ 12,067	Country Club
Greens Equipment – Fairway Mower	\$ 20,000	Country Club
Greens Equipment – Rough Mower	\$ 20,000	Country Club
Roof for the Pavilion	\$ 14,200	Country Club
Communication Improvements	\$ 99,500	Police/Fire/DPW
Total	\$775,681	

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 7: Community Preservation Funding Accounts

Mover: Bruce Easom

MOTION: I move that the following sums be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund and allocated to the following sub accounts:

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 34,000
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 113,500
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 113,500
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 113,500
Unallocated Reserve:	\$ <u>760,500</u>
Total	\$1,135,000

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 8: CPC Funding Recommendations

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION 1: I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Four Million Eight Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Four Hundred Dollars (\$4,853,400), be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-02 “Cow Pond Brook Fields Improvements”, identified on Assessors Maps as Parcels 249-40 and 249-57, that said parcels be managed, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 45, Section 3, and as it may hereafter be amended and other Massachusetts statutes relating to public parks and playgrounds, to be managed and controlled by the Park Commission of Groton, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$4,853,400, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purpose; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to file on behalf of the Town of Groton any and all applications deemed necessary under the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, pursuant to P.L.88-578, or any other applications for funds in any way connected with the scope of this project, as described in Article 8.B of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

CONSENT MOTION #3 - CPA Funding Recommendations

Mover: Phil Francisco

I move that the Town take affirmative action on Motion 2 through Motion 7, under Article 8, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, and as set forth in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided however that if any voter requests the right to debate a specific motion, then said motion shall be debated and voted upon separately.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 2: Lighting Improvements – Prescott - \$9,850

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Nine Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$9,850) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-01 “Lighting Improvements – Prescott” as described in Article 8.A of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 3: Housing Coordinator – FY 2027 - \$72,929

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Seventy-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars (\$72,929) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-04 “Housing Coordinator – FY 2027”, as described in Article 8.C of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: Pollinator Pathway Garden - \$2,500

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space and Recreation Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-05 “Pollinator Pathway Garden” as described in Article 8.D of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 5: FY 2027 Housing Request - \$100,000

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-07 “FY 2027 Housing Funds Request”, as described in Article 8.E of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 6: Cutler Softball Field Establishment - \$99,000

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Ninety-Nine Thousand Dollars (\$99,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space and Recreation Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-08 “Cutler Softball Field Establishment” as described in Article 8.F of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 7: Boutwell Playground Renovation - \$233,923

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that Forty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Nine Dollars (\$42,329) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and One Hundred Ninety-One Thousand Five Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars (\$191,594) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$233,923, to fund Community Preservation Application 2027-09 “Boutwell Playground Renovation”, as described in Article 8.G of the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 9: Exempt Uncontrollable Costs from the Tax Levy

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 10: Amend Chapter 168 - Stretch Energy Code

Mover: Rebecca Pine

MOTION: I move to adopt the Municipal Opt-in Specialized Stretch Energy Code and amend the Code of the Town of Groton effective as of January 1, 2027, as set forth in Article 10 of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 11: Squannacook River Dam Repair

Mover: Rebecca Pine

MOTION: I move that Seven Hundred Eighty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$782,500) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the repair of the Squannacook River Dam, including all incidental and related costs, that to meet this appropriation, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of \$133,000 be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Reserve, and, further, that the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the further sum of \$649,500, under and pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such repair; and, further, to authorize the Select Board to acquire, by gift, purchase, or eminent domain such land and easements that may be necessary to complete said project and maintain said dam on such terms and conditions as the Select Board deems to be in the best interest of the Town; and further, to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for a special act as contained in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, as may be necessary for the acquisition of said land or easements outside of the boundaries of the Town of Groton, provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments thereto before enactment by the General Court, which amendments shall be within the public purposes of said petition.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

Article 12: Amend Zoning Bylaw

Mover: Russ Burke

MOTION: I move to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning, Section 218-2.5.D(2) as set forth in Article 12 of the Warrant for the 2026 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3s Majority

CONSENT MOTION #4 – Articles 13 through 22

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21 and 22 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles as set forth in the motions in the Town Meeting Information Handout, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter, prior to the taking of the vote, requests the right to debate a specific article, then said article shall be removed from this motion and acted upon in the ordinary course of business.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 13: Funding for the Destination Groton Committee

MOTION: I move that Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager in Fiscal Year 2027, for the purpose of providing funding for the Destination Groton Committee to carry out the Charge of the Committee, and all costs associated and related thereto.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 14: Transfer within the Water Enterprise Fund

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 15: Transfer Within the Center Sewer Enterprise Fund

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 16: Transfer Within the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Fund

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 17: Prior Year Bills

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 18: Appropriate Money to Offset the Snow and Ice Deficit

MOTION: I move that One Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$180,000) be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund and One Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$165,000) be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), for a total amount of \$345,000, to be expended by the Town Manager, to reduce the deficit in the Fiscal Year 2026 Snow and Ice Budget, as approved under Article 5 of the April 26, 2025 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 19: Debt Service for Middle School Track

MOTION: I move that the Town appropriate, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of Six Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Forty-Five Dollars (\$648,945) from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund the debt service for Fiscal Year 2027 for the Middle School Track Project, as authorized under Article 7 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting and Article 9 of the April 30, 2022 Spring Town Meeting.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 20: Funding for Main Street Traffic Study

MOTION: I move that this Article be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 21: Appropriation to Fund Town Forest Expenses

MOTION: I move to transfer the sum of \$12,000 from the Receipts Reserved for the Town Forest to Town Forest Expenses.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Article 22: Establishing Limits for the Various Revolving Funds

MOTION: I move to amend Section 71-1 of the Code of the Town of Groton (entitled “Funds Established”, by inserting the following amendment establishing a new revolving fund, to follow after the “Conservation Commission” revolving fund:

<u>Program or Purpose</u>	<u>Representative or Board Authorized to Spend</u>	<u>Departmental Receipts</u>
Park Commission	Park Commission	User fees received for use of Town Fields

and, further, to amend Section 71-2 (entitled “Limitation on or increase in expenditures) by adding the following text to the end of the existing text: “The second paragraph of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 3, is accepted to allow any balance in the Park Commission Revolving Account at the close of each fiscal year to remain available for expenditure, without appropriation for such purposes in future years”, and, further, pursuant to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, Section 53E½, and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, to set the FY 2027 spending limits for the various revolving funds as follows:

Program or Purpose	FY 2027 Spending Limit
Stormwater Management	\$20,000
Conservation Commission	\$50,000
Park Commission	\$100,000
Building Rental Fund	\$50,000
Affordable Housing Marketing	\$20,000
Home Recycling Equipment	\$20,000
Access for Persons with Disabilities	\$10,000
Council on Aging Program Fund	\$40,000
Boat Excise Tax Fund	\$ 5,000
Transfer Station Glass	\$20,000
Senior Center Fitness Equipment	\$20,000

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

APPENDIX A

TOWN OF GROTON FISCAL YEAR 2027

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>							
MODERATOR							
1000	Salaries	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	0.21	0.00%
1001	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80	0.02	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,000	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,080	\$ 1,080	0.22	0.00%
BOARD OF SELECTMEN							
1020	Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1021	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1022	Expenses	\$ 1,602	\$ 4,750	\$ 4,750	\$ 4,750	0.98	0.01%
1023	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1024	Minor Capital	\$ 23,987	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 25,589	\$ 4,750	\$ 4,750	\$ 4,750	0.98	0.01%
TOWN MANAGER							
1030	Salaries	\$ 258,862	\$ 295,327	\$ 309,297	\$ 309,297	64.00	0.54%
1031	Wages	\$ 117,302	\$ 107,625	\$ 81,803	\$ 81,803	16.93	0.14%
1032	Expenses	\$ 17,633	\$ 12,100	\$ 12,100	\$ 12,100	2.50	0.02%
1033	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1034	Performance Evaluations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 393,797	\$ 415,052	\$ 403,200	\$ 403,200	83.44	0.71%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
FINANCE COMMITTEE							
1040	Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1041	Reserve Fund	\$ 89,297	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	31.04	0.26%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 89,297	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	31.04	0.26%
TOWN ACCOUNTANT							
1050	Salaries	\$ 118,162	\$ 125,885	\$ 220,266	\$ 220,266	45.58	0.39%
1051	Wages	\$ 75,102	\$ 79,344	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1052	Expenses	\$ 50,298	\$ 83,633	\$ 54,378	\$ 54,378	11.25	0.10%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 243,562	\$ 288,862	\$ 274,644	\$ 274,644	56.83	0.48%
BOARD OF ASSESSORS							
1060	Salaries	\$ 98,686	\$ 105,500	\$ 208,186	\$ 208,186	43.08	0.37%
1061	Wages	\$ 75,381	\$ 80,460	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1062	Expenses	\$ 46,008	\$ 61,579	\$ 63,617	\$ 63,617	13.16	0.11%
1063	Legal Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 220,075	\$ 247,539	\$ 271,803	\$ 271,803	56.25	0.48%
TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR							
1070	Salaries	\$ 154,493	\$ 223,052	\$ 208,103	\$ 208,103	43.06	0.37%
1071	Wages	\$ 80,332	\$ 97,504	\$ 85,965	\$ 85,965	17.79	0.15%
1072	Expenses	\$ 22,878	\$ 28,020	\$ 40,850	\$ 40,850	8.45	0.07%
1073	Tax Title	\$ 948	\$ 7,100	\$ 4,100	\$ 4,100	0.85	0.01%
1074	Bond Cost	\$ 7,700	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,300	0.48	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 266,351	\$ 357,976	\$ 341,318	\$ 341,318	70.63	0.60%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
TOWN COUNSEL							
1080	Expenses	\$ 159,787	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	18.62	0.16%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 159,787	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	18.62	0.16%
HUMAN RESOURCES							
1090	Salary	\$ 96,936	\$ 102,549	\$ 108,670	\$ 108,670	22.49	0.19%
1091	Expenses	\$ 10,832	\$ 14,400	\$ 14,400	\$ 14,400	2.98	0.03%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 107,768	\$ 116,949	\$ 123,070	\$ 123,070	25.47	0.22%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY							
1100	Salary	\$ 124,060	\$ 131,977	\$ 135,906	\$ 135,906	28.12	0.24%
1101	Wages	\$ 73,547	\$ 77,173	\$ 81,076	\$ 81,076	16.78	0.14%
1102	Expenses	\$ 22,889	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800	5.13	0.04%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 220,496	\$ 233,950	\$ 241,782	\$ 241,782	50.03	0.43%
GIS STEERING COMMITTEE							
1120	Expenses	\$ 3,000	\$ 8,300	\$ 8,300	\$ 8,300	1.72	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 3,000	\$ 8,300	\$ 8,300	\$ 8,300	1.72	0.01%
TOWN CLERK							
1130	Salaries	\$ 100,427	\$ 124,896	\$ 107,687	\$ 107,687	22.28	0.19%
1131	Wages	\$ 76,848	\$ 80,642	\$ 89,640	\$ 89,640	18.55	0.16%
1132	Expenses	\$ 6,286	\$ 13,200	\$ 13,445	\$ 13,445	2.78	0.02%
1135	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 183,561	\$ 218,738	\$ 210,772	\$ 210,772	43.62	0.37%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ELECTIONS & BOARD OF REGISTRARS							
1140	Stipend	\$ 23,678	\$ 5,933	\$ 19,550	\$ 19,550	4.05	0.03%
1141	Expenses	\$ 37,686	\$ 16,124	\$ 18,325	\$ 18,325	3.79	0.03%
1142	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 61,364	\$ 22,057	\$ 37,875	\$ 37,875	7.84	0.07%
STREET LISTINGS							
1150	Expenses	\$ 5,655	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,200	1.49	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 5,655	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,200	\$ 7,200	1.49	0.01%
INSURANCE & BONDING							
1160	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 356,695	\$ 390,000	\$ 390,000	\$ 390,000	80.70	0.69%
1161	Insurance Deductible Reserve - Liability	\$ 10,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	2.48	0.02%
1162	Insurance Deductible Reserve - 111F	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	5.17	0.04%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 366,695	\$ 427,000	\$ 427,000	\$ 427,000	88.36	0.75%
TOWN REPORT							
1170	Expenses	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.31	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.31	0.00%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
POSTAGE/TOWN HALL EXPENSES							
1180	Expenses	\$ 62,036	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	12.42	0.11%
1181	Telephone Expenses	\$ 23,343	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	6.21	0.05%
1182	Office Supplies	\$ 14,503	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	3.52	0.03%
<hr/>							
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 99,882	\$ 107,000	\$ 107,000	\$ 107,000	22.14	0.19%
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	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 2,449,379	\$ 2,697,953	\$ 2,701,294	\$ 2,701,294	558.99	4.75%

LAND USE DEPARTMENTS

CONSERVATION COMMISSION							
1200	Salary	\$ 79,070	\$ 85,565	\$ 88,132	\$ 88,132	18.24	0.15%
1201	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1202	Expenses	\$ 9,488	\$ 8,270	\$ 8,270	\$ 8,270	1.71	0.01%
1203	Engineering & Legal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1204	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
<hr/>							
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 88,558	\$ 93,835	\$ 96,402	\$ 96,402	19.95	0.17%
<hr/>							
PLANNING BOARD							
1210	Salaries	\$ 98,446	\$ 125,030	\$ 129,111	\$ 129,111	26.72	0.23%
1211	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1212	Expenses	\$ 9,226	\$ 9,625	\$ 9,625	\$ 9,625	1.99	0.02%
1215	M.R.P.C. Assessment	\$ 4,041	\$ 4,142	\$ 4,308	\$ 4,308	0.89	0.01%
1216	Legal Budget	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
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	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 111,713	\$ 138,797	\$ 143,044	\$ 143,044	29.60	0.25%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS							
1220	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1221	Expenses	\$ 358	\$ 1,335	\$ 1,135	\$ 1,135	0.23	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 358	\$ 1,335	\$ 1,135	\$ 1,135	0.23	0.00%
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION							
1230	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1231	Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
BUILDING INSPECTOR							
1240	Salaries	\$ 107,031	\$ 113,370	\$ 116,555	\$ 116,555	24.12	0.20%
1241	Wages	\$ 65,391	\$ 67,500	\$ 70,920	\$ 70,920	14.68	0.12%
1242	Expenses	\$ 25,727	\$ 24,897	\$ 24,897	\$ 24,897	5.15	0.04%
1243	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 198,149	\$ 205,767	\$ 212,372	\$ 212,372	43.95	0.37%
MECHANICAL INSPECTOR							
1250	Fee Salaries	\$ 45,510	\$ 39,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	6.21	0.05%
1251	Expenses	\$ 3,398	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	0.72	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 48,908	\$ 42,500	\$ 33,500	\$ 33,500	6.93	0.06%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027	FY 2027	FY 2027	FY 2027
				TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
EARTH REMOVAL INSPECTOR							
1260	Stipend	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	0.52	0.00%
1261	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.10	0.00%
1262	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,500	\$ 2,800	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0.62	0.01%
BOARD OF HEALTH							
1270	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1271	Expenses	\$ 1,195	\$ 1,575	\$ 1,950	\$ 1,950	0.40	0.00%
1272	Nursing Services	\$ -	\$ 21,047	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1273	Nashoba Health District	\$ 60,879	\$ 45,921	\$ 87,057	\$ 87,057	18.02	0.15%
1274	Herbert Lipton MH	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1275	Eng/Consult/Landfill Monitoring	\$ 13,834	\$ 13,834	\$ 14,700	\$ 14,700	3.04	0.03%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 75,908	\$ 82,377	\$ 103,707	\$ 103,707	21.46	0.18%
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES							
1280	Fee Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1281	Expenses	\$ 3,262	\$ 3,900	\$ 3,262	\$ 3,262	0.68	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 3,262	\$ 3,900	\$ 3,262	\$ 3,262	0.68	0.01%
TOTAL LAND USE DEPARTMENTS		\$ 529,356	\$ 571,311	\$ 596,422	\$ 596,422	123.42	1.05%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
<u>PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY</u>							
POLICE DEPARTMENT							
1300	Salaries	\$ 305,016	\$ 342,265	\$ 362,683	\$ 362,683	75.05	0.64%
1301	Wages	\$ 2,104,310	\$ 2,305,558	\$ 2,327,044	\$ 2,327,044	481.54	4.09%
1302	Expenses	\$ 222,253	\$ 269,900	\$ 258,700	\$ 258,700	53.53	0.45%
1303	Lease or Purchase of Cruisers	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1304	PS Building (Expenses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1305	Minor Capital	\$ 12,981	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,649,560	\$ 2,917,723	\$ 2,948,427	\$ 2,948,427	610.13	5.18%
FIRE DEPARTMENT							
1310	Salaries	\$ 156,377	\$ 290,944	\$ 310,733	\$ 310,733	64.30	0.55%
1311	Wages	\$ 1,357,489	\$ 1,367,470	\$ 1,514,757	\$ 1,514,757	313.45	2.66%
1312	Expenses	\$ 217,674	\$ 225,646	\$ 236,046	\$ 236,046	48.85	0.41%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,731,540	\$ 1,884,060	\$ 2,061,536	\$ 2,061,536	426.60	3.62%
GROTON WATER FIRE PROTECTION							
1320	West Groton Water District	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1321	Groton Water Department	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
ANIMAL INSPECTOR							
1330	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.43	0.00%
1331	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.08	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,082	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.51	0.00%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER							
1340	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.43	0.00%
1341	Expenses	\$ 16	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.08	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,098	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.51	0.00%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY							
1350	Salary	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.83	0.01%
1351	Expenses	\$ 2,452	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	2.07	0.02%
1352	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 6,452	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,000	2.90	0.02%
DOG OFFICER							
1360	Salary	\$ 17,500	\$ 20,000	\$ 29,000	\$ 29,000	6.00	0.05%
1361	Expenses	\$ 3,119	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0.62	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 20,619	\$ 23,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	6.62	0.06%
POLICE & FIRE COMMUNICATIONS							
1370	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1371	Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1372	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
TOTAL PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY		\$ 4,412,351	\$ 4,843,747	\$ 5,060,927	\$ 5,060,927	1,047.28	8.90%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
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REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGETS

NASHOBA VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

1400	Operating Expenses	\$ 966,719	\$ 908,490	\$ 939,609	\$ 939,609	194.44	1.65%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 966,719	\$ 908,490	\$ 939,609	\$ 939,609	194.44	1.65%

GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

1410	Operating Expenses	\$ 26,857,540	\$ 28,247,632	\$ 29,468,816	\$ 29,468,816	6,098.10	51.81%
1411	Debt Service, Excluded	\$ -	\$ 110,389	\$ 108,143	\$ 108,143	22.38	0.19%
1412	Debt Service, Unexcluded	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1413	Out of District Placement	\$ 619,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1414	Capital Assessment	\$ 295,767	\$ 278,643	\$ 424,500	\$ 424,500	87.84	0.75%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 27,772,307	\$ 28,636,664	\$ 30,001,459	\$ 30,001,459	6,208.32	52.74%

TOTAL SCHOOLS		\$ 28,739,026	\$ 29,545,154	\$ 30,941,068	\$ 30,941,068	6,402.76	54.39%
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

1500	Salaries	\$ 122,664	\$ 204,124	\$ 131,539	\$ 131,539	27.22	0.23%
1501	Wages	\$ 732,506	\$ 708,918	\$ 631,396	\$ 631,396	130.66	1.11%
1502	Expenses	\$ 134,519	\$ 147,900	\$ 152,900	\$ 152,900	31.64	0.27%
1503	Highway Maintenance	\$ 75,214	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	16.55	0.14%
1504	Minor Capital	\$ 2,525	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,067,428	\$ 1,140,942	\$ 995,835	\$ 995,835	206.07	1.75%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
STREET LIGHTS							
1510	Expenses	\$ 14,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	3.10	0.03%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 14,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	3.10	0.03%
SNOW AND ICE							
1520	Expenses	\$ 184,740	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	34.14	0.29%
1521	Overtime	\$ 249,818	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	28.97	0.25%
1522	Hired Equipment	\$ 77,992	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	7.24	0.06%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 512,550	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	70.36	0.60%
TREE WARDEN BUDGET							
1530	Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1531	Expenses	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0.62	0.01%
1532	Trees	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.31	0.00%
1533	Tree Work	\$ 19,978	\$ 30,000	\$ 17,700	\$ 17,700	3.66	0.03%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 22,978	\$ 34,500	\$ 22,200	\$ 22,200	4.59	0.04%
MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE							
1540	Wages	\$ 158,908	\$ 170,064	\$ 178,832	\$ 178,832	37.01	0.31%
1541	Expenses	\$ 266,399	\$ 282,950	\$ 282,950	\$ 282,950	58.55	0.50%
1542	Minor Capital	\$ 24,932	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 450,239	\$ 453,014	\$ 461,782	\$ 461,782	95.56	0.81%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL							
1550	Wages	\$ 154,212	\$ 164,820	\$ 159,908	\$ 159,908	33.09	0.28%
1551	Expenses	\$ 44,258	\$ 45,686	\$ 45,686	\$ 45,686	9.45	0.08%
1552	Tipping Fees	\$ 150,388	\$ 145,000	\$ 145,000	\$ 145,000	30.01	0.25%
1553	North Central SW Coop	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	1.21	0.01%
1554	Minor Capital	\$ 2,827	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 357,535	\$ 361,356	\$ 356,444	\$ 356,444	73.76	0.63%
PARKS DEPARTMENT							
1560	Wages	\$ 7,200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1561	Expenses	\$ 51,018	\$ 55,759	\$ 55,759	\$ 55,759	11.54	0.10%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 58,218	\$ 55,759	\$ 55,759	\$ 55,759	11.54	0.10%
TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS		\$ 2,483,448	\$ 2,400,571	\$ 2,247,020	\$ 2,247,020	464.98	3.95%
<u>LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES</u>							
COUNCIL ON AGING							
1600	Salaries	\$ 167,193	\$ 176,376	\$ 183,283	\$ 183,283	37.93	0.32%
1601	Wages	\$ 35,105	\$ 70,526	\$ 74,948	\$ 74,948	15.51	0.13%
1602	Expenses	\$ 14,793	\$ 20,200	\$ 12,700	\$ 12,700	2.63	0.02%
1603	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 217,091	\$ 267,102	\$ 270,931	\$ 270,931	56.06	0.48%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
SENIOR CENTER VAN							
1610	Wages	\$ 77,824	\$ 64,874	\$ 84,046	\$ 84,046	17.39	0.15%
1611	Expenses	\$ 12,993	\$ 21,023	\$ 21,023	\$ 21,023	4.35	0.04%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 90,817	\$ 85,897	\$ 105,069	\$ 105,069	21.74	0.18%
VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER							
1620	Salary	\$ 6,243	\$ 6,429	\$ 6,622	\$ 6,622	1.37	0.01%
1621	Expenses	\$ 50	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	0.23	0.00%
1622	Veterans' Benefits	\$ 20,741	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	5.17	0.04%
1623	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$ 27,034	\$ 32,529	\$ 32,722	\$ 32,722	6.77	0.06%
GRAVES REGISTRATION							
1630	Salary/Stipend	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	0.05	0.00%
1631	Expenses	\$ 1,039	\$ 1,060	\$ 1,060	\$ 1,060	0.22	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,289	\$ 1,310	\$ 1,310	\$ 1,310	0.27	0.00%
CARE OF VETERAN GRAVES							
1640	Contract Expenses	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.31	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.31	0.00%
OLD BURYING GROUND COMMITTEE							
1650	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	0.17	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ -	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	0.17	0.00%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
LIBRARY							
1660	Salary	\$ 435,562	\$ 480,538	\$ 499,264	\$ 499,264	103.31	0.88%
1661	Wages	\$ 319,135	\$ 366,043	\$ 353,111	\$ 353,111	73.07	0.62%
1662	Expenses	\$ 225,435	\$ 230,546	\$ 212,440	\$ 212,440	43.96	0.37%
1663	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 980,132	\$ 1,077,127	\$ 1,064,815	\$ 1,064,815	220.35	1.87%
COMMEMORATIONS & CELEBRATIONS							
1670	Expenses	\$ 559	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.10	0.00%
1671	Fireworks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 559	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.10	0.00%
WATER SAFETY							
1680	Wages	\$ 1,073	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	1.03	0.01%
1681	Expenses and Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ 3,950	\$ 3,950	\$ 3,950	0.82	0.01%
1682	Property Maint. & Improvements	\$ 1,816	\$ 2,400	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	0.21	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,889	\$ 11,350	\$ 9,950	\$ 9,950	2.06	0.02%
WEED MANAGEMENT							
1690	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
1691	Expenses: Weed Harvester	\$ 158	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	4.55	0.04%
1692	Expenses: Great Lakes	\$ 83,212	\$ 22,385	\$ 22,385	\$ 22,385	4.63	0.04%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 83,370	\$ 44,385	\$ 44,385	\$ 44,385	9.18	0.08%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
GROTON COUNTRY CLUB							
1700	Salary	\$ 199,646	\$ 205,094	\$ 213,401	\$ 213,401	44.16	0.38%
1701	Wages	\$ 278,311	\$ 295,791	\$ 326,509	\$ 326,509	67.57	0.57%
1702	Expenses	\$ 266,417	\$ 235,885	\$ 238,067	\$ 238,067	49.26	0.42%
1703	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 744,374	\$ 736,770	\$ 777,977	\$ 777,977	160.99	1.37%
LOCAL ACCESS CABLE DEPARTMENT							
1710	Salaries	\$ 71,050	\$ 84,330	\$ 87,572	\$ 87,572	18.12	0.15%
1711	Wages	\$ 61,166	\$ 71,030	\$ 73,469	\$ 73,469	15.20	0.13%
1712	Expenses	\$ 15,299	\$ 14,270	\$ 18,750	\$ 18,750	3.88	0.03%
1713	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 147,515	\$ 169,630	\$ 179,791	\$ 179,791	37.20	0.32%
TOTAL LIBRARY AND CITIZEN SERVICES		\$ 2,296,569	\$ 2,428,900	\$ 2,489,751	\$ 2,489,751	515.21	4.38%
<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>							
DEBT SERVICE							
2000	Long Term Debt - Principal Excluded	\$ 2,185,000	\$ 2,045,000	\$ 3,829,283	\$ 3,829,283	792.41	6.73%
2001	Long Term Debt - Principal Non-Excluded	\$ -	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	34.14	0.29%
2002	Long Term Debt - Interest - Excluded	\$ 1,447,225	\$ 1,250,560	\$ 2,321,514	\$ 2,321,514	480.40	4.08%
2003	Long Term Debt - Interest - Non-Excluded	\$ -	\$ 97,144	\$ 88,894	\$ 88,894	18.40	0.16%
2004	Short Term Debt - Principal - Town	\$ -	\$ 122,685	\$ 260,366	\$ 260,366	53.88	0.46%
2005A	Short Term Debt - Interest - Non Excluded	\$ -	\$ 18,496	\$ 37,039	\$ 37,039	7.66	0.07%
2005B	Short Term Debt - Interest - Excluded	\$ 1,052,686	\$ 1,710,205	\$ 72,937	\$ 72,937	15.09	0.13%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 4,684,911	\$ 5,409,090	\$ 6,775,033	\$ 6,775,033	1,401.98	11.91%
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE		\$ 4,684,911	\$ 5,409,090	\$ 6,775,033	\$ 6,775,033	1,401.98	11.91%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2027 FINCOM BUDGET	FY 2027 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2027 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
<u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u>							
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS							
GENERAL BENEFITS							
3000	County Retirement	\$ 2,653,019	\$ 2,640,116	\$ 2,808,832	\$ 2,808,832	581.24	4.94%
3001	State Retirement	\$ 190,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	41.39	0.35%
3002	Unemployment Compensation	\$ 1,951	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	2.07	0.02%
INSURANCE							
3010	Health Insurance/Employee Expenses	\$ 1,952,684	\$ 1,817,707	\$ 1,845,779	\$ 1,845,779	381.95	3.24%
3011	Life Insurance	\$ 3,401	\$ 3,820	\$ 3,820	\$ 3,820	0.79	0.01%
3012	Medicare/Social Security	\$ 152,658	\$ 162,000	\$ 180,000	\$ 180,000	37.25	0.32%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 4,953,713	\$ 4,833,643	\$ 5,048,431	\$ 5,048,431	1,044.69	8.88%
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS		\$ 4,953,713	\$ 4,833,643	\$ 5,048,431	\$ 5,048,431	1,044.69	8.88%
<u>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS</u>							
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS							
	Capital Budget Request	\$ 862,144	\$ 987,985	\$ 734,952	\$ 734,952	152.09	1.29%
	Offset Reciepts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
	Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$ 32,678	\$ 32,311	\$ 33,338	\$ 33,338	6.90	0.06%
	Snow and Ice Deficit	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	-	0.00%
	State and County Charges	\$ 101,446	\$ 104,498	\$ 104,629	\$ 104,629	21.65	0.18%
	Allowance for Abatements/Exemptions	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	31.04	0.26%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,146,268	\$ 1,274,794	\$ 1,022,919	\$ 1,022,919	211.68	1.80%
GRAND TOTAL - TOWN BUDGET		\$ 51,695,021	\$ 54,005,163	\$ 56,882,865	\$ 56,882,865	11,771	100.00%

FY 2027 ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGETS

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2023 ACTUAL	FY 2024 ACTUAL	FY 2025 ACTUAL	FY 2026 APPROPRIATED	FY 2027 DEPARTMENT REQUEST	FY 2027 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE
WATER DEPARTMENT								
	WD Salaries	\$ 163,248	\$ 171,916	\$ 173,922	\$ 204,135	\$ 198,375	\$ 198,375	-2.82%
	WD Wages	\$ 269,339	\$ 283,667	\$ 289,796	\$ 310,821	\$ 377,196	\$ 377,196	21.35%
	WD Expenses	\$ 573,697	\$ 704,577	\$ 615,121	\$ 675,612	\$ 698,830	\$ 698,830	3.44%
	WD Debt Service	\$ 478,239	\$ 727,946	\$ 1,129,549	\$ 859,919	\$ 838,209	\$ 838,209	-2.52%
100	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,484,523	\$ 1,888,106	\$ 2,208,388	\$ 2,050,486	\$ 2,112,610	\$ 2,112,610	3.03%
SEWER DEPARTMENT								
	Sewer Salaries	\$ 23,104	\$ 23,372	\$ 24,276	\$ 26,748	\$ 35,266	\$ 35,266	31.85%
	Sewer Wages	\$ 45,907	\$ 54,740	\$ 57,329	\$ 60,099	\$ 76,481	\$ 76,481	27.26%
	Sewer Expense	\$ 781,027	\$ 701,285	\$ 837,190	\$ 864,082	\$ 898,475	\$ 898,475	3.98%
	Sewer Debt Service	\$ 5,099	\$ 4,995	\$ -	\$ 25,546	\$ 25,549	\$ 25,549	0.01%
200	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 855,137	\$ 784,392	\$ 918,795	\$ 976,475	\$ 1,035,771	\$ 1,035,771	6.07%
FOUR CORNERS SEWER DEPARTMENT								
	Four Corners Sewer Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,697	\$ 2,823	\$ 3,915	\$ 3,915	100.00%
	Four Corners Sewer Wages	\$ -	\$ 7,683	\$ 6,370	\$ 6,678	\$ 8,498	\$ 8,498	27.25%
	Four Corners Sewer Expense	\$ 54,555	\$ 128,224	\$ 61,654	\$ 301,162	\$ 91,127	\$ 91,127	-69.74%
	Four Corners Sewer Debt Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
300	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 54,555	\$ 135,907	\$ 70,721	\$ 310,663	\$ 103,539	\$ 103,539	-66.67%
LOCAL ACCESS CABLE DEPARTMENT								
	Cable Salaries	\$ 69,290	\$ 69,290	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	Cable Wages	\$ 62,574	\$ 62,574	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	Cable Expenses	\$ 85,774	\$ 85,774	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	Cable Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
400	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 217,638	\$ 217,638	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
STORMWATER UTILITY								
	Stormwater Wages/Benefits	\$ 77,629	\$ 78,357	\$ 82,695	\$ 86,890	\$ 119,565	\$ 119,565	37.60%
	Stormwater Expenses	\$ 81,441	\$ 108,437	\$ 110,536	\$ 112,000	\$ 112,000	\$ 112,000	0.00%
	Stormwater Capital Outlay	\$ 51,000	\$ 89,791	\$ 51,000	\$ 51,000	\$ 51,000	\$ 51,000	0.00%
500	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 210,070	\$ 276,585	\$ 244,231	\$ 249,890	\$ 282,565	\$ 282,565	13.08%
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUNDS		\$ 2,821,923	\$ 3,302,628	\$ 3,442,135	\$ 3,587,514	\$ 3,534,486	\$ 3,534,486	-1.48%

FY2027 Community Preservation Act (CPA) Fund Balance Forecast

	Community Housing	Historic Preservation	Open Space & Recreation	Unallocated Reserve	Total
Forecast balances on 30-Jun-26	\$52,314.68	\$33,577.44	\$30,329.72	\$97,025.54	\$213,247.38
FY2027 anticipated revenues					
FY27 local surtax revenue forecast	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$90,000.00	\$630,000.00	\$900,000.00
State match revenue (15 Nov. '26)	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00	\$22,500.00	\$157,500.00	\$225,000.00
Interest revenue	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$7,000.00	\$10,000.00
Projected available FY2027 funds	\$165,814.68	\$147,077.44	\$143,829.72	\$891,525.54	\$1,348,247.38
FY2027 funding requests					
Administrative assistant wages				(\$24,000.00)	(\$24,000.00)
Committee administrative expenses				(\$10,000.00)	(\$10,000.00)
2022-14 Middle School Track I				(\$648,945.00)	(\$648,945.00)
2027-01 Prescott Electrical		(\$9,850.00)			(\$9,850.00)
2027-02 Cow Pond Brook Improvements			\$0.00		\$0.00
2027-04 FY27 Housing Coordinator	(\$72,829.00)				(\$72,829.00)
2027-05 Pollinator Pathway			(\$2,500.00)		(\$2,500.00)
2027-07 FY27 Housing Trust	(\$92,985.00)			(\$7,015.00)	(\$100,000.00)
2027-08 Cutler Field					(\$99,000.00)
2027-09 Boutwell Playground			(\$99,000.00)		(\$99,000.00)
2027-10 Squannacook Dam Repair		(\$133,000)	(\$42,329.00)	(\$191,594.00)	(\$233,923.00)
Forecast balance on 30-Jun-26	\$0.68	\$4,227.44	\$0.72	\$9,971.54	\$14,200.38



Information about Article 10: Amend Chapter 168 of the General Bylaws – Stretch Energy Code



In 2019, Groton voted to adopt the existing stretch energy code allowing Groton to participate in DOER’s Green Communities programs. Since then, Groton has received over \$500,000 in grants to improve our town buildings through energy conservation measures such as LED lighting and weatherization. Groton is now working to become a Climate Leader community which will open the door to a \$1.15 million grant for improving our municipal buildings. Like the Green Communities grants, these improvements continue to pay off overtime through reduced operational costs. Adopting the Specialized Stretch Energy Code (Specialized Code) is a requirement to be a Climate Leader Community. The Specialized Code is an overlay to the Stretch Code that adds requirements for NEW buildings only; it does not impact existing buildings. The Specialized Code incentivizes electrification of new buildings; it does not prohibit mixed fuel buildings (with fossil fuels). Of the 351 cities and towns in MA, 58 have already adopted the Specialized Code.

The table below describes how the Specialized Stretch Energy Code impacts on 1-, 2-family, town home and multi-family buildings less than 12,000 ft².¹

Home/Unit Type	Unit size	Specialized Stretch Energy Code requirement
All-Electric NEW home	Any	No new requirements
Mixed-Fuel NEW home (if using gas/propane/oil)	Under 4000 ft ²	+ Solar panels (min 4kW, unless PH)* + wiring for electrification
	4000 ft ² and over	+ Solar panels (to be net zero energy)* + wiring for electrification

*Solar is required for new, mixed-fuel buildings when there is a solar roof zone ≥ 300 sq ft AND at the right orientation (tree removal is not required).

The table below describes how the Specialized Code impacts multi-family buildings greater than 12,000 ft².²

Building Type	Fuel Type	Specialized Stretch Energy Code requirement
Multi-family (>12,000 ft ²)	All-Electric	Passive House (PH)*
	Mixed-fuel	Passive House + wiring for electrification

*Passive House is a construction method that is a gold standard for energy efficiency. Passive House buildings use 40-60% less energy for heating and cooling, with low utility bills and reduced maintenance costs.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. Why adopt the Specialized Stretch Energy Code?

- It will unlock more grant funding to improve town buildings.
- It requires pre-wiring for electrification in new homes with fossil fuels, avoiding costly retrofits in the future.

2. Does the Specialized Code apply to existing buildings?

- No. Improvements to existing buildings will continue to be regulated by the current Stretch energy code enforced in Groton.

¹ To learn about Specialized Stretch energy code requirements for residential buildings visit: [225 CMR 22](#). To learn about Specialized Stretch energy code requirements for commercial buildings visit: [225 CMR 23](#)

3. Is it possible to install an oil or propane furnace, propane cooktop or water heater in a newly constructed home under the Specialized code?
 - Yes. The Specialized Code does not prohibit fossil fuels in new buildings.
4. Can a fossil fuel back-up generator be installed in an all-electric home?
 - Yes. Under the Specialized code, an all-electric home with a fossil fuel backup generator does not require the extra requirements for mixed-fuel homes.
5. Do towns that have adopted the Specialized Code have lower rates of new home construction?
 - No. A recent study showed that communities that have adopted the Specialized code do not have lower rates of housing production than communities without the Specialized code.³
6. Does it cost more to build an all-electric home than a mixed-fuel home?
 - No. Three studies conducted between 2022 and 2024 concluded that building an all-electric home in Massachusetts was within +/-1% the cost of building a mixed-fuel home.⁴ Moreover, local HVAC installers agreed that the cost of installing a heat pump to heat and cool a new all-electric home is the same or less than the cost of installing fossil fuel furnace/boiler + air-conditioning systems (mixed-fuel) in the same new home.
6. How will the Specialized Code impact the regional grid?
 - The energy efficiency of new buildings constructed under the Specialized code is considered one of the many tools needed to reduce growing peak demand expected from electrification and data centers.⁵ Higher **peak** demand drives higher ratepayer costs.
7. Are there exemptions to the solar energy generation requirement for new homes with fossil fuels?
 - a. Yes. Solar is required for new, mixed-fuel buildings only when there is a solar roof zone ≥ 300 sq ft AND at the right orientation. Tree removal is not required.
8. Can a heat pump heat a new home in New England?
 - Yes. Modern cold-climate heat pumps can provide heat when outside temperatures are even below -10F.⁶ In addition, due to the high energy efficiency required of new buildings from Groton's current Stretch Energy code, the energy required to heat and cool new homes is much lower than older homes.
9. How does electrification reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions if some of our electricity is generated by burning fossil fuels at power plants?
 - A new all-electric home heated with heat pumps emits ~50% less greenhouse gas emissions than a home heated with fossil fuels TODAY.
10. What are the benefits of an all-electric home?
 - It saves the homeowner money by reducing utility bills
 - It reduces the risks of fire, carbon monoxide poisoning, explosion and poor indoor air quality associated with burning fossil fuels in homes.

³ <https://phmass.org/2025/12/30/codes-and-housing-supply/>

⁴ <https://rmi.org/insight/the-economics-of-electrifying-buildings-residential-new-construction/>;
<https://hbrama.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Public-Policy-for-Net-Zero-Homes-and-Affordability-Final-6-14-23.pdf>;
[BEplus_MA_is_Going_Net_Zero.04.30.24.pdf](https://www.mass.gov/doc/BEplus_MA_is_Going_Net_Zero.04.30.24.pdf)

⁵ <https://www.mass.gov/doc/doer-peak-potential-report-and-policy-recommendations/download>

⁶ <https://www.consumerreports.org/heat-pumps/can-heat-pumps-actually-work-in-cold-climates-a4929629430/>;
<https://rmi.org/heat-pumps-a-practical-solution-for-cold-climates>

**ARTICLE 11
SQUANNACOOK RIVER DAM REPAIR
SPECIAL LEGISLATION**

**AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE TOWN OF GROTON TO ACQUIRE REAL PROPERTY IN THE
TOWN OF SHIRLEY FOR DAM PURPOSES**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the town of Groton acting by and through its select board may, with the assent of the select board of the town of Shirley, take by eminent domain under the provisions of chapter seventy-nine of the general laws or acquire by purchase or otherwise for dam construction and maintenance purposes the real property containing that portion of the Squannacook River Dam structure, including appurtenances and associated infrastructure, located within the geographic limits of the town of Shirley, and easement interests over, under, or through such real property, to be more particularly described in plan prepared by the town of Groton and agreed upon by the select board of the town of Shirley.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.



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
Agricultural Commission	1
Capital Planning Advisory Committee	1
Commission on Accessibility	1
Design Review Committee	1
Diversity Equity and Inclusion Committee	1
Great Ponds Advisory Committee	1
Greenway Committee	2
Housing Partnership	2
Insurance Advisory Committee	3
Invasive Species Committee	2
Local Cultural Council	2
Old Burying Ground Committee	2
Scholarship Committee	3
T.R.E.A.D Committee	2
Weed Harvester Committee	2
Williams Barn Committee	2
Zoning Board of Appeal (Associate Members)	1