



Town of Groton

2014 Annual Town Report





**GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS
MIDDLESEX COUNTY**

www.townofgroton.org

“At A Glance”

Settled: May 23, 1655

Type of Government: Open Town Meeting; Town Manager

Location: Northwestern part of Middlesex County

Population from 2014 Annual Town Census: 10,719

Registered Voters as of December 31, 2014: 7,655

Elevation at Town Hall: 320 feet above sea level

Highest Elevation: Chestnut @ 516 feet above sea level

Area in Square Miles: 32.54

(Largest Town-in-area in Middlesex County)

Miles of Plowed or Maintained Roads: 107

In Memoriam 2014

Let the residents of Groton pause and reflect for a moment on those who served.

George “Fran” Dillon

Edward Kopec

Ann Murphy

Thomas Conley

Earl Russell

Mildred Black

Anna Kopec

Kenneth Thompson

Adelaide Luca



Photo by Karen Riggert

2014 Proclamations

*On behalf of the citizens of the Town of Groton, the Board of Selectmen issued proclamations and set aside an **“APPRECIATION DAY”** for the following citizens and organizations who have made significant contributions to the community:*

COMMUNITY

Troop 3, Groton, MA	April 1, 2014
Arbor Day	May 18, 2014
Ruth Ellen Clark Wilson	June 2, 2014
Groton Garden Club	November 10, 2014
Dorothy Davis	October 27, 2014

EAGLE SCOUTS

Daniel Torsten Roper	January 11, 2014
Eric James Dennis	February 23, 2014
Robert Matthew Neff	April 26, 2014
Jesse Maximilian King	April 26, 2014
Christopher Michael Huber	July 27, 2014



Board of Selectmen

Joshua A. Degen, Chair
Joshua A. Degen, Chair

Anna Eliot, Vice Chair
Anna Eliot, Vice Chair

Stuart M. Schulman, Clerk
Stuart M. Schulman, Clerk

Peter S. Cunningham, Member
Peter S. Cunningham, Member

John G. Petropoulos, Member
John G. Petropoulos, Member

Michael Bouchard, Clerk
Michael Bouchard, Town Clerk

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FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY OFFICIALS

PRESIDENT

Barack H. Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1111
Visitors Office: 202-456-2121

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward J. Markey
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
Phone: (202) 224-2742

975 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
Phone: (617) 565-8519

Elizabeth Warren
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-4543

2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
(617) 565-3710

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Niki Tsongas
1714 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-3411

126 John Street, Suite 112
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 459-0101
www.tsongas.house.gov

GOVERNOR

Deval Patrick
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 725-4005
www.mass.gov

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Martha Coakley
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108-1518
Consumer Hotline (617) 727-8400
(617) 727-2200

DISTRICT ATTORNEY MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Marian Ryan
15 Commonwealth Avenue
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 897-8300
www.middlesexda.com

SECRETARY OF STATE

William Galvin
One Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 727-7030
sec.state.ma.us/index.htm

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

Eileen Donoghue
First Middlesex District
State House, Room 112
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-1630
Eileen.Donoghue@masenate.gov

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

Sheila C. Harrington
First Middlesex District
State House, Room 237
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-2305
Sheila.Harrington@mahouse.gov

REGISTER OF DEEDS

Maria Curtatone
208 Cambridge Street
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 679-6300
middlesexsouth@sec.state.ma.us

REGISTER OF PROBATE

Tara DeCristofaro
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
208 Cambridge Street
East Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 768-5800

SHERIFF

Peter J. Koutoujian
Middlesex County Sheriff's Office
400 Mystic Avenue
Medford, MA 02155
(781) 960-2902

Town Departments Directory

Accountant.....	978-448-1107
Board of Selectmen.....	978-448-1111
Board of Assessors.....	978-448-1127
Board of Health	978-448-1120
Building & Zoning Department...	978-448-1109
Commissioners of Trust Funds...	978-448-1173
Conservation Commission.....	978-448-1106
Council on Aging.....	978-448-1170
Department of Public Works.....	978-448-1162
Electric Light Department.....	978-448-1150
Fire Department.....	978-448-6333
Groton-Dunstable Regional School District.....	978-448-5505
Groton Country Club.....	978-448-3996
Groton Public Library.....	978-448-1167
Historic Districts Commission.....	978-448-1109
Housing Authority.....	978-732-1913
Human Resources/Personnel.....	978-448-1145
Information Technology.....	978-732-1889
Inspector of Animals.....	978-448-1111
Park Commission.....	978-732-1913
Planning Board.....	978-448-1105
Police Department.....	978-448-5555
Sewer Commission.....	978-448-1117
Tax Collector/Treasurer.....	978-448-1103
Town Clerk.....	978-448-1100
Water Department.....	978-448-1122
Veterans' Service Officer.....	978-448-1175
Zoning Board of Appeals.....	978-448-1121



ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS

(in alphabetical order)

ASSESSORS, BOARD OF

Jenifer Evans	2015
Rena Swezey	2016
Garrett Boles	2017

ELECTRIC LIGHT COMMISSIONERS

Kevin J. Lindemer	2015
Rodney R. Hersh	2016
Bruce Easom	2017

GDRSD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Thomas Steinfeld	2015
Alison Manugian	2015
John Giger	2016
Leslie Lathrop	2016
Jeffrey Kubick	2017

HEALTH, BOARD OF

Susan H. Horowitz	2015
Robert Fleischer	2016
Jason Weber	2017

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Ellen G. Todd	2015
Katharyn Dawson	2017
Brooks T. Lyman	2017
Deidre Slavin-Mitchell	2018
Daniel C. Emerson	State appt'd

MODERATOR

Jason Kauppi	2015
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PARK COMMISSIONERS

Jonathan Strauss	2015
Kenneth Bushnell	2016
Robert Flynn	2016
Matthew Frary	2017
Gineane Haberlin	2017

PLANNING BOARD

Timothy Svarczkopf	2015
Russell Burke	2015
Carolyn A. Perkins	2015
John Giger	2016
George E. Barringer, Jr.	2016
Scott O. Wilson	2017
Michael Vega	2017

SELECTMEN, BOARD OF

John G. Petropoulos	2015
Joshua A. Degen	2016
Stuart M. Schulman	2016
Anna Eliot	2017
Peter S. Cunningham	2017

SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Thomas D. Hartnett	2015
James L. Gmeiner	2016
Thomas Orcutt	2017

TOWN CLERK

Michael Bouchard	2015
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TRUST FUNDS, COMMISSIONERS OF

Joseph E. Twomey	2015
Leslie Wickfield	2016
Thomas D. Hartnett	2017

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY

Kristen Von Campe	2015
Jane R. Allen	2015
Mark Gerath	2016
Nancy Wilder	2016
Barbara Lamont	2017
David Zeiler	2017

WATER COMMISSIONERS

Gary Hoglund	2015
David Crocker	2016
James L. Gmeiner	2017

*Resigned

** Deceased

**OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY
THE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

TOWN MANAGER
Mark W. Haddad 2016

TOWN COUNSEL
David J. Doneski, Esq. 2015

POLICE CHIEF
Donald L. Palma, Jr. 2016

FIRE CHIEF
Steele McCurdy 2017
Joseph Bosselait (Retired)

**OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY
THE
TOWN MANAGER**

ADA COORDINATOR
Michelle Collette 2015

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2015
George Moore 2015

ANIMAL INSPECTOR
George Moore 2015

BUILDING COMMISSIONER
Edward Cataldo 2015

BUILDING INSPECTOR
Daniel Britko 2015

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS
Sarah E. Power 2015
Darlene A. Touchette 2015
Warren Gibson 2015
Jonathan Shattuck 2015
Catherine Myers 2015
Samuel Welch 2015
Edward J. Bushnoe (Part time) 2015
Justin Zink (Relief) 2015

Ian Brown (Relief) 2015

CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATOR
Takashi Tada 2015

CONSTABLES
George Rider 2015
Brian O. Downes 2016
George Moore 2016
William H. Grennell 2017
Frederick Correia 2017

COUNCIL ON AGING DIRECTOR
Kathy Shelp 2015

DATABASE COORDINATOR
April Moulton 2015

DOG OFFICER
George Moore 2015
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2015

EARTH REMOVAL INSPECTOR
Michelle Collette 2015

ELECTION WORKERS
Florine Bakke 2015
Maureen Beal 2015
Marcia Birmingham 2015
Nadine Bishop 2015
Laurie Bonnett 2015
Audrey Bryce 2015
Marvin Caldwell 2015
Carol Chalmers 2015
Gail Chalmers 2015
Carole Clark 2015
Margaret Connolly 2015
Anthony Corsetti 2015
Irene Corsetti 2015
Joan Croteau 2015
Jean Cummings 2015
Carol Daigle 2015
Charlene Dapolito 2015
Dorothy Davis 2015
Dawn Dunber 2015
Alberta Erickson 2015
George Faircloth 2015
Carl Flowers 2015

*Resigned
** Deceased

Norma Garvin	2015
Louise Gaskins	2015
Joan Guimond	2015
Margot Hammer	2015
Ellen Hargraves	2015
Richard Hewitt	2015
April Iannacone	2015
Marlene Kenney	2015
Stephen Legge	2015
Lorraine Leonard	2015
Cindy Martell	2015
Paula Martin	2015
Mary McGrath	2015
Kelly Merrill	2015
Violetta O'Donnell	2015
John Ott	2015
Lisa O'Neil	2015
Geraldine Perry	2015
Nancy Pierce	2015
Peg Russell	2015
Suzanne Sanders	2015
Connie Sartini	2015
Stuart Shuman	2015
Fran Stanley	2015
Arestothea Staub	2015
Alberta Steed	2015
Lori Sullivan	2015
Rena Swezey	2015
Janet Thompson	2015
Ramona Tolles	2015
Richard Van Doren	2015
Bronwen Wallens	2015
Ann Walsh	2015
Margaret Wheatley	2015

ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR

Edward Doucette	2015
John Dee III (Alternate)	2015

FENCE VIEWER

George Moore	2015
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FIELD DRIVER

George Moore	2015
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GROTON COUNTRY CLUB

Robert Whalen (Retired)

GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER

Deborah Beal Normandin	2015
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HARBOR MASTER

Donald L. Palma, Jr.	2015
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HAZ-MAT COORDINATOR

Steele McCurdy	2015
Joseph Bosselait (Retired)	

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY & ACCOUNTIBILITY OFFICER

Melisa Doig	2015
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HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR

Melisa Doig	2015
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IT DIRECTOR

*Jason Bulger	2015
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KEEPER OF THE TOWN CLOCK

Paul Matisse	2015
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LAND USE DIRECTOR TOWN PLANNER

Michelle Collette	2015
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LOCAL LICENSING AGENT

Donald L. Palma, Jr.	2015
James Cullen	2015

MEASURER OF WOOD AND BARK

Evan C. Owen	2015
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MOTH SUPERINTENDENT

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2015
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NIMS COORDINATOR

Donald L. Palma, Jr.	2015
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PARKING CLERK

Dawn Dunbar	2015
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PLUMBING AND GAS INSPECTOR

John Murphy	2015
John Templeton (Alternate)	2015

*Resigned
** Deceased

PRINCIPAL ASSESSOR

Rena Swezey	2015
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POLICE DEPARTMENT**Matrons**

Beverley Jeddrey	2015
April Moulton	2015
Kathleen Newell	2015
Sarah E. Power	2015
Darlene A. Touchette	2015

Officers

Nicholas Beltz	2015
Robert Breault	2015
Peter Breslin	2015
Gordon Candow	2015
Paul R. Connell	2015
Omar Conner	2015
Timothy Cooper	2015
James Cullen	2015
Derrick Gemos	2015
Jason Goodwin	2015
Kevin Henehan	2015
Michael Lynn	2015
Rachel Mead	2015
Dale Rose	2015
Edward P. Sheridan	2015
Corey Waite	2015
Irmin Pierce (Retired)	^

^= Civil Service Officer

Reserve Officers

George Aggott	2015
Bethany Evans-Bonczar	2015
Edward Bushnoe	2015
Stephen McAndrew	2015
Kathleen Newell	2015
Michael Ratte	2015
Victor Sawyer	2015
Gregory Steward	2015
Patrick Timmons	2015

Groton Special Officers

Jack Balonis	2015
George Rider	2015

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2015
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ROAD KILL OFFICER

Vacant	2015
**Steven Mickle	

SEALER WEIGHTS & MEASURES

Eric Aaltonen	2015
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SURVEYOR OF WOOD/LUMBER

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2015
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TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Patricia Dufresne	2015
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TOWN DIARIST

M. Constance Sartini	2015
Robert L. Collins	2015

TREASURER/COLLECTOR

Michael Hartnett	2015
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TREE WARDEN

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2015
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VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER

Robert C. Johnson	2015
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WATER SUPERINTENDENT

Thomas Orcutt	2015
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**COMMITTEES &
COMMISSIONS
APPOINTED BY THE BOARD
OF SELECTMEN**

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST
FUND**

Joshua A. Degen	2015
David Wilder	2015
Frederick Dunn	2016
Stuart M. Schulman	2016
Vacancy	2015

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Dale A. Martin	2015
Michael Bouchard – Town Clerk	2015
Carol Quinn	2016
Jennifer Miethe	2017

*Resigned

** Deceased

**BY-LAW REVIEW & STUDY
COMMITTEE**

Michael Bouchard	2015
Peter S. Cunningham	2015
Mark W. Haddad	2015
Jay Prager	2015
Vacancy	2015

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE**

Russell Burke (Planning)	2015
Gineane Haberlin (BOS)	2015
Richard Hewitt (BOS)	2015
Daniel Emerson (Housing Auth.)	2015
Robert DeGroot (Historical)	2016
Bruce Easom (Conservation)	2016
Matthew Frary (Parks)	2016

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Marshall E. Giguere	2015
Rena Swezey	2015
Jon Smigelski	2015
Peter A. Morrison	2016
Susan Black	2016
Mary Metzger	2017
Bruce H. Easom	2017

COUNCIL ON AGING

Edward Wenzell	2015
Mildred Wells	2015
George Faircloth	2015
Charlotte Carlin	2016
Maydelle Gamester	2016
Marie Melican	2016
Gail Chalmers	2017
Vera Strickland	2017

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**

Russell Burke	2015
Anna Eliot	2015
Peter Myette	2015
Michael Rasmussen	2015
Gregory Troughton	2015
2 Vacancies	

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Gary Green	2015
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Mark Bacon	2015
Norman "Bud" Robertson	2015
David Manugian	2016
Art Prest	2016
Robert Hargraves	2017
Barry Pease	2017

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Peter S. Cunningham	2015
Michelle Collette	2015
Carolyn A. Perkins	2015
2 Vacancies	

LOCAL CULTURAL COUNCIL

Frank Conahan	2016
Pat Hartvigsen	2016
Joni Parker-Roach	2016
Lili Ott	2016
Gretchen Hummon	2018
Mary Jennings	2019
Dina Mordeno	2019
Susan Randazzo-Schulman	2019
Ann Wilson	2019
Monica Hinojos	2019

**LOST LAKE WATERSHED ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

Mark Deuger	2015
Susan Horowitz	2015
Thomas Orcutt	2015
Jack Petropoulos	2015
Art Prest	2015
Michael Rosa	2015
Alex Woodle	2015

**LOWELL REGIONAL TRANSIT
AUTHORITY**

Vacant

MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

Joshua A. Degen	2015
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MILITARY COMMUNITY COVENANT

Peter Braudis	2015
Peter S. Cunningham	2015
Anna Eliot	2015
Robert Johnson	2015
5 Vacancies	

*Resigned

** Deceased

**MONTACHUSETT JOINT
TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**
David Manugian 2014
1 Vacancy

**MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMITTEE**
David Manugian 2014
1 Vacancy

**NASHOBA VALLEY REGIONAL
TECHNICAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE**
Kristian Gentile 2016

PERSONNEL BOARD
Mary Jennings 2015
Norman "Bud" Robertson 2016
Dolores Alberghini 2017

SARGISSON BEACH COMMITTEE
John Giger 2015
Rena Swezey 2015
Cheney Harper 2016
Andrew Davis 2016
Joshua Degen 2017

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
Peter C. Myette 2015
Alberta Erickson 2015
Jeannie Erickson 2015
Brian LeBlanc 2016
Robinson C. Moore 2017
Kate Dennison 2017
Barbara P. Ritz 2017

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION
Carl Canner 2015
Bruce Easom 2015
Carl Flowers 2015
Leo Laverdure 2015
Alison Peterson 2015
Michael Roberts 2015

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
Mark E. Mulligan 2015
Jay Prager 2016
Alison S. Manugian 2016
Cynthia A. Maxwell 2017

Robert C. Cadle 2017
Megan Mahoney (Alternate) 2015
Bruce Easom (Alternate) 2015
Alberta Erickson 2015
1 Vacancy (Alternate)

COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS APPOINTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION
Sean O'Neill III 2015
Meredith Scarlet 2016
George Moore 2016
John Smigelski 2017
Susan Colt Wilcox 2017

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE
Michael Bouchard 2015
George Wheatley 2015
5 Vacancies

BOARD OF SURVEY
Edward Cataldo – Bldg. Insp. 2015
Steele McCurdy – Fire Chief 2015
Evan C. Owen 2015

BUILDING COMMITTEE
Donald Black 2015
Michael Bouchard 2015
Susan Daly 2015
Jeremy Januskiewicz 2015
Halsey Platt 2015
Lynwood Prest 2015
Steve Webber 2015

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Jane Bouvier 2015
Neil Colicchio 2015
David Melpignano 2015
Robert Piche 2015
Janet Sheffield 2015

COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY
Ellen Baxendale 2015
Robert Fleischer 2015

*Resigned
** Deceased

Scott Harker	2015
Emil Reschsteiner	2015
Mark Shack	2015
Alan Taylor	2015
Anna Vega	2015

**COMMUNITY EMERGENCY
RESPONSE COORDINATOR**

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2015
Steele McCurdy	2015
Donald L. Palma, Jr.	2015
William Shute	2015

CONDUCTORLAB COMMITTEE

Michelle Collette	2015
Mark Deuger	2015
Robert Hanninen	2015
Susan Horowitz	2015
Vacancy	2015

**EARTH REMOVAL ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

Ray Capes	2015
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2015
Robert Hanninen	2015
Rena Swezey	2015
Edward A. Perkins	2015

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Pat Arel	2015
Steele McCurdy	2015
Stephen Byrne	2015
Bob Colman	2015
Troy Conley	2015
Peter Cunningham	2015
Francis Cusak	2015
Daniel Daigneault	2015
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2015
Edward Doucette	2015
Heather Emslie	2015
Carl Flowers	2015
Norma Garvin	2015
Mark Haddad	2015
Anthony Hawgood	2015
Sara Hewitt	2015
Penny Hommeyer	2015
Susan Horowitz	2015
Holly Jarek	2015

Elaine Johnson	2015
Leroy Johnson	2015
Robert Johnson	2015
Kevin Kelly	2015
Stephen Legge	2015
Catherine Lincoln	2015
Mark Miller	2015
George Moore	2015
Stephen Moulton	2015
Steele McCurdy	2015
Alvin Neff	2015
Kathy Newell	2015
Thomas Orcutt	2015
Christine Packard	2015
Donald L. Palma, Jr.	2015
Benjamin Podsiadlo	2015
Kathy Puff	2015
Karen Reif	2015
Connie Sartini	2015
Kathy Shelp	2015
William Shute	2015
Lawrence Swezey	2015
Bill VanSchwalkwyk	2015

GREAT POND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Susan Black	2015
Savas Danos	2015
Francoise D. Forbes	2015
Marshall Giguere	2015
Susan H. Horowitz	2015
James Luening	2015
Art Prest	2015
William Strickland	2015
Alexander Woodle	2015

GREENWAY COMMITTEE

Adam Burnett	2015
Carol Coutrier	2015
Craig Gemmell	2015
David Pitkin	2015
Marion R. Stoddart	2015

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Michael LaTerz, II	2015
George Wheatley	2016
Robert G. DeGroot	2016
Michael Danti	2016
Allen King	2017

*Resigned
** Deceased

Richard C. Dabrowski	2017
Tracy Heighton	2017

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

Patricia E. Hardy	2015
Laura R. Moore	2015
Gina Perini	2016
Richard P. Chilcoat	2016
Maureen C. Giattino	2017
Daniel J. Barton	2017
Sanford Johnson	2017

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Jack E. Balonis	2015
Gordon Candow	2015
Michelle Collette	2015
Barbara Cronin	2015
Melisa Doig	2015
Derrick Gemos	2015
Warren Gibson	2015
Paula D. Martin	2015
Paul McBrearty	2015
Ann F. Walsh	2015
DPW Representative	2015

OLD BURYING GROUND COMMISSION

Marcia Beal-Brazer	2015
Amanda Gavazzi	2015
Ellen T. Hargraves	2015
Kenneth A. LeFebvre	2015
Deborah Beal Normandin	2015

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Michael D. Brady	2015
Tessa David	2015
Lee Davy	2015
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2015
Jamie E. King	2015

REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Donald L. Palma, Jr.	2015
Steele McCurdy	2015
William Shute	2015

SIGN COMMITTEE

Mark W. Haddad	2015
Tracy Heighton	2015
Carloyn Perkins	2015

TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE

Carter Branigan	2015
John Sheedy	2016
Stephen L. Babin	2017

TRAILS COMMITTEE

David Burnham	2015
Paul G. Funch	2015
Wendy A. Good	2015
Olin Lathrop	2015
Stephen A. Legge	2015
David H. Minott	2015
James Molaskey	2015
David Pitkin	2015
Jason Remillard	2015
Scott Stathis	2015
John Wiesner	2015

WEED HARVESTER COMMITTEE

John Crowell	2015
Garrett Durling	2015
Erich Garger	2015
Bradley D. Harper	2015
James Luening	2015
William Strickland	2015

WILLIAMS BARN COMMITTEE

Dianne Bunis	2015
Bruce Easom	2015
Robert Kniffen	2015
Bradbury B. Smith	2015
Karen Stone	2015
Joseph Twomey	2015
Sandra Tobies	2015
Alfred L. Wyatt	2015
Leo R. Wyatt	2015

*Resigned
** Deceased

GROTON'S ELECTED OFFICIALS



Board of Selectmen

Board of Assessors

Board of Health

Nashoba Associated Board of Health

Commissioners of Trust Funds

Electric Light Department

Groton-Dunstable Regional School District

Report from Superintendent

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Business Department

Pupil Personnel Services

Technology Department

Peter Twomey Youth Center-Extended Day &

Community Services

Regional High School

Regional Middle School

Florence Roche Elementary School

Swallow Union Elementary School

Boutwell Early Childhood Center

Groton Public Library

Housing Authority

Park Commission

Planning Board

Sewer Commission

Town Clerk

Water Department

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager

Office Hours: Mon. 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

Meetings Every Monday

(978) 448-1111 Fax: (978) 448-1115

selectmen@townofgroton.org



Photo by Karen Riggert

This past year marked the successful reelection of both incumbent Selectmen Eliot and Cunningham. Some high notes include the completion of our new Center Fire Station. This was no small task. The lead contractor failed in their ability to complete the project. Our Town Manager and his finance team successfully undertook the responsibility of coordinating its completion. It came in on time and under budget. The long standing weed issue at Lost Lake was eradicated with Sonar herbicide treatment. It was completed safely and with stunning results. Our great resource is now weed free. Wildlife and fish are flourishing again. The residents can safely enjoy swimming, boating, fishing and other recreational opportunities. Sargisson Beach was restored with docks and other amenities to allow enjoyment of the lake. The banks of the lake surrounding the beach were stabilized with boulders. Years of erosion had caused serious deterioration. This major improvement was funded by the CPA.

Our long time Fire Chief, Joe Bosselait, retired and we thank him for his years of service to our community. We hired a new chief, Steele McCurdy who brings youth and enthusiasm to our Fire Department. Long time police officer Irm Pierce retired after serving our town for more than thirty years. Irm was a pillar of the community and a great face for our Police Department.

Town Meeting voters overwhelmingly approved a significant increase to our school district. This increased funding was a major step to help increase the education of our children. The Town had its bond rating increased by Standard & Poor's to AAA. This is the highest rating that a municipality can receive. This achievement is a testament to the excellent fiscal practices of Groton's management.

On an unfortunate note the Board of Selectmen found itself infighting with both the Town Manager and amongst its membership on many fronts. You the voters of Groton deserve much better than to observe this type of behavior. As we move forward I along with you should expect civility. We, as your chief elected officials, must strive to not get caught up in petty minutiae. We are tasked with collectively governing Groton in positive directions in conjunction with the Town Manager.

I hope for a great year moving forward. We can anticipate the construction of a new Groton Inn. This should stimulate economic vibrancy for our downtown area. The Four Corners area must also receive stimulation in order to keep its current businesses. We must help attract new business there as well. With the opening of a new development just down the road in Littleton it is imperative that this occurs. In absence of new businesses to help feed existing ones, the area could fail and fall into urban blight.

Collectively we, your Board of Selectmen will strive to keep Groton the wonderful town that it is!

Josh Degen
Chairman Groton Board of Selectmen

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Rena Swezey, Principal Assessor

Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

Meetings as Posted

(978) 448-1127 Fax: (978) 448-1115

assessors@townofgroton.org

The Board of Assessors is the local government responsible for establishing the value of property for tax purposes. The assessors are responsible for valuing all taxable property both real and personal for the town. Assessed values are subject to triennial review and interim year adjustments for certification by the Department of Revenue. The Assessors grant all statutory exemptions and all applications for the Senior Work off Program. They act on all abatement applications. The Assessors are responsible for defending all appeals made to the Appellate Tax Board. The Assessors administer all special assessments qualifying farm and forest management programs. Assessments in Massachusetts are based on full and fair cash value as of January 1st.

The assessors' office completed its interim year certification revaluation for fiscal year 2015. The sales analysis of sales occurring in calendar year 2013 was used to set the valuations for FY 15. The assessors' analyzed all land sales and land residuals to set the Site Index Adjustments for land. Market value has seen slight increases, but for FY 2015 there were no valuations changes other than new growth. The valuations are reflecting an overall stable market in town.

The Department of Revenue certified the results of this assessment data to be within their statistical requirements and the tax bills went out on time. The tax rate went from \$17.38 to \$18.27 for FY 2015. The town was given an unfunded mandate from DOR to do a relist and re-measure of all Personal Property accounts. We appropriated funds at the Spring Town Meeting and during the summer contracted with a firm (RRC) to accomplish the task directed by the Department of Revenue for the FY 2015 tax bills.

The Assistant Assessor Jonathan Greeno has completed all his courses with the MAAO to receive his designation as a Massachusetts Accredited Assessor. He will receive his designation at the Winter Meeting of the MAAO.

The office continues the process of mandated cyclical inspection of all properties throughout the town. This is achieved by inspections visiting the properties by means of Sales Verification, Building Permits, Occupancy Permits, and Abatement Inspections. The Board of Assessors is a working board doing all the statistical analysis needed to do In- House Valuations each year to maintain the Fair and Full Cash Value of all properties in the Town of Groton.

The office staff strives to continue to give the good service that the Groton taxpayers have come to expect.

Respectfully submitted,
Garrett Boles
Jenifer Evans
Rena Swezey

Office of the Assessors' Staff
Rena Swezey, Principal Assessor
Jonathan Greeno, Assistant Assessor
Rebecca Babcock, Office Assistant

BOARD OF ASSESSORS		
Fiscal 2015 Recapitulation Abstract		
<u>Amounts to be raised:</u>		
a. Appropriations		36,852,564.04
b. Other amounts to be raised		
Total overlay deficits of prior years	1,145.18	
Total Cherry Sheets Offsets	17,617.00	
Snow and Ice Deficit	221,728.36	
TOTAL		240,490.54
c. State and County cherry sheet charges		106,992.00
d. Allowance for abatements and exemptions (overlay)		216,292.50
TOTAL amount to be raised		36,852,564.04
<u>Estimated receipts and other revenue sources:</u>		
a. Estimated receipts - State		
Cherry sheet estimated receipts	828,915.00	828,915.00
b. Estimated receipts - Local		
Local receipts not allocated	3,564,000.00	
Enterprise funds	1,852,788.00	
Community Preservation funds	960,865.00	
TOTAL		6,377,653.00
c. Revenue sources appropriated for particular purposes		
Free cash	688,907.00	
Other available funds	835,629.00	
TOTAL		1,524,536.00
d. Other revenue sources appropriated specifically to reduce the tax rate		
Free cash...appropriated on or before June 30, 2014	0.00	
Free cash...appropriated on or after July 1, 2014	150,000.00	
Other source	0.00	
TOTAL		150,000.00
e. Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources		8,881,104.00
<u>Summary of total amount to be raised and total receipts from all sources:</u>		
Total amount to be raised		36,852,564.04
Total estimated receipts and other revenue sources	8,881,104.00	
Total real and personal property tax levy	27,971,460.04	
Total receipts from all sources		36,852,564.04
<u>Assessed Valuation:</u>		
Personal Property	24,113,400.00	
Real Estate, Commerical, Industrial	1,506,891,528.00	
Total Valuation	1,531,004,928.00	
Tax Rate per Thousand	18.27	
Tax Exempt Property Valuations	328,689,072.00	
<u>Dwellings:</u>		
1 Family-3,163		
2 Family - 132		
3 Family - 12		
Condo Units - 238		
Mobile Homes-9		
Multi- Houses- 27		
Apartments- 13		
Mixed use-37		

BOARD OF HEALTH

Regina Beausoleil, Interdepartmental Assistant

Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

Meetings: 1st and 3rd Mondays of the Month

(978) 448-1120 Fax: 978-448-1113

health@townofgroton.org

The Board of Health continued to serve the Town's residents and businesses in meeting the challenges of environmental and public health needs. The three-member elected Board meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:00 PM in the Town Hall.

The Board of Health administers state and local laws, regulations, and policies in conformance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 11, sections 26-32. The Board is committed to the protection of public health and the environment through enforcement of state statutes, local by-laws and regulations, regular inspections, and responses to Townspeople's concerns.

The Board of Health reviewed/granted the following permits:

• Subsurface sewage disposal system permits:	72
• Subsurface sewage disposal system variances:	22
• Well permits	11
• Well variances	8
• Tobacco control permits	10
• Trash hauler permits	5
• Stable licenses	34

During 2014, the Board of Health and Nashoba Associated Boards of Health, in conjunction with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, sponsored a number of clinics for influenza vaccinations.

The Board of Health would like to thank Nashoba Associated Boards of Health Director, James Garreff, Health Agent, Ira Grossman and the Land Use Department staff at Town Hall for their continued support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Jason Weber, Chair

Susan Horowitz

Robert Fleischer

BOARD OF HEALTH
Nashoba Associated Board of Health
Ira Grossmam, Environmental Administrator
NABH Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8:00am-4:30pm
Groton Office Hours: Mon. 8:00am-9:00am, Wed. 11:00am-12:00pm
(978) 772-3335 Fax: (978) 772-4947
Web page: nashoba.org

Nashoba Associated Boards of Health continues to serve the local Board of Health in meeting the challenges of environmental and public health needs in Groton. In 2014 particular efforts were made to respond to a series of new service demands in the Environmental Division while adjusting to changes in the Nursing Division created by national trends in health care. Some of the new service demands included:

- Maintaining Nashoba's internet web site to provide information for the public. (See *nashoba.org*)
- Through our involvement in the Bioterrorism Regional Coalition we are keeping the Groton Board of Health up-to date on matters of emergency preparedness planning
- Nashoba assisted the Board by providing a school-located seasonal flu clinic at Groton-Dunstable Regional High School.
- Response to health related impacts of beavers through coordination with the local Board of Health in the issuance of the necessary permits.
- Response to state mandated changes in regulations requiring more frequent beach sampling through sample collection, submittal for analysis, and follow-up when results were obtained.

We look forward to continuing our work with Groton's Board of Health. Included in highlights of 2014 are the following:

- Through membership in the Association, Groton benefited from the services of Nashoba staff including: Registered Sanitarians, Certified Health Officers, Registered Nurses, Registered Physical & Occupational Therapists, Licensed Social Workers, Nutritionists, Certified Home Health Aides, and Registered Dental Hygienists.
- Reviewed **151** Title 5 state mandated private Septic System Inspections for Groton Board of Health. Received, reviewed, and filed these state mandated (but unfunded) Title 5 inspections. Corresponded with inspectors regarding deficiencies; referred deficient inspections to Groton Board of Health for enforcement action.

By the Groton Board of Health's continued participation in the Association you can shape your future local public health programs and share in the benefits of quality service at a reasonable cost!

TOWN OF GROTON

Environmental Health Department

Environmental Information Responses

Groton Office (days)

80

The Nashoba sanitarian is available for the public twice a week at the Groton Board of Health Office.

(Groton residents can also reach their Sanitarian by calling the Nashoba office in Ayer, Monday – Friday 8:00AM –4:30PM)

Food Service Licenses & Inspections

48

Nashoba annually mails out and receives applications from both restaurants and retail food businesses.

Licenses are renewed for existing facilities. Plans are submitted and reviewed prior to initial licensing. All licensees are inspected at a minimum twice a year. Where deficiencies are found, a re-inspection is scheduled to ensure compliance. When a complaint from the public is received an inspection is also conducted. During

this inspection health factors of food handlers is also investigated, and where appropriate medical consultation and laboratory testing may be required.

Beach/Camp Inspections

20

Camps are inspected at least annually at opening for compliance with State Sanitary Code, Chapter IV, 105 CMR 430.00. Public swimming beaches are sampled for water quality every week during the summer and more often if a problem is suspected.

Housing & Nuisance Investigations

16

Nashoba, as agent for the Groton Board of Health, inspects dwellings for conformance with State Sanitary Code, 105 CMR 410.00, issues orders for correction, and re-inspects for compliance. Similarly, complaints from residents concerning unsanitary conditions or pollution events are investigated.

Septic System Test Applications

48

Applications from residents proposing to build or upgrade a septic system are accepted, a file created, and testing dates are coordinated with the applicants engineer.

Septic System Lot Tests

144

Nashoba sanitarian witnesses soil evaluations, deep hole tests, and, usually on a separate date, percolation tests conducted by the applicant's engineer which serve as the basis of the design of the septic system.

Septic System Plan Applications

63

Detailed plans created by engineers hired by residents proposing to build or upgrade a septic system are received, filed, and routed to the Nashoba sanitarian for review.

Septic System Plan Reviews

70

Engineered plans are reviewed according to state code, Title 5, and local Board of Health regulations and review forms are created and sent to engineer for revision. Subsequent re-submittals by the engineer are also reviewed.

Septic System Permit Applications (new lots)

25

Septic System Permit Applications (upgrades)

43

Applicants' approved plan submittals and Board of Health requirements are incorporated into a permit to construct the septic system.

Septic System Inspections

57

Nashoba Sanitarian is called to construction sites at various phases of construction to witness & verify that system is built according to plans.

Septic System Consultations

18

During all phases of application, design, and construction the Nashoba Sanitarian is called upon for legal details and interpretation.

Well Permits

12

Water Quality/Well Consultations

13

Private wells are regulated solely by local Board of Health regulations. The Nashoba Sanitarian assist the BOH by reviewing well plans, securing well water samples, and interpreting water quality test results.

Rabies Clinics - Animals Immunized

16

Nashoba arranges for local clinics with cooperating veterinarians, arranging for dates and location, placing ads in local newspapers, and sending home flyers through local schools. In addition, since the recent raccoon rabies epizootic Nashoba has arranged for delivery of over 500 animal specimens to the State lab in Boston for analysis and has counseled possible exposure victims to seek medical assistance.

Nashoba Nursing Service & Hospice, Home Health

Nursing Visits

2465

Nashoba's Certified Home Health Registered Nurses visits provide skilled services to patients in their home under physician's orders. These services include assessment of physical, psychological, and nutritional needs.

Skills include teaching/supervision of medications, wound care, ostomy care, IV therapy on a 24 hour basis, catheter care, case management and referral to other services as needed.

Home Health Aide Visits

558

Nashoba's Certified Home Care Aides provide assistance with daily activities of daily living including bathing dressing, exercises and meal preparation.

Rehabilitative Therapy Visit

1744

Nashoba Therapists provide skilled physical, occupational, speech, and dietary therapeutic interventions through assessment, treatment and education. Their integration of client, caregiver, and medical outcomes aims at attaining maximum functional dependence.

Medical Social Service Visits

108

Nashoba Social Workers provide short-term assistance to patients at home for counseling and referral to community resources.

Hospice Volunteer and Spiritual Care Visits

108

Nashoba's Volunteers and Clergy provide patients with emotional and spiritual support, companionship and guidance.

Clinics

Local Well Adult, Support Groups, & Other Clinic Visits

306

Visits include well adult clinics, and immunization, cholesterol exercise, mental health and bereavement clinics.

Number of patients that attended Flu Clinics held in Groton

236

Number of patients whom attended Well-Adult Clinics from Groton

58

Communicable Disease

Communicable Disease Reporting & Control

Nashoba's Nursing Service & Environmental Health Department work together to meet the local Board of Health's responsibilities under the law to do the following:

- Investigate and control the spread of communicable diseases within Groton (MGL Chap111, Sec 6, 7, and 92-116). Nashoba works with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) in this area.
- Receive and process reports from physicians concerning cases of diseases "dangerous to the public health" as defined by MDPH (MGL Chap111, Sec6)
- Notify MDPH Division of Epidemiology and Immunization within 24 hours of receiving notice of any case "dangerous to the public health".
- Receive reports and undertake follow-up as necessary regarding certain food borne and waterborne diseases and diseases being monitored by the MDPH.
- Receives reports, investigates and conducts follow-up on all incidences involving positive rabies results.

Number of Communicable Disease cases:

Investigated	124
Confirmed	53

Communicable Disease Number of Cases

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| • Babesiosis | 1 |
| • Campylobacter | 2 |
| • Hepatitis A..... | 1 |

• Hepatitis C.....	5
• Influenza.....	25
• Lyme disease.....	11
• Norovirus.....	1
• Pertussis.....	1
• Salmonella.....	4
• Shiga toxin-producing E coli.....	3

Health Promotion

Skilled Nursing Visits.....	44
Volunteers	32

Dental Health Department

Examination, Cleaning & Fluoride - Grades K, 2 & 4

Nashoba's Registered Dental Hygienists, operating out of the school nurse's office and records, provide these services to those children whose parents have given written consent.

Students Eligible.....	324
Students Participating.....	180

Referred to Dentist.....	15
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Instruction - Grades K, 1 & 5

Nashoba's Registered Dental Hygienists also provide classroom instruction of cleaning and maintaining health teeth to all children in these grades.

Number of Programs.....	10
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COMMISSIONERS OF TRUST FUNDS

Karen Tuomi, Executive Director
Meetings by Appointment
Legion Hall, 75 Hollis Street, Groton, MA
(978) 448-1173
trustfunds@townofgroton.org

TRUST FUND	7/1/13 Balance	6/30/14 Balance	Fiscal Year Disbursements
BARR EYE	\$4,214	\$4,339	\$0
MARIA BELITSKY SCHOLARSHIP	\$15,940	\$17,636	\$500
PETER BERTOZZI SCHOLARSHIP	\$155,475	\$162,189	\$1,500
BLOOD CEMETERY	\$5,603	\$5,740	\$0
BUTLER SCHOOL REUNION	\$15,976	\$17,509	\$0
CHAMPNEY CEMETERY	\$3,481	\$3,614	\$0
DALRYMPLE EYE	\$26,885	\$30,596	\$0
GANSER/VAN HOOGEN	\$65,095	\$73,970	\$1,000
GREEN CHARITY	\$845,268	\$909,704	\$12,309
GROTON COMMONS	\$12,492	\$13,778	\$0
LAWRENCE LIBRARY	\$53,768	\$60,184	\$0
LECTURE	\$4,202,198	\$4,742,102	\$60,494
LIBRARY BOOK	\$170,496	\$193,879	\$0
JOHN ROBBINS LIBRARY	\$3,084,353	\$3,425,268	\$66,569
JOHN ROBBINS SCHOLARSHIP	\$18,330	\$20,470	\$0
ROBERTSON/ONNERS	\$36,485	\$41,605	\$0
MARY SAWYER	\$5,317	\$5,979	\$0
SHEPLEY CHARITY	\$551,706	\$595,221	\$11,200
SHEPLEY FOUNTAIN	\$6,342	\$6,350	\$318
SPAULDING	\$1,163	\$1,292	\$0
PETER TWOMEY SCHOLARSHIP	\$29,613	\$34,732	\$500
WATERS VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	\$5,467,914	\$6,116,687	\$90,696
TOTAL	\$14,778,114	\$16,482,844	\$245,086

Trust fund balances consist of two categories, Non-Expendable (Principal) and Expendable (Accumulated Earnings). Only the Expendable portion may be disbursed. The total balance of \$16,482,844 consists of \$13,518,581 which is Non-Expendable and \$2,964,263 which is Expendable.

The Trust Fund Commissioners constantly monitor the market and are in communications with our expert financial advisors. These two things coupled with conservative "Legal" list of investments, lead us to anticipate a stabilization of the trust funds in the future.

TRUST FUNDS

Maria Belitsky Trust and Scholarship Fund

The Belitsky Trust and Scholarship Fund was established by the Belitsky Family to honor their wife and mother and promote an interest in horticulture and environmental studies. The 2014 recipient of the Maria Belitsky Scholarship was Kale Connerty.

Peter E. Bertozzi Trust and Scholarship Fund

The Bertozzi Trust and Scholarship Fund was established by the Squannacook Sportsmen's Club to promote an interest in conservation and environmental studies. Monies may also be used to support conservation activities in Groton. The 2014 recipient of the Peter E. Bertozzi Scholarship was Kestas Subacius.

Blood-Bigelow-Shepley-Ames Free Lecture Fund

The Lecture Fund received 71 applications from organizations and groups to provide a variety of lectures, concerts, and performances, free to Groton residents. Of those received, 61 requests were granted at the either full or partial funding.

Community Children's Fund

The Community Children's Fund continued to work year round. Along with the 14 families and 32 children who received aid in December, the Fund continues to provide school supplies, sports and camp programs and after school activities year round.

Dorothy Ganser van Hoogen & Andre B. van Hoogen Trust and Scholarship Fund

The purpose of this Fund is to assist and encourage residents of Groton to pursue a program of post high school education. Josh Schneider was the 2014 recipient.

Drs. Betty and Woodrow Lewis Donations Distribution

Monies that were donated in memory of Dr. Betty Lewis and Dr. Woodrow Lewis were awarded in a one-time distribution to Katie Correira.

Peter M. Twomey Memorial Scholarship Trust Fund

The recipients of this Trust Fund are chosen based on an essay they write responding the question, "As Peter Twomey had been a "Crusader Who Promised to Excel", how will you use your special abilities to make a positive contribution to our world?" The 2014 recipient of this award was Quintin Forbes.

Frank F. Waters Vocational Education Scholarship Trust Fund

Fourteen students received scholarships of \$4500 toward their first year at a vocational education institution, three applicants was granted an award of \$3500 toward their second year and 2 adults were granted awards of \$2500. The Groton-Dunstable Regional High School was also granted two requests for a total of \$13,850.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Hartnett, Commissioner
Joseph Twomey, Commissioner
Leslie Wickfield, Commissioner

ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT

Kevin Kelly, Manager

Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

Meeting 2nd Monday 7:30pm

(978) 448-1150 Fax: (978) 448-1159

commission@grotonelectric.org www.grotonelectric.org



At one hundred and five years old, the Groton Electric Light Department is *finally* getting new office and garage facilities with room to grow. It has been a long, challenging process but it will be well worth it in the end.

We began construction of our new office and garage facilities in the spring of 2014 and we are on target to occupy in the spring of 2015! Revenues were down 1.6% for 2014 due to a mild spring and fall and an extremely mild summer. Below is a summary of our 2014 operations. Our complete report, including audited financial statements, will be available for the annual spring Town Meeting.

Operations

Completion of a fourth circuit became GELD's main capital project for 2014. Adding the fourth circuit to GELD's infrastructure further improves reliability by balancing the power delivered to GELD residents. We also continued our aggressive tree-trimming and old pole and equipment replacement. Constant and vigilant maintenance is key to ensuring long-term reliability for our customers. And finally, we broke ground in April 2014 on the construction of our new office and garage facilities at 23 Station Avenue. GELD employees are looking forward to new and modern facilities.

Power Supply

GELD began 2014 with a significant loss in cash flow in the winter months due to explosive energy prices caused by natural gas supply constraints. However, favorable power costs for the rest of the year, a withdrawal from our Rate Stabilization Fund and the Power Purchase Fuel Adjustment added in the fall helped us to return to the breakeven point for the year. Fortunately, the management team closely monitors the power markets to ensure the best hedging strategy possible. The Berkshire Wind Power Project had its third full year of operation producing power at 39.8% of its capacity. GELD in conjunction with the Town began negotiations for possible solar farms to be constructed on GELD-controlled land and the town landfill. These solar projects could provide up to 25% of GELD's power needs during the spring and fall months (*when the sun is shining*). Wind and Solar energy sources help to diversify GELD's power supply portfolio and also help to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

Rates

The components of GELD rates in 2014 remained stable. A Power Purchase Fuel Adjustment (PPFA) was added as a line item on the bill beginning in September 2014. The PPFA is a way for Groton Electric to recoup the increased generation costs associated with higher fuel prices. We continue to offer an approximate 10% discount to customers who pay their bill by the 12th of the month and doubled the discount to celebrate the holidays for the bill received December 1. We ended the year with the sixth lowest rates out of 42 Massachusetts utilities for the 12-month average 750 kWh electric user. The two investor-owned utilities that service the surrounding towns, National Grid and Unitil, have rates that are 46% & 79% higher than Groton Electric respectively.

As we prepare to finally move into our new office and garage facilities, we will keep ratepayers updated on our plans and progress. It should be a completely seamless transition. All of Groton Electric personnel will be housed in the same facility with office personnel in the front of the building and line staff in the garage facilities tucked in the back.

Thank you to our Groton ratepayers for their loyalty and thank you to our Board of Light Commissioners for their continued guidance and support in overseeing Groton's locally owned and operated Light Department!

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin P. Kelly, Manager
Kevin J. Lindemer, Chairman

Rodney R. Hersh, Clerk
Bruce Easom, Member

GROTON/DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Offices: Prescott School Building, 145 Main Street, P.O. Box 729, Groton, MA 01450

(978) 448-5505 Fax: (978) 448-9402

Dr. Kristan Rodriguez, Superintendent of Schools

School Committee Meetings ~ 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm

Groton-Dunstable Regional High School Library

Superintendent's Office

Submitted by Dr. Kristan Rodriguez, Superintendent of Schools

It is with great pride and pleasure that I present the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District's end of year report. As the new superintendent of schools, it was a pleasure to observe this district last winter and spring, and come to the helm this past June. Throughout this pre-entry and entry phase of my position, I have been struck by the quality of education, the strength and character of our students, the dedication of our staff, and the commitment of our community and parents.

The senior leadership team for the public schools is as follows. Hopefully, their reports below will provide a window into the work they have begun.

- Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Kristan Rodriguez
- Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Human Resources, Dr. Katie Novak
- Human Resources Specialist, Dr. Elizabeth Conway
- Director of Business and Finance, Mr. Jared Stanton
- Director of Pupil Personnel Services, Ms. Lyn Snow
- Director of Technology, Information, and Media Relations, Mr. Luke Callahan

It is important that district leadership spend a lot of time listening and learning about the district prior to planning for future initiatives. My entry phase is coming to a close and by early 2015, I will publish my "Report of Entry Findings". In this report, numerous quantitative and qualitative data points will be used to define themes and articulate areas of strength as well as identify areas for growth. These areas will be defined in the following categories:

- Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
- Management and Operations
- Family and Community Engagement
- Human Resources and Professional Culture

I look forward to using these findings to help to define the scope of our long-range planning work. In addition, we have been conducting a number of departmental reviews in regard to all central office departments. These reviews will be included in the report of entry findings.

To determine our district's readiness for the development of a strategy, we conducted an internal survey. Based on the survey results, our strongest readiness area is our district's focus on the instructional core. Our weakest area is that no current cohesive guiding strategy or strategic plan exists and thus there is no focus, coherence, or synergy in our improvement planning. Therefore, we have begun to engage in the development of a district strategy with a committee of staff, parents, elected officials, and community members. One of our first tasks was to define a vision for our schools. Our new vision reads: Through a balanced, thoughtful and innovative education, all Groton-Dunstable students will become curious, engaged and skilled learners who are well-prepared for continued success and contributions to a global society. This vision will help lead the development of a needs assessment and long-range plan. This long-range plan (5 years) will allow us to focus our work and improvement efforts across the district. To develop this plan, we will engage in root cause analysis and identify strategic objectives and initiatives as a result of a thoughtful needs assessment. We will identify current initiatives that are working well and articulate areas for improvement. After this work is complete, we will engage in a logic model to create goals and action plans. We plan to present and publish our strategy in June of 2015. As FY16 budgets are due before this strategy is presented, we made a commitment not to include any initiatives that would

require additional operating budget resources in year one of our plan. Once the strategy is complete, we will spend the following school year developing corresponding long-range capital and technology plans.

This year, our school department has been working on new ways to increase communication and collaboration with the towns. For example, we have held numerous community forums and published online surveys. In addition, we have new central office department web pages, the superintendent's weekly blog for the community, regularly updated Twitter accounts, and a weekly email to staff and our school committee. We also continue to publish The Barometer and have reconfigured one of our roles in central office to focus on media relations. With Mr. Callahan's support, we have developed a new process for regular school press releases to local media. We are also working to produce a new education based television show, which will begin airing in 2015.

In an effort to increase communication with the towns, I have attended a number of town meetings as an observer to understand the important things happening in town government. In addition, we have invited and are delighted that elected officials and senior town employees are participating in a number of important district committees such as our 5 year strategic planning committee and our quarterly multi-board budget meetings. We have set up regular individual and small group meetings with town officials to continue ongoing budget discussions and conversations in preparation for the Superintendent's (District's) recommended budget. We hope that this collaboration and communication will allow us to successfully develop a budget that meets the needs of the towns and schools alike. We recognize that during a difficult budget situation last school year, the communities rallied to support our district. The district does not take this support in stride, and has worked to review all district departments, establish efficiencies, and increase communication. We have created savings in our budget, looked for additional revenue sources, and implemented quarterly year-to-date reporting for transparency.

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Submitted by Dr. Katie Novak, Assistant Superintendent

The curriculum department focused on a number of main initiatives this year including building a shared vision, improving the quality of professional development, refining all district determined measures (DDMs), and preparing for PARCC testing.

In July 2014, I came to Groton-Dunstable as the Assistant Superintendent. Beginning this summer, one major focus of the curriculum office was building a shared vision within each core department in the district (English language arts, math, science, and social studies). Curriculum leaders, representing pre-kindergarten-12, met to develop five-year visions and strategies with implementation timelines, and began to revise scope and sequence documents to ensure vertical alignment of the curriculum. When completed in January 2015, these visions and five-year plans will contribute to long-range curriculum and strategic planning. Work will begin on vision statements and action plans for foreign language, fine arts, physical and behavioral health, educational technology, and guidance departments in spring of 2015.

In the spring of 2014, all staff had the opportunity to respond to the Tell MASS survey. The Tell MASS Survey is a statewide survey given to licensed educators to determine if they have the supports necessary for effective teaching. After reviewing Groton-Dunstable staff responses the HR and the curriculum departments collaborated with our Teachers' Union members to develop the Groton-Dunstable Professional Development (GDPD) committee to increase professional development quality and opportunities. This committee has been a great success. In this year alone, the committee will provide more than twenty offerings in a wide variety of professional development areas, eighteen self-paced book club offerings, four in-service courses, and two graduate courses. These options enable employees to earn Professional Development Points (PDPs), which are required for re-licensure and to achieve highly qualified teacher (HQT) status.

An important aspect of the new Educator Evaluation Tool are district determined measures (DDMs), or assessments that teachers can use to help plan instruction and measure student outcomes. To help teachers

develop these assessments, I have presented at all schools regarding Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) requirements for District Determined Measures (DDMs). After these presentations, curriculum leaders in all departments collaborated with teachers to design DDMs that meet the criteria outlined by DESE. Drafts of these assessments were submitted to the curriculum office by January 1, 2015. A committee will vet these DDMs before FY16.

During the fall of 2014, a group of teachers, administrators, coaches, and instructional technology staff met as a PARCC Action Team to develop resources for teachers and parents to improve student outcomes on the PARCC. This work was presented at Florence-Roche, Swallow Union, and to all middle school staff. In late January, the curriculum office and the technology department will facilitate a parent presentation about our district action plan for all interested parties.

Human Resources

Submitted by Dr. Katie Novak, Assistant Superintendent and Dr. Elizabeth Conway, HR Specialist

This summer, the human resources department conducted a review of school committee policies, union contracts, MA state general laws, hiring practices, teacher licensure, active employee and retiree benefits, job descriptions, and our professional development offerings, in an effort to build capacity in human resource management.

The HR department was thrilled to welcome 42 new staff members this summer: twenty teachers and nurses, fifteen paraprofessionals, two cafeteria staff, and five administrators. These staff members were on-boarded using current HR procedures, which have since been updated to align to current school committee policies and state and federal laws. Our revised procedural manual will be completed by February 1, 2015 and used internally to process all new hires. We are also in the process of drafting a substitute manual so our procedures/policies concerning substitutes are consistent. To boost quality retention and recruitment efforts, we will begin to conduct exit interviews with all departing employees.

In September 2014, all employee licenses were audited to ensure a highly qualified teaching staff. Beginning in spring 2015, all Unit A teachers and nurses will receive appointment letters with current license information to clarify timelines for relicensure.

Providing a comprehensive, competitive benefits package to our employees is critical. This year, we renewed our health insurance plan with GIC. We had a 5% reduction in our premiums for dental insurance and our health insurance premiums increased, on average, 1% which is the lowest increase reported in the state. A review of employee benefits was completed in December 2014. All discrepancies will be addressed by January 15, 2015. Moving forward, benefits will be audited on a monthly basis through the business office to ensure accuracy.

Job descriptions being revised, in collaboration with union member, to reflect current job responsibilities. The timeline for completion is May 2015. In the future, all new employees will be provided with a job description for their position when they receive their appointment letter and performance evaluations will be aligned to the new job descriptions. Lastly, two unions have executed contracts for the coming three years and three unions remain in negotiations

As we implement these important initiatives, we will continue to review and revise department policies and procedures to best meet the needs of all our employees.

Business Department

Submitted by Mr. Jared Stanton, Director of Business and Finance

Like Fiscal Year 2013, monetary issues continued to dominate the landscape in FY2014. Revenues earmarked for FY2014 were used to close out the FY2013 shortage, creating another deficit in FY2014. As a result, all nonessential spending was frozen, several positions were eliminated, and the remaining

\$613,533 balance of our excess and deficiency (E&D) was used to increase our general fund budget to cover expenditures.

Due to the extraordinary efforts of every district employee and great cooperation from the two towns, FY2014 ended with a positive unexpended balance of \$137,878 in the general fund and actual revenue received exceeded budgeted revenue by \$98,561. Our FY2014 excess and deficiency (E&D) account was certified by the Department of Revenue (DOR) at \$374,263; representing roughly 1% of the FY2015 general fund budget. By law the district is permitted to maintain a fund balance of up to 5% of the budget in order to pay for unanticipated expenses, particularly in areas of private school special education tuitions and building infrastructure repairs (heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC), plumbing, electrical, etc...). This amount of E&D is dangerously low, but with good budgeting and continued communication and transparency, effective strategic and capital planning, and a continued partnership with the two towns, we feel we can increase E&D to the recommended level of 4% over the next few fiscal years.

At this time, the FY2015 general budget is in very good shape from both a revenue and an expenditure perspective. The anticipated 9C cuts announced in November come to approximately \$187,000 if instituted by the new governor. The biggest impact from this potential cut in aid is the reduction in Chapter 71, Regional Transportation Reimbursement, which was cut almost \$176,000. Conservative budgeting of revenue, based on recent trends, will protect us from operational impacts. However, revenue reductions such as this will limit our ability to restore our E&D balance.

The additional \$1,902,143 in assessments received last spring from the towns was necessary to ensure the district does not fall into deficit in the near future. We continue to be concerned with state aid particularly with Chapter 70 (state aid to support school operations), Chapter 71 (Regional Transportation Reimbursement) and Special Education Circuit Breaker. At this time, the district expects Chapter 70 and Chapter 71 to come in slightly higher than FY2015 levels and Circuit Breaker to be decreased 5% for FY2016.

The Business Office continues to implement a number of new procedures and payroll practices to omit errors. Our staff continues to receive training on Infinite Visions, the operating software that was implemented in January of 2013. We also continue to consult with DOR, Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and Melanson and Heath (District Accountants) on a number of fiscal procedures.

As I carry on in my second year as Director of Business and Finance, and my second budget cycle, I continue to find it invaluable to visit schools and classrooms to better understand the fiscal requests. In addition, bi-weekly meetings with all principals and assistant principals, weekly meetings with central office departments, regular meetings with school committee and the budget and finance-subcommittee, and quarterly Multi-Board meetings with the two towns have made the FY2016 budget preparation a smooth process. As we continue to prepare the FY2016 budget, the district will continue to work tirelessly with both towns to achieve long term fiscal stability.

Pupil Personnel Services

Submitted by Ms. Lyn Snow, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

The Groton-Dunstable Regional Schools provides a constellation of support services for students with special education needs. The primary goal is to ensure that students are offered a continuum of services in order to make effective progress in all areas within the least restrictive environment. The array of services that students may receive can include specialized academic instruction, instructional support, related therapy services (speech and language, occupational and physical therapy), counseling services (guidance, adjustment, psychological and vocational), consultation services (educational, behavioral and related services), supplemental services (behavioral support, assistive technology, transition planning, extended year services and specialized transportation), nursing/health services (medical, vision/hearing

services, orientation & mobility), early childhood education and individualized assessment and evaluation.

All schools are supported by a registered nurse, guidance counselor(s), a special education team chairperson, licensed special education teachers and instructional support staff. In addition, the district is also supported by licensed school psychologists, speech & language pathologists, occupational therapists as well as a physical therapist, licensed reading specialist and a board certified behavior analyst.

In addition to providing special education instructional support and co-teaching models within the general education classrooms throughout the district, language-based classrooms have been developed and implemented at the middle and high school to support students with language-based learning disabilities that impact their ability to access curriculum in the general education environment. At the beginning of the current school year, the district successfully piloted an academic skills program for elementary students with complex learning needs where all core curriculum areas can be taught in a small group setting with highly individualized pace and presentation of instruction. In addition, the district currently has therapeutic learning centers at both the middle school and the high school that provide support to students with emotional disabilities that interfere with successful independent learning in the mainstream and is currently in the process of developing a therapeutic learning center at the elementary level projected to open in February of 2015.

Beginning in July 2014, the budget expenditures of the Pupil Personnel Services department and organizational structure of department personnel at both the building and district level were reviewed and a comprehensive staffing audit was conducted in order to identify potential areas for fiscal efficiency. In addition, a needs assessment was conducted with Special Education Staff at the commencement of the 2014-2015 school year. The following areas of focus and priority were identified:

- Analyzing specialized transportation costs and identifying potential commensurate yet cost-effective alternatives.
- Reducing the dependence on services provided by outside agencies and increasing the utilization of in district personnel in order to provide better consistency, oversight and supervision.
- Developing long-term and sustainable professional development opportunities based on themes that emerged as a result of the Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) department needs assessment.
- Building the capacity of building staff and providing opportunities for educators to serve as a support and resource for colleagues.
- Consideration of the establishment of caseload ranges for staff so that a balance can be drawn and the district is able to deploy staff to schools when a 'bubble' exists.
- Strengthening the existing in-district programs (Therapeutic, Language-Based) and eliminating programmatic gaps that result in out of district placements, with the goal of providing comprehensive and well-developed programs that are vertically articulated to meet the needs of students across all grade spans.
- Evaluating the viability of transitioning to an in-district Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program at Swallow Union Elementary School.
- Developing transition practices that are structured in a sequential and consistent manner across the various school levels (PK to Kindergarten, 4th to 5th, 8th to 9th) in order to ensure continuity.
- To review current district practices and develop accountability measures where necessary in order to ensure compliance with the findings set forth in the coordinated program review mid-cycle report.

The continuing goals of the Pupil Personnel Services department are to build the capacity of programming within district in order to support the majority of students with disabilities within their community to allow for access to general education when and where appropriate. As we continue to address the aforementioned priorities, the department will continue to develop and implement initiatives in order to best meet the needs of our students.

Technology Department

Submitted by Mr. Luke Callahan, Director of Technology, Information, and Media Relations

The past year has been an active and exciting time for our technology department. With a generous warrant from both the towns of Groton and Dunstable, technology integration has significantly increased in all of our schools. The warrant has allowed for an increasing student to device ratio of roughly 2:1.

With the influx of educational technology equipment and strengthening of network infrastructure provided by the warrant, improvements can be seen in the day-to-day technology integration by both staff and students. After a successful field test of PARCC in the spring of 2014, we have elected to have our third through eighth grade students take the computer-based assessments again in 2015. The addition of Google Chromebooks and a strong network has allowed our district to be well prepared for this new testing platform.

Prior to the start of the 2014-2015 school year, introductory and data gathering meetings with administration and members of the technology department were scheduled to identify district strengths and needs. There has been a concerted effort to maintain strong communication with the technology department by organizing and facilitating monthly meetings. A highlight of this time is the beginning stages on the development of mission and vision statements to support future long-range district goals.

In preparation for supporting such goals, the technology department is working on transitioning to new student information and Voice over IP systems. A new student information system will manage student data more efficiently. Increasing our network infrastructure will support a seamless transition to Voice over IP, which will allow for telephone communications over our network with a savings to the underlying budget.

The importance of selecting the proper equipment and getting the most from our dollar is of great importance with the likelihood of a level technology budget in FY2016. With this in mind, we have eliminated excess costs and waste in our former printing program and now are supporting low-cost copiers across district that allow for savings. The standardizing of a formal asset inventory across the district will help us identify, replace and recycle technology equipment in future budget cycles. There has also been a large push to identify areas of need at each school and allocate available resources either through grants or the operating budget.

In October of 2014, the entire technology department attended the regional MassCUE Educational Technology Conference, which focuses on the integration of technology into the curriculum. In addition to both attending and presenting at MassCUE, members of the technology department have presented at various other conferences and have also taken a strong role presenting during in-district professional development workshops for teachers.

Over the past year, our faculty have adopted Google Apps for Education into their daily routines, and Google Apps accounts were provided to every student and staff member. Along with over 650 Google Chromebooks, technology tools have become the backbone of effective communication and are indispensable in our approach to online collaboration in this fast-paced world. Just recently, the development of a digital portfolio website will afford all students the opportunity to become strong digital citizens and provide a high-quality online showcase for student work and growth.

Thanks to the ease of using the Google Apps software, we were able to pilot and automate parent consent forms at the middle school and will look to expand this process across the district. In addition, the technology department has gathered parent and staff feedback using Google Apps to collect important information about their perceptions of our website and communication methods, which will be used to develop best practices going forward.

In addition to supporting instructional practice and communication, technology education has been expanded. For example, this past year we introduced a pilot course at the high school called Exploring Computer Science (ECS), which acts as an introduction to robotics and programming. During the national Computer Science Week in December, students at all levels, along with high school student ambassadors, completed the Hour of Code, which provided an opportunity to program and learn the logic behind coding.

Extended Day and Community Services

Submitted by Ms. Karen Tuomi, Director of Extended Day and Community Services

The Peter Twomey Youth Center (PTYC) is the base for the Extended Day Programs (FR/SU/BT/MS); Community Education Programs (adult and children's enrichment); publication of The Barometer; coordination of district security, and scheduling for all district facilities including the Performing Arts Center, the Black Box Theater, classrooms, gyms and fields. It is self-supporting and funded by tuitions, community donations and fundraisers. It is located on the Main Campus of schools in Groton.

This year the Extended Day Program has seen a large increase in registrations with over 200 students attending one of the program sites. Extended Day provides students in the district before school care from 7am to 9am and then after school care from 3pm to 6pm. We also had enough interest this year to hold the mid-day kindergarten program for students attending the half day kindergarten at either Swallow Union or Florence Roche Elementary. The Extended Day program provides safe, nurturing, supervised care along with homework support and peer socialization.

Community Education continues to offer residents of our area fun and informative adult classes ranging from Pilates to Sewing to Electrical Repair. At the Middle School level, Community Education was very proud to sponsor the middle school play, High School Musical. Over 80 middle school students rehearsed several times a week to bring this play to family and friends. It was one of our most successful plays! We are also offering several new classes for Middle School students including 3D Printing, Pre-Robotics and Magic: The Gathering! These along with old favorites like Flag Football and Chess Club help give our students many options for after school fun.

The 2013-2014 school year was the first full year that coordination of district security fell under the Peter Twomey Youth Center. The year was devoted to introducing and implementing enhancements to our already existing crisis plans. These enhancements required special trainings to take place with all staff at all levels. These trainings included presentations given by the Groton Police Department along with hands-on scenarios where these enhancements were put into play. Once staff became comfortable with these additions, training began again for students at all levels and sites. This was a very intense and sometimes emotional program and its implementation required some sensitivity and patience. It also required assistance from not only the Groton and Dunstable police departments but also from neighboring towns such as Pepperell, Westford and Littleton. These enhancements, trainings, and drills, along with some additional physical changes in the buildings, have strengthened our commitment to provide a safe and secure learning environment for our students and staff.

All of our facilities continue to be utilized after school and on weekends by residents of the two towns. Meetings, sporting events, practices, dance recitals and concerts are just some of the community events that are being scheduled on a daily basis.



Groton-Dunstable Regional High School
Submitted by Mr. Mike Mastrullo, Principal

By all measures, Groton-Dunstable Regional High School is a high performing school. The students arrive willing to learn and eager to succeed. At the core of the school's success is the staff, who must be commended for their dedication to students, and their willingness to work hard, adapt, and remain flexible as the seemingly endless changes in education continue.

For better or worse, schools are largely judged, particularly by individuals outside of the educational establishment, by standardized test scores. Using these as a barometer, GDRHS is a successful high school. For example, while our school enrollment remained static, we have experienced considerable growth in our Advanced Placement (AP) program over the course of the last five years. In fact, the number of students in our AP program has grown by 73%, and notably, scores have remained consistent with more than 85% achieving a three or better. Math scores have been consistently exceptional; specifically, 100% of the more than 40 students taking the AP Calculus exam in 2014 scored a three or better.

The Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) is considered one of the more rigorous exams in the nation. Of the nearly four hundred schools in the state, GDRHS has consistently fared well. The ambitious objective set by the state is for 100% of students to score proficient or advanced in the three major subject areas of math, science and English. The state average is 79%, 71% and 90% respectively. I am happy to report that in 2014 GDRHS students exceeded state averages with 97%, 90%, and 99% respectively. Furthermore, 95% of our students attend college and our graduation rate is 99% percent.

Academic achievement is certainly not the only measure of student success. GDRHS students excel in a broad range of areas including music, the arts, and athletics. While the accomplishments are too numerous to list, a few are worthy of note. During the spring of 2014 the music department traveled to the prestigious Parks Competition in New York to compete against more than 40 schools from all over the country. Groton-Dunstable received first place for jazz band, chorus, and chamber chorus. In addition, concert band placed second. Chamber was not only invited to perform at Saint Antonio's Basilica in Padua, Italy, but they were also one of 24 finalists chosen out of the more than 1000 singing groups who auditioned for the new WGBH television competition called "Sing That Thing." The competition will continue in 2015.

In 2014, Groton-Dunstable students received numerous distinctions at the Boston Globe Scholastic Art Awards: four Gold Keys, four Silver Keys, and ten honorable mentions. In addition, Elizabeth Garside received the coveted National Gold Key for her "Tribal Simulations" piece. Of the more than 250,000 pieces of artwork submitted to The Globe, she was among just 200 selected as finalists.

With more than 700 athletes at the High School and Middle School level, spanning 56 sports, the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District continued in developing a reputation for athletic excellence among Midland-Wachusett League schools. Highlights include winning, once again, the Colonel's Cup on Thanksgiving Day over football foe Tyngsboro, multiple MIAA Tournament qualifiers across all seasons, tremendous performances by Evan Lexo both regionally and nationally in track, District Final appearances in Ice Hockey and Boys Lacrosse, and our first ever Girls Volleyball League Championship. Additionally, we added three new winter sports - Boys and Girls Indoor Track & Field, and Gymnastics.

There are many individual accomplishments spanning several sports and seasons. Numerous students received All-Conference awards, District All-Star Awards and several received Most Valuable Player Awards. Two individuals the high school would like to highlight are Connor Maguire and PJ Kendall. Connor was awarded the prestigious MIAA/Boston Bruins Hobey Baker Award given annually to a hockey player from the Midland-Wachusett League who demonstrates outstanding fair play and sportsmanship. PJ was selected as one of 16 Student Representatives from around the Commonwealth to the MIAA Student Advisor Board. This group of accomplished young men and women work alongside the MIAA Leadership to develop statewide policy to improve the athletic experience for students.

While, as with all successful institutions, it is important that we understand the root causes of our successes and reflect and celebrate these achievements, it is imperative that we remain steadfast in the relentless pursuit of improvement. The GDRHS School Improvement Plan provides a glimpse into some areas where we will strive for improvement. Building upon momentum from last year, we hope to expand the Global Scholars Program to include, among other things, a global competency diploma along with opportunities for GDRHS students to study abroad. Furthermore, we will increase student exposure and provide additional opportunities for students to participate in computer science, robotics, and app development. Lastly, we will continue to enhance the academic and vocational opportunities for students in our PAVE program.

All of these accomplishments firmly position Groton-Dunstable Regional High School as one of the best schools in the great state of Massachusetts. We are proud that Newsweek, a reputable national publication, recognized GDRHS as one of the best schools in the country. Data commissioned and compiled by Newsweek, based both on student achievement and college readiness indicators, placed GDRHS as the No. 86-ranked high school in the country and No. 5 ranked in the state. Something to be proud of!

Groton-Dunstable Regional Middle School Submitted by Mr. Steven Silverman, Principal of GDRMS

The year of 2014 was an exciting year at the Groton-Dunstable Middle School, as many exciting initiatives occurred which celebrated our students and our staff. In addition, we continue to be cognizant of our areas of need and continue to focus on making improvements to our existing programs.

During the past year, we continued to focus on social emotional learning. At the beginning of the year, to continue to communicate the negative effects of bullying and cyber-bullying, all students attended a school-wide assembly on Anti-bullying and cyber-bullying sponsored by the Massachusetts Aggression Reduction Center. Also, during Disability Awareness Month, we invited Becky Curran to speak to our students about how it feels to be a "little person." Becky was born an achondroplastic dwarf and has traveled to many schools to speak to teachers and students about changing people's perceptions of what physically challenged people are capable of, while motivating everyone to set exceptional goals.

During Month of the Young Adolescent, parents were given the opportunity to re-live their days of "Junior High School" by shadowing their child(ren) for a full day of school. Parents spent half of the day attending classes and then spent the other half of the day attending an all-school assembly. In celebration of American Education Week, parents were invited to join their child(ren) for lunch.

This December, our entire middle school participated in a holiday fundraiser called Project Mitten in where each grade level team held a variety of fundraisers to raise money for families with financial hardships. Students raised over \$8800. This money was used to help provide 30 families with food, clothing and holiday gifts. In addition, our Student Council students organized a “SOUPER BOWL” in where they collected over 50 cans of non-perishables to donate to Loaves and Fishes.

A number of our students achieved impressive accomplishments this year. Two of our students (Gabe Higgly and Jessica DiFranco) participated with other eighth grade students throughout the Commonwealth in a day of Community Service in Boston called Project 351. Project 351 is a youth congress to celebrate service and civic leadership. On this day, students participated in a town meeting with Governor Deval Patrick and celebrated the power and potential of youth leadership. We were also very excited to hold our school-wide Geography Bee and Spelling Bee. Seventh grader Naomi Young won first prize in the Spelling Bee and proceeded to represent our school at the North Central MA Regional and 8th grader Kyle Battles was our Geography Bee winner. In addition, approximately 40 of our middle school students participated in Destination Imagination (DI). Destination ImagiNation, Inc. is a non-profit organization offering a global, youth-centered, creative problem-solving program that emphasizes creativity, problem-solving and teamwork. DI challenges have open-ended answers, empowering participants to create solutions that are imaginative, original, divergent and ingenious! Students work together in teams to tackle these challenges under the direction of a team coach. The Competition was held at ShAyer Shirley Regional High School.

Our eighth grade students participated in an interdisciplinary activity called, The Product Fair where they learned about designing, producing and selling a product. Our seventh grade students participated in the Academic Bowl which was an academic competition where students answer questions in science, math, Geography and ELA. Students work together in homeroom teams to win the treasured 7th Grade Trophy. In June, we held our annual Talent Show. We saw some amazing singing and dancing talents of many of our students!

Some ongoing initiatives that took place throughout the year were the enhancement of social media and communication between home and school through weekly correspondences to parents via Facebook, and our Technology Department introducing google-docs and google-classroom to all of our staff and students.

To support our high needs population of students (students with disabilities) make adequate progress on the MCAS test, we started to conduct a root cause analysis to gather and analyze the root causes that are limiting their performance in mathematics. The result of this protocol will help us in developing an action plan to identify those areas where they need additional support.

Florence Roche

Submitted by Dianna Fulreader, Assistant Principal

Florence Roche achieved great things in 2014, both inside our walls and in the greater community. This year our school chose Each Kindness by Jacqueline Woodson for our “One School, One Book” shared reading experience. The message of the book is that even small acts of kindness can change the world. Florence Roche staff, students and caretakers have shown kindness to others in many ways throughout 2014. In May, we held a walk-a-thon and raised approximately \$4,000 to support the employees of Blood Farm who were out of work due to the fire that destroyed the building. We continued, in collaboration with the Commissioners of Trust Funds, the Council on Aging and the Groton Police Department, to collect items and deliver gift baskets to wish Happy Holidays to 10 senior citizens in Groton. Students also made placemats for our local senior citizens in their art class.

Florence Roche has a new student council this year consisting of two students from each of the 4th grade classrooms. Their first project, collecting and donating almost 400 gifts to the Department of Children

and Families in Lowell to support children in the surrounding area, was a huge success. They continue to explore options for the Florence Roche community to spread kindness in both significant and small ways.

In addition to learning how to be caring citizens, our students and staff continued their pursuit and passion for teaching and learning. All teachers in grades 1-4 have added a Reading Workshop to their reading instruction and are using this engaging model to both improve literacy skills and instill a love for reading among students. Our PTA has supported our efforts by spearheading a Library Fund Committee which is committed to making our school library a warm and relaxing place to enjoy a good book. In addition, they are providing funding for new books and magazines, not only for the school library but for our classroom libraries as well. Teachers have worked collaboratively on math instruction to ensure students are improving their fluency with facts and have a deep conceptual understanding of math as demonstrated by their ability to articulate their math thinking in a variety of ways. In another effort to support the diverse learning needs of our students, we have piloted a co-taught 4th grade classroom. This classroom is instructed by a general education and special education teacher.

We would like to express our gratitude to the communities of Groton and Dunstable for supporting our efforts in shaping our children's future.

Swallow Union

Submitted by Mr. Peter Meyerson, Principal

Swallow Union is located in the center of Dunstable. The Union building was dedicated in December, 1895, with less than 60 students, K-9. The Swallow building opened its doors in 1963 and the connector was added in 1978. The last major renovation was completed in September, 1995. Currently we house grades K-4 and educate roughly 285 students.

Our staff of well-trained professionals continued to be eager to learn new teaching strategies to enhance their daily instruction. They set high expectations for themselves and their students. We are proud of the many accomplishments throughout our 2014 school year. They include a full commitment to enhance our readers' workshop model, our third and fourth graders scoring in the top 10% state-wide on the MCAS, implementation of a new crises management protocol for evacuations and lockdowns, and continuation of teaching and carrying out the importance of community service through our food and coat drives.

Currently, we have developed a school improvement plan which focuses on three 2-year goals. Our first goal is to effectively implement the readers' workshop model in all of our classrooms. Our second goal is to include more math talk and discussion as a strategy during math instruction. Lastly, we will develop an action plan that will allow us to best infuse technology into our curriculum. All of these goals include measurable data. At the end of the two years, we will use this data to determine our strengths and weaknesses.

In closing, Swallow Union continues to house the district's Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) program. This has been at Swallow Union for the past twelve years and is contracted through the New England Center for Children. This partnership is for students with intensive special needs and has been a wonderful asset for all our students.

Boutwell Early Childhood Center

Submitted by Mr. Russell Hoyt, Early Childhood Director

The Boutwell Early Childhood Center provided an integrated, language based early childhood education program that offered stimulating programming for 70 children aged 3-5 over the past year. Along with daily discoveries in our subject areas, we encountered some moments worth highlighting along the way.

Our well-trained professionals continued to work on the alignment of specific preschool curriculum by reviewing the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for ELA Incorporating the Common Core State

Standards and the Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences, completing math alignment, and exploring a new math curriculum. We are proud of the many accomplishments achieved during the 2014 school year. Specifically the improvements in the preschool English Language Arts curriculum provided through the first year of full implementation of the “Lively Letters” for preschool program. The staff also participated in training to help students use language throughout each child’s day to create a learning environment in which literacy is embedded in all learning.

Our teachers and parents continued to partner together during the eighth year of the School Council for the Boutwell School. The Council put on a nice 100 year celebration of the Boutwell School Building founded in 1914. The council is now focused on expanding Boutwell’s services to better meet families’ needs.

Looking forward, our goals for 2015 are both rigorous and designed to support the district’s youngest learners. We will complete the work on the alignment of our English Language Arts curriculum to the new Common Core and the Guidelines for Preschool Learning Experiences. Staff will begin to implement last year’s training on creative ways to integrate science, technology and engineering throughout the preschool learner’s day. Programs will include parent-run science workshops as well as hands on experiments for children.

With the continued focus on English Language Arts, Boutwell students are working hard to achieve an understanding of literacy concepts that will improve their ability to learn throughout their lives. Thanks to the efforts of our teachers and specialists, students are learning to ask and answer questions about a story read aloud, retell the sequence of events from a story, and produce the sounds that letters make. This groundwork will certainly prepare our students for success well into their future in Groton-Dunstable.



GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Vanessa Abraham, Director

Hours: Tue-Thu 10am-9pm • Fri 10am-6pm • Sat 10am-5pm • Sun 1pm-5pm (Sept-Apr) • Mon Closed
Trustees Meeting Held Monthly on the 3rd Tuesday at 7 pm • gpl.org • info@gpl.org
Main: 978-448-1167 • Children's: 978-448-1168 • Reference: 978-448-8000 • Fax: 978-448-1169

2014 Highlights: Groton Public Library's 161st Annual Report

The Groton Public Library's mission is to provide free access to collections, services, and programs that enrich the lives of all in our community and to provide this in a professional, friendly, and confidential environment that also promotes the joys and benefits of reading and lifelong learning.

New Services

- **EXPANDED HOURS.** Opened 5-6 pm on Fridays and 3-5 pm on Saturdays year-round.
- **First Year in MVLC.** 2014 was our first full year in the MVLC network of 36 public libraries. In 2013, we processed 11,369 interlibrary loans; in 2014, we handled **44,738**, a **300%** increase.
- **Fall Sunday Hours.** Opened **Sundays 1-5 pm Sept-Dec** for the 2nd year, with State Aid funding.
- **New 24/7 Resources:** Added **Safari** Technical & Professional Books Online, **Consumer Reports** Online, **Zinio** Digital Magazines, and **TumbleBooks** eBooks for Kids.
- **Tablets with educational apps** were installed in the Teen Area.

New Programs

- **Winter Reading Program for Children.** 100 kids signed up and 61 read 4 books in 4 weeks.
- **Summer Reading Program for Adults.** 216 adults registered and read 881 books.
- **Downton Abbey Afternoon Tea Series.** Over 100 ladies and gentlemen enjoyed tea, scones, trivia, and history while catching up on Season 4 of *Downton Abbey*.
- Offered **Yoga and Movie events** for preschool-aged children and their caregivers.

Top Numbers and Rankings

- **10,100 people attended 607 library programs**, our highest numbers ever.
- Our meeting rooms were used **1,549** times; we ranked **FIRST** in the state in this category*.
- **1,243** teens attended **98** programs; we ranked **SECOND** in teen program attendance and **THIRD** in the number of teen/young adult programs offered in the state*.
- Ranked **FOURTH** in circulation per capita and in book & audio borrowing in the state*.

**Compared to the 52 public libraries serving Groton's population grouping, 10-15K, FY13 data*

Annual Statistics

- **194,391 items borrowed**
- **17,333 items downloaded** (e-books, e-audiobooks, e-music, and e-magazines)
- **103,512 people welcomed**
- Delighted **4,644 children** at **238 library programs**
- Taught **25 Elementary School classes**, or **508 students**, about using the library
- Registered **593 children** for the Summer Reading Program
- **240** teens signed up for the Summer Reading Program and they read **1,698 books**
- Over **1,000** people participated in our children, teen, and adult **Summer Reading Programs**
- **2,363** adults attended **209** adult programs, a **16%** increase in program attendance over 2013
- **Groton READS** events celebrating *The Art Forger* by Barbara Shapiro brought **1,000** people in
- 189 people attended 15 **Lifelong Learning Courses** through the Library
- Users searched our databases **19,003** times, a **55%** increase over 2013
- Library Staff answered **4,569** reference, reading, homework, and technology questions

Respectfully submitted by the Trustees of the Groton Public Library: Kristen von Campe, Chair; Mark Gerath, Vice-Chair; David Zeiler, Secretary; Jane Allen; Barbara Lamont; Nancy Wilder

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Lisa Larrabee, Executive Director

Office Hours: Mon & Tues 8:00am – 12:30pm & Wed & Thurs 11:30am – 4:00pm

Meetings at 7:00pm (on 2nd Wednesday of every month) at 19 Lowell Road, Groton

(978) 448-3962 Fax: (978) 448-5845

grotonhousing@verizon.net

The Groton Housing Authority (GHA) is the local body responsible for the expenditure of State and Federal housing grants. We currently own and manage 20 units of State-subsidized rental housing for the elderly and disabled and eight units of rental housing for families. In addition to our State public housing inventory we also own nine units of rental housing for moderate-income families located on Sandy Pond Road. Our housing programs are subsidized and regulated by the Commonwealth and require no financial contribution from the Town.

The Board of Commissioners of the Housing Authority is made up of four Commissioners who are elected by town residents to five-year terms and one who is appointed by the Governor. At the regular meeting of the Commissioners held in June 2013, members were elected to the following positions: Brooks Lyman, Chairman; Deirdre Slavin-Mitchell, Vice Chairman; Ellen Todd, Treasurer; Daniel Emerson, Asst. Treasurer; Daniel Emerson, Secretary. These positions did not change in 2014. The Board meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 19 Lowell Road, 7pm.

Board member Daniel Emerson represents the Housing Authority on the Community Preservation Committee.

Lisa Larrabee serves as the Housing Authority's Executive Director. Lisa has established regular office hours at the 19 Lowell Road office. They are Monday through Thursday 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Lisa may also be reached by calling 978-448-3962, or emailing to grotonhousing@verizon.net.

The Residents of Elderly/Handicapped programs meet occasionally on a social basis in our community room. They also meet occasionally with the Executive Director to discuss items of interest or other important information they need to know regarding the building they live in.

The Housing Authority continues to explore possibilities to expand the town's housing stock for low and moderate-income seniors, families and those with disabilities. CPA funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 were appropriated for pre-development studies which were conducted on a parcel of land owned by the Authority on Nashua Road. At this time the Groton Housing Authority is working with other town boards to develop this parcel of land for affordable housing.

The Authority continues to work cooperatively with the Town on various affordable housing issues. The Authority also serves as the long-term monitoring agent for several affordable units, assuring that these units will remain affordable in perpetuity as stated in the deed restrictions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brooks Lyman, Chairman
Deirdre Slavin-Mitchell, Vice Chairman
Ellen Todd, Treasurer
Daniel Emerson, Asst. Treasurer
Katharyn Dawson, Member

PARK COMMISSION

Fran Stanley, Assistant
Meetings 2nd Wednesday of the Month
Legion Hall, 75 Hollis Street
(978) 732-1893; fstanley@townofgroton.org

We had a fantastic year on our team! Our playing fields have never looked better; in part because we consolidated field maintenance and are more proactive versus reactive. We have made improvements across town to rehabilitate and improve properties and have enjoyed a mutually beneficial working relationship with our use groups. Our use groups continue to invest into Park properties by paying for repairs (ie: damage to Woitowicz Field was shared with Lacrosse, they paid for seed, we handled labor). Soccer had invested in temporary lighting to safely extend their season this fall at Cow Pond. Football purchased and installed a new flagpole at Cow Pond. Baseball continues to contribute with infield mix, etc.

We've made the most of our budget by relying on our DPW when we can and turning to local town vendors to provide our labor when those estimates are competitive. This helps control costs and ensures fast turnaround, but also ensures there's a tremendous sense of pride in helping the town overall. Local vendors care about Groton.

The Park Commission thanks the Groton Garden Club, Groton School and Eagle Scout candidates for their volunteer efforts to clean and beautify our common areas.

Notable projects and successes include:

- Replacement of the Firemen's Common flagpole.
- Cutler Field has been completely redone and now not only has a clean and safe playing surface for mixed team sports, but it's become a popular picnic location for non-sports folks. We see active use by local churches, groups, Boy Scouts, etc.
- Extended safety fencing for Cow Pond Baseball fields.
- Hazel Grove Park has been substantially improved by the Hazel Grove Agricultural Association, a group that holds a three year lease on the property. Tree clearing on the grounds, extensive clean-up of the overall property, and addition of a visitor's kiosk.
- Replaced all broken rails at Minutemen Common.
- Professional inspection and repair of the Christine Hanson Memorial Playground.
- Replaced Town Field shed roof.

We are looking forward to this next fiscal year, expanding our playgrounds, adding directional signage to our properties to highlight the field layouts, continuing to nurture our fields and foster clean, safe, accessible Park properties.

Respectfully submitted,

Gineane Haberlin
Jonathan Strauss
Kenneth Bushnell
Robert Flynn
Matthew Frary

PLANNING BOARD

Michelle Collette, Land Use Director/Town Planner
Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm
Meeting Every Thursday @ 7:30pm
(978) 448-1105 Fax: (978) 448-1113
planning@townofgroton.org

The Planning Board's jurisdiction is established in two state statutes, the Zoning Act, Chapter 40A, and the Subdivision Control Law, Chapter 41, Sections 81A-81GG. At the local level, the Planning Board's authority is defined in the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning, and Chapter 381 Planning Board Regulations. Zoning amendments must be adopted by a two-thirds vote of Town Meeting. The Subdivision Regulations, Site Plan Review Regulations, Shared Driveway Regulations, Scenic Roads Regulations, and Town Center Overlay District Design Guidelines are adopted and revised by a majority vote of the Planning Board after a duly advertised public hearing. The Zoning By-Law, Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Map, Town Center Overlay District Map, and Water Resource Protection District Map are available on the Town's web site and may be purchased at the Land Use Department in the Town Hall.

During 2014, the Planning Board reviewed the following applications:

Approval Not Required Plans (ANR)	15
Preliminary Subdivision Plans	0
Definitive Subdivision Plans	1
Definitive Plan Modifications	1
Expedited Permit (Chapter 43D)	0
Special Permits	13
Site Plan Review	5
Planned Multifamily Concept Plans	1
Major Project Concept Plans	0
Rezoning Petitions	2

The Planning Board continued to work on the Phase II Implementation of the Comprehensive Master Plan. The 2014 Fall Town Meeting adopted a new Zoning Map with business zoning districts and a new Schedule of Use Regulations. The amendments converted the previous Business (B-1) District to three new districts: Village Center District, Neighborhood District, and General Business District. The previous Manufacturing District (M-1) was changed to Industrial District (I). The Use Regulations and Intensity Regulations were revised to accommodate the size, scale, and locations of each district.

The Board worked with Dodson and Flinker on updating the Town Center Overlay District Design Guidelines. The revised guidelines were adopted on September 18, 2014.

The Board appreciates the Town Departments, especially the public safety officials, for their assistance and guidance throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

George Barringer, Chairman
John Giger
Timothy Svarczkopf
Scott Wilson

Russell Burke
Carolyn Perkins
Michael Vega
Michelle Collette, Land Use Director/Town Planner

SEWER COMMISSION

April Iannacone, Business Manager

Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

Meeting 1st & 3rd Wednesday 3:00pm

(978) 448-1117 Fax: (978) 448-1123

sewer@townofgroton.org

The Sewer Commission is pleased to make the following report for the calendar year ending December 31, 2014 to the sewer rate payers and the citizens of the Town of Groton.

2014 Review

Our flows to the Pepperell Treatment Plant continue to trend lower each year. This is in relationship to a major initiative by the Sewer Commissioners to reduce inflow and infiltration of groundwater into the sewer collection system. By removing inflow and infiltration of groundwater, we pay for lower overall treatment costs in Pepperell and therefore we can lower your sewer rates. This remediation program will continue in 2015 and is in the planning stages with our consultant and the Pepperell D.P.W. Although the Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) Remediation Program for 2015 may be on a smaller scale than in years past, there continues to be less to remediate in a cost effective manner. The Sewer Commission continues to keep a very careful eye on all new requests for sewer capacity.

In the years 2011 thru 2013, the Sewer Commission lowered the sewer rates each year. In 2014, the Commission did not lower any user rates and the Sewer Commission is not anticipating an adjustment in 2015. Currently, our revenues are meeting our expenses without transferring money from our reserves. Our major capital projects have been completed and we are realizing those efficiencies in our energy consumption. The Sewer Commission continues to keep a watchful eye on its reserve fund so that we have the available funds for future E.P.A. and/or E.P.A. mandates.

Groton wastewater treated at the Pepperell Wastewater Treatment Plant:

2009	44,160,457 gallons	or	120,988 avg. gpd
2010	43,264,894 gallons	or	117,537 avg. gpd
2011	46,895,258 gallons	or	128,413 avg. gpd
2012	39,682,200 gallons	or	108,719 avg. gpd
2013	43,457,500 gallons	or	119,100 avg. gpd
2014	43,038,621 gallons	or	117,914 avg. gpd

As always, we extend our thanks to the Pepperell DPW and its employees for their continuing cooperation and support and also to the Groton Water Department for its help during the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Sewer Department Staff:

April R. Iannacone, Business Manager

Ruth M. Stevens, Assistant

Board of Sewer Commissioners:

James L. Gmeiner, Chairman

Thomas D. Orcutt, Vice-Chairman

Thomas D. Hartnett, Clerk

TOWN CLERK

Michael Bouchard, Town Clerk

Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

(978) 448-1100 Fax: (978) 448-2030

townclerk@townofgroton.org

In 2014, the Town Clerk's office conducted four elections, including a Special Town Election for a debt exclusion on the new Center Fire Station and the Annual Town Election, the State Primary and the State Election. Turnouts were 27%, 16%, 14% and 58% respectively. The Groton Country Club was used as the polling location for Precincts 2 and 3. Our experience with voting at the Country Club is improving, with more work to fine tune the setup still required. The Senior Center as the polling location for Precinct 1 still continues to work very well.

Two Annual Town Meetings and a Special Town Meeting were held during 2014 – Spring (April 28), Fall (October 20) and a Special (June 30). The Special Town Meeting passed its one article – a non-binding resolution opposing a natural gas pipeline proposed by Kinder Morgan. Other important issues before the Town this year included the sale of Prescott School (defeated twice), funding of an additional \$1.4 million for the Groton-Dunstable School District, business zoning to promote economic development, the adoption of a local option meals tax, bylaw updates, the sale of Squannacook Hall and the old Center Fire Station and the appointment of an Electronic Voting Study Committee by Town Meeting via a citizen's petition.

The office administered the town census to approximately 4,500 households (utilizing the Commonwealth's Voter Registration Information System (VRIS)). The information provided by the Town Census is statistically important, as well as being the basis for updating the Voter List, which, of course, enables voting. The population in Groton as of December 31, 2014 is 10,719 with 7,655 registered voters, both virtually unchanged from 2013.

In 2014, the office qualified 34 public commissioners, processed 3 Fuel Assistance applications for non-senior residents, administered the oath of office to all of our appointed and elected officials, performed 514 notarial services, registered 1,193 dogs, and processed approximately 1,003 transactions on behalf of the Department of Public Works. Acting as the Town's Register of Vital Records, the office recorded 64 Births, 62 Deaths and 59 Marriages in 2014. 70 new or renewed "Doing Business As" business registrations and 38 formal public information requests were also processed.

The Clerk's office continued to define and implement procedures to help the Town comply with the evolving requirements of the Commonwealth's Open Meeting, Conflict of Interest and Campaign Finance Laws. Transition to these new procedures has had some challenges due to the complexities of the laws. The Clerk's office continues to enjoy using implement a web-based meeting posting system, a "Doing Business As" Registration program and a new dog registration system. These systems keep very accurate records and have improved the reliability of record keeping.

The Town Clerk participated as a member of the Center Fire Station Building Committee which saw the opening of the new Center Fire Station in 2014. He also participated as the chair of the Bylaw Review Committee, which addressed changes to the Personnel and Unregistered Car bylaws and considered other issues as requested by the Town.

In 2014, the Clerk's office processed 2,884 financial transactions, in addition to the many requests for information, notarization and other non-financial interactions. The Clerk's office turned over the following amounts to the Town Treasury:

Various Certificates and Fines	\$	11,415
Dog License Revenue	\$	12,757
Transfer Station Transactions	\$	22,581
Total:	\$	46,753

The Office of the Town Clerk wishes to thank our many volunteers, partners, election workers, committee members, and town department staffs for cooperation and assistance in 2014. Special thanks go to our hardworking and very effective Assistant Town Clerks Nancy Pierce and Marcy Birmingham, and now Marlene Kenney, who recently joined our staff with Marcy's departure. It's been our privilege to serve the people of Groton during 2014, and we look forward to an exciting and productive 2015.

Respectfully submitted, Michael F. Bouchard, Town Clerk

WATER DEPARTMENT

Thomas D. Orcutt, Water Superintendent

Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

Meeting 2nd & 4th Tuesday 7:30pm

(978) 448-1122 Fax: (978) 448-1123

water@townofgroton.org



The Board of Water Commissioners is pleased to make the following report for the calendar year ending December 31, 2014 to the water rate payers and citizens of the Town of Groton.

Groton's water quality and testing regime continues to play a large role in what we deliver every day to you, our valued customers. Groton consistently remains in compliance with the Department of Environmental Protection's regulations. The Groton Water Department staff collected and analyzed more than five hundred water samples in 2014. Groton remains very proactive and committed in protecting the

drinking resources we have under our control. During the summer, the Department of Environmental Protection completed a Sanitary Survey for all of our facilities and our operations and I am happy to report that there were no violations found and only minor recommendations offered during the Sanitary Survey process.

The Water Department's Water Conservation Program, or more importantly our lawn irrigation regulations, will continue to play a significant role in our day to day operations. Conformance with the Department's Mandatory Odd/Even Water Conservation Program is paramount by all of our customers in order for us to remain in compliance with our registered and permitted water withdrawals by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We are respectfully asking folks to carefully monitor their own irrigation systems every day. Be sure your moisture sensor is working properly and make the required adjustments in order to comply with our Water Conservation Program. In 2012, the Groton Water Department was awarded the Conservation Award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for our efforts. Please help us conserve water whenever possible so we can continue to be recognized as leaders in this effort.

The water department staff continues to work very hard in optimizing the drinking water supply systems and the quantity and quality of the water delivered to your home or business. We continue to rely heavily on our SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system for monitoring our water supply system on and off the job 24 hours per day. This allows our technicians to remotely view all of our facilities from any location at any time and make adjustments as may be required. The Water Department has also added a second redundant SCADA computer in the event of a catastrophic failure of the system.

This past spring, the Water Department staff replaced the greensand filter media in both of the vessels at the Baddacook Treatment Facility. The filter media was nearly ten years old and has significantly improved our operational run times and daily output prior to cleaning/replacement efforts.

Statistical Information - Period ending December 31, 2014:

Total Gallons of water pumped	160,921,400 Gal. per Year
Ave. Daily Consumption	0.440 Million Gal. per Day
Max. Daily Consumption – July 1 st	0.979 Million Gallons
Accounts	1,911
New Accounts	19
Water Mains	51.2 Miles
New/Replaced Water Mains	0.0 Miles
Total Hydrants (Public and Private)	374 Hydrants
Hydrants added to the system	1 Hydrant

The Water Department wishes to thank the following departments for their continued cooperation and assistance in the daily operations of the water supply system: Office of the Town Manager, Electric Light Department, Highway Department, Land Use Departments and the Police & Fire Departments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Water Department Staff:

Thomas D. Orcutt, Water Superintendent
April R. Iannacone, Business Manager
Ruth M. Stevens, Assistant
George E. Brackett, Senior Water Technician
Stephen B. Knox, Senior Water Technician

Board of Water Commissioners:

Gary W. Hoglund, Chairman
David P. Crocker, Vice Chairman
James L. Gmeiner, Member

GROTON'S MUNICIPAL OFFICES



Accountant
Building & Zoning Department
Conservation Commission
Council on Aging
Department of Public Works
Fire Department
Groton Country Club
Historic Districts Commission
Human Resources
Information Technology
Inspector of Animals
Police Department
Tax Collector/Treasurer
 Total Principal 2014
 Tax Receivables
Veteran's Service Officer
Zoning Board of Appeals

ACCOUNTANT

Patricia Dufresne, Town Accountant

Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

(978) 448-1107 FAX (978) 448-1115

accountant@townofgroton.org

The following financial report summarizes Fiscal Year 2014 (period ending 6-30-2014).

General Fund: The General Fund ended the year with a favorable fund balance, generating \$1,181,587 of “free cash” or a 4.4% excess when compared to the final FY2014 General Fund budget of \$30,357,337. Detailed analysis is beyond the scope of this report, but the following information may be of interest. The free cash amount is approximately \$135,000 less than last year, reflecting tighter budgeting of departmental expenses. The Town continues to reap the benefit of significant State grant receipts (most notably those awarded for Police and Fire Dispatch services). Local receipts were particularly robust especially for motor vehicle excises and building permits which played a part in the Town’s favorable year end position. The current free cash total includes \$287,770 in unexpended free cash from the previous year’s certification. The Finance Committee’s Reserve Fund returned \$8,479 to the free cash total.

Other Funds: The Town’s other funds – Gift, Grant, Revolving, Receipts Reserved, Capital Projects and Trusts – all closed the year with positive balances, except for small deficits in several reimbursable grants. We expect revenue sufficient to cover most of these deficits will be received from the State in FY2015. State grant review procedures often result in reimbursement delays; in most cases, this has no significant effect on free cash. The largest portion of the construction of the new Central Fire Station on Farmers ROW was completed during FY14. This project is expected to close out with total expenditures well within the voted budget. The Fitch’s Bridge Demo & Replacement project also closed out within budget, returning \$37,000 to free cash.

Community Preservation Fund: The State continues to match local CPA surcharges. The match received in FY2014 was particularly healthy at 394,391 or about 69% of local surcharge receipts (although the State continues to mandate that the Town budget conservatively for that match). Collection of CPA surcharge revenue continues to be excellent; with approximately \$6,400 left uncollected at the end of FY14. The CPA Fund is still paying debt service for the Surrenden Farms land acquisition (\$487,000 in FY14) and will continue to do so until that debt matures in 2021. The Community Preservation Fund comprises a significant portion of the Town’s “non-general fund” section of the balance sheets.

Enterprise Funds: Water and Sewer Funds both ended the year with favorable balances. Again, detailed analysis is beyond the scope of this report. However, in general terms, the Water Department closed the year with \$319,641 in free cash, or almost 32% of the initial FY2014 budget of \$1,004,768. This is a comfortable free cash position, and can be attributed to additional revenue from new construction projects in town and a generally conservative use of appropriations. The Sewer Department’s free cash was certified at \$615,667 or an excess of 73% compared to the FY2014 budget of \$836,687. This number compares favorably with that of the prior year, and is largely reflective of unexpended prior year free cash.

Reserves: The Town’s Stabilization Fund ended the year at \$1.475 million and the Capital Stabilization Fund at over \$523,000 (although \$355,190 of the Capital Stabilization balance was reserved for expenditures in FY2015). Town of Groton Financial Policies suggest that the level of reserves in these accounts be maintained at 6.5% of the annual budget (exclusive of the Enterprises and CPC). At the end of FY2014, these reserve balances did in fact meet that goal. The Conservation Fund closed the year with a balance of \$422,482 which is just short of the suggested reserve for this Fund of 2% of the Town’s annual budget. This circumstance is due to a large land purchase made in FY2013, from which the fund is still recovering.

Patricia Dufresne, Town Accountant

SEE APPENDIX FOR ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT

BUILDING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

Edward M. Cataldo, Building Commissioner/Zoning Enforcement Officer

Office Hours: Mon. 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

(978) 448-1109 Fax: (978) 448-1113

building@townofgroton.org



Photo by Karen Riggert

The Building Department is charged with enforcing the State Building Codes and the Town of Groton Zoning By-Laws. Our goal is always to ensure the safety and quality of life for the residents, businesses and visitors of Groton. We are resident and contractor friendly and are available to answer your questions or concerns.

Please feel free to call us or stop in on the 2nd floor at Town Hall. The Department personnel consist of:

- Edward M. Cataldo, Building Commissioner / Zoning Enforcement Officer
- Daniel A. Britko, Local Inspector
- Paula D. Martin, Land Use Administrative Assistant
- Edward Doucette, Electrical Inspector
- John Murphy, Gas / Plumbing Inspector
- Louise Gaskins & Ann Murphy, Senior Work Credit Program Volunteers*

**It is with much sadness that the Building Department staff acknowledges the passing of Ann Murphy. She will be fondly remembered for the dedication she brought to maintaining our files.*

The Department is open Monday 8:00 am to 7:00 pm, Tuesday through Thursday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm and Friday 8:00 am until 1:00 pm. All building, electric, gas and plumbing permit applications may be submitted during those times.

Building / electric inspections may be requested throughout the business day via the office telephone number: 978-448-1109. Messages that do not require immediate attention or appointment confirmation may be left at any time. Gas / plumbing inspections are requested directly via the inspector at 978-448-5000, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 AM to 8:00 AM.

As always, the Building Department would like to thank all the Town officials and Town Hall staff that we have worked with during the past year.

An updated report of the Department's activities, including the year 2014, follows.

<u>Building & Zoning</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>
Value of Construction	\$13,540,736	\$26,954,785	\$33,025,740
Permit Fees Collected	\$159,396.45	\$193,263.00	\$310,844.00
Permits Issued	339	351	349
Inspections Performed	548	654	682
<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>			
Single Family Homes	25	26	23
Two Family Homes	1	1	1
Multi-Family	0	0	1
Additions	27	18	13
Renovations	189	220	200
Accessory Buildings	23	23	25
Demolitions	2	3	7
<u>COMMERCIAL</u>			
New	1	1	5
Additions	2	0	6
Renovations	30	18	11
Accessory Buildings	0	2	0
Demolitions	3	0	3
Communication Towers	0	0	0
Annual Inspect. Certif.	79	79	79
Farm Labor Certif.	1	1	1
Home Occupation Certif.	28	25	19
Wood Stove Permits	22	23	32
<u>Electric</u>			
Permit Fees Collected	\$29,024.00	\$27,467.00	\$37,467.00
Permits Issued	319	306	334
Inspections Performed	446	466	541
<u>Gas</u>			
Permit Fees Collected	\$11,028.00	\$11,149.00	\$10,741.00
Permits Issued	201	202	174
Inspections Performed	223	239	212
<u>Plumbing</u>			
Permit Fees Collected	\$14,075.00	\$15,731.00	\$17,781.00
Permits Issued	170	192	173
Inspections Performed	225	247	261

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Takashi Tada, Conservation Administrator

Office Hours: Mon. 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

Meetings 2nd & 4th Tuesday 7:00pm

(978) 448-1106 Fax (978) 448-1113

conservation@townofgroton.org

Since 1963, the Conservation Commission has been responsible for the administration of the state Wetlands Protection Act, and since 2001, for the Groton Wetlands Protection Bylaw. Any person intending to alter any area in or within 100 feet of a wetland (intermittent stream, creek, lake, pond, swamp, marsh, bog, or wet meadow), or in or within 200 feet of a river or perennial stream must file a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the Commission and receive approval before commencing work. Minor projects (decks, utility installations, tree cutting, removal of non-native, invasive plants, etc.) that involve minimal or temporary intrusion into the 100-foot buffer zone of wetland resource areas typically require the filing of a Request for Determination of Applicability (RDA).

During 2014, the Commission processed 17 Notices of Intent, 29 Requests for Determination of Applicability, and 1 Order of Resource Area Delineation. Members of the Commission also conducted over 70 site walks. These projects involved a residential subdivision, a medical office building, new home construction, septic systems, additions, decks, landscaping, tree removal, trail bridges, road repaving, water mains, retaining walls, an accessible trail, a gas station, a garage, a swimming pool, a propane tank, a private well, drainage ditch maintenance, soil remediation, and riverbank stabilization. Municipal projects approved this year include the Country Club Driving Range rehabilitation, Lost Lake Fire Protection project, bank stabilization and erosion control at Sargisson Beach, and trail work by the Trails Committee. Two Eagle Scout projects were also approved.

The Conservation Commission also manages over 2,000 acres of Town-owned conservation land. In 2014, the Commission began compiling an updated inventory of Conservation Lands to identify land management priorities. One of the Commission's goals is to preserve Groton's agricultural heritage. Following the forest harvest at Baddacook Field/Shattuck Homestead, the Commission commenced restoration of the fields in December 2014. The Commission also granted a short-term agricultural license to the Evans family to pasture two cows at O'Neill Way Conservation Area.

The inventory also identifies the spread of invasive plants, which has become one of the biggest threats to biodiversity in Groton and the Commonwealth. The Commission hopes to enlist volunteer help with small and moderate invasive removal on town properties. It also wants to provide updated information on invasive plants and animals to the public. A native plants list for buffer zones, and a list of vendors who carry them, has been compiled and is available for homeowners and professionals.

The Conservation Commission was sorry to bid farewell to member Craig Auman whose resignation took effect at the end of June 2014. Craig served 13 years on the Commission, including two years as Chairman, and he was instrumental in the development and adoption of the Groton Wetlands Protection Bylaw. The Commission thanks Craig Auman for his years of dedicated service to the Town.

The Commission was pleased to welcome new members Susan Black and Mary Metzger in 2014.

Respectfully submitted,

John Smigelski, Chairman (appointed in 2012)
Peter Morrison, Vice Chairman (appointed in 1991)
Susan Black, Clerk (appointed in 2014)
Marshall Giguere (appointed in 2004)
Takashi Tada, Conservation Administrator

Rena Swezey (appointed in 2012)
Bruce Easom (appointed in 2003)
Mary Metzger (appointed in 2014)
David Pitkin (Associate)
Ravi Sivasankaran (Associate)

COUNCIL ON AGING

Kathy Shelp, Certified Director

Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00am – 3:00pm

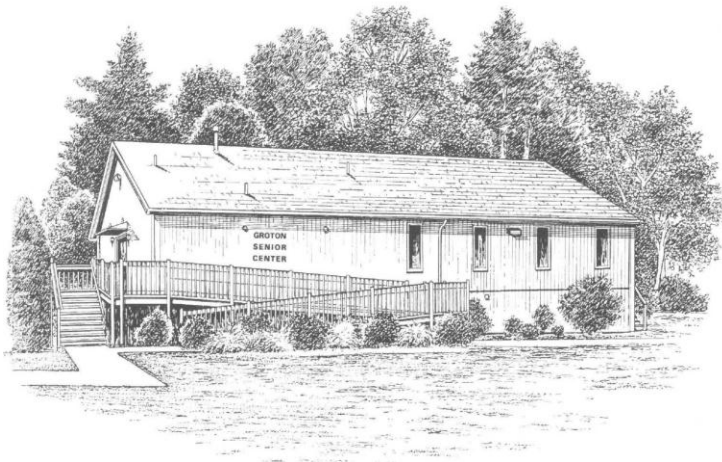
Council on Aging Board Meetings 1st Monday 9:30am

Location: Senior Center, 163 West Main Street (Rt. 225)

Main: (978) 448-1170 ~ Fax: (978) 448-3660 ~ councilonaging@townofgroton.org

The Groton COA represents an important entry point into the aging system and into the continuum of Long Term Care. In a continuum of care that ranges from the least intensive to the most intensive, Senior Centers are often the first support service sought by an individual, his/her family or friends. ***The effect and role of the Senior Center is to reverse or delay the need for more intensive services.*** The Groton COA *is preventive social service in action.* We work with a wide variety of organizations and through these linkages provide our users with access to a wide variety of services.

During 2014 we offered 72 programs and services, serving 951 seniors 14,071 times. The COA Van transported 66 individuals 1984 times. The number of seniors who can currently be reached through the preventive social services provided by the COA compels us to insure that we are fiscally sound, diverse in our programs, need-responsive and well administered. We continue to strive to meet all of these goals.



Program Highlights

Veteran's Wall of Honor:

November 2013 we asked for Veterans and their families to submit information and stories about their service. The submissions were compiled, printed in the compatible formats and displayed on the wall. FY15 they will be displayed in Town Hall, the GPL and schools. There were approximately 50 submissions.

Garden Club:

The intentions of this group was, using standing beds, plant produce of the group's choice, harvest and distribute the vegetables. The group

began with 12 participants and they chose to also include a 36x36 vegetable garden and a 36x36 pollenating garden. They planted 10 different pollenating flowers and corn, yellow beans, green beans, peas, onions, red cabbage, green cabbage, cukes, tomatoes (4 varieties), peppers (2 varieties), Brussel sprouts, squash, pumpkins, watermelon, and eggplant. The standing beds held a variety of lettuces, herbs and cherry tomatoes. The project was a great example of collaborations and teamwork. The Groton Police department donated and built the standing beds, the Groton Library supplied many of the seeds, and Groton DPW tilled and supplied soil.

Satellite Program Locations: Due to space restraints at the COA we held a dance, the Police Picnic and one luncheon at the Country Club. In an effort to draw in younger seniors we held a Finance program at the Library which attracted 50 participants.

Van Service for Town Meeting: Although we had no one seek the service we will continue to make it available and increase awareness of the opportunity.

Outreach at Senior Housing: Quarterly programs were offered at the senior housing facilities to increase trust and program education to the residents.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr., DPW Director
500 Cow Pond Brook Road; P.O. Box 1111
(978) 448-1162 Fax: (978) 448-1174
highway@townofgroton.org

DPW

This is the sixth annual report of the Department of Public Works since the consolidation of departments. The divisions under the DPW are Highway, Transfer Station, Tree and the Building Maintenance Departments. All of these are run By the Director of Public Works. The Success of these departments is due to the hard working employees who are the backbone of the DPW. The hours that the employees put in winter and summer, keep the roads safe and passable, and or parks and commons up kept and enjoyable. I cannot say enough to the dedication and hard work that these men and women provide to the Town.



Photo by Karen Riggert

Highway Division

The Highway Department is the backbone of the DPW and is the ones to call when there is something that needs to be done. We do it all from the paving of our streets and sidewalks and everything above and below them, to mowing and caring for our parks commons and trees. Plowing is one of our primary functions and we work all year preparing for it. This year seems to be another historic winter and many are hoping for an early spring. The hours this year have been exhausting but our group of dedicated people has performed to a level beyond all most people's expectations.

In 2014 we completed a great deal of paving as well as other projects through the construction season. As long as the Town continues to receive state funding for roadwork and other projects we will continue to keep up with maintaining our road system. Roads resurfaced last year included Old Dunstable Road, Nashua Road, Townsend Road, Riverbend Drive, Maple Ave, Hill road and a couple of other smaller repairs on many others. Other items of interest are drainage repairs and improvements, intersection improvements, as well as other preventive measures for increasing pavement life. General maintenance of the Town also continues to be a priority with beautification efforts continuing on our numerous parks, commons and ball fields.

Tree Warden

It was a good year in the tree department with plantings, trimming and removals. We planted over 20+ trees in many areas of town with our kick of being Arbor Day on legion common to replace a elm tree damaged by a previous storm.

Season Accomplishments

Tree planting on Arbor Day was done on legion Common. With an additional 20 new trees planted this year, we will continue replacement and enhancement of our town.

Normal business of the Tree Warden in conjunction with the DPW was carried out through the year. These tasks include, trimming and pruning as well as aerial bucket work and the removal of dead and hazard trees.

The local Light Department has expanded their aerial trimming program. By doing this work they limit their outages as well as helping us deal with our hazard trees.

Road side mowing is a constant and aids in the removal of sucker trees and invasive species. Arbor Day was celebrated At Legion Common. Brush and hazard tree trimming, inspection and removal in various locations on over 25miles of roads. Assistance by the local light department with pruning, hazard tree removal and brush clearing helps us tremendously throughout the year. Continued use of a roadside mower to remove brush and invasive species saves us time and money. We also continue to compost chips and leaves picked up by the town for composting and eventual use by Town residents as well as being used in the planting of new trees. **One request for public tree removal was held and denied on Maple Ave.**

Transfer Station

With a steady recycling rate above average for the area we continue to bring our revenues up and our disposal costs down. With the joining of the NRRA (Northeast Resource Recovery Association), the Regionalized Recycling Center continues to be a benefit to our town as well as others in this program because of expanded markets and reduced disposal costs. We still continue to process more material in less time and increasing or revenue which gives us an advantage in these markets.

Building Maintenance

Duties of this department are mostly routine, with inspections, cleaning and normal wear and tear issues consisting of the majority of the work load. Below are some of the basic duties of the department. The new Fire Station is now online and is quite a jewel to be added to our town's infrastructure.

- All mandatory annual testing, inspections and preventive maintenance completed on emergency generators, alarm systems, fire suppression sprinklers, fire extinguishers and elevators for this year.
- All annual preventive maintenance on HVAC systems, both gas and oil operations at the Public Safety Building, Town hall, Senior Center, Legion Hall and Fire Stations #1, #2, and #3.
- Maintained the exterior and interior of the P.S.B., Town Hall, Legion Hall and the Senior Center.
- Janitorial duties are completed at the sites above, as well as the public area at the Lost Lake Fire Station and Highway Department.

Respectfully submitted

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.
DPW Director

FIRE DEPARTMENT

45 Farmers Row (Center Station)

General Calls: (978) 448-6333

Emergency: 911 fire@townofgroton.org

Cell Phone Emergency: (978) 448-5555

The Groton Fire Department is a 24 hour per day operation providing emergency services to the residents of Groton. Over the years the term Fire Service has come to mean much more than the name implies. The fire service across America has transformed from a primarily fire suppression organization to a multi-disciplinary rescue organization. Each year the members of the department respond to a wide variety of calls involving the following;

- Fires
- Medical Emergencies
- Motor vehicle crashes
- Hazardous Materials incidents
- Service calls (e.g. water leaks and house lock outs)
- Severe weather emergencies
- Alarms (e.g. fire alarms, carbon monoxide and medical alert)



In 2014 the Groton Fire Department responded to 1247 calls for service, our highest call volume ever. This represents a 7% increase from 2013 and 18% increase since 2008.

Inspectional services remained very busy in 2014 with 733 permits issued and 366 inspections performed. The Fire department works closely with the building department to ensure that new and existing buildings are safe to be occupied meeting necessary code requirements.

As the community continues to grow, so will the needs for prevention services. Each new home or commercial building in town can take between 2 and 8 hours for permitting, plan reviews and inspections. With an ever growing emphasis on fire safety and reducing overall risks within our community the need for expanded programs exist. While the threat of fire has been reduced within the town and state over the past ten years, we cannot afford to become complacent of the threat of fires.

In addition to the regular fire prevention efforts, the firefighters of the Groton Fire Department also had contact with over 1,200 students through the Student Awareness of Fire Education program. This program puts trained firefighter-educators in classrooms to conduct fire safety education in grades Pre-K through 12. The primary mission of S.A.F.E. is to enable students to recognize the dangers of fire and the fire hazards of tobacco products.

On June 18th the Groton Fire Department opened the new Center Fire Station. While the overall process was not without its bumps, the community now has a state of the art building that will serve the community for decades to come.

The building of the new fire station was in no small part due to the work by Fire Chief Joseph Bosselait who retired on August 18. Chief Bosselait was a dedicated leader for the Town of Groton for over 14 years. In this time he oversaw the joining of Fire, EMS and Rescue in to a single organization and worked tirelessly to enhance the safety of the Citizens of Groton.

I would like to thank the members of the Groton Fire Department for their continued dedication to their community. The Town is truly blessed to have such an amazing group of people working to keep them safe.

Respectively submitted,

Steele McCurdy, Fire Chief

GROTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

2014 Officers



Photo by Karen Riggert

*Chief Steele McCurdy
Chief Joseph Bosselait (retired)
Administrative Assistant Diane Aiello
Deputy Chief Clarence Jefferson
Captain Susan Daly
Captain James Emslie
Captain Anthony Hawgood*

Lieutenant Michael Culley
Lieutenant Tyler Shute

Acting Lieutenant James Crocker
Lieutenant Bill VanSchalkwyk

Firefighters & EMTs

Joshua Andreasen
Geri Armstrong
Evan Boucher
Christopher Braun
Brad Cain
Art Cheeks
Daniel Coelho
James Crocker
Timothy Cunningham
Christopher Curtis
David Dubey
Jonathan Duffy
Kevin Dutile
Heather Emslie
Travis Gray
Jason Grennell
Stephanie Hamelin
Luke Heinser
Michael Heinser
James Horan*
Shawn Hunter
Mark Imbimbo

Heidi Januskiewicz
Jeremy Januskiewicz
David Kane
Kenneth Lefebvre
Geza Lengyel
Catherine Lincoln
Michael MacGregor
Andrew Mahoney
Frank Mastrangelo
James Mazzola
Benjamin Miele
Paul McBrearty
Zachary Nuccio
Kevin Pezanowski
Matthew Pisani
Betsey Reeves
Ryan Roy
David Stevens
Steve Tervo
Daniel Temple
Robert VanSchalkwyk
Joseph Walter

*Resigned

GROTON COUNTRY CLUB

94 Lovers Lane

Telephone: (978) 448-3996

www.grotoncountryclub.com

The Groton Country Club is a public, affordable, community recreational resource open to all residents of Groton and the surrounding communities. The property includes a nine hole links style golf course, a heated swimming pool, and The Tavern Restaurant.

Season pass memberships for either or both the pool and golf offerings allow patrons the unlimited use of these facilities while daily activity fees allow for the use of either on a single day basis. Groton residents are afforded favorable price discounts on both season pass memberships and pool passes and golf green fees. Our goal is to be financially self-reliant using revenues from season pass membership sales, daily activity and summer program fees.



We offer a variety of fun summer programs including a Swim Team, Group and Private Swim Lessons, a Junior Golf Academy, and a Summer Day Camp Program. Our camp programs continue to be well received with more than 200 campers enjoying swimming and golf lessons during weekly sessions throughout the summer. The Gators, our Swim Team, won the Minuteman Summer Swim League Championship for the fourth consecutive year. This May, once again working with the Groton Golf Association, we will be hosting our third annual Open House that attracts many visitors from Groton and the surrounding communities who learn about our program offerings, tour the facilities, and participate in games with prizes.

We were pleased to again this year open both the pool and golf course on a complimentary basis to Groton residents on Groton Family Days to recognize and demonstrate our appreciation for the continued town support of needed infrastructure improvements. We are pleased to continue to provide the GDHS Golf Team the complimentary use of the golf course for daily practice and meets with other local school teams.

The Groton Country Club appreciates and thanks' our many supporters who have again given generously of their time, energy, counsel and resources to help sustain and energize our programs this year. We invite you to join your friends and neighbors and make use of your community recreation center.

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

Paula Martin, Land Use Administrative Assistant

Meetings 3rd Tuesday of Month 7:30pm

(978) 448-1109 Fax (978) 448-1113

building@townofgroton.org

For 2014, the Historic Districts Commission (HDC) operated with six members and a part-time assistant. The Commission received and processed approximately 17 applications for proposed construction or signage, and continued to provide active assistance for notable large construction projects, such as: the Boynton Meadows development, New Center Fire Station, and Groton School's academic complex. Applications for new or ongoing projects were reviewed by the Commission relative to their appropriateness within Groton's historic context, and public hearings were held for substantive work, as required.



Notable projects reviewed this year included: relocation of a unique carpenter gothic carriage house at Lawrence Academy to another visible site on Campus; development of a new Conference Center at Lawrence Academy; the new Groton Inn, out-buildings and related site improvements; the removal of the former steel water tower at Groton School, site renovations

for the residence and former dental office at 239 Main Street, and the addition of solar panels on the rear side of 2 Old Ayer Road.

The HDC was pleased to support projects being considered at local civic properties, for example: accessibility, landscape, and lighting improvements for the basketball court behind the Library; utilizing Community Preservation funds to restore and maintain the Old Groton Meeting House; and developing a uniform signage program for our town's public safety facilities. The Commission also joined the Planning Board and Selectmen to begin a dialog about parking and pedestrian safety within the Town Center.

In the coming year, the HDC looks forward to seeing significant construction activity at the Groton Inn property, as well as enhancements to the football field at Lawrence Academy. The Commission also looks forward to adding new members.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel J. Barton, Chairman

Richard P. Chilcoat, Vice Chair

Sanford Johnson

Laura R. Moore

Gina Perini

Maureen Giattino

Paula Martin, Land Use Administrative Assistant

HUMAN RESOURCES

Melisa Doig, Human Resources Director

Office Hours: Mon 8am – 7pm; Tues-Thurs 8am – 4pm; Fri, 8am - 1pm

Telephone: (978) 448-1145 Fax: (978) 448-1115

humanresources@townofgroton.org

The Human Resources Department manages the personnel and benefits for full-time/part-time employees, retirees, temporary/seasonal employees, department heads, and Town officials. The department also assists with employee relations; support for collective bargaining and contract administration; managing recruitment; coordinating orientation, training, and employee activities; providing administrative services for workers compensation and administering employee benefit programs and maintaining all the personnel files.

This has been a successful year for employee training which included Harassment Training, Visitor Code of Conduct, working with Elected Officials, and Performance Based Management Training. We have had great participation.

I have begun working with a wellness coordinator through the Minuteman Nashoba Health Group to keep our employees healthy and informed. We have had a Couch to 5K program, office exercising class, a four week weight loss class, and a Biggest Loser contest. I also reached out to the local fitness center and they have been able to provide some employee discounts. This has been a lot of fun and supports not only good health, but great team work and morale for the employees.

Over the next year the goal is to continue enhancing programs and benefits to the employees and retirees. I look forward to another successful year.

Respectfully submitted,

Melisa Doig
HR Director

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Jessica O'Toole, Web Developer

Michael Bettano, Desktop Specialist

Office Hours: Mon 8am – 6pm; Tues-Thurs 8am – 4:30pm; Fri, 8am - 12:30pm

Telephone: (978) 732-1889 Fax: (978) 448-1115

itdept@townofgroton.org

The Information Technology (I.T.) Department facilitates the use of technology (servers, systems, software, etc.) within the Town and serves to simplify and automate processes for other departments to bring new and better services to residents and Town employees. Far from existing only to fix broken computers, the I.T. Department comes up with new solutions to old problems: the need for more streamlined and automated workflows for Town departments and enterprises. To this end, the I.T. department has developed software solutions, implemented pre-developed software and made recommendations to increase efficiency and reduce waste and redundancy in many areas.

The I.T. Department has grown from the former Web and I.T. Committees, which were comprised of dedicated volunteers who have built the Town's current website and upgraded and maintained the systems and servers at no cost to the residents of Groton. Their service and dedication should be appreciated by all in Town.

2014 was a very busy year for the I.T. Department. The Web Developer built an entirely new website for the Groton Fire Department and the Groton Police Department, with other town departments coming soon such as an Employee Portal. Our Desktop Specialist has also been busy attending to the day to day issues that arise in any one of our Town facilities. The Department was instrumental in making sure the New Center Fire Station was up and running for the department to move in in June.

Our long time I.T. Director, Jason Bulger, resigned his position in August 2014. He was an important leader in the I.T. Department and is truly missed by all. The I.T. Department would also not be able to do the work it does without the help of its extremely dedicated volunteers, whose contributions and continued support are greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

Information Technology Department

ANIMAL CONTROL / INSPECTOR OF ANIMALS

George Moore, Inspector
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr., Inspector
(978) 448-1111 Fax (978) 448-1115



-Photo by Karen Riggert

Animal Control:

2014 brought the following Animal Control activity: 21 loose dog reports, 14 missing dog reports, 20 dogs found, 3 reports of missing cats, and 4 cats found. There were 7 barking dog investigations, 3 dog bites investigated, 8 orders of quarantine issued, and 4 animal welfare checks were conducted.

There were 3 reports of loose horses, 6 reports of loose cattle, 2 reports of loose pigs, 2 reports of loose goats, 1 report of loose sheep. All of these critters were happily (mostly) returned to their owners. In addition, we received many calls concerning wildlife: bears, coyotes, foxes, raccoons, skunks, bats and bobcats. Groton has a very diversified wildlife population.

Both Animal Control Officers received certification from the Animal Control Officers Association of Massachusetts (ACOAM) after attending a 12-week training program.

Animal Inspections:

There were 57 barn inspections conducted with reports having been sent to Mass. Department of Agricultural Resources. The variety and numbers of animals we have in Town are too numerous to mention in this report. However; it is possible that we may be the poultry capital of Middlesex County!

Respectfully submitted,

George Moore & R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.
Groton Animal Control and Animal Inspection

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Donald L. Palma, Jr., Chief of Police
99 Pleasant Street, P.O. Box 310, Groton, MA 01450
General Calls: (978) 448-5555
Emergency: 911 police@townofgroton.org



Officer Irmin L. Pierce, III signing off for the last time after 30 years on the job with the Groton Police Department.

Greetings,

The continued support of our community and Town Meeting vote has allowed us to continue our proactive approach to patrol for another year. With adequate staffing and equipment we are able to maintain the high visibility required to conduct routine patrol and respond to the increasing calls for service in our town's 33 square miles.

We hired two new dispatchers Samuel Welch and Catherine Myers to fill a vacant position and a new position to increase coverage.

The Reserve Police Officer program continues to be successful, this year we welcomed Timothy McGibbon, Thomas Mace, Maura Hurley, and Kayla Sheehan. These officers will complete 400 hours of unpaid field training on before being eligible to cover shifts.

Congratulations to Officer Irmin L. Pierce, III who retired in December after 30 years of service to the citizens of the Town of Groton. Thank you Irm, enjoy your well-deserved retirement.

I would like to thank the people of Groton for your continued support for your Police department.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Donald L. Palma, Jr.

2014 GROTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police:	Donald L. Palma, Jr. Emergency Management Agency Director
Lieutenant:	James A. Cullen, III
Sergeants:	Derrick Gemos, Paul Connell, Edward Sheridan, Jason Goodwin
Detective:	Cory Waite
Patrolmen:	Irmin Pierce, III, Peter Breslin, Dale Rose, Robert Breault, Gordon Candow, Kevin Henehan, Rachael Mead, Nicholas Beltz, Michael Lynn, Omar Connor, Timothy Cooper
Reserve Officers:	George Aggott, Edward Bushnoe, Stephen McAndrew, Bethany Bonczar, Gregory Steward, Patrick Timmins, Victor Sawyer, Kathy Newell, Michael Ratte, Timothy McGibbon, Thomas Mace, Maura Hurley, Kayla Sheehan
Administrative:	Kathy Newell, Executive Assistant and Joan Tallent, Administrative Assistant
Communications:	Darlene Touchette, Sarah Power, Warren Gibson, Edward Bushnoe, Jonathan Shattuck, Samuel Welch, Catherine Myers, Ian Brown, Justin Zink
Special Officers:	George Rider, Jack Balonis
Police Matrons:	April Moulton, Darlene Touchette, Beverly Jeddrey, Sarah Power, Kathy Newell



2014 Memorial Day Parade

TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER DEPARTMENT

Michael Hartnett, CPA, CMMT- Treasurer/Collector

Hannah Moller, Assistant Treasurer/Collector

Barbara Tierney, PR Coordinator/Assistant to Treasurer

Rebecca Babcock, Office Assistant

Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm

Main: (978) 448-1103 Fax: (978) 448-1115

treasurer@townofgroton.org

<u>Cash & Fund Balances</u>					Year-End Balance	Year-End Balance
					<u>June 30, 2014</u>	<u>June 30, 2013</u>
<u>Fund Description:</u>						
<u>General Fund</u>					\$ 7,004,710	\$ 12,039,804
<u>Other Funds</u>						
	Trust Funds (a)				\$ 16,482,844	14,778,114
	Affordable Housing Trust				\$ 41,901	12,613
	Regional Scholarship Committee				\$ 5,868	6,681
	Arts & Flags Agency				\$ 8,218	6,076
	Capital Stabilization				\$ 523,054	511,809
	Stabilization				\$ 1,475,066	1,449,840
	Conservation				\$ 422,482	16,924
	Performance Bonds & 593's				\$ 347,759	337,239
	Turtle Study & Maintenance				\$ 53,517	56,803
					\$ 19,360,709	17,176,098
<u>Enterprise Designated Funds</u>						
	Sewer Enterprise				\$ 380,729	380,005
	Water Enterprise				\$ 64,656	64,533
<u>Groton Electric Light Designated Funds</u>						
	Depreciation				\$ 2,932,033	1,963,080
	Consumer Deposits				\$ 247,061	241,123
	Insurance Reserve				\$ 129,073	128,827
					\$ 3,308,166	2,333,030
<u>Total Cash & Fund Balance, June 30, 2014</u>					\$ 30,118,971	\$ 31,993,470

Note: All accounts are independently audited each year by a certified public accounting firm, without exception.(a) All trust fund balances are inclusive of required GASB-31 Fair Market Value adjustments, and are under the overall custodianship of the Town Treasurer with the guidance and collaboration of the Trust Fund Commission.

Debt & Debt Service

During FY 2014, the Town borrowed \$3,860,000 in a long-term bond issue for two purposes; \$2,000,000 was designated toward the Groton Electric Light Department's (GELD) new Station Avenue headquarters. This debt service will be paid by GELD and not Town of Groton general funds. In addition, \$1,860,000 was borrowed to refinance the remaining 10 years of three previous bond issues. The combined bond was issued at 2.41% and will save the Town over \$100,000 in interest costs.

During FY 2014, the Town's \$350,000 short-term borrowing for the cost of preparing an Environmental Impact Report required to seek grant funds for the Lost Lake Sewer Project was paid down by \$110,000. This short-term note will be renewed for one (1) more year and paid off in fiscal 2015.

No Chapter 90 Highway (paving) borrowing was issued in FY 2014. All Chapter 90 Highway expenditures were reimbursed by the State during the fiscal year.

In FY 2014 the general fund of the Town paid \$816,448 in non-exempt debt service (principal and interest). The Town's portion of debt for the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District was \$1,233,324, which is excluded debt and becomes an addition to the tax rate. The Town's portion of debt for the Nashoba Valley Technical High School was \$27,800, which is not excluded debt. Of the Town's combined total debt service, \$2,049,772 was excluded from the limits of Proposition 2-1/2. The excluded debt added \$0.69 to the tax rate. The cost for this excluded debt for a home assessed at \$400,000 was \$275 for the year.

(The following page shows the FY 2014 debt service payments by Department and purpose.)

Credit Rating Increase from Standard & Poor- AAA

As part of the Town's bond issue in Fiscal 2014, a comprehensive review by the credit rating agency Standard & Poor was required. This review included an overall analysis of the Town comprising financial strength and stability, financial policies, demographic characteristics, and financial planning and projections.

The Town was awarded the highest credit rating of AAA from Standard & Poor's in July 2014. One of the benefits of a municipality obtaining the highest municipal credit rating is the ability to borrow in the long-term bond market at more favorable interest rates. The Town's 2.41% interest rate for the new fire station bond is indicative of this credit strength, and will save the Town thousands of dollars in debt service over the life of the bond.

**Respectfully,
Michael L Hartnett, CPA, CMMT
Treasurer-Collector**

TOTAL DEBT SERVICE AND DEBT BALANCES

<u>General Fund</u>								
ID	Name	Issued	Matures	Orig Amt	Exempt/ Non-Exempt	Principal	Interest	Total
2988	Bernier Bissell	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$850,000	Exempt	\$46,420.00	\$11,557.10	\$57,977.10
2989	Bissell Property	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$1,075,000	Exempt	\$58,880.00	\$14,533.60	\$73,413.60
2992	Gibbet Hill	11/15/2003	11/15/2022	\$3,000,000	Exempt	\$160,000.00	\$59,970.00	\$219,970.00
2972	Library #1	7/15/1999	7/15/2017	\$1,831,464	Exempt	\$102,080.00	\$15,226.00	\$117,306.00
2973	Library #2	7/15/1999	7/15/2017	\$364,000	Exempt	\$19,740.00	\$3,089.30	\$22,829.30
2991	Lost Lake Fire	11/15/2003	11/15/2022	\$1,450,000	Exempt	\$75,000.00	\$28,912.50	\$103,912.50
2987	Norris Property	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$750,000	Exempt	\$40,800.00	\$10,274.90	\$51,074.90
2981	Senior Center	7/15/1999	7/15/2016	\$151,110	Exempt	\$8,780.00	\$1,057.30	\$9,837.30
2983	Town Hall	7/15/1999	7/15/2017	\$2,500,000	Exempt	\$139,400.00	\$20,727.40	\$160,127.40
					Total Exempt	\$651,100.00	\$165,348.10	\$816,448.10
2990	Fire Truck	11/15/2003	11/15/2016	\$485,000	Non-Exempt	\$35,000.00	\$4,742.50	\$39,742.50
2994	Project Eval	11/1/2003	2/1/2024	\$330,000	Non-Exempt	\$10,908.39	\$3,784.42	\$14,692.81
2986	Shattuck Property	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$500,000	Non-Exempt	\$27,360.00	\$6,775.70	\$34,135.70
2912	Center Fire Station	4/18/2013	6/30/2035	\$7,730,000	Non-Exempt	\$235,000.00	\$193,230.12	\$428,230.12
					Total Non-Exempt	\$308,268.39	\$208,532.74	\$516,801.13
Summary	for General Fund				Total for General Fund	\$959,368.39	\$373,880.84	\$1,333,249.23
GELD								
2995	GELD	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$750,000	Non-Exempt	\$41,540.00	\$9,933.70	\$51,473.70
Summary	for GELD				Total Non-Exempt for GELD	\$41,540.00	\$9,933.70	\$51,473.70
CPC								
012	Surrenden Farm	7/6/2007	12/15/2021	\$5,015,000	Non-Exempt	\$340,000.00	\$147,112.50	\$487,112.50
Summary	for CPC				Total Non-Exempt for CPC	\$340,000.00	\$147,112.50	\$487,112.50
Sewer								
2910	Boston Road	10/26/2007	10/1/2025	\$310,940	Non-Exempt	\$16,647.50	\$9,197.75	\$25,845.25
2911	Old Ayer Rd	10/26/2007	10/1/2025	\$155,960	Non-Exempt	\$8,352.50	\$4,614.75	\$12,967.25
9994	Project Eval	11/1/2003	2/1/2024	\$330,000	Non-Exempt	\$4,034.61	\$1,399.71	\$5,434.32
Summary	for Sewer				Total Non-Exempt for Sewer	\$29,034.61	\$15,212.21	\$44,246.82
Title V								
2993	Title Five	8/1/2002	8/1/2023	\$197,403	Non-Exempt	\$10,400.00	\$0.00	\$10,400.00
Summary	for Title V				Total Non-Exempt for Title V	\$10,400.00	\$0.00	\$10,400.00
Water								
2997	Water SRF Loan 2	12/14/2006	7/15/2026	\$1,234,434	Non-Exempt	\$57,265.00	\$19,078.18	\$76,343.18
2909	Water System	11/23/2004	8/1/2024	\$4,417,366	Non-Exempt	\$204,275.00	\$80,987.39	\$285,262.39
Summary	for Water				Total for Water	\$261,540.00	\$100,065.57	\$361,605.57
				Fiscal 2014	Totals	\$ 1,641,883.00	\$ 646,204.82	\$ 2,288,087.82

Report of the Tax Collector

July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014

	Levy Balance	Committed		Tax Title			Year-End	Uncollected
	July 1, 2013	During FY14	Refunds	Transfers	Payments	Abatements	In Transit	June 30, 2014
2014								
Real Estate + B/Ls + CPA	-	26,513,243	62,224	(81,351)	(26,076,835)	(119,448)	(3,384)	294,448
Water District	-	105,832	807	(419)	(102,087)	-	(1,099)	3,035
Personal Property	-	214,685	2,501		(213,913)	-	-	3,273
Motor Vehicle Excise	-	1,385,529	3,403		(1,267,472)	(28,426)	-	93,035
2013								
Real Estate + B/Ls + CPA	301,420		477	(33,617)	(243,697)	(1,029)	1,747	25,300
Water District	2,978		-	-	(2,126)	-		852
Personal Property	3,217		-		(1,202)	-		2,014
Motor Vehicle Excise	53,174	211,363	11,475		(250,474)	(12,483)		13,055
2012								
Real Estate + B/Ls + CPA	42,000	-	265	-	(39,671)	(265)		2,329
Water District	785	-	-	-	(660)	-		125
Personal Property	2,837	-	-	-	(2,645)		(192)	(0)
Motor Vehicle Excise	11,008	39	1,049	-	(4,779)	(1,010)		6,307
2011								
Real Estate + B/Ls + CPA	2,507				(1,716)			791
Personal Property	403					(403)		-
Motor Vehicle Excise	4,167	161	759		(772)	(755)		3,560
2010								
Real Estate + B/Ls + CPA	-							-
Personal Property	229					(229)		-
Motor Vehicle Excise	4,516				(285)			4,231
2009								
Motor Vehicle Excise	3,837				(383)			3,455
Personal Property								-
2008								
Motor Vehicle Excise	3,216				(134)			3,082
2007								
Personal Property	762				-	(762)		(0)
Motor Vehicle Excise	3,239				(303)			2,936
2006								
Personal Property	106				-	(106)		0
Motor Vehicle Excise	4,287							4,287
2005								
Personal Property	276					(276)		-
2002								
Motor Vehicle Excise	-	-	-	-				-
TOTALS	444,964	28,430,852	82,960	(115,387)	(28,209,154)	(165,193)	(2,928)	466,114
Selected Tax Collector Data:								
Demands Collected			\$10,055	(Includes refunds and abatements)				
Interest & Fees Collected			\$94,573	(Some fees are reimbursed to the Deputy Collector- includes refunds and abatements)				
Scholarship Donations Collected			\$2,450					
Tax Title Account Balances			\$251,539					
Tax Title Payments Collected			\$109,203					
Deferred Real Estate Taxes/Water District			\$28,272	(FY14 only)				
Tax Foreclosures Uncollected			\$58,286					
Community Preservation Surtax Collected in FY14			\$572,090	(Excludes refunds and abatements)				
Payments In Lieu of Taxes Collected			\$215,882					
Municipal Lien Certificate Revenue Collected			\$7,621					
Note:								
All tax receivable accounts are reconciled with the Town Accountant and the general ledger on a monthly basis-								
All accounts are audited on an annual basis by an independent certified public accounting firm, without exception-								

VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER

Robert Johnson, Veterans' Service Officer

Office Hours: Mon. 9am-12pm, Wed. 6pm-9pm & Fri. 10am-12pm or by Appointment

Legion Hall, 75 Hollis Street, Groton, MA

(978) 448-1175 veteran@townofgroton.org



The Veterans' Services Officer (VSO) function continues to support the Town's veterans and their families and, despite reports of improvements in the economy, I remained as busy this year as in most previous years. My regular office hours are from 9 AM to Noon on Monday's, 6 to 9 PM on Wednesday's, and 10 AM to Noon on Friday's in my office in Legion Hall at 75 Hollis Street. The exception is that my Monday office hours are at the Groton Senior Center when the monthly Veterans' Breakfast is being held [September through May]. I continue to offer to meet at other times on an appointment basis if my regular hours will not work for a veteran and/or their family members.

In addition to regular office hours, I continue to work on outreach to Groton's veteran community. I regularly attend the Veterans' Breakfast held at the Groton Senior Center the second Monday of every month at 10 AM (held the third Monday if the second Monday is a holiday). This provides an opportunity for me to meet with individual veterans who attend the breakfast and also to present information to all attendees.

I typically serve ten to fifteen people a week through phone calls, e-mails, and face-to-face meetings, but some weeks are much busier. One area that is formally tracked is Chapter 115 benefits cases and I had seven cases open this year with benefits being paid to veterans and widows, up slightly over six cases last year and most of this year's cases were open for the full year. I continue to see a significant increase in the number of Viet Nam era veterans contacting me to ask about benefits that may be available to them as they approach and/or begin their retirement. I am also dealing with more widows of veterans than in the past as well as responding to requests for assistance from the adult children of senior veterans. In fact I was busiest this year helping residents with claims to the Veterans' Administration (VA) for disability claims, VA pensions for senior veterans and their widows, and requests for military grave markers.

I am here to serve the veterans of Groton and their dependent family members, including widows and widowers as well as children and dependent parents of veterans. Anyone who needs advice and/or assistance, or knows of someone who may need advice and/or assistance, is invited to stop by my office during my regular office hours, e-mail me at veteran@townofgroton.org, or call me at (978)448-1175. I encourage all veterans to contact me for benefits information, regardless of when you served and whether or not you think you need benefits at this time.

Respectively submitted,

Robert Johnson
Veterans' Services Officer

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Margot Hammer, ZBA Office Assistant

Wednesday Meetings as posted

Tues – Thurs 10am -3pm

(978) 448-1121 Fax: (978) 448-1113

zoning@townofgroton.org

The Zoning Board of Appeals' jurisdiction falls under MA General Laws Chapters 40A and 40B, as well as under Chapter 218 of the Groton Zoning Bylaw and Chapter 338 of the Charter of the Town of Groton. The Board consists of five regular members and four associate members. There is a vacancy of one associate member, which the Board hopes to fill this year.

The Zoning Board of Appeals met 17 times to consider 16 applications in 2014. There were 16 special permit applications, three of which were combined with variance requests, one is pending, one was withdrawn and 14 were granted/renewed. The special permit applications consisted of alterations of non-conforming structures, temporary construction trailers and accessory apartments. The variances requests were from setback and non-use.

Variances – 3 (combined with a special permit request)
Special Permits - 16

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Mulligan, Chairman
Robert Cadle, Clerk
Alison Manugian
Megan Mahoney, Associate
Bruce Easom, Associate
Cynthia Maxwell
Jay Prager
Margot Hammer, Assistant

GROTON'S APPOINTED COMMITTEES



Affordable Housing Trust

Cable Advisory Committee

Commission on Accessibility

Community Preservation Committee

Conductorlab Oversight Committee

Graves Registration Officer

Greenway Committee

Historical Commission

Local Cultural Council

Old Burying Ground Commission

Sustainability Commission

Tennessee Gas Pipeline Working Group Committee

Town Forest Committee

Trails Committee

Williams Barn Committee

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

The Town of Groton accepted M.G.L. Chapter 44 Section 55C, Municipal Affordable Housing Trust Fund to the Town Bylaws at the 2008 Fall Special Town Meeting. The purpose of the Trust is to provide for the preservation and creation of affordable housing in the Town of Groton for the benefit of low and moderate income households earning up to 125% of area median income as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The Town of Groton Affordable Housing Trust was created on November 17, 2010 with five founding trustees. By design, the five trustees who make up Trust membership are appointed with at least one seat filled by a member of the Board of Selectmen.

In 2014, the Trust continued to monitor its investment in Boynton Meadows, a mixed use development project at 134 Main Street that has created one new affordable unit and is projected to create an additional two units of affordable housing in future.

The Trust consults with other local boards and groups in Groton and regionally, seeking ways to create and maintain affordable housing. The Trust stands ready to investigate and pursue new opportunities to create affordable housing.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Wilder, Chair
Joshua A. Degen, Vice Chair
Stuart M. Schulman, Treasurer
Fredrick J. Dunn, Secretary

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Bob Colman, Cable Supervisor
(978) 448-3796
info@thegrotonchannel.org

The Groton Cable Advisory Committee is responsible for negotiating and maintaining the cable television license(s) within the town of Groton as well as overseeing the operation of Groton's cable access stations. The two cable access stations in town are The Groton Channel (Charter 191 and Verizon 40) and Groton's Government Channel (Charter 192 and Verizon 41).

Along with the Town Manager, the Cable Advisory Committee has finished the relicensing process with Charter Communications, resulting in an agreement that will last the next ten years. In the event that Comcast takes over the local Charter systems, they will also take over the license.

In 2014 the Groton Channel and the Groton Government Channel aired over 600 unique, locally produced, shows. These include our weekly news program, "The Groton Channel News," as well as talk shows, sporting events, lectures, concerts, cooking shows, music shows, and many others. The Government Channel covers all Selectmen's meetings, Town meetings, Planning Board meetings, and other meetings of interest.

The Groton Channel offers many of its programs online. People can find these on Vimeo and Facebook, or through the website, thegrotonchannel.org. We also have a Twitter account so please follow us, @GrotonChannel on Twitter! Last year we accumulated about 4,500 online views of our programs. This year, several of our shows will be available online in High Definition!

The Groton Channel continues to offer free workshops in Video Production. We are available to help any Groton resident produce their own television program or series, and we could always use more volunteers to help with the programming we already produce. If you have any questions, please send an email to info@thegrotonchannel.org, or call (978) 448-3796.

Cable Advisory Committee:

Jane Bouvier
Neil Colicchio
Dave Melpignano – Chair
Robert Piche
Janet Sheffield

COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY

Michelle Collette, ADA Coordinator
Meetings 1st Monday of the month 3:00pm
(978) 448-1105 Fax: (978) 448-1113
mcollette@townofgroton.org

The Commission on Accessibility was established in 1985 when the Town voted to accept the provisions of MGL Chapter 40C, Sections 8J and 22G. As required by State Statute, the Commission must include a majority of people with disabilities, an immediate family member of a disabled person, and an elected or appointed official. The Commission views its function as ensuring that residents with disabilities are able to participate in Groton's community life to the fullest extent practical.

In 2014, the Commission met with a variety of Town officials to advance its objectives:

- Two members of the Commission, Scott Harker and Ellen Baxendale, served on the Town Meeting Review Committee. The Committee's report to the Selectmen identified accessibility issues at Town Meeting. The Commission is working with Town officials to improve access.
- Member Scott Harker and ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette served on the Polling Location Committee that recommended a new polling location for Precincts 1 and 2. The Commission continues to monitor the suitability of the Groton Country Club as a polling location.
- The Commission reviewed and commented to the Planning Board on the Town's Housing Production Plan. The Department of Housing and Community Development approved the plan on July 10, 2014.
- The Commission met with members of the Park Commission to discuss making the Town's parks and playgrounds ADA compliant. As a result of these discussions, the Commission submitted an application to the Community Preservation Committee to fund a self-evaluation/transition plan for the Town's parks, playgrounds and open space.
- The Commission supported the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board's efforts to improve pedestrian safety and universal accessibility in the Town Center. The Commission thanks the Town Manager and DPW Director for providing an additional accessible parking space at the Town Hall.
- The Commission thanks Jane Bouvier for helping make Grotonfest more accessible by providing designated parking spaces and access to the restrooms in Legion Hall. The Commission also thanks Council on Aging Director Kathy Shelp for sharing the COA booth at Grotonfest.

Additionally, the Commission heard complaints several from residents regarding a variety of accessibility issues and worked with the parties to facilitate solutions. Complaints or concerns on accessibility matters may be directed to ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette in the Land Use Department on the second floor of the Town Hall.

The Commission appreciates the support of the Board of Selectmen, the Groton Dunstable Regional School District, the Town Moderator, the Town Clerk, the DPW Director, and other public officials throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Fleischer, Chairman
Scott Harker
Mark Shack
Anna Vega

Ellen Baxendale
Emil Rechsteiner
Alan Taylor
Michelle Collette, ADA Coordinator

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Regina Beausoleil, Interdepartmental Assistant

Meetings: 2nd and 4th Mondays of the Month

(978) 448-1140 Fax: (978) 448-1113

communitypreservation@townofgroton.org

The CPA allows communities to create a local Community Preservation Fund for open space protection, historic preservation, affordable housing and outdoor recreation. Community Preservation monies are raised through a 3% surcharge on real estate tax. The Department of Revenue distributes a state match each November from the statewide Community Preservation Fund to the Communities that have adopted the CPA.

Each CPA community establishes a local Community Preservation Committee (CPC) that makes recommendations on CPA projects that are voted on at Town Meeting. The Town of Groton has a seven member Committee with a representative from the Historical Commission, Housing Authority, Parks Commission, Planning Board, Conservation Commission and two members at large, appointed by the Board of Selectmen. The CPC is responsible for the general oversight of the Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds and the selection and recommendation of the Groton CPA proposals, and to ensure selected projects are managed on behalf of the Town of Groton to successful completion.

This year the CPC revised the latest edition of the Community Preservation Plan (CPP). This is a detailed document that provides information on the community preservation act as well as a guide to the complete application process. The CPC is continuously looking for opportunities to increase awareness around the CPA and its beneficial impact on the community. The Town of Groton collected \$965,336.59 funds from the local surcharge, state fund match, and interest during FY 2014. We expect \$795,907.00 this is including the state match of \$244,907.00 in FY 2015

The CPC closed out projects:

2012-08 Governor Boutwell House Renovation – To maintain the structural integrity and upgrade the fire protection system of the home of Governor Boutwell built in 1851. Total Project cost: \$173,344

Ongoing CPC Projects

- Restoration and Stabilization of Sargisson Beach – CPC Request: \$184,590
- Milestone Restoration –To restore the historic granite mile markers throughout the Town – CPC Request: \$23,000
- Driving Range – To repair and replace the netting at the driving range at the Groton Country Club – CPC Request: \$47,000
- Groton Housing Coordinator Salary - Land Preservation and acquisition – CPC Request: \$47,618
- Conservation Fund – CPC Request: \$100,000

The Community Preservation Plan can be found at the link below:

<http://www.townofgroton.org/DesktopModules/Bring2mind/DMX/Download.aspx?PortalId=0&EntryId=17799>

Respectfully submitted:

Representing Conservation Commission: Bruce Easom
Representing Park Commission: Matthew Frary,
Representing Historic Commission: Bob DeGroot,

Representing Housing Authority: Dan Emerson,
Representing Planning Board: Russ Burke,
Members at Large: Gineane Haberlin and Richard Hewitt

CONDUCTORLAB OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Current Committee Members: Arthur Blackman, Michelle Collette, Robert Hanninen, Mark Deuger, Susan Horowitz

Background: The Conductorlab facility, operated between 1958 and 1985, is located at 430 Main Street just uphill from the railroad bridge. In 1985, the town learned that the operator of the site had disposed of toxic or hazardous chemicals by burying them. In the months that followed, private wells down gradient from the site on Main, Arlington and Mill Streets, and Gratuity Road were shut down due to the contamination and town water was extended throughout the area. By this time the company had been sold and passed through a number of parent companies. All previous owners by law are what are called “responsible parties” and are subject to state regulations as interpreted and enforced by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MADEP). The current owner is Honeywell International, Inc.

In 1996, a Class C Response Action Outcome or “Temporary Solution” was achieved at the site under the governing state regulations known as the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP). Under the MCP, a “Permanent Solution” has been achieved when a condition of “No Significant Risk” of harm to human health and the environment can be demonstrated for all current and future receptors (individuals who may visit, live or work at the site). At the Conductorlab site, only a Temporary Solution has been achieved, because a condition of No Significant Risk has not been demonstrated for all “receptors”, specifically for construction workers who may come into contact with soil and groundwater at the site. However, most importantly, a condition of No Significant Risk does exist for neighboring residents in off-property areas and for trespassers to the site. Honeywell personnel continue efforts to achieve a Permanent Solution and Regulatory Site Closure which will result in some restricted uses of the land defined by a permanent Activity and Use Limitations (AUL) document.

Activities in 2013: In September 2009, Honeywell and its lead Licensed Site Professionals (AMEC), implemented *in situ* chemical oxidation as a groundwater remedy at the site. The selected remedy consisted of injecting treatment chemicals into the subsurface to eliminate the trichloroethylene (TCE) and related chlorinated hydrocarbons, which are the primary organic groundwater contaminants at the site. Following the September 2009 injection event, groundwater monitoring indicated a significant rise in hexavalent chromium concentrations, which was occurring as a consequence of the oxidation treatment. To capture the groundwater containing elevated Cr^{+6} , the groundwater recovery wells along Main Street (Route 119) were reactivated and groundwater was re-circulated into the *in situ* chemical oxidation infiltration trenches at the rear of the Conductorlab site, with the approval of MA DEP. The hexavalent chromium was treated *in situ* by applying sodium metabisulfite reducing agent. Applications of the *in situ* oxidation which were initiated in 2009 continued to December 2012. All groundwater treatments were suspended after the last treatment in December for the mandated 12 month groundwater monitoring to prove site stability without any treatment. As of December 2013, when the Conductorlab Committee last met with Honeywell representatives, the average concentrations of TCE and hexavalent chromium (Cr^{+6}) had been successfully reduced to concentrations below applicable Upper Concentration Limits as defined in the MCP 310 CMR 40.0996; 50ppm TCE, 3ppm Cr^{+6} . Honeywell and AMEC representatives believe that the site remediation is complete and that contaminant concentrations are sufficiently low and stable that they have stopped all on site treatment and are performing four quarterly groundwater analysis to assure that contaminants will remain below regulatory standards. AMEC personnel will monitor the groundwater and vapor contaminants for one year as a required step to begin site “closure”; that is, demonstration that no significant risk exists requiring further remediation. The Oversight Committee acknowledges continued progress after the many years since the temporary solution was demonstrated. The Committee will continue to meet with Honeywell representatives to review four quarters of analytical results along with AMEC and Honeywell's preparation of risk assessment documentation. The Honeywell target date for “closure” is in early 2015 following submission of a Class A Response Action Outcome (RAO) Statement to MADEP signifying full completion of remediation. As Honeywell moves forward to site closure, the Committee will continue to request through the Town Manager and Selectmen procedures for timely review of the site closure and AUL documents.

GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER

Every Memorial Day I am responsible for placing flags on the burial sites of all Veterans buried in the both the Old Burying Ground and the Groton Cemetery. I also place flags on the Memorial Commons. These flags are removed shortly after the Veterans Day ceremony on the Francis Sawyer Common.

I enjoy walking around our cemeteries, and it is an honor to decorate them with beautiful American Flags.

We honored the following Veterans who were interred within the Groton Cemetery in 2014:

- Earl Russell- Air Force –Korea
- Russell Kneeland Sr.-Navy-Korea
- Edward Kopec -Air Force-WWII
- Frank Sidmore-Army-WWII
- Kenneth Thompson-Air Force-WWII
- Henry Brown-Army-WWII
- Edwin Biwald –Army -WWII
- Richard Fuccillo-Army Air Corp- post WWII
- Ivan G. Eagleson-Army-post WWII
- Charles M. Hinds Jr.-Navy-WWII
- John Franzek –Army- Korea

I would also like to inform the public that Eagle Scout Chris Huber's Civil War Soldiers project is now attached to the Groton town website. Chris used my map of the Civil War Soldiers burial sites, and Eleanor Gavazzi's research, to photograph, measure, and assign GPS coordinates to each of these stones in the Groton Cemetery. Here is the link:

<http://townofgroton.org/Town/AboutGroton/GrotonCemeteryCivilWarInterments.aspx>

On May 8th, 2015 Americans will remember the 70th Anniversary of "Victory Europe" otherwise known as VE Day. On September 2, 2015 Americans will remember "Victory Japan" otherwise known as V-J Day.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Beal Normandin



Photo by Debbie Beal Normandin
Soldiers Lot Cemetery – Grand Army Republic

GREENWAY COMMITTEE

The Groton Greenway Committee is an advisory committee created in 1989 to protect river and stream frontage in Groton, particularly along the Nashua and Squannacook Rivers for water quality, natural flood control, wildlife habitat, wildlife corridors and recreational trail connections. We seek to raise awareness, educate and invite townspeople to use and enjoy our rivers.

Groton Greenway Mission

1. Continue to increase the protection of the Nashua and Squannacook Rivers
2. Educate, raise awareness and invite townspeople to use and enjoy the river
3. Promote usage and provide stewardship for the greenways

Activities During the Past Year

1. Held the 2014 Nashua River Festival which included acts such as the Pebble Bottom River Kids, Native American dancing and the crowd favorite cardboard canoe races
2. Participated in the annual spring water chestnut hand pull with the NRWA and Nashoba Paddler on the Nashua River
3. Welcomed new member to the Greenway Committee, Craig Gemmel

Goals for the Upcoming Year

1. Hold 2015 River Festival on June 8, 2015 at the Petapawag Boat Launch
2. Continue dialog with landowners on protecting riverfront property
3. Determine the best usage of funding to improve equestrian access at Fitch's Bridge
4. Investigate management opportunities for the Nod Road parcel along the Nashua River
5. Plant milkweed pods at NEFF property Groton Place to restore threatened Monarch butterfly habitat

Respectfully,

The Groton Greenway Committee

Adam Burnett

Carol Coutrier

Craig Gemmell

David Pitkin, Chair

Marion Stoddart



Fitch's Bridge

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Historical Commission in 2014 was chaired by Bob DeGroot with Michael LaTerz as Secretary. Members include Allen King, George Wheatley, Tracy Heighton, and Michael Danti. The committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month.

*The Demolition Delay Bylaw continues to be reviewed by the committee. Amendments are currently being considered.

*The committee approved the demolition of dilapidated barn on Court Street, and a non-historic home on Champney St. In both cases the structures were photographed prior to demolition. The committee also approved and photographed the relocation of a historic carriage house on the grounds of Lawrence Academy.

*A CPA application was approved at Annual Town Meeting for the restoration of the 27 Mile Markers in Groton. These markers were originally installed throughout Groton in 1902/1903. This project was successfully planned and executed by Michael Roberts. A project for the 2015 CPA application cycle focused on the restoration of Groton Monuments is planned.

*Initial efforts are under way for the development of a National Historic Register nomination for Groton Town Center.

*Groton Inn: The committee is working with Omni Properties to develop a process/protocol which will allow for the identification and preservation of any historic artifacts discovered during the excavation and rebuilding of the Inn.

*The committee provided historical commentary on the proposed path for the pipeline proposed by the Tennessee Gas Pipeline company

2014 was a busy year for the Historic Commission. The committee continues to work with the Town to implement and enhance policies and procedures to ensure the rich heritage and culture of Groton is documented and preserved. Looking ahead to 2015, there will be no shortage of opportunities for the committee to continue its efforts to preserve the historic assets of Groton.

LOCAL CULTURAL COUNCIL

The Local Cultural Council (LCC) Program, the second largest grant program of the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), is a grassroots complement to the agency's centralized grant programs. Allocations are made to all of Massachusetts' 351 cities and towns to support community cultural activities. The LCC Program is the most extensive system of its kind in the nation to support arts, sciences and humanities.

For the 2015 upcoming grant cycle, the Groton Local Cultural Council received an allocation of \$4250 added to a reserve from the previous cycle. The Council received 23 applications and was able to fund 14 of these applications for a total of \$5125. It is the goal of the Groton Cultural Council to allocate grants to local artists, to fund art for all age groups, and to fund a variety of cultural disciplines.

The following grants were awarded:

Arts Nashoba	Autism and Special Needs Friendly Programming	\$500
First Parish	Boston Gay Men's Chorus Concert	\$500
FitchburgArtMus	80th Regional Exhibition of Art and Craft	\$150
Fruitlands Museum	Centennial Saturday-Open Gates Initiative Program	\$300
Frota, Ricardo	Ecology of Sound	\$225
Groton Greenway	Groton Greenway River Festival	\$500
Groton HistSoc	Establishing the High School Internship	\$500
Indian Hill Music	Bach's Lunch Concert Series	\$500
NRWA	Nashua River Canoe and Kayak Guide	\$500
NasVal Chorale	Beethoven Missa Solemnis	\$500
NasVal Concert Bnd	NVCB Music Concert in Groton	\$250
Richmond, Susan	2015 Plein Air Poetry Chap Book	\$100
UNACC	Native Americans PowWow Program	\$300
Thurston HealGarden	Exploring Our Creative Spirits	\$300

Frank Conahan – Member
Pat Hartvigsen – Secretary
Monica Hinojos -- Member
Gretchen Hummon – Member
Mary Athey Jennings – Member
Dina Mordeno -- Member
Lili Ott – Chair
Joni Parker-Roach – Treasurer
Susan Randazzo Schulman – Member
Ann Wilson -- Member

Respectfully,

Lili Ott, Chair 2014

OLD BURYING GROUND COMMISSION

In January, 2014 the Commissioners made assessments of the headstones which were in most need of straightening or repair. However, in May of 2014, three stones, and stone fragments had been discovered and returned to the Old Burying Ground. It was then decided to ‘reset’ these stones back to their original placement first.

In May, Deborah Beal Normandin placed flags upon the graves of the soldiers buried within the Old Burying Ground. There are soldiers who served in the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War buried within the Old Burying Ground.

In June, past Commissioner Eleanor Gavazzi presented tours for the fifth grade classes from the Groton Dunstable Middle School. The students were excited to learn that the Old Burying Ground is the final resting place of many soldiers who served in the Continental Army. There are also two female patriots, members of Prudence Wright’s Bridge Guard buried within the burying ground, Sarah Shattuck and Susannah Quails.

In June, Garside Monument Company reinstalled the three head and foot stones that were returned in May. These stones belonged to Sarah Woods d. 1723 f.s., Amos Farnsworth d.1749 h.s., and Molly Dole d. 1781 f.s.

In September the annual celebration of Grotonfest took place and the Old Burying Ground Commissioners were very pleased with the condition of the burying ground after the event. Thank you very much for respecting the nature of this space.

In November the very large headstone marking the grave of Jonas Cutler was reinstalled, Garside Monument Company did the repair and installation. This headstone is historically important and it had been removed from the Old Burying Ground for repair. Jonas Cutler was a shop keeper in Groton who sold items imported from England. He was a businessman and was not happy about the prospect of losing business due to the boycott of British goods, as he was a loyalist. Jonas Cutler was one of only four men in Groton who refused to sign the Association Paper, the list of all the men in town who supported the American Revolution. Jonas Cutler was given several chances to sign but he would not. Jonas Cutler may have sealed his own fate by not signing the Association Paper and he died December 19, 1782 age 55 years. His property went up for auction. His loyal wife Jemima erected this headstone in his memory carved by one of the Park Family of carvers.



The Old Burying Ground Commissioners look forward to another productive year ahead with more opportunities to share our wonderfully historic and beautiful Old Burying Ground.

Respectfully submitted by the Old Burying Ground Commissioners,

Ellen Hargraves, Marcia Beal Brazer, Deborah Beal Normandin, Amanda Gavazzi, Ken Lefabve

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

"Community Sustainability is the commitment to adopt practices that support and balance the social, economic and environmental aspects of our region, now and into our future."

Groton Sustainability Commission, winter 2010

In 2008 the Board of Selectmen established a Sustainability Commission and appointed nine members. In 2012 the Commission continued its role in information gathering and developing connections with other boards, commissions and organizations in town. In addition we have continued the process of establishing a baseline measurement of the town's current level of sustainability in each of the three areas of economy, environment and society/community.

A key feature of 2012 was the completion of our responsibilities within the Master Plan development process. As a result sustainability has become an integral component of each chapter of Groton's new Master Plan.

In 2013 we recognized that the language of Sustainability was changing from a language of rules and regulations to a language of attraction and community well-being. This is sometimes called the "Happiness Initiative". As Thomas Jefferson wrote in the Declaration of Independence – it is our inalienable right to "pursue happiness". Today practitioners translate this to "everyone has the right to be satisfied with their life". In recognition of this changing language of Sustainability our 2013 and 2014 goals were changed to become better educated in the language of Community Well Being while establishing several Community Sustainability initiatives which will have tangible results within a reasonable time. We have begun educating our community on the ideas of Community Satisfaction with Life through educational materials regarding Sustainable Community Well Being. Our challenge is to integrate the notion of Sustainable Community Well Being with implementing Master Plan recommendations.

2015 will see our town web site designed to be a better communicator to the town and to be the place where it's citizens can take the Happiness Initiative survey and learn their individual happiness score (and compared to over 40,000 other respondents) and the town can learn the aggregate overall scores for the town which will be useful in Community "Satisfaction with Life" planning or "what can we do to help our citizens increase their satisfaction with life. We will also begin the development of the "Groton Community Sustainability and Well Being Plan" designed to complement the goals of the Master Plan and help guide the way to a self-sufficient and happy community with a strong and beneficial satisfaction with life.

A further challenge is to meet the demands of some of our commissioners that tangible progress be made in community education and action on becoming a more sustainable community. The Commission in 2013 established four initiatives with practical applications to be continued into in 2015. These initiatives are:

1. Pollinator Protection Project
 - a. In 2014 this project saw the completion of a pollinator friendly garden at the Groton Senior Center, educational materials prepared and distributed at several 2014 town events including Groton Fest. We anticipate continuing this effort into 2015.
2. Climate Change Adaptation Action Recommendations
 - a. Using the September 2011 Massachusetts CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION REPORT, Commissioners have been reviewing the document and others as they have come online, to develop recommendations for and with the Town on adapting to climate change in Groton. We anticipate these recommendations to become available to the Town in 2015.
3. West Groton Dam Repair and Waterway Infrastructure Monitoring

- a. This initiative began with the repair of the West Groton Dam and identification of serious erosion threatening Rt 225 in West Groton/Shirley. It has expanded with cooperative agreements and communication with the Nashua River Watershed Association. Increased stream flows associated with increased storm water resulting from climate change will be monitored by both organizations.
4. Develop a Sustainable Community Well Being Plan
 - a. The Chair of the Commission participated in a Community Well-being conference and acquired materials for public presentations on the new language of Sustainability. In 2015 we will develop our web site and begin in earnest the survey of town's people relating to their "Satisfaction with Life". 2015 will be devoted to public presentations, outreach actions and other forms of community learning. Using the results of these actions we will begin the preparation of a Sustainability Plan for the town of Groton.

We are actively seeking additional members to bring the Commission up to full authorized strength.

The charge of the Commission is:

Purpose: The purpose of the Sustainability Commission is to focus and integrate the Town's sustainability efforts and to inspire it to become a measurably sustainable community.

Responsibilities:

- Raise awareness and educate town officials and townspeople on sustainability concepts and trends
 - Use the insights of all stakeholders to increase our collective understanding
- Provide sustainability materials and advice for town plans, policies, and operations
 - Find and develop deep expertise in the key aspects of community sustainability, including:
 - the environment, the economy, and society
 - the challenges, including the rapidly increasing price of energy and other resources, global warming and climate change, and economic uncertainty
 - the solutions that appear to be working in other communities, increasing community self-reliance and resilience
 - the local impacts of sustainability aspects that are best addressed at the state, regional, national, and/or international levels
 - Provide a clearing house for sustainability information
 - Assist in preparing grant applications for projects that improve Groton's sustainability
 - Provide technical assistance and research on sustainability issues
- Identify opportunities for improved collaboration to enhance sustainability
 - Identify key sustainability metrics for Groton and measure them to establish a baseline for measuring improvements
 - Develop a public, community-wide understanding of local sustainability conditions, goals, target metrics, and approaches
 - Capture this understanding in an update to the Groton 2020 vision ("Planning for Groton's Next Seven Generations") in coordination with the Town's Planning Board
- Propose specific sustainability initiatives and actions, including energy efficiency
 - Prioritize initiatives to focus first on those with a large payback for relatively little effort and expenditures
 - Work with stakeholders to get actions included in stakeholder-specific plans
 - Execute those aspects of the plan that should be addressed directly by the Sustainability Commission
- Regularly review and report on progress toward sustainability
- Prepare an annual report to inform the Town on how well the Town is achieving its goal to become a sustainable community

TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE WORKING GROUP COMMITTEE

The Tennessee Gas Pipeline Working Group Committee was appointed as an advisory committee by the Board of Selectmen to gather and analyze information regarding Kinder-Morgan's Northeast Direct (NED) project and its implications for Groton. The Committee itself reflected a wide spectrum of community opinion on numerous aspects of the proposal ranging from the need for the pipeline to the ultimate use of the product it would transfer. Given this dynamic, the group attempted to limit its focus on NED's direct impact to Groton and advise the Selectmen on how best to have input on the regulatory and permitting process. To this end, the Committee organized its tasks along the following three focus areas: Evaluate, Mitigate and Educate.

Evaluation efforts included the gathering and analysis of information that would inform the Committee and the Town. These efforts ranged from learning the impact on local electric rates to gaining an understanding of the need for additional natural gas in Massachusetts. Work included the review and discussion of a wide range of materials including Kinder Morgan submissions, special interest documents, and the Massachusetts Low Gas Demand Analysis. Outcomes:

- Based on the studies reviewed, some amount of increased natural gas supply is needed for the region in the immediate future.
- Electrical rates in Groton will rise without new energy supply to replace lost generation.
- The pipeline will have a significant impact on conservation interests and the quality of life for residents directly impacted by its path.

Mitigation efforts focused on the development of an approach to affect the impact that the pipeline would have on Groton by working with Kinder Morgan and regulatory bodies. Outcomes:

- Met with Groton's State Senator and State Representative on several occasions.
- Drafted correspondence for use by Selectmen and others for submission to state and federal legislators, administrators and commissions.
- Attended / participated in numerous presentations, summits and conferences for gathering information and sharing information.
- Began the process of identifying a strategy for working with Kinder Morgan should a pipeline through Groton become unavoidable.
- Presented Groton's experience to Pipeline Safety Trust Conference in New Orleans.

Education efforts focused on ways to make public the outcome of the Evaluate and Mitigate initiatives. Outcomes (in addition to the value of the above):

- Designed and managed a clearinghouse for pipeline information on the Town's web site: <http://www.townofgroton.org/town/TennesseeGasPipelineInformation.aspx>.
- Collaborated with surrounding towns.
- Organized and held twelve public meetings.

The announcement by Kinder Morgan that the preferred path of the pipeline has shifted and will now avoid Groton has affected the Committee's focus. While Groton is still listed as one of Kinder Morgan's alternative path options, the Committee is now focused on following the FERC regulatory process and alternative path community options while watching for signs that the new preferred path is not advancing.

TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE

The Groton Town Forest is an approximately 513 acre parcel located in West Groton on the banks of the Nashua River, designated as such on April 7, 1922 and one of the first in the state. This land is a managed forest and different areas are harvested periodically. The results of the 2012 harvest along either side of Town Forest Road can be seen in the new growth of hardwood saplings, of Oak, Maple and American Chestnut.

The 17th Annual Town Forest Trails Race was held in the Town Forest this year.

Fire roads within the forest were kept clear of downed trees, and trails were maintained with the assistance of the Trails Committee.

A couple areas of trash, yard waste and an abandoned transient campsite were removed.

The Forest provides an area for multiple passive recreational uses. Please note that much of the forested land abutting the Town Forest is private property and not Town land. Please do not abuse Town land or the land of our neighbors.

Motor vehicle use of all types is prohibited.

The cutting of trails, building bridges and jumps is prohibited as is the raking or leaf blowing of existing trails.

Please report any suspicious activity to the Police Department or any member of the Town Forest Committee.

As a reminder hunting is allowed and anyone using the Forest should be aware of the season and take necessary precautions.

PLEASE---NO DUMPING

CARRY-IN, CARRY-OUT

Stephen L. Babin, Chairman
John P. Sheedy, Vice Chairman
Carter Branigan, Clerk

TRAILS COMMITTEE

Seventy-six volunteers joined regular GTC members in trail maintenance projects during the year. A total of 325 person-hours of effort was expended, with 25 % of this by the supervised volunteers.

Many trails (more than can be detailed) were mowed, de-stumped and cleared of storm damage debris during the year. New markers have been installed/replaced on trails throughout the town.

The GTC designed and built new trails in the **Cox-Walker parcel** that connect with adjacent parcels (Watson Way/Brown Lane, Williams/Sorhaug, and McLain's Woods Conservation Areas). These trails will provide access to beautiful wetland features and rolling eskers. Related to this project, a new trail was constructed accessing the Cox-Walker land across Chicopee Row from the existing Williams Barn trail system. All new trails were marked.

Four **trail reroutes and a new boardwalk** were built on the main **Williams Barn trail**. The reroutes avoid a beaver pond that has been encroaching on the trail and seasonally wet sections that have been particularly bad this year. The boardwalk spans an area that simply does not allow a reroute.

A new **footbridge** was constructed in the **Wharton Plantation** north of Rocky Hill Road/west of Dan Parker Road. Beavers had raised water levels in the area making an existing stream crossing impassable. Additional work was done on the other side of the bridge to build a new **trail re-route**, avoiding wet areas.



Groton School Pond West of the Rail Trail

The new section is on an esker heading west toward the Harrison Ripley Forest conservation parcel. It offers elevated, very beautiful views of the surroundings, including significant water and beaver structures on the eastern end and a large great heron rookery at its western end.

Another new footbridge, named the **Indian Rock Bridge** was constructed over a stream on the **Gamlin Conservation lands**. Portions of the adjoining trail were re-routed to avoid wet areas.

Grant funding was actively sought from the Recreational Trails Program sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation for the planned **Nashua River Accessible Trail** in the J. Harry Rich State Forest.

The GTC led **14 public hikes**, in eleven of the months of the year, involving a total of 244 participants. Ten of the hikes were held jointly with the Appalachian Mountain Club.

The GTC has continued its involvement with the **Montachusett Regional Trail Coalition (MRTC)**, a group of 16 participating towns in north central Massachusetts. The GTC attended the **Massachusetts Trails Conference** in November and made two presentations.

Two members trained and received certification in a **chainsaw safety** course. The committee again manned a booth at **Grotonfest**, interfacing with many interested members of the public, and assisted the Squannacook River Runners in their operation of the annual **Groton Town Forest Trail Races**. A Memorandum of Understanding (for trail maintenance) was formalized with the **Groton Conservation Trust**.

Groton resident James Desrosiers donated a large amount of **composite decking material** to the GTC. Twenty man-hours were invested in the removal, transport and storage of the boards for use on future projects (primarily bridges).

Joachim Preiss resigned from the committee this year, after ten years of service. He chaired the committee for six years and contributed significantly to the expansion and improvement of the Town's trail system during his time. Specifically the committee recognized Joachim for his tireless work in developing trails on Gibbet and Scarlet Hills, Brooks Orchard, and the Williams Barn property, and his many contributions to the Committee's website, communications, and GPS technologies.

One new member joined the committee this year, Jason Remillard.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Funch, Chair
David Burnham
Wendy Good
Olin Lathrop

Stephen Legge
David Minott
James Molaskey

David Pitkin
Jason Remillard
Scott Stathis
John Wiesner



The old barn at Brooks Orchard



Trailhead on Reedy Meadow Road

WILLIAMS BARN COMMITTEE

The Mission of the Williams Barn Committee is:

- to preserve and maintain the integrity of the Williams Barn as provided in the agreement with Massachusetts Historical Commission;
- to establish a learning center for education in the areas of conservation , environmental studies, agricultural history, barn architecture and local history;
- to encourage such other uses of the Barn as may be of benefit to the community , including fund raising
- to cooperate with the conservation Commission with respect to the use of the surrounding conservation land and trails.

In 2014, the Williams Barn Committee hosted:

Third Grade Field Trips In Conjunction with the Groton Women's Club, all third graders from Prescott School and Swallow Union enjoyed a field trip on June 2 and 3. They explored childhood on a farm during the 1840's in Groton. Students churned butter, designed a quilt, played 19th century children's games and learned from local craftsmen: Uwe Tobies timber-framing and Jock Snaith–barrel making.

2014 Social Media program The Williams Barn Committee interviewed six local candidates for a position to operate their social media. With a stipend from the Bertozzi fund Michael Allen from Groton was very helpful to us.

Farmers Market at the Williams Barn was on Fridays from 3-7pm, July 11 to October 10 which were held at the back of the Barn area. The Market has added, local soups, a coffee roaster and a knife sharpener. Our market draws more and more families as it becomes a destination. The Market offered live music supported by the Town of Groton Lecture Funds on most of the afternoons including, Kenny Selcer, Dick Baummer and John Niemoller.

Thanksgiving Market was on Saturday, November 22 with many local arts, crafts and local farmers. Live music was, Back to the Garden. Drawings for local food and restaurants were a huge success.

Earth Day 2014 at Williams Barn was held by Groton Local. They demonstrated: gardening tips, composting, recycling and environmental responsibility (a river clean-up!) The weather was very nice this year compared to last year. They had a very big crowd.

Winter Greens Sale at the Williams Barn was Saturday December 6. It was a huge success for the Groton Woman's Club! Their donation to us was returned to the Pat Hallet foundation.

Nashua River Watershed Association used the Barn for their summer, children's classes. Stacey Chilcoat does a wonderful job with these kids.

Williams Barn Committee,

Leo Wyatt, Al Wyatt, Kathy Stone, Brad Smith, Sandra Tobies, Joe Twomey, Bob Kniffin and Bruce Easom

APPENDIX



Spring Town Meeting Warrant/Minutes

Special Town Meeting Warrant/Minutes

Fall Town Meeting Warrant/Minutes

Election Results

Town Accountant Financials

Warrant and Minutes

TOWN OF GROTON



2014 SPRING TOWN MEETING

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

Beginning Monday, April 28, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers

Please bring this Report to Town Meeting

***THE BUDGET HANDOUT FOR ARTICLE 5 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 ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette at Town Hall at 978 448-1105 at least one week before the Town Meeting.

**SPRING TOWN MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 28, 2014**

Town Moderator:

Jason Kauppi

Deputy Moderator

Robert L. Gosselin, Sr.

Board of Selectmen:

Peter S. Cunningham, Chairman
Joshua A. Degen, Vice-Chairman
Anna Eliot, Clerk
Jack G. Petropoulos, Member
Stuart M. Schulman, Member

Finance Committee:

Jay M. Prager, Chairman
Gary Green, Vice-Chairman
Joseph Crowley
Robert Hargraves
David Manugian
Bud Robertson
Steven Webber

Town Manager:

Mark W. Haddad
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Town Clerk:

Michael F. Bouchard

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM on April 28, 2014 at the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium. Moderator Jason Kauppi presided.

There is no quorum requirement for this Annual Town Meeting. 145 voters were present. Later in the proceedings, at approximately 7:30 PM, 394 voters were present.

Mr. Kauppi thanked the Commission on Accessibility for their work in organizing accessibility-friendly arrangements in the performing Arts Center. The Council on Aging was also thanked for making their van available to meeting attendees.

Announcements:

- The report of the Town Meeting Review Study Committee is available at the town Clerk's office and at www.townofgroton.org.
- The Annual Town Election will be held May 20, 2014 from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Precincts 2 and 3 will now vote at the Pool and Golf Center, 94 Lovers Lane. Precinct 1 will continue to vote at the Groton Senior Center, 163 West Main Street.
- Candidates Night will be on May 8 at the Black Box Studio at the High School.

Boy Scouts-Troop 3 led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance. Troop 3 was inaugurated in April of 1924, and is celebrating its 90th year.

Mr. Robert L. Gosselin, Sr. was voted as Deputy Moderator by unanimous consent, and was sworn by the Town Clerk.

It was determined that the warrant was duly posted. The reading of the warrant was waived by unanimous vote.

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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-eighth day of April, 2014 at Seven O'clock in the evening, to consider all business other than the election of Town Officers and on the twentieth day of May, 2014 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	Board of Selectmen	3 Years
Vote for One	Commissioner of Trust Funds	3 Years
Vote for One	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	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
Vote for One	Groton Housing Authority	3 Years

ARTICLE 1: HEAR REPORTS

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

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *To hear reports of Town Boards, Committees and Commissions.*

Mover: John Petropoulos

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

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

No reports were offered.

Vote: Article 1 Main Motion Passed by Majority Vote

ARTICLE 2: ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to allow the following compensation for the following elected officials:

Selectman (four)	\$ 760	Town Clerk	\$ 71,649
Board of Selectmen, Chairman	\$ 910	Town Moderator	\$ 65
Board of Assessors, Chairman	\$ 910	Assessor (two)	\$ 760

for the ensuing year, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Against)*

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

Mover: Joshua Degen

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

Selectman (four)	\$ 760	Town Clerk	\$ 71,649
Board of Selectmen, Chairman	\$ 910	Town Moderator	\$ 65
Board of Assessors, Chairman	\$ 910	Assessor (two)	\$ 760

for the ensuing year.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

Mr. Degen explained that the compensation for the Town Clerk was modeled on the bylaw employees' compensation plan.

Vote: 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 2015 the Town of Groton Wage and Classification schedule as shown in Appendix B of this Warrant, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN MANAGER**

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Against)*

Summary: *This article proposes a wage adjustment of four (4%) percent for FY 2015 for the three employees covered by the Personnel Bylaw. This follows the Supervisors' Union Contract which calls for a two (2%) wage adjustment to the employees' base pay on June 30, 2014 with no payout and a two (2%) percent wage adjustment on July 1, 2014 on the new base rate.*

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend and adopt for Fiscal Year 2015 the Town of Groton Wage and Classification schedule as shown in Appendix B of the Warrant for the 2014 Spring Town Meeting.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion

Request to explain why Bylaw employees can't handle sensitive information and belong to a union. The bylaw employees process information that is confidential to the Town and cannot be disclosed in collective bargaining.

Vote: Article 3 Main Motion passed by Unanimous vote.

**ARTICLE 4: RESCIND MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT VOTE - ARTICLE 8 - 2013
FALL TOWN MEETING**

To see if the Town will vote to rescind the vote taken under Article 8 of the October 21, 2013 Fall Town Meeting that authorized the Town to become a member of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 252, Section 5A and Chapter 583 of the Acts of 1973, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Board of Health: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *At the request of the Board of Health, the 2013 Fall Town Meeting voted to become a member of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project for a minimum of three (3) years. The annual cost to the Town of Groton would be \$73,000. Due to the projected budget shortfall of*

the Groton Dunstable Regional School District, the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen closely examined the Municipal Budget to reduce expenses to meet the needs of the School District and minimize the tax impact to the residents. Based on this, the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and Town Manager are recommending that the Town Meeting rescind this authorization to create more levy capacity to address other FY 2015 budgetary needs.

Mover: Stuart Schulman

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to rescind the vote taken under Article 8 of the October 21, 2013 Fall Town Meeting that authorized the Town to become a member of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 252, Section 5A and Chapter 583 of the Acts of 1973.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Membership in the Mosquito Control Project is being asked so that this money can be reallocated to the schools.
- Mr. Weber, Board of Health, thinks this is an excellent program but this is not the right time to join due to the fiscal demands placed on the town from the schools.
- Q: Is public health a priority?
 - R: Yes
- Q: Is a priority and saved one citizen from becoming ill, shouldn't this program be kept?
 - R: This is one of many programs that are being cut. Schools are also a priority.
- Resident "enraged" that the problems of one department not able to manage their budget takes away a benefit from others.
- Q: How much would it cost the Town to spray for mosquitos outside of this consortium, should we need to do this?
 - R: If there was a serious mosquito borne health issue, the Town would be compelled to spray. In a situation like that, the spraying would be air born spraying, and the costs would be picked up by the state. Not aware of any cases where the town would be compelled to spray and also pay for it.
- This request to rescind is part of a larger set of spending curbs used to balance the budget and also fund the increase in the school allocation.
- Q: would the Selectmen bring this article back if the budget allows?
 - R: Yes
- Q: Are golf carts a higher priority?
 - The golf carts lease is funded from the capital budget. It is not a sound financial principle to fund operations from "one time" revenue sources.

Vote: Article 4 Main Motion passed by a Majority vote.

ARTICLE 5: FISCAL YEAR 2015 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the next fiscal year (2015), and act upon the budget of the Finance Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN MANAGER**

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Against)*

Summary: *Budget – 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 Spring Town Meeting. The budget handout for this Article is contained in Appendix A of this Warrant. Please also see the Town Manager's Report which includes the Finance Committee's and Board of Selectmen's recommendations.*

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate and transfer from available funds such sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the next Fiscal Year (2015) and act on the budget of the Finance Committee.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- A presentation on the budget was given by Mr. Degen. "It's easy to point fingers" but we need to find solutions and move on. The Town needs \$1.4m to fund the schools. \$300k in municipal budget cuts have been proposed, including the mosquito spraying program, reinstitution of Sargisson Beach and other programs. These reductions, along with \$377k planned within the budget, use of \$325k in unexpended tax capacity and \$400k in debt exclusion (from the April 1 vote) allow the Town to fund the \$1.4m.
- Budget highlights include funding the third year of union contracts, the FY2015 employee performance incentive program, fully funding police and fire wages (including anticipated overtime), funding medicare and county retirement (but also benefiting from a reduced health insurance premium), funding increased enrollment at Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School and a Council on Aging Van. The net impact of the budget will be \$102 per \$100k of assessed valuation, or about \$408 tax increase for a house assessed at \$400k.

ARTICLE 5 - MOTION 1: GENERAL GOVERNMENT
Mover: Gary Green

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,762,762 for General Government as represented by lines 1000 through 1182 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 5 – Motion 1 passed by Majority vote.

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Article 5 - MOTION 2: LAND USE DEPARTMENTS

Mover: David Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$407,038 for Land Use Departments as represented by lines 1200 through 1281 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 5 – Motion 2 passed by Majority vote

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Article 5 - MOTION 3: PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY

Mover: Steven Webber

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved the sum of \$175,000 to Fire & Emergency Medical Services and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,108,910 for a total of \$3,283,910 for Protection of Persons and Property as represented by lines 1300 through 1372 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 5 – Motion 3 passed by Majority vote

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Article 5 - MOTION 4: SCHOOLS

Mover: Robert Hargraves

a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$572,775 for the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School as represented by line 1400 in the Budget.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- 22% increase in assessment

- Groton's enrollment has increased from 33 to 39 students.
- Q: How much does it cost per student at NVTRHS , and how does that compare to Groton-Dunstable?
 - R: It costs about \$15,000 for a student at NVTRHS. It wasn't know how much a "per student" cost was for the GDRSD. It was pointed out that it's more fair to compare "high school to high school" costs, and to also consider that a technical high school services 18 programs and carries costs for equipment in these programs, not carried by non-technical schools. Smaller class sizes are also necessary due to safety concerns.

Vote: Article 5-Motion 4a passed by Unanimous vote.

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b.) Groton Dunstable Regional School District

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,756,023 for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District as represented by Lines 1410 through 1413 in the Budget.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Ms. Manugian, Chair of the GDRSC, gave a presentation on the district's budget. She addressed the history of FY 13 and 14, and presented the FY15 budget.
- Q: What does it mean that the Excess and Deficiency fund is depleted?
 - R: It means that emergencies that would be funded from the E&D account would need to be funded directly by the member towns. The standard for E&D is 2 to 4% of the operating budget.
- Special Education is a contributor to, but not the cause of the budget issues.
- Town meeting member offered that the Town Manager and Board of Selectmen are to be commended for stepping up to address the school funding issue.
- Q: Are any teachers laid off?
 - R: In mid-year FY14, 7.2 full-time-equivalents were let go. They were not all teachers. The positions were detailed.
- Q: Are these positions reinstated in the FY15 budget?
 - R: No
- Q: What are the proposed FY15 reductions?
 - R: 8.16 full-time-equivalent positions were detailed. Normal attrition and enrollment patterns were considered when proposing these cuts. It was stated that this was a conservative, but normal, approach to budgeting.
- "We need more teachers and less technology."
- Q: Actual enrollment, especially at the elementary and middle school grades are increasing class sizes. How can reducing faculty , especially when summer traditionally brings an influx of students, be justified?
 - R: The District does not have the revenues to keep class size as low as some would like. Enrollment trends are expected. If there is a dramatic influx of students, the Superintendent has the ability to hire.
- Q: What will happen going forward?

- R: The District will focus on a strategic planning process with community involvement. Special education is a difficult area to forecast, as it can even fluctuate mid-year.
- No funds are targeted to replenish the E&D account.
- Q: Why is the Assistant Superintendent being replaced when that money could be used to hire more teachers?
 - R: The Assistant's position is important in a District of this size. This position will also assume HR responsibilities.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

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

VOTE on Article 5 – Motion 4b: Passed by Majority vote.

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Article 5 – MOTION 6 LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES

Mover: Joseph Crowley

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,633,141 for Library and Citizen's Services as represented by lines 1600 through 1703 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 5 - Motion 6 passed by Unanimous vote.

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Article 5 - MOTION 7: DEBT SERVICE

Mover: Gary Green

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,418,721 for Debt Service as represented by lines 2000 through 2007 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 5 - Motion 7 passed by Majority vote.

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Article 5 - MOTION 8: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

Mover: Joseph Crowley

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,171,724 for Employee Benefits as represented by lines 3000 through 3012 in the Budget; each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote: Article 5 – Motion 8 passed by Majority vote.

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Article 5 - MOTION 9: WATER ENTERPRISE
Mover: Steven Webber

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate from Water Rates and Fees the sum of \$979,622 to the Water Enterprise Fund for FY 2015 to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote: Article 5 – Motion 9 passed by Majority vote.

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Article 5 – Motion 10: SEWER ENTERPRISE
Mover: Steven Webber

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer from Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency the sum of \$56,884 and to appropriate from Sewer Rates and Fees the sum of \$616,282 for a total of \$673,166 to the Sewer Enterprise Fund for FY2015 to defray all operating expenses, interest charges, and principal payments on bonds outstanding as they accrue and any reimbursement to the Town.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote: Article 5 – Motion 10 passed by Majority vote

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Article 5 – Motion 11: ELECTRIC LIGHT
Mover: Joseph Crowley

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the income from the sale of electricity to private consumers or for electricity supplied to municipal buildings or from municipal power and from the sale of jobbing during Fiscal 2015 for the Groton Electric Light Department; the whole to be expended by the Manager of that department under the direction and control of the Board of Electric Light Commissioners for the expenses of the ensuing fiscal year as defined in Section 57 of Chapter 164 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth. The total fund to be appropriated is -0-.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote: Article 5 – Motion 11 passed with a Unanimous vote

Item #1 – EMS Ambulance	\$280,000	Fire/EMS
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Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The vehicle to be replaced is a 1986 Military Chevy Pick-up truck for which it has become difficult to impossible to find replacement parts for repairs. This forestry unit is a vehicle that not only needs to respond to brush fires off road but is also used during “bad/severe” weather to assist the Highway Department for clearing roads with chain saws. Modified cost for replacement of current Forestry 3, due to the ambulance conversion to a forestry truck, will be \$50,000.*

Item #3 – Pick-Up Truck	\$35,000	Highway Department
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Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: This item in the Capital Budget was established five years ago and has been very successful. In Fiscal Year 2015, the following items will be purchased/upgraded with this allocation: Twenty-three new computers for Town Hall/Public Safety Building/Fire/Library; Server for the Council on Aging; Expand fiber from Town Hall to Public Safety Building and new Fire Station; Replace four servers with warranties expiring in FY 2015; Battery backup expansion for Town Hall and Public Safety Building; Core layer 3 switch for routing and fiber management layer 3 (Public Safety Building).

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Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #5 – Building Security

\$30,000

Town Facilities

Summary: *This is the first year appropriation of a three year plan to upgrade and update the alarms in all Town buildings. It will include video, and swipe cards as well as other entry protective measures to enhance the safety of our employees and the public. This measure is a recommendation of the Police Chief.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommendation Unanimously (5 In Favor, 0 Against)*

Item #6 – Roof Top Units

\$43,690

Library

Summary: *The Library has 7 HVAC units that heat and cool the building. Unit #3 needed replacing in 2011. We had catastrophic failure of both Units #5 and #6 in October, 2013, requiring emergency replacement to get heat to the third floor of the Library. Units 1, 2, 4, and 7 all need replacing. Units 1 and 7 are in the worst condition, but any of these 4 units could fail at any time. Three out of the seven have already failed at this point.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #7 – Police Cruisers

\$120,000

Police Department

Summary: *Purchase of three police cruisers and related equipment for replacement of cruisers that are no longer cost effective to maintain. This would allow the Department to have six marked cruisers. This allows for less mileage per year, better maintenance scheduling, assignment of cars to officers and for a programmed replacement schedule that ensures that line cars are rotated out at reasonable mileage and wear, and also that un-marked cars are rotated in the same fashion.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #8 – Rough Mower

\$10,000

Pool & Golf Center

Summary: *This essential mower is used to regularly cut the “rough” adjacent to the fairways. Three years ago, the Town replaced a very old mower that was inoperable and not repairable with a new Jacobsen rough mower. The Town purchase of the mower is on an installment basis, with an annual lease to buy cost of approximately \$10,000 for each of five years. This article seeks the fourth of five installment payments.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Against)*

Item #9 – Golf Carts

\$20,000

Pool & Golf Center

Summary: *In FY 2013, the Pool & Golf Center replaced the fleet of twenty-five golf carts with new 2012 Club Car DS gas powered carts using a five year lease to purchase agreement at an annual cost of approximately \$20,000. This article seeks funding for the third of five installment payments.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Against)*

Item #10 – Boom Sprayer Unit

\$6,500

Pool & Golf Center

Summary: *In FY 2014, the Pool & Golf Center replaced this essential sprayer that is needed to regularly distribute fertilizer and pesticides over the golf course throughout the entire golf season. This machine enables the Center to use concentrated liquid chemicals which are both much more efficient and cost effective than granular chemicals. The cost of this Unit is \$32,500. The Town financed this purchase with a five year lease to purchase agreement at an annual cost of \$6,500. This article would appropriate the second of five installments.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Against)*

or to take any other action relative thereto:

TOWN MANAGER

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$355,190 from the Capital Stabilization Fund and transfer the sum of \$280,000 from Emergency Medical Services Receipts Reserved for a total of \$635,190 for the following capital items:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
EMS Ambulance	\$280,000	Fire/EMS
Forestry Unit Conversion	\$ 50,000	Fire/EMS
Pick-Up Truck	\$ 35,000	Highway Department
IT Infrastructure	\$ 40,000	Town Facilities
Building Security	\$ 30,000	Town Facilities
Roof Top Units	\$ 43,690	Library
Police Cruisers	\$120,000	Police Department
Rough Mower	\$ 10,000	Pool & Golf Center
Golf Carts	\$ 20,000	Pool & Golf Center
Boom Sprayer Unit	\$ 6,500	Pool & Golf Center
Total	\$635,190	

Moved and Seconded

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

Minutes:

- Q: What is the building security item?

- R: This item is part of a three year plan to enhance building security for the town buildings. The Public Safety Building is planned to be the first building to be upgraded with cameras and other security devices.
- Q: What position does the Finance Committee have on the building security expense?
 - R: Unanimous to support.
- Q: Money is being requested for the Country Club. What are the receipts form the Country Club?
 - R: There is a deficit of \$30,000 in FY14. The expectation each year is that the club break even. In the past 2 to 3 years it has run an approximate \$30,000 deficit.
- Q: We see a number of requests for remodeling and equipment. Can we afford this?
 - R: These are minimum investments to keep the club operational. The equipment money are payments on 5 year leases, at the end of which the town will own the equipment.

Vote: Article 6 - Main Motion passed by 2/3 Majority. 7 voters did not contest the ruling of the Chair.

ARTICLES 7 THROUGH 15 PERTAIN TO FISCAL YEAR 2014 BUSINESS

ARTICLE 7: CURRENT YEAR LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer certain sums of money within the Fiscal Year 2014 budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *To transfer money within the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget should the need arise. A handout explaining any necessary transfers will be available at Town Meeting.*

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer sums of money within the Fiscal Year 2014 Town Operating Budget, being the sums of money identified in the “**Transfer funds from**” line items designated in the Information Packet distributed to voters for this Town Meeting, said sums to be transferred to the various line items in the “**Transfer funds to**” categories designated within the Information Packet, the total amount to be transferred being \$305,845.

Transfer funds from:

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Amount To Be Transferred</u>
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1312 – Fire Department Expenses Encumbered	\$ 28,521
1370 – Police & Fire Communications - Wages	\$147,000
1501 – Highway Department – Wages	\$ 35,000
1701 – Country Club – Wages	\$ 26,156
1703 – Country Club – Minor Capital	\$ 1,000
2007 – Debt Service	<u>\$ 68,168</u>
Total	\$305,845

Transfer funds to:

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Amount Transferred To</u>
1030 – Town Manager – Salaries	\$ 2,000
1031 – Town Manager – Expenses	\$ 4,000
1060 – Board of Assessor – Salaries	\$ 500
1061 – Board of Assessor – Wages	\$ 700
1072 – Treasurer/Tax Collector – Expenses	\$ 2,000
1210 – Planning Board – Salaries	\$ 500
1250 – Mechanical Inspector – Fee Salaries	\$ 5,000
1251 – Mechanical Inspector – Expenses	\$ 1,500
1301 – Police Department – Wages	\$ 55,000
1302 – Police Department – Expenses	\$ 42,000
1311 – Fire Department – Wages	\$ 55,521
1312 – Fire Department – Expenses	\$ 25,000
1410 – Groton-Dunstable School District – Operating Expenses	\$ 513
1500 – Highway Department – Salaries	\$ 500
1502 – Highway Department – Expenses	\$ 35,000
1542 – Municipal Building & Property Maintenance – Minor Cap	\$ 10,000
1611 – Senior Center Van – Expenses	\$ 3,000
1660 – Library – Salary	\$ 3,020
1661 – Library – Wages	\$ 5,310
1700 – Country Club – Salary	\$ 94
1702 – Country Club – Expenses	\$ 42,687
3012 – Employee Benefits – Medicare/Social Security	<u>\$ 12,000</u>
Total	\$305,845

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 7 – Main Motion: Passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 8: 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 2014 Water Department Budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Board of Selectmen: *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 2014 budget. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.*

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Groton Water Department to transfer the sum of \$100,000 from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2014 Water Department Budget.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote: Article 8 – Main Motion passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 9: 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 2014 Sewer Enterprise Department budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Board of Selectmen: *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 2014 budget. More information will be provided at Town Meeting to explain any transfer requested under this article.*

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$100,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2014 Sewer Enterprise Department budget.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote: Article 9 – Main Motion passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 10: 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.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*
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.*

Mover: John Petropoulos

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

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 10 – Motion B passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 11: PERSONAL PROPERTY REVALUATION

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum or sums of money for the purpose of updating the Town's Personal property values beginning in Fiscal Year 2015, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Majority (3 In Favor, 2 Against)*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*
Board of Assessors: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Town of Groton received a directive from the Department of Revenue to rediscover, relist and revalue all business personal property accounts in the summer of 2014. The inspection program should include both taxable and exempt personal property accounts. All assets should be itemized on the personal property field card. This article would appropriate the necessary funding to accomplish this mandate from the DOR.*

Mover: Rena Swezey

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$10,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) for the purpose of updating the Town's Personal property values beginning in Fiscal Year 2015.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote: Article 11 – Main Motion passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 12: APPROPRIATE FUNDING FROM RECEIPTS RESERVED FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Receipts Reserved or Appropriation Fund to reimburse Line Item 1552 "Solid Waste Disposal Tipping Fees" of the Fiscal Year 2014 Operating Budget for expenses related to motor vehicle damage repair, or to take another action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *This past July, a 2005 Chevrolet C4500 owned by the Highway Department was involved in an accident that resulted in an insurance claim reimbursement of \$25,439. Pursuant to MGL c. 44, §53, sums in excess of \$20,000 recovered under the terms of a fire or physical damage insurance policy may not be used to restore or replace such property without specific appropriation. This transfer would allow the Town to reimburse the budget that was used to pay this bill earlier this Fiscal Year with insurance proceeds received from MIIA.*

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$25,439 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund to reimburse Line Item 1552 "Solid Waste Disposal Tipping Fees" of the Fiscal Year 2014 Operating Budget for expenses related to motor vehicle damage repair.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote: Article 12 – Main Motion passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 13: APPROPRIATE FUNDS FOR DEFICIT BALANCES IN GRANTS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from available funds to offset a deficit balance for the Fiscal Year 2012 Development Grant, and, further, to transfer a sum or sums of money from available funds to offset a deficit balance for the Fiscal Year 2012 911 Support and Incentive Grant, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *Over the last several years, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has awarded the Town of Groton grant money for upgrades and maintenance to our 911 Dispatch equipment.*

These are reimbursable grants and the award is not forwarded to the Town until after the expense has been made. In regards to the two grants noted above, the Commonwealth disallowed a small portion of the Town's reimbursement request after the vendors had been paid. These deficits must be cleared in order to close out the grants for the FY 14 year end.

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$8,678.30 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to offset a deficit balance for the Fiscal Year 2012 Development Grant and to offset a deficit balance for the Fiscal Year 2012 911 Support and Incentive Grant.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 13 – Main Motion passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 14: APPROPRIATE REIMBURSEMENT RECEIVED FROM SURETY

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund – reimbursement proceeds from the Center Fire Station Project bond surety – to the New Center Fire Station Project Account established pursuant to the vote under Article 1 of the January 26, 2013 Special Town Meeting, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the purpose of constructing, equipping and furnishing a new Center Fire Station and all other costs associated and related thereto, including construction administration, or to take another action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *Due to the inability to complete the Fire Station Construction Project, the Town terminated its agreement with TLT Construction Corporation, the contractor who was awarded the bid for the project, and took over the management and oversight of the project. The Town filed a bond claim against TLT with Western Surety, the insurance company holding the Performance Bond. To settle the bond claim and meet the financial needs of the project, the Surety paid the Town approximately \$249,000. The purpose of this article is to add this money to the construction funding so that it may be used to complete the construction of our new Center Fire Station.*

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$248,161.53 from the Receipts Reserved for Appropriation Fund – reimbursement proceeds from the Center Fire Station Project bond surety – to the New Center Fire Station Project Account established pursuant to the vote under Article 1 of the January 26, 2013 Special Town Meeting, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the purpose of constructing, equipping and furnishing a new Center Fire Station and all other costs associated and related thereto, including construction administration.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 14 – Main Motion passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 15: INSTALLATION OF ACCESSIBLE DOOR OPENERS AT LIBRARY

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow a sum or sums of money for the installation of accessible power assist door openers on the main entrance doors of the Public Library and all costs associated and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF LIBRARY TRUSTEES

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*
Library Trustees: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article is in response to the daily struggle of library visitors to enter the library. There are two sets of heavy doors to enter the building from the parking lot. Both require a free hand and the strength to pull two doors open. Visitors in wheelchairs or with mobility issues of any kind, parents with strollers, delivery personnel carrying packages, artists carrying artwork, performers bringing in equipment, and patrons carrying a large pile of books or simply a large coffee and a laptop bag – all have to successfully negotiate the double set of manual doors to enter the library. This article would fund the installation of handicap/power-assist openers on two main library doors – one interior and one exterior – at a cost of approximately \$9,000. Once the doors are installed, visitors would be able to press a button to open each door automatically. The doors would stay open for a short period of time to allow for easy, unimpeded entrance into (and exit from) the library.*

Mover: Mark Gerath

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$9,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) for the installation of accessible power assist door openers on the main entrance doors of the Public Library and all costs associated and related thereto.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 15 – Main Motion passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 16: NVTSD ACCELERATED ROOF REPAIR PROJECT

To see if the Town will approve the sum or sums of money authorized to be borrowed by the Nashoba Valley Technical School District, for the purpose of paying costs of the Accelerated Roof Repair Project at the Nashoba Valley Technical High School, located at 100 Littleton Road, Westford Massachusetts, 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 Nashoba Valley Technical School Committee, with the understanding 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; and that any grant that the District may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-two point twenty six percent (52.26%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; said amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the District and the MSBA, or to take any other action relative thereto.

NASHOBA VALLEY TECHNICAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The purpose of this article is to request that the Town of Groton approve the borrowing authorized by Nashoba Valley Technical School District (District) for the purpose of paying the costs of the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Accelerated Roof Repair Project at the Nashoba Valley Technical High School. The anticipated MSBA grant reimbursement rate is fifty-two point twenty-six percent (52.26%). District project costs in excess of the MSBA grant will be the responsibility of the Nashoba Valley Technical School District and its member towns.*

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town approve the \$2,802,362 (TWO MILLION EIGHT HUNDRED TWO THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED SIXTY TWO DOLLARS) borrowing authorized by the Nashoba Valley Technical School District, for the purpose of paying costs of the Accelerated Roof Repair Project at the Nashoba Valley Technical High School, located at 100 Littleton Road, Westford Massachusetts, 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 Nashoba Valley Technical School Committee; with the understanding 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-two point twenty-six percent (52.26%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; with the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote to 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

Minutes:

- Several questions and responses related to clarifying the cost to the Town.
- 48% of the total cost will be borne by the member towns, allocated by pupil enrollment percentage. MSBA will pay 52% of the project.
- The cost to Groton will be approximately \$8,000 to \$10,000 per year for 10 years.

Motion to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

**Vote: Article 16 Motion to move the Question failed to achieve 2/3rd Majority.
7 voters did not contest the ruling. Debate Continued.**

Vote: Article 16 – Main Motion passed Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 17: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE 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:	\$ 7,500
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 67,650
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 67,650
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 67,650
Unallocated Reserve:	\$466,050

or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Board of Selectmen: *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 2015. Except for the CPC Operating Expenses, none of these funds will be spent without additional approval at Town Meeting.*

Mover: Richard Hewitt

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:	\$ 7,500
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 67,650
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 67,650
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 67,650
Unallocated Reserve:	\$466,050

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 17 - Main Motion passed by Unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 18: 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 2015, 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 Board of Selectmen, 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.

CPC Proposal A: Ledge Rock Field \$41,000

Summary: *At last year's Spring Town Meeting, the Town appropriated \$900,000 for the construction of new playing fields known as Ledge Rock Fields. \$309,000 came from the Unallocated Reserve of the Community Preservation Fund. The purpose of this proposal is to seek an additional \$41,000 and use the additional funds to develop the plans to start the Site Plan Review Process with the Planning Board and make the project "shovel ready" which will improve the Town's chances of obtaining a grant from the Commonwealth to help fund the project.*

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously
Community Preservation Committee: Recommended Unanimously

MOTION 1: Ledge Rock Fields Mover: Gineane Haberlin

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$41,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2015-01 "Ledge Rock Fields", said funds to be available in Fiscal Year 2014.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Minutes:

- Jonathan Strauss, Park Commissioner, recommends that this project be deferred and not funded due to the financial status of the Town.
 - Engineering costs has been paid by user groups.
 - \$300,000 previously awarded fro this project by the CPC will be returned.
 - Recommends defeat of this motion.
- Q: Can this money be used to grow grass at Cutler Field?
 - R: No. This CPC money can only be spent upon the recommendation of the CPC and a subsequent town meeting vote. Money for grass operations could be applied to the CCP independently.

Vote: Article 18 – Motion 1 was defeated.

CPC Proposal B:**Mile Stone Restoration****\$23,000**

Summary: *In 1902/1903, 27 mile stone markers were installed along the main roadways leading into Groton Center. The Groton Historical Commission has conducted a thorough inventory of these markers and determined that seventeen (17) of these markers are in need of repair and restoration. Funding from this appropriation will be used to either reset, re-etch or rebuild these markers.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

MOTION 2: Mile Stone Restoration Project**Mover: Robert DeGroot**

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$23,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resource Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2015-04 "Mile Stone Restoration Project".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 18 – Motion 2 passed by Majority vote.

CPC Proposal C:**Conservation Fund****\$100,000**

Summary: *The Conservation Fund has been used by the Conservation Commission to purchase Conservation Restrictions and Agricultural Preservation Restrictions, and to purchase conservation land outright within the Town of Groton. Placing CPA funds into the Conservation Fund makes them instantly available to the Conservation Commission for acquiring open space that may be available for purchase for only a short period of time.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Not Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

MOTION 3: Conservation Land Fund**Mover: Richard Hewitt**

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$9,376.91 from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and to appropriate the sum of \$90,623.09 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$100,000 to fund Community Preservation Application 2015-05 "Conservation Land Fund".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Minutes:

- Conservation fund should be at \$750,000 to \$1.0 million. Currently it is a \$400,000.
- Finance Committee did not recommend unanimously. If the property was large or important enough, town meeting should vote on it.

- Sometimes, the Conservation Commission has to act more quickly or on a different timetable. The Finance Committee position does not consider this.
- Modern conservation land is conserved through partnerships and relationships with the State. The Conservation Commission has been very responsible. Properties are appraised and usually 60% are reimbursed.
- Open space is also good for households and taxes as services are less.
- Q: Can CPC money be used to preserve Prescott School?
 - R: Theoretically yes.
- Adding to conservation land can enhance connections to the 110 miles of trails.

Motion to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rd Majority

Vote: Motion to Move the Question passed by 2/3rd Majority

Vote on Article 18 – Motion 3: Passed by Majority vote

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Motion to Adjourn to 7:00 PM on May 5 at the Middle School Auditorium

Moved and Seconded

Meeting Adjourned by Majority vote at 10:34 PM

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Adjourned Session called to order on May 5, 2014 at 7:10 PM.

102 people were in attendance. 161 people were in attendance later in the meeting.

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Article 18 (continued)

CPC Proposal D:	Sargisson Beach Restoration	\$109,590
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Summary: *For the past several years, volunteers have spent countless hours cleaning and restoring Sargisson Beach. While this has been very effective, more attention is required therefore the Selectmen appointed the Sargisson Beach Committee. This project would take restoration of the property to the next level addressing severely undercut and eroding lake banks, creating improved fishing access to the deepest part of the Lake, repairing the existing stone wall and providing storm water runoff management to prevent further beach sand erosion. This project will provide improved open space and recreation access and protect the town of Groton's only public access to Lost Lake and Knopps Pond.*

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended Unanimously

MOTION 4: Sargisson Beach Restoration

Mover: Gineane Haberlin

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$109,590 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2015-06 "Sargisson Beach Restoration and Erosion Control".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Minutes:

- Andrew Davis gave a presentation on the beach restoration project.
- Groton Lakes Association is in support of Sargisson Beach restoration. Repairing the beach is a good complement to the recent weed control activities. Groton Lakes Association has donated \$5,000 to the beach work.
- Q: Why did this erosion occur?
 - R: Wave action and natural forces over time.
- Q: How much parking is available at Sargisson Beach?
 - R: Parking is not marked. Working to improve the parking.
- Q: Why is the water raised and lowered (via the dam)? Doesn't this cause the erosion?
 - R: The dam is not the issue. It has been in operation for 100 years. The 6 week raising and lowering process is to protect walls and docks. Waves created by the wind is the cause of the erosion.

Vote: Article 18 – Motion 4 passed by Majority vote.

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CPC Proposal E:

Country Club Driving Range

\$47,000

Summary: *The Driving Range at the Country Club is in need of refurbishment as it is in disrepair and is poorly configured. The range is not deep enough nor in good enough repair to allow patrons to practice using their driver or other woods. In addition, the tee box platforms are rotted and need to be replaced. The short depth of the range can be mitigated by replacing netting. This funding will be used to purchase and install new poles, cabling and netting, and replace rotted tee boxes to allow for greater use of the range.*

Board of Selectmen: Recommended By Majority Vote (4 In Favor, 1 Against)

Finance Committee: Recommended By Majority Vote (3 In Favor, 2 Against, 1 Abstain)

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended Unanimously

MOTION 5: Country Club Driving Range

Mover: Richard Hewitt

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$47,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2015-07 "Country Club Driving Range".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Minutes:

- Q: How much money will need to be invested in the Country Club before the Town realizes a return?
 - R: The Club loses \$30,000 per year. Reinvigoration of the driving range will reduce the loss. The goal of the new Golf Pro (Jim Tenant) is to make the golf operations sustainable.
- Q: The Finance Committee voted 3 in favor, 2 against and 1 abstain. What were the reasons members voted against?
 - R: Gary Green would like to see a strategic plan which would incorporate better utilization for townspeople, and more attractive overall for townspeople.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rd Majority

Vote: Motion to Move the Question passed by 2/3rd Majority

Vote: Article 18 – Motion 5 passed by Majority vote. 7 voters did not contest.

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CPC Proposal F: Housing Coordinator Increased Hours \$47,618

Summary: *The Town established the position of Housing Coordinator in 2009. Since that time, the Community Preservation Administrative Account has paid the salary of this position (currently at 19 hours). The purpose of this project would be to increase the position to 25 hours and cover all of the costs associated with the position (salary and benefits) from the Community Housing Reserve. Since 2009, the role and responsibility of the position have expanded considerably in serving the affordable housing needs of the community. A detailed job description of this position is available in the Office of the Board of Selectmen/Town Manager.*

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

MOTION 6: Affordable Housing Coordinator

Mover: Richard Hewitt

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$47,618 from the Community Preservation Fund Community Housing Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2015-11 “Affordable Housing Coordinator”.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 18 – Motion 6 passed by Majority vote.

ARTICLE 19: AMEND CHAPTER 215 OF THE CODE OF GROTON

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 215, "Wetlands", of the Code of the Town of Groton by deleting the current Chapter 215 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new Chapter 215, "Wetlands", a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Conservation Commission: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The article proposes revisions to Groton By-Law Chapter 215 to address the following: (1) to increase clarity for By-Law users; (2) to better align our By-Law with the requirements of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 131, § 40 ("Wetlands Protection Act") and evolving Massachusetts case law; and (3) to clarify standards for altered areas. Please see the back of the Warrant for a draft of the new proposed bylaw.*

Mover: **Stuart Schulman**

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend Chapter 215, "Wetlands", of the Code of the Town of Groton by deleting the current Chapter 215 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new Chapter 215, "Wetlands", as set forth in the copy on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: **Majority**

Minutes:

- Brooks Lyman offered an amendment:
I move to amend Article 19 by inserting the words: "that meets the definition of a Seasonal Wetland as defined in Section 215-9" after the word "water" at the end of Section 215-2.

Mr. Lyman stated that the purpose of the amendment was to ask that Section 215-9 be held to the Seasonal Wetland standard. Mr. Black, Mr. Morrison and others from the Wetland Protection Bylaw Committee voiced reservation on changing language in the bylaw, given that the bylaw sections are very dependent upon each other for meaning. The Committee had not seen this proposed change to the bylaw previously and had had no chance to study it.

MOTION to Move the Question of the Amendment:

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: **2/3rd Majority**

Vote: **Motion to Move the Amendment passed by 2/3rd Majority**

Vote: **Motion to Amend Article 19 was defeated**

Vote: **Article 19 – Main Motion passed by Majority vote**

ARTICLE 20: AMEND CHAPTER 205 OF THE CODE OF GROTON

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 205, "Vehicles, Unregistered" of the Code of the Town Groton by deleting the current Chapter 205 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new Chapter 205, "Vehicles, Unregistered", a copy of which is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *Groton Bylaw Chapter 205 was adopted by the Town in 1992 to "regulate and control unregistered and disassembled motor vehicles" within the Town to protect views along publicly traveled roads and minimize visual impact on neighborhoods. The purpose of the proposed replacement of Chapters 205 is to better define the conditions of permissible storage for unregistered vehicles and the process for obtaining a permit. Please see the back of the Warrant for a draft of the new proposed bylaw.*

AMEND CHAPTER 205 OF THE CODE

Mover: Jack Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend Chapter 205, "Vehicles, Unregistered" of the Code of the Town Groton by deleting the current Chapter 205 in its entirety, and replacing it with a new Chapter 205, "Vehicles, Unregistered", as set forth in the copy on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Minutes:

- Mr. Bouchard presented the changes proposed by the Bylaw Review Committee. He stated the existing bylaw was viewed as "unenforceable" by the Police Chief, and that changes were needed to remove the lack of clarity. The proposed bylaw defines terms, defines the time frame within which a violation would be deemed to start and clarifies the schedule of fines. He stated that the proposal added clarity, was more enforceable and more fair to residents.
- There were many questions from the floor about how specific situations would be treated under the proposal.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rd Majority

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

Vote: Article 20 – Main Motion was declared to pass by Majority vote. 7 voters contested the ruling. Counted vote 102 in favor; 59 opposed – Motion passed.

(Counters: Barry Pease, Michael Manugian, Connie Sartini, Robert Johnson, Eric

ARTICLE 21: SALE OR LEASE OF PRESCOTT SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and/or lease, for a period not to exceed 99 years, the building known as Prescott School, which comprises of approximately 27,330 square feet, and all or a portion of the 2.81 acre site on which it is located at 145 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts, to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said building, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended By Majority Vote (4 In Favor, 1 Against)*
Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (4 In Favor, 2 Against)*

Summary: *The Board of Selectmen has been working with the Prescott Re-Use Committee and the Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee to come up with a use for the former Prescott School which has been the home of the District Offices of the Regional School District for the past five years. A Request for Proposals issued last year sought proposals to convert the building into a hospitality use. Unfortunately due to market conditions, the Town did not receive any proposals. Recently, the Board of Selectmen was approached by a couple of different businesses expressing an interest in the building. The Board of Selectmen re-advertised the building for sale for any use other than housing. The purpose of this article is to present the successful proposal to Town Meeting for approval and disposal of the building. A full report will be made to the Spring Town Meeting.*

SALE OR LEASE OF PRESCOTT SCHOOL Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer to the Board of Selectmen, for the purpose of sale and/or lease, the custody and control of the building known as Prescott School, which comprises approximately 27,330 square feet, and all or a portion of the 2.81 acre site on which it is located at 145 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and/or lease such property for a period not to exceed 99 years, for a sum of not less than \$35,000, and to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said property, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation.

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

Minutes:

- Mr. Greg Yanchenko presented his plan to purchase and renovate the Prescott School building. It would be called Prescott Place. His plan is to move his businesses into part of the building, and lease space. He also planned to build 60 parking places to be used as a municipal lot and allow traditional activity such as tree sales and car washes to continue on the property.

- Prescott School Reuse Committee members both opposed and supported the proposal. Some members wished to retain the building for community use. Others thought that if the town were to sell the property for commercial use, this proposal was a good one.

MOTION to Indefinitely Postpone the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority

- One audience member did not favor the proposal. Suggestion was to move town offices into Prescott and sell town hall as a way to reinvigorate Station Avenue.
- Q: Can the town sell the property yet maintain control over what happens to it?
 - R: No. This proposal allows the town, after two years, to exercise eminent domain to reacquire the property at a cost of 2x the commercial investment.
- Q: Is the town getting fair market value for the property?
 - R: one member (realtor) thought “no”, and argued that the Central Registry is not an effective marketing tool for real estate as it does not get a wide circulation like an MLS listing would. Another member (realtor) substantiate that the commercial investment needed equated the fair value of the property, although the town doesn’t realize that money.
- General opinions were to retaining the building for community use for those against this proposal. Those favoring the proposal thought it was a good business use for the building that would complement the town character and help stimulate Groton center.
- Q: The Finance Committee voted 3-2 in favor. What was the dissenting opinion?
 - R: Mr. Green said that he “yes” votes were in support of what was thought to be a viable proposal. The “no” votes were due to a lack of details of the plan and questions about the sale amount (i.e. was it a fair market value?).

MOTION to Move the Question (to Indefinitely Postpone)

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rd Majority

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

**VOTE: Motion to Indefinitely Postpone was Defeated with 71 in favor and 76 against.
(Main Motion remained on the floor.)**

After some further debate involving general usage, legal and technical questions and potential costs for maintenance and rehabilitation for town use, another Motion to Move the Question was made:

MOTION to Move the Question (Main Motion)

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rd Majority

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

Vote: Article 21 Main Motion failed to achieve a 2/3rd Majority with a vote of 84 in favor of the Main Motion and 53 against.

Motion to Adjourn until May 12 at 7:00 at the Performing Arts Center

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority
Vote: Passed by Majority Vote

SECOND ADJOURNED SESSION was called to order at 7:00 PM on May 12, 2014. 123 voters attended the 2nd Adjourned Session.

ARTICLE 22: TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN FOR PRESCOTT SCHOOL SALE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to prepare and submit to the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council a certified project application for designation of the property known as the Prescott School located at 145 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts, and shown on Assessors' Map 113, Parcel 43, as an Economic Opportunity Area, pursuant to the provision of Chapter 23A of the General Laws; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a tax increment financing plan with Prescott Place, LLC pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 59 of the General Laws, in connection with the development of said property; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions as are necessary to obtain approval of the certified project application and to implement the tax increment financing plan, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommended By Majority Vote (4 In Favor, 1 Against)
Finance Committee: Recommended By Majority Vote (4 In Favor, 2 Against)

Summary: *A part of a proposal received for the sale of the Prescott School was a request from the Proposer "Prescott Place, LLC", to enter into a Tax Increment Financing Plan to help finance the proposed renovations to the Prescott School. This is similar to what was done with Capstone Properties when they renovated Rivercourt Residences. The Board of Selectmen is placing this article on the Warrant as a placeholder in the event it decides to move forward with the Proposal received from Prescott Place, LLC on the sale of the Prescott School. A more detailed explanation will be presented to Town Meeting should the Selectmen decide to move forward with this sale.*

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to prepare and submit to the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council a certified project application for designation of the property known as the Prescott School located at 145 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts, and shown on Assessors' Map 113, Parcel 43, as an Economic Opportunity Area, pursuant to the provision of Chapter 23A of the General Laws; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a tax increment financing plan with Prescott Place, LLC pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 59 of the General Laws, in connection with the development of said property; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions as are necessary to obtain approval of the certified project application and to implement the tax increment financing plan.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

I Move to Indefinitely Postpone this Article

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 22 – Motion to Indefinitely Postpone passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 23: SALE OR LEASE OF CENTER FIRE STATION

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and/or lease, for a period not to exceed 99 years, the building known as the Groton Center Fire Station, which comprises approximately 5,005 square feet, and all or a portion of the 0.26 acre site on which it is located at 20 Station Avenue, Groton, Massachusetts, to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said building, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommended By Majority Vote (4 In Favor, 1 Against)

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *With the new Center Fire Station on Farmers Row slated to be completed later this spring, the Town will no longer have a need for the current Center Fire Station on Station Avenue. The Board of Selectmen has issued an RFP for the sale of this building and hopes to have a final proposal for consideration at Town Meeting. The purpose of this article is to present the successful proposal to Town Meeting for approval and disposal of the Building. A full report will be made to the Spring Town Meeting.*

Mover: Stuart Schulman

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer to the Board of Selectmen, for the purpose of sale and/or lease, the custody and control of the building known as the Groton Center Fire Station, which comprises approximately 5,005 square feet, and all or a portion of the 0.26 acre site on which it is located at 20 Station Avenue, Groton, Massachusetts, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and/or lease such property for a period not to exceed 99 years, for a sum of not less than \$100,000, and to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said property, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation.

Moved and Seconded

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

Minutes:

- The Town received 5 bids. This was the superior bid. An ice cream shop, farm stand and bicycle shop are being proposed. The building will be renovated to a design that sympathizes with the original design of the building. The commercial interests will occupy the first floor. Public rest room will be available. The second floor may be renovated to a single residential unit. The proposal will need to undergo a site plan review and obtain a special permit.
- An intended consequence of this proposal is to stimulate Station Avenue activity and to provide services to the rail trail, including the public rest rooms.

- The Town will have a right to buyback if the plan doesn't come to fruition in 3 years.
- This proposal involves a local business person making a significant investment. The proposal enhances the rail trail and local agriculture.
- Planning Board (Carolyn Perkins): the Planning Board voted unanimously to support this proposal.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rd Majority

Vote: Motion to Move the Question passed by 2/3 Majority.

Vote: Article 23 – Main Motion passed by 2/3 Majority.

**ARTICLE 24: REZONE PARCEL 101-22 FROM PUBLIC USE
TO RESIDENTIAL – AGRICULTURAL “R-A”**

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Map established under Chapter 218 of the Code of the Town of Groton to rezone from Public Use (P) to Residential-Agricultural (R-A) a parcel of land located at 33 West Main Street consisting of approximately 0.28 acres, being shown on Assessors' Map 101 as Parcel 22, or take to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Summary: *Currently, Squannacook Hall is zoned for public use because it is owned by the Town and was used for municipal purposes. The Board of Selectmen has solicited proposals for the sale of Squannacook Hall and has received one proposal for its re-use (please see Article 27 for further explanation). Since the building will no longer be used for municipal purposes, it should be rezoned accordingly.*

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Zoning Map established under Chapter 218 of the Code of the Town of Groton, section 218-9, to rezone from Public Use (P) to Residential-Agricultural (R-A) a parcel of land located at 33 West Main Street consisting of approximately 0.28 acres, being shown on Assessors' Map 101 as Parcel 22.

Moved and Seconded

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

Minutes:

- Mr. Platt presented that an agreement was reached with the church with regards to parking.

- Planning Board (George Barringer): The Planning Board voted to support Articles 24 and 25 as good adaptive reuse of the building. The building will be added back onto the tax rolls.

Vote: Article 24 – Main Motion passed by a 2/3rd Majority.

ARTICLE 25: CONCEPT PLAN APPROVAL – 33 WEST MAIN STREET

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to Section 218-27.C of the Zoning Bylaw regarding Planned Multi-Family Residential Development, to approve the concept plan entitled “Re-Development of Squannacook Hall” for planned multi-family/residential development for the land owned by the Town of Groton located at 33 West Main Street, and shown on Assessors’ Map 101 as Parcel 22, which plan is on file with the Town Clerk, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Summary: *As discussed in Articles 24 and 27, the Board of Selectmen has solicited proposals for the sale of Squannacook Hall through the Request for Proposals process and has received one proposal to convert the building into four (4) residential rental units. Pursuant to our Zoning Bylaw, this type of use requires concept plan approval at Town Meeting for a planned multi-family residential development.*

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Section 218-27.C of the Zoning Bylaw regarding Planned Multi-Family Residential Development, to approve the concept plan entitled “Re-Development of Squannacook Hall” for planned multi-family/residential development for the land owned by the Town of Groton located at 33 West Main Street, and shown on Assessors’ Map 101 as Parcel 22, which plan is on file with the Town Clerk.

Moved and Seconded

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

Minutes:

- Planning Board (George Barringer): The Planning Board voted to support Articles 24 and 25 as good adaptive reuse of the building. The building will be added back onto the tax rolls.

Vote: Article 25 – Main Motion passed by 2/3rd Majority.

ARTICLE 26: REPAIR SEPTIC SYSTEM AT SQUANNACOOK HALL

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 repair the septic system at Squannacook Hall located on West Main Street in West Groton, and for all costs associated and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Abstain)*

Summary: *Please see the summary in Article 27. During the negotiations with the prospective buyer of Squannacook Hall, the Board of Selectmen has agreed to repair the Septic System as part of the purchase and sale agreement. The estimated cost of the repair is \$30,000. By selling this building and putting it on the tax rolls, the Town will receive an estimated \$10,000 a year in taxes. The Board of Selectmen believes it is reasonable to invest in a new system to allow the sale to move forward, with an anticipated three year period to recoup the cost of the system.*

Mover: Ann Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$30,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager, to repair the septic system at Squannacook Hall located on West Main Street in West Groton, and for all costs associated and related thereto.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote: Article 26 – Main Motion passed by Majority vote.

ARTICLE 27: SALE OR LEASE OF SQUANNACOOK HALL

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and/or lease, for a period not to exceed 99 years, the building known as Squannacook Hall, which comprises of approximately 4,402 square feet, and all or a portion of the 0.28 acre site on which it is located at 33 West Main Street, West Groton, Massachusetts, to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said building, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Abstain)*

Summary: *Squannacook Hall has been vacant for the past four years. A re-use study was completed four years ago for the future use of the Building. However, due to cost and lack of a viable septic system, no action was taken on the proposed rehabilitation. The Town has successfully designed a Title V septic system that was permitted by the Board of Health. Based on this, the Board of Selectmen issued a Request for Proposals for the disposition of the Building. The Town received one proposal to convert Squannacook Hall into four (4) residential*

rental units and rent the building for the next twenty (20) years. The purpose of this article is to present the proposal in more detail to the Town Meeting for approval of the disposition of the Building. A full report will be made to the Spring Town Meeting.

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of sale, and authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell, for a sum of not less than \$100, the Town-owned building known as Squannacook Hall, which comprises approximately 4,402 square feet, and all or a portion of the 0.28 acre site on which it is located at 33 West Main Street, West Groton, Massachusetts, to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said building, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation.

Moved and Seconded

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

Minutes:

- Members expressed surprise over a selling price of \$100, and the town will install a new septic system. The town is making this investment in order to be able to sell the building and put it back on the tax rolls. Mr. Platt will invest approximately \$500,000 to improve the building into 4 apartment units.

VOTE: Article 27 – Main Motion passed by 2/3rd Majority.

ARTICLE 28: AMEND CHAPTER 190 OF THE CODE OF GROTON

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 190 of the Groton Code by deleting Sections 190-1 and Section 190-2 ("The Mandatory Sewer Hookup Bylaw") and replacing them with the following sections:

§ 190 - 1 Connections Required.

The owner or occupant of a building situated within the Groton Center Sewer System (the Sewer System), as it may be amended, shall:

A. In the case of an existing building within the Sewer System as of the effective date of this article, connect said building to the sewer with an effective drain within six months of said effective date or, in the case of an extension of the Sewer System within two years of the date when said sewer is available for such connection.

B. In the case of a new building within the Sewer System constructed after the effective date of this article, or in the case of renovation of a building which would trigger the requirement to upgrade a subsurface sewage disposal system under the provisions of Title 5 of the State Environmental Code (310 CMR 15.000) or any successor regulation, connect said building to the sewer prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy by the Building Inspector.

C. Authority

The Groton Sewer Commission and the Groton Board of Health shall both be responsible for enforcement and oversight of Sections 190-1 and 190-2 and may act independently and cooperatively within their respective areas of responsibility. The Groton Sewer Commission shall provide administrative services, such as maintenance of connection records for properties within the Sewer System and issuance of notices to property owners. The Groton Board of Health shall address matters of compliance and act upon applications for variances.

§ 190 – 2 Variance.

A variance from the connection requirement may be granted by the Board of Health for any one of the following reasons:

A. That said land by reason of its grade or level or any other cause cannot be drained into such sewer, or that a connection is economically unfeasible (defined as the cost of connection being in excess of 10% of the assessed value of the subject property). The applicant shall provide sufficient documentary evidence that a connection is not a feasible option; or

B. In the case of property used for residential purposes, that the buildings on said land are served by a private on-site subsurface sewage disposal system which was issued a Certificate of Compliance in accordance with the provisions of said Title 5 as in effect on or after March 31, 1995 and, after an inspection as defined in 310 CMR 15.302, is determined not to be failing to protect public health and safety and the environment as defined in 310 CMR 15.303. Such variance shall continue for a period of three years, provided the subsurface sewage disposal system is pumped once a year during said three years, or for a period of two years if the system has not been so pumped. After such time period the system shall be re-inspected and an additional variance may be granted if the re-inspection determines the system is not failing to protect public health and safety and the environment as defined in 310 CMR 15.303. Any variance granted under this sub-section shall expire upon the “transfer of title” to the property served by the system, as defined in 310 CMR 15.301, and the property shall be connected no later than 90 days after the date of the transfer of title.

C. In the case of property used for non-residential purposes, that the buildings on said property are served by a private on-site subsurface sewage disposal system which was issued a Certificate of Compliance in accordance with the provisions of said Title 5 as in effect on or after March 31, 1995 and, after an inspection as defined in 310 CMR 15.302, is determined not to be failing to protect public health and safety and the environment as defined in 310 CMR 15.303. Such variance shall expire after one year. After such time period the subsurface sewage disposal system shall be re-inspected and a variance may be granted if the re-inspection determines the system is not failing to protect public health and safety and the environment as defined in 310 CMR 15.303. Any variance granted under this sub-section shall expire upon the “transfer of title” to the property served by the system, as defined in 310 CMR 15.301, and the property shall be connected no later than 90 days after the date of the transfer of title.

D. In the event that the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection or successor entity institutes a set of requirements for subsurface sewage disposal system

performance stricter than those set forth in the then current version of said Title 5, any variances granted hereunder shall NOT be considered as exempting the applicable disposal system from the connection requirement. Instead, in that case, any existing systems with variances must either meet the new requirements or the property must be connected to the Sewer System. Such mandatory connections shall be made within 90 days of the effective date of the new requirements for commercial properties or six months of said effective date for residential properties.

E. The Board of Health may review any Title 5 inspection and any approved subsurface sewage disposal works permit to determine if a subsurface sewage disposal system is protective of public health and safety and the environment in considering any variance request.

F. A Notice of any variance granted hereunder shall be recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds and evidence thereof provided to the Board of Health. Such Notice shall state that the variance shall expire upon the "transfer of title" as defined in 310 CMR 15.301.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Sewer Commission: *Recommended Unanimously*

Board of Health: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *Since the adoption of the original bylaw, Title 5 adopted criteria requirements for inspection. This article allows a variance from the requirement to hook up if the property owner demonstrates through a Title 5 inspection that their on-site subsurface sewage disposal system is determined not to be failing to protect public health and safety and the environment as defined in Title 5, 310 CMR 15.303.*

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend Chapter 190 of the Groton Code by deleting Sections 190-1 and Section 190-2 ("The Mandatory Sewer Hookup Bylaw") and replacing them with new Section 190-1 and Section 190-2, as set forth in the Warrant for this Town Meeting.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Minutes:

- Mr. Orcutt explained that this bylaw update removes the old sections of Chapter 190 and replaces it with language more consistent with later versions of Title V.
- The current bylaw requires a hookup to sewer within 2 years. The proposed amendment allows for a functioning septic, certified by a Title V inspection, to receive a waiver.
- Mr. Gmeiner stated that the proposal gives a fair way to assess the need for a particular sewer connection requirement.
- Betterments are not affected by either bylaw version.

MOTION to Indefinitely Postpone
Moved and Seconded
Quantum: Majority

After some further discussion, **MOTION to Move the QUESTION (Indefinitely Postpone):**
Moved and Seconded
Quantum: 2/3 Majority
Vote: Motion to Move the Question passed by 2/3rd Majority

VOTE: Motion to Indefinitely Postpone was defeated with 54 against, 53 in favor

MOTION to Move the Question (Main Motion)
Moved and Seconded
Quantum: 2/3 Majority
Vote: Motion to Move the Question (Main Motion) passed by 2/3rd Majority

VOTE: Article 28 – Main Motion passed by Majority vote. 7 voters did not contest.

THE FOLLOWING ARTICLES WILL BE PART OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. PLEASE SEE EXPLANATION PROVIDED BY THE TOWN MODERATOR AT THE END OF ARTICLE 34.

ARTICLE 29: APPLY FOR GRANTS

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to apply for Federal and State Grants for which the Town is or may be eligible and to expend the funds received thereunder, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Abstain)*

Summary: *To allow the Board of Selectmen to apply for grants that may become available during the year.*

ARTICLE 30: 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 2015 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

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Abstain)*

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 2015 is \$486,475.*

ARTICLE 31: STORMWATER MANAGEMENT REVOLVING FUND

To see if the Town will vote to renew the revolving account under Chapter 44, §53E½ of the General Laws for the purpose of utilizing receipts and fees received under Chapter 198 of the Code of the Town of Groton, Stormwater Management - Low Impact Development, said receipts and fees to be credited to said account and expended by the Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee for administration, oversight and review activities under Chapter 198, with the maximum amount to be expended in said account not to exceed \$10,000 for Fiscal Year 2015, or to take any other action relative thereto.

STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Abstain)*

Summary: *This article reauthorizes the use of the revolving fund for technical review and processing of applications submitted under Chapter 198, Stormwater Management - Low Impact Development.*

ARTICLE 32: CONSERVATION COMMISSION REVOLVING FUND

To see if the Town will vote to renew the revolving account under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, §53E½ for the purpose of utilizing receipts and fees received for agricultural or silvicultural activities conducted on Town-owned conservation land under the care and custody of the Conservation Commission, said receipts and fees to be credited to said account and expended by the Conservation Commission for oversight and management of conservation lands owned by the Town, with the maximum amount in said account not to exceed \$50,000 for Fiscal Year 2015, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Abstain)*

Summary: *This article reauthorizes the use of the revolving fund (established in 2007) for the management of conservation land in Groton. Reauthorization allows for reduced fees for management of conservation lands in Groton.*

ARTICLE 33: AFFORDABLE HOUSING REVOLVING FUND

To see if the Town will vote to renew, under the authority of the Town Manager, a revolving account under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, §53E½ for the receipt of revenue and funding of expenses related to marketing and monitoring Affordable Housing units within developments in the Town, said revenue, in the form of receipts and fees, to be credited to said account and expended by the Town Manager for this purpose, with the maximum amount in said account not to exceed \$50,000 for Fiscal Year 2015, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Abstain)*

Summary: *A revolving fund is a tool used by cities and towns to allow a particular department or board to account for its revenues and expenses for particular programs separately from the General Fund. Program expenses can be directly offset by related revenue taken in, and expenditure of those monies requires no additional appropriation. Revolving funds must be authorized annually by Town Meeting at which time spending limits are established. This particular fund will utilize revenue collected in connection with land development for the purpose of promoting occupancy of affordable housing units as they become available. The funds will be spent largely on marketing and monitoring functions.*

ARTICLE 34: ACCEPT LAW INCREASING REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTION

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Section 4, Chapter 73 of the Acts of 1986, as amended by Chapter 126 of the Acts of 1988, to allow an additional property tax exemption for Fiscal Year 2015 for those persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, Section 5, not to exceed \$1,000, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended By Majority Vote (5 In Favor, 1 Abstain)*

Summary: *This article is geared toward elderly persons, blind persons and veterans with service connected disabilities. It would increase the exemption under state statute up to 100% of the exemption.*

CONSENT AGENDA MOTION – Articles 29 through 34

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each, and that, with

respect to Article 30, the Town appropriate, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of \$90,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and the sum of \$396,475 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$486,475 to fund the Surrenden Farm debt service for Fiscal Year 2015; 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

Vote: Articles 29 through 34 Consent Agenda passed by Majority vote.

MOTION to Dissolve the Spring 2014 Annual Town Meeting

Moved and Seconded

Vote: the Meeting was dissolved by Majority vote at 8:28 on May 12.

Moderator Introducing Consent Agenda to Save Time at Town Meeting

In order 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 Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. Articles that change by-laws, introduce new spending or require more than a majority vote are ineligible.

In this warrant, Articles 30 to 35 have been identified by the moderator as being appropriate for the consent agenda. At Town Meeting, voters will receive a handout with the final consent agenda, as changes are possible between the time of this writing and April 28.

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 to the moderator so that he or she may be called upon later to address the article.

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 note whether there are any they wish to "hold." A voter can then state "hold" when the moderator calls the article number and title to remove it from the consent agenda.

Any voter with questions about Town Meeting procedure may call Town Moderator Jason Kauppi at (978) 448-6421 or email him at jasonkauppi@gmail.com.

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 7th Day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen.

Peter S. Cunningham

Peter S. Cunningham, Chairman

Joshua A. Degen

Joshua A. Degen, Vice-Chairman

Anna Eliot

Anna Eliot, Clerk

Stuart M. Schulman

Stuart M. Schulman, Member

John G. Petropoulos

John G. Petropoulos, 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

TOWN MANAGER

TOWN OF GROTON

FISCAL YEAR 2015

Pursuant to Article 6, Sections 6-3 and 6-4 of the Charter of the Town of Groton, Massachusetts, the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and Town Manager are pleased to submit for your consideration the Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget for the Town of Groton. When the proposed budget was originally submitted by the Town Manager to the Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen, the Groton Dunstable Regional School District had not yet completed its budget. As has been my history over the last six budget cycles, I developed a budget, in conjunction with my Finance Team, that made decisions based on incorporating a two and one half (2½%) percent increase. The original budget contained proposals developed with the intent to improve the delivery of services, while still remaining well under the anticipated FY 2015 Levy Limit. That said, the needs of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District to maintain services far outweighed the need to improve the delivery of services within the Municipal Budget.

The Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and I worked very hard to meet the needs of the School District without making major cuts to the Municipal Budget and negatively impacting services. Due to strong budgeting over the last several years, the Town was in the unique position to develop strategies to meet the needs of the School District. My Finance Team and I proposed a multi-level plan that was accepted by both the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. The Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee developed a level services budget that required an increased assessment from the Town of Groton of \$1,403,699 or 8.58%. To meet this assessment, several changes in the Municipal Budget had to be made.

To begin with, the original proposed budget had already set aside \$378,000 in new spending for the Regional School District. Next, at the request of and in conjunction with the Finance Committee, I developed reductions in the Municipal Budget Request in the amount of \$300,000. To meet this, I proposed that any new funding proposals be eliminated, along with minor reductions in current spending. These reductions were proposed with an effort to maintain the same level of services. The one major reduction would be to rescind the vote to join the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project in FY 2015, saving approximately \$73,000. The Town Meeting will be asked to take this action under Article 4 at Town Meeting. In addition, the original proposed budget was approximately \$402,000 under the anticipated FY 2015 Levy Limit. These three areas alone developed approximately \$1,000,000 in revenues to help fund the assessment of the School Budget. However, the Town was still \$400,000 shy of meeting the assessment. To make further reductions in the municipal budget of this magnitude would have severely impacted Municipal Services.

Therefore, I proposed that the Town consider excluding the debt service associated with the New Center Fire Station. When we originally proposed this project to Town Meeting, we developed a budget that allowed the Town to fund the debt service within the operating budget

and the limitations of Proposition 2½. At that time, we informed the Town Meeting that if the need arose, we could ask the voters to consider excluding that debt to meet any important need of the Town. A strong school department providing a strong education to our children is clearly an important need. The Board of Selectmen agreed to put this question before the voters, and on April 1, 2014, the Town of Groton voters approved the question to exclude the debt service providing the additional \$400,000 needed to fund the assessment of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District.

While we were able to meet the assessment of the School District, there are still a couple of areas I would like to address with regard to the Municipal Budget. For the past several fiscal years, we have not adequately funded the Police Department Wage Account. Both Town Meeting and the Finance Committee have been asked to appropriate additional funds each spring (either a line item transfer or Reserve Fund Transfer) to fully fund this account. Due to the timing of setting the budget and the way additional wage issues were budgeted, the Police Wage Account has never fully accounted for contractually obligated increases, overtime coverage or reserve police officers. This has caused deficits in each of the last two fiscal years of between \$80,000 and \$120,000 in that Account. The Fiscal Year 2015 Proposed Operating budget attempts to fully fund the Police Wage Account at the onset. Similarly, we did a review of the Fire Department Wage Account to meet the anticipated impacts of the new Collective Bargaining Agreement. The proposed budget addresses this issue as well. My Finance Team and I will closely monitor these budgets to ensure that adequate funding is provided throughout Fiscal Year 2015.

The Town now has seven (7) Collective Bargaining Units. All Agreements run through June 30, 2015. In FY 2015, they all call for a two (2%) percent wage adjustment. Please note that the Supervisors' Union Agreement calls for a two (2%) percent adjustment on June 30, 2014 that does not pay any additional wages in FY 2014, but will impact the two (2%) percent wage adjustment in FY 2015. Having agreements with all of our unions has allowed us to maintain a stable work force and provide a solid budgetary forecast in FY 2015. I have recommended, and the Board of Selectmen and Personnel Board have agreed, that the remaining three (3) By-Law employees receive the same adjustment as the Supervisors Union. This will be the second year that we have implemented the performance incentive program for several of our union employees, as well as our By-Law employees. This program allows employees to earn up to an additional two (2%) percent wage increase based on a review of their performance by their department manager. I am pleased to report that this program continues to be very successful. The Fiscal Year 2015 financial impact of the negotiated and recommended wage adjustment, along with the performance incentive program is as follows:

Total Needed for Wage Adjustment	\$158,834
Total Needed for Performance Incentive	<u>\$ 34,018</u>
Total Budgetary Impact:	\$192,852

The following is a breakdown of the proposed FY 2015 Town Operating Budget by function:

FY 2014	FY 2015	Dollar	Percent
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<u>Function</u>	<u>Appropriation</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>Change</u>
General Government	\$ 1,746,272	\$ 1,762,762	\$ 16,490	0.94%
Land Use Departments	\$ 404,148	\$ 407,038	\$ 2,890	0.72%
Protection Persons & Property	\$ 3,118,168	\$ 3,283,910	\$ 165,742	5.32%
Department of Public Works	\$ 2,036,669	\$ 2,042,784	\$ 6,115	0.30%
Library and Citizens Services	\$ 1,606,721	\$ 1,633,141	\$ 26,420	1.64%
Debt Service	\$ 1,532,019	\$ 1,418,721	\$(113,298)	-7.40%
Employee Benefits	\$ 3,092,424	\$ 3,171,724	\$ 79,300	2.56%
Municipal Government Total	\$13,536,421	\$13,720,080	\$183,659	1.35%
Nashoba Technical High	\$ 468,592	\$ 572,775	\$ 104,183	22.23%
Groton Dunstable Schools	\$16,352,324	\$17,756,023	\$1,403,699	8.58%
School Department Total	\$16,820,916	\$18,328,798	\$1,507,882	8.96%
TOTAL FY 2015 BUDGET	\$30,357,337	\$32,048,878	\$1,691,541	5.57%

The total Proposed Fiscal Year 2015 Proposed Operating Budget, including Regional School Assessments and excluded debt, is \$32,048,878 or an increase of 5.57%. This proposed budget is \$74,780 under the anticipated FY 2015 Proposition 2½ Levy Limit. When you take into consideration the proposed Capital Budget and additional appropriations raised on the recap sheet, the total proposed budget is \$33,240,844. The Fiscal Year 2014 Tax Rate has been certified at \$17.38. Based on the proposed Budget, the estimated Tax Rate in Fiscal Year 2015 is \$18.40, or an increase of \$1.02. In Fiscal Year 2014, the average Tax Bill in the Town of Groton (based on a home valued at \$400,000) is \$6,952. Under this proposed budget, that same homeowner can expect a tax bill of \$7,360 or an increase of \$408. The following chart shows a comparison between FY 2014 and FY 2015:

	<u>Actual FY 2014</u>	<u>Proposed FY 2015</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Levy Amount	\$24,260,190	\$25,703,296	\$1,443,106	5.94%
Tax Rate On Levy	\$16.03	\$16.81	\$0.78	4.86%
Average Tax Bill	\$6,412	\$6,724	\$312	4.86%
Excluded Debt	\$2,049,772	\$2,433,390	\$383,618	18.72%
Tax Rate On Excluded Debt	\$1.35	\$1.59	\$0.24	17.78%
Average Tax Bill	\$540	\$636	\$96	17.78%
Final Levy Amount	\$26,309,962	\$28,136,686	\$1,826,724	6.94%
Final Tax Rate	\$17.38	\$18.40	\$1.02	5.86%
Average Tax Bill	\$6,952	\$7,360	\$408	5.86%

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee, Town Accountant Patricia DuFresne, Town Treasurer/Collector Michael Hartnett, Principal Assessor Rena Swezey 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 of Schools Anthony Bent, Assistant Superintendent Kerry Clery, Business Manager Jared Stanton and the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Committee was extremely important in developing a budget that allowed us to maintain services for our residents.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Haddad

Groton Town Manager

			TOWN OF GROTON FISCAL YEAR 2015 REVENUE ESTIMATES		
			BUDGETED FY 2014	ESTIMATED FY 2015	CHANGE
PROPERTY TAX REVENUE			\$ 24,895,001	\$ 25,778,076	\$ 883,075
DEBT EXCLUSIONS			\$ 2,049,772	\$ 2,433,390	\$ 383,618
CHERRY SHEET - STATE AID			\$ 818,909	\$ 805,868	\$ (13,041)
UNEXPENDED TAX CAPACITY			\$ (634,811)	\$ (74,780)	\$ 560,031
LOCAL RECEIPTS:					
General Revenue:					
	Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes		\$ 1,285,000	\$ 1,325,000	\$ 40,000
	Penalties & Interest on Taxes		\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ -
	Payments in Lieu of Taxes		\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	\$ -
	Other Charges for Services		\$ 66,500	\$ 89,100	\$ 22,600
	Fees		\$ 414,000	\$ 375,000	\$ (39,000)
	Rentals		\$ 27,000	\$ 25,000	\$ (2,000)
	Library Revenues		\$ 15,000	\$ 12,000	\$ (3,000)
	Other Departmental Revenue		\$ 492,000	\$ 525,000	\$ 33,000
	Licenses and Permits		\$ 256,000	\$ 275,000	\$ 19,000
	Fines and Forfeits		\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ -
	Investment Income		\$ 6,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 4,000
	Recreation Revenues		\$ 550,000	\$ 550,000	\$ -
	Miscellaneous Non-Recurring		\$ -		\$ -
	Sub-total - General Revenue		\$ 3,413,500	\$ 3,488,100	\$ 74,600
Other Revenue:					
	Free Cash		\$ 100,000		\$ (100,000)
	Stabilization Fund for Minor Capital		\$ -		\$ -
	Stabilization Fund for Tax Rate Relief		\$ -		\$ -
	Capital Asset Stabilization Fund		\$ 369,500	\$ 355,190	\$ (14,310)
	EMS/Conservation Fund Receipts Reserve		\$ 200,000	\$ 455,000	\$ 255,000
	Community Preservation Funds		\$ -		\$ -
	Water Department Surplus		\$ -		\$ -
	Sewer Department Surplus		\$ -		\$ -
	Insurance Reimbursements		\$ 22,000		\$ (22,000)
	Encumbrances		\$ -		\$ -
	Sub-total - Other Revenue		\$ 691,500	\$ 810,190	\$ 118,690
WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE			\$ 1,004,768	\$ 979,622	\$ (25,146)
SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE			\$ 836,687	\$ 673,166	\$ (163,521)
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE			\$ 33,075,326	\$ 34,893,632	\$ 1,818,306

TOWN OF GROTON		
FISCAL YEAR 2015		
TAX LEVY CALCULATIONS		
FY 2015 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		
Town Manager Proposed Budget		
General Government	\$	1,762,762
Land Use Departments	\$	407,038
Protection of Persons and Property	\$	3,283,910
Regional School Districts	\$	18,328,798
Department of Public Works	\$	2,042,784
Library and Citizen Services	\$	1,633,141
Debt Service	\$	1,418,721
Employee Benefits	\$	3,171,724
A. TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS		\$ 32,048,878
B. CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS		\$ 635,190
C. ENTERPRISE FUND REQUESTS		\$ 1,652,788
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	\$	1,000
5. Total cherry sheet offsets	\$	-
6. Revenue deficits	\$	-
7. Offset Receipts	\$	20,000
8. Authorized deferral of Teachers' Pay	\$	-
9. Snow and Ice deficit	\$	200,000
10. Other		
E. TOTAL OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED		\$ 221,000
F. STATE AND COUNTY CHERRY SHEET CHARGES		\$ 110,776
G. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS		\$ 225,000
TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES		\$ 34,893,632
FY 2015 ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		
ESTIMATED TAX LEVY		
Levy Limit	\$	25,778,076
Debt Exclusion	\$	2,433,390
A. ESTIMATED TAX LEVY		\$ 28,211,466
B. CHERRY SHEET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		\$ 805,868
C. LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED		\$ 3,488,100
C. OFFSET RECEIPTS		\$ -
D. ENTERPRISE FUNDS		\$ 1,652,788
E. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS		\$ -
F. FREE CASH		\$ -
OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS		
1. Stabilization Fund		
2. Capital Asset Fund	\$	355,190
3. EMS/Conservation Fund	\$	455,000
G. OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS		\$ 810,190
TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS		\$ 34,968,412
FY 2015 SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		\$ 74,780

APPENDIX A			TOWN OF GROTON						
			FISCAL YEAR 2015						
				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015	
		FY 2013	FY 2014	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	\$ 54	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%	
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 119	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 145	0.00%	\$ 0.03	0.00%	
BOARD OF SELECTMEN									
1020	Salaries	\$ 3,950	\$ 3,950	\$ 3,950	\$ 3,950	0.00%	\$ 0.87	0.01%	
1021	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	
1022	Expenses	\$ 1,376	\$ 1,900	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	5.26%	\$ 0.44	0.01%	
1023	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	
1024	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 5,326	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,950	\$ 5,950	1.71%	\$ 1.31	0.02%	
TOWN MANAGER									
1030	Salaries	\$ 172,069	\$ 179,021	\$ 183,649	\$ 183,649	2.59%	\$ 40.66	0.55%	
1031	Wages	\$ 65,848	\$ 82,060	\$ 84,191	\$ 84,191	2.60%	\$ 18.64	0.25%	
1032	Expenses	\$ 2,797	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	10.00%	\$ 0.73	0.01%	
1033	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	
1034	Performance Evaluations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%	
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 240,714	\$ 264,081	\$ 271,140	\$ 271,140	2.67%	\$ 60.03	0.81%	

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
FINANCE COMMITTEE								
1040	Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1041	Reserve Fund	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	0.00%	\$ 33.21	0.45%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ -	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	0.00%	\$ 33.21	0.45%
TOWN ACCOUNTANT								
1050	Salaries	\$ 104,468	\$ 70,227	\$ 73,064	\$ 73,064	4.04%	\$ 16.18	0.22%
1051	Wages	\$ 30,585	\$ 31,780	\$ 33,065	\$ 33,065	4.04%	\$ 7.32	0.10%
1052	Expenses	\$ 33,427	\$ 31,600	\$ 30,560	\$ 30,560	-3.29%	\$ 6.77	0.09%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 168,480	\$ 133,607	\$ 136,689	\$ 136,689	2.31%	\$ 30.27	0.41%
BOARD OF ASSESSORS								
1060	Salaries	\$ 77,381	\$ 79,637	\$ 83,246	\$ 83,246	4.53%	\$ 18.43	0.25%
1061	Wages	\$ 78,328	\$ 84,950	\$ 87,696	\$ 87,696	3.23%	\$ 19.42	0.26%
1062	Expenses	\$ 12,217	\$ 17,475	\$ 18,250	\$ 18,250	4.43%	\$ 4.04	0.05%
1063	Legal Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 167,926	\$ 182,062	\$ 189,192	\$ 189,192	3.92%	\$ 41.89	0.56%
TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR								
1070	Salaries	\$ 53,919	\$ 77,719	\$ 79,273	\$ 79,273	2.00%	\$ 17.55	0.24%
1071	Wages	\$ 102,259	\$ 112,738	\$ 92,471	\$ 92,471	-17.98%	\$ 20.47	0.28%
1072	Expenses	\$ 18,732	\$ 18,840	\$ 18,774	\$ 18,774	-0.35%	\$ 4.16	0.06%
1073	Tax Title	\$ 2,112	\$ 8,100	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	-25.93%	\$ 1.33	0.02%
1074	Bond Cost	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	0.00%	\$ 0.55	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 179,522	\$ 219,897	\$ 199,018	\$ 199,018	-9.49%	\$ 44.06	0.61%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	TOWN COUNSEL							
1080	Expenses	\$ 60,765	\$ 90,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	-16.67%	\$ 16.61	0.23%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 60,765	\$ 90,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	-16.67%	\$ 16.61	0.23%
	HUMAN RESOURCES							
1090	Salary	\$ 51,927	\$ 68,624	\$ 71,396	\$ 71,396	4.04%	\$ 15.81	0.21%
1091	Expenses	\$ 4,942	\$ 4,750	\$ 4,450	\$ 4,450	-6.32%	\$ 0.99	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 56,869	\$ 73,374	\$ 75,846	\$ 75,846	3.37%	\$ 16.80	0.22%
	INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY							
1100	Salary	\$ 81,626	\$ 115,080	\$ 121,618	\$ 121,618	5.68%	\$ 26.93	0.37%
1101	Wages	\$ 17,299	\$ 33,305	\$ 34,640	\$ 34,640	4.01%	\$ 7.67	0.10%
1102	Expenses	\$ 23,960	\$ 25,000	\$ 24,800	\$ 24,800	-0.80%	\$ 5.49	0.07%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 122,885	\$ 173,385	\$ 181,058	\$ 181,058	4.43%	\$ 40.09	0.54%
	GIS STEERING COMMITTEE							
1120	Expenses	\$ 11,470	\$ 15,400	\$ 15,100	\$ 15,100	-1.95%	\$ 3.34	0.05%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 11,470	\$ 15,400	\$ 15,100	\$ 15,100	-1.95%	\$ 3.34	0.05%
	TOWN CLERK							
1130	Salaries	\$ 66,193	\$ 68,867	\$ 71,649	\$ 71,649	4.04%	\$ 15.86	0.22%
1131	Wages	\$ 44,788	\$ 49,185	\$ 53,041	\$ 53,041	7.84%	\$ 11.74	0.16%
1132	Expenses	\$ 3,223	\$ 10,079	\$ 9,520	\$ 9,520	-5.55%	\$ 2.12	0.03%
1133	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 114,204	\$ 128,131	\$ 134,210	\$ 134,210	4.74%	\$ 29.72	0.41%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
ELECTIONS & BOARD OF REGISTRARS								
1140	Stipend	\$ 8,982	\$ 3,840	\$ 10,050	\$ 10,050	161.72%	\$ 2.23	0.03%
1141	Expenses	\$ 12,229	\$ 7,170	\$ 12,014	\$ 12,014	67.56%	\$ 2.66	0.04%
1142	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 21,211	\$ 11,010	\$ 22,064	\$ 22,064	100.40%	\$ 4.89	0.07%
STREET LISTINGS								
1150	Expenses	\$ 3,252	\$ 5,870	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	-0.34%	\$ 1.30	0.02%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 3,252	\$ 5,870	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	-0.34%	\$ 1.30	0.02%
INSURANCE & BONDING								
1160	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 127,421	\$ 143,000	\$ 143,000	\$ 143,000	0.00%	\$ 31.66	0.42%
1161	Insurance Deductible Reserve - Liability	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	0.00%	\$ 2.66	0.04%
1162	Insurance Deductible Reserve - 111F	\$ 22,402	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	0.00%	\$ 5.54	0.08%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 149,823	\$ 180,000	\$ 180,000	\$ 180,000	0.00%	\$ 39.86	0.54%
TOWN REPORT								
1170	Expenses	\$ 1,388	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.33	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,388	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.33	0.00%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	POSTAGE/TOWN HALL EXPENSES							
1180	Expenses	\$ 47,434	\$ 47,960	\$ 53,000	\$ 53,000	10.51%	\$ 11.73	0.16%
1181	Telephone Expenses	\$ 38,400	\$ 47,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	0.00%	\$ 11.07	0.15%
1182	Office Supplies	\$ 16,352	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	0.00%	\$ 3.76	0.05%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 102,186	\$ 111,960	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000	7.18%	\$ 26.56	0.36%
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 1,406,140	\$ 1,746,272	\$ 1,762,762	\$ 1,762,762	0.94%	\$ 390.30	5.30%
	LAND USE DEPARTMENTS							
	CONSERVATION COMMISSION							
1200	Salary	\$ 61,116	\$ 62,331	\$ 61,384	\$ 61,384	-1.52%	\$ 13.59	0.18%
1201	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1202	Expenses	\$ 5,430	\$ 7,950	\$ 7,950	\$ 7,950	0.00%	\$ 1.76	0.02%
1203	Engineering & Legal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1204	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 66,546	\$ 70,281	\$ 69,334	\$ 69,334	-1.35%	\$ 15.35	0.20%
	PLANNING BOARD							
1210	Salaries	\$ 73,525	\$ 75,715	\$ 80,788	\$ 80,788	6.70%	\$ 17.89	0.24%
1211	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1212	Expenses	\$ 4,479	\$ 9,100	\$ 8,100	\$ 8,100	-10.99%	\$ 1.79	0.02%
1213	M.R.P.C. Assessment	\$ 3,082	\$ 3,160	\$ 3,160	\$ 3,160	0.00%	\$ 0.70	0.01%
1214	Legal Budget	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 81,086	\$ 87,975	\$ 92,048	\$ 92,048	4.63%	\$ 20.38	0.27%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS							
1220	Wages	\$ 18,967	\$ 20,102	\$ 18,267	\$ 18,267	-9.13%	\$ 4.04	0.05%
1221	Expenses	\$ 819	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,400	\$ 1,400	27.27%	\$ 0.31	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 19,786	\$ 21,202	\$ 19,667	\$ 19,667	-7.24%	\$ 4.35	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	\$ 39,792	\$ 76,195	\$ 79,273	\$ 79,273	4.04%	\$ 17.55	0.24%
1241	Wages	\$ 62,749	\$ 64,507	\$ 62,578	\$ 62,578	-2.99%	\$ 13.87	0.19%
1242	Expenses	\$ 423	\$ 7,900	\$ 7,900	\$ 7,900	0.00%	\$ 1.75	0.02%
1243	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 102,964	\$ 148,602	\$ 149,751	\$ 149,751	0.77%	\$ 33.17	0.45%
	MECHANICAL INSPECTOR							
1250	Fee Salaries	\$ 23,712	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	0.00%	\$ 4.43	0.06%
1251	Expenses	\$ 3,204	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	0.00%	\$ 0.77	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 26,916	\$ 23,500	\$ 23,500	\$ 23,500	0.00%	\$ 5.20	0.07%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	EARTH REMOVAL INSPECTOR							
1260	Stipend	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1261	Expenses	\$ 81	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
1262	Minor Capital		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 82	\$ 101	\$ 101	\$ 101	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
	BOARD OF HEALTH							
1270	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1271	Expenses	\$ 663	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,150	\$ 1,150	15.00%	\$ 0.25	0.01%
1272	Nursing Services	\$ -	\$ 10,021	\$ 10,021	\$ 10,021	0.00%	\$ 2.22	0.03%
1273	Nashoba Health District	\$ 33,103	\$ 22,366	\$ 22,366	\$ 22,366	0.00%	\$ 4.96	0.07%
1274	Herbert Lipton MH	\$ -	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500	\$ 6,500	0.00%	\$ 1.44	0.02%
1275	Eng/Consult/Landfill Monitoring	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.00%	\$ 2.21	0.03%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 43,766	\$ 49,887	\$ 50,037	\$ 50,037	0.30%	\$ 11.08	0.16%
	SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES							
1280	Fee Salaries	\$ 2,060	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	0.00%	\$ 0.55	0.01%
1281	Expenses	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 2,160	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	0.00%	\$ 0.57	0.01%
	TOTAL LAND USE DEPARTMENTS	\$ 343,306	\$ 404,148	\$ 407,038	\$ 407,038	0.72%	\$ 90.12	1.22%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	<u>PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY</u>							
	POLICE DEPARTMENT							
1300	Salaries	\$ 213,319	\$ 275,140	\$ 284,676	\$ 284,676	3.47%	\$ 63.03	0.86%
1301	Wages	\$ 1,433,487	\$ 1,398,025	\$ 1,492,580	\$ 1,492,580	6.76%	\$ 330.48	4.49%
1302	Expenses	\$ 171,411	\$ 151,171	\$ 176,171	\$ 176,171	16.54%	\$ 39.01	0.53%
1303	Lease or Purchase of Cruisers	\$ 3,900	\$ 3,900	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	2.56%	\$ 0.89	0.01%
1304	PS Building (Expenses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1305	Minor Capital	\$ 14,603	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	-33.33%	\$ 2.21	0.03%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,836,720	\$ 1,843,236	\$ 1,967,427	\$ 1,967,427	6.74%	\$ 435.62	5.92%
	FIRE DEPARTMENT							
1310	Salaries	\$ 104,692	\$ 106,781	\$ 108,912	\$ 108,912	2.00%	\$ 24.11	0.33%
1311	Wages	\$ 582,051	\$ 625,315	\$ 651,016	\$ 651,016	4.11%	\$ 144.14	1.96%
1312	Expenses	\$ 128,077	\$ 119,809	\$ 115,059	\$ 115,059	-3.96%	\$ 25.48	0.35%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 814,820	\$ 851,905	\$ 874,987	\$ 874,987	2.71%	\$ 193.73	2.64%
	GROTON WATER FIRE PROTECTION							
1320	West Groton Water District	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 1	\$ 1	-99.87%	\$ -	0.00%
1321	Groton Water Department	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 1	\$ 1	-99.96%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 3,250	\$ 3,250	\$ 2	\$ 2	-99.94%	\$ -	0.00%
	ANIMAL INSPECTOR							
1330	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.00%	\$ 0.46	0.01%
1331	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.00%	\$ 0.09	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.00%	\$ 0.55	0.01%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER							
1340	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.00%	\$ 0.46	0.01%
1341	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.00%	\$ 0.09	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.00%	\$ 0.55	0.01%
	EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY							
1350	Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1351	Expenses	\$ 4,484	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	0.00%	\$ 2.88	0.04%
1352	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 4,484	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	\$ 13,000	0.00%	\$ 2.88	0.04%
	DOG OFFICER							
1360	Salary	\$ 13,637	\$ 13,973	\$ 13,973	\$ 13,973	0.00%	\$ 3.09	0.04%
1361	Expenses	\$ 3,917	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,250	\$ 4,250	-11.46%	\$ 0.94	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 17,554	\$ 18,773	\$ 18,223	\$ 18,223	-2.93%	\$ 4.03	0.05%
	POLICE & FIRE COMMUNICATIONS							
1370	Wages	\$ 136,769	\$ 369,815	\$ 392,082	\$ 392,082	6.02%	\$ 86.81	1.17%
1371	Expenses	\$ 11,650	\$ 13,225	\$ 13,225	\$ 13,225	0.00%	\$ 2.93	0.04%
1372	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 148,419	\$ 383,040	\$ 405,307	\$ 405,307	5.81%	\$ 89.74	1.21%
	TOTAL PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY	\$ 2,829,411	\$ 3,118,168	\$ 3,283,910	\$ 3,283,910	5.32%	\$ 727.10	9.88%

		FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION							
	<u>REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGETS</u>							
	NASHOBA VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL							
1400	Operating Expenses	\$ 449,967	\$ 468,592	\$ 572,775	\$ 572,775	22.23%	\$ 126.82	1.72%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 449,967	\$ 468,592	\$ 572,775	\$ 572,775	22.23%	\$ 126.82	1.72%
	GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT							
1410	Operating Expenses	\$ 15,963,523	\$ 15,118,999	\$ 16,521,807	\$ 16,521,807	9.28%	\$ 3,658.17	49.71%
1411	Debt Service, Excluded	\$ -	\$ 1,233,324	\$ 1,211,301	\$ 1,211,301	-1.79%	\$ 268.20	3.64%
1412	Debt Service, Unexcluded	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,915	\$ 22,915	0.00%	\$ 5.07	0.07%
1413	Out of District Placement	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 15,963,523	\$ 16,352,324	\$ 17,756,023	\$ 17,756,023	8.58%	\$ 3,931.44	53.42%
	TOTAL SCHOOLS	\$ 16,413,490	\$ 16,820,916	\$ 18,328,798	\$ 18,328,798	8.96%	\$ 4,058.26	55.14%
	<u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</u>							
	HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT							
1500	Salaries	\$ 84,520	\$ 87,894	\$ 92,809	\$ 92,809	5.59%	\$ 20.55	0.28%
1501	Wages	\$ 574,909	\$ 640,030	\$ 605,341	\$ 605,341	-5.42%	\$ 134.04	1.82%
1502	Expenses	\$ 149,242	\$ 140,300	\$ 127,300	\$ 127,300	-9.27%	\$ 28.19	0.38%
1503	Highway Maintenance	\$ 53,360	\$ 89,000	\$ 89,000	\$ 89,000	0.00%	\$ 19.71	0.27%
1504	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 862,031	\$ 957,224	\$ 914,450	\$ 914,450	-4.47%	\$ 202.49	2.75%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
STREET LIGHTS								
1510	Expenses	\$ 13,350	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	0.00%	\$ 5.31	0.07%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 13,350	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	\$ 24,000	0.00%	\$ 5.31	0.07%
SNOW AND ICE								
1520	Expenses	\$ 227,283	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	0.00%	\$ 36.53	0.50%
1521	Overtime	\$ 141,520	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	0.00%	\$ 31.00	0.42%
1522	Hired Equipment	\$ 69,714	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	0.00%	\$ 7.75	0.11%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 438,517	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	0.00%	\$ 75.28	1.03%
TREE WARDEN BUDGET								
1530	Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1531	Expenses	\$ 2,810	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0.00%	\$ 0.66	0.01%
1532	Trees	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.33	0.00%
1533	Tree Work	\$ 10,121	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.00%	\$ 3.32	0.05%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 12,931	\$ 19,500	\$ 19,500	\$ 19,500	0.00%	\$ 4.31	0.06%
MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE								
1540	Wages	\$ 69,297	\$ 75,099	\$ 81,180	\$ 81,180	8.10%	\$ 17.97	0.24%
1541	Expenses	\$ 229,239	\$ 237,350	\$ 272,350	\$ 272,350	14.75%	\$ 60.30	0.82%
1542	Minor Capital	\$ 23,549	\$ 30,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	-33.33%	\$ 4.43	0.06%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 322,085	\$ 342,449	\$ 373,530	\$ 373,530	9.08%	\$ 82.70	1.12%

				FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		FY 2013	FY 2014	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL							
1550	Wages	\$ 84,200	\$ 99,660	\$ 119,820	\$ 119,820	20.23%	\$ 26.53	0.36%
1551	Expenses	\$ 53,768	\$ 54,486	\$ 54,486	\$ 54,486	0.00%	\$ 12.06	0.16%
1552	Tipping Fees	\$ 130,152	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000	0.00%	\$ 29.89	0.40%
1553	North Central SW Coop	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	0.00%	\$ 1.30	0.02%
1554	Minor Capital	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.00%	\$ 1.11	0.02%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 283,970	\$ 304,996	\$ 320,156	\$ 320,156	4.97%	\$ 70.89	0.96%
	PARKS DEPARTMENT							
1560	Wages	\$ 1,067	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,540	\$ 2,540	1.60%	\$ 0.56	0.01%
1561	Expenses	\$ 40,467	\$ 46,000	\$ 48,608	\$ 48,608	5.67%	\$ 10.76	0.15%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 41,534	\$ 48,500	\$ 51,148	\$ 51,148	5.46%	\$ 11.32	0.16%
	TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 1,974,418	\$ 2,036,669	\$ 2,042,784	\$ 2,042,784	0.30%	\$ 452.30	6.15%
	LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES							
	COUNCIL ON AGING							
1600	Salaries	\$ -	\$ 61,160	\$ 66,586	\$ 66,586	0.00%	\$ 14.74	0.20%
1601	Wages	\$ 112,894	\$ 49,109	\$ 50,122	\$ 50,122	2.06%	\$ 11.10	0.15%
1602	Expenses	\$ 3,889	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,454	0.00%	\$ 1.87	0.03%
1603	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.00%	\$ 0.89	0.01%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 116,783	\$ 118,723	\$ 129,162	\$ 129,162	8.79%	\$ 28.60	0.39%

		FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION			BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
	SENIOR CENTER VAN							
1610	Wages	\$ 27,409	\$ 37,371	\$ 56,806	\$ 56,806	52.01%	\$ 12.58	0.17%
1611	Expenses	\$ 10,911	\$ 11,166	\$ 17,913	\$ 17,913	60.42%	\$ 3.97	0.05%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 38,320	\$ 48,537	\$ 74,719	\$ 74,719	53.94%	\$ 16.55	0.22%
	VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER							
1620	Salary	\$ 3,484	\$ 3,485	\$ 3,485	\$ 3,485	0.00%	\$ 0.77	0.01%
1621	Expenses	\$ 262	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 900	0.00%	\$ 0.20	0.00%
1622	Veterans' Benefits	\$ 54,092	\$ 48,200	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	3.73%	\$ 11.07	0.15%
1623	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENT TOTAL	\$ 57,838	\$ 52,585	\$ 54,385	\$ 54,385	3.42%	\$ 12.04	0.16%
	GRAVES REGISTRATION							
1630	Salary/Stipend	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	0.00%	\$ 0.06	0.00%
1631	Expenses	\$ 660	\$ 660	\$ 660	\$ 660	0.00%	\$ 0.15	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 910	\$ 910	\$ 910	\$ 910	0.00%	\$ 0.21	0.00%
	CARE OF VETERAN GRAVES							
1640	Contract Expenses	\$ 1,625	\$ 1,625	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,550	-4.62%	\$ 0.34	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,625	\$ 1,625	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,550	-4.62%	\$ 0.34	0.00%
	OLD BURYING GROUND COMMITTEE							
1650	Expenses	\$ 698	\$ 700	\$ 700	\$ 700	0.00%	\$ 0.15	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 698	\$ 700	\$ 700	\$ 700	0.00%	\$ 0.15	0.00%

		FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
		ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER	FINCOM	PERCENT	AVERAGE	PERCENT OF
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION			BUDGET	BUDGET	CHANGE	TAX BILL	TAX BILL
LIBRARY								
1660	Salary	\$ 273,543	\$ 277,145	\$ 333,198	\$ 333,198	20.23%	\$ 73.77	1.00%
1661	Wages	\$ 307,549	\$ 318,999	\$ 279,707	\$ 279,707	-12.32%	\$ 61.93	0.84%
1662	Expenses	\$ 169,892	\$ 195,235	\$ 198,335	\$ 198,335	1.59%	\$ 43.84	0.60%
1663	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ 13,082	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 750,984	\$ 804,461	\$ 811,240	\$ 811,240	0.84%	\$ 179.54	2.44%
COMMEMORATIONS & CELEBRATIONS								
1670	Expenses	\$ 444	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 0.11	0.00%
1671	Fireworks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 444	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 0.11	0.00%
WATER SAFETY								
1680	Wages	\$ 2,151	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	\$ 2,640	0.00%	\$ 0.58	0.01%
1681	Expenses and Minor Capital	\$ 422	\$ 15,950	\$ 950	\$ 950	-94.04%	\$ 0.21	0.00%
1682	Property Maint. & Improvements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 2,573	\$ 18,590	\$ 3,590	\$ 3,590	-80.69%	\$ 0.79	0.01%
WEED MANAGEMENT								
1690	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1691	Expenses: Weed Harvester	\$ 1,615	\$ 7,705	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	-48.09%	\$ 0.89	0.01%
1692	Expenses: Great Lakes	\$ 300	\$ 2,385	\$ 2,385	\$ 2,385	0.00%	\$ 0.52	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL								
		\$ 1,915	\$ 10,090	\$ 6,385	\$ 6,385	-36.72%	\$ 1.41	0.02%

		FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
GROTON COUNTRY CLUB								
1700	Salary	\$ 122,450	\$ 126,764	\$ 133,150	\$ 133,150	5.04%	\$ 29.48	0.40%
1701	Wages	\$ 136,391	\$ 156,400	\$ 154,200	\$ 154,200	-1.41%	\$ 34.14	0.46%
1702	Expenses	\$ 284,442	\$ 261,836	\$ 257,650	\$ 257,650	-1.60%	\$ 57.05	0.78%
1703	Minor Capital	\$ 3,857	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.00%	\$ 1.11	0.03%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 547,140	\$ 550,000	\$ 550,000	\$ 550,000	0.00%	\$ 121.78	1.67%
	TOTAL LIBRARY AND CITIZEN SERVICES	\$ 1,519,230	\$ 1,606,721	\$ 1,633,141	\$ 1,633,141	1.64%	\$ 361.60	4.91%
	<u>DEBT SERVICE</u>							
DEBT SERVICE								
2000	Long Term Debt - Principal Excluded	\$ 737,964	\$ 651,100	\$ 910,640	\$ 910,640	39.86%	\$ 201.63	2.74%
2001	Long Term Debt - Principal Non-Excluded	\$ -	\$ 73,268	\$ 72,030	\$ 72,030	0.00%	\$ 15.95	0.22%
2002	Long Term Debt - Interest - Excluded	\$ 206,432	\$ 165,348	\$ 311,450	\$ 311,450	88.36%	\$ 68.96	0.93%
2003	Long Term Debt - Interest - Non-Excluded	\$ -	\$ 15,303	\$ 12,601	\$ 12,601	0.00%	\$ 2.79	0.04%
2006	Short Term Debt - Principal - Town	\$ -	\$ 127,000	\$ 112,000	\$ 112,000	0.00%	\$ 24.80	0.34%
2007	Fire Station and Fitch's Bridge Debt	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 944,396	\$ 1,532,019	\$ 1,418,721	\$ 1,418,721	-7.40%	\$ 314.13	4.27%
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$ 944,396	\$ 1,532,019	\$ 1,418,721	\$ 1,418,721	-7.40%	\$ 314.13	4.27%

		FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2015		FY 2015	FY 2015
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
	<u>EMPLOYEE BENEFITS</u>							
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS							
	GENERAL BENEFITS							
3000	County Retirement	\$ 1,377,437	\$ 1,502,924	\$ 1,591,023	\$ 1,591,023	5.86%	\$ 352.28	4.78%
3001	State Retirement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
3002	Unemployment Compensation	\$ 28,861	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	0.00%	\$ 8.86	0.12%
	INSURANCE							
3010	Health Insurance/Employee Expenses	\$ 1,299,409	\$ 1,447,000	\$ 1,431,201	\$ 1,431,201	-1.09%	\$ 316.89	4.31%
3011	Life Insurance	\$ 2,128	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	0.00%	\$ 0.55	0.01%
3012	Medicare/Social Security	\$ 85,070	\$ 100,000	\$ 107,000	\$ 107,000	7.00%	\$ 23.69	0.32%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 2,792,905	\$ 3,092,424	\$ 3,171,724	\$ 3,171,724	2.56%	\$ 702.27	9.54%
	TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 2,792,905	\$ 3,092,424	\$ 3,171,724	\$ 3,171,724	2.56%	\$ 702.27	9.54%
	GRAND TOTAL - TOWN BUDGET	\$ 28,223,296	\$ 30,357,337	\$ 32,048,878	\$ 32,048,878	5.57%	\$ 7,096	96.41%
	<u>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS</u>							
	ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS							
	Capital Budget Request	\$ 942,200	\$ 409,500	\$ 635,190	\$ 635,190	55.11%	\$ 140.64	1.92%
	Overlay Deficit From Prior Years	\$ 293	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	0.00%	\$ 0.22	0.00%
	Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$ 13,230	\$ 13,555	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	47.55%	\$ 4.43	0.06%
	Snow and Ice Deficit	\$ -	\$ 98,516	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	103.01%	\$ 44.28	0.60%
	State and County Charges	\$ 81,042	\$ 104,471	\$ 110,776	\$ 110,776	6.04%	\$ 24.53	0.33%
	Allowance for Abatements/Exemptions	\$ 221,028	\$ 228,492	\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	-1.53%	\$ 49.82	0.68%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,257,793	\$ 854,534	\$ 1,191,966	\$ 1,191,966	210.18%	\$ 263.92	3.59%
	GRAND TOTAL - TOWN BUDGET	\$ 29,481,089	\$ 31,211,871	\$ 33,240,844	\$ 33,240,844	6.50%	\$ 7,360	100.00%

FY 2015 ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGETS							
		FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2015	
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	DEPARTMENT REQUEST	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE
WATER DEPARTMENT							
	WD Salaries	\$ 124,776	\$ 131,728	\$ 128,932	\$ 117,061	\$ 117,061	-9.21%
	WD Wages	\$ 132,587	\$ 128,380	\$ 133,541	\$ 146,855	\$ 146,855	9.97%
	WD Expenses	\$ 411,634	\$ 420,926	\$ 384,689	\$ 354,489	\$ 354,489	-7.85%
	WD Debt Service	\$ 362,349	\$ 361,980	\$ 357,606	\$ 361,217	\$ 361,217	1.01%
100	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,031,346	\$ 1,043,014	\$ 1,004,768	\$ 979,622	\$ 979,622	-2.50%
SEWER DEPARTMENT							
	Sewer Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,585	\$ 17,585	0.00%
	Sewer Wages	\$ 19,206	\$ 19,126	\$ 20,882	\$ 30,115	\$ 30,115	44.22%
	Sewer Expense	\$ 588,554	\$ 559,158	\$ 770,305	\$ 582,615	\$ 582,615	-24.37%
	Sewer Debt Service	\$ 121,333	\$ 5,439	\$ 45,500	\$ 42,851	\$ 42,851	-5.82%
200	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 729,093	\$ 583,723	\$ 836,687	\$ 673,166	\$ 673,166	-19.54%
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUNDS		\$ 1,760,439	\$ 1,626,737	\$ 1,841,455	\$ 1,652,788	\$ 1,652,788	-10.25%

						Fiscal Year:	2015		
FY 2015 General Fund Debt Service									
Long Term Bonds									
		Amount	Amount		Bond	Bond	2015	Excluded	Maturity
		Borrowed	Outstanding	Excluded?	Principal	Interest	Total	Amount	Date
Issued 7/1999 (ReFi 11/2010)									
*	Senior Center	151,110	25,290	Y	8,600	797	9,397	9,397	7/15/2016
	Library 1 Renovations	1,831,464	366,510	Y	96,560	12,246	108,806	108,806	7/15/2017
	Library 2 Renovations	364,000	74,670	Y	19,360	2,503	21,863	21,863	7/15/2017
	Town Hall	2,500,000	498,530	Y	130,480	16,679	147,159	147,159	7/15/2017
Issued 7/2001 (Refi 7/2011)									
	Shattuck Property	500,000	153,130	N	26,080	5,974	32,054		7/15/2019
	Bernier-Bissell Property	850,000	261,500	Y	44,720	10,190	54,910	54,910	7/15/2019
	Bissell Property	1,075,000	32,810	Y	56,250	12,807	69,057	69,057	7/15/2019
	Norris Property	750,000	232,540	Y	39,670	9,068	48,738	48,738	7/15/2019
Issued 11/2003									
*	Town Share Proj Eval Report	225,628	128,838	N	10,950	3,319	14,269		8/1/2023
	Gibbet Hill Restriction	3,000,000	1,400,000	Y	160,000	53,410	213,410	213,410	11/15/2022
	Lost Lake Fire Station	1,450,000	675,000	Y	75,000	25,838	100,838	100,838	11/15/2022
	Fire Truck	485,000	105,000	N	35,000	3,308	38,308		11/15/2016
Issued 04/18/2013									
	Center Fire Station	7,730,000	7,495,000	Y	280,000	167,913	447,913	447,913	6/30/2035
Adjustments									
	to be voted at Spring Town Mtg on 4/28/2014 for FY2015							0	
								0	
	Total All Long Term Debt	20,912,202	11,448,818		982,670	324,051	1,306,721	1,222,089	
Short Term Debt									
		Amount	Amount		Bond	Bond	2015	Excluded	
		Borrowed	Outstanding	Excluded?	Principal	Interest	Total	Amount	
Issued 11/2010									
	Lost Lake W. Groton Sewer Eng II	350,000	110,000	N	110,000	675	110,675		
	Total All Short Term Debt	350,000	110,000		110,000	675	110,675		
TOTAL ALL DEBT SERV:									
		21,262,202	11,558,818		1,092,670	324,726	1,417,396	1,222,089	

		APPENDIX B			FACTOR:	1.0200
		Town of Groton Personnel By-Law				
		Wage and Classification Schedule				
		Fiscal Year 2015 (Effective July 1, 2014)				
Grade	Position Title	Low				High
4	Salary					
		34,534				42,739
	Wages					
		16.61				20.54
5	Salary					
		36,506				45,185
	Wages					
		17.55				21.73
7	Salary					
		42,213				53,469
	Wages					
		20.78				25.70
8	Salary					
		47,921				59,334
	Wages					
		23.04				28.53
9	Salary					
	Executive Assistant to Town Manager	49,076				60,728
	Wages					
		23.59				29.19
10	Salary					
		56,284				69,645
	Wages					
		27.06				33.49
11	Salary					
	Human Resources Director	60,466				74,826
	Wages					
		29.07				35.98
12	Salary					
		60,649				75,088
	Wages					
		29.16				36.10

		APPENDIX B			FACTOR:	1.0200
		Town of Groton Personnel By-Law				
		Wage and Classification Schedule				
		Fiscal Year 2015 (Effective July 1, 2014)				
Grade	Position Title	Low				High
13	Salary					
	Library Director	62,280				77,061
	Town Accountant					
	Wages					
		29.95				37.05
14	Salary					
		62,805				77,719
	Wages					
		30.19				37.36
15	Salary					
	Police Lieutenant	66,226				81,952
	Wages					
		31.83				39.40
16	Salary					
	Police Captain	68,619				84,924
	Wages					
		32.99				40.83
17	Salary					
	IT Manager	76,876				95,103
	Wages					
		36.96				45.73
18	Salary					
	Fire Chief	83,136				102,888
	Police Chief					
	Wages					
		39.97				49.47
19	Salary					
		85,320				105,570
	Wages					
		41.01				50.76
20	Salary					
		91,484				112,513
	Wages					
		43.98				54.09

	APPENDIX B				
	NON-CLASSIFIED, TEMPORARY SEASONAL AND STIPEND POSITIONS				
NON-STEP AND STIPEND POSITIONS					
	FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT			Pool and Golf Center Seasonal Employees	
	Deputy Chief: Fire	23.40		Pro Shop Staff	8.50 - 10.00
	Deputy Chief: EMS	23.00		Snack Bar/Lounge Staff	8.00 - 10.00
	Rescue Advisory	1.00			
	Call Captain: Fire	22.64		Pool Staff	8.00 - 9.75
	Call Captain: EMS	22.64		Lifeguards	
	Call Lieutenant: Fire	22.19			
	Call Lieutenant: EMS	22.19		Camp Staff	8.00 - 10.25
	Call Lieutenant: Rescue	22.19		Counselors	15.00
	Call Firefighter	19.41		Assistant Director	
	Call Emergency Medical Technician	19.41			
	Call Rescue Personnel	19.41		Buildings & Grounds	10.00 - 25.00
	Probationary Firefighter	16.16		Grounds Crew Staff	
	Probationary Emergency Medical Technician	16.16			
	Probationary Rescue Personnel	16.16			
	MISCELLANEOUS				
	Veteran's Agent	1,742			
	Director of Veteran's Services	1,742			
	Earth Removal Inspector	1.00			
	Dog Officer	13,973			
	Animal Inspector	2,082			
	Animal Control Officer	2,082			
	Town Diarist	1.00			
	Keeper of the Town Clock	1.00			
	Conservation Land Manager	14.07			
	Parking Attendant	10.20			
	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			

CHAPTER 215. WETLANDS

§ 215-1. Purpose and intent.

§ 215-2. Jurisdiction.

§ 215-3. Exceptions.

§ 215-4. Application.

§ 215-5. Permits and conditions.

§ 215-6. Notice and hearing.

§ 215-7. Presumptions.

§ 215-8. Regulations.

§ 215-9. Definitions.

§ 215-10. Security; site inspections.

§ 215-11. Enforcement.

§ 215-12. Burden of proof.

§ 215-13. Appeals.

§ 215-14. Relationship to state statute.

§ 215-15. Severability.

§ 215-1. Purpose and intent.

Groton's extensive and complex wetland systems are fundamental to its landscape, ecology, drinking water supplies and flood protection. The protection of wetlands in Groton is critical to the well-being and character of the community.

Groton's wetlands, natural landscape, and ecosystem are largely byproducts of an unusual concentration of glacial landforms, including extensive areas of ice channel fillings, drumlins, ground moraines and the remnants of Glacial Lake Nashua. In addition, deep bedrock valleys filled with glacial sediments define the courses of the Nashua and Squannacook Rivers. This concentrated and complex set of landforms created intricate and varied topography, soils and hydrology, resulting in an extraordinary array of wetlands, ponds, vernal pools, and streams.

All of Groton's drinking water is derived from municipal or private wells. The groundwater that supplies these wells is intimately connected with these wetland systems, which filter, cleanse, and infiltrate water. The protection of both the wetlands themselves and their surrounding lands is essential to the protection of Groton's drinking water.

Groton's complex hydrological hydrologic systems and associated upland areas are also central to its rich and diverse ecosystem, including concentrations of rare and endangered species. Approximately two thirds of Groton lies within with state designated Estimated and Priority Habitats for Rare and Endangered Species. The Massachusetts BioMap 2 project designates 67% of Groton as Core Habitat or Critical Natural Landscape. And approximately 88% of Groton has been designated as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. All of these speak to both the local and the regional importance of Groton's wetlands.

The purpose of this chapter is to protect the wetlands, related water resources, and adjoining land areas in the Town of Groton by controlling activities determined by the Conservation Commission to be likely to have a significant or cumulatively detrimental effect upon any wetland resource area or value protected by this chapter, including but not limited to the following interests and values; protection of public or private water supply, groundwater, flood control, erosion and sedimentation control, storm damage prevention, water quality, water pollution control, fisheries, wildlife and wildlife habitat, rare plant or animal species and habitat, agriculture and aquaculture, recreation and aesthetic values. To that end, it is the intent of this chapter to protect additional wetland resource areas and interests, and to impose additional standards and procedures stricter than those of the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL C. 131, § 40.

§ 215-2. Jurisdiction.

Except as permitted by the Conservation Commission or as provided in this chapter, no person shall commence to remove, fill, dredge, build upon, degrade, discharge into or otherwise alter any of the following resource areas protected by this chapter (collectively, "wetland resource areas"): any wetland, including, but not limited to, any freshwater wetland, marsh, wet meadow, bog, swamp, vernal pool, creek, beach or bank, reservoir, lake, pond of any size, land under any water body or within 100 feet of any of the aforesaid resource areas; any river or stream, including land within 200 feet of same; or any land subject to flooding or inundation by stormwater, groundwater or surface water.

§ 215-3. Exceptions.

A. This chapter shall not apply to any emergency project or agricultural emergency as defined in the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL C. 131, § 40, or regulations thereunder. No application or permit shall be required for maintaining, repairing or replacing, but not substantially changing or enlarging, an existing and lawfully located structure or facility used in the service of the public to provide electric, gas, sewer, water, telephone, telegraph, or other telecommunications service, provided that written notice has been given to the Commission prior to commencement of work, and provided that all work conforms to performance standards and design specifications in the regulations adopted pursuant to this chapter.

B. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the alteration of any existing residential, business or institutional building or Customary Physical Appurtenance thereto (i.e., in an area that has already been altered) within an adjacent upland resource shall be regulated per the provisions of the Presumptions and standards as defined in Section §215-7.A.(3).

§ 215-4. Application.

A. Permit application (notice of intent, request for determination of applicability, abbreviated notice of resource area delineation).

(1) Written application shall be filed with the Commission to perform activities in or affecting resource areas protected by this chapter. The permit application shall include such information and plans as are deemed necessary by the Commission to describe proposed activities and their effects on the resource areas protected by this chapter. No activities shall commence without receiving and complying with a permit issued pursuant to this chapter.

(2) The Commission may, where it deems it appropriate, accept as the permit application and plans under this chapter the notice of intent, request for determination of applicability, abbreviated notice of resource area delineation and plans required to be filed under the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL C. 131, § 40, and regulations thereunder, at 310 CMR 10.00 et seq.

B. Request for determination of applicability (RDA) Any person desiring to know whether or not a proposed activity or an area is subject to this chapter may, in writing, request a determination of applicability (RDA) from the Commission. Such a request for determination of applicability shall be submitted in such form as is required by regulations adopted hereunder, and may include such information and plans in addition to that required under the Wetlands Protection Act as are deemed necessary by the Commission.

C. Coordination with other boards. Any person filing a permit application with the Commission shall at the same time provide such copies of same in the number and manner provided in the regulations to such Town boards and/or officers as the regulations provide. The Conservation Commission shall transmit notice of the application and plan to the Board of Selectmen, Board of Health, Planning Board, Department of Public Works, Groton Water Department and West Groton Water Supply District, and the Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee, for their written recommendations. Failure to respond to the Conservation Commission within 10 days shall indicate no concerns by said agencies.

D. Fees.

(1) Application fee. At the time of a permit application or RDA, or application for certificate of compliance, the applicant shall pay a filing fee specified in regulations hereunder. The fee is in addition to that required by the Wetlands Protection Act. The fee shall be deposited in a special account established pursuant to Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2001, from which the Commission may withdraw funds without further appropriation for use only for wetland protection activities.

(2) Consultant fee. Upon receipt of a permit application or RDA, or at any point during the hearing process, the Commission may require an applicant to pay a fee for the reasonable costs and expenses borne by the Commission for specific expert engineering and other consultant services to assist the Commission in reaching a final decision on the application. The specific consultant services may include, but are not limited to, performing or verifying the accuracy of resource area survey and delineation; analyzing resource area functions and values, including wildlife habitat evaluations, hydrogeological and drainage analysis; and researching environmental or land use law. The Commission may adopt regulations providing for the deposit of such funds in a special account established pursuant to Chapter 64 of the Acts of 2001, which provides for the administration of the consultant fee funds in the same manner as provided in MGL C. 44, § 53G.

(3) The Commission may waive the filing fee, consultant fee, and/or costs and expenses for a permit application or RDA filed by a Town officer or agency.

§ 215-5. Permits and conditions.

A. If the Commission, after a public hearing, determines that the activities which are subject to the permit application, or the land and water use which will result therefrom, are likely to have a significant individual or cumulative effect upon the wetland resource area values and interests protected by this chapter, the Commission shall, within 21 days of the close of said hearing, issue or deny an order of conditions for the activities requested.

B. In any order of conditions it issues, the Commission shall impose conditions which it deems necessary or desirable to protect such values and interests, and all activities shall be done in compliance with those conditions. In imposing conditions, the Commission shall take into account the cumulative adverse effects of loss, degradation, isolation, and replication of protected resource areas throughout the community and the watershed, which have resulted from past activities, permitted and exempt, or which may result from foreseeable future activities.

C. The Conservation Commission may grant an order of conditions for projects within wetland resource areas if it determines that the granting of such an order of conditions will result in a significant public or environmental benefit and that, because of the characteristics of the land, the proposed alterations, and/or proposed mitigation measures, the interests of this chapter will be maintained.

D. The Commission is empowered to deny a permit for the applicant's failure to meet the requirements of this chapter; to submit necessary information and plans requested by the Commission; to meet the design specifications, performance standards, and other requirements in regulations of the Commission; to avoid or prevent unacceptable significant or cumulative effects upon the wetland resource areas or interests protected by this chapter; or where it finds that no conditions are adequate to protect such values and interests.

§ 215-6. Notice and hearing/meeting.

A. Any person filing a permit application (notice of intent or abbreviated notice of resource area delineation) with the Commission at the same time shall give written notice thereof, by certified mail (return receipt requested), by certificates of mailing, or hand-delivered, to all abutters at their mailing addresses as shown on the most recent applicable tax list of the Assessors, including owners of land directly opposite on any public or private street or way, and abutters to the abutters within 300 feet of the

property line of the applicant, including any in another municipality or across a body of water. The notice to abutters shall have enclosed a copy of the permit application with plans, or shall state where copies may be examined and obtained by abutters. An affidavit of the person providing such notice, with a copy of the notice mailed or delivered shall be filed with the Commission. A Request for Determination of Applicability does not require a formal public hearing; therefore abutters notifications are not required as part of an RDA filing. However, a legally noticed public meeting is required to review an RDA. When a person requesting a determination of applicability is other than the owner, the notice of the public meeting and the determination itself shall be sent by the Commission to the owner as well as to the person making the request.

B. The Commission shall otherwise commence its public hearing or meeting within 21 days of the receipt of a completed notice of intent, request for determination of applicability or abbreviated notice of resource area delineation, provided that written notice thereof has been provided, at the expense of the person making the request, at least five business days prior to said hearing or meeting by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the town. Said time period may be extended if authorized in writing by the applicant.

C. The Commission may, in the exercise of its reasonable discretion, and with the permission of the Applicant, continue the hearing from time to time to a date certain announced at said hearing for reasons stated, which reasons may include but are not limited to: curing any defect in notice; allowing additional testimony or documents as may be deemed necessary or appropriate by the Commission; and/or obtaining comment or recommendation of any municipal board or officer referred to in § 215-4 above. If permission for a continuance is not granted the Commission may deny the permit if it believes that important information is not available.

D. In all other respects, hearings shall be as provided in MGL C. 131, § 40, and regulations thereunder.

§ 215-7. Presumptions.

A. Adjacent upland resource areas are presumed significant to the protection of wetland resources and interests because activities undertaken in close proximity to resource areas have a high likelihood of adverse impact upon the wetland or other resources, either immediately, as a consequence of construction, or over time, as a consequence of daily operations or maintenance of such activities. Such adverse impacts from construction and use include, without limitation, erosion, siltation, loss of groundwater recharge, degradation of water quality and loss of wildlife habitat.

(1) Prohibited activity. For the aforementioned reasons, the adjacent upland areas, within 200 feet of rivers and streams and 100 feet of other wetland resource areas protected by this chapter, are deemed valuable resources under this chapter. Therefore this chapter strictly limits any disturbance within adjacent upland areas by prohibiting the following activities or uses unless approved and done in compliance with the Regulations and standards adopted under this chapter:

- (a) Disturbance of any existing vegetation within 50 feet of any freshwater wetland, except for removal of invasive vegetation only.
- (b) Erection of permanent buildings, including, but not limited to, barns, garages, or attached structures.
- (c) Construction of parking lots or use of land for parking of motor vehicles.
- (d) Construction or installation of any portion of a new sanitary waste disposal system, including the grading required for the primary and reserve systems.
- (e) Placement or maintenance of dumpsters or refuse containers.
- (f) Construction of driveways or retaining walls
- (h) Grading, except for minor grading as defined in the Regulations adopted under this chapter.

(2) Order of conditions. The following activities may be allowed within adjacent upland areas by an order of conditions and subject to such conditions as the Commission deems necessary or appropriate to preserve the wetland resource areas and interests protected by this chapter:

- (a) Planting of native vegetation or habitat management techniques determined by the Conservation Commission to enhance the wetland values protected by this chapter.

- (b) Construction and maintenance of unpaved access paths of not more than four feet in width for nonmotorized usage.
- (c) Maintenance of existing structures, utilities, stormwater management structures and paved roads.
- (d) Pruning for the purpose of vista maintenance, or for removal of diseased or invasive vegetation, if done in compliance with standards provided in the regulations.
- (e) Construction of new utility lines where the Commission determines that the proposed route is the best environmental alternative.
- (f) Sanitary waste disposal system maintenance and, if a system has failed, repair or replacement meeting local and state standards, provided that the maximum feasible buffer is maintained.
- (g) Construction of an accessory structure associated with an existing building where the Commission finds that no practicable alternative site outside the adjacent upland area is available; the size and impact of the proposed structure have been minimized; and the structure is located so as to minimize impact on the resource area.
- (h) Limited project as defined in the Wetlands Protection Act.

(3) Standards for altered areas: Within an adjacent vegetated upland resource with existing residential, business, commercial or institutional buildings or Customary Physical Appurtenances the Commission may issue an Order of Conditions for a project, provided that it finds that the proposed alterations will not have significant adverse impacts on that specific portion of the adjacent upland area or associated wetlands and that there is no reasonable construction alternative that would reduce impacts to the resource area.

B. Seasonal wetlands are presumed to provide essential breeding and rearing habitat functions, which presumption, in the case of any seasonal wetland which has not been certified as a vernal pool by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, may be overcome by demonstration to the Commission by a preponderance of credible evidence that the basin, depression or area does not provide the habitat functions specified in the bylaw and regulations for identification of noncertified vernal pools.

§ 215-8. Regulations.

After public notice and public hearing, the Commission may promulgate regulations to effectuate the purposes of this chapter, and to provide for filing fees and procedures, and for consultant fees as the Commission deems necessary or appropriate. Failure to promulgate such regulations, or the invalidation by a court of law of one or more of such regulations, shall not act to suspend or invalidate any provision of this chapter.

§ 215-9. Definitions.

A. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter or regulations of the Commission, the definitions of terms in this chapter shall be as set forth in the Wetlands Protection Act, which terms, as used herein, shall include the provisions of MGL C. 131, § 40, and regulations thereunder at 310 CMR 10.00 et seq (WPA).

B. As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

ABBREVIATED NOTICE OF RESOURCE AREA DELINEATION (ANRAD)

This form (WPA Form 4A) provides a procedure for an applicant to confirm the precise boundaries of Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) or other resource areas.

ADJACENT UPLAND RESOURCE AREA

Shall include lands within 100 feet of any freshwater wetland; marsh; flat; wet meadow; bog; swamp; vernal pool; bank; reservoir, lake or pond of any size; creek, beach or land under water bodies, and lands within 200 feet of rivers and streams.

ALTER

Shall include, without limitation, the following activities when undertaken to, upon, within or affecting wetland resource areas protected by this chapter:

- (1) Removal, excavation, or dredging of soil, sand, gravel, or earth materials of any kind;
- (2) Changing of preexisting drainage characteristics, flushing characteristics, salinity concentration, sedimentation patterns, flow patterns, or flow retention characteristics;
- (3) Drainage, or other disturbance of water level or water table;
- (4) Dumping, discharging, or filling with any material which may degrade water quality;
- (5) Placing of fill, or removal of material, which would alter elevation;
- (6) Erecting or placing buildings or structures of any kind, including driving of piles;
- (7) Placing of obstructions in water;
- (8) Cutting or destruction of vegetation, including cutting of trees;
- (9) Changing temperature, biochemical oxygen demand, or other physical, biological, or chemical characteristics of any waters;
- (10) Any activities, changes, or work which may cause or tend to contribute to pollution of any body of water or groundwater; and
- (11) Incremental activities that have, or may have, a cumulative adverse impact on the resource areas protected by this chapter.

BANK

Shall include the land area which normally abuts and confines a water body: the lower boundary being the mean annual low flow level, and the upper boundary being the first observable break in the slope or the mean annual flood level, whichever is higher.

BUILDING:

A structure having a roof or cover and forming a shelter for persons, animals or property.

CUSTOMARY PHYSICAL APPURTENANCE

Any structural adjunct to a residential, commercial, business or institutional building including but not limited to septic systems, garages, sheds, decks, porches, driveways, sidewalks, wells and associated piping and pumping equipment, stairways, retaining walls, docks, lawns, gardens, and landscaped and other developed areas.

FRESHWATER WETLAND

Shall include all wetlands whether or not they border on a water body. For the purposes of this chapter, lakes or ponds of any size, all bordering vegetated wetlands, as well as isolated vegetated wetlands shall be protected.

NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)

This form (WPA Form 3) is filed by an applicant who proposes to do work within 100 feet of a wetland resource area or 200 feet of a stream protected by the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act or the Groton Wetlands Protection Bylaw.

PERSON

Shall include any individual, group of individuals, association, partnership, corporation, company, business organization, trust, estate, administrative agency, public or quasi-public corporation or body, including the Town of Groton, and any other legal entity, its legal representatives, agents, or assigns.

RARE SPECIES

Shall include, without limitation, all vertebrate and invertebrate animal and plant species listed as endangered, threatened, or of special concern by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife, regardless of whether the site in which they occur has been previously identified by the Division.

REQUEST FOR DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY (RDA)

This form (WPA Form 1) is filed by a person desiring to know whether or not a proposed activity, or an area, is subject to this chapter. A Request for Determination of Applicability can also be filed by any concerned citizen of Groton who wishes to know if wetlands exist within 100 feet of a site proposed for development. Minor projects within the 100-foot Buffer Zone are also considered under this filing category.

SEASONAL WETLAND

Shall include any confined basin or depression subject to flooding or inundation and which contains temporary bodies of water during periods of high groundwater level, spring runoff, snowmelt, or heavy precipitation, for a minimum of two continuous months during spring or summer in most years and which are capable of supporting populations of obligate vernal pool species, and are therefore presumed to provide essential breeding and rearing habitat functions for amphibian, reptile, or invertebrate species.

STREAM

Shall include all rivers and streams shown on the current U.S.G.S. map.

STRUCTURE

Any construction, erection, assemblage, or other combination of materials upon the land made in such a manner as to indicate a purpose that it remains in position indefinitely.

VERNAL POOL

(1) Shall include any confined basin or depression which, at least in most years, holds water for a minimum of two continuous months during spring and/or summer, and which is free of adult predatory fish populations, as well as the area within 100 feet of the mean annual boundary of such a depression, and presumptively includes seasonal wetlands, regardless of whether the site has been certified as a vernal pool by the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife.

(2) The adjacent upland resource area for vernal pools shall extend 100 feet from the mean annual high-water line defining the depression, or one-half of the distance between the vernal pool and any existing house foundation, whichever is smaller. In either case, the adjacent upland resource area for vernal pools shall not extend over lawns, gardens, and landscaped or developed areas existing as of the effective date of this chapter.

§ 215-10. Security; site inspections.

A. As part of a permit issued under this chapter, in addition to any security required by any other municipal or state board, agency, or official, the Commission may require that the performance and observance of the conditions imposed thereunder, including conditions requiring mitigation work, be secured wholly or in part by one or more of the following methods:

(1) By a proper bond or deposit of money or negotiable securities or other undertaking of financial responsibility sufficient in the opinion of the Commission to insure completion of proposed work or conditions of any permit, said security to be released in whole or in part upon issuance of a certificate of compliance for work performed pursuant to the permit.

(2) By conveyance, with consent of the applicant, of a conservation restriction, easement, or other covenant enforceable in a court of law, executed and duly recorded by the owner of record, running with the land to the benefit of the Town of Groton, acting through the Conservation Commission, and providing that the permit conditions shall be performed and observed before any lot may be conveyed other than by mortgage deed.

B. It shall be a condition of every application for a permit or RDA that the applicant assent to the entry by the Commission or its agent to the subject property at reasonable times for the purpose of conducting site inspections to determine wetland boundaries and the compliance with or violation of this chapter or any permit or determination thereunder.

§ 215-11. Enforcement.

A. No person shall remove, fill, dredge, build upon, degrade, or otherwise alter resource areas protected by this chapter, or cause, suffer, or allow such activity, or leave in place unauthorized fill, or otherwise fail to restore illegally altered land to its original condition, or fail to comply with a permit or an enforcement order issued pursuant to this chapter.

B. The Commission, its agents, officers, and employees shall have authority to enter upon privately owned land for the purpose of performing their duties under this chapter and may make or cause to be made such examinations, surveys, or sampling as the Commission deems necessary, subject to the Constitutions and laws of the United States and of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Permission to enter land of any applicant shall be granted as a condition of any application and of any permit issued hereunder.

C. The Commission is authorized to enforce this chapter and its regulations, and any orders or permits issued thereunder, by violation notices, administrative orders, and/or civil and criminal court actions. Any person who violates any provision of this chapter may be ordered to restore the property to its original condition, to take such other action as deemed necessary by the Commission to remedy such violation, or may be fined, or any combination of the foregoing.

D. In addition to any other remedy available in law or in equity, any person who violates any provision of this chapter, regulations, permits, or order of the Conservation Commission issued thereunder, may, at the option of the Conservation Commission, be subject to noncriminal prosecution pursuant to MGL C. 40, § 21D, in which case the following penalties shall apply, with each day constituting a separate offense:

- (1) First offense: \$50.
- (2) Second offense: \$100.
- (3) Third and subsequent offense: \$300.

E. The provisions of this chapter and regulations, or of any permit or order issued thereunder, may be enforced by the Conservation Commission, by its agents, by a Commissioner so authorized by vote of the Conservation Commission, or by any police officer of the Town.

§ 215-12. Burden of proof.

The applicant for a permit shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of credible evidence that the work proposed in the permit application will not have unacceptable significant or cumulative effect upon the resource area values protected by this chapter. Failure to provide adequate evidence to the Commission supporting this burden shall be sufficient cause for the Commission to deny a permit or grant a permit with conditions.

§ 215-13. Appeals.

A decision of the Commission shall be reviewable on the record of proceedings in Superior Court in accordance with MGL C. 249, § 4.

§ 215-14. Relationship to state statute.

This chapter is adopted pursuant to the Town of Groton's Home Rule powers and is independent of the Wetlands Protection Act, MGL C. 131, § 40 and/or regulations thereunder (WPA). It is the intent of this chapter to create resource areas, interests, definitions and performance standards that impose more stringent regulation than that imposed by MGL C. 131, § 40.

§ 215-15. Severability.

The invalidity of any section or provision of this chapter shall not invalidate any other section or provision thereof, nor shall it invalidate any permit or determination issued hereunder.

Chapter 205. VEHICLES, UNREGISTERED

GENERAL REFERENCES

The purpose of this chapter is to regulate and control unregistered and disassembled motor vehicles within the Town of Groton, to protect the views along the Town's publicly traveled ways and to keep the visual impact of such vehicles on the adjacent neighborhoods to a minimum. Any motor vehicle which does not have a displayed, valid license plate will be considered unregistered for purposes of administration and enforcement of this chapter.

§ 205-2. Definitions.

As used in this chapter, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

CONCEALED: No visible evidence of the vehicle discernible at boundaries of the property.

MOTOR VEHICLE: Any motor vehicle as that term is defined in Chapter 90, Section 1 of the General Laws of Massachusetts.

JUNK VEHICLE: A motor vehicle which is worn out, cast off or discarded, or which has been collected or stored for salvage or for stripping in order to make use of the parts thereof. Any parts from such a vehicle shall also be considered a "junk vehicle" for purposes of this chapter.

INOPERABLE VEHICLE: any Motor Vehicle or Trailer (as defined in said Chapter 90, section 1), that is not capable of being used as such in its existing condition by reason of being damaged, dismantled or failing to contain parts necessary for operation. Any Unregistered Vehicle, as defined herein, shall be considered an Inoperable Vehicle for the purposes of this chapter.

UNREGISTERED VEHICLE: any motor vehicle or trailer that is not registered in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 90, Section 2.

§ 205-3. Conditions of permissible storage.

A. In no event shall an unregistered motor vehicle or parts thereof be permitted to remain on a property for more than 30 days without being concealed.

B. The provisions of subsection A shall not apply to motor vehicles designed and used for farming purposes, nor to persons and firms legally operating an automotive or trucking enterprise, nor to persons or firms in lawful exercise of licenses granted under MGL Chapter 140, §§ 58 and 59, as amended.

C. Notwithstanding Subsections A and B above, a permit to store or park any unregistered, junk or inoperable vehicles may be granted by the Board of Selectmen or its appointed designee if it finds that such:

(1) Is in keeping with and complies with the general purpose and intent of this chapter.

(2) Will not adversely affect the neighborhood in which the vehicle will be located by reason of unsightliness.

(3) Will not be a nuisance.

Any such permit will contain an expiration date, not to exceed one year. Permits may be renewed upon application made to the Board of Selectmen prior to the expiration date.

Applications for permits or renewal of permits shall be in accordance with Chapter 273 of the Code of Groton and the provisions of this Chapter.

§ 205-4. Administration.

- A. The Board of Selectmen is hereby authorized to adopt and, from time to time as necessary, to amend reasonable rules and regulations for the administration and enforcement of this chapter and to set such (nonrefundable) fees as may be required for the administration thereof, but only after a public hearing.
- B. A copy of this chapter and any rules and regulations pertaining thereto shall be attached to each copy of an application form and made available to all applicants for a permit under the provisions of § 205-3.
- C. The Selectmen shall notify all abutters within 300 feet of the property of a scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen to consider the granting of a permit.
- D. The Selectmen may designate an officer or agent of the Town to inspect the property and vehicles in question, and prepare a report describing the condition of the same.
- E. All permit decisions must be in writing, giving the reasons for approval or disapproval.

§ 205-5. Enforcement

- A. This Bylaw may be enforced by the Police Department, Building Commissioner, or other designee of the Board of Selectmen.
- B. If the enforcing person determines that a violation has occurred, written notice shall be sent to the property owner. Violations shall be subject to the penalties stated in §205-6, starting on the fourteenth day after this notice is sent.

§ 205-6. Violations and penalties.

Whoever violates any provision of this chapter shall be subject to a penalty as follows:

\$25 per day for each of the first seven days of violation

\$50 per day for each day of violation from the eighth day to the fourteenth day

\$100 per day for each day of violation thereafter.

Each vehicle in violation shall be considered a separate violation.

Noncriminal disposition. As an alternative to criminal prosecution or civil action, the Town may elect to utilize the noncriminal disposition procedure set forth in MGL C. 40, § 21D, which has been adopted by the Town in the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 1, § 1-4, Complaints, in which case the Board of Selectmen or authorized agent shall be the enforcing person.

Warrant and Minutes

TOWN OF GROTON



SPECIAL TOWN MEETING JUNE 30, 2014

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

Beginning Monday, June 30, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers

Please bring this Report to Town Meeting

**SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT and MINUTES
JUNE 30, 2014**

Town Moderator:

Jason Kauppi

Deputy Moderator

Robert L. Gosselin, Sr.

Board of Selectmen:

Peter S. Cunningham, Member

Joshua A. Degen, Chairman

Anna Eliot, Vice-Chairman

Jack G. Petropoulos, Member

Stuart M. Schulman, Member

Finance Committee:

Jay M. Prager, Chairman

Gary Green, Vice-Chairman

Joseph Crowley

Robert Hargraves

David Manugian

Bud Robertson

Steven Webber

Town Manager:

Mark W. Haddad

Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Town Clerk:

Michael F. Bouchard

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM on June 30, 2014 at the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium. Moderator Jason Kauppi presided.

A quorum of 150 voters is required for this Special Town Meeting. At 7:07 PM, 155 voters were present. At 7:30 PM, 290 voters were present.

The warrant contains a single article asking the Meeting to vote on a non-binding resolution. Town Meeting is a legislative body and can govern within its boundaries. The Town cannot compel legislative representatives to vote a certain way. A non-binding resolution expresses the will of the Town.

Motion was made and seconded to waive the reading of the warrant. The vote was unanimous to waive the reading of the warrant.

Motion (Rena Swezey)

I move that debate at the microphone be limited to three minutes per speaker.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

Vote of Motion to Limit Debate: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

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 thirtieth day of June, 2014 at Seven O'Clock in the evening, to consider the following:

ARTICLE 1: NON-BINDING RESOLUTION

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following non-binding resolution opposing the Northeast Expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Massachusetts:

Resolution Opposing the Northeast Expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Massachusetts

WHEREAS, a proposed High-Pressure Pipeline carrying natural gas may come through Groton and our neighboring communities, en route to Dracut, Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS, a high-pressure gas pipeline, by its nature, carries the potential for leak, rupture or devastating explosion causing untold damage to property and lives; and

WHEREAS, said pipeline may potentially destroy forests, wetlands, conservation land and farmland, and would pass beneath the Nashua River, and require maintenance in perpetuity of a 50 foot right- of-way through the possible use of herbicides; and

WHEREAS, said pipeline may adversely affect property values, adversely affect residents' livelihood and otherwise may negatively impact the integrity of the town's bucolic character; and

WHEREAS, the cost of said pipeline may require Massachusetts citizens to pay a utility bill tariff, as well as environmental costs not required by law for Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C. ("TGP", a subsidiary of Kinder Morgan Energy Partners, L.P.), potentially making ratepayers bear financial risk for the endeavors of a private corporation; and

WHEREAS, our energy challenges are better addressed through investments in energy conservation measures as well as green and renewable energy solutions; and

WHEREAS, the currently proposed pipeline route was chosen in a private, closed process so that there has been no chance for open, public discussion or debate of alternate routing possibilities and tradeoffs; and

WHEREAS, federal eminent domain powers will be used to forcibly take pipeline easements from unwilling landowners; and

WHEREAS, the proposed pipeline route crosses the grounds of the Groton-Dunstable Regional High School and threatens the safety of students, faculty and facilities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the people of Groton, Massachusetts:

1. Hereby call on our Selectmen to stand in opposition to Tennessee Gas Pipeline Company, L.L.C.'s Northeast Expansion pipeline and not allow it within town borders;
2. Oppose any pipeline that potentially threatens the safety of any Groton students, faculty or school facilities; and
3. Hereby request that our state and federal legislators and executive branch officials to enact legislation and take any such other actions as are necessary to disallow such projects that go against our commitments to life, the environment, our economic well-being and our bodily safety, and, instead, to legislate more stringent energy efficiency and further exploration of and subsidies for renewable energy sources.

or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

Finance Committee: *Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting*

ARTICLE 1: NON-BINDING RESOLUTION

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to adopt the non-binding resolution opposing the Northeast Expansion of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Massachusetts as printed in the Warrant for the June 30, 2014 Special Town Meeting.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Minutes:

- Mr. Hewitt thanked the Board of Selectmen for calling this Special Town Meeting. His presentation was informative, and included:
 - a call to join 15 other towns to force a debate on all options to meet energy needs.
 - a description of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) process and the power which it can award to applicants.
 - the role of Mass DEP
 - Advanced timetable for Kinder Morgan to apply to FERC (September, 2014)
 - A description of the major proposed route and 6 lateral extensions
 - A discussion on landowner compensation
 - safety aspects of the pipeline
 - a call for thorough vetting of alternate pipeline routes
 - a call to action to communicate with our legislators
- Mr. Futterman of the Nashua River Watershed Association presented
 - Information describing the impact of the proposed pipeline on two of the largest Areas of Critical Environmental Concern in the State
 - The proposed pipeline will pass through 12 miles of ACEC
 - The proposed pipeline will also pass through 2 miles of medium and high yield aquifers
- Mr. O'Reilly presented economic aspects of the proposal, including

- A study commissioned by NESCOE stated that a low demand scenario would resolve a peak demand problem. It was stated, however, that NESCOR favored a greenfields pipeline and refused the low demand scenario
- Alternatives to minimize risk and consistent with environmental objectives and compliance with state law would include multiple efforts:
 - Gas and electric market reforms to minimize economic spikes
 - Improvement of energy efficiencies
 - LNG utilization
 - Renewable energy utilization
 - Combined heat and power facilities
 - Renewable thermal
 - Demand – response
 - Energy storage
- Together these alternatives
 - Solve the demand issue
 - Are safer
 - Are cheaper
 - Are environmentally responsible
- A statement from State Representative Sheila Harrington was read. She has garnered legislative support to petition the Department of Revenue to evaluate the Route 2 corridor as a pipeline route.
- Brooks Lyman offered an amendment

MOTION: I move to amend the main motion by inserting after the word “meeting” the following:

“and by adding a fourth resolve the reads:

4 Further request that our state and federal legislators and executive branch officials enact legislation and take any such other actions as are necessary to ensure that this and any future gas and oil pipelines be located in, on or under existing utility easements and Interstate and similar major highways and active railroad right-of-ways.”

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority

- Mr. O'Reilly disagreed with the motion to amend in that it does not encourage alternatives to pipelines

Vote on Motion to Amend: Defeated

VOTE on Article 1 – Main Motion: Passed by Majority Vote

MOTION to Dissolve the Special Town Meeting

Moved and Seconded

Passed by Unanimous vote to Dissolve the Meeting at 8:06 PM

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 9th Day of June in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen.

Joshua A. Degen

Joshua A. Degen, Chairman

Anna Eliot

Anna Eliot, Vice Chairman

Stuart M. Schulman

Stuart M. Schulman, Clerk

Peter S. Cunningham

Peter S. Cunningham, Member

John G. Petropoulos

John G. Petropoulos, 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

MINUTES

Warrant, Summary, and Recommendations

TOWN OF GROTON



2014 FALL TOWN MEETING

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

Beginning Monday, October 20, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers

Please bring this Report to Town Meeting



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 ADA Coordinator Michelle Collette at Town Hall at 978 448-1105 at least one week before the Town Meeting.

**FALL TOWN MEETING WARRANT AND MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2014**

Town Moderator:

Jason Kauppi

Deputy Moderator

Robert L. Gosselin, Sr.

Board of Selectmen:

Peter S. Cunningham
Joshua A. Degen, Chairman
Anna Eliot, Vice-Chair
Jack G. Petropoulos, Member
Stuart M. Schulman, Clerk

Finance Committee:

Mark Bacon
Gary Green, Chairman
Barry Pease
Robert Hargraves, Vice-Chair
David Manugian
Bud Robertson
Art Prest

Town Manager:

Mark W. Haddad
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Town Clerk:

Michael F. Bouchard

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 twentieth day of October, 2014 at Seven O'clock in the evening, to consider the following:

Proceedings:

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM on October 20, 2014 at the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium. Moderator Jason Kauppi presided.

There is no quorum requirement for this Annual Town Meeting. 122 voters were present. Later in the proceedings, at approximately 8:00 PM, 217 voters were present.

Peter Cunningham acknowledged the passing of Edna White. Edna was a long time Groton resident who had made a number of significant contributions to Groton. She had been a member of the Board of Selectmen, member of the Blue Ribbon Governance Committee, influential in the establishment of the Groton Housing Authority and had made many other contributions to the Town.

Mr. Cunningham also updated the Meeting of the Town's activities with respect to the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project. The Town has a working group and is a member of the

Mr. Cunningham also updated the Meeting of the Town's activities with respect to the Tennessee Gas Pipeline Project. The Town has a working group and is a member of the Northeast Municipal Gas Pipeline Coalition.

Fire Chief Steele McCurdy led the Meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Kauppi introduced special guests - Fellows of MIT's Urban Studies and Planning program. These are highly accomplished international students who had chosen Groton Town Meeting to observe a local legislative process.

It was determined that the warrant was duly posted. The reading of the warrant was waived by unanimous vote.

ARTICLE 1: 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.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: ***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.*

Mover: Jack Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) the sum of \$229 for the payment of the following bills of a prior fiscal year:

Bain Pest Control -	\$ 49
Carrot-Top Industries -	\$ 95
Eastern Industrial Automation -	<u>\$ 85</u>
Total	\$229

Moved and Seconded

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

Vote on Article 1 Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 2: AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2015 TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget as adopted under Article 5 of the April 28, 2014 Spring Town Meeting, and vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2015, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN MANAGER**

Board of Selectmen: *See Town Manager's Report in Back of Warrant for Recommendations*
Finance Committee: *See Town Manager's Report in Back of Warrant for Recommendations*

Summary: *The Fiscal Year 2015 Town Operating Budget was approved at the 2014 Spring Town Meeting in April, 2014. Any changes to this Budget would have to be made prior to setting the tax rate. The purpose of this article is to make any necessary changes to balance the FY 2015 Operating Budget. Please see the Town Manager's Report contained in the back of this Warrant for an explanation outlining the proposed changes.*

Mover: Jack Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget, as adopted under Article 5 of the April 28, 2014 Spring Town Meeting, as follows, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted:

Motion 1: GENERAL GOVERNMENT: By increasing the General Government Appropriation from \$1,762,762 to \$1,782,384 so as to: increase Line Item 1051 – “Town Accountant Wages” by \$6,070, from \$33,065 to \$39,135; increase Line Item 1071 – “Treasurer/Tax Collector Wages” by \$3,654 from \$92,471 to \$96,125; and increase Line Item 1101 – “Information Technology Wages” by \$9,898 from \$34,640 to \$44,538; And to raise and appropriate the sum of \$19,622 to fund said increases.

Moved and Seconded

Discussion:

- Mr. Haddad reported that there are three positions requested to be upgraded
- Mr. Robertson reported that the Finance Committee recommended this article by unanimous vote
- In response to a question, it was stated that the Charter does not require this type of article to be confined to the Spring Town Meeting.
- Mr. Petropoulos stated he was reluctant to incur additional costs mid-year, as we don't know what next year's exposures will be, including the regional school district budget.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 2 – Motion 1 General Government: Passed by Majority Vote

Motion 2: PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY: By increasing the Protection of Persons and Property Appropriation from \$3,283,910 to \$3,341,010 so as to: increase Line Item 1312 – “Fire Department Expenses” by \$13,000 from \$115,059 to \$128,059; and increase Line Item 1370 – “Police & Fire Communications Wages” by \$44,100 from \$392,082 to \$436,182; And to raise and appropriate the sum of \$57,100 to fund said increases.

Moved and Seconded

Discussion:

- Mr. Petropoulos was opposed to adding a headcount mid-year and therefore was opposed to the Dispatcher funding in the motion. He did not feel it was justified based on his knowledge of call volumes.
- Mr. Giger related that police scanner monitoring would indicate that there is a need for an additional dispatcher, and supports the article.
- Mr. Cunningham informed that the Charter allows budget issues to be addressed at the Fall Town Meeting. He also stated that the regional school district has been holding “tri-board” meetings and that the needs and plans of the district are pretty well known. Public safety is also a priority. He supports the article.
- Police Chief Palma explained that new protocols will require, in effect, additional staffing due to more stringent call coverage. Soon, the department will also be accepting wireless 911 calls, increasing volume. An additional dispatcher will get coverage to 16 hours on most days.
- The annual cost of the dispatcher position is \$49,000, plus benefits.

MOTION to Divide the Question into two questions, each to read as follows:

Division 1: By increasing Line Item 1312 – “Fire Department Expenses” by \$13,000 from \$115,059 to \$128,059 and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,000 to fund said increase

Division 2: By increasing Line Item 1370 – “Police & Fire Communications Wages” by \$44,100 from \$392,082 to \$436,182; And to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,100 to fund said increase.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority

Vote on Motion to Divide the Question of Article 2 – Motion 2: Defeated

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 2 – Motion 2 Protection of Persons and Property: Passed by Majority Vote

Motion 3: LIBRARY AND CITIZEN SERVICES: By amending the following line items in the Library and Citizen Services Appropriation so as to: decrease Line Item 1700 – “Groton Country Club Salary” by \$70,461 from \$133,150 to \$62,689; increase Line Item 1701 – “Groton Country Club Wages” by \$30,538 from \$154,200 to \$184,738; and increase Line Item 1702 – “Groton Country Club Expenses” by \$39,923 from \$257,650 to \$297,573.

Moved and Seconded

Discussion:

- Mr. Haddad stated that there is no impact to the budget from this motion. The General Manager of the Country Club has retired and has not been replaced. The Clerk’s responsibilities have been increased. He is the acting General Manager and is working with a consultant to develop a long term management plan.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority
Vote on Article 2- Motion 3 Library and Citizen Services: Passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 3: TRANSFER MONEY INTO THE CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Capital Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Fund has a balance of \$167,891. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Capital Stabilization Fund equal to 1.5% of the total annual budget. Any balance beyond the 1.5% level should be added to the Capital Stabilization Fund in conjunction with the Capital Plan to reduce overall borrowing and associated costs. The target amount for the Capital Stabilization Fund will be provided at Town Meeting.*

Mover: Jack Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$365,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3's Majority
Vote on Article 3 Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 4: TRANSFER MONEY INTO THE STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds a sum or sums of money to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The balance in this fund is \$1.46 million. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Stabilization Fund equal to 5% of the total annual budget. The target amount for the Stabilization Fund will be provided at Town Meeting.*

Mover: Jack Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$150,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Stabilization Fund.

Moved and Seconded

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

Vote on Article 4 Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 5: OFFSET THE TAX RATE

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum of money from the General Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) or from other available funds for the purpose of affecting the tax rate for the period beginning July 1, 2014, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *The intent of this article is to use a portion of Free Cash or General Stabilization Fund monies as a funding source for the FY 2015 Budget in order to lower the amount of money required to be raised from taxes or to balance a deficit budget. The amount of Free Cash and General Stabilization Fund monies available for appropriation will be provided at Town Meeting.*

Mover: Jack Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$150,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) for the purpose of affecting the tax rate for the period beginning July 1, 2014.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 5 Main Motion: Passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 6: ACCEPT LOCAL OPTION MEALS TAX

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 64L, §2, which would authorize the Town to impose a local sales tax on the sale of restaurant meals originating within the Town of Groton, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended – 5 In Favor, 1 Against (Green)

Summary: *Acceptance of this State statute would allow the Town to impose an excise of 0.75% on the sales of restaurant meals originating within the Town of Groton. The Department of Revenue would collect the local meals excise at the time it collects the state tax on the sale. The local excise applies to all meals subject to the state sales tax. Under the statute, the Town cannot vary the rate or the meals subject to this excise. It is estimated that this excise will generate over \$100,000 annually for the Town of Groton.*

ACCEPT LOCAL OPTION MEALS TAX

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 64L, §2, which would authorize the Town to impose a local sales tax on the sale of restaurant meals originating within the Town of Groton.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- It is expected that the local meals tax would generate \$100,000 for the Town.
- The local meals tax is a local option to all cities and towns as voted by the Massachusetts Legislature in 2009.
- Some local businesses has voiced opposition to the tax citing a potential reduction in business as a result.
- This tax would be paid by restaurant patrons. The Town may generate revenue from non-Groton residents.

MOTION to MOVE the Question (Article 6 Main Motion)

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3 Majority vote

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

VOTE on Article 6 Main Motion: Declared Passed by Majority vote. 7 voters contested the declaration.

Tellers were sworn (Michael Manugian, Tessa David, Connie Sartini, Diana Keaney, Paul Funch, Linda DeCiccio)

Teller count: 153 votes in the affirmative ; **57 opposed.**
Article 6 Main Motion passed.

ARTICLE 7: CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS MOSQUITO CONTROL PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to become a member of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project for a minimum of three (3) years, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 252, Section 5A, Chapter 583 of the Acts of 1973 and any other enabling authority, or take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF HEALTH

Board of Selectmen: *Not Recommended - 4 Against, 1 In Favor (Degen)*
Finance Committee: *Recommended – 4 In Favor, 2 Against (Robertson, Bacon)*

Summary: *The Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP) is a mosquito control project established by legislative act, Chapter 583 of the Acts of 1973. It operates under an assessment procedure and provides a year-round program of mosquito control in 39 cities and towns in both Middlesex and Worcester counties. Services offered include larval and adult mosquito surveillance, larval and adult mosquito control, public education, ditch cleaning and maintenance and research/control efficacy. The program is tailored to meet the specific needs of the member cities and towns, and residents can opt out of any part of the program. Spraying is done at residents' request. It is anticipated that the Town will be assessed an annual fee of \$73,000 on our Cherry Sheet for a minimum of three (3) years for a total of \$219,000.*

Mover: Jason Weber

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to become a member of the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project for a minimum of three (3) years, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 252, Section 5A, Chapter 583 of the Acts of 1973 and any other enabling authority.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Presentation by Mr. Weber describing the CMMCP and some of the reasons why the Town should consider joining the program.
- The program targets mosquitos. It does not address ticks.
- Homeowners need to complement the program by removing standing water and other mosquito environments.

MOTION to MOVE the Question
Moved and Seconded
Quantum: 2/3rd Majority
VOTE on Motion to Move the Question (Article 7 Main Motion):
Passed with 2/3rds Majority

Vote on Article 7 Main Motion: Defeated

ARTICLE 8: POLICE DEPARTMENT DATA CONVERSION

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 pay for the data conversion and migration of police records for the Groton Police Department, and for all costs associated and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended – 4 In Favor, 1 Against (Eliot)*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Police Department currently maintains records extending back to the 1990s on three different servers. Searches for data must take place on three separate systems, lengthening the time searches take and increasing the chance that something is missed. Maintaining these servers is costly, and finding parts to replace failed components is becoming increasingly difficult. Last Spring, the oldest system suffered a hardware failure that resulted in the system being down for two months, with a cost to fix exceeding \$3,000. Many surrounding police departments simply gave up a decade or more of data when their similar-aged servers died or malfunctioned. This one-time expense will take data from two older systems and migrate it to the current system. It should take about three weeks to migrate the data, at which time the older systems can be removed from the network.*

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$41,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager, to pay for the data conversion and migration of police records for the Groton Police Department, and for all costs associated and related thereto.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Chief Palma: In the last 23 years, the police department has changed computer systems twice. Access to data from all three systems is needed on a regular basis. The grandfather generation hardware is end-of-life from a repair and maintenance perspective. This article is to pay for converting data from the three systems ito be used on the latest system.

Vote on Article 8 Main Motion: Passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 9: PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS – RENAME BUILDING

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 make improvements and necessary repairs to the current Public Safety Building on Pleasant Street, including all costs associated and related thereto, and to rename said building from the Public Safety Building to the Groton Police Department, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *Now that the Fire Department has moved out of the Public Safety Building into their new headquarters on Farmers Row, the Police Department will be taking over the entire building. In order to convert the space formerly used by the Fire Department into usable space*

for the Police Department, various improvements and repairs are required. The purpose of this article is to provide the necessary funding to accomplish this task. Additionally, since the building will be occupied only by the Police Department, it should be renamed "Groton Police Department".

Mover: Peter Cunningham

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, to make improvements and necessary repairs to the current Public Safety Building on Pleasant Street, including all costs associated and related thereto, and to rename said building from the Public Safety Building to the Groton Police Department.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Chief Palma: This funding will be used to renovate space formerly used by the Fire Department for police purposes, to enhance IT connectivity, create a secure 911 room, and other repairs to the building.

VOTE on Article 9 Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 10: SALE OR LEASE OF PRESCOTT SCHOOL

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and/or lease, for a period not to exceed 99 years, the building known as Prescott School, which comprises approximately 27,330 square feet, and all or a portion of the 2.81 acre site on which it is located at 145 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts, to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said building, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended – 0 In Favor, 5 Against, 2 Abstain

Summary: *The Board of Selectmen has issued two Requests for Proposals (RFP) to sell the Prescott School. The last RFP generated one proposal to convert the building to a business use and was presented to the 2014 Spring Town Meeting for approval. While the article received majority approval, it did not receive the necessary 2/3's vote required to dispose of municipal property. The Selectmen hired a realtor to help market the property and reissued the RFP. While the previous proposer has notified the Board of Selectmen that he is willing to keep his proposal before the Town for consideration, the Selectmen agreed to review and consider any other proposal received. The Board of Selectmen will present the former or a new proposal to the Fall Town Meeting for consideration.*

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer to the Board of Selectmen, for the purpose of sale and/or lease, the custody and control of the building known as Prescott School, which comprises approximately 27,330 square feet, and all or a portion of the 2.81 acre site on which it is located at 145 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to sell and/or lease such property for a period not to exceed 99 years, for a sum of not less than \$35,000, and to take all necessary action to comply with the General Laws of the Commonwealth for the disposal of said property, and to petition the General Court for any necessary special legislation.

Moved and Seconded

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

MOTION to Amend Article 10 Main Motion

(Editor's Note: To address a conflict in the presented motion and the motion as shown on the projector to the Meeting, the following amendment was offered.)

(Anna Eliot) I move to amend the main motion by replacing the phrase "and all or a portion of the 2.81 acre site on which it is located" with the phrase "and all of the approximately 3.62 acre site on which it is located".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority

Vote on Motion to Amend: Passed by Majority vote

Discussion:

- The Meeting held a vigorous debate which lasted 1 hour 45 minutes. The editor summarized the main points of the arguments"
 - Those favoring the sale or lease argued that the building has been dormant, except for the housing of the Regional School Superintendent's office, for quite some time. The proposal by Mr. Yanchenko would improve the building, would occupy the building, would create jobs to renovate the building, and create business lease space in the center of town. In addition, Mr. Yanchenko would construct a 60 car municipal parking lot and make the building available to community activities.
 - Those opposed to the sale or lease favor that the Town retain control of the building and develop it for use as a community center, similar to what other communities have done. This side felt this was the best use of the building to benefit the community. This side also argued that if the building is sold, then the Town would lose control over its options.

MOTION to MOVE the Question:

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3 Majority

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

**Vote on Article 10 Main Motion, As Amended: 126 in favor; 65 Against
The Motion was defeated for lack of a 2/3rds Majority**

**Motion to Adjourn to October 27, 2014 at 7:00 PM at the Performing Arts Center
Quantum: Majority**

Vote on Motion to Adjourn: Unanimous

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 PM to continue on October 27 at 7:00 PM.

The first Adjourned Session of the 2014 Fall Town Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM on October 27. The Session was held at the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Auditorium. There is no quorum requirement. 171 attendees were present at 7:10. The audience grew to 202 later in the proceedings.

Mr. Hewitt offered a Tennessee Gas Pipeline update report to the Meeting.

Mr. Degen read a proclamation honoring Dorothy Davis who had served 32 years on the Cable Advisory Committee.

Mr. Roy asked about “reconsideration” of an article. It was confirmed that the Town has a bylaw requiring a 2/3 majority vote to pass a motion for reconsideration. However, Groton has not bylaw requiring that a motion for reconsideration come from the prevailing side. The Moderator’s guide, Town Meeting Time, also does not specify this requirement. Mr. Kauppi explained that Groton’s tradition is to require a member of the prevailing side to offer such a motion, and that state law gives the moderator the power to enforce this.

ARTICLE 11: TAX INCREMENT FINANCING PLAN FOR PRESCOTT SCHOOL SITE

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to prepare and submit to the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council a certified project application for designation of the property known as the Prescott School located at 145 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts, and shown on Assessors’ Map 113, Parcel 43, as an Economic Opportunity Area, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 23A of the General Laws; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a tax increment financing plan with Prescott Place, LLC pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 59 of the General Laws, in connection with the development of said property; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions as are necessary to obtain approval of the certified project application and to implement the tax increment financing plan, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended – 5 In Favor, 1 Against (Green)

Summary: *A part of the previous proposal received for the sale of the Prescott School was a request from the Proposer “Prescott Place, LLC”, to enter into a Tax Increment Financing Plan to help finance the proposed renovations to the Prescott School. This is similar to what was done with Capstone Properties when they renovated Rivercourt Residences. The Board of Selectmen is placing this article on the Warrant as a placeholder in the event it decides to move forward with the Proposal received from Prescott Place, LLC for the sale of the Prescott School.*

A more detailed explanation will be presented to Town Meeting should the Selectmen decide to move forward with this sale.

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to prepare and submit to the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council a certified project application for designation of the property known as the Prescott School located at 145 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts, and shown on Assessors' Map 113, Parcel 43, as an Economic Opportunity Area, pursuant to the provision of Chapter 23A of the General Laws; and further, to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a tax increment financing plan with Prescott Place, LLC pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 59 of the General Laws, in connection with the development of said property; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions as are necessary to obtain approval of the certified project application and to implement the tax increment financing plan.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION: I move that Article 11 be indefinitely postponed.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 11: Passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 12: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – TOWN CENTER OVERLAY DISTRICT

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

In Article V, Special Regulations, by deleting the second sentence of Section 218-30.2.A, describing the boundaries of the existing Town Center Overlay District and replace it with the following:

The boundaries of the TCOD are delineated on a map entitled "Town Center Overlay District, Town of Groton, Massachusetts" dated August 22, 2014, a copy of said map being on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PLANNING BOARD**

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: No Position

Planning Board: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *The Board of Selectmen, working in conjunction with the Planning Board, would like to amend the boundary of the Town Center Overlay District to include the Prescott School. Currently, the Prescott School is zoned only for Public Use. As stated previously in this Warrant, the Board of Selectmen is in the process of marketing the Prescott School with the intent of selling the facility. Any intended use of the property would require it to be rezoned. It is the feeling of the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board that adding the property to the overlay district would be the best course of action.*

Mover: Anna Eliot

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218, Zoning, as follows:

In Article V, Special Regulations, by deleting the second sentence of Section 218-30.2.A, describing the boundaries of the existing Town Center Overlay District and replace it with the following:

The boundaries of the TCOD are delineated on a map entitled "Town Center Overlay District, Town of Groton, Massachusetts" dated August 22, 2014, a copy of said map being on file in the Office of the Town Clerk.

Moved and Seconded

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

MOTION: I move that Article 12 be indefinitely postponed.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Mr. Degen argued that the motion should not be postponed, and that the original motion should be passed. A Public zoning classification would give the Town more flexibility in finding another use for the building as it would allow for more uses.
- Ms. Erickson argued to not rezone the building to Public Use to prevent business use of the building.

Vote on Motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 12: Defeated in a voice vote. Seven voters contested the ruling.

Tellers were sworn (Michael Manugian, Deidre Slavin-Mitchell, David Pitkin, Connie Sartini, Paul Funch, Linda DeCiccio)

**Counted Vote on Motion to Indefinitely Postpone Article 12: 62 For, 130 Against
Motion to Indefinitely Postpone was defeated.**

Vote on Main Motion Article 12: Passed by 2/3 Majority

ARTICLE 13: ENGINEERING FUNDING FOR LOST LAKE WATERSHED

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, upon approval of the Board of Selectmen, for the purpose of retaining the necessary experts/expertise to assist the Lost Lake Watershed Advisory Committee in quantitatively determining the level and source of nutrients and phosphates impacting Lost Lake/Knops Pond and all costs associated and related thereto, including the provision of proposed solutions, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN LOST LAKE WATERSHED COMMITTEE

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended – 3 In Favor, 2 Opposed (Petrooulos, Eliot)*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The Board of Selectmen recently expanded the Lost Lake Sewer Advisory Committee to a seven (7) member Committee and renamed it the Lost Lake Watershed Advisory Committee. The LLSAC had completed its work and determined that there is still the need for further study of the entire Watershed and that based on the information before them, the installation of a Sewer System may not be the only solution to nutrient loading in Lost Lake. In expanding and renaming this Committee, the Selectmen charged it with the responsibility of reviewing and studying all point and non-point source discharges in the entire Lost Lake Watershed that may impact Lost Lake and Knops Pond. The purpose of this article is to provide funding to the Committee to hire the necessary expertise to help it fulfill this charge.*

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer the sum of \$15,000 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended by the Town Manager, upon approval of the Board of Selectmen, for the purpose of retaining the necessary experts/expertise to assist the Lost Lake Watershed Advisory Committee in quantitatively determining the level and source of nutrients and phosphates impacting Lost Lake/Knops Pond and all costs associated and related thereto, including the provision of proposed solutions.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion

- Sustainability Commission voted unanimously to support Article 13.
- Mr. Degen: This article is a follow up to the article on the Lost Lake Sewer System from last year. People who participated in that discussion wanted more information and did not approve last year's article.
- Mr. A. Prest gave a brief presentation. He stated the \$15,000 requested in this article would be used to retain an expert to help determine the source and nature of the problems at the lakes.
- Mr. Petrooulos stated his reason for being a dissenting vote on the Board of Selectmen's position was that there is no plan in place.
- Mr. Degen agreed that there are no proposals at this time, but that the money is being requested in anticipation of proposals. The \$15,000 requested here can be added to a \$17,000 balance. He reminded the Meeting that the Lost Lake Watershed Advisory

Committee, the Town Manager and the Board of Selectmen all needed to vote on any expenditure.

- Mr. V. Prest opined that it is better to have the money available to act upon a proposal.
- Ms. Perkins asked what was being addressed that hasn't already been addressed. In response, it was offered that when the sewer was voted down it was due to lack of data. The proposed study will provide the data.
- Mr. Degen stated that the data collected is from within the Lakes area, and that this study would focus on other watershed area.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3 Majority

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

Vote on Article 13 Main Motion: Passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 14: CONSERVATION COMMISSION – ACQUIRE PARCEL

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to acquire, on behalf of the Town, a certain parcel of land located off Graniteville Road shown as Parcel 71 on Groton Assessors' Map 251 and containing approximately 81.5 acres, said land to be managed and controlled by the Conservation Commission for conservation and passive outdoor recreation purposes pursuant to Section 8C of Chapter 40 of the General Laws; to transfer or appropriate from the Conservation Fund a sum of money therefor, in advance of a Massachusetts Local Acquisition for Natural Diversity (LAND) Program (formerly Self-Help) grant with said proceeds to be returned to the Conservation Fund; to authorize the Conservation Commission to apply for a Massachusetts LAND Program grant for such acquisition pursuant to Section 11 of Chapter 132A of the General Laws and to act as the official representative for such application; to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court for any special legislation necessary for such acquisition; and to authorize the Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen to execute all documents and take all actions necessary in connection with such acquisition; or to take any other action relative thereto.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Board of Selectmen: Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting

Finance Committee: Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting

Conservation Commission: Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting

Sustainability Commission: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *Applying for a state grant will enable the Town to leverage funds already set aside in the Conservation Fund for the acquisition of conservation land through a fee simple purchase. The LAND grant request is for the Town of Groton's fee simple acquisition of 81.5± acres of land off Graniteville Road. This land has been designated by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program as BioMap II Core Habitat for Species of Conservation Concern, as well as Estimated Habitat for Rare Wildlife. The parcel connects to hundreds of acres of adjacent protected open space owned by the Town and under the control of the Conservation Commission. Across the town line in Westford is the Village View Conservation Restriction and the undeveloped land of Westford Sportsman's Club. In keeping with the Commission's policy and goals articulated*

in the 2012 Groton Open Space & Recreation Plan, the members believe the acquisition of this parcel is an opportunity to preserve and protect rare species habitat and extend a recreational trail network.

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION A: I move that the Town vote to authorize the Conservation Commission to acquire, on behalf of the Town, a certain parcel of land located off Graniteville Road shown as Parcel 71 on Groton Assessors' Map 251 and containing approximately 81.5 acres.

MOTION B: I move that Article 14 be indefinitely postponed.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 14 Motion to Indefinitely Postpone: Passed by Majority vote

ARTICLE 15: 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 2015, 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, or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

CPC Proposal A:	Sargisson Beach Restoration	\$75,000
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Summary: *The 2014 Spring Town Meeting appropriated \$109,590 to address erosion issues at Sargisson Beach. The project will address and repair the severely undercut and eroding lake banks so as to create improved fishing access to the deepest part of the Lake as well as repair the existing stone wall and provide storm water runoff management to prevent further beach sand erosion. The original project request was \$170,500, but due to available funds it was broken into two phases with Phase I approved at the 2014 Spring Town Meeting. Additional Community Preservation Act funding became available this summer and the Sargisson Beach Committee approached the Community Preservation Committee with an out of cycle application to seek the entire project funding. The Town put the project out to bid in August and broke it out into two phases, with Phase II being contingent upon funding at the Fall Town Meeting. Completing the project all at once will provide the Town with a cost savings. The purpose of this article is to seek the Phase II Funding.*

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended – 3 In Favor, 1 Against, 1 Abstain

Mover: Robert DeGroot

I move that the Town vote, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, to appropriate the sum of \$75,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2015-06 "Sargisson Beach Restoration and Erosion Control".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Mr. DeGroot explained that the Sargisson Bach Restoration Project was awarded \$109,000 in CPC funds in the Spring 2014 Town Meeting for partial restoration. There are economies of approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000 in completing the job as one project. Since the Park Commission withdrew a project, there is CPC money available to fund the remainder of the Sargisson Bach project.

Vote on Article 15 Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 16: EXTEND GROTON CENTER SEWER SYSTEM

To see if the Town will vote to extend the "Groton Center Sewer System" as established by the vote of the Special Town Meeting of February 6, 1989, under Article 7, and as shown most recently on the plan approved under Article 12 of the 2012 Fall Town Meeting held on October 29, 2012, to include Assessors' Lot 115-16, as shown on the plan by Ducharme and Dillis, dated August 31, 2014 on file in the Town Clerk's Office, provided that all costs of designing, laying and construction of the connection to the sewer system, costs for additional capacity and General Benefits Facility Charges are paid by the owner of the property benefitted thereby, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: No Position

Sewer Commission: Recommended Unanimously

Sustainability Commission: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *This article seeks approval to extend the Groton Center Sewer System to include Assessors' Lot 115-16.*

Mover: Thomas Orcutt

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to extend the "Groton Center Sewer System" as established by the vote of the Special Town Meeting of February 6, 1989, under Article 7, and as shown most recently on the plan approved under Article 12 of the 2012 Fall Town Meeting held on October 29, 2012, to include Assessors' Lot 115-16, as shown on the plan by Ducharme and Dillis, dated August 31, 2014 on file in the Town Clerk's Office, provided that all costs of designing, laying and construction of the connection to the sewer system, costs for additional capacity and General Benefits Facility Charges are paid by the owner of the property benefitted thereby.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- This article extends the sewer for Lawrence Academy onto 18 private acres next to Lovers Lane.
- There are no betterments as this is on private property.

Vote on Article 16 Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 17: AMEND CHAPTER 128 "DOGS" OF THE GROTON CODE

To see if the Town will vote to amend Chapter 128, "Dogs", of the Code of the Town of Groton by deleting the words "Dog Officer" throughout Chapter 128 and inserting in its place the words "Animal Control Officer", or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: No Position

Summary: *Recently, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts changed the position of Dog Officer to that of Animal Control Officer and placed new requirements on the position. The Animal Control Officer now deals with more than just dogs and is required to obtain special training and certifications to serve in this role. The Town of Groton has trained two employees as Animal Control Officers and is in full compliance with State Law. The purpose of this article is to amend our Dog Bylaw to adhere to this change in State Law.*

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend Chapter 128, "Dogs", of the Code of the Town of Groton by deleting the words "Dog Officer" throughout Chapter 128 and inserting in its place the words "Animal Control Officer".

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 17 Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 18: LEASE OF LANDFILL SITE FOR SOLAR ARRAY PROJECT

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Board of Selectmen the care, custody, and control of all or a portion of the land located at 600 Cow Pond Brook Road, consisting of 43 acres, more or less, shown on Groton Assessors' Map as parcel 248-41, and known as the landfill site, to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of lease to a solar energy electricity production entity in connection with a Groton Electric Light Department project for the installation of a solar photovoltaic array on said property; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all action and

execute all documents necessary in connection therewith, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ELECTRIC LIGHT COMMISSION**

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*
Sustainability Commission: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article seeks approval of Town Meeting to allow the Board of Selectmen to enter into a long term lease with a solar energy production entity. The Electric Light Commission has been working on creating a Solar Photovoltaic Array on Town property and is ready to proceed with a project on the former landfill site on Cow Pond Brook Road. A full explanation of the project and the company to which the lease will be awarded will be provided at the Fall Town Meeting.*

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer from the Board of Selectmen the care, custody, and control of the land located at 600 Cow Pond Brook Road, consisting of 43 acres, more or less, shown on Groton Assessors' Map as parcel 248-41, and known as the landfill site, to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of lease to a solar energy electricity production entity in connection with a Groton Electric Light Department project for the installation of a solar photovoltaic array on said property; and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take all action and execute all documents necessary in connection therewith.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- The land will be leased to a company which will own and operate the solar array, and sell electricity back to Groton electric.
- This is a good use for the land upon which little else could be done.

Vote on Article 18 Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous vote

ARTICLE 19: AMEND CHAPTER 218 – ZONING BYLAW

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

1. In Section 218-4, Definitions, by deleting Section 218-4 in its entirety and by inserting in its place a new Section 218-4, Definitions, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk; and further,
2. In Section 218-8, Classes of Districts, by deleting Section 218-8 in its entirety and inserting in its place a new Section 218-8, Classes of Districts, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk; and further,

3. In Section 218-9, Location of Districts, by striking out Section 218-9, which reads as follows: "Said districts are located and bounded as shown on a map entitled "Town of Groton, Massachusetts — Zoning Map," dated March 10, 2003, revised February 12, 2008, revised March 1, 2011, further revised January 18, 2013, and revised and amended to date, on file in the office of the Town Clerk. Said map, with the boundaries of the districts and all explanatory matter thereon, is hereby made a part of this chapter." And inserting in its place:

§218-9 Location of districts. Said districts are located and bounded as shown on a map entitled "Town of Groton, Massachusetts — Zoning Map," dated August 22, 2014, on file in the office of the Town Clerk. Said map, with the boundaries of the districts and all explanatory matter thereon, is hereby made a part of this chapter. And further,

4. In Section 218-12, Intention of Districts, by deleting Section 218-12 in its entirety and inserting in its place a new Section 218-12, Intention of Districts, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk; and further,

5. In Section 218-13, Schedule of Use Regulations, by deleting Section 218-13 in its entirety and inserting in its place a new Section 218-13, Schedule of Use Regulations, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk; and further,

6. In Section 218-14, Special Use Considerations in Conservancy Districts, by deleting Section 218-14 in its entirety; and further,

7. In Section 218-20, Schedule of Intensity Regulations, by deleting Section 218-20 in its entirety and inserting in its place a new Section 218-20, Schedule of Intensity Regulations, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The 2012 Spring Town Meeting voted to ratify Phase I of the Comprehensive Master Plan. The proposed zoning amendments are part of the implementation plan for Economic Development. The changes include converting the existing Business (B-1) District to three new districts: Village Center District, Neighborhood District, and General Business District. The existing Manufacturing District (M-1) will be changed to Industrial District (I). The Use Regulations and Intensity Regulations will be revised to accommodate the size, scale, and locations of each district. Additionally, Conservation and Open Space Agricultural Districts will be eliminated because they are outdated. The proposed Zoning Map and complete text of the proposed amendments are available in the Office of the Town Clerk and can be viewed on the Town's web site: www.townofgroton.org as well as Appendix A in this Warrant.*

Mover: George Barringer

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning, Sections 218-4, 218-8, 218-9, 218-12, 218-13, 218-14 and 218-20, as set forth in Article 19 of the Warrant for the October 20, 2014 Fall Town Meeting.

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

Discussion:

- The article proposes to refine a single business zone into three adaptive business zones.
- The B-1 District would be abandoned and replaced by Village Center Business (VCB), Neighborhood Business (NB) and General Business (GB) districts.
- The Conservancy and Open Space – Agriculture districts will be abandoned as they are obsolete.
- Via this process, no non-business land will be zoned as business.
- Examples of districts:
 - NB Rivercourt
 - VCB West Groton, Groton center
 - GB Deluxe, Shaws
- A total of 18 B-1 lots will be re-categorized into these new business zones.
- The Schedule of Use regulations will be modified to reflect the new business zones.

MOTION to Move the Question

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3 Majority

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

VOTE on Article 19 Main Motion: Passed by 2/3 Majority. Seven voters did not contest the ruling.

ARTICLE 20: AMEND CHAPTER 218 – ZONING BYLAW

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

1. In Section 218-10, Boundaries of Districts, Item E, by replacing the word “manufacturing” with the word “industrial”; and further,

2. In Section 218-18, Special Use Considerations in R-B, B-1 and M-1 Districts by replacing the phrase “R-B, B-1 and M-1 Districts” with the phrase “R-B, VCB, NB, GB, and I Districts” in the title; in subsection B by changing the caption from “Rezoning to B-1 or M-1” to “Rezoning to VCB, NB, GB or I,” and replacing the phrases “Business B-1 or Manufacturing M-1 District” and “B-1 or M-1 District” with the phrase “Business or Industrial District,” in subsection C(2) by replacing the phrase “at a location zoned B-1 or M-1 prior to January 1, 1990” with the

phrase “at a location zoned Business or Industrial (or Manufacturing)” prior to January 1, 1990”; and by replacing the word “manufacturing” with the word “industrial” in subsections C(1) and D(1); and further,

3. In Section 218-23, Off-street Parking and Loading, subsection C (1) by replacing the phrase “B-1, R-B or M-1 Districts” in the first sentence with the phrase “R-B, VCB, NB, GB, or I Districts in the first sentence; and by replacing the phrase “B-1 District” in the second sentence with the words “VCB District” so that the subsection reads as follows:

Location. Required parking shall be on the same premises as the activity it serves in the R-B, VCB, NB, GB, or I Districts. Each parcel in the VCB District shall be credited with five on-street parking spaces if the parcel is located on Main Street (Route 119) between Lowell Road (Route 40) and Pleasant Street. Such on-street parking spaces shall not qualify as meeting parking requirements for the purposes of § 218-25A, Applicability. Parking lots located within the Groton Center area may be shared with the written consent of the landowner and the approval of the Planning Board, provided that such use will not have an adverse effect on the Town; and further,

4. In Section 218-24, Appearance, subsection B, Promotion of Harmonious Development, by replacing the phrase “R-B Residential-Business District, a B Business District, or an M Manufacturing District” with the phrase “R-B, VCB, NB, GB, or an I District.”; and further,

5. In Section 218-30.2, Town Center Overlay District, by replacing the phrase “Business (B-1),” with the words “Village Center Business,” in Subsection A, Definition, and by replacing “B-1” with “VCB” in Subsection C, Applicability and Permitted Use”.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The proposed amendment changes the references for Business District (B-1) to Village Center Business (VCB), Neighborhood Business (N-B), and General Business (G-B) and the references for Manufacturing District (M-1) to Industrial District (I) wherever they appear in the Zoning Bylaw.*

Mover: George Barringer

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning, Sections 218-10, 218-18, 218-23, 218-24 and 218-30.2, as set forth in Article 20 of the Warrant for the October 20, 2014 Fall Town Meeting.

Moved and Seconded

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

Vote on Article 20 Main Motion: Passed by 2/3 Majority

ARTICLE 21: AMEND CHAPTER 218 – ZONING BYLAW

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

1. In Section 218-4, Definitions, by adding the following new definition:

ESSENTIAL PUBLIC SERVICES -- Services provided by public and private utilities, whether underground, surface, or overhead gas, electrical, or steam transmission systems and accessories thereto, such as towers, wires, sub-stations, switching stations, compression stations, and other constituent facilities, and structures, vaults, pipes, and water storage tanks.

2. In Section 218-13, Use Regulations, by deleting the following uses :

	R-A	R-B	B-1	M-1	C	O	P
Telephone, telegraph, power and gas transmission and radio-television broadcasting facilities	SP	SP	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Underground gas and utility transmission	Y	Y	Y	Y	SP	Y	y

and replacing them with the following use:

	R-A	R-B	VCB	NB	GB	I	O	P
Essential public services	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Board of Selectmen: *No Position*
Finance Committee: *No Position*
Planning Board: *Recommends 5 In Favor 2 Against*
Sewer Commission: *Not Recommended Unanimously*
Water Commission: *Not Recommended Unanimously*
Electric Light Commission: *Not Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The proposed amendment would require that a special permit application be submitted to the Planning Board for “Essential Public Services” (see definition) in all districts.*

Mover: Russell Burke

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218 Zoning, by adding to Section 218-4, Definitions, a new definition for the term “essential services,” and by revising Section 218-13, Use Regulations, all as shown in the handout distributed at Town Meeting.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- The Groton Commissions which opposed this article did so for similar reasons – this would add costs and slow down the process of local utilities when installing and perhaps repairing infrastructure.
- Mr. Burke rebutted these statements by stating the article would have no effect on “business as usual”, except perhaps that a new water tower, pump station or electric substation would likely need a special permit. It could be argued that these facilities should require a special permit.
- Mr. Jeffrey advocated for the article because this could affect the implementation of the Tennessee Gas Pipeline in Groton. State and Federal officials do consider local actions when making permitting decisions.

MOTION to Amend Article 21 Main Motion (Mr. Jeffery)

I move to amend the main motion by revising the proposed definition of “essential services” in Section 218-4 by striking the words “gas mains” in the second sentence and substituting the words “low pressure gas distribution mains,” and by adding the words “gas compressor stations,” after the words “electric transmission lines” in the first sentence.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority

Vote on Motion to Amend Article 21: 63 In Favor; 72 Against. Motion to Amend is Defeated

Vote on Article 21 Main Motion: Defeated

ARTICLE 22: ACCEPT ALTERATION OF LAYOUT OF WEST MAIN STREET

To see if the Town will vote to accept an alteration of the public way layout of West Main Street, being the portion lying adjacent to Assessors' Parcels 218-6 and 218-6-1 as the same is shown on a plan entitled “Plan of Land in Groton, Massachusetts Prepared for Richard Kazanjian” dated May 6, 2014 and prepared by Ducharme and Dillis Civil Design Group, Inc. Engineers, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, in order to eliminate the portion of the right of way of West Main Street which is shown on the plan as Parcel A, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting

Finance Committee: No Position

Summary: *Approval of this Article will eliminate the portion of the right of way of West Main Street lying in front of Assessors' Parcels 218-6 and 218-6-1 (Groton Nursery and Nashoba Paddler) which has been used as the parking lot serving those properties for over forty years.*

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION A: I move that the Town vote to accept an alteration of the public way layout of West Main Street, being the portion lying adjacent to Assessors' Parcels 218-6 and 218-6-1 as the same is shown on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Groton, Massachusetts Prepared for Richard Kazanjian" dated May 6, 2014 and prepared by Ducharme and Dillis Civil Design Group, Inc. Engineers, a copy of which is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, in order to eliminate the portion of the right of way of West Main Street which is shown on the plan as Parcel A.

MOTION B: I move that Article 22 be indefinitely postponed.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 22 Motion to Indefinitely Postpone: Unanimous

ARTICLE 23: AUTHORIZE CONVEYANCE OF PARCEL ON WEST MAIN STREET

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from the Board of Selectmen the care, custody, and control of all or a portion of the land shown as Parcel A on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Groton, Massachusetts Prepared for Richard Kazanjian" dated May 6, 2014 and prepared by Ducharme and Dillis Civil Design Group, Inc. Engineers to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of sale and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey Parcel A or allocable portions thereof to the respective owners of Assessors' Parcels 218-6 and 218-6-1 for the sum of one (\$1.00) dollar or such other sum as may be determined by the Board of Selectmen, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Board of Selectmen: Recommendation Deferred Until Town Meeting

Finance Committee: No Position

Summary: *Approval of this Article will authorize the conveyance of Parcel A which is comprised of 15,912 square feet to the adjacent land owners who have utilized this land as the parking lot serving Groton Nursery and Nashoba Paddler. The current owners and their predecessors in title have improved this land and utilized it as a parking lot for over forty years.*

Mover: John Petropoulos

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to transfer from the Board of Selectmen the care, custody, and control of all or a portion of the land shown as Parcel A on a plan entitled "Plan of Land in Groton, Massachusetts Prepared for Richard Kazanjian" dated May 6, 2014 and prepared by Ducharme and Dillis Civil Design Group, Inc. Engineers to the Board of Selectmen for the purpose of sale and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to convey Parcel A or allocable

portions thereof to the respective owners of Assessors' Parcels 218-6 and 218-6-1 for the sum of one (\$1.00) dollar or such other sum as may be determined by the Board of Selectmen.

MOTION B: I move that Article 23 be indefinitely postponed.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Article 23 Motion to Indefinitely Pospone: Unanimous

ARTICLE 24: CITIZENS' PETITION – ELECTRONIC VOTING STUDY COMMITTEE

To see if the Town will vote to create the "Study Committee on Electronic Voting in Groton Town Meeting", said Committee to be appointed by the Town Moderator; the membership of the Committee shall be as follows: the Town Moderator, the Town Clerk, Town Counsel, Town Manager, Chair of the Groton Board of Selectmen or that Chair's designee, Chair of the Groton Finance Committee or that Chair's designee, Groton's Director of Information Technology or that Director's designee, and two (2) citizens at large; said Committee's Charge shall be to study the benefits, implementation procedures and issues, and potential problems associated with the use of electronic voting systems in an "Open" form of Town Meeting, and to make its recommendations, concerning electronic voting, to the Groton Town Meeting no later than its Annual Spring Town Meeting of 2015, which recommendations may include such proposed amendments to the Town of Groton Bylaws as said Committee deems appropriate, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CITIZENS' PETITION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Robert L. Gosselin	133 Smith Street	Alberta Erickson	464 Boston Road
Peter Myette	69 School House Road	Robert Hargraves	21 Temple Street
Jeffrey Wallens	952 Lowell Road	Gwenneth Wallens	952 Lowell Road
Michelle Collette	43 Windmill Hill	M. Constance Sartini	38 Mill Street
John Giger	152 Whiley Road	Scott Harker	341 Martins Pond Road

Board of Selectmen: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: No Position

Summary: *The intent of this Article is to support, and advance, a key recommendation in the final Report of the Groton Town Meeting Review Study Committee, dated February 20, 2014, said recommendation being to investigate the use of electronic voting within the four (4) walls of Town Meeting.*

Mover: Robert Collins

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to create the "Study Committee on Electronic Voting in Groton Town Meeting", said Committee to be appointed by the Town Moderator; the membership of the Committee shall be as follows: the Town Moderator, the Town Clerk, Town Counsel, Town Manager, Chair of the Groton Board of Selectmen or that Chair's designee, Chair of the Groton Finance Committee or that Chair's designee, Groton's Director of Information Technology or that Director's designee, and two (2) citizens at large; said Committee's Charge shall be to study the benefits, implementation procedures and issues, and potential problems associated with the use of

electronic voting systems in an “Open” form of Town Meeting, and to make its recommendations, concerning electronic voting, to the Groton Town Meeting no later than its Annual Spring Town Meeting of 2015, which recommendations may include such proposed amendments to the Town of Groton Bylaws as said Committee deems appropriate.

Moved and Seconded
Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Motion to amend (Mr. Green):

I move to amend Article 24 Main Motion by deleting the words “Town Counsel” and replacing “two (2) citizens at large” with “three (3) citizens at large.”

Moved and Seconded
Quantum: Majority
Vote on Motion to Amend: Passed by Majority vote

Vote on Article 24 Main Motion as amended: Passed by a Majority vote.

Motion to dissolve the meeting was Moved and Seconded, and passed by Unanimous vote. The Meeting was dissolved at 9:31 PM on October 27, 2014.

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 29th Day of September in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen.

Joshua A. Degen
Joshua A. Degen, Chairman

Anna Eliot
Anna Eliot, Vice Chairman

Stuart M. Schulman
Stuart M. Schulman, Clerk

Peter S. Cunningham
Peter S. Cunningham, Member

John G. Petropoulos
John G. Petropoulos, 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

**REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER
TO THE 2014 FALL TOWN MEETING**

The 2014 Fall Town Meeting Warrant contains several warrant articles that seek appropriations, some of which will affect the Tax Rate and some which will have no further impact on taxes. The purpose of this report is to provide the residents and taxpayers with a summary of these articles and what impact they will have on the Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Rate.

As you will recall, the 2014 Spring Town Meeting voted a budget of \$33,240,844 which was \$74,780 under the levy limit based on our best estimate of revenues at that time. Since that time, we have begun to get a better picture of our estimates. Most importantly, in July, the Commonwealth finalized its budget and provided the Town with its final State Aid Estimates. Further, the Assessors continue to work toward the finalization of the Town's new growth. They should have it certified by the end of October. At this time, I am pleased to say that both of these amounts have come in higher than anticipated last December when the Fiscal Year 2015 Operating Budget was first developed. The following chart provides the difference between what was originally estimated and what we are estimating at this time:

	<u>Original</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Difference</u>
State Aid	\$ 805,868	\$ 828,915	\$ 23,047
State Charges	\$ 110,776	\$ 106,992	\$ 3,784
Snow & Ice Deficit	\$ 200,000	\$ 221,729	\$(21,729)
Off-Set Receipts	\$ 20,000	\$ 17,617	\$ 2,383
New Growth	\$ 260,700 (\$15m)	\$ 347,600 (\$20m)	\$ 86,900
Local Receipts	\$3,488,100	\$3,564,000	<u>\$ 75,900</u>
	Additional Revenues		\$170,285

With this additional revenue, the approved budget is now \$245,065 under the levy limit. Since the original budget was voted, we have been attempting to address several issues that require

attention. With this additional revenue, we would like to address these issues at the Fall Town Meeting before we set the Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Rate. Article 2 of the Warrant proposes to amend the original budget in some line items. In addition, The Department of Revenue has certified the Town's Free Cash at \$1,181,587. Some of this Free Cash will be used to fund several of the Articles contained in the Warrant. The use of "Free Cash" will not impact the tax rate.

The following is a summary of Warrant Articles requesting funding and how it will impact the anticipated FY 2015 Tax Rate:

Article 1: Unpaid Bills Amount Requested: \$229

The following unpaid bills will be funded through Free Cash and will not affect the Tax Rate:

Bain Pest Control -	\$49
Carrot-Top Industries -	\$95
Eastern Industrial Automation -	<u>\$85</u>
Total	\$229

Article 2: Budget Amendments Amount Requested: \$81,222

The proposed funding for this Article will come from taxation and will impact the Tax Rate (at the conclusion of the summary and explanation will be a chart showing the impact on the FY 2015 Tax Rate). The following is a breakdown of the requests, followed by an explanation:

<u>Line Item</u>	<u>Original Appropriation</u>	<u>New Appropriation</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Board of Selectmen Expenses	\$ 2,000	\$ 6,500	\$ 4,500
Town Accountant Wages	\$ 33,065	\$ 39,135	\$ 6,070
Treasurer/Collector Wages	\$ 92,471	\$ 96,125	\$ 3,654
IT Wages	\$ 34,640	\$ 44,538	\$ 9,898
Fire Department Expenses	\$ 115,059	\$128,059	\$ 13,000
Police & Fire Communications	\$ 392,082	\$436,182	\$ 44,100
Country Club Salary	\$ 133,150	\$ 62,689	\$(70,461)
Country Club Wages	\$ 154,200	\$184,738	\$ 30,538
Country Club Expenses	<u>\$ 257,650</u>	<u>\$297,573</u>	<u>\$ 39,923</u>
Total	\$1,214,317	\$1,295,539	\$ 81,222

Explanation of Requests:

Board of Selectmen Expenses - \$4,500

The Trails Committee has applied for a State Grant that will fund the creation of the Nashua River Accessible Trail. It will be the first trail of any kind in Groton to provide access for people of all abilities to a peaceful forest experience as well as beautiful views of the Nashua River and one of its oxbow ponds. The proposed trail will provide a unique recreational experience along the Nashua River for all, including parents with children in strollers, wheelchair-bound individuals, and anyone who needs a flat stable surface upon which to travel. The Nashua River Accessible Trail will be entirely within the J. Harry Rich State Forest, which is managed by

the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). The proposed trail will intersect Nod Rd. about 0.5 miles east of where Rte. 119 crosses the Nashua River. The grant application is for \$22,290.41. The grant has a requirement for 20% matching funds, which means the Town must provide \$4,500 towards the project.

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Town Accountant Wages - \$6,070

This request is for both three (3) additional hours per week for the Assistant Town Accountant and a reclassification of the position. The Assistant Town Accountant's position is budgeted for 27 hours per week. More often than not, the Town Accountant has been forced to alter the Assistant's hours to meet the needs of a very busy office. This position has been averaging almost 30 hours per week on a regular basis which has forced the reduction of hours in other weeks to meet the budget. The workload demand in the office requires at least 30 hours per week for this position. This increase is needed to keep up with current workflow. With regard to the second request, the Assistant Treasurer/Collector and the Assistant Assessor are classified as Grade 9 positions. The Assistant Town Accountant is classified as a Grade 7 position. Based on a request from the Town Accountant and pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town and SEIU, Local 888, the Human Resources Director and Town Manager undertook a review of the position to determine if a reclassification was required. Based on this review and grading of the position, a reclassification to Grade 9 is required to meet the requirements of the job and to keep in line with similar positions within the Finance Offices at Town Hall. The cost of the reclassification and increased hours is \$6,070.

Board of Selectmen: *Not Recommended – 3 Against, 2 In Favor (Cunningham, Schulman)*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Treasurer/Collector Wages - \$3,654

Similar to the Assistant Town Accountant's reclassification, the Treasurer/Collector, pursuant to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Town and SEIU, Local 888, requested that a review of the position of Payroll Coordinator/Assistant to the Treasurer be undertaken. Currently, this position is classified as a Grade 6 position. Based on the review of this position by the Human Resources Director and Town Manager, it was determined that a reclassification of the position to Grade 7 is required to meet the requirements of the job. The cost of this reclassification is \$3,654.

Board of Selectmen: *Not Recommended – 3 Against, 2 In Favor (Cunningham, Schulman)*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

IT Wages - \$9,898

When the former IT Director resigned, a complete study of the IT Department was undertaken to determine how to continue the high level of services provided by our IT Department. A key part of the study was the in-depth Exit Interview conducted by the Town Manager and Human Resources Director of the outgoing IT Director Jason Bulger. Through this discussion, it was determined that the role of the Desk Top Specialist had increased significantly by taking on additional duties over the past year. The Human Resources Director and Town Manager reviewed the position, currently classified as a Grade 5 position, and determined that an upgrade to Grade 6 was warranted. In addition, both the outgoing IT Director and the new IT Director, Brian Davis, requested that this position be increased from 35 hours per week to 40 hours per week based on the work load and actual hours worked by the current Desk Top Specialist. This funding is necessary to cover both the additional hours, as well as the position reclassification. The cost of this change is \$9,898.

Board of Selectmen: *Not Recommended – 3 Against, 2 In Favor (Cunningham, Schulman)*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Fire Department Expenses - \$13,000

The Town recently hired a new Fire Chief. During his initial review of Department operations he found that the budget for training was very low. One of the areas where the Chief would like to see additional opportunities is in Professional Development. Some of the areas for this type of training would be in Leadership, Internal & External Communications and Effective Writing, Supervision and Management, Ethics, Problem Solving and Decision Making and Conflict Management, Coaching, and Counseling. This funding would be used to provide this for the Department's Officers. This funding would be used in future years to provide additional training opportunities.

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended Unanimously*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Police & Fire Communications - \$44,100

During the preparation of the Fiscal Year 2015 Proposed Operating Budget, the Town Manager proposed to add an additional Dispatcher Position to the Town's Communications Department. The Town now has five (5) full-time and one (1) part-time dispatcher. As stated in the Budget Message provided last December, the Fiscal Year 2014 Budget had added an additional position because new state mandates had created more work for the dispatchers by requiring them to obtain and follow Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) procedures and requirements. In order to become a certified EMD dispatcher, the employee must become a certified E911 telecommunicator, obtain and maintain CPR certification, and obtain and maintain EMD certification. Each employee must also complete sixteen (16) hours of state approved continuing education training each year. This new mandate has created more work for the dispatcher(s). The position approved last year has enhanced our dispatching capabilities by allowing the Town to have the busiest times covered by two (2) dispatchers on duty and

continue to meet State mandates without impacting public safety. The remaining shifts have been covered by relief dispatchers. Unfortunately this one (1) additional position only scratched the surface of the Department's needs. A review of the Communications operations and increased call volume has proven that more shifts should be covered by two (2) dispatchers. While the relief dispatchers have filled some of these shifts, scheduling is not easy since the relief dispatchers work other full-time jobs. Based on this, it was proposed for the second consecutive year that the Town add an additional full-time dispatcher in Fiscal Year 2015. This proposal was originally accepted by the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee. However, due to the needs of the Groton Dunstable Regional School Department, it was removed from the proposed budget in April. Now that additional funding is available and the need is still paramount, it is requested that this position be added to the Communications Department. The cost to add this position to the Budget is \$44,100.

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended – 3 In Favor, 2 Against (Eliot, Petropoulos)*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Country Club Salary - (\$70,461)
Country Club Wages - \$ 30,538
Country Club Expenses - \$ 39,923

Similar to what occurred within the IT Department when the former Director resigned, an Exit Interview was conducted by the Town Manager and Human Resources Director when the Country Club General Manager retired in May. During that discussion, it was determined not to fill the vacancy during the current season and have the Town Manager serve as the General Manager of the Country Club. There was no interruption of services during the Summer of 2014 as the Department Directors at the Country Club continued to manage their departments and provide excellent services to its members and the general public. In order to have coverage at the Club, the Administrative Assistant's position was increased from 15 hours per week to 40 hours per week and a consultant was hired (at a cost of \$12,000) to help the Town Manager determine improvements to the Club's Golf Operation. To pay for both of these changes, as well as cover the cost of needed repairs at the facility, the former General Manager's Salary is being transferred to the Wage and Expense Accounts. There is no impact on the FY 2015 Operating Budget with these changes.

Board of Selectmen: *Recommended – 4 In Favor, 1 Against (Eliot)*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

This Article requests that the funding for these requests (\$81,222) come out of our excess levy capacity since almost all of these requests (with the exception of the Trails Grant) will be recurring expenses in FY 2016. The impact on the FY 2015 Tax Rate is as follows:

Original Budget -	\$32,048,878
Original Levy Capacity Used -	\$25,703,296

Amount Under the Levy Limit -	\$74,780
Original Proposed Tax Rate -	\$18.40
Average Tax Bill -	\$7,360 or \$408 increase over FY 2014
New Proposed Budget -	\$32,130,100
New Levy Capacity Used (w/Growth)	\$25,688,133
Amount Under the Levy Limit -	\$163,843
New Proposed Tax Rate -	\$18.37
Average Tax Bill -	\$7,348 or \$396 increase over FY 2014

Article 3 – Capital Stabilization Fund

Amount Requested: \$365,000

The Fund has a balance of \$167,891. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Capital Stabilization Fund equal to 1.5% of the total annual budget. To meet this level, the Town will need to add \$365,000 to the fund. This funding will come from Free Cash and not affect the Tax Rate.

Article 4 – Stabilization Fund

Amount Requested: \$150,000

The balance in this fund is \$1.46 million. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Stabilization Fund equal to 5% of the total annual budget. To meet this level, the Town will need to add \$150,000 to the fund. This funding will come from Free Cash and not affect the Tax Rate.

Article 5 – Offset the Tax Rate

Amount Requested: \$150,000

The Board of Selectmen is recommending that Town Meeting transfer \$150,000 from Free Cash to offset the tax rate in FY 2015. This will reduce the average tax bill (home valued at \$400,000) by \$40.00.

Article 8 – Police Department Data Conversion

Amount Requested: \$41,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: “The Police Department currently maintains records extending back to the 1990s on three different servers. Searches for data must take place on three separate systems, lengthening the time searches take and increasing the chance that something is missed. Maintaining these servers is costly, and finding parts to replace failed components is becoming increasingly difficult. Last Spring, the oldest system suffered a hardware failure that resulted in the system being down for two months, with a cost to fix exceeding \$3,000. Many surrounding police departments simply gave up a decade or more of data when their similar-aged servers died or malfunctioned. This one-time expense will take data from two older systems and migrate it to the current system. It should take about three weeks to migrate the data, at which time the older systems can be removed from the network.” This funding will come from Free Cash and not affect the Tax Rate.

Article 9 – Improvements to Public Safety Building Amount Requested: \$60,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: “Now that the Fire Department has moved out of the Public Safety Building into their new headquarters on Farmers Row, the Police Department will be taking over the entire building. In order to convert the space formerly used by the Fire Department into usable space for the Police Department, various improvements and repairs are required. The purpose of this article is to provide the necessary funding to accomplish this task. Additionally, since the building will be occupied only by the Police Department, it should be renamed ‘Groton Police Department’.” This funding will come from Free Cash and not affect the Tax Rate.

Article 13 – Engineering Funding Amount Requested: \$15,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: “The Board of Selectmen recently expanded the Lost Lake Sewer Advisory Committee to a seven (7) member Committee and renamed it the Lost Lake Watershed Advisory Committee. The LLSAC had completed its work and determined that there is still the need for further study of the entire Watershed and that based on the information before them, the installation of a Sewer System may not be the only solution to nutrient loading in Lost Lake. In expanding and renaming this Committee, the Selectmen charged it with the responsibility of reviewing and studying all point and non-point source discharges in the entire Lost Lake Watershed that may impact Lost Lake and Knops Pond. The purpose of this article is to provide funding to the Committee to hire the necessary expertise to help it fulfill this charge.” This funding will come from Free Cash and not affect the Tax Rate.

With the exception of Article 2 (\$81,222), all of the funding for the remaining money articles (\$781,229) will be appropriated from Surplus Revenue (“Free Cash”) and not impact the Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Rate. Should each of these articles pass, the Town will have a balance of \$400,358 in Free Cash.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Haddad

Mark W. Haddad
Town Manager

APPENDIX A

PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENT ITEM #1 - SECTION 218-4 DEFINITIONS Filed with the Town Clerk on August 22, 2014 Revised on September 29, 2014

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

Amend Section 218-4 Definitions, by deleting Section 218-4 Definitions in its entirety and by inserting in its place a new Section 218-4 Definitions, dated August 22, 2014, on file in the office of the Town Clerk:

§ 218-4. Definitions.

In this chapter the following terms shall have the following meanings unless a contrary meaning is required by the context or is specifically prescribed. Words used in the singular include the plural, and words used in the plural include the singular. Words used in the present tense include the future. The abbreviation "sq. ft." shall include square foot or square feet. The word "shall" is mandatory and "may" is permissive or discretionary. The word "and" includes "or" unless the contrary is evident from the text. The word "includes" or "including" shall not limit a term to specified examples, but is intended to extend its meaning to all other instances, circumstances, or items of like character or kind. The word "lot" includes "plot"; the word "used" or "occupied" shall be considered as though followed by the words "or intended, arranged, or designed to be used or occupied." The words "building," "structure," "lot," or "parcel" shall be construed as being followed by the words "or any portion thereof." The word "person" includes a firm, association, organization, partnership, company, or corporation, as well as an individual.

Terms and words not defined herein but defined in the Massachusetts State Building Code shall have the meaning given therein unless a contrary intention is clearly evident in this bylaw.

ACCESSORY APARTMENT — A separate dwelling unit, complete with its own cooking and sanitary facilities, having not more than one bedroom and functioning as a separate unit. Additions, renovations, and all construction shall meet the requirements of the current edition of the State Building Code. [Added 4-25-2005 ATM, Art. 20, approved 6-1-2005]

ACCESSORY USE OR BUILDING — A use or building which is subordinate and customarily incidental to and located on the same lot with the principal use or building to which it is accessory.

ADULT DAY CARE -- A day services program designed to provide assistance with activities of daily living and meet the cognitive, social, physical, and medical needs of elderly clients, and provide temporary relief for their caregivers; certified, licensed, or operated under a contract administered by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs or other state agency authorized under the laws of the Commonwealth.

AIRFIELD, NONCOMMERCIAL: A private airstrip restricted to use by the owner of the facility or the owner's invited guests.

ASSISTED LIVING FACILITY – A residence certified by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, or its successor, under M.G.L. c. 19D to provide room and board and assistance with activities of daily living for three or more adult residents not related by consanguinity or affinity to their care provider, and to collect payments or third-party reimbursements to provide such services. An assisted living facility may include a licensed adult day care center as an accessory use.

AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOP — A shop or garage for the repair of motor vehicles, other than a private garage or a gasoline service station.

BED AND BREAKFAST -- A building or group of buildings intended to be used or used for transient overnight lodging with not less than two nor more than four rooms for paying guests, with guest meals typically included in the room charge and limited to breakfast prepared in a central kitchen. No cooking facilities shall be located in individual guest rooms or suites.

BEDROOM — As defined in Title V of the Massachusetts Environmental Code [310 CMR 15.002].

BOATHOUSE - Boathouse – A permanent, fixed roofed structure constructed for the purpose of permanent, temporary, or seasonal storage of watercraft and located on, over, or proximate to navigable water. Usually constructed in combination with docks, piers, seawalls, or landings - said structures used for purpose of maneuvering watercraft from and to, into and out of said boathouse.

BUILDING — A structure having a roof or cover and forming a shelter for persons, animals or property.

BUILDING HEIGHT — Measured at the vertical distance from the average elevation of the finished lot grade at the front of the building to the highest point of the top story in the case of a flat roof and to the ridge in the case of a pitched roof.

CAMP, DAY OR YOUTH – A camp providing facilities for groups of young people such as YMCA camps, Boy Scout or Girl Scout camps, or a similar recreation establishment operated by public or private non-profit organization, with indoor or outdoor activities for children, including sports, arts and crafts, entertainment, recreation, educational activities, swimming, fishing, horseback riding, and incidental food service.

CHILD CARE CENTER – A facility other than a private residence operated on a regular basis and licensed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under G.L. c. 15D to receive children not of common parentage under 7 years of age, or under 16 years of

age if those children have special needs, for nonresidential custody and care during part or all of the day separate from their parents. As used in this chapter, child care center includes services known as child nursery, nursery school, kindergarten, child play school, progressive school, child development center, or preschool.

COMMERCIAL RECREATION, INDOOR: A facility operated as a business, open to the public for a per-visit or membership fee, for indoor recreation purposes such as tennis, racquetball, swimming, ice skating, roller skating or similar activities, including a health club or athletic club, but not including indoor recreation programs operated by the Town of Groton or its various departments, or the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District.

COMMERCIAL RECREATION, OUTDOOR: A facility operated as a business, open to the public for a per-visit or membership fee, for outdoor recreation purposes such as skiing, swimming, ball games, golf, or similar customary and usual sports or recreation activities.

CONTIGUOUS — Sharing a common lot line or touching at any point. [Added 5-3-1988 ATM, Art. 34]

CONTRACTOR'S SHOP - An enclosed space used for the housing and/or operating of machinery, the provision of services, the fabrication of building-related products, and interior storage, but which does not use any exterior storage area.

CONTRACTOR'S STORAGE YARD - Any land or buildings used primarily for the storage of equipment, vehicles, machinery (new or used), building materials, paints, pipe, or electrical components used by the owner or occupant of the premises in the conduct of any building trades or building craft.

CRAFT SHOP -- A business establishment that produces on the premises articles for sale of artistic quality or effect or handmade workmanship, e.g., candle making, glass blowing, weaving, pottery making, custom woodworking, sculpting, painting, and other associated activities.

DRIVEWAY — An improved access, other than a street, connecting between a street and one or more parking or loading spaces.

DWELLING — A building or part thereof designed, erected and used for continuous and permanent habitation for one or more families or individuals.

DWELLING UNIT — A building or portion of a building intended as living quarters for a single family, having a single set of kitchen facilities (a stove plus either or both a refrigerator and a sink) not shared with any other unit.

EXISTING STREET — A way in existence on May 1, 1980, if qualifying to provide frontage for subdivision of land, as provided at the definition of "frontage."

FAMILY — Any number of persons living together as a single economic unit and ordinarily using a single cooking facility.

FLOOR AREA, AGGREGATE — Total floor area including all floors of all buildings on the premises. [Added 4-30-2012 ATM, Art. 23]

FLOOR AREA, GROSS — Total gross floor area including exterior building walls of all floor areas of a building or structure. [Added 4-30-2012 ATM, Art. 23]

FLOOR AREA, HABITABLE — The temperature-controlled, finished floor area within a dwelling unit exclusive of unfinished garages, attics and cellars. [Added 4-30-2012 ATM, Art. 23]

FRONTAGE — The length of common boundary between a lot and a way legally qualifying to provide frontage for the division of land, pursuant to § 218-22A and MGL C. 41, § 81L, to be measured continuously along the street line between side lot lines and their intersection with the street line, which provides safe and adequate vehicular access from said way to the principal use of the lot. [Added 4-29-1996 ATM, Art. 18]

GASOLINE SERVICE STATION — A structure or lot used for the sale of gasoline and oil for servicing motor vehicles, other than a private garage.

HAMMERHEAD LOT — A lot having at least forty-foot frontage and five acres' area and meeting the requirements of § 218-23.1. [Added 10-15-1990 STM, Art. 7]

HELIPORT -- An area designed to be used for the landing or takeoff of a helicopter. As used in this chapter, heliport is restricted in use to the owner or operator of the facility.

HOTEL, MOTEL or INN — A building or part thereof or a group of buildings on a single lot providing public accommodations, where space is used for sleeping and appurtenant services by more than four persons as paying guests. For a hotel or motel with units equipped with independent cooking facilities, such units shall not be occupied by any guest for more than two (2) continuous months, nor may guests reoccupy any unit within thirty (30) days of a continuous two-month stay or stay more than a combined total of four (4) months in any calendar year, unless such requirements are specifically waived by special permit from the Board of Appeals. No occupant of such hotel or motel may claim residency at such location.

HOME OCCUPATION — An occupation, business, trade, service or profession which is conducted on the premises used as the residence of the operator of the business and which is not allowed as a principal use, including, in the R-A District, a business office, professional office, craft shop for articles produced on the premises or repair shop for small items.

LARGE-SCALE GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION — A solar photovoltaic system that is structurally mounted on the ground and is not roof-mounted, and has a minimum nameplate capacity of 250 kW DC. [Added 4-25-2011 ATM, Art. 22]

LARGE-SCALE WIND ENERGY CONVERSION DEVICE — A wind energy conversion device that exceeds 65 feet in height. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

LODGING HOUSE – A single-family dwelling where more than two but fewer than eight furnished rooms are provided as lodging for paying guests, regular or transient, for definite periods of times, with facilities for common services such as meals and laundry. No meals are provided to outside guests.

LOT, BUILDING — A single area of land in one ownership throughout defined by metes and bounds or boundary lines as shown in a recorded deed or on a recorded plan and having the minimum area and frontage as required by this chapter.

LOT, CORNER — A lot or parcel of land abutting upon two or more streets at their intersection or upon two parts of the same street having street side lines or tangents to side lines forming an interior angle of less than 135°. A lot which has legal frontage on both a public way and a proposed subdivision way and one which shall be shown on a subdivision shall be considered part of that plan. [Amended 10-6-1994 STM, Art. 14]

LOT or PARCEL — A single area of land in one ownership throughout defined by metes and bounds or boundary lines as shown in a recorded deed or on a recorded plan.

LOT WIDTH — The distance between the side lot lines measured along the setback line as established by this chapter. The setback line shall be parallel to a straight line connecting the two front lot corners of the lot. (See lot width detail.¹). [Added 10-15-1990 STM, Art. 5; amended 10-6-1994 STM, Art. 15]

MAJOR PROJECT — Development used for business or manufacturing, resulting in either a building whose vertical projection ("footprint") exceeds 5,000 horizontal square feet measured to the outside of its enclosing walls, or 15,000 square feet or more of aggregate floor area which includes all floors of all buildings on the premises. Such development is either construction of a new building or addition to an existing building, where the addition increases the building's floor area by 5,000 square feet or more.²

MANUFACTURING -- An establishment engaged in the indoor manufacturing, assembly, fabrication, packaging or other industrial processing of finished parts or products, primarily from previously prepared materials, or the indoor provision of industrial services, where there are few external effects across property lines. Manufacturing includes but is not limited to a business engaged in the processing, fabrication, assembly, treatment, or packaging of food, textile, leather, wood, paper, chemical, plastic, or metal products, but does not include basic industrial processing from raw materials.

MOBILE HOME — A structure designed as a dwelling unit for living purposes, capable of being moved on its own wheels by a motor vehicle, whether retained on wheels or fixed to a permanent foundation.

MOBILE HOME PARK — Land on which two or more mobile homes are stationed for the purpose of human habitation and land which is used in conjunction with land on which mobile homes are stationed.

MUSEUM — An institution devoted to the procurement, care, study, and display of objects of lasting interest, value, or historical significance.

MULTIFAMILY USE — A building containing three or more dwelling units.

1. Editor's Note: The Lot Width Detail diagram is located at the end of this chapter.

2. Editor's Note: The definition of "major residential development," which immediately followed this definition, added 10-27-1997 ATM, Art. 19, was repealed 4-28-2003 ATM, Art. 23.

NACELLE — The frame and housing at the top of the wind energy conversion facility tower that encloses the gearbox and generator and protects them from the weather. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

ON-SITE SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC INSTALLATION — A solar photovoltaic installation that is constructed at a location where other uses of the underlying property occur. [Added 4-25-2011 ATM, Art. 22]

PERSONAL SERVICE ESTABLISHMENT -- An establishment whose primary business relies on customers coming and going on a regular basis and which provides a nonmedical service directly to the consumer, such as a barber, hairdresser, manicurist, caterer, decorator, dressmaker or tailor, dry cleaner or laundry service, optician, photographer, shoemaker or upholsterer, and similar uses.

PERSONAL WIRELESS SERVICES — Commercial mobile services, unlicensed wireless services, and common carrier wireless exchange access services. [Added 4-27-1998 ATM, Art. 27]

PERSONAL WIRELESS SERVICES FACILITY — A facility for the provision of personal wireless services as defined under the Federal Telecommunications Act. [Added 4-27-1998 ATM, Art. 27]

PERSONAL WIRELESS SERVICES TOWER — Any guyed structure, monopole tower or self-supporting structure that is constructed as a freestanding structure to contain one or more antennas or other equipment intended to transmit or receive television, AM/FM radio, digital, microwave, cellular, telephone or similar or related forms of communications. [Added 4-27-1998 ATM, Art. 27]

PRIVATE GARAGE — Covered space for the housing of motor vehicles, no more than two of which belong to other than the occupants of the lot on which such space is located.

RATED NAMEPLATE CAPACITY — The maximum rated output of electric power production of the photovoltaic system in direct current (DC). [Added 4-25-2011 ATM, Art. 22]

ROTOR — The blades and hub of the wind energy conversion device that rotates during energy conversion device operation. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

SEASONAL RESIDENCE — A residence that is used for fewer than 180 days per year. Evidence to document whether a residence is seasonal or year-round may include utility bills, United States Post Office records, principal place of garaging, or sworn affidavits by three abutting year-round residents. [Added 5-3-1988 ATM, Art. 33]

SIGN — Includes any lettering, word, numeral, pictorial representation, emblem, trademark, device, flag or other figure of similar character located outdoors and being a structure or any part thereof or attached to, painted on or in any other manner represented on a building or other structure and used to announce, direct, attract, advertise or promote, including signs located inside a window only when illuminated or moving, and shall not include the display of merchandise visible through such window. Marquees, canopies, awnings, clocks, thermometers and calendars shall be subject to

the provisions of this chapter only when used to display or support signs as defined above.

SMALL-SCALE WIND ENERGY CONVERSION DEVICE — A wind energy conversion device that may be freestanding or mounted on a structure not exceeding 65 feet in height. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC ARRAY — An arrangement of solar photovoltaic panels. [Added 4-25-2011 ATM, Art. 22]

SPECIAL PERMIT GRANTING AUTHORITY (SPGA) — The Planning Board or the Board of Appeals as designated in this chapter as having the authority to issue special permits. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

STORY — The portion of a building between the upper surface of any floor and the upper surface of the floor next above, having more than 1/2 of its height above the average elevation of the finished grade adjoining the building. Any part of a building between the topmost floor and the roof shall be deemed a half-story.

STREET — A public way or private way shown on a plan approved under the provisions of the Subdivision Control Law or in existence when the provisions of said Subdivision Control Law³ became effective in the Town of Groton, having, in the opinion of the Planning Board, suitable width, suitable grades and adequate construction to provide for the needs of vehicular traffic in relation to the proposed use of land abutting thereon or served thereby and for the installation of municipal services to serve such land and the buildings erected or to be erected thereon.

STREET LINE — The side line of a street or way, as determined by deeds and plans recorded at the Registry of Deeds, or a building line laid out under MGL C. 82, § 37; where no line is thus legally established, then a line parallel with and 20 feet distant from the center line of a traveled way.

STRUCTURE — Any construction, erection, assemblage, or other combination of materials upon the land made in such a manner as to indicate a purpose that it remains in position indefinitely.

SUBSIDIZED ELDERLY HOUSING — Housing in which 50% of the dwelling units are subsidized under any program or plan that will result in the development of low- or moderate-income housing, such housing which the Groton Housing Authority certifies carries restrictions to limit the eligibility of the occupants and sale price, if applicable to within guidelines as defined in applicable federal or state statute, whether built or operated by any public agency or any nonprofit or limited dividend organization with occupancy reserved to persons 55 years of age or older. [Amended 1-13-1988 STM, Art. 29]

TRANSFER LOT — A parcel of land with not less than 80,000 square feet used to establish a density bonus in a Flexible Development, as set forth in § 218-26. Such transfer lot shall be: [Added 4-28-2003 ATM, Art. 22]

3. Editor's Note: See MGL C. 41, §§ 81K through 81GG.

- A. Determined by the Planning Board to be of special importance because of its visual prominence or potential vista blockage, ecological significance or fragility, value as agricultural or recreational land, critical relation or proximity to the Town's drinking water supply, or because it is identified in the Town's open space plan;
- B. Not wetlands, as defined in MGL C. 131, § 40, or not land used to satisfy dimensional requirements in any other development of land;
- C. Subject to a permanent conservation restriction pursuant to MGL C. 184, §§ 31 through 33, or conveyed to the Town, or conveyed to a nonprofit organization, the principal purpose of which is the conservation of open space or other appropriate purpose consistent with the open space uses designated in § 218-26.

WIND ENERGY CONVERSION DEVICE — A device that converts kinetic energy of the wind into electrical power. A wind energy conversion device typically consists of a rotor, nacelle and supporting tower. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

WIND ENERGY CONVERSION DEVICE HEIGHT — The distance measured from the natural grade to the highest point on the device during operation. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

WIND ENERGY CONVERSION FACILITY — All equipment, machinery and structures utilized in connection with the conversion of wind to electricity. This includes, but is not limited to, all transmission, storage, collection and supply equipment, substations, transformers, site access, service roads and machinery associated with the use. A wind energy conversion facility may consist of one or more wind energy conversion devices. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

WINDMILL — A device, usually associated with agriculture, that converts kinetic energy of the wind into mechanical power, not electrical power. A windmill is not a wind energy conversion device per these definitions. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

WIND MONITORING OR METEOROLOGICAL ("TEST" OR "MET") TOWER — A tower, whose period in existence shall not be greater than 18 months, used for supporting anemometer, wind vane, and other equipment to assess the wind resource at a predetermined height above the ground, erected as part of a wind-energy conversion feasibility process. [Added 4-27-2009 ATM, Art. 8]

PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENT
ITEM #2 - SECTION 218-8 CLASSES OF DISTRICTS
Filed with the Town Clerk on August 22, 2014

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

Amend Section 218-8 Classes of Districts by deleting 218-8 Classes of Districts in its entirety and by inserting in its place a new 218-8 Classes of Districts, dated August 22, 2014, on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

§ 218-8. Classes of districts.

The Town of Groton is hereby divided into the following classes or districts to be known as:

- A. Residence districts.
 - (1) R-A Residential-Agricultural District.
 - (2) R-B Residential-Business District.
- B. Business districts.
 - (1) VCB Village Center Business
 - (2) NB Neighborhood Business
 - (3) GB General Business
- C. Industrial districts.
 - (1) I Industrial District.
- D. Special districts.
 - (1) O Official Open-Space District.
 - (2) P Public Use District.
- E. Overlay districts.
 - (1) Floodplain.
 - (2) Primary Water Resource.
 - (3) Secondary Water Resource.
 - (4) Recreation District.
 - (5) Town Center Overlay District.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT
ITEM #4 - SECTION 218-12 INTENTION OF DISTRICTS
Filed with the Town Clerk on August 22, 2014
Revised on September 29, 2014

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

Amend Section 218-12 Intention of Districts by deleting Section 218-12 Intention of Districts in its entirety and by inserting in its place a new Section 218-12 Intention of Districts, dated August 22, 2014, on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

§ 218-12. Intention of districts.

- A. R-A Residential-Agricultural District is intended as a district of single-family homes and for continuance of forestry and agricultural activities. Land shown as institutional properties on the Zoning Map is so shown for descriptive purposes only and is a part of the R-A District. [Amended 1-13-1988 STM, Art. 28]
- B. R-B Residential-Business District is intended as a residential district with limited business uses frequently associated with residential uses and subject to the issuance of a special permit.
- C. VCB Village Center Business District is intended to provide areas within Village Centers of Groton that allow for a mix of uses including retail, commercial, office, services, and residential of appropriate and walkable scale which contribute to the village's sense of place.
- D. NB Neighborhood Business is intended to provide for areas of mixed uses to serve as small centers providing goods and services within or near residential neighborhoods or as a transitional zone between business areas and residential neighborhoods.
- E. GB General Business District is intended to provide for a range of retail uses and services and commercial activities in appropriate locations along arterial or primary roads.
- F. I Industrial District is intended as a district for manufacturing, research and development, and similar large scale uses.
- G. O Official Open-Space District is intended to include areas which have already been dedicated or used for public or semipublic uses.
- H. P Public Use District is intended to regulate land in public use or land with public facilities. [Added 4-28-2003 ATM, Art. 25]

- I. TCOD - The Town Center Overlay District is intended to promote a socially and economically vibrant town center by enabling development, by special permit, of a mixture of civic, residential and commercial uses consistent with the Town's Comprehensive Plan and the Design Guidelines for the district. [Added 10-22-2007 STM, Art. 15; amended 4-25-2011 ATM, Art. 12]

PROPOSED AMENDMENT
ITEM #7 - SECTION 218-20 SCHEDULE OF INTENSITY REGULATIONS
Filed with the Town Clerk on September 29, 2014

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

Amend Section 218-20 Schedule of Intensity Regulations by deleting Section 218-20 Schedule of Intensity Regulations in its entirety and by inserting in its place a new Section 218-20 Schedule of Intensity Regulations, dated August 22, 2014, on file in the office of the Town Clerk.

§ 218-20. Schedule of Intensity Regulations.

District	Minimum Lot Dimensions		Maximum Height	Stories	Maximum Impervious Coverage (percentage) ³	Maximum or Minimum Building Setbacks		
	Area (square feet)	Frontage (feet)	Feet			Max or Min Front (feet)	Min Side (feet)	Min Rear (feet)
R-A ⁵	80,000 ¹	225 ⁴	35	3	25	50 min	15	15
R-B ⁵	40,000 ^{1,2}	175 ^{2,4}	35	3	25	50 min	15	15
VCB ⁵	10,000 ^{1,2}	150 ²	35	3	75	10 ⁶ max	10 ⁶	10 ⁶
NB	20,000 ^{1,2}	150 ²	35	3	65	15 ⁶ max	15 ⁶	15 ⁶
GB	40,000 ^{1,2}	175 ²	35	3	50	20 ⁶ max	15 ⁶	15 ⁶
I	40,000 ²	175 ²	35	3	75	50 min	15	15
O	—	—	35	3	25	50 min	15	15
P ⁵	40,000 ^{1,2}	175 ²	35	3	50	50 min	15	15

NOTES:

¹ For planned multifamily/residential development, see instead § 218-27C. For subsidized elderly housing, see instead § 218-27B. For multifamily use by conversion, see instead § 218-27A. For flexible development, see instead § 218-26F(1). For hammerhead lots, see instead § 218-23.1.

² No minimum for nonresidential uses.

³ Includes principal and accessory buildings, parking lots, access roads and other impervious surfaces. See § 218-22 for supplementary regulations.

⁴ Lots shown on a residential compound plan (as described in Chapter 381, Part 1, Subdivision of Land) endorsed by the Planning Board pursuant to the Subdivision Control Law may, upon the grant of a special permit by the Planning Board, reduce lot frontage to 50 feet.

⁵ For dimensions applicable to Town Center Overlay District developments, see § 218-30.2.

⁶ Maximum and minimum building setbacks may be waived by special permit from the Planning Board, where it finds such waiver to be harmonious with the intent of the district and the character and scale of the building's location.

**Item 5 – Section 218-13 Schedule of Use Regulations
Filed with the Town Clerk on September 29, 2014**

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
1	Public, Semipublic and Institutional:								
2	Use of land or structures for religious purposes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
3	Use of land or structures for public or private non-profit educational purposes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
4	Museum, library, park or playground, conservation area, water supply area, or land owned and operated for public use and enjoyment by a public agency or non-profit organization	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
5	Child care facility	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
6	Adult day care	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	N
7	Private golf course, not including miniature golf	SP	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
8	Private non-profit charitable organization or membership club, e.g., social, fraternal, or professional organization	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N	N
9	Day or overnight camps in accordance with a site plan as provided in § 218-25	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	N	SP	Y
10	Outdoor recreation, such as nature study, walking trail, or non-motorized boating, fishing, and hunting where otherwise legally permitted; but not including outdoor recreation facilities owned or operated for commercial purposes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
11	Public Playground, non-commercial	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
12	Athletic field, skating rink, or similar facility intended for sports, games, or physical fitness	PB	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	PB
13	Use of land or structures for municipal purposes	SP	SP	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	SP
14	Facilities for servicing and fueling municipal vehicles and equipment	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N
15	Telephone, telegraph, power and gas transmission and radio-television broadcasting facilities	SP	SP	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y
16	Underground gas and utility transmission	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
17	Use of land for a public utility	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	Y	N
18	Hospital, sanitarium, assisted living facility, or nursing home, subject to § 218-25	SP	SP	SP	N	SP	N	SP	N
19	Cemetery	SP	SP	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
20	Agricultural, Floricultural and Horticultural:								
21	Gardens; growing and storing of fruits; vegetables, hay, fodder and ensilage; orchards, wood lots and forestry; and greenhouse nursery and similar activities in the field of agriculture	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
22	Agricultural labor housing	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
23	The raising or keeping of horses. goats, sheep, cattle, pigs, poultry or other domesticated animals for food and other agricultural purposes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
24	Riding stables	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
25	Grazing and farming, including truck gardening and harvesting of crops	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
26	Forestry	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
27	Nonresidential buildings and structures (see footnote #3) such as:								
28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barns or stables for breeding, boarding, hiring or sale of animals 	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barns, stables, or other farm buildings for the shelter of animals and for the storage of crops raised on the premises 	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y
30	Conservation of water, plants and wildlife	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
31	Roadside stand for sale of principally local farm produce raised in the Town, set back at least 50 feet from the street line, and provided that space for customer's cars is available off the right-of-way of the street and is so arranged as not to permit backing of automobiles onto a public or traveled way	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
32	Commercial Greenhouse	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
33	Residential:								
34	Single-family detached dwelling	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
35	Conversion of a seasonal residence to a year-round residence	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N	N
36	Two family attached dwelling, provided that its external appearance is not significantly different from a single-family dwelling	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
37	Dwelling unit above the street level floor of a commercial building	N	Y	Y	Y	PB	N	N	N
38	Multifamily use, as allowed by the provisions of § 218-27A through 27C	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	N	N	N
39	The taking of not more than 4 lodgers in an owner-occupied single-family detached dwelling	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
40	The taking of more than 4 lodgers in an owner-occupied, single-family detached dwelling	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N	N
41	Flexible development pursuant to § 218-26	PB	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
42	Business:								
43	For restrictions on the following uses, see § 218-18, Performance Standards for the R-B, VCB, NB, GB, and I Districts								
44	Retail store								
45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store with up to 2,500 square feet gross floor area 	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
46	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store with more than 2,500 square feet gross floor area or more but less than 5,000 square feet gross floor area 	N	PB	PB	PB	Y	N	N	N

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
47	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store with 5,000 square feet gross floor area or more but less than 10,000 square feet gross floor area 	N	N	PB	PB	Y	N	N	N
48	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Store with 10,000 square feet gross floor area or more 	N	N	N	N	PB	N	N	N
49	Craft shop	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
50	Personal service establishment	N	SP	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
51	Repair shop for bicycles, small household appliances, or other light equipment, not including vehicles	N	SP	Y	Y	Y	SP	N	N
52	Restaurant serving food for consumption indoors on the premises, but may include accessory outdoor service on a patio or seating area	N	SP	Y	Y	PB	N	N	N
53	Take-out food service establishment, e.g., an ice cream shop or deli, bakery or coffee shop, but no drive-through service, up to 2,500 square feet gross floor area	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
54	Take-out food service establishment, e.g., an ice cream shop or deli, bakery or coffee shop, but no drive-through service, of more than 2,500 square feet gross floor area	N	N	PB	PB	PB	N	N	N
55	Business or professional office, not including medical office	N	SP	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N
56	Bank, credit union	N	N	Y	Y	Y	SP	N	N
57	Automatic teller machines as free standing structure or with exterior access	N	N	PB	PB	PB	PB	N	N

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
58	Medical, dental, or mental health care office, excluding a clinic	N	N	Y	PB	Y	Y	N	N
59	Health care clinic for outpatient services, or ambulatory care center, with or without laboratory	N	N	PB	PB	PB	N	N	N
60	Veterinarian	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	N
61	Kennel or overnight boarding facility for household pets, pet grooming facility and daytime pet care establishment	N	N	SP	N	SP	SP	N	N
62	Funeral home	N	N	SP	SP	SP	N	N	N
63	Hotel, motel, or inn	N	N	PB	PB	PB	N	N	N
64	Bed and breakfast	SP	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N	N
65	Theatre or cinema	N	N	PB	PB	PB	N	N	N
66	Commercial recreation up to 2,500 square feet gross floor area.; indoor	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
67	Commercial recreation of more than 2,500 square feet gross floor area; indoor	N	N	SP	SP	PB	N	N	N
68	Commercial recreation; outdoor	SP	N	SP	N	PB	N	N	N
69	Auto sales	N	N	SP	N	SP	N	N	N
70	Service station, including sale of fuel, motor oil, and related automotive products (no repair services)	N	N	SP	SP	SP	SP	N	N

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
71	Retail sale of auto parts and accessories, not for installation on the premises	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	N
72	Retail sale and installation of auto parts, e.g., tires, mufflers, or brakes	N	N	SP	N	SP	Y	N	N
73	Auto repair, auto body shop and marine repair	N	N	SP	N	SP	Y	N	N
74	Car wash and auto detailing	N	N	SP	N	SP	SP	N	N
75	Small-scale wind energy conversion device	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
76	Large-scale wind energy conversion device	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	N
77	Wind monitoring or meteorological ("test" or "met") tower	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
78	Windmills	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
79	Large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	N
80	On-site solar photovoltaic installation	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
81	Industrial:								
82	For restrictions on the following uses, see § 218-18, Performance Standards for the R-B, VCB, NB, GB, and I Districts								
83	Research and development	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	N

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
84	Manufacturing	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
85	Contractor's shop	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	N
86	Contractor's storage yard, including office, yard, and storage facilities for construction or landscape contractor, or similar establishment as a principal use	N	N	SP	N	SP	Y	N	N
87	Sale of building materials and supplies, which may include outdoor storage of lumber products as a principal use	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N
88	Outdoor storage of fuel supplies and fuel products	N	N	N	N	N	SP	N	N
89	Wholesale establishment, including preparation, storage, transfer, or distribution of goods, with incidental display space	N	N	N	N	SP	Y	N	N
90	Rail or bus station, or bus terminal	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	N
91	Commuter parking facility as a principal use	N	N	N	N	SP	Y	SP	N
92	Parking or maintenance facility for commercial vehicles	N	N	N	N	N	SP	N	N
93	Personal wireless service facility	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	PB	N
94	Commercial radio, television studio, with or without transmitting or receiving tower	N	N	N	N	N	SP	N	N
95	Noncommercial airfield or noncommercial heliport	SP	N	N	N	N	SP	N	N

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
96	Accessory (see § 218-16):								
97	Uses customarily incidental to any principal use on the same premises, and including but not limited to private garages, boathouses, and to activities associated with agriculture, such as barns, stables, and other farm buildings, provided that no building for the keeping of horses, goats, sheep, cattle, pigs or poultry shall be nearer than 25 feet to any lot line	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
98	Uses customarily incidental to any principal use on the same premises, including off-street parking in accordance with § 218-23.	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
99	Home occupation, see 218-16B								
100	Family dependent care, see 218-16C								
101	Accessory apartment, as regulated under 218-16D								
102	Family day care home for up to 6 children	Y	Y	SP	SP	SP	N	N	N
103	Dwelling unit, whether detached or attached, accessory to business or industrial use, solely for use as living quarters by security, maintenance, or administrative employee	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	N
104	Cafeteria, dining hall, conference or function facilities for exclusive use by employees and clientele of a principal nonresidential use	N	N	SP	N	Y	Y	N	N
105	Temporary outdoor storage of materials or equipment accessory to a nonresidential use	N	N	SP	SP	SP	Y	N	N

Line	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
106	Temporary outdoor display and sale of merchandise accessory to a retail use	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N
107	Miscellaneous:								
108	Removal of soil, loam, sand and other earth material	See Note 9	See Note 9	See Note 9	See Note 9	See Note 9	See Note 9	See Note 9	See Note 9
109	Driveway or road, provided that there will be adequate drainage and that such driveway or road will not interfere adversely with the natural flow of water in the area (Driveway curb cuts are subject to permits issued by Director of Public Works in accordance with the provisions of § 180-3 of the Groton Code.)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	PB

NOTES:

³ No building for the keeping of horses, goats, sheep, cattle, pigs or poultry shall be nearer than 25 feet to any lot line.

⁹ The removal of soil, loam, sand or other earth material is subject to permits issued by the Board of Selectmen in accordance with the provisions of Ch. 134, Earth Removal.

¹⁰For additional uses which may be permitted in those portions of the R-A, R-B, VCB and P Districts which underlie the Town Center Overlay District, see § 218-30.2.

TOWN OF GROTON MA
APRIL 1 2014 SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION RESULTS

APRIL 1, 2014 GROTON SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION				
Turnout	30%	22%	28%	26.7%
Total Voter Population - March 12, 2014	2662	2521	2432	7615
Total Votes Cast	804	543	689	2036
	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Debt Exclusion Question				
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 bond issued in order to construct the new Center Fire Station on Farmers Row?				
Yes	523	402	514	1439
No	273	138	168	579
Blank	8	3	7	18
Total	804	543	689	2036

Town of Groton, Ma				
FINAL RESULTS				
Annual Town Election				
May 20, 2014				
	Total Groton Registered Voters			7658
		May 20 Voter Turnout		1220
			Turnout %	16%
Office/Candidate	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Board of Assessors	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Garrett C. Boles, Candidate for Re-election	327	245	299	871
Write - In	4	7	2	13
Blank	116	78	142	336
Total	447	330	443	1220
Board of Health	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Jason W. Weber, Candidate for Re-election	336	254	317	907
Write - In	2	4	0	6
Blank	109	72	126	307
Total	447	330	443	1220
Board of Selectmen	Vote for Two		Three Year Term	
Peter S. Cunningham, Candidate for Re-election	251	184	216	651
Anna Eliot, Candidate for Re-election	248	168	261	677
Shane W. Grant	100	73	87	260
Barry A. Pease	191	154	213	558
Write - In	1	2	0	3
Write - In				0
Blank	103	79	109	291
Total	894	660	886	2440
Commissioner of Trust Funds	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Thomas D. Hartnett, Candidate for Re-election	348	247	330	925
Write - In	2	4	3	9
Blank	97	79	110	286
Total	447	330	443	1220
Groton Electric Light Commission	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Bruce H. Easom	189	144	200	533
Olin G. Lathrop	164	129	163	456
Write - In	2	1	2	5
Blank	92	56	78	226
Total	447	330	443	1220
Groton Housing Authority	Vote for One		Five Year Term	
Brooks T. Lyman, Candidate for Re-election	264	192	245	701
Write - In	6	5	5	16
Blank	177	133	193	503
Total	447	330	443	1220
Groton Housing Authority	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
M. Katharyn Dawson	317	229	287	833
Write - In	2	1	1	4
Blank	128	100	155	383
Total	447	330	443	1220

Office/Candidate	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Park Commission	Vote for Two		Three Year Term	
Gineane M. Haberlin	302	210	266	778
Matthew Frary	269	213	251	733
Write-in 1	2	2	1	5
Write-in 2				0
Blank	321	235	368	924
Total	894	660	886	2440
Park Commission	Vote for One		One Year Term	
Jonathan D. Strauss, Candidate for Re-election	335	233	314	882
Write-in 1	3	1	0	4
Blank	109	96	129	334
Total	447	330	443	1220
Planning Board	Vote for Two		Three Year Term	
Scott O. Wilson, Candidate for Re-election	301	210	280	791
Michael S. Vega	281	210	254	745
Write-in 1	0	0	2	2
Write-in 2				0
Blank	312	240	350	902
	894	660	886	2440
Sewer Commission	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Thomas D. Orcutt, Candidate for Re-election	318	236	307	861
Write - In	4	9	2	15
Blank	125	85	134	344
Total	447	330	443	1220
Trustees of the Groton Public Library	Vote for Two		Three Year Term	
Mark W. Ellis	116	70	117	303
Barbara S. Lamont	230	148	226	604
Jacqueline L. Viau	107	102	119	328
David J. Zeiler	170	78	115	363
Write-in 1	1	0	1	2
Write-in 2				0
Blank	270	262	308	840
Total	894	660	886	2440
Water Commission - 3 year term	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
James L. Gmeiner, Candidate for Re-election	295	148	248	691
Joshua Degen	111	159	156	426
Write - In	3	0	1	4
Blank	38	23	38	99
Total	447	330	443	1220
Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Jeffrey P. Kubick	283	195	291	769
Brian C. LeBlanc	105	77	83	265
Write - In	0	6	3	9
Blank	59	52	66	177
Total	447	330	443	1220

TOWN OF GROTON MA
SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 STATE PRIMARY
FINAL RESULTS

SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 MACHUSETTS STATE PRIMARY				
FINAL RESULTS				
Turnout	16%	12%	14%	14%
Total Voter Population - August 20, 2014	2683	2540	2467	7690
Total Votes Cast	419	316	348	1083
DEMOCRATIC PARTY STATE PRIMARY				
% Democratic Votes of Total	71%	68%	73%	71%
	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Senator in Congress	296	216	253	765
Edward J. Markey	217	164	187	568
Write-In Votes			0	
Micahel Sullivan	2			2
Roberty Hargraves	1			1
Lawrence DiCara	1			1
Edward Stratton	1			1
Patrick Conley	1			1
Jim Hanon		1		1
Shane Roy		1		1
Blank	73	50	66	189
Governor	296	216	253	765
Donald M. Berwick	93	47	76	216
Martha Caokley	110	82	94	286
Steven Grossman	84	85	73	242
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	9	2	10	21
Lieutenant Governor	296	216	253	765
Leland Cheung	81	50	70	201
Stephen J. Kerrigan	121	110	104	335
Michael E. Lake	26	20	16	62
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	68	36	63	167
Attorney General	296	216	253	765
Maura Healy	207	144	184	535
Warren E. Tolman	69	62	56	187
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	20	10	13	43
Secretary of State	296	216	253	765
William Francis Galvin	218	172	179	569
Write-In Votes		0	0	
Gavin O'Dell	1			1
Blank	77	44	74	195
Treasurer	296	216	253	765
Thomas P. Conroy	49	47	41	137
Barry R. Finegold	97	63	81	241
Deborah B. Goldberg	97	76	84	257
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	53	30	47	130

Auditor	296	216	253	765
Suzanne M. Bump	194	150	166	510
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	102	66	87	255
Representative in Congress – Third District	296	216	253	765
Nicola S. Tsongas	224	176	193	593
Write-In Votes				
Robert O'Hearn	1			1
Jon Golnik		1		1
Cory Aiken		1		1
Richard Kinder			1	1
Blank	71	38	59	168
Councilor – Fifth District	296	216	253	765
Eileen R. Duff	187	144	163	494
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	109	72	90	271
Senator in General Court – First Middlesex District	296	216	253	765
Eileen M. Donoghue	214	166	188	568
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	82	50	65	197
Representative in General Court – First Middlesex District	296	216	253	765
Gene A. Rahhala	200	144	176	520
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	96	72	77	245
District Attorney - Northern District	296	216	253	765
Marian T. Ryan	162	119	149	430
Michael A. Sullivan	82	73	57	212
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	52	24	47	123
Register of Probate	296	216	253	765
Tara E. DeCristofaro	196	149	161	506
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	100	67	92	259

TOWN OF GROTON MA
SEPTEMBER 9, 2014 STATE PRIMARY
FINAL RESULTS

REPUBLICAN PARTY STATE PRIMARY				
% Republican Votes of Total	29%	32%	27%	29%
	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Senator in Congress	123	100	95	318
Brian J. Herr	89	77	74	240
Write-In Votes		0	0	
Healey	1			1
Brooks Lyman	1			1
Blank	32	23	21	76
Governor	123	100	95	318
Charles D. Baker	89	70	75	234
Mark R. Fisher	28	27	17	72
Write-In Votes		0	0	
Martha Coakley	1			1
Blank	5	3	3	11
Lieutenant Governor	123	100	95	318
Karyn E. Polito	98	78	82	258
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	25	22	13	60
Attorney General	123	100	95	318
John B. Miller	99	79	75	253
Write-In Votes	0	0		
Mickel Sullivan			1	1
Blank	24	21	19	64
Secretary of State	123	100	95	318
David D'Arcangelo	94	77	74	245
Write-In Votes	0	0		
Colleen Morrison			1	1
Blank	29	23	20	72
Treasurer	123	100	95	318
Michael James Heffernan	94	73	75	242
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	29	27	20	76
Auditor	123	100	95	318
Patricia S. Saint Auburn	93	72	72	237
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	30	28	23	81
Representative in Congress – Third District	123	100	95	318
Roseann L. Ehrhard Wofford	93	76	71	240
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	30	24	24	78
Councilor – Fifth District	123	100	95	318
Marura L. Ryan-Ciardello	96	74	73	243
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	27	26	22	75

Senator in General Court – First Middlesex District	123	100	95	318
Write-In Votes				
John Miller	1			1
Josh Degen	1			1
Robert Hargraves	1			1
Richard Bastien		2		2
Frank Mellarch		1		1
Susan Edgett			1	1
Dennis Kavanagh			1	1
J. Oganowski			1	1
Blank	120	97	92	309
Representative in General Court – First Middlesex District	123	100	95	318
Shelia C. Harrington	111	85	82	278
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	12	15	13	40
District Attorney - Northern District	123	100	95	318
Write-In Votes				
Michael Sullivan	1			1
John Miller	1			1
Brooks Lyman	1			1
Robert Hargraves	1			1
Alvin Neff	1			1
Mary Ryan		1	1	2
Martha Coakley			1	1
Blank	118	99	93	310
Register of Probate	123	100	95	318
John W. Lambert, Sr.	92	75	73	240
Write-In	0	0	0	0
Blank	31	25	22	78

NOVEMBER 4, 2014 MACHUSETTS STATE ELECTION				
FINAL RESULTS				
Turnout	61%	55%	59%	58%
Total Voter Population - October 15, 2014	2707	2562	2486	7755
Total Votes Cast	1642	1403	1467	4512
	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Senator in Congress	1642	1403	1467	4512
Edward J. Markey, Democratic	849	708	800	2357
Brian J. Helm, Republican	689	624	602	1915
All Others	2	1	0	3
Blank	102	70	65	237
Governor and Lieutenant Governor	1642	1403	1467	4512
Baker and Polito, Republican	892	770	767	2429
Coakley and Kerrigan, Democratic	621	535	591	1747
Falchuk and Jennings, United Independent	45	48	44	137
Lively and Saunders, Independent	14	8	7	29
McCormick and Post, Independent	9	11	10	30
All Others	1	1	1	3
Blank	60	30	47	137
Attorney General	1642	1403	1467	4512
Maura Healy, Democratic	856	736	819	2411
John B. Miller, Republican	659	580	574	1813
All Others	1	1	0	2
Blank	126	86	74	286
Secretary of State	1642	1403	1467	4512
William Francis Galvin, Democratic	912	818	875	2605
David D'Archangelo, Republican	529	442	442	1413
Daniel L. Factor, Green-Rainbow	68	62	66	196
All Others	0	1	0	1
Blank	133	80	84	297
Treasurer	1642	1403	1467	4512
Deborah B. Goldberg, Democratic	663	584	625	1872
Michael James Heffernan, Republican	749	660	648	2057
Ian T. Jackson, Green Rainbow	55	54	66	175
All Others	1	1	0	2
Blank	174	104	128	406

	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Auditor	1642	1403	1467	4512
Suzanne M. Bump, Democratic	716	623	677	2016
Patricia S. Saint-Auburn, Republican	651	592	577	1820
MK Merelice, Green-Rainbow	63	59	65	187
All Others	0	2	0	2
Blank	212	127	148	487
Representative in Congress – Third District	1642	1403	1467	4512
Nicola S. Tsongas, Democratic	937	783	884	2604
Roseann L. Ehrhard Wofford, Republican	606	553	528	1687
Write-In Votes	0	2	1	3
Blank	99	65	54	218
Councilor – Fifth District	1642	1403	1467	4512
Eileen R. Duff, Democratic	735	635	694	2064
Maura Ryan-Ciardiello, Republican	659	601	598	1858
Write-In	0	1	1	2
Blank	248	166	174	588
Senator in General Court – First Middlesex District	1642	1403	1467	4512
Eileen M. Donoghue, Democratic	1084	942	1008	3034
All Others	15	10	11	36
Blank	543	451	448	1442
Representative in General Court – First Middlesex District	1642	1403	1467	4512
Sheila C. Harrington, Republican	1030	901	923	2854
Gene A. Rauhala, Democratic	490	408	470	1368
Write-In	0	1	0	1
Blank	122	93	74	289
District Attorney - Northern District	1642	1403	1467	4512
Marian T. Ryan, Democratic	1052	907	960	2919
All Others	16	14	9	39
Blank	574	482	498	1554
Register of Probate	1642	1403	1467	4512
Tara E. DeCristofaro, Democratic	735	629	679	2043
John W. Lambert, Sr. , Republican	644	594	609	1847
All Others	1	1	1	3
Blank	262	179	178	619

	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Question 1 - Gas Tax Automatic Adjustments	1642	1403	1467	4512
Do you approve of a proposed law which would eliminate the requirement that the state's gasoline tax, which was 24 cents per gallon as of Septemebr, 2013, (1) be adjusted every year by the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index over the preceeding year, but (2) not be adjusted below 21.5 cents per gallon?				
Yes (Eliminate the annual adjustment)	887	808	735	2430
No (No change in the law)	646	519	652	1817
Blank	109	76	80	265
Question 2 - Bottle Bill Expansion	1642	1403	1467	4353
Do you approve of a law which would expand the state's beverage container deposit law to require deposits for all non-alcoholic drinks (with certain exceptions)?				
Yes (Expand the beverage control law)	477	335	477	1289
No (make no change)	1110	1006	948	3064
Blank	55	62	42	159
Question 3 - Expanding prohibitions on gaming (Casino Bill)	1642	1403	1467	4512
Do you approve of a law which would (1) prohibit licensing of new casinos or gaming establishments with table games and slot machines, (2) prohibit any casoino already licensed from operating and (3) prohibit wagering on the simulcasting of live greyhound races?				
Yes (Prohibit casinos and simulcast wagering)	685	547	620	1852
No (No change in the law)	897	791	805	2493
Blank	60	65	42	167
Question 4 - Earned Sick Time for Employees	1642	1403	1467	4512
Do you approve of a law which would entitle employees in Massachusetts to earn and use sick time according to certain conditions?				
Yes (entitle employees to earn and use sick time)	874	708	766	2348
No (no change in the law)	678	614	635	1927
Blank	90	81	66	237
Question 5 - (Non-binding)	1642	1403	1467	4512
Shall the state representative from this district be instructed to vote for a resolution calling upon Congress to propose an amendment affirming that 1.) rights protected under the Constitution are the rights of natural persons only and 2.) both Congress and the states may place limits on political contributions and political spending?				
Yes	1010	867	897	2774
No	329	277	295	901
Blank	303	259	275	837

Town of Groton, Massachusetts
Combined Statement of Revenues, Expenditures
and Changes In Fund Balances -
All Governmental Fund Types and Expendable Trust Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types		Total
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Water, Sewer & Electric Light Enterprise Funds	Exp & Non-Exp Trust Funds	(Memorandum Only)
Revenues:						
Property Taxes / SurTaxes	26,460,298	567,493				27,027,791
Motor Vehicle/Other Excise	1,502,550					1,502,550
Licenses and Permits	376,539					376,539
Intergovernmental	885,477	698,261	683,680	5,092	400,000	2,672,510
Charges for Services/Fees	1,001,248	264,922		11,740,392		13,006,562
Penalties and Interest	93,809					93,809
Fines and Forfeits	48,350					48,350
Interest Earnings	18,264	3,456		9,807	2,002,601	2,034,128
Departmental and Other	601,107	668,605		43,372	43,400	1,356,484
Total Revenues	30,987,642	2,202,737	683,680	11,798,663	2,446,001	48,118,723
Expenditures:						
General Government	1,919,726	211,462			6,094	2,137,282
Public Safety	3,314,150	234,540				3,548,690
Education	17,146,693	0			81,495	17,228,188
Highway and Public Works	1,753,539	30,054		11,537,940		13,321,533
Culture, Recreation & Cit Svcs	1,699,283	242,624			153,051	2,094,958
Debt Service	1,333,249	497,512	1,261	457,327		2,289,349
Intergovernmental	104,471					104,471
Capital Outlay/Construction	797,335	195,180	6,911,558	803,352		8,707,425
Employee Benefits & Misc.	3,181,238					3,181,238
Total Expenditures	31,249,684	1,411,372	6,912,819	12,798,619	240,640	52,613,134
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(262,042)	791,365	(6,229,139)	(999,956)	2,205,361	(4,494,411)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):						
Operating Transfers In	916,765	8,678	472,822	300,000	680,000	2,378,265
Operating Transfers Out	(913,340)	(470,162)			(694,763)	(2,078,265)
Proceeds of Bonds						0
						0
Total Other Sources (Uses)	3,425	(461,484)	472,822	300,000	(14,763)	300,000
Excess of Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	(258,617)	329,881	(5,756,317)	(699,956)	2,190,598	(4,194,411)
Fund Balance, Beginning	0	0	0	0	0	
Adjust to Fair Market Value	1,985,402	2,280,760	6,396,561	3,494,479	16,829,144	
Prior Period Adjutment	(3,017)	0	0	0	(3,020)	(6,037)
Fund Balance, Beginning, as Restated	1,982,385	2,280,760	6,396,561	3,494,479	16,826,124	30,980,309
Fund Balance, Ending	1,723,768	2,610,641	640,244	2,794,523	19,016,722	26,785,898

Town of Groton, Massachusetts
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis)
General Funds
For The Year Ended June 30, 2014

	Final <u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Property Taxes	26,309,961	26,254,417	(55,544)
Motor Vehicle Excise	1,285,000	1,502,550	217,550
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	210,000	205,882	(4,118)
Licenses, Leases, Fees and Permits	1,247,000	1,313,775	66,775
Intergovernmental	818,909	884,219	65,310
Charges for Services	63,500	64,012	512
Penalties and Interest	90,000	93,809	3,809
Fines and Forfeits	37,000	48,349	11,349
Interest Earnings	6,000	18,264	12,264
Departmental and Other	475,000	602,365	127,365
Total Revenues	30,542,370	30,987,642	445,272
Expenditures:			
Reserve Fund	150,000	141,521	8,479
General Gov	2,130,379	2,141,304	(10,925)
Public Safety	3,329,992	3,360,132	(30,140)
Education	16,821,429	16,821,428	1
Highway and Public Works	1,623,316	1,859,177	(235,861)
Human Services & Culture and Recreation	1,729,528	1,663,034	66,494
Capital Expenditures/Special Articles	851,765	805,685	46,080
Debt Service	1,336,851	1,333,249	3,602
Intergovernmental	104,471	104,471	0
Employee Benefits & Miscellaneous	3,111,924	3,019,684	92,240
Total Expenditures	31,189,655	31,249,685	(60,030)
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(647,285)	(262,043)	385,242
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Operating Transfers In	916,765	916,765	0
Operating Transfers Out	(913,340)	(913,340)	0
Proceeds of Bonds			0
Free Cash	928,639	928,639	0
Prior Year Encumbrances		230,132	230,132
Additional Overlay & Deficits to be raised	(228,492)	(228,492)	0
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	703,572	933,704	230,132
Excess of Revenue and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and other Uses	56,287	671,661	615,374

FISCAL 2014
BUDGET VS ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

	Appropriation or Bal/Fwd	Res. Fund or Line Item Tx	Expended	Balance to Fund Bal	Balance to FY 15
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				= Line Item in deficit at year end	
Moderator Salary	65.00		65.00	0.00	
Moderator Expense	80.00		44.24	35.76	
Selectmen Salaries	3,950.00		3,949.92	0.08	
Selectmen Expense	1,900.00		1,900.00	0.00	
Town Manager Salary	179,021.00	2,000.00	180,663.41	357.59	
Town Manager Wages	82,060.00		78,621.57	3,438.43	
Town Manager Expense	3,000.00	13,720.00	14,600.00	2,120.00	
Town Mgr Station Avenue Engineering	49,322.51		0.00	0.00	49,322.51
Town Manager Fitch's Bridge Engineering	11,872.00		11,872.00	0.00	
Town Mgr Herbicide Treatment Lost Lake	31,400.00		14,799.55	0.00	16,600.45
Town Mgr Fitch's Bridge Demo/Replacement	54,866.34		17,773.65	37,092.69	
Finance Committee Expense	0.00		0.00	0.00	
Reserve Fund	150,000.00	(141,521.20)	0.00	8,478.80	
Town Accountant Salary	70,227.00		70,227.00	0.00	
Town Accountant Wages	31,780.00		31,778.59	1.41	
Town Accountant Expense/Audit	31,600.00		30,513.78	86.22	1,000.00
Assessors Salaries	79,637.00	500.00	80,136.95	0.05	
Assessors Wages	84,950.00	700.00	85,640.27	9.73	
Assessors Expense	17,475.00		11,305.31	5,809.69	360.00
Assessors Expense Prior Year	1,143.36		700.00	443.36	0.00
Assessors Update Maps	3,500.00		0.00	0.00	3,500.00
Assessors Commercial Evaluation Prior Year	11,509.48		11,509.48	0.00	
Treasurer/Tax Collector Salary	77,719.00		77,718.90	0.10	
Treasurer/Tax Collector Wages	112,738.00		111,276.84	1,461.16	
Treasurer/Tax Collector Expense	18,840.00	2,000.00	19,353.37	1,486.63	
Treasurer Tax Title	8,100.00		4,131.82	3,968.18	
Treasurer Bond Costs	2,500.00		2,500.00	0.00	
Treasurer Prior Year Exp Encumbered	1,200.00		1,200.00	0.00	
Town Counsel Expense	90,000.00		79,663.36	2,536.64	7,800.00
Personnel Board Salary	68,624.00		56,598.91	12,025.09	
Personnel Board Expense	4,750.00		4,444.45	0.00	305.55
Personnel Board Prior Year Exp Encumbered	1,818.62		1,080.90	737.72	
Information Technology Committee Salary	115,080.00		115,080.00	0.00	
Information Technology Committee Wages	33,305.00		33,224.20	80.80	
Information Technology Committee Expense	25,000.00		23,620.85	0.00	1,379.15
Information Technology Capital Expenses	40,000.00		37,321.42	2,678.58	
GIS Committee Expenses	15,400.00		13,040.00	2,270.00	90.00

Town Clerk Salary	68,867.00		68,867.00	0.00	
Town Clerk Wages	49,185.00		48,573.76	611.24	
Town Clerk Expense	10,079.00		5,902.61	4,176.39	
Election/Registrar Wages	3,840.00		3,768.04	71.96	
Election/Registrar Expense	7,170.00	5,500.00	12,526.73	143.27	
Street Listing Expense	5,870.00		5,194.89	675.11	
Conservation Commission Salary	62,331.00		62,043.90	287.10	
Conservation Commission Expense	7,950.00		3,126.36	4,694.36	129.28
Planning Board Salary	75,715.00	500.00	76,215.00	0.00	
Planning Board Expense	9,100.00		7,531.01	1,388.99	180.00
Planning Board MRPC Assessment	3,160.00		3,159.34	0.66	
Planning Brd Twn Ctr Overlay Guidelines PY	7,500.00		0.00	0.00	7,500.00
Planning Board Master Plan FY2012	24,000.00		16,500.00	0.00	7,500.00
Board of Appeals Wages	20,102.00		20,033.95	68.05	
Board of Appeals Expense	1,100.00		1,069.80	30.20	
Municipal Buildings Wages	75,099.00		75,099.00	0.00	
Municipal Buildings Expense	237,350.00		235,649.15	1,638.19	62.66
Municipal Bldgs Exp-Squannacook Dam PY	25,000.00		25,000.00	0.00	
Municipal Buildings Minor Capital	30,000.00	10,000.00	40,000.00	0.00	
Insurance and Bonding	143,000.00		132,862.73	10,137.27	
Insurance Deductible Reserve-GenLiab	12,000.00		4,428.96	7,571.04	
Insurance Deductible Reserve-111F	25,000.00		21,059.90	3,940.10	
Town Reports	1,500.00		1,500.00	0.00	
Postage, General Expenses	47,960.00		46,903.08	0.00	1,056.92
Postage, General Expenses Prior Year	63.04		63.04	0.00	0.00
Central Purchasing/Office Supplies	17,000.00		16,869.60	0.00	130.40
Central Purchasing/Office Supplies Prior Yr	152.94		152.94	0.00	0.00
Telephone	47,000.00		40,871.86	5,511.78	616.36
Telephone Pior Year	16.88		16.88	0.00	0.00
Total General Government	2,531,544.17	(106,601.20)	2,201,345.27	126,064.42	97,533.28

PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY

Police Department Salary	275,140.00	158.44	275,298.44	0.00	
Police Department Wages	1,398,025.00	67,500.00	1,465,475.80	49.20	
Police Department Expense	151,171.00	42,000.00	184,601.43	0.00	8,569.57
Police Department Expense Prior Year	296.88		296.88	0.00	
Police Department Cruisers Lease/Purchase	3,900.00		3,900.00	0.00	
Police Department Minor Capital	15,000.00		14,378.00	522.00	100.00
Police Department New Cruisers	78,000.00		78,000.00	0.00	
Police Department New Cruisers Off Cycle	58,000.00		58,000.00	0.00	
Police Department Locker Room Upgrade PY	85,000.00		84,612.95	387.05	
Fire Department Salaries	106,781.00	16,389.51	123,170.51	0.00	
Fire Department Wages	625,315.00	55,521.00	675,248.63	5,587.37	

Fire Department Expense	119,809.00	45,585.00	133,066.25	0.00	32,327.75
Fire Exp Prior Yea(Trng repurposed for gear)	28,548.50	(28,521.00)	26.90	0.60	
Fire Department Capital: Rescue Tools	40,000.00		39,950.00	50.00	
Fire Department Ambulance Conversion PY	1,156.76		1,156.76	0.00	
Fire Department Tanker FY2011	6,641.79		6,641.79	0.00	
Fire Hydrant Charge West Groton	750.00		750.00	0.00	
Fire Hydrant Charge Groton	2,500.00		2,500.00	0.00	
Building Inspector Salaries	76,195.00		76,195.00	0.00	
Building Inspector Wages	64,507.00		59,818.44	4,688.56	
Building Inspector Expense	7,900.00		4,647.71	3,252.29	
Salaries/Fees-Mechanical Inspector	20,000.00	5,000.00	21,480.00	3,520.00	
Mechanical Inspector Expense	3,500.00	1,500.00	4,444.84	555.16	
Sealer Weights & Measures Salary/Fees	2,500.00		1,460.00	1,040.00	
Sealer Weights & Measures Expense	100.00		66.42	33.58	
Earth Removal Inspector Salary	1.00		0.00	1.00	
Earth Removal Inspector Expense	100.00		100.00	0.00	
Animal Inspector/Animal Control Off. Salaries	4,164.00		4,164.00	0.00	
Animal Inspector/Animal Control Off.Expense	800.00		185.70	614.30	
Civil Defense/Aux Police/EOC Expenses	13,000.00		13,000.00	0.00	
Dog Officer Salary	13,973.00		10,400.00	3,573.00	
Dog Officer Expense	4,800.00		3,654.59	1,145.41	
Police & Fire Communications Wages	369,815.00	(146,599.00)	223,185.44	30.56	
Police & Fire Communications Expense	13,225.00	(401.00)	12,636.54	120.77	66.69
Total Protection Persons and Property	3,590,614.93	58,132.95	3,582,513.02	25,170.85	41,064.01

SCHOOLS

Nashoba Valley Tech High School Assmt	468,592.00		468,592.00	0.00	
Minuteman Regional Vocation Technical	1.00		0.00	1.00	
GDRSD Technology Funding (f/Stabilization)	325,265.00		325,265.00	0.00	
Groton Dunstable Reg School District Assmt	16,352,323.00	513.00	16,352,836.00	0.00	
Total Schools	17,146,181.00	513.00	17,146,693.00	1.00	

PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES

General Highway Salary	87,894.00	500.00	88,394.00	0.00	
General Highway Wages	640,030.00	(35,000.00)	603,917.51	1,112.49	
General Highway Expense	140,300.00	35,000.00	167,927.40	6,757.47	615.13
General Highway Prior Year Exp Encumbered	5.75		5.75	0.00	0.00
General Highway Road Maintenance	89,000.00		85,639.94	3,360.06	
General Highway Road Maintenance Prior Yr	20,000.00		20,000.00	0.00	
General Highway FY14 Pick-Up Truck	40,000.00		40,000.00	0.00	
Gen. Highway Salt & Sand Shed	175,000.00		166,522.27	8,477.73	
Snow & Ice Overtime	140,000.00		174,502.71	(34,502.71)	

Snow & Ice Expense	165,000.00		314,315.49	(149,315.49)	
Snow & Ice Hired Equipment	35,000.00		72,910.16	(37,910.16)	
Street Lighting	24,000.00		17,800.00	6,200.00	
Street Lighting Prior Year	4,450.00		4,450.00	0.00	
Waste Disposal Wages	99,660.00		87,453.66	12,206.34	
Waste Disposal Consulting	5,850.00		5,850.00	0.00	
Waste Disposal Expense	54,486.00		54,104.84	381.16	
Waste Disposal Expense Prior Year	19.75		19.75	0.00	
Waste Disposal Tipping Fees	135,000.00		134,457.65	542.35	
Waste Disposal Tipping Fees Prior Year	4,848.30		4,848.30	0.00	
Waste Disposal Minor Capital	10,000.00		10,000.00	0.00	
Tree Department Expense	3,000.00		315.98	2,684.02	
Tree Department Tree Work	16,500.00		9,729.34	1,670.66	5,100.00
Graves Registration Salary	250.00		250.00	0.00	
Graves Registration Expense	660.00		659.97	0.03	
Care of Veterans' Graves	1,625.00		1,625.00	0.00	
	1,892,578.80	500.00	2,065,699.72	(178,336.05)	5,715.13

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Board of Health Expense	1,000.00		847.21	152.79	
Board of Health Expense Prior Year	85.80		85.80	0.00	
Board of Health Engineering Consult	10,000.00		10,000.00	0.00	
Nashoba Nursing Service/Health Assessment	38,887.00		31,943.04	6,943.96	
Council on Aging Salaries	61,160.00		59,800.00	1,360.00	
Council on Aging Wages	49,109.00		47,364.78	1,744.22	
Council on Aging Expense	8,454.00		6,038.49	1,780.51	635.00
Council on Aging Expense Prior Year	1,000.00		1,000.00	0.00	
Senior Center Van Wages	37,371.00		34,387.37	2,983.63	
Senior Center Van Expenses	11,166.00	3,000.00	10,748.94	3,417.06	
Veterans' Agent Salary	3,485.00		3,484.00	1.00	
Veterans' Agent Expense	900.00		237.03	662.97	
Veterans' Benefits	48,200.00		38,865.68	9,334.32	
Total Highway and Health	270,817.80	3,000.00	244,802.34	28,380.46	635.00

LIBRARY AND CITIZENS' SERVICES

Library Salaries	277,777.00	3,020.00	280,796.16	0.84	
Library Wages	318,999.00	5,310.00	324,309.00	0.00	
Library Expense	194,603.00		189,224.74	378.26	5,000.00
Library Expense Prior Year	286.85		286.85	0.00	
Library Automatic Doors FY14	9,000.00		0.00	0.00	9,000.00
Library Minor Capital	13,082.00		2,350.00	0.00	10,732.00
Library Capital Outlay - HVAC Equipment	0.00	35,000.00	32,918.00	2,082.00	

Country Club Salaries	126,764.00	4,262.25	131,026.25	0.00	
Country Club Wages	156,400.00	(26,156.00)	130,021.59	222.41	
Country Club Expenses	261,836.00	72,687.00	331,031.00	1,087.91	2,404.09
Country Club Expenses Prior Year	1,555.49		1,555.49	0.00	
Country Club Minor Capital	5,000.00	(1,000.00)	4,000.00	0.00	
Country Club Rough Mower Lease	10,000.00		9,939.46	60.54	
Country Club Golf Cart Lease	20,000.00		19,955.45	44.55	
Country Club Boom Sprayer Lease	6,500.00		6,499.88	0.12	
Park Department Wages	2,500.00		1,957.16	542.84	
Park Department Expense	46,000.00		39,105.83	0.00	6,894.17
Park Department Expense Prior Year	930.00		930.00	0.00	
Parks Property Improvements FY14	50,000.00		24,231.75	0.00	25,768.25
Care of the Old Burying Ground	700.00		692.00	8.00	
Town Forest Expense	5,200.00		0.00	0.00	5,200.00
Celebrations/Commemorations	500.00		448.00	52.00	
Weed Harvesting/Great Ponds Expense	10,090.00		4,164.46	5,025.54	900.00
Weed Harvesting/Great Ponds Exp Prior Yr	344.24		344.24	0.00	
Water Safety Wages	2,640.00		1,576.20	1,063.80	
Water Safety Expense	15,950.00		10,662.80	0.00	5,287.20
Total Library and Citizens' Services	1,536,657.58	93,123.25	1,548,026.31	10,568.81	71,185.71

DEBT SERVICE

Principal Long-Term Debt	1,031,137.88	(68,168.00)	959,368.39	3,601.49	
Interest Long-Term Debt	373,881.12		373,880.84	0.28	
Interest Short-Term Debt	5,738.51		0.00	5,738.51	
Total Debt Service	1,410,757.51	(68,168.00)	1,333,249.23	9,340.28	0.00

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

County Retirement Assessment	1,502,924.00		1,481,574.16	21,349.84	
Health & Life Insurance	1,449,500.00		1,385,317.76	61,513.42	2,668.82
Health & Life Insurance Prior Year	908.32		908.32	0.00	
Unemployment Compensation	40,000.00	7,500.00	43,488.05	611.95	3,400.00
Unemployment Compensation Prior Year	2,294.14		2,294.14	0.00	
Medicare Employer Contribution	100,000.00	12,000.00	109,303.76	0.00	2,696.24
Total Employee Benefits	3,095,626.46	19,500.00	3,022,886.19	83,475.21	8,765.06

0.00

WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

Water Department Salaries	128,932.00		128,931.99	0.01	
Water Department Wages *	142,541.00		141,138.99	1,402.01	
Water Department Expense *	471,689.00		461,302.26	3,925.74	6,461.00
Water Department Expense Prior Year	11,674.90		11,674.90	0.00	

Water Department Debt Service	361,606.00		361,605.57	0.43	
Total Water Department Enterprise	1,116,442.90		1,104,653.71	5,328.19	6,461.00

* Includes transfer from Water Enterprise E&D of \$100,000

SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

Sewer Department Wages *	21,382.00		21,290.00	92.00	
Sewer Department Expense *	869,805.00		664,941.24	203,113.76	1,750.00
Sewer Dept: Debt Service (incl. betterments)	45,500.00		44,246.82	1,253.18	
Total Sewer Department Enterprise	936,687.00	0.00	730,478.06	204,458.94	1,750.00

* Includes transfer from Sewer Enterprise E&D of \$100,000

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Lost Lake Sewer Expense Prior Year	120,335.29		102,696.08	0.00	17,639.21
Debt Service Lost Lake Sewer	121,261.49		121,261.49	0.00	0.00
Center Fire Station Project Exp.	6,581,767.18		5,988,172.85	0.00	593,594.33
Lost Lake Fire Protection	103,400.00		75,398.60	0.00	28,001.40
Total Capital Projects	6,926,763.96	0.00	6,287,529.02	0.00	639,234.94
<u>GRAND TOTAL</u>	40,454,672.11	0.00	39,267,875.87	314,452.11	872,344.13

SPECIAL REVENUE FISCAL 2014

	Bal. Forward	Receipts	Expenditures	Bal to 2015
CHAPTER 90 HIGHWAY FUNDS	0.00	683,680.00	683,680.00	0.00
Chapter 90 Highway Funds				0.00

Community Preservation Fund

Note: Bal. forward to 2015 incl. encumbrances for incomplete projects; Unalloc Rsrv incl. operating rsrv

Unallocated Reserve	474,794.72	675,735.64	579,695.78		570,834.58
Community Housing Reserve	192,088.78	96,533.65	13,770.00		274,852.43
Historic Resource Reserve	131,769.66	96,533.65	61,285.02		167,018.29
Open Space Reserve	5,587.82	96,533.65	66,000.00		36,121.47
	804,240.98	965,336.59	720,750.80	0.00	1,048,826.77

GIFTS

Highway Department	4,846.03	235.00	120.00		4,961.03
Fire Department SAFE	300.42	270.00	0.00		570.42
Fire Department	8,838.94	2,945.00	2,881.95		8,901.99
EMS	4,311.68	0.00	0.00		4,311.68
Police Department	1,825.35	300.00	369.66		1,755.69

Shooting Range	144.04	0.00	0.00	144.04
DARE	208.89	0.00	208.89	0.00
Police Cruiser Gift Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Civil Defense	1,100.34	0.00	0.00	1,100.34
Library	60,494.99	9,213.16	10,035.46	59,672.69
Council on Aging	5,152.88	2,720.00	1,292.88	6,580.00
Williams Barn	2,327.82	3,081.00	4,281.40	1,127.42
Care of Old Burying Ground	494.39	0.00	42.16	452.23
Groton Military Covenant	213.00	0.00	0.00	213.00
Dog Pound	2,045.20	10.00	300.00	1,755.20
Groton Children's Fund	7,655.51	12,903.67	11,070.71	9,488.47
Pavilion Maintenance	471.14	0.00	0.00	471.14
Smith Fountain	2,017.94	0.00	0.00	2,017.94
Sargisson Beach Canoe Launch	6,974.29	10,000.00	395.25	16,579.04
Cable TV Organization	169,155.17	174,503.88	172,569.95	171,089.10
Cable TV Programming	4,352.72	300.00	0.00	4,652.72
Greenway	3,767.53	2,743.74	3,973.87	2,537.40
Playing Fields	605.19	0.00	0.00	605.19
C-Lab/Insco Monitoring	1,406.51	0.00	0.00	1,406.51
Dr. Betty Scholarship	3,390.00	0.00	0.00	3,390.00
Groton School Fire Station Equipment	0.00	25,000.00	0.00	25,000.00
Evan's Rink Gift	1,250.00	0.00	189.99	1,060.01
Hanson Playground Gift	563.01	0.00	0.00	563.01
Rocky Hill Gift Fund	2,469.50	0.00	0.00	2,469.50
Lost Lake Dam Gift Fund	28,306.00	10,000.00	3,500.00	34,806.00
Sustainability Committee Fund	676.11	400.00	1,046.50	29.61
Trails Committee Gift Fund	3,420.02	1,200.00	844.38	3,775.64
Recycling Gift Fund	1,904.34	1,068.83	994.50	1,978.67
Academy Hills Lottery Gift Fund	3,018.66	0.00	0.00	3,018.66
Lost Lake/Knops Pond Gift Fund	3,430.00	0.00	0.00	3,430.00
Swim Team Gift Fund	19.02	0.00	0.00	19.02
Vets Breakfast/Senior Lunch Fund	893.87	460.00	294.93	1,058.94
GRG Traffic Light Gift	100,000.00	0.00	0.00	100,000.00
	438,050.50	257,354.28	214,412.48	0.00
				480,992.30

GRANTS

FY14 Dispatch S & I	0.00	154,031.81	218,524.33	(64,492.52)
FY13 Dispatch Support & Incentive	(94,360.88)	94,173.60	0.00	(187.28)
FY13 Dispatch Training	(3,961.04)	2,264.16	0.00	(1,696.88)

FY14 Dispatch Training	0.00	387.00	3,008.52	(2,621.52)
Fire Department SAFE Program	3,691.78	6,904.00	5,496.67	5,099.11
Fire Training Grant	7,457.62	0.00	2,744.65	4,712.97
911 Development Grant FY12	(8,470.50)	8,470.50		0.00
Fire Fighter SAFER Wage Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dispatch 911 Incentive Grant FY12	(207.80)	207.80	0.00	0.00
Dispatch 911 Training Grant FY12	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Police Bullet Proof Vests Grant	355.00	0.00	0.00	355.00
MA Woodlands Grant	0.00	6,942.00	6,942.00	0.00
Squannacook Dam Repair Grant	97,770.00	0.00	97,770.00	0.00
Conservation WHIP Grant	1,875.00	0.00	0.00	1,875.00
43 D Planning Grant	4,480.64	0.00	0.00	4,480.64
Stormwater: James Brook Grant	59.41	0.00	0.00	59.41
Aid to Libraries	71,296.52	14,443.66	7,857.70	77,882.48
Arts Council	6,075.94	4,252.64	5,425.00	4,903.58
Elder Programs Grant	0.00	13,080.00	13,080.00	0.00
Cable Equipment Grant	90,489.54	22,500.00	0.00	112,989.54
Additional Polling Hours	0.00	5,695.00	2,794.00	2,901.00
Regional Recycling Grant	532.65	0.00	0.00	532.65
Antenna Grant Civil Defense	1,445.00	0.00	0.00	1,445.00
SMRP Recycling Grant	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
BoH Equipment Grant	1,760.80	1,697.64	3,281.39	177.05
Title V Loan	90,485.38	3,487.65	10,400.00	83,573.03
	270,775.06	338,537.46	377,324.26	0.00
				231,988.26

REVOLVING

Affordable Housing Marketing	4,069.81	4,833.33	1,295.61	7,607.53
Drug Forfeiture	8,225.20	0.00	1,305.44	6,919.76
Insurance Claims	6,309.70	5,862.10	7,391.83	4,779.97
Erosion Control	3,792.71	3,975.00	1,905.00	5,862.71
Conservation Land Management	36,757.08	9,064.60	13,333.99	32,487.69
Conservation 593 Academy Hill	496.20	0.24	0.00	496.44
Conservation 593 GELD Peer Review	1.29	0.00	0.00	1.29
Conservation 593 NESSP Temple	0.00	1000.08	932.14	67.94
Planning Board 593	23,820.93	58,000.33	47,281.08	34,540.18
Zoning Board 593	3,258.82	1.67	0.00	3,260.49
	86,731.74	82,737.35	73,445.09	0.00
				96,024.00

RECEIPTS RESERVED

Town Forest Reserved	79,358.26	0.00	0.00	79,358.26	
Insurance Reimbursement over \$20,000	0.00	54,364.07	47,439.00	6,925.07	
Western Surety Bond Release	0.00	248,161.53	248,161.53	0.00	
Emergency Medical Fees Reserved	601,603.71	264,922.34	200,000.00	666,526.05	
<i>EMS Rcpts Res. includes \$455K encumbered for FY 2015</i>	680,961.97	567,447.94	495,600.53	0.00	752,809.38

NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS		Interest & + Market Adj	Disbursements & - Market Adj	Transfers In or Out	
Dr. Samuel Green Charity Fund	108,138.95	13,151.85			121,290.80
Joseph T. Shepley Charity Fund	249,244.37	30,313.09			279,557.46
Sarah E. Barr Eye Fund	2,140.27	260.31			2,400.58
Willard Dalrymple Eye Fund	9,033.29	1,098.62			10,131.91
Frank E. Waters Vocational Fund	4,866,200.59	591,826.85			5,458,027.44
John H. Robbins Library Fund	2,513,820.01	305,730.58			2,819,550.59
Library Book Fund	139,105.34	16,917.97			156,023.31
Lecture Fund	3,850,938.46	468,350.78			4,319,289.24
Joseph T. Shepley Fountain Fund	2,140.25	260.29			2,400.54
Arthur E. Spaulding Fund	862.45	104.90			967.35
Cemetery Perpetual Care (Blood/Champney)	1,724.89	209.78			1,934.67
Mary T. Sawyer Library Fund	4,433.98	539.26			4,973.24
Robertson Scholarship Fund	14,294.03	1,738.44			16,032.47
Groton Commons	8,571.64	1,042.50			9,614.14
Butler/GrotonDunstable School Trust	10,203.95	1,241.00			11,444.95
Robertson/Onners Memorial Trust	24,584.28	4,201.78			28,786.06
Bertozzi Trust/Scholarship Fund	151,385.77	5,438.50			156,824.27
VanHoogan Trust/Scholarship Fund	60,221.61	8,235.49			68,457.10
Belitsky Scholarship	15,430.22	1,672.10			17,102.32
Peter M. Twomey Trust/Scholarship Fund	29,019.92	4,753.01			33,772.93
	12,061,494.27	1,457,087.10	0.00	0.00	13,518,581.37

EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS		Trans. In Income and + Market Adj	Trans. Out and - Market Adj	Expenditures	
Dr. Samuel Green Charity Fund	736,764.64	63,958.59		12,309.82	788,413.41
Joseph T. Shepley Charity Fund	302,206.72	24,656.37		11,199.79	315,663.30
Sarah T. Barr Eye Fund	2,073.83	62.55		198.00	1,938.38
Willard Dalrymple Eye Fund	17,851.60	2,612.14		0.00	20,463.74

Frank E. Waters Vocational Fund	600,366.54	146,933.18	975.83	87,664.12	658,659.77
John H. Robbins Library Fund	569,841.56	102,432.28		66,556.21	605,717.63
Library Book Fund	31,390.93	6,465.11			37,856.04
Lecture Fund	350,277.40	133,029.27		60,494.26	422,812.41
Joseph T. Shepley Fountain Fund	4,201.55	66.36		318.34	3,949.57
Arthur E. Spaulding Fund	300.81	23.73			324.54
Cemetery Perpetual Care (Blood/Champney)	7,359.10	60.49			7,419.59
Stabilization Fund	1,449,840.09	350,490.94		325,265.00	1,475,066.03
Capital Purchases Stabilization Fund	511,808.74	380,744.96	0.00	369,500.00	523,053.70
Conservation Fund	16,923.64	411,652.63		6,094.33	422,481.94
Carl A.P. Lawrence Library Fund	53,767.86	6,416.17			60,184.03
Mary T. Sawyer Library Fund	882.69	123.40			1,006.09
John H. Robertson Scholarship Fund	4,036.41	400.87			4,437.28
Butler/Groton Dunstable Library Fund	5,772.59	291.95			6,064.54
Avenue of Flags	3,312.67	1.67			3,314.34
Groton Commons Fund	3,920.32	243.26			4,163.58
Robertson/Onners Memorial Trust Fund	11,900.57	1,148.63	229.73		12,819.47
Bertozzi Trust/Scholarship Fund	4,089.67	3,699.88	924.97	1,500.00	5,364.58
VanHoogan Trust/Scholarship Fund	4,873.10	2,049.44	409.89	1,000.00	5,512.65
Peter M. Twomey Trust & Scholarship Fund	592.75	1,154.68	288.67	500.00	958.76
Belitsky Scholarship	510.05	654.14	130.83	500.00	533.36
Turtle Study Trust	25,231.37	12.62			25,243.99
Turtle Main Trust	28,259.12	14.12			28,273.24
Town Scholarship Fund	6,681.01	3,187.24		4,000.00	5,868.25
Affordable Housing Trust	12,612.50	29,288.38	0.00	0.00	41,900.88
	4,767,649.83	1,671,875.05	2,959.92	947,099.87	5,489,465.09

Note: Capital Purchase Stabilization Fund Balance includes \$355,190 encumbered to FY 15 for Capital Expenditures

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS JULY 1, 2014 -DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Appropriation	Res Fund or Line Item Tx	6-Month Expended	Est. To Be Expended
GENERAL GOVERNMENT				
Moderator Salary	65.00		0.00	65.00
Moderator Expense	80.00		0.00	80.00
Selectmen Salaries	3,950.00		2,126.88	1,823.12
Selectmen Expense	2,000.00		1,242.00	758.00
Town Manager Salaries	183,649.00		98,887.88	84,761.12
Town Manager Wages	84,191.00		41,943.26	42,247.74
Town Manager Expense	3,300.00		1,131.96	2,168.04
Town Manager Expense Prior Year	2,120.00		2,120.00	0.00
Town Manager: Station Avenue Engineering	49,322.51		26,263.84	23,058.67
Town Mgr: LL Herbicide Treatment FY13	16,600.45		8,925.00	7,675.45
Town Mgr: Lost Lake Watershed Committee FY15	15,000.00		0.00	15,000.00
Town Mgr: Squannacook Hall Septic Repair	30,000.00		0.00	30,000.00
Reserve Fund	150,000.00	(12,700.00)		137,300.00
Town Accountant Salary	73,064.00		39,342.24	33,721.76
Town Accountant Wages	39,135.00		18,099.34	21,035.66
Town Accountant Expenses/Audit	30,560.00		21,843.24	8,716.76
Town Accountant Expenses/Audit Prior Year	1,000.00		0.00	1,000.00
Assessors Elected Officials Salaries	2,430.00		1,308.44	1,121.56
Assessors Salaries	80,816.00		42,685.44	38,130.56
Assessors Wages	87,696.00		44,272.09	43,423.91
Assessors Expense	18,250.00		7,122.10	11,127.90
Assessors Expense Prior Year	360.00		357.24	2.76
Assessors Maps Update	3,500.00		0.00	3,500.00
Assessors Personal Property Reval FY15	10,000.00		9,000.00	1,000.00
Treasurer/Tax Collector Salary	79,273.00		42,685.44	36,587.56
Treasurer/Tax Collector Wages	96,125.00		47,467.69	48,657.31
Treasurer/Tax Collect Expense	18,774.00		11,564.95	7,209.05
Treasurer Tax Title	6,000.00		225.00	5,775.00
Treasurer Bond Costs	2,500.00		2,500.00	0.00
Town Counsel Expense	75,000.00		27,346.22	47,653.78
Town Counsel Expense Prior Year	7,800.00		7,655.48	144.52
Human Resource Salaries	71,396.00		36,723.65	34,672.35
Human Resource Expense	4,450.00		2,798.92	1,651.08
Human Resource Expense Prior Year	305.55		305.55	0.00
Information Technology Salary	121,618.00		78,522.34	43,095.66
Information Technology Wages	44,538.00		21,888.93	22,649.07

Information Technology Expense	24,800.00	7,679.05	17,120.95
Information Technology Expense Prior Year	1,379.15	952.65	426.50
Information Technology: Capital Outlay	40,000.00	12,471.80	27,528.20
GIS Committee	15,100.00	0.00	15,100.00
GIS Committee Prior Year	90.00	90.00	0.00
Town Clerk Salary	71,649.00	38,580.36	33,068.64
Town Clerk Wages	53,041.00	23,203.03	29,837.97
Town Clerk Expense	9,520.00	4,011.17	5,508.83
Election/Registrar Wages	10,050.00	5,122.00	4,928.00
Election/Registrar Expense	12,014.00	4,680.40	7,333.60
Street Listing Expense	5,850.00	1,836.00	4,014.00
Conservation Commission Salary	61,384.00	33,052.88	28,331.12
Conservation Commission Expense	7,950.00	3,112.13	4,837.87
Conservation Commission Expense Prior Year	129.28	129.28	0.00
Planning Board Salary	80,788.00	42,700.60	38,087.40
Planning Board Expense	8,100.00	3,587.80	4,512.20
Planning Board Expense Prior Year	180.00	180.00	0.00
Planning Board Town Center Overlay Design PY	7,500.00	7,500.00	0.00
Planning Board Master Plan FY12:Prior Year	7,500.00	7,500.00	0.00
Planning Board County Assessments	3,160.00	3,160.00	0.00
Board of Appeals Wages	18,267.00	9,207.98	9,059.02
Board of Appeals Expense	1,400.00	386.00	1,014.00
Municipal Buildings Wages	81,180.00	40,680.84	40,499.16
Municipal Buildings Expense	272,350.00	99,493.27	172,856.73
Municipal Buildings Expense Prior Year	111.66	111.66	0.00
Municipal Buildings Minor Capital	20,000.00	19,482.52	517.48
Municipal Bldgs Town Hall Security Upgrade	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
Insurance and Bonding	143,000.00	140,392.18	2,607.82
Insurance and Bonding Deductible Reserve	12,000.00	2,148.81	9,851.19
Insurance and Bonding, Medical Reserve	25,000.00	467.40	24,532.60
Town Report	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
Postage and Copying Expense	53,000.00	22,773.87	30,226.13
Postage and Copying Expense PY	1,056.92	1,007.61	49.31
Central Purchasing (Office Supplies)	17,000.00	5,456.71	11,543.29
Central Purchasing (Office Supplies) PY	130.40	130.40	0.00
Telephone Expenses	50,000.00	17,561.71	32,438.29
Telephone Expenses PY	616.36	616.36	0.00

TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	2,561,665.28	(12,700.00)	1,205,821.59	1,343,143.69
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PROTECTION PERSONS AND PROPERTY

Police Department Salary	284,676.00	157,935.42	126,740.58
Police Department Wages	1,492,580.00	781,461.66	711,118.34

Police Department Expense	176,171.00	112,853.89	63,317.11
Police Department Expense PY	8,569.57	8,569.57	0.00
Police Department Data Conversion	41,000.00	0.00	41,000.00
Police Department Lease/Purchase Cruisers	4,000.00	3,960.00	40.00
Police Department Minor Capital	10,000.00	3,728.97	6,271.03
Police Department Minor Capital Prior Year	100.00	90.62	9.38
Police Department Building Improvements	60,000.00	8,972.81	51,027.19
Police Department Capital Outlay: Vehicles FY15	120,000.00	120,000.00	0.00
Fire Department Salaries	108,912.00	57,874.07	51,037.93
Fire Department Wages	651,016.00	341,392.95	309,623.05
Fire Department Expense	128,059.00	69,581.73	58,477.27
Fire Department Expense: Prior Year	32,327.75	27,224.09	5,103.66
Fire Department Capital Outlay Ambulance FY15	280,000.00	12,320.75	267,679.25
Fire Department: Ambulance Conversion FY15	50,000.00	0.00	50,000.00
Fire Department:Hydrant Charges Groton	1.00	0.00	1.00
Fire Department: Hydrant Charges W. Groton	1.00	0.00	1.00
Police & Fire Communications Wages	436,182.00	105,019.37	331,162.63
Police & Fire Communications: Expense	13,225.00	7,933.08	5,291.92
Police & Fire Communications: Expense Prior Yr	66.69	66.69	0.00
Building Inspector Salary	79,273.00	42,685.44	36,587.56
Building Inspector Wages	62,578.00	29,671.00	32,907.00
Building Inspector Expense	7,900.00	1,130.81	6,769.19
Salary/Fees-Gas/Plumbing/Elec Inspectors	20,000.00	13,968.00	6,032.00
Gas/Plumbing/Elec Inspector Expense	3,500.00	1,593.20	1,906.80
Sealer Weights & Measures Salary Fees	2,500.00	1,520.00	980.00
Sealer Weights & Measures Expense	100.00	29.10	70.90
Earth Removal Inspector Expense	101.00	0.00	101.00
Animal Inspector/Control Officer Salaries	4,164.00	2,242.24	1,921.76
Animal Inspector/Control Officer Expense	800.00	728.08	71.92
EOC Expense/Aux. Police Expense	13,000.00	11,800.00	1,200.00
Dog Officer Salary	13,973.00	5,600.00	8,373.00
Dog Officer Expense	4,250.00	318.74	3,931.26

TOTAL PROTECTION PERSONS/PROPERTY	4,109,026.01	0.00	1,930,272.28	2,178,753.73
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SCHOOLS

Nashoba Valley Tech High School Assmt	572,775.00	429,581.25	143,193.75
Out of District Placement	0.00	0.00	0.00
Groton Dunstable Reg School Dist Assmt	17,756,023.00	8,878,011.50	8,878,011.50

TOTAL SCHOOLS	18,328,798.00	0.00	9,307,592.75	9,021,205.25
HIGHWAY AND HEALTH				
General Highway Salary	92,809.00		50,666.18	42,142.82
General Highway Wages	605,341.00		299,918.83	305,422.17
General Highway Expense	127,300.00		71,328.08	55,971.92
General Highway Expense Prior Year	793.90		793.90	0.00
General Highway Road Maintenance	89,000.00		20,470.14	68,529.86
General Highway Capital: Pickup Truck FY15	35,000.00		35,000.00	0.00
Snow & Ice Overtime	140,000.00		38,849.10	101,150.90
Snow & Ice Expense	165,000.00		158,022.64	6,977.36
Snow & Ice Hired Equipment	35,000.00		4,195.50	30,804.50
Street Lighting	24,000.00		8,900.00	15,100.00
Waste Disposal Wages	119,820.00		55,319.84	64,500.16
Waste Disposal Expense	54,486.00		4,940.79	49,545.21
Waste Disposal Consulting	5,850.00		5,850.00	0.00
Waste Disposal Tipping Fees	135,000.00		54,246.14	80,753.86
Waste Disposal Minor Capital	5,000.00		2,095.00	2,905.00
Tree Department Expenses	3,000.00		1,038.54	1,961.46
Tree Department Tree Work	16,500.00		0.00	16,500.00
Tree Department Tree Work Prior Year	5,100.00		5,100.00	0.00
Graves Registration Salary	250.00		0.00	250.00
Graves Registration Expense	660.00		560.38	99.62
Care of Veterans' Graves	1,550.00		0.00	1,550.00
Board of Health Expense	1,150.00		414.96	735.04
Board of Health Engineering	10,000.00		7,523.95	2,476.05
Board of Health Nursing/ Health Services	38,887.00		23,957.28	14,929.72
Council on Aging Salaries	66,586.00		35,853.98	30,732.02
Council on Aging Wages	50,122.00		17,756.71	32,365.29
Council on Aging Expense	8,454.00		2,983.42	5,470.58
Council on Aging Expense Prior Year	635.00		625.54	9.46
Council on Aging Minor Capital	4,000.00		0.00	4,000.00
Senior Center Van Wages	56,806.00		17,917.31	38,888.69
Senior Center Van Expenses	17,913.00		4,291.09	13,621.91
Veterans' Agent Salary	3,485.00		1,876.00	1,609.00
Veterans' Agent Expense	900.00		265.56	634.44
Veterans' Agent: Veteran's Benefits	50,000.00		23,133.70	26,866.30
TOTAL HIGHWAY AND HEALTH	1,970,397.90	0.00	953,894.56	1,016,503.34
CULTURE AND RECREATION				
Library Salaries	333,198.00		180,404.13	152,793.87

Library Wages	279,707.00		136,385.48	143,321.52
Library Expense	198,335.00		74,360.30	123,974.70
Library Expense Prior Year	5,000.00		2,234.03	2,765.97
Library Automatic Doors FY14	9,000.00		7,944.13	1,055.87
Library Minor Capital	0.00	12,700.00	0.00	12,700.00
Library Minor Capital Prior Year	10,732.00		8,785.00	1,947.00
Library Capital Furniture & Fixtures HVAC FY15	43,690.00		0.00	43,690.00
Country Club: Salaries	62,689.00		31,558.87	31,130.13
Country Club: Wages	184,738.00		105,414.01	79,323.99
Country Club: Expenses	297,573.00		201,191.35	96,381.65
Country Club: Expenses Prior Year	2,404.09		2,305.72	98.37
Country Club: Minor Capital	5,000.00		0.00	5,000.00
Country Club: Rough Mower Capital Lease	10,000.00		9,939.46	60.54
Country Club Golf Carts Capital Lease	20,000.00		19,995.45	4.55
Country Club Boom Sprayer Capital Lease	6,500.00		6,499.88	0.12
Park Department Wages	2,540.00		1,088.60	1,451.40
Park Department Expense	48,608.00		23,677.51	24,930.49
Park Department Expense Prior Year	6,894.17		5,691.84	1,202.33
Park Department Property Improvements FY14	25,768.25		11,686.28	14,081.97
Care of Old Burying Ground	700.00		233.60	466.40
Commemorations	500.00		0.00	500.00
Great Lakes Advisory Committee Expense	2,385.00		0.00	2,385.00
Great Lakes Advisory Committee Expense PY	900.00		900.00	0.00
Weed Harvester Expense	4,000.00		310.94	3,689.06
Water Safety Wages	2,640.00		785.40	1,854.60
Water Safety Expense Prior Year	5,287.20		3,344.44	1,942.76
Water Safety Expense	950.00		319.86	630.14
TOTAL LIBRARY & CITIZENS' SERVICES	1,569,738.71	12,700.00	835,056.28	747,382.43

DEBT SERVICE

Principal Long-term Debt	982,670.00		702,670.00	280,000.00
Interest Long-term Debt	324,051.00		157,639.81	166,411.19
Principal Short-term Debt	0.00		0.00	0.00
Interest Temporary Loans	1,341.83		0.00	1,341.83
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	1,308,062.83	0.00	860,309.81	447,753.02

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

County Retirement Assessment	1,591,023.00		1,560,704.00	30,319.00
Unemployment Compensation	40,000.00		9,763.06	30,236.94
Unemployment Compensation Prior Year	3,400.00		3,395.00	5.00
Health & Life Insurance	1,433,701.00		788,676.57	645,024.43
Health & Life Insurance Prior Year	2,668.82		2,668.82	0.00
Medicare Employer Contribution	107,000.00		58,427.65	48,572.35
Medicare Employer Contribution Prior Year	2,696.24		2,696.24	0.00

TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	3,180,489.06	0.00	2,426,331.34	754,157.72
WATER DEPARTMENT				
Water Department Salaries	117,061.00		63,495.70	53,565.30
Water Department Wages	146,855.00		74,107.60	72,747.40
Water Department Expense	354,489.00		204,270.44	150,218.56
Water Department Expense Prior Year	6,461.00		6,460.28	0.72
Water Department Debt Service	361,217.00		310,031.98	51,185.02
TOTAL WATER DEPARTMENT	986,083.00	0.00	658,366.00	327,717.00
SEWER DEPARTMENT				
Sewer Department Salaries	17,585.00		9,468.75	8,116.25
Sewer Department Wages	30,115.00		12,829.78	17,285.22
Sewer Department Expense	582,615.00		219,580.98	363,034.02
Sewer Department Expense Prior Year	1,750.00		1,746.49	3.51
Sewer Department Debt Service	5,288.50		4,565.54	722.96
TOTAL SEWER DEPARTMENT	637,353.50	0.00	248,191.54	389,161.96
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION				
Operating Reserve	7,500.00		0.00	7,500.00
Unallocated Reserve	718,688.00		431,804.34	286,883.66
Unallocated Reserve Prior Year Boutwell House	716.23		716.23	0.00
Community Housing Reserve	67,650.00		15,444.63	52,205.37
Historic Resource Reserve	67,650.00		11,164.40	56,485.60
Historic Resource Reserve Prior Year Boutwell	3,859.75		3,859.75	0.00
Open Space Reserve	99,377.00		99,376.91	0.09
TOTAL COMMUNITY PRESERVATION	965,440.98	0.00	562,366.26	403,074.72
CAPITAL PROJECT FUND				
Lost Lake Engineering - EIR Report Prior Year	17,639.21		0.00	17,639.21
Lost Lake Engineering - Debt Service	110,658.17		0.00	110,658.17
Lost Lake Fire Protection Engineering	28,001.40		6,560.00	21,441.40
Center Fire Station Construction Prior Year	589,011.51		382,856.43	206,155.08
Center Fire Station Clerk of the Works Prior Yr	4,582.82		0.00	4,582.82
TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	749,893.11	0.00	389,416.43	360,476.68
GRAND TOTAL	36,366,948.38	0.00	19,377,618.84	16,989,329.54