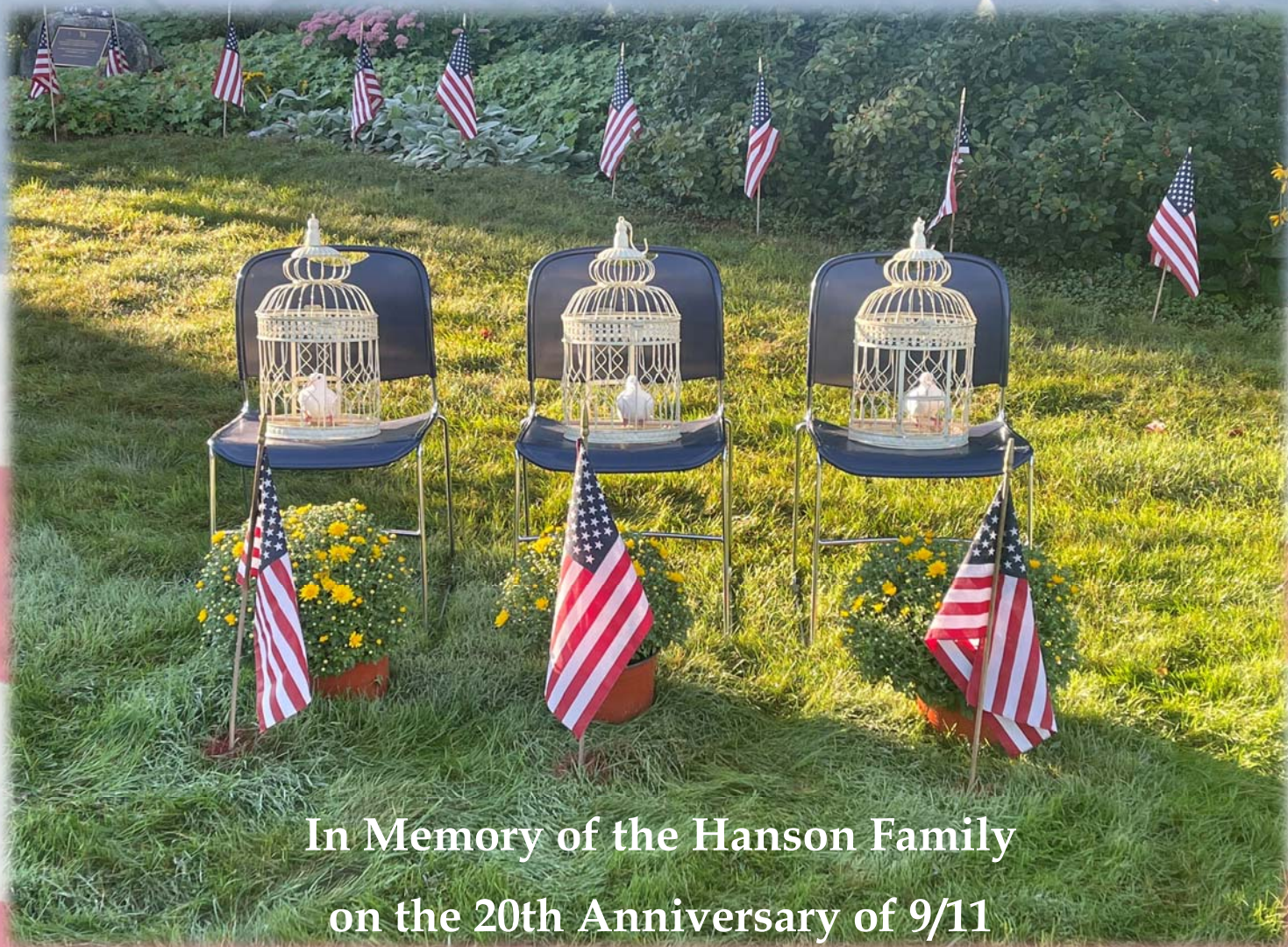


Town of Groton



In Memory of the Hanson Family
on the 20th Anniversary of 9/11

2021 Annual Town Report



GROTON, MASSACHUSETTS MIDDLESEX COUNTY

www.grotonma.gov

“At A Glance”

Settled: May 23, 1655

Type of Government: Open Town Meeting; Town Manager

Location: Northwestern part of Middlesex County

Population as of December 31, 2021: 11,315

Registered Voters as of December 31, 2021: 8,650

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: 125

*Photo on Front Cover Courtesy of Donna Main

IN MEMORIAM 2021

*Let the residents of Groton pause and reflect for a moment on those who served
and to those Grotonians who lost their lives to COVID-19.*

Dale Martin

Peter Staffon

David Melpignano

Karen Reif

Anthony Corsetti

Roger Temple



Photo by Jeff Demers

2021 PROCLAMATIONS

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

COMMUNITY

Arbor Day

September 18, 2021

EAGLE SCOUTS/GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARDS



Due to Covid, the Select Board did not receive any requests or issue any proclamations for scouting awards in 2021.

SELECT BOARD

Rebecca H. Pine, Chair Alison S. Manugian, Vice Chair Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk

Joshua A. Degen, Member

John F. Reilly, Member

Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager

Michael Bouchard, Town Clerk

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FEDERAL, STATE AND COUNTY OFFICIALS

PRESIDENT

Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500
202-456-1111
Visitors Office: 202-456-2121

UNITED STATES SENATORS

Edward J. Markey
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510
(202) 224-2742

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

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

2400 JFK Federal Building
15 New Sudbury Street
Boston, MA 02203
(617) 565-3170

REPRESENTATIVE IN CONGRESS 3RD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Lori Trahan
2439 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-3411

126 John Street
Suite 12
Lowell, MA 01852
(978) 459-0101

GOVERNOR

Charlie Baker
State House, Room 280
24 Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 725-4005

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Maura Healy
1 Ashburton Place, 20th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
Consumer Hotline (617) 727-8400
(617) 727-2200
ago@state.ma.us

DISTRICT ATTORNEY MIDDLESEX COUNTY

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

SECRETARY OF STATE

William F. Galvin
1 Ashburton Place, 17th Floor
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 727-7030
cis@sec.state.ma.us

SENATOR IN GENERAL COURT

Edward Kennedy
First Middlesex District
24 Beacon Street, Room 513
Boston, MA 02133
(617) 722-1630
edward.kennedy@masenate.gov

REPRESENTATIVE IN GENERAL COURT

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

REGISTER OF DEEDS

Middlesex South Registry
Maria Curtatone
208 Cambridge Street, PO Box 68
Cambridge, MA 02141
(617) 679-6300
middlesexsouth@sec.state.ma.us

REGISTER OF PROBATE

Tara DiCristofaro, Register
Middlesex Probate and Family Court
10-U Commerce Way
Woburn, MA 01801
(781) 865-4000
middlesexprobate@jud.state.ma.us

SHERIFF

Peter J. Koutoujian
Middlesex County Sheriff's Office
400 Mystic Avenue, 4th Floor
Medford, MA 02155
(781) 960-2800

Town Departments Directory

Accountant.....	978-448-1107
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.....	978-732-1893
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
Town Manager/Select Board.....	978-448-1111
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

Donald Black	2022
Garrett Boles	2023
Jenifer Evans	2024

ELECTRIC LIGHT COMMISSIONERS

Rodney R. Hersh	2022
Eric Fisher	2023
Kevin J. Lindemer	2024

GDRSD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Marlena Gilbert	2022
Peter Cronin	2022
Jeffrey Kubick	2023
Fay Raynor	2024
Brian LeBlanc	2024

HEALTH, BOARD OF

Robert Fleischer	2022
Evan Thackaberry	2022
*Jason Weber	2023
Michelle Collette	2024

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Deidre Slavin-Mitchell	2023
Leslie Colt	DHCD
Daniel C. Emerson	State appt'd
John Sopka	2024
Donald Black	2025

MODERATOR

Jason Kauppi	2024
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PARK COMMISSIONERS

Don Black	2022
Kenneth Bushnell	2022
Gail Chalmers	2023
Anna Eliot	2024
Vacancy	

PLANNING BOARD

George E. Barringer, Jr.	2022
David Bonnett	2022
Annika Nilsson Ripps	2023
Scott O. Wilson	2023
Lorayne Black	2024
Alyson Bedard	2024
Russell Burke	2024

SELECT BOARD

Joshua A. Degen	2022
John F. Reilly	2022
Alison S. Manugian	2023
Rebecca H. Pine	2023
Peter S. Cunningham	2024

SEWER COMMISSIONERS

James L. Gmeiner	2022
Thomas Orcutt	2023
Michael Bouchard	2024

TOWN CLERK

Michael Bouchard	2024
------------------	------

TRUST FUNDS, COMMISSIONERS OF

Rachael Bielecki	2022
Martha McLure	2023
Joseph E. Twomey	2024

TRUSTEES OF PUBLIC LIBRARY

Mark Gerath	2022
Nancy Wilder	2022
David Zeiler	2023
Kate Bettencourt	2023
Kristen Von Campe	2024
Jane R. Allen	2024

WATER COMMISSIONERS

Greg R. Fishbone	2022
James L. Gmeiner	2023
John J. McCaffrey	2024

*Resigned/Retired

** Deceased

OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY THE SELECT BOARD

TOWN MANAGER
Mark W. Haddad 2022

TOWN COUNSEL
Mirick O'Connell 2024

POLICE CHIEF
Michael F. Luth 2024

FIRE CHIEF
Steele McCurdy 2023

OFFICIALS APPOINTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER

ADA COORDINATOR
Michelle Collette 2022

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2022
John Greenhalgh 2022

ANIMAL INSPECTOR
George Moore 2022

BUILDING COMMISSIONER
Robert Garside 2022

BUILDING INSPECTOR
Daniel Britko 2022

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS
*Sarah E. Power 2022
Warren Gibson 2022
Catherine Myers 2022
Samuel Welch 2022
Christopher Cotter 2022
John Weix 2022
Edward J. Bushnoe (Part time) 2022
Michael MacGregor (Relief) 2022
Leah Pierce (Relief) 2022

CONSERVATION ADMINISTRATOR
Nikolis Gualco 2022

CONSTABLES
Brian O. Downes 2022
George Moore 2022
Frederick Correia 2023

COUNCIL ON AGING DIRECTOR
Ashley Shaheen 2022
*Kathy Shelp

**COUNTRY CLUB GM / HEAD GOLF
PROFESSIONAL**
Shawn Campbell 2022

DATABASE COORDINATOR
Vacancy

DOG OFFICER
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2022
John Greenhalgh 2022

EARTH REMOVAL INSPECTOR
Michelle Collette 2022

ELECTION WORKERS
Judith Anderson 2022
John Barnard 2022
Alicia Black 2022
Carrie Bolton 2022
Jennifer Cacciola 2022
Marvin Caldwell 2022
Gail Chalmers 2022
Carole Clark 2022
Michelle Collette 2022
Anthony Corsetti** 2022
Irene Corsetti 2022
Peter Cronin 2022
Joan Croteau 2022
Peter Cunningham 2022
Carol Daigle 2022
Charlene Dapolito 2022
Dorothy Davis 2022
Janis Discipio 2022
Michael Discipio 2022
Julianna Elmasri 2022
Daniel Emerson 2022
Alberta Erickson 2022

*Resigned/Retired

** Deceased

Pat Fairchild	2022	Andrew Smith	2022
George Faircloth	2022	Cathy Smith	2022
Maureen Faircloth	2022	Fran Stanley	2022
Sara Fieberg	2022	Alberta Steed	2022
Al French	2022	Rena Swezey	2022
Judy Giger	2022	Ramona Tolles	2022
Lindsey Goranson	2022	Jeffrey Upton	2022
Barbara Griffin	2022	John Valentine	2022
Joan Guimond	2022	Richard Van Doren	2022
Andreas Hartmann	2022	Denia Viera	2022
Aneeqa Hashimi	2022	Bronwen Wallens	2022
Jacquelyn Jackson	2022	Charlotte Weigel	2022
Wendy Jones	2022	Margaret Wheatley	2022
Margaret Knight	2022	Claire Wilson	2022
Michael Koza	2022	Lois Young	2022
Michael Lapin	2022		
Brian LeBlanc	2022	ELECTRICAL INSPECTOR	
Michael LaTerz	2022	Edward Doucette	2022
Stephen Legge	2022	John Dee III (Alternate)	2022
Cindy Martell	2022		
Paula Martin	2022	EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE	
Richard Marton	2022	TOWN MANAGER	
Michael McCoy	2022	Dawn Dunbar	2022
Kate Mceleny	2022		
Sarah Miller	2022	FENCE VIEWER	
Patti Modzelewski	2022	George Moore	2022
Lynda Moore	2022		
Dina Mordeno	2022	FIELD DRIVER	
Emily Navetta	2022	George Moore	2022
Sue Norberg	2022		
Lisa O'Neill	2022	GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER	
Kris O'Reilly	2022	Deborah Beal Normandin	2022
James O'Reilly	2022		
Edward Perkins	2022	HARBOR MASTER	
Donna Piche	2022	Michael F. Luth	2022
Robert Piche	2022		
Nancy Pierce	2022	HAZ-MAT COORDINATOR	
David Posner	2022	Steele McCurdy	2022
Katrina Posner	2022		
Virginia Reinap	2022	HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY	
Diana Rice	2022	& ACCOUNTIBILITY OFFICER	
Gina Ryan	2022	Melisa Doig	2022
Susan Ryan	2022		
Suzanne Sanders	2022	HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR	
Harold Sanford	2022	Melisa Doig	2022
Connie Sartini	2022		
Molly Sawdy	2022	IT DIRECTOR	
Fran Seager	2022	Michael Chiasson	2022
Stuart Shuman	2022		

*Resigned/Retired

** Deceased

KEEPER OF THE TOWN CLOCK
Paul Matisse 2022

LAND USE DIRECTOR / TOWN PLANNER
Takashi Tada 2022

LOCAL LICENSING AGENT
Michael F. Luth 2022

MEASURER OF WOOD AND BARK
Evan C. Owen 2022

MOTH SUPERINTENDENT
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2022

NIMS COORDINATOR
Michael F. Luth 2022

PARKING CLERK
Dawn Dunbar 2022

PLUMBING AND GAS INSPECTOR
Norm Card 2022
Jeremy Pierce (Alternate) 2022

PRINCIPAL ASSESSOR
Megan Foster 2024

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Deputy Chief
Edward Sheridan 2022

Matrons
Catherine Myers 2022
Kathleen Newell 2022
Sarah E. Power 2022

Officers
Matthew Beal 2022
Nicholas Beltz 2022
Rachel Bielecki 2022
Robert Breault 2022
Peter Breslin 2022
Gordon Candow 2022
Paul Connell 2022
Omar Conner 2022
Andrew Davis 2022
Derrick Gemos 2022

Kevin Henehan 2022
Adam Hyde 2022
Michael Lynn 2022
Casey O'Connor 2022
Dale Rose 2022
Gregory Steward 2022
Patrick Timmins 2022
Peter Violette 2022

Reserve Officers
Frank Mastrangelo 2022
Kathleen Newell 2022
Emily Ramos 2022
Michael Ratte 2022
Steven Tully 2022
Robert Wayne, Jr. 2022

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2022

ROAD KILL OFFICER
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2022

SEALER WEIGHTS & MEASURES
Eric Aaltonen 2022

SURVEYOR OF WOOD/LUMBER
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2022

TOWN ACCOUNTANT
Patricia Dufresne 2024

TOWN DIARIST
M. Constance Sartini 2022
Robert L. Collins 2022

TREASURER/COLLECTOR
Hannah Moller 2024
*Michael Hartnett

TREE WARDEN
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr. 2022

VETERANS' SERVICE OFFICER
Maureen Heard 2022

WATER SUPERINTENDENT
Thomas Orcutt 2022

*Resigned/Retired
** Deceased

**BOARDS, COMMITTEES &
COMMISSIONS APPOINTED
BY THE SELECT BOARD**

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST
FUND**

Carolyn Perkins	2022
Phil Francisco	2022
Becky Pine	2023
Richard Perini	2023
*Colleen Neff	

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Michael Bouchard – Town Clerk	
Marvin Caldwell	2022
Jane Fry	2023
Gregory Baran	2024

**CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

John Croteau	2022
David Manugian	2022
Jamie McDonald	2022
Michael O'Rourke	2022
Michael Sulprizio	2022
*Scott Hagerty	

**COMMEMORATIONS &
CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE**

Donald Black	2022
Gail Chalmers	2022
Michael F. Luth	2022
Steele McCurdy	2022
Vacancy	

**COMMUNITY PRESERVATION
COMMITTEE**

Bruce Easom (Conservation)	2022
Russell Burke (Planning)	2022
Anna Eliot (Parks)	2023
Daniel Emerson (Housing Auth.)	2024
Robert DeGroot (Historical)	2024
Carolyn Perkins (SB)	2024
Richard Hewitt (SB)	2024

COMPLETE STREETS COMMITTEE

George Barringer	2022
Michelle Collette	2022

Peter Cunningham	2022
R. Thomas Delaney Jr.	2022
Stephen Legge	2022
Kristen Von Campe	2022
Vacancy	

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Eileen McHugh	2022
Peter A. Morrison	2022
Larry Hurley	2022
Bruce H. Easom	2023
Olin Lathrop	2023
Alison Hamilton	2024
Jon Smigelski	2024

COUNCIL ON AGING

Jean Sheedy	2022
Helen Sienkiewicz	2022
Mihran Keoseian	2022
Peter Cunningham	2023
Therese Keoseian	2023
Judith Polumbo O'Brien	2023
Dorothy Zale	2023
Paula Martin	2024
Pascal Miller	2024

DESTINATION GROTON COMMITTEE

Mairi Elliott	2022
Jeff Gordon	2022
Julie Platt	2022
Joni Parker-Roach	2022
Greg Sheldon	2022

DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

Gordon Candow	2022
Michelle Collette	2022
Amy Degen	2022
Susan Hughes	2022
Bhaskar Gupta Karpurapu	2022
Raquel Majeski	2022
Deidre Slavin-Mitchell	2022
James Moore	2022
Fran Stanley	2022

FINANCE COMMITTEE

David Manugian	2022
Arthur Prest	2022
Scott Whitefield	2023
Jamie McDonald	2023

*Resigned/Retired

** Deceased

Gary Green	2024
Colby Doody	2024
Norman “Bud” Robertson	2024
*Mary Linskey	

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Peter S. Cunningham	2022
Anna Eliot	2022
Richard Perini	2022
Carolyn A. Perkins	2022
Vacancy	

INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

Jonathan Basch	2022
Brian Bettencourt	2022
Adam Burnett	2022
Alison Hamilton	2022
Richard Hewitt	2022
Olin Lathrop	2022
Ron Strohsahl	2022
Charlotte Weigel	2022
Ben Wolfe	2022

LOCAL CULTURAL COUNCIL

Kathleen Phelps	2022
Jacquie Waters	2022
David Zeiler	2023
Christine Brooks	2024
Leslie Lathrop	2024

LOWELL REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Ashley Shaheen	2022
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MBTA ADVISORY BOARD

John Reilly	2022
-------------	------

MONTACHUSETT JOINT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Russell Burke (PB)	2022
Joshua A. Degen	2022

MONTACHUSETT REGIONAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

Russell Burke	2022
Peter Cunningham	2022

NASHOBA VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Robert Flynn	2022
John Ellenberger – Alternate	2022

PERSONNEL BOARD

Norman “Bud” Robertson	2022
Leonard Adjete	2023
Vacancy	

SARGISSON BEACH COMMITTEE

Andrew Davis	2022
Cheney Harper	2022
John Reilly (SB Rep)	2022
Kevin Charland	2024
Nicholas Degaitas	2024
Larry Hurley (Cons Com Rep)	2024

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Brian LeBlanc	2022
Geoffrey Kromer	2022
Erica McConnell	2022
Kate Dennison	2023
Alberta Erickson	2024
Jeannie Erickson	2024
Vacancy	

SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

James Allen	2022
Bruce Easom	2022
Phil Francisco	2022
Alison Peterson	2022
Katrina Posner	2022
Deborah Schwartz	2022
Jim Simko	2022
David Southwick	2022
Virginia Vollmar	2022

TAX RELIEF FOR ELDERS AND THE DISABLED COMMITTEE

Garrett Boles	2022
Louis Dimola	2022
Charles Vander Linden	2022
Paul Martin	2022
Hannah Moller	2022

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Jay Prager	2022
Bruce Easom	2022

*Resigned/Retired

** Deceased

Daniel McLaughlin	2023
Jenepher Spencer	2023
Jack Petropoulos	2024
Amanda Howard (Associate)	2022
Tom Peisel (Associate)	2022
Michael McCoy (Associate)	2022
Vacancy	

BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS APPOINTED BY THE TOWN MANAGER

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Neil Colicchio	2022
Eric Fisher	2022
John Macleod	2022
Robert Piché	2022
Janet Sheffield	2022

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

Brian Cartier	2022
Greg Premru	2022
Elena Beleno Carney	2023
Maureen C. Giattino	2023
George Wheatley	2023
Peter Benedict	2024
*Laura Moore; Elaine Chamberlain	

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Gordon Candow	2022
Barbara Cronin	2022
Melisa Doig	2022
Derrick Gemos	2022
Warren Gibson	2022
Paul McBrearty	2022
Rena Swezey	2022
DPW Representative	2022
Supervisors Rep	2022
Town Hall/Library Rep	2022

BOARDS, COMMITTEES & COMMISSIONS NOMINATED FOR APPOINTMENT BY THE TOWN MANAGER

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION

George Moore	2022
--------------	------

Sally Smith	2022
John Smigelski	2023
Shelly Sullivan	2023
Jessica MacGregor	2024

BOARD OF SURVEY

Robert Garside – Bldg. Comm.	2022
Steele McCurdy – Fire Chief	2022
Evan C. Owen	2022

COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY

Judith Anderson	2022
Robert Fleischer	2022
Jane Fry	2022
Lynne Pistorino	2022
Thomas Pistorino	2022
Alan Taylor	2022
Carol Ann Sutton	2022

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE COORDINATOR

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2022
Michael F. Luth	2022
Steele McCurdy	2022

CONDUCTORLAB COMMITTEE

Michelle Collette	2022
Mark Deuger	2022
Robert Hanninen	2022

EARTH REMOVAL STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

George Barringer	2022
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2022
Robert Hanninen	2022
Eileen McHugh	2022
Steven Savage	2022

GREAT POND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Larry Hurley	2022
Remigiusz Kaleta	2022
James Luening	2022
George Wheatley	2022
Alexander Woodle	2022
Vacancy	
*Art Prest	

*Resigned/Retired

** Deceased

GREENWAY COMMITTEE

Adam Burnett	2022
Carol Coutrier	2022
Marina Khabituyeva	2022
David Pitkin	2022
Vacancy	

Paul Funch	2022
Stephen Legge	2022
Harris McWade	2022
Wanfang Murray	2022
James Peregoy	2022
*Jeanne Ciampa; Olin Lathrop;	
Lisa Irelan; Kevin Barrett;	

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

George Wheatley	2022
Michael Danti	2022
Robert DeGroot	2022
Allen King	2023
Michael LaTerz, II	2024
Joshua Vollmar	2024
Vacancy	

WEED HARVESTER COMMITTEE

Gerrett Durling	2022
Erich Garger	2022
Bradley D. Harper	2022
James Luening	2022
3 Vacancies	

OLD BURYING GROUND COMMISSION

Don Black	2022
Gail Chalmers	2022
Debbie Beal Normandin	2022
2 Vacancies	

WILLIAMS BARN COMMITTEE

Lori Brackett	2022
Bruce Easom	2022
Robert Kniffen	2022
Kathy Stone	2022
Joseph Twomey	2022
Sandra Tobies	2022
Leo R. Wyatt	2022
2 Vacancies	

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Tessa David	2022
R. Thomas Delaney, Jr.	2022
Diana Keaney	2022
Jamie E. King	2022
Lynwood V. Prest	2022

REGIONAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE

Michael F. Luth	2022
Steele McCurdy	2022

SIGN COMMITTEE

Joshua A Degen	2022
Mark W. Haddad	2022
Carolyn Perkins	2022

TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE

John Sheedy	2022
Stephen Babin	2023
Carter Branigan	2024

TRAILS COMMITTEE

Ralph Acaba	2022
Adam Burnett	2022
Derek Cianci	2022
Laura DeGroot	2022

*Resigned/Retired

** Deceased

GROTON'S ELECTED OFFICIALS



Select Board

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

Human Resources

Business Department

Pupil Personnel Services

Technology Department

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

SELECT BOARD

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

selectboard@grotonma.gov

2021 was the second year in a row that the worldwide Coronavirus Pandemic dominated life in Groton. After a year-plus of quarantine, with all but essential workers staying home and conducting work and school activities remotely, effective vaccines for Covid-19 became available in the first half of the year, offering the promise of a return to normal life. In June, when the Massachusetts State of Emergency ended, Groton government resumed in-person meetings and generally normal operating procedures. However, the arrival of the Delta Variant in late summer, and the highly transmissible Omicron Variant in late November caused alarming surges in case numbers and infection rates and led to a new wave of restrictions and precautions to protect public health. By the end of December, our government meetings and procedures all moved online again.

Despite these fluctuations, the Select Board is pleased to report that the day-to-day business of town government continued to function, due to the impressive performance of our Town Employees, under the direction of Town Manager, Mark Haddad, who moved seamlessly through the changing protocols of the Pandemic. We are also pleased to report that the employees all met the Select Board requirement of being fully vaccinated by Oct. 1, 2021. We are very appreciative that all of Groton's employees agreed to take a 0% raise in the 2021-2022 Fiscal Year, a significant contribution to our success in absorbing the economic impact of the Pandemic on the Town's budget.

With the passage of the Biden Administration's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) by Congress in March, 2021, Groton received \$3.3 million. This was in addition to the \$1.1 million we received from the CARES (Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act in 2020. The crucial role these federal funds are playing in allowing us to keep town services running and our budget balanced cannot be understated.

As in 2020, our beautiful town was not immune to the larger political and cultural debates swirling in our country, as evidenced by an unfortunate increase in Anti-Semitic incidents and graffiti in our public spaces and schools. The Select Board held a public forum in October to explore ways for the community to respond to such incidents. We also co-sponsored the showing of a film, Etched in Glass, which used the experience of a Holocaust survivor to show the impact and the ripple effects of one act of kindness in the direst of circumstances. In our continuing effort to become a more welcoming community and to address incidents of racism, bigotry and discrimination, we contracted for three Bystander Training Programs to be held in 2022, which will be open to all Groton residents.

Reflecting our nation's ongoing conversation about past and present racial and ethnic injustice, and following a recommendation from the Diversity Task Force, the Select Board voted to remove Redskin Trail as the name of a street in the Lost Lake neighborhood. After consultation with the residents of the street, the Board voted unanimously to rename it Mountain Lakes Trail. We anticipate bringing another recommendation from the Diversity Task Force, to remove the words 'Holy Bible' from the Town Seal, to Town Meeting in 2022.

At the Spring Town Meeting, held outdoors on a cold and blustery May 1st, voters approved the construction of a new elementary school to replace the Florence Roche School. The Select Board has worked closely with the Town's Financial Department to find ways to take advantage of



Photo Courtesy of Steve Lieman

current low interest rates to finance this project, the largest capital expense in Groton's history. The Board has also appointed members to our new TREAD (Taxpayer Relief for Elderly And Disabled) Committee, to establish procedures to provide some relief from the impact of this tax increase.

The Select Board accepted the very comprehensive Destination Groton report prepared by a working group of the Groton Business Association, exploring the impact of, and the ways the Town should begin preparing for, the planned fall 2022 opening of the Indian Hill Music Center, newly renamed Groton Hill Music Center. In response to recommendations from this report, the Select Board formed and appointed a new Destination Groton Town Committee.

Following a favorable vote at the Fall 2021 Town Meeting, the Select Board has begun the process of allowing the retail sale of Cannabis products in two locations. During 2021, the Board also granted two new licenses for the sale of Beer and Wine, and denied one application for an All-Alcohol Package Store (this decision was appealed to the Mass Alcoholic Beverages Control Commission, which has not issued their decision on the appeal).

As the realities of extreme weather events and flooding incidents due to Climate Change have become clearer, the Select Board advertised for and appointed a number of new members to the Sustainability Commission to focus on ways to address the expected impacts of Climate Change on Groton. The Select Board also applied for and received grant funding to install several electric car charging stations in Groton, and pushed for the purchase of electric golf carts at the Country Club.

In December, we celebrated the final payment on the debt (paid by Community Preservation Act funds) for the 2006 purchase of the Surrenden Farms parcel. This purchase, which protected 360 acres of land, including the now heavily used General Field and associated trails, is a shining example of the benefits of our participation in the Community Preservation Act program, and of the good that can happen when multiple public and private organizations and individuals work together.

At the beginning of 2021, the Select Board was made up of Chair Alison Manugian, Vice-Chair Josh Degen, Clerk Becky Pine, Members John Giger and John Reilly. At the election in May, John Giger stepped down from his seat, and former Board member Peter Cunningham was elected to return to the Board. The Board reorganized and voted Becky Pine as Chair, Alison Manugian as Vice-Chair, and Peter Cunningham as Clerk.

The Select Board has been very happy with the services provided by our new Town Counsel Firm, Myrick O'Connell, who were selected in June after interviews with four different firms.

In other personnel changes, Mike Hartnett retired as Town Treasurer/Tax Collector and stayed on as part-time assistant to newly appointed Town Treasurer/Tax Collector Hannah Mohler. We hired Ashley Shaheen as our new Council on Aging Director following the resignation of Kathy Shelp. Groton's first Cable TV Director, Bob Colman, retired, and Ashley Doucette was promoted to become our new Cable TV Director.

We would like to thank all of the many volunteers who contribute their time and energy on committees and other community efforts. You, the voters and volunteers in our town, are the backbone of our government. You make a difference with your participation. We are all enriched, and our government works better for all of us, when we all contribute.



Becky Pine, Chair
Groton Select Board



Photo Courtesy
of Steve Lieman

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Megan Foster, Principal Assistant Assessor
Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm
Meetings as Posted
(978) 448-1127 Fax: (978) 448-1115
assessors@grotonma.gov

The Board of Assessors (BOA) are responsible for establishing the value of property for tax purposes. The assessors are responsible for the valuation of all taxable property Real and Personal. The assessors grant all statutory exceptions and all applications for the towns Senior Work off Program. They act on all abatement applications and also are responsible for defending all appeals made to the Appellate Tax Board (ATB). The Assessors administer all special assessments qualifying as classified within the farm and forest management programs (also known as Chapter 61/61A/61B). Assessments in Massachusetts are based upon full and fair cash value as of January 1st.

The assessor's office completed its quinquennial certification in FY2022. The town of Groton's next certification as directed by the Department of Revenue will be by FY2027. FY2027, certification will be completed by the BOA.

Each property in town has a property record card (PRC) on file with all components that make up the valuation of the parcel, such as, land size; building characteristics; condition; quality; etc. The BOA recommends that each taxpayer obtain a copy of their individual PRC to ensure all information is accurate. The PRC's are available for no charge during regular business hours and also can be requested by email (assessors@grotonma.gov). PRC's are also available online, (www.grotonma.gov) however, these PRC's are from a static database that is only updated once per year. For the most up to date record please obtain a PRC directly from the assessor's office.

The tax rate for FY2021 is \$17.19 per \$1000 of value.

Respectfully submitted,
Garrett Boles, Chair
Jenifer Evans
Donald R. Black

Office of the Assessors' Staff
Megan Foster, Principal Assistant Assessor
Ravilla Garthe, Assistant Assessor



Bancroft Castle at Gibbet Hill

BOARD OF ASSESSORS – cont.

MassDOR - Massachusetts Department of Revenue				
Division of Local Services				
LA4 Comparison Report for FY 2022				
Groton - 115				
Property Type	Description	FY 2022 Mix Use Parcel Count	FY 2022 Parcel Count	FY 2022 Assessed Value
101	Single Family		3,238	1,732,533,800
102	Condominiums		300	95,400,595
MISC 103,109	Miscellaneous Residential		27	13,541,300
104	Two - Family		132	64,062,700
105	Three - Family		11	6,164,200
111-125	Apartment		12	13,916,900
130-32,106	Vacant / Accessory Land		476	30,297,700
200-231	Open Space		0	0
300-393	Commercial		91	64,961,700
400-442	Industrial		13	12,001,700
450-452	Industrial Power Plant		0	0
CH 61 LAND	Forest	8	14	56,180
CH 61A LAND	Agriculture	1	24	625,860
CH 61B LAND	Recreational	0	7	562,240
012-043	Multi-use - Residential		73	33,348,485
012-043	Multi-use - Open Space		0	0
012-043	Multi-use - Commercial		0	14,703,261
012-043	Multi-use - Industrial		0	2,549,000
501	Individuals / Partnerships / Associations / Trusts / LLC		31	1,684,850
502	Corporations		32	3,288,860
503	Manufacturing		1	60,030
504	Public Utilities		3	11,426,440
505	Centrally Valued Telephone		1	7,372,100
506	Centrally Valued Pipelines		0	0
508	Wireless Telephone		4	901,220
550-552	Electric Generating Plant		1	904,550
EXEMPT VALUE	Exempt Property		581	488,456,156
Total Class 1	TOTAL RESIDENTIAL		4,269	1,989,265,680
Total Class 2	TOTAL OPEN SPACE		0	0
Total Class 3	TOTAL COMMERCIAL		145	80,909,241
Total Class 4	TOTAL INDUSTRIAL		13	14,550,700
Total Class 5	TOTAL PERSONAL PROPERTY		73	25,638,050
Total Taxable	TOTAL REAL & PERSONAL		4,500	2,110,363,671

BOARD OF HEALTH

Sammie Kul, 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@grotonma.gov

The Board of Health serves 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 Monday of the month at 7:00PM 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. Often, the Board is tasked with balancing that which is best for the public health with property owner's rights.

During the calendar year 2021, the Board of Health reviewed/granted the following permits:

- Subsurface sewage disposal system
 - New permits: 18
 - Upgrade permits: 21
 - Variances: 15
- Well
 - Permits 11
 - Variances 3
- Tobacco control permits 7
- Trash hauler permits 5
- Stable licenses 25

COVID-19 continued to occupy many of the discussions of the Board. Fortunately, in 2021 vaccinations were gradually rolled out to the public. The wearing of face masks continued to be a contentious subject even while they were strongly recommended by the state and federal public health authorities.

The Board prepared an article regarding food service containers for the Spring Town Meeting. "Polystyrene Container Restrictions for Food Service Establishments" passed and went into effect January 1, 2022.

Discussions regarding the contaminant PFAS were frequent and the moratorium previously enacted on the use of fertilizer derived from sludge was extended to January 1, 2022.

Nashoba Associated Boards of Health hired a New Public Health Educator. She discussed Public Health Outreach Project ideas with the Board.

The Board of Health would like to thank Nashoba Associated Boards of Health Director, James Garreffo, Health Agent, Ira Grossman and the Land Use Department staff at Town Hall for their continued support throughout the year. The reality of supporting any Board of Health can be challenging. The Board appreciates the effort and professionalism with which these efforts are undertaken.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Fleischer, Chair
Michelle Collette
Evan Thackaberry

BOARD OF HEALTH

Nashoba Associated Boards of Health

Ira Grossman, 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

www.nashoba.org

Nashoba Associated Boards of Health continues to serve the Groton Board of Health in meeting the challenges of environmental and public health needs in your community. As your Health Agent, entering the second year of the pandemic, this office continued our adaptation to the changes brought on by COVID-19 while we continued to provide the normal public health services for your communities.

- Informed, educated and stayed current with the information from the Department of Public Health to assist residents, schools and businesses.
- We inspected businesses for compliance, upon complaint, in accordance with the ever- changing guidance from the Governor, Department of Labor Standards and Executive Office of Environmental Affairs and provided interpretation and education to improve compliance.
- We provided guidance to our existing licensed businesses to help them operate safely during the pandemic.
- We added additional public health nursing staff and contact tracers to help with contact tracing and outreach.
- We have provided COVID-19 vaccination clinics, along with our well adult and flu clinics.
- Our VNA continued their home health activities throughout the pandemic adjusting to the requirements imposed by COVID-19

We look forward to continuing our work with Groton's Board of Health to meet the public health, environmental and nursing needs of your community as the pandemic continues, including assistance with the roll out of the COVID-19 vaccine.

Included in highlights of 2021 are the following:

Environmental Health Department

The Nashoba Sanitarian is available in the Ayer office and as Town Halls have re-opened we have returned to office hours.

Food Service Licensing and Inspections

41

This office licenses, inspects, responds to complaints and conducts follow up on concerns in licensed operations. Many of the inspection done this year were in response to COVID complaints; also affecting inspections: some businesses were closed or closed part of the year (schools). As more businesses opened this office has increased inspections.

Recreational Permitting and Inspections

18

This office licenses, inspects and responds to complaints for recreational camps for children, bathing beaching and public and semi-pools. We arrange for the sampling of bathing beaches on a weekly basis. Though COVID-19 restrictions were being reduced, and ultimately lifted in June, many camps didn't open. Many of the town beaches and public & semi-public pool resumed operation.

Housing & Nuisance Investigation

5

This office inspects dwelling units for compliance with the State Sanitary Code upon compliant and prior to occupancy. We issue orders to affect corrective actions, reinspect and initiate legal

action if necessary. Similarly, complaints from residents concerning unsanitary conditions or pollution are investigated.

Title 5 related work – On-site Sewage Disposal

Application for soil testing (testing necessary for the design of a sewage disposal system)	53
Tests performed (perc tests and soil evaluation holed witnessed)	150
Applications for sewage disposal plans filed	61
Sewage disposal system plans reviewed	73
Sewage disposal system permits issued	42
New construction	15
Existing construction	27
Sewage disposal system inspections	70
Sewage disposal system consultations/reviewed Title 5 inspection reports	81

Private Well related services

Well permit issued	18
Water Quality/ Well Construction	32
<i>(Private wells are regulated by local regulations: construction plans are reviewed, wells sampled and results reviewed/interpreted)</i>	
Rabies Clinics – Animals Immunized	(Due to COVID-19, clinics were limited in 2021)

Nashoba Nursing Service & Hospice

Nashoba's Certified Home Health Registered Nurses visit and 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.

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

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.

Nursing Visits	1479
Home Health Aide Visits	97
Rehabilitative Therapy Visits	873
Medical Social Work/Spiritual Care Visits	39
Community Health Nursing	

Nashoba's Community Health Nursing program provides an essential public health service to its member communities guided by the American Nurses Association (ANA) 16 Standards of Public Nursing Practice.

Our staff serves as a resource to the community, addressing questions and concerns from the public on a variety of health and safety issues (immunizations, head lice, chronic disease management, safe drug/sharps disposal etc.) in a variety of ways. This year was very different due to COVID-19. This office provided the following services for District.

- We conducted contact tracing for our member communities and managed the contact tracing efforts of the Contact Tracing Collaborative.
- We served as a resource for individuals and businesses interpreting the everchanging information on the disease and the State's response to the pandemic.
- We instructed individuals who tested positive and those who were close contacts on the processes of Isolation and Quarantine, providing release letters for those who completed each process.
- We worked with the State laboratory to identify and manage clusters of disease/exposures in the District.
- We served as a resource for daycare facilities regarding infections in their facilities and interpreting the ever-changing guidance.
- We worked with the school nurses in the District to provide information, offer advice and supporting contact tracing in the schools.
- We are available to collaborate with all municipal staff, including Councils on Aging to address questions on COVID-19, exposures and actions which may be necessary to address these exposures.
- Conducted flu clinic your community, the State didn't require vaccinations for school children this year.
 - We administered 188 flu shots through our annual clinics.
- We conducted COVID-19 vaccination clinics open for all Groton residents.

Nashoba reviewed, investigated and reported on the following cases of communicable diseases, reported to us from the Department of Public, for your community. Though the daily reporting and investigating work is not always visible it is vital to protect the public from the spread of disease. In addition to the cases listed below the nurse investigate suspect and probable cases of communicable diseases to provide education for individuals and information for the State.

Communicable Disease Number of Cases:

Babesiosis	4
Calicivirus/Norovirus	1
Campylobacteriosis	2
Cryptosporidiosis	3
Haemophilus influenzae	1
Hepatitis C	1
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis	7
Influenza	14
Lyme Disease	22
Novel Coronavirus (SARS, MERS, etc)	804
Salmonellosis	5
Shigellosis	1

COMMISSIONERS OF TRUST FUNDS

Karen Tuomi, Executive Director

Meetings by Appointment

(978) 877-6787

trustfunds@grotonma.gov

TRUST FUND	7/1/20 Balance	6/30/21 Balance	Fiscal Year Disbursements
BARR EYE	\$4,869	\$5,588	\$0
MARIA BELITSKY SCHOLARSHIP	\$22,520	\$22,802	\$500
PETER BERTOZZI SCHOLARSHIP	\$184,977	\$188,943	\$2,925
BLOOD CEMETERY	\$6,451	\$6,919	\$0
BUTLER SCHOOL REUNION	\$16,346	\$19,498	\$0
CHAMPNEY CEMETERY	\$4,142	\$4,518	\$0
DALRYMPLE EYE	\$42,316	\$46,114	\$0
GANSER/VAN HOOGEN	\$96,683	\$99,425	\$0
GREEN CHARITY	\$1,125,787	\$1,181,519	\$15,088
GROTON COMMONS	\$16,376	\$19,130	\$0
THOMAS HARTNETT SCHOLARSHIP	\$21,034	\$21,622	\$500
LAWRENCE LIBRARY	\$76,273	\$89,820	\$0
LECTURE	\$5,764,579	\$6,891,415	\$46,840
LIBRARY BOOK	\$253,546	\$297,626	\$0
JOHN ROBBINS LIBRARY	\$3,893,288	\$4,584,323	\$78,976
JOHN ROBBINS SCHOLARSHIP	\$25,868	\$30,403	\$0
ROBERTSON/ONNERS	\$55,166	\$57,110	\$0
MARY SAWYER	\$7,624	\$9,015	\$0
SHEPLEY CHARITY	\$734,587	\$810,539	\$13,960
SHEPLEY FOUNTAIN	\$6,720	\$7,408	\$100
SPAULDING	\$1,621	\$1,897	\$0
PETER TWOMEY SCHOLARSHIP	\$49,505	\$50,045	\$1,000
WATERS VOCATIONAL EDUCATION	\$7,247,948	\$8,610,722	\$117,042
TOTAL	\$19,658,226	\$23,056,401	\$276,931

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 \$23,056,401 consists of \$18,757,191 which is Non-Expendable and \$4,299,210 which is Expendable.

The Trust Fund Commissioners constantly monitor the market and are in communications with our expert financial advisors.

COMMISSIONERS OF TRUST FUNDS – cont.

In October 2021 the Commissioners of Trust Funds celebrated the 100th anniversary of the first submission by the Commissioners of Trust Funds to the 1921 Annual Town Report. During these 100 years, each of the elected Commissioners have made it their goal to not only see that the funds are invested in the best way possible but also to adhere to the wishes of each donor as to how the money should be disbursed. In 2021 the Commissioners of Trust Funds, along with the Town Treasurer, with the approval of Town Meeting vote, petitioned the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be able to widen the investment possibilities so that more funds can be available for the residents of Groton. This petition was granted by the Secretary of State in November 2021. Also, this past September 2021, the Commissioners of Trust Funds accepted a new fund entitled the Social Justice Fund. This Fund is added to the already existing 23 Funds that are available to all residents of Groton. The Lecture Fund continues to provide free lectures and presentations to all residents, the Robbins Library Fund still provides assistance with the general expenses of the Groton Public Library and the Green and Shepley Charity Funds continue to aid residents in financial crisis. For more information on the Commissioners of Trust Funds please contact trustfunds@grotonma.gov.

The individual recipients of the 2021 scholarship awards are;

Peter E. Bertozzi Trust and Scholarship Fund

The Peter E. Bertozzi Trust and Scholarship Fund was established by the Squannacook Sportsmen's Club to promote an interest in conservation and environmental studies. The 2021 recipients were Julia Grant and Cameron Watelet.

Thomas D. Hartnett Scholarship Trust Fund

The Thomas D. Hartnett Scholarship Trust Fund was established to offer financial aid to candidates who demonstrate the desire to give back to the community through service. The 2021 recipient was Ryan Taylor.

Peter M. Twomey Memorial Scholarship Trust Fund

The recipients of this Trust Fund are chosen based on their response to the question, "How will you use your special abilities to make a positive contribution to our world?" The 2021 recipients of this award were Kyle Plausse.

Frank F. Waters Vocational Education Scholarship Trust Fund

Ten students received scholarships of \$6500 toward their first year at a vocational education institution. These students were: Eric Alvarez, Travis Belanger, Daniel Borys, Brent Bushnell, Madison Collins, Jadya Correia, Abigail Hamill, Kieran Scofidio, Kaila Tirone and Jesse Trimper.

Respectfully submitted,
Rachael Bielecki, Commissioner
Martha McLure, Commissioner
Joseph Twomey, 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



The Groton Electric Light Department was one hundred and twelve years old in 2021 – what a year...continued. 2021 was another year in the pandemic but life became more normal-a new normal. GELD's normal never changed as we worked through every challenge as if it were "business as usual". For

us that means – to provide our customers reliable power and excellent service at affordable prices. It's what we do!

Below is a summary of our 2021 operations. Our complete report, including audited financial statements, will be available in the Spring.

Operations

We focused on continuing our infrastructure improvements as well as aggressive tree trimming. We replaced 162 old poles in 2021. We also replaced three smaller fleet vehicles and we contracted with Eaton Corporation for a new AMI (Advanced Metering Infrastructure) system to replace our 15-year-old fully depreciated meter system. Meters and equipment started arriving at the end of 2021. We are hopeful to have the new system in place by the end of 2022.

Power Supply

It seems every winter GELD faces increased power and fuel costs caused by weather and natural gas supply constraints. Instead of increasing rates year-round, GELD was able to cover some of the higher winter energy costs with a Power Cost Adjustment in the colder months. The management team closely monitors the power markets to ensure the best hedging strategy possible. The Berkshire Wind Power Project had its tenth full year of operation producing power at 25.48% of its capacity. GELD's 2.3-megawatt solar farm located on the closed town landfill is producing approximately 25% of GELD's power needs during certain hours in the spring and fall and operated at 17.53% of its capacity for 2021. The wind project in Hancock, Maine produced power at 27.63% of capacity in its fifth full year of operation. Investing in Wind, Solar and other renewable energy projects help in many ways - to lower our carbon footprint; to diversify GELD's power supply portfolio; and to reduce our reliance on fossil fuels. Our purchased power remains between 60 and 70% carbon free.

Rates

KWh sales were up 1.81% in 2021 and up 1.41% compared to the five-year average. A Power Cost Adjustment was added as a line item on the bills in January, February, March, and December 2021 as a way for Groton Electric to recoup the increased generation costs associated with higher fuel and power costs in the winter months. 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 on December 1. We ended 2021 with the nineteenth 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 83.9% & 101% higher than Groton Electric respectively.

We thank the Groton ratepayers for their continual support of Groton's locally owned and operated Light Department; and we thank the GELD employees for their dedication, loyalty, and hard work!

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin P. Kelly, Manager
Eric S. Fisher, Clerk

Rodney R. Hersh, Chairman
Kevin J. Lindemer, Member

GROTON DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Offices: 344 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450

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

Dr. Laura Chesson, 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. Laura Chesson, Superintendent of Schools

It is with great pride and pleasure that I present the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District's Spring 2021/2022 report. Below is a short executive summary of highlights from this year. To learn about each item, you can access a more detailed narrative in the remainder of the report. The goal for all of our schools this year was to help each of our learners, whether learning at home or in school, to feel seen, heard and safe. While that is our goal every year, this year it proved to be even more paramount.

A Few Highlight Previews:

- Continuing designing professional development and learning to match the needs of interrupted learning as well as giving support to the development of learning environments where students feel accepted, like they belong, a part of the community, have access to a multi-tiered system of support in service of equitable outcomes for all students. Section 1: Curriculum and Instruction,
- The school district continued to monitor improvements and purchases to make sure the buildings support a safe return of staff and students. This allowed a smooth start to the school year given the more in person learning environment. The Florence Roche Elementary Building project is underway as are plans for the new track. Leftfield, LLC, the Owner's Project Manager, and Studio G Architects continue to lead the project to fruition. The building will stand where the current track is located and we are excited about the plans to maintain a track space. Section 2: Business and Finance.
- We continue to work to strengthen our ability to support all students in our district. We have secured two Massachusetts competitive grants, Safe and Supportive Schools and Hate Crime Prevention, provided us with additional funds and resources to support the collaboration of school based teams, and initiate our work with the ADL (Anti-Defamation League) for peer training programming for students and professional development for staff. Section 3: Student Services
- The district continues to provide equitable access across the district to digital tools, such as Google Docs and digital portfolios, and our district-wide 1:1 computing environment. The technology department works hard to make sure that all devices are up and running. This year we also launched a new website format that we have been using successfully and reflecting on best ways to communicate via the website to all stakeholders. Section 4: Technology and Digital Learning.
- Please see Section 5: Human Resources to see all of the new staff who joined the Groton Dunstable team. We continue to feel lucky to have found talented individuals to make sure we were able to supervise and assist learners at all levels. Staffing has become increasingly difficult throughout the pandemic and we know that the solid academic environment and what it has to offer teachers continues to attract talented educators.

Section 1: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

Submitted by Kristin DeFrancisco, Assistant Superintendent

As you read about our highlights in curriculum and instruction this year, you will notice a theme of making sure that we worked to maintain the highest standards despite the circumstances we continue to find ourselves in during the pandemic. Our top priority is to foster learning environments where students feel accepted, like they belong, a sense of community, a multi-tiered systems of support, all in service of equitable outcomes for all students.

2021 Highlights

- Professional Development and learning to continue meeting the needs of students with interrupted learning. These include a "large cohort" opportunities so that we ensure all educators have what they need in order to make changes in instruction.
- We continued to use think tanks to help teachers continue their work around strategies to engage and motivate learners such as building inclusive learning communities, using feedback loops, using student friendly learning targets and using student smart goals.
- We have used data from our Professional Development and Learning and Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment committees to help define new ways to look at what we want to bring in to continue to support teachers in both teaching and learning. We are forming a common understanding for how this should consistently look, feel and sound in the district.
- Taking a deeper look at Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and in addition to focusing on tier II intervention systems in reading, we are also making sure to audit our tier I systems. This is very important because these tier I systems are the foundation to the success of tier II and tier II supports.

Data Analysis

We continue to use screener data in the areas of mathematics and ELA. Screeners are used throughout the school year to help identify students that are on or above grade level, slightly below grade level and significantly below grade level. The three screeners that we are using are Dibels for reading (K - 2) Reading Plus in the area of reading (grades 3 & 4) and IXL in the areas of mathematics (K-12). Our Dibels data is showing that our early readers are making progress throughout the school year with classroom instruction and with some intervention supports in place too.

Social emotional wellness continues to be an area of progress. We continue with Responsive Classroom professional development and are looking to grow this framework in middle school and high school with an advisory framework. We are continuing to use the support of the Safe and Supportive Schools Grant to grow our initiatives.

All of these areas have provided data sets and opportunities for us to build narratives that tell students' learning stories. We know that it is important to look at many data points when we are making decisions about programming for our students and the more we look to build a complete narrative, the more successful we will be at matching interventions and opportunities to our learners. We look forward to continuing to build this kind of culture around data.

Section 2: Business and Finance Department

Submitted by Sherry Kersey, Director of Business and Finance

2021 Highlights

- The FY21 budget cycle ended favorably.
- Our building maintenance staff continue to monitor HVAC performance in all buildings and other operating systems to ensure a safe learning environment for both staff and students.
- The Food Service program provided universal free lunch for all students for the entire year.
- Florence Roche Elementary Building project was approved by MSBA and funding secured at Groton's Annual Town Meeting.
- The Town of Groton approved funding for a new track to be built behind the Middle School campus.
- Both Towns approved the high school football stadium field to be renovated with a new seeded field. A generous donation from GD @ Play also helped fund this initiative.
- Worked collaboratively with both towns to spend COVID relief funds to offset regional school expenses.
- Worked collaboratively with Town Manager in Groton and Town Administrator in Dunstable to produce a balanced FY22 budget.

The FY21 budget year closed favorably for the district, ending with a surplus of unspent funds of \$980,372 (2.23%) of our total \$44,001,053 budget. These funds will help replenish Excess & Deficiency (E & D) funds that have been appropriated for the \$800,000 appropriation that was approved by the school committee and the towns to be used to balance the FY22 operating budget. This is a positive movement toward restoring the balance of E & D to the level set as a goal by the school committee.

The school district made many repairs and improvements to all HVAC systems throughout the school district in both FY20 and FY21. Those initiatives, as reported last year as well, include:

- Repairs to all HVAC systems so that all classrooms had working ventilation systems. Every classroom and all common areas in GDRSD buildings have been equipped with I-Wave Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization (NPBI). NPBI reduces or kills airborne pathogens including COVID19.
- Ductless split systems continue to be added to classrooms throughout the district to improve air movement. This is a long range plan for the maintenance department.
- Portable HEPA air purifiers were procured and added to rooms to improve air quality in individual areas.
- Communication has been provided to Administration and Teachers about proper opening of windows to allow fresh air into classrooms.

In the summer of 2020, DESE declared that all students qualify for universal free lunch for the entire 2020-2021 school year. This is great for our families, however the state reimbursement for a free meal does not necessarily cover the costs of running the food service program. The program had reserve funds to help cover costs. As universal free lunch was also approved for the 2021-2022 school year, we will monitor performance and provide the support the program needs to continue to serve our students nutritious food options.

The Florence Roche Elementary School Building Project is underway. Leftfield, LLC, the Owner's Project Manager, and Studio G Architects continue to lead the project to fruition. The Florence Roche Elementary Building Committee convenes every two weeks to make decisions that are necessary to continue forward progress. This also includes many local meetings to gather input and data from all stakeholders.

As the new Florence Roche building will be physically located where the current track is, the Town of Groton also approved a new track to be built behind the Middle School complex in order to preserve having a track on the property. Groundbreaking will occur in the Spring of 2022.

The stadium football field at the High School will be renovated thanks to both Towns approving the funding to repair the natural grass turf. GD @ Play generously donated \$100,000 to offset the cost of the project. They had raised funds over several years with the option of looking into replacing the natural field with a turf based field and desired to see these funds be used to improve the quality of the field.

There has been relatively little federal and state COVID relief funds directly sent to the school district, however a large allocation was directed to the Towns. The school committee and school Administrators worked with both Towns to advocate for some of those funds to be directed toward school related COVID costs. The Town of Groton gifted \$650,000 and the Town of Dunstable gifted \$150,000 of their appropriation to the school district. There was a lot of communication and paperwork that was needed, and all parties should be commended for the collaboration.

The district continued to work with the town manager and town administrator from our member towns to produce an FY22 budget that allowed the district to meet our budget guidance and continue to fund our capital needs. In order to balance revenue requirements with academic and operational budgetary requirements, \$800,000 was appropriated from E & D. This should be considered a one-time appropriation. A five (5) year budget projection was prepared in order for the member towns to be able to better predict the annual funding request of the school district. We look forward to continued collaboration and leadership from elected officials of both towns to continue to work to create budgets that will support the district educational goals and provide the best possible education for all students.

The continued support of both member towns have allowed the district to continue to fund our capital plan and improve all school facilities. The district completed a number of important projects during 2021 including:

- Purchased an additional truck for the maintenance department to increase the number of vehicles we have available for snow removal and day-to-day needs.
- Completed Phase II of a two-year project replacing flooring at the Middle School South.
- Maintenance/Grounds equipment that support the new initiatives from the Director of Buildings and Grounds including maintenance of the upcoming new football field and other existing fields throughout the school district.
- Support the technology refresh plan.

Section 3: Pupil Personnel Services

Submitted by Jill Greene, Director of Pupil Personnel Services

2021 Highlights

- Health and safety continued to be a district-wide priority focusing on COVID-19 mitigation and testing. The foundation of our efforts were our School Nurses who provided the complex coordination and coordination needed to support our students, staff and families.
- We focused on increasing the coordination of our Special Education, Behavioral Health, Social Emotional Learning, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion efforts and the further development of our Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework, in collaboration with the District's Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment efforts, in service of equitable outcomes for all students.
- Two Massachusetts competitive grants, Safe and Supportive Schools and Hate Crime Prevention, provided us with additional funds and resources to support the collaboration of school based teams, and initiate our work with the ADL (Anti-Defamation League) for peer training programming for students and professional development for staff.

Special Education: The Groton-Dunstable Regional School District provides a constellation of support services for students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) throughout the district. In addition to the supports and services provided in general education environments, the district offers a variety of in-district programs to students eligible for special education services. Our programs offer more structured supports and services with predictable routines, highly specialized individual and small group instruction and curriculum that allows students to experience success as they learn and develop at their own rate.

Special Education highlights:

- Accepted as a District in the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education IEP Improvement Project Cohort.
- Continued with our ongoing professional development series for special educators to improve consistency of IEP development and expand specialized instructional practices, and the expansion of assessment and instructional materials district wide.
- Focused on the guiding principle of "promoting student independence" by utilizing data based decision making and implementing consistent communication, and documented procedures and processes with accountability systems.

Section 4: Technology & Digital Learning Department

Submitted by Mr. Luke Callahan, M.Ed., Director of Technology & Digital Learning

2021 Highlights

The past year has been an active and exciting time for the Department of Technology & Digital Learning. Our department strives to support our standards-aligned curriculum to benefit each students' unique learning characteristics. Although our department tackles several thousand help-desk tickets each year, we continue to empower instruction that demands the critical thinking skills required for college and career readiness.

Over the last year, ubiquitous access to a 1:1 device has reduced learning barriers, allowing our faculty an effective and engaging instructional approach. With the move towards greater access to digital tools, the 1:1 program, which includes Apple iPads and Google Chromebooks, supports educators in our universally designed curriculum and provides a resource in addressing any learning gaps.

As part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, GDRSD applied for and received an Emergency Connectivity Fund (ECF) grant. This grant replaced several hundred Google Chromebooks at the Middle School South providing a personalized learning structure supporting the Universal Design for Learning (UDL) principles.

Over the last several years, investments in technology infrastructure and our device replacement plan have been foundational to GDRSD's learning environment. As we have increased equitable technology access for teachers and students during this unprecedented time, we want all staff to remain safe. In 2021, GDRSD received a cyber security awareness grant from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts with this idea of online safety in mind. This grant supports our effort to increase cyber-awareness across GDRSD and is vital.

Lastly, GDRSD launched a new website alongside a mobile app that helps students, parents, and community members to know what is happening at school right from their phones. Our families are using smartphones as a primary means to communicate, which is why we've created an app that is custom-built for mobile phones. The new platform has been successful, and we will continue to refine and improve our communication with our families and community.

Section 5: Human Resources

Submitted by Justin Williams, Director of Human Resources

2021 Highlights

- 2021 changes in our administrative team.
- Nineteen (19) district employees retired.
- Continued to implement and run a wellness program for staff focused on stress management and work life balance.
- Supported the COVID-19 testing efforts implemented by the district.

New administrative hires in 2021 included Middle School Principal, Wendy Salvatore; Boutwell Early Childhood Coordinator, Maggie Ross Richardson; PreK-6 ELA Coordinator, Amanda Densmore; DEI Coordinator, Andrew Hurley; Middle School Team Chair, Brian Macauley and Elementary School Team Chair, Jennifer Hilton. In addition to new members of the administrative team, we welcomed a number of staff members to fill available vacancies. We also saw the retirement of nineteen (19) district employees, many of which had been with the district for over 20 years.

Section 6: Extended Day and Community Services

Submitted by Ms. Stasia Knight, Director

2021 Highlights

- Transitioned to an online platform for program payment and registrations.
- Reintroduced in person after school programming with Indian Hill Music Center.
- Teamed with Wachusett Ski Mountain to offer Ski & Snowboard Club to 150 middle and high school students.
- Continued collaboration with Groton Senior Center offering weekly walking and pickleball programs.

The Extended Day Program continues to see an increase in registrations with over 320 students attending all of the program sites this year. This growth has necessitated the before and after-school program to continue the use of new locations and expansions in order to eliminate the waiting list and provide care for all families in need. In addition to February vacation week, the Extended Day Program offered Summer Camp, welcoming back field trips highlighting local small businesses within our community.

Community Education continues to offer residents in our area fun and informative classes. We welcomed back and continued to grow our partnership with the Groton Senior Center by offering free pickle ball and walking programs for seniors and our community throughout the week. In addition to these partnerships, we also offered several new classes for middle school and elementary students including Language, Mixed Media Arts, Circuit Labs, Ukulele and Chess Club. These along with old favorites like Flag Football, Ski Club, Tae Kwon Do, Summer Tennis, help give our students in grades K through 8 many options for after school and weekend fun.

As we look for a variety of ways to expand our programming, community input is always encouraged and welcomed. Find us on the new Groton-Dunstable Community Education webpage for updates, course offerings and to share your ideas!

Section 7: Groton-Dunstable Regional High School Submitted by Mr. Michael Woodlock, Principal

2021 Highlights

- 92% of our Graduating Seniors went on to a post-secondary academic opportunity. 81% of the class of 2021 went to a four year college/university, 11% to a two-year college/university, 3% went on to employment, and 1% enlisted in our nation's armed services.
- Like last year, we are continuing to prioritize making our WIN block an effective means of providing students with multiple opportunities each week to have access to necessary interventions and enrichment to make their scholastic and social and emotional journey at GDRHS a successful one. We are working with a software company to provide our staff and students with choice and autonomy in deciding how we will meet the needs of all learners in our district. The overall goal of this block is to provide students with extra assistance in classes when needed, while also providing students opportunities to explore options not included in their schedules or to meet with teachers they have to go further than typical class content would take them. Due to the pandemic we were not able to fully realize the intent of this block because we needed to limit student movement in the building for contact tracing reasons. The intent moving forward is to bring WIN Block to its full potential in 2021.
- We had 370 Advanced Placement (AP) Tests taken. 75% of the tests taken earned a three or better which is the standard to receive college credit. 18% scored a 5 which is the highest score possible.
- As part of our Decennial Accreditation which will take place in the fall of 2023, the staff is working to develop a Vision of the Graduate which will highlight key abilities and/or characteristics that we would like each student who completes their high school education at GDRHS to embody. This is critical work that when finished should have an impact on the teaching and learning of all students in the district, Pre-K through grade 12.



This school year, although more similar to what would be considered a typical school year, has not been typical. Students and staff alike have been met with many challenges as a result of the global Covid pandemic. Staff and students have struggled with social and emotional challenges in dealing with loss of loved ones and loss of the comforts of what we had been accustomed to. Students entering high school this year for the first time and those students entering 10th grade this year had not experienced a typical bell schedule at GDRHS before. Many students had not been in school in person in over a year. Because of all of these factors and more it has been challenging to replicate a school environment like the one we enjoyed prior to the pandemic. Although it has been difficult, our staff and students have modeled our core value of perseverance in an effort to make the 2021-2022 school year a success. Although the masks have served as a reminder of the strange times we are enduring, we have seen a return of some things that have brought a sense of comfort and normalcy to our students' lives. Our Athletic Director, Matthew Ricard, has done an outstanding job of meeting all of the criteria to bring all of our sports back during this school year. Although we have had to manage our way through certain restrictions, our athletic teams have once again played full schedules and had great success on the fields, courts, ice rinks and trails during this year. Additionally, we have seen a return of concerts, theater productions, math competitions and DECA competitions. Our Robotics team, Robotomies, is back at it as well. Collectively, these

extracurricular aspects of student life have made a huge impact in bringing life back into our hallways and classrooms. Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of our community, families and the incredible dedication of our staff, most notably our school nurses, Mrs. Shea and Mrs. Caruso.

Section 8: Groton-Dunstable Regional Middle School

Submitted by Wendy Salvatore, Principal

2021 Highlights

- The Groton Dunstable Regional Middle School faculty had been very busy between January 2021 and January 2022! First off we hired a new Principal, Ms. Wendy Salvatore. Ms. Salvatore comes to us with 20+ years of experience in Education.
- How has COVID Changed how we do things: September 2020 we started the school year with 80% in person and 20% remote. We asked teachers to dismantle their classrooms and have only desks and the absolute necessities. Our amazing teachers did just that and moved from room to room as to allow for students to stay in their rooms in their cohorts to decrease the transmission of the Corona 19 virus. By April 2021 we were back to almost 90% in person schooling.

Fall 2021 teachers were eager to get “back to normal”. Teachers were able to be in their own rooms again and establish new norms for a new beginning. All though we quickly realized that “normal” is all relative and in the eyes of the beholder. We had to remind each other that a 5th grade student last had a full normal school year in 2nd grade and an 8th grade student last had a full normal year in 5th grade. Through all of this we continued to persevere against the virus and while we are doing pooled testing weekly, contact tracing daily and managing teacher absences due to COVID we are doing so as a team and supporting each other as we go through this, “new normal”.

Student voice and engagement:

What does Community look, feel and sound like? Ms. Salvatore visited every 7th and 8th grade English Language Arts class in the fall to have conversations about Community and what the students think it should look, feel and sound like. Students wrote their ideas on post-its and we did a Fill-a-Page activity. Those pages became posters and those posters are hanging around our building as a reminder of what the students' voice is. What do they think about how we should be treating each other? We also read these post-its every morning during morning announcements.

Inclusive School Community:

We are continuing to embark on a clear focus for building an inclusive school community where all members of the community are seen, valued and heard.

- Our district hired a Diversity Equity and Inclusion coordinator and with his support and the support of our Social Emotional Learning coordinator we have been able to have productive and informed conversations with our students, families and staff.
- As a district we read *The Power of Our Words* and have spent staff meetings and professional development afternoons talking about how POW helps us to inform $A+B+C+D=E$.
- Our 8th grade ELA curriculum this year read the book, *Claudette Colvin, Twice Toward Justice*, written by Phillip Hoose. With this text teachers worked with students on implicit and explicit bias. Recognizing that everyone has their own unique identities and differences. Mrs. DeFrancisco talked about mirrors, windows and sliding glass doors in one of her News Bites to the district. We are looking at providing students with these opportunities through what we read and did so with the use of this 8th grade unit.
- For the 2021-22 school year we created two new special education classrooms to create capacity to better serve our more complex students. These classrooms are for our Life Skills students and

our Social Emotional Students. Having these classrooms within our school buildings allows us to include our students in our everyday happenings.

- All members of our school community continue to keep PRIDE in our sights: Positivity, Respect, Integrity, Determination and Empathy and how these words inform what a school community should look, feel and sound.

Section 9: Florence Roche Elementary School

Submitted by Mr. Brian O'Donoghue, Principal

2021 Highlights

- Our professional development focused on strategies for engaging and motivating both in person and remote students.
- We had a consultant work with us throughout the year supporting self-care and wellness in response to the increased stress of working through COVID.
- We focused on strengthening our home and community partnerships to support students and families to feel connected during the pandemic.
- The school building project continued to move forward with a variety of focus groups facilitated by Studio G Architects.

The 2020-2021 school year was a challenging one and presented us with opportunities for learning new teaching strategies to meet the needs of both in person and remote learners. The district followed a "hybrid" model that offered both in person learning and remote learning options to families. We opened the year with 390 students returning to our classrooms for in person learning Monday through Thursday. 117 students chose to learn remotely full-time. All students were remote learners on Fridays to begin the year.

The hybrid model required us to make a few staffing adjustments in response to parent selection of either in person or remote learning. We assigned a classroom teacher to serve as the remote teacher for their respective grade level. These teachers led their instruction online using a variety of technology tools. All students, both in person and remote, were provided with devices to engage in their instruction.

We hired additional in person classroom teachers in order to limit our class size to approximately 15 students in response to safe distancing guidelines. At grades 3 and 4, we added additional sections to accommodate the large demand for in person learning. We added an additional section of grade 2 when we had an influx of new in person learners in the spring.

The 2020-2021 school year was like no other we have ever experienced. Our school community faced many challenges and learned a lot throughout the year. The primary focus was on keeping our students and staff healthy, safe and engaged in learning whether that was in person or remote.

We look forward to having all students back in our school for the 2021-2022 school year.

Section 10: Swallow Union Elementary School

Submitted by Mr. Peter Myerson, Principal

2021 Highlights

- During this past year we are one of the few elementary schools in the area to offer a hybrid model that would allow our students to attend 4 full days and 1 remote day. Our students were given a choice of hybrid or remote at the start of the school year. Roughly 80% of our students attend our

hybrid model and 20% our in our remote program. Our remote students are taught by staff members on a full time basis. Our district has worked diligently all school year to make sure our students are following the many new protocols and procedures to make sure we all stay safe. The students and staff have done an excellent job with the new normal this year.

- Much of the work during the 2021 school year focused on keeping our school open. We made sure we are delivered the best possible education for our students academically, socially, and emotionally.
- As a school we continue to finalize our Core Values. We used the acronym PAWS to help our students remember them: Perseverance, Acceptance, Wise Choices, Safety.

SU welcomed 64 kindergarten students this fall. This is our biggest K enrollment in the past several years. During the first half of our current school year, we continue to follow our new Covid19 procedures and protocols. The SU community has done a wonderful job keeping our students feeling safe and following through with our norms and expectations. A main focus this year has been focused on Responsive Classroom training for our staff. The goal of a responsive classroom is to create a safe learning environment in which students and staff feel accepted, and they are part of a community in which they all belong. RC training also aligns with our district goals of implementing our multi-tiered systems of support that help us strive to have equitable outcomes for all our students.

Section 11: Boutwell Early Childhood Center

Submitted by Ms. Maggie Richardson, Director of Boutwell Early Childhood Center

2021 Highlights

During the 20/21 school year, we opened our doors to provide in person instruction for Boutwell students. Boutwell staff provided a rich preschool experience for students, all while social distancing and keeping students healthy. This was a huge undertaking which required creativity, flexibility and tremendous planning from staff members. Students were provided with individual toys and manipulatives, and the preschool daily schedule looked very different from a typical year. Technology was utilized in new ways to support lessons. Teachers, para-educators and related service providers found brilliant ways to support social, emotional and physical development while keeping students six feet apart. Students amazed us every day with their ability to adapt. Families were able to have regular glimpses into classroom activities through the use of SeeSaw. It was an incredibly successful year.

Boutwell registration for the 2021-2022 school year opened in February 2021. It was clear that many families in our community were interested in enrolling at Boutwell, particularly in a full day classroom. To accommodate the requests of our families, we were pleased to add an additional classroom teacher to our Boutwell staff. This fall, we opened with two full day classes, in addition to our half day morning and afternoon classes.

With the addition of a new classroom, construction began inside of Boutwell in order to accommodate increased enrollment. A new office and conference room was constructed. Future plans include construction of a library, offices for staff, a new staff work area, staff break room, and additional storage for classroom materials.



GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

Vanessa Abraham, Director

Trustees Meeting Held Monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 7 pm • gpl.org •

Main: 978-448-1167 • Children's: 978-448-1168 • Reference: 978-448-8000 • Fax: 978-448-1169



GPL re-opened fully to the public on June 15, 2021 - for the first time since March 13, 2020 (at the start of the pandemic.) While open for most of FY2021, it was by appointment only for adults, so this was a VERY exciting day! It was also the first day of Summer Reading for all ages.

It was a banner year for programs, with 833 programs offered – the most ever! It was an amazing year of virtual, hybrid, in person, take & make, and outdoor events to engage, connect, enrich, and support residents of all ages during a time of unprecedented isolation.

For Groton Reads, Groton read March, a non-fiction graphic novel trilogy by John Lewis and Andrew Aydin with Nate Powell. It was the first time a graphic novel was selected - which introduced the format to many adults. Over 30 programs were offered on Zoom and outdoors, with many community partnerships.

Curbside pick-up, Children's Window Service, Groton Delivery, and Remote Services were offered all year for the safety, comfort, and convenience of patrons. Kanopy streaming video was added to expand digital offerings to meet the increase in usage during COVID.

GPL went fine-free this year, along with libraries nationwide, in recognition of fines as an economic barrier to access, especially to those who can least afford it. Overdue fines penalize physical checkouts and hit parents of young children the hardest (with all the picture books.)

A completely new website was launched in September to replace the old site and meet current security standards, be mobile friendly, and easier to navigate and update. Staff also needed to learn, set up, and migrate to four new online modules to replace Library Insight for GPL's online event calendar, room booking, museum pass reservations, and summer reading software.

Nicole Irvin became the new Head of Circulation & Adult Services following Lisa Baylis's retirement in April.

Open hours were reduced to 44 hours/week (instead of the usual 48) because of FY22 personnel budget cuts. GPL closed one hour early Tuesday-Friday and there were no Sunday hours. Once the full personnel budget was restored at Fall Town Meeting and permanent positions filled, full year-round hours resumed on January 1, 2022.

Board of Trustees of the Groton Public Library: Chair: Dave Zeiler. Vice-Chair: Jane Allen. Secretary: Kate Bettencourt. Members: Mark Gerath, Kristen von Campe, and Nancy Wilder. gpltrustees@gpl.org

PICTURED: Outdoor Storytime in the Garden, Wed. Sept. 8, 2021. Children's Librarian Lauren Sanchez far left.

HOUSING AUTHORITY

Lisa Larrabee, Executive Director

Meetings at 7:00pm on 3rd Wednesday of the Month at 19 Lowell Road, Groton
(978) 448-3962 Fax: (978) 448-5845

office@grotonha.org

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, and one affordable unit at Still Meadow. 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 three Commissioners who are elected by town residents to five-year terms, one resident Board Member appointed by the Select Board and one who is appointed by the Governor. At the regular meeting of the Commissioners held in July 2021, members were elected to the following positions: Deirdre Slavin-Mitchell, Chairman; Daniel Emerson, Vice Chairman; Leslie Colt, Treasurer; Don Black, Member, John Sopka, Member. The Board meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 19 Lowell Road, 7pm.

Board member Daniel Emerson represents the Housing Authority on the Community Preservation Committee. Mr. Emerson is also the appointed member to the Board of Commissioners by the Governor.

The Groton Housing Authority would like to thank the residents of Groton for electing John Sopka as our newest Member of the Board of Commissioners. During his short time on the Board, Mr. Sopka has become a very valued Member of the Board of Commissioners.

The Groton Housing Authority entered into a management contract with the Westford Housing Authority as of December 2018. This has been done as an effort to save money. Lisa Larrabee is the Managing Director for the Groton Authority and the Executive Director of the Westford Housing Authority. Mandi Dinsmore is the Property Manager under the management agreement. Lisa has hired Linda Williams to cover the Groton Office from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM, Monday through Thursday. Because of the complexity of running three housing authorities, Lisa spends eight hours per week in the Groton Office usually Monday through Friday from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. Lisa, Mandi and Linda may also be reached by calling 978-448-3962 or emailing to office@grotonha.org.

The Groton Senior Center Staff and Lisa Larrabee continue to work together to provide quality programs for the seniors of the Groton Housing Authority. The Groton Senior Center Staff also helps our families on an as needed basis. The Groton Housing Authority would like to thank the Senior Center Staff for their continued support to the Groton Housing Authority.

The Groton Trust Funds has also been a huge help to both the Authority and to some tenants who have come upon financial hardships through job losses and illnesses. The Groton Housing Authority is grateful to the Trust Funds for helping these tenants get caught up on rent so that they can remain in their affordable units.

The coronavirus pandemic has made operations of the Groton Housing Authority challenging over the past year. The Groton Housing Authority would like to thank the residents of the Groton Housing Authority for their support and outpouring of care and concern for each other and the staff of the Groton Housing Authority. The Groton Housing Authority has been working hard to provide as many essential services as we possibly can during this pandemic.

The Authority continues to work cooperatively with the Town on various affordable housing issues. Presently, Mr. Don Black, Member of the Groton Housing Authority Board of Commissioners has stepped up to help the GHA on developing affordable housing for our most vulnerable Groton Residents. He has made great progress on our Nashua Road Property. 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. The Groton Housing Authority would also like to take the time to again thank Ms. Fran Stanley, Housing Coordinator and Assistant Town Clerk for her support of the Housing Authority and for her work as Housing Coordinator for the Town.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deirdre Slavin-Mitchell, Chairman
Daniel Emerson, Vice Chairman
Leslie Colt, Treasurer
Don Black, Member



Sunset on Kailey's Way
Photo Courtesy of Kevin Barrett

PARK COMMISSION

Donna Main, Park Administrator

Meetings 1st Tuesday of the Month, Town Hall, 173 Main Street

(978) 448-1109

parks@grotonma.gov

The Park Commission continues to maintain the Parks, Commons, Courts, and Playing Fields placed under its jurisdiction for the use of the public. All residents are encouraged to visit and enjoy the diverse properties available for passive and active recreation. Additionally, the Park Commission is responsible for the Christine Hanson Memorial Playground, Town Field Basketball Court, Cutler Field Playground and Basketball Court, George and Agnes Rider Park and Basketball Court, Hazel Grove Park/Groton Fairgrounds, The Old Burying Ground, The Smith Social Pavilion, and all of The Town Commons.

The Park Commissioners meet the first Tuesday of the month at Town Hall. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Commission met both in person and virtually in 2021. Our meetings follow an agenda of meeting with Residents, User Groups, and other Town Boards and Committees to promote good stewardship and coordinate Community use of our properties.

We also wish to extend our thanks to the many groups and individuals who volunteer their time and efforts toward the care of the Town's Parks, Playgrounds, and Commons. Our sincere thanks to the Groton Garden Club for their continuing beautification efforts and dedication in tending our Commons and Traffic Circles. As ever, the Park Commissioners rely upon and greatly appreciate the Department of Public Works' care and cooperation in its efforts to help maintain all Town properties.

Respectfully submitted,
Donald Black (Chair), 2022
Anna Eliot (Vice Chair), 2024
Kenneth Bushnell, 2022
Gail Chalmers, 2023



Photo Courtesy of Donna Main

PLANNING BOARD

Takashi Tada, Land Use Director/Town Planner
Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm
Meeting Every Other Thursday @ 7:00pm
(978) 448-1105 Fax: (978) 448-1113
planning@grotonma.gov

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 Bylaw amendments must be adopted by a 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 Bylaw, Subdivision Regulations, Zoning Map, Town Center Overlay District Map, and Water Resource Protection District Map are available on the Town's website.

During 2021, the Planning Board reviewed the following applications:

Approval Not Required (ANR) Plans	8
Major Residential Subdivision Plans	2
Definitive Subdivision Plans	1
Special Permits	6
Special Permit – Town Center Overlay District	1
Major Site Plan Review	1
Minor Site Plan Review	8
Site Plan Review Modifications	1
Scenic Roads Permits	2

In the 2021 Spring Town Meeting, voters adopted zoning amendments to clarify certain provisions of the Zoning Bylaw, Ch. 218. In the 2021 Fall Town Meeting, voters adopted zoning amendments to allow retail marijuana establishments to exist in the General Business zoning district by special permit.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Planning Board held remote (virtual) meetings using Zoom from January through May, and again from October through December. All of the Zoom meetings were broadcast live on the Groton Channel and also recorded for on-demand viewing. The Planning Board held in-person meetings from June through September.

The Planning Board appreciates the service of former member Timothy Svarczkopf, who resigned in April 2021. The Planning Board was pleased to welcome a new member, Alyson Bedard.

The Planning Board appreciates the support and guidance provided by Town Departments and staff throughout the year, especially the public safety officials, the DPW, the Building Commissioner, the IT Department, the Groton Channel, and the Town Manager.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wilson, Chair
Annika Nilsson Ripps, Vice Chair
Alyson Bedard, Clerk
George Barringer, Member

Lorayne Black, Member
David Bonnett, Member
Russell Burke, Member
Takashi Tada, Land Use Director/Town Planner

SEWER COMMISSION

Lauren Crory, 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@grotonma.gov

The Sewer Commission is pleased to make the following report for the calendar year ending December 31, 2021 to the sewer rate payers and the citizens of the Town of Groton.

Groton's flows to the Pepperell Treatment Plant were higher in CY2021, reaching levels last seen in CY2019. This is attributed to local businesses and schools coming back online from pandemic closures. The Commission continues to work to reduce Inflow and Infiltration (I & I) of groundwater into the Center Sewer collection system. An initial I & I study was completed in 2019 and identified areas requiring attention to reduce and/or eliminate groundwater infiltration. Due to the pandemic the Commission had to postpone inspection work scheduled for 2020, but did perform additional inspection work in 2021. The Commission is continuing to investigate I & I reduction opportunities. Further inspection, with focus on the Rail Trail section of the Center District, will commence in 2022.

The major upgrades to the Pepperell Wastewater Treatment Plant have been completed and Groton has begun paying debt service in Fiscal Year 2022. The plant upgrades do not include any expansion to the facility for increased sewerage flows. In 2021, the Commission held several public hearings for new sewer connections in the Center District. The Commission will continue to maintain a watchful eye on new requests for sewer capacity in the Center District.

The Commission continues the process of negotiating a new Inter-municipal Agreement with Pepperell for its treatment of wastewater. Multiple approaches to account for flow dispersal and maintenance are being explored. As with all long term agreements, they take a great deal of time and patience so that it remains financially viable for both the parties.

Groton wastewater treated at the Pepperell Wastewater Treatment Plant:

2017	46,347,112 gallons	or	127,116 avg. gpd
2018	47,628,363 gallons	or	130,489 avg. gpd
2019	45,481,469 gallons	or	124,606 avg. gpd
2020	39,891,356 gallons	or	108,993 avg. gpd
2021	45,796,143 gallons	or	125,373 avg. gpd

The Commission continues management of the Four Corners Sewer District. This is a separate sewer district that provides sewer collection and treatment for the Four Corners business district and a few private residences in a development behind Shaw's Supermarket. This sewerage is discharged to, and treated by the Town of Ayer under a separate Inter-municipal agreement. In 2021, several additional businesses connected to the system, virtually completing connections in the Four Corners area, except for a planned residential development.

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:
Lauren E. Crory, Business Manager
Ann M. Livezey, Sewer Assistant

Board of Sewer Commissioners:
James L. Gmeiner, Chairman
Thomas D. Orcutt, Vice-Chairman
Michael F. Bouchard, Clerk

TOWN CLERK

Michael F. Bouchard, Town Clerk

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

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

townclerk@grotonma.gov

The COVID-19 pandemic was still with us during 2021 and continued to have some impact on Town Clerk operations (and Town Hall operations in general). The Clerk's office utilized "skeleton crews" and remote work to maintain operations during pandemic-related shutdowns.

Two Annual Town Meetings were held in 2021 – Spring (May 1) and Fall (October 23). The Spring meeting was held outdoors on a Saturday on the track behind the Florence Roche Elementary School as a pandemic safety measure. The Spring meeting was attended by 375 attendees. The Fall meeting, held indoors at the Performing Arts Center, had 129 attendees. The budget and an article to approve spending for the construction of a new elementary school to replace the Florence Roche school were the main focal points of Spring Town Meeting. The school construction article passed, subject to the passage of a ballot question to exclude the debt from Proposition 2 ½. An article to change the Town Clerk position from elected to appointed was the focus of The Fall Town Meeting. This article also passed, subject to the passage of a special act by the Massachusetts Legislature and a subsequent local ballot question. As of this writing, neither has been passed.

Only the May 25 Annual Town Election was conducted in 2021. Absentee balloting and Early Vote by Mail voting methods were strongly encouraged by the Town and the State as pandemic safety measures. In-person voting was also offered. A 20% voter turnout voted for town officers, and passed the school debt exclusion question by a vote of 1063-639. While very convenient for the general public, vote by mail is extremely intensive for town clerks. Groton was fortunate to be able to take advantage of the efforts of a great many volunteers.

The office administered the town census to 4585 addresses, including vacant, "inactive" voter and undetermined-class addresses. The information provided by the Town Census is statistically important, as well as being the basis for updating the Voter List. The town census mailing had an approximate 90% response rate. However, many of these responses were submitted later in the year so many voters were still affected with an "inactive" status. The population in Groton as of December 31, 2021 as determined by the 2020 Federal Census is 11,315. The Town has 8,650 registered voters. 66% of voters are "Unenrolled", 22% enrolled as Democrats, 12% as Republicans and less than 1% in other parties or designations. This is similar political party mix as 2020 and previous years.

In 2021, the office qualified 42 public commissioners, processed only 1 Fuel Assistance application for non-senior residents, administered the oath of office to all of our appointed and elected officials, performed 383 notarial services, registered 1442 dogs, and processed approximately 465 transactions on behalf of the Department of Public Works. Acting as the Town's Register of Vital Records, the office recorded 79 Births, 73 Deaths and 47 Marriages in 2021. 50 new and 66 renewed "Doing Business As" business registrations were recorded. The Office processed 52 formal public information requests, and many, many times that of "informal" requests and election related information requests.

In 2021, the Clerk's office processed approximately 1500 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	\$	17,852
Dog License Revenue	\$	16,942
Transfer Station Transactions	\$	13,290
Total:	\$	48,084

The Office of the Town Clerk wishes to thank our many volunteers, partners, election workers, committee members, and town department staffs for cooperation, assistance and service in 2021. Special thanks go to our hardworking and very effective Assistant Town Clerks Nancy Pierce and Fran Stanley. It's been our privilege to serve the people of Groton during 2021, and we look forward to an exciting, busy and productive 2022. On a personal note, I expect to retire in July, 2022. It's been a distinct honor and privilege to have served the Town for 14 years in this position of historic importance. I can only humbly ask that my tenure is reviewed as providing competent, honest and acceptable service to our townspeople.

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@grotonma.gov

The Board of Water Commissioners is pleased to make the following report for the calendar year ending December 31, 2021 to the water rate payers and citizens of the Town of Groton.

Groton's water quality and testing regime continues to play a vital role in the product we deliver every day to you as our valued customer. Groton consistently goes to great lengths testing our drinking water to be sure we remain in compliance with the Department of Environmental Protection's regulations. In the calendar year 2021, the GWD has collected and analyzed more than one thousand water samples at the source wells and in the water distribution system. New substances such as Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have been tested and reported to the MADEP. PFAS was present in two of our source wells. However, these levels are well below the proposed standard of 20 parts per trillion and will not require remediation. Quarterly testing results can be found on our website at www.grotonwater.org.

In February of 2019, we were notified by MADEP that manganese levels at our Whitney Pond Wells #1 and #2 are not within specified Health Advisory Limits. The Board of Water Commissioners, Water Department staff and consulting engineers have worked tirelessly on design plans and contract specifications for an Iron and Manganese Water Filtration Plant at the Whitney Pond Well Field. MADEP recently approved the design plans and specifications. Construction is anticipated to commence in April of 2022. The construction of this facility will take approximately 18-months to completion.

One of the Departments long terms goals is to increase our water management permit to pump more water from the aquifers in order to serve a greater customer base and expand the water system. The Water Department began testing for a new source at the existing Whitney Pond Well Field with very promising results. Permitting and construction is on-going and the new source will be on-line in June of 2022.

The Groton Water Department continues to work on our Water Meter Replacement Program. The Water Department is now using State-of-the-Art meter reading equipment, commonly referred to as "Smart" Meters. Smart water meters allow the office staff and customers to see water consumption in actual time and provide emergency alerts if there is a leak of any kind in your home. The Water Department's investment will take approximately five years to complete the implementation process. Meters and the batteries that provide us with this information last between 10 and 12 years.



Rendering of New Water Treatment Facility to be Constructed at Whitney Pond Well Field



STATISTICAL INFORMATION - PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020:

Total Gallons of water pumped	157,581,809	Gallons per Year
Ave. Daily Consumption	431,731	Gallons per Day
Max. Daily Consumption – June 14th	909,500	Gallons
Customer Accounts	2,234	
Water Mains	52.9	Miles
New/Replaced Water Mains	0.1	Miles
Total Hydrants (Public and Private)	397	Hydrants
Hydrants added to the system	2	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, Select Board Electric Light Department, Highway Department, Land Use Departments, Sewer Commission and our Police & Fire Departments.

Respectfully Submitted,

Water Department Staff:
 Thomas D. Orcutt, Water Superintendent
 Lauren E. Croy, Business Manager
 Ann M. Livezey, Assistant
 Stephen B. Knox, Senior Water Technician
 Michael D. MacEachern, Senior Water Technician
 Robert A. Maloney, Senior Water Technician

Board of Water Commissioners:
 John J. McCaffrey, Chairman
 Greg R. Fishbone, 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

Police Department

Tax Collector/Treasurer

Total Principal 2021

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@grotonma.gov

The following financial report summarizes Fiscal Year 2021 (period ending 6-30-2021).

General Fund: The General Fund ended the year with a favorable fund balance, generating \$2,347,087 of “Free Cash”. This amount represents surplus funds certified by the DOR as available to the Town for future appropriation. The Fall Town Meeting (Oct. 2021) committed to spend approximately \$1,287,322 of that Free Cash on FY22 needs. That amount was earmarked for payment of prior year bills (\$11,602), to purchase a Fire Command vehicle (\$70,000), for FY22 budget amendments (\$10,720) and an Assessing software upgrade (\$35,000). \$1,160,000 will be used to replenish Stabilization Fund reserves. Generous grant support from the State offset more than 280,000 in Public Safety services, and as in previous years, Ambulance receipts will be tapped in FY22 to relieve \$300,000 of Fire Department operations and \$325,000 for an Ambulance Replacement. The Town received \$5,483,290 in local receipts in FY21, an increase of more than \$1.1 million (or 25%) over FY20. This indicates that municipal revenues are recovering nicely from the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. This is especially apparent in Country Club fees which were up 104% over the previous year. The Town is comfortable increasing its revenue projections for FY22 due to robust local receipts and remarkably consistent tax collections throughout FY21.

Other Funds: The Town’s other funds (Gift, Grant, Revolving, Receipts Reserved and Trusts) all closed the year with positive balances, with the exception of minor deficits in several Public Safety reimbursable grants unreimbursed at year end. It is fully expected that these deficits will be resolved by FY22 year end. The Town of Groton was allotted \$1,003,878 in Federal CARES Act funding for the Covid-19 emergency. That program (now closed) was critical in allowing the Town to safely operate during the extended health crisis without stressing the budget. The U.S. Treasury allocated over \$3.3 million in ARPA funds to assist the Town in post-pandemic fiscal recovery efforts; this funding will be crucial to funding upcoming water/sewer infrastructure projects, public safety capital upgrades, and support for the Groton Dunstable Reg School District.

Community Preservation Fund: Groton received an outstanding 64.2% State match (or \$524,219) on the local surcharge of \$816,307 collected in FY21. Debt service for the Surrenden Farms land acquisition is a substantial annual CPA Fund obligation (\$482,891 in FY21); this debt matures in FY22 which will free up significant financial resources for new projects.

Enterprise Funds: Water, Sewer, Four Corners Sewer, Stormwater and Cable Funds all ended the year with favorable balances and sufficient E&D funds. In FY21, The Town of Groton’s new Stormwater Enterprise Fund successfully completed its first budget cycle managing the significant expenses that relate to MS4 compliance. The budget for this fund was established in October of FY21 and E&D was certified on 8/31/21 at \$43,074. The Water and Sewer Enterprises are embarking on significant capital infrastructure projects for which Fall Town Meeting authorized new construction debt of \$10.782 million.

Reserves: The Town’s Stabilization Fund closed the year at \$2.117 million and the Capital Stabilization Fund at \$555,182 (with \$475,000 of that balance reserved for expenditures in FY22 as is customary). The level of reserves in these accounts are managed so as to meet the target of 6.5% of the annual line-item budget as established in the Town’s Financial Management Policies. The Conservation Fund closed the year with an undesignated balance of \$307,534. The Groton Dunstable Regional School District Capital Stabilization Fund ended the year with a balance of \$235,414, of which \$217,298 was reserved for spending in FY22.

Patricia Dufresne, Town Accountant

SEE APPENDIX FOR ACCOUNTANT’S FINANCIAL REPORT

BUILDING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

Robert E. Garside, 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@grotonma.gov

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.

The Building Dept team continues to strive to provide exceptional customer service for all residents and contractors in the Town.

Department personnel consist of:

- Robert E. Garside, Building Commissioner/ Zoning Enforcement Officer
- Kara Cruikshank, Land Use Administrative Assistant

Inspectors

- Daniel A Britko, Local Inspector
- Edward Doucette, Electrical Inspector
- John Dee, Alternate Electrical Inspector
- Norm Card, Gas/Plumbing Inspector
- Jeremy Pierce, Alternate Gas/Plumbing Inspector

The Building Dept experienced another strong year of applications for permits. In particular, Home Occupation Permits increased 140% due to many citizens working from home on a more permanent basis. Additions to houses also increased largely from the previous year due in part to the same reason. Single Family Houses remained relatively steady from 2020 and there was a significant increase in Solar and Energy Storage System (ESS) installations in the residential homes in 2021.

Commercial Permits remained steady from 2020 also with Renovations being most common of the Commercial activity. Work on Communication Towers, adding antennae and the like, significantly increased over 2020.

The Building Dept is looking forward to another strong year in 2022 with many new projects in development to continue the trend of steady growth for the community.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Garside

Building Commissioner/ Zoning Enforcement Officer

An updated report from the Building Department follows.

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

<u>Building & Zoning</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>
Value of Construction	\$42,145,764	\$25,354,802	\$22,371,514
Permit Fees Collected	\$310,942	\$317,778	\$321,190
Permits Issued	477	502	522
Inspections Performed	562	528	652
<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>			
Single Family Homes	29	19	17
Two Family Homes	4	2	2
Multi-Family	0	0	0
Additions	22	57	153
Renovations	327	313	241
Accessory Buildings	17	51	35
Demolitions	11	11	7
Solar	N/A	2	6
<u>COMMERCIAL</u>			
New	1	0	0
Additions	1	0	2
Renovations	17	10	10
Accessory Buildings	13	0	10
Demolitions	2	1	1
Communication Towers	2	2	7
Annual Inspect. Certif.	79	80	84
Home Occupation Certif.	25	15	36
Wood Stove Permits	# included in building permits	# included in building permits	# included in building permits
<u>Electric</u>			
Permit Fees Collected	\$35,516	\$55,900	\$61,688
Permits Issued	368	389	445
Inspections Performed	637	620	657
<u>Gas</u>			
Permit Fees Collected	\$11,802	\$14,051	\$15,044
Permits Issued	168	206	186
Inspections Performed	206	232	209
<u>Plumbing</u>			
Permit Fees Collected	\$18,310	\$20,452	\$25,526
Permits Issued	159	165	189
Inspections Performed	258	221	245

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Nikolis Gualco, 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@grotonma.gov

The Groton Conservation Commission was established by Town Meeting vote in 1962 “for the promotion and development of the natural resources and for the protection of watershed resources” in the Town of Groton, as enabled by the 1957 Massachusetts Conservation Commission Act (M.G.L. Ch. 40, §8c). The Conservation Commission presently oversees over 2,100 acres of Town-owned conservation land. Since 1972 the Commission also has been responsible for administering the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, §40) and the Groton Wetlands Bylaw, which was adopted by Town Meeting vote in 2001.

In 2021 the Commission held 25 open meetings. The Commission reviewed 13 Notices of Intent, 44 Requests for Determination of Applicability, one Abbreviated Notice of Resource Area Delineation, and issued numerous Certificates of Compliance, Extension Permits, Emergency Certificates, Enforcement Orders, and Violation Notices.

Stewardship was again a point of emphasis in 2021. A major focus for the Commission and the Stewardship Committee (a sub-committee of the Commission created in 2019) was the submission of a MassWildlife Habitat Grant for habitat restoration work at the Priest Family Conservation Area. The Commission was awarded the grant, which will restore the top of a drumlin as open meadow-shrub habitat with a transition zone of new growth forest along the hill’s western slope. This will protect existing wildlife habitat and greatly augment the quality of available habitat for a variety of game and rare/protected species. Also of note,



volunteers from the Stewardship Committee and Commission provided a significant amount of work on this site in the forms of mowing the field and cutting bittersweet - often times in extreme conditions (high heat and in the presence of poison ivy). Kudos and thanks to them!

Priest Family Conservation Area: a view of the drumlin top and western slope (left side of hill) looking north. The majority of the trees in the field are in poor health due to the presence of Oriental bittersweet vines. The Commission will clear this area and maintain it as open meadow. Fifty feet from the edge of the field down the western slope will also be cut to create a young forest transition zone between the meadow and the hardwood-pine forest below. Photo by: Marlon Jost

Finally, the Commission reviewed six permit applications related to the management of Town-owned conservation land, including: the relocation of an existing trail connection; the creation of two new trails; and the treatment of invasive vegetation. Other highlights include: the acquisition of a Conservation Restriction in the Lost Lake area; the annual maintenance of several parcels managed as open meadows; and the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Invasive Species Committee for on-going management activities of Town-owned lands.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Hurley, Chair (since 2017)

Bruce Easom, Vice-Chair (since 2003)

Alison Hamilton, Clerk (since 2020)

Olin Lathrop (since 2016)

Nikolis Gualco, Conservation Administrator

Peter Morrison (since 1991)

John Smigelski, (since 2012)

Eileen McHugh (since 2015)

COUNCIL ON AGING

Ashley Shaheen, Director
The Center, 163 West Main Street (Rt. 225)
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:00am – 4:00pm / Board Meetings 3rd Monday 1:00pm
(978) 448-1170 Fax (978) 448-3660
gcoa@grotonma.gov

The Groton Council on Aging (COA), located in The Groton Center, offers programs, resources, and support to the town's residents ages 60 and older (25% of the Town's population). The COA Staff consists of the Director, the Community Engagement Specialist, the Outreach Coordinator/Van Dispatch, and five van drivers. The COA's numerous outreach and support services include health screenings and clinics, SHINE health insurance advice, AARP Tax Aide assistance, Meals on Wheels, home visits, medical equipment, fuel assistance, transportation and much more. Some of the programs and classes offered include yoga, strength training, pickleball, ping pong, tai chi, mah jong, billiards, cribbage, movies, and topic of interest presentations, to name a few. The Groton Center has a state-of-the art Fitness Center that is open to residents 50 and older (membership required). Transportation is a crucial service the COA offers to the senior residents in the community. Convenient door-to-door rides are provided for medical appointments, shopping trips, social engagements, and errands. From January 2021 to December 2021, the COA provided 959 rides to 73 passengers.

Even though The Groton Center was closed due to the pandemic in January and February 2021, many programs were continued virtually and grab-and-go lunch programs were offered. When the building reopened to the public in March 2021, the COA community was thrilled to return to in-person programs and events. In fact, from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021, The Groton COA organized 1,898 events for 621 individuals. The total number of COA visits was 8,495.

The year of 2021 was a time of transition for the Groton COA's professional staff, which provided an opportunity to reevaluate the needs of the department. A new Director, Ashley Shaheen, was hired in August to oversee the important work of the COA. A new "Community Outreach Specialist" role was approved in the fall to replace the previous "Activity/Volunteer Coordinator" role. The Community Outreach Specialist's main responsibility is to develop new programming opportunities while maintaining existing ones by identifying and engaging community partners in line with the mission of The Groton Council on Aging. The person in the "Outreach Coordinator/Van Dispatch" position provides support, feedback and communication to existing programs in The Groton Center and outreach support both in The Groton Center and in the community through information and referrals regarding insurance, information, legal services, available home services and other pertinent information to older adults. In addition to the staff members, the COA is fortunate to have many dedicated volunteers who continue to be the backbone of the organization.

Thanks to the support of the community and the work of the dedicated staff and volunteers, the Groton COA continues to be one of Groton's most valuable resources.

The Council on Aging Staff:

Director	Ashley Shaheen
Community Engagement Specialist	Lauren Marcello (Start date: January 3, 2022)
Outreach Coordinator/Van Dispatch	(Vacant)
Van Drivers	Peter Cunningham, Brad Eaton, Richard Marton, Heather Rhodes, and Eddie Wenzell
Maintenance	Gale Risdon

The Council on Aging Board:

Chairman	Jean Sheedy
Vice Chairman	Paula Martin
Secretary	Dottie Zale
Members	Peter Cunningham Mihran Keoseian Therese Keoseian Judith Palumbo O'Brien Pascal Miller Helen Sienkiewicz

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

R. Thomas Delaney, Jr., DPW Director
500 Cow Pond Brook Road
(978) 448-1162 Fax (978) 448-1174
highway@grotonma.gov

DPW

The following is the annual report of the Department of Public Works. The DPW is made up of the following departments, Highway, Transfer Station, Tree and the Building Maintenance Departments. All of these are run by the Director of Public Works. To say these last two years have been challenging, is an understatement. The ever changing and often contentious covid regulations has been trying and difficult throughout the group and Town. The Town would be at a loss without such a dedicated group of hard-working people and my thanks, as always, go out to them for doing a great job and sticking with us during these times. They are the, unrecognized essential workers, that allow everyone to travel and our roads and go about their daily lives without delay no matter the weather or other difficulties. Our DPW staff was always on staff during the COVID crisis.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

The Highway Department is the backbone of the DPW and continues its commitment to maintain and upgrade the roads, parks and commons, sidewalk system as well as anything that is routine or emergency comes along. In 2021 various projects were completed with a number of road ways being resurfaced. Roads resurfaced last year included the crosswinds area in West Groton, Blossom Lane, a section old Ayer Road, Peabody Street area and several roads in lost lake. Other items of interest are drainage repairs and improvements, intersection improvements, as well as other preventive measures for increasing pavement life. Expansion of our facilities has been a blessing for this department bringing our ability to house and repair our equipment to a level needed so we can meet the needs of our population.

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 several grants we have received from the Mass Department of Environmental Protection over the years as well as support from the town, we are able to process a variety of material and market it to bring needed revenue to the town. This facility not only helps us process more and different material



Photo courtesy of Charlene Legge

in less time, but does so by making a highly desirable product. It is still my hope that in the growing recycle market this will give us an edge to produce more products for less, hence increasing our service.

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.

- 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 Center and Lost Lake Fire Station.
- 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.

TREE WARDEN

This year planting of new trees was carried out in multiple areas of town, with our Arbor Day Tree planted at our late celebration at the Nashua River Watershed headquarters. We also planted multiple trees in many areas of town set up by the Friends of the Tree Warden group. This group of hard-working volunteers are the backbone to our tree planting program and their help is invaluable to me and the department. With over 125 miles of roads, our trimming is widespread and ongoing. Ground trimming as well as aerial bucket work with the removal of dead and dying trees is an ongoing project. Our roadside mower was out most of the summer clearing and mowing. We were able to trim with ground crews and mow over 25 miles of roadway. We also did extensive hand cutting and pruning of trees and invasive along the roadway during the summer to open our roads back up to increase visibility as well as remove dead and diseased 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.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Thomas Delaney Jr.
DPW Director



Caring for Groton's Creatures

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Steele McCurdy, Fire Chief

Center Station, 45 Farmers Row

General Calls: (978) 448-6333 Cell Phone Emergency: (978) 448-5555

Emergency: 911

fire@grotonma.gov

2021 was a great year for the Groton Fire Department. While COVID remained a fluid threat to the town and the department, the department continued to proactively adapt to the pandemic. COVID and the general growth in the community spurred the year to be our busiest year in the history of the department.

The Groton Fire Department responded to 1,380 emergencies. This trend will inevitably continue and even accelerate in the future years. As the community continues to grow, the need for emergency response and inspectional service will place more stress on the department. This especially becomes true with the increase in back-to-back or simultaneous calls. These calls are becoming more prevalent continually testing our depth.

The Groton Fire Department continues to recruit and train on-call firefighters and EMTs. In 2021, the department trained and added 6 on-call firefighters. The addition of these firefighters is needed to ensure that the department continues to have the flexibility and depth to respond to complex and time sensitive emergencies.

The combination of on-call and career staffing is essential to the overall success of the department. The department however is regularly analyzing the makeup of the department, the call types, severity and frequency of emergency calls to ensure that appropriate levels of response can be met. This continual study allows us to adapt to challenges and forecast emerging issues so that prevention efforts can be utilized to diminish threats.

An area of particular concern for years to come will be climate change and how it effects the potential of brush and forest fires. In 2021, the department undertook an aggressive training effort to prepare for this emerging challenge. With New England warming faster than many other areas of the nation, the potential for flash droughts greatly increases. As these droughts become more prevalent, the risks of larger more aggressive fires in our wildland becomes a greater threat.

Through a training regime that couples nationally recognized training with local topics, the department members are better able to acclimate to more extreme fire behavior. As the climate changes, it is imperative that we adapt to the current and future challenges to keep the community safe.

The summer saw the arrival of a new ambulance to replace the 2012 Freightliner Ambulance. The truck, built by Life Line Emergency Vehicles incorporates the convenience of a Ford Chassis and the setup and design to increase patient comfort and crew functionality. The Groton Fire Department aims to replace one of two ambulances every 3-4 years in order to maintain a reliable and up-to-date fleet.

In December of 2021, Captain Jim Emslie retired from the Groton Fire Department after 47 years of service. Captain Emslie brought a vast amount of experience and knowledge to the operations of the department. His reliable and dedicated service to the town will be missed.

The future of the Groton Fire Department looks bright. The department will continue to work tirelessly to protect the residents and visitors in the Town of Groton. As the complexity of the community changes, the department will need to adapt by adding new initiatives, updating our fleet and adjusting staffing levels accordingly. The women and men of the department have proven and will continue to prove that they are up for the task. I would like to personally thank the members of the Groton Fire Department for their continued hard work and sacrifice.

Respectfully submitted,

Steele McCurdy

GROTON FIRE DEPARTMENT
2021 Officers



Chief Steele McCurdy
Deputy Chief Arthur Cheeks
Sr. Administrative Assistant Diane Aiello

Capt. James Emslie
Lieutenant James Crocker
Lieutenant James Foley

Lieutenant Anthony Hawgood
Lieutenant Karl Lundgren
Lieutenant Tyler Shute

Firefighters & EMTs

Christopher Braun
John Brooks
Brad Cain
Daniel Coelho
Tom Conboy
Christopher Curtis
David Dubey
Christopher Fischer
James Foley
Bryan Gardner
Jason Grennell
Richard Gutierrez
Stephanie Hamelin
Elsa Heil
Anna Januskiewicz
Jeremy Januskiewicz

Peter Kokolski
Timothy Lilley
Catherine Lincoln
Derek Maskalenko
Paul McBrearty
Grant McCullagh
Cody McNayr
Declan Nash
Matthew Pisani
Michael Poulin
Andrew Robertson
Steven Savage
Andrew Scott
Walter Shaw
Trevor Whitby

GROTON COUNTRY CLUB

Shawn Campbell, General Manager/Head Golf Professional
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, driving range, a heated swimming pool, and the Groton Publick House 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.

Season pass memberships are available but not required to enjoy any of the offerings at the Country Club. Groton residents are afforded favorable price discounts on season pass memberships. Our goal is to be financially self-reliant using revenues from season pass, membership sales, daily activity and summer program.

We offer a variety of fun summer programs including a Swim Team, Group and Private Lessons, Junior Golf Camp, PGA Junior League, and a Summer Day Camp Program.

Our Summer Day Camp Program continues to be well received with more than 200 campers enjoying swimming and golf lessons during weekly sessions throughout the summer.

The swim team from New England made up of 20 Groton Country Club Gators, won the National Junior Olympics in North Carolina in 2019.

Our Groton PGA Junior League expanded to 36 junior golfers competing on late Sunday afternoons in May & June.

The Groton Publick House continues to be a fantastic partnership for the Country Club.

The Groton Country Club appreciates and thanks' our many supporters who have again given generously to their time, 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.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn Campbell
General Manger/Head Golf Professional

HISTORIC DISTRICTS COMMISSION

Kara Cruikshank, Land Use Administrative Assistant

Meetings 3rd Tuesday of Month

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

kcruikshank@grotonma.gov

The Historic District Commission (HDC) continued to provide active assistance for projects in the Town's Historical Districts, relative to their appropriateness regarding Groton's historic context in 2021.

The Commission consists of seven members. Peter Benedict was re-appointed this year for a three-year term expiring June 2024. Associate member, Brian Cartier, was appointed with a term expiring in June 2022. One vacancy remains.

The HDC spent much of 2021 working with the Friends of Prescott regarding the proposed new landscape design, ADA entrance railings and new signage. They were granted a Certificate of Appropriateness for these projects.

Throughout 2021, the Historic District Commission continued to convene every month on the third Tuesday at 7:30 PM. Most of the meetings in 2021, were held virtually in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The HDC approved eight new sign permits and granted thirteen Certificates of Appropriateness for proposed work in the district. Many of these great projects consist of renovations, accessory buildings, new roof's, fence's, windows and landscape design. The Commissioners would like to express their gratitude to the applicants for the given opportunities to work together to help maintain the historic feel in Groton. The newly completed projects are impressive and pleasing to the commission.



Elm Street – Photo Courtesy of Steve Lieman

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Benedict, (Chair 2021)
Maureen Giattino, (Vice Chair 2023)
Elena Beleno Carney, 2023
George Wheatley, 2023
Greg Premru, 2022
Brian Cartier, 2022
Kara Cruikshank, Admin, Asst.

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@grotonma.gov

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 past year has been a challenge for all areas of Human Resources due to COVID 19.

POLICY AND TRAINING

The past year, I worked on policies related to COVID 19, Infectious Disease Policy, and Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). I had had several on-line trainings that employees have participated in through MIIA that have been beneficial. We also had mandatory training for all of our employees. MIIA provides a newsletter with tips and additional trainings and available grants that the department have utilized. We had a great year through MIIA grant program receiving \$7,040 in grant money for Light Towers, Water Loss Response and Mitigation Equipment.

BENEFITS AND RESOURCES

Open enrollment really went well, considering everything was electronic and that we had no benefits fair. MIIA offers an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) that employees are able to use and speak with an advisor at no cost.

RECRUITMENT

This was a busy year for recruitment. We hired a COA Director, created a new position for the COA, Community Engagement Specialist, Library staff, part-time staff for the parks and Treasurer's Office, GCC staff and DPW Truck Driver/Laborer, Cable Director, Production Assistant/Technician, Assistant Assessor, and Park Ranger. The review and hiring process has been collaborative with the Town Manager and the Department Heads. The Town of Groton departments are staffed with talented and committed people who provide excellent and professional service, to the residents of Groton.

WELLNESS

I continue to work with our Wellness Coordinator through the Minuteman Nashoba Health Group to keep our employees healthy and informed. This past year we had several on-line programs that employees participated in. It is important to promote good health, but it also has been great team building for the employees.

I look forward to another successful year.

Respectfully submitted,

Melisa Doig
HR Director

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Michael Chiasson, Information Technology Director
Perry Ssiombath, Server & Desktop Support Specialist
Office Hours: Mon 8am – 7pm; Tues-Thurs 8am – 4pm; Fri, 8am - 1pm
Telephone: (978) 732-1889 Fax: (978) 448-1115
itdept@grotonma.gov

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.

In 2021 we said farewell to our Server & Desktop Support Specialist, Nick Batchelder, who moved on to take a Network Engineer position after working for the town for the last 5 years. We welcomed his replacement Perry Sisombath to take over this role. Perry comes with a degree in Computer Information Technology and will be helping address the 1,200+ help desk tickets we receive annually.

The department has been continuing to invest in “new normal” strategies as we have almost exclusively moved to laptop computers for users and are working to bring the rest of our services into a “remote first” capability as we setup new users and solutions. An upcoming project based on this vision is going to be our phone system that we are looking to upgrade in 2022.

We continued to find that numerous attempts are made in the commonwealth to defraud towns via phishing scams and began a rigorous training service using a vendor paid for with state grants. All Town Employees have been enrolled and receive regular tests to gage their effectiveness at being taken advantage of. Those that fall susceptible get assigned additional training. So far, the results have done well and hopefully it will be another tool to keep our users safe.

Several pilot projects involving more field connectivity were launched this year. Sending out new departments with cellular mobile devices to see how effective they can be in their day-to-day operations. If these solutions seem to be doing well, we expect to continue to adapt more mobile solutions for users as costs continue to drop on those fronts.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Chiasson
Information Technology Director

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael F. Luth, Chief of Police

Police Station, 99 Pleasant Street

General Calls: (978) 448-5555 Emergency: 911

police@grotonma.gov

www.grotonpd.org

Greetings,

2021 was yet another year of adjusting to the new norms from the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and implementing the new protocols that come with the Police Reform Act. Considering these new and ongoing challenges, the department still continues their commitment of putting the “Community First”.

This past year, the department members were fortunate enough to start receiving their COVID-19 vaccinations. Which paved the way in allowing the department to start hosting/participating in community events again. Events such as, the Senior Cookout, Grotonfest, Halloween activities, the Senior Dinner hosted at Gibbet Hill Grill, the High School Parade, the Student Academy, the Fourth of July festivities, and much more.

The men and women of the department continued to persevere throughout the past year’s challenges. Their commitment and efforts awarding the department with certification from the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission in August. The department was also awarded a grant from EOPSS to rebuild our communication towers.

In December, Senior Administrative Assistant to the Chief of Police & Reserve Officer, Kathy Newell retired after 18 years serving the department. Dispatcher, Sarah Power also retired after 20 years serving the department and another 7 years of serving the Groton Fire Department. We extend our congratulations to both members in their retirement.

Lastly, we welcomed a few new members to the department; Patrolman Adam Hyde, and Reserve Officers Robert Wayne and Emily Ramos.

We look forward to another year of persevering through the new norms of today and serving our community to our fullest potential.

Respectfully submitted,

Chief Michael F. Luth

2021 GROTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police:	Michael F. Luth
Deputy Chief:	Edward P. Sheridan, Sr.
Sergeants:	Derrick Gemos, Rachael Bielecki, Kevin Henehan, Robert Breault
Detective:	Patrick Timmins
School Resource Officers:	Omar Connor, Peter Breslin
Patrol Officers:	Paul Connell, Dale Rose, Gordon Candow, Nicholas Beltz, Michael Lynn, Gregory Steward, Andrew Davis, Peter Violette, Matthew Beal, Casey O'Connor, Adam Hyde
Reserve Officers:	Kathy Newell, Michael Ratte, Frank Mastrangelo, Steven Tully, Robert Wayne, Jr., Emily Ramos
K-9:	Bane
Comfort Dog:	Miranda
Administrative:	Kathy Newell, Sr. Administrative Assistant, Joan Tallent, Administrative Assistant, and Jessica Watson, Sr. Administrative Assistant
Communications:	Sarah Power, Warren Gibson, Samuel Welch, Catherine Myers, Christopher Cotter, John Weix, Edward Bushnoe, Michael MacGregor, Leah Pierce
Police Matrons:	Sarah Power, Kathy Newell, Catherine Myers,



TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER DEPARTMENT

Hannah Moller, CMMT - Treasurer/Collector
Michael Hartnett, CPA, CMMT - Assistant Treasurer/Collector
Nancy Amari - Payroll Coordinator/Assistant to the Treasurer
Tammi Kehoe – Assistant to the Tax Collector
Office Hours: Mon 8am-7pm, Tues-Thurs 8am-4pm, Fri 8am-1pm
Main: (978) 448-1103 Fax: (978) 448-1115
treasurer@grotonma.gov

<u>Cash & Fund Balances</u>						Year-End Balance
						<u>June 30, 2021</u>
<u>Fund Description:</u>						
<u>General Fund</u>						
	ARPA Grant Funds					\$ 592,686
	BAN Proceeds Funds					\$ 1,214,110
	All Other General Fund Accounts					\$ 9,052,533
						\$ 10,859,328
<u>Other Funds</u>						
	Trust Funds (a)					\$ 23,076,402
	Stabilization					\$ 2,117,346
	Conservation					\$ 307,534
	Capital Stabilization- Town					\$ 555,182
	Capital Stabilization- GDRSD					\$ 235,414
	OPEB Trust					\$ 721,567
	Performance Bonds & Planning Board 593's					\$ 273,918
	Affordable Housing Trust					\$ 196,426
	Arts & Flags Agency					\$ 12,938
	Turtle Study & Maintenance					\$ 55,362
	Regional Scholarship Committee					\$ 1,834
						\$ 27,553,921
<u>Enterprise Designated Funds</u>						
	Sewer Enterprise					\$ 410,077
	Water Enterprise					\$ 69,340
<u>Groton Electric Light Designated Funds</u>						
	Consumer Deposits					\$ 235,258
	Insurance Reserve					\$ 137,046
	Depreciation Reserve					\$ 150,078
						\$ 522,382
<u>Total Cash & Fund Balance, June 30, 2021</u>						\$ 39,415,049

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, in accordance with Mass. General Law Ch. 41, s. 46.

Debt & Debt Service

The Town's long-term debt was unchanged in Fiscal 2021, with the exception of all required payments made during the year.

In Fiscal 2021, the General Fund of the Town paid \$461,642 in non-exempt debt service (principal and interest), however this amount included a one-time principal paydown of \$140,875 on a new fire truck, which was then transferred to a permanent bond in Fiscal 2022. The Town's portion of debt for the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District was \$706,644, which is excluded debt and becomes an addition to the annual tax rate. The Town's portion of debt for the Nashoba Valley Technical High School was \$35,313, which is not excluded debt, but part of the annual budgeted school assessment. In Fiscal 2021, of the Town's combined total debt service, including school debt, \$2,144,945 was excluded from the limits of Proposition 2-1/2. The excluded debt added \$1.08 to the rate. The taxpayer cost for this excluded debt for a home assessed at \$506,080 was \$548.22 for the year.

(The following page shows the FY 2021 debt service payments by Department and purpose.)

Credit Rating - Standard & Poor - AAA

The Town of Groton has a AAA credit rating as issued by Standard & Poor. AAA is the highest credit rating a municipality can achieve. This rating is based on a periodic comprehensive financial review of the Town, comprising financial strength and stability, financial policies, demographic characteristics, and financial planning and projections. One of the benefits of a municipality obtaining a AAA credit rating is the ability to borrow in the long-term bond market at more favorable interest rates, saving the Town thousands of dollars in debt service over the life of the bonds.

Respectfully,

Hannah Moller, CMMT
Treasurer-Collector

TOTAL DEBT SERVICE AND DEBT BALANCES

<u>General Fund</u>								
<u>ID</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Issued</u>	<u>Matures</u>	<u>Orig Amt</u>	<u>Exempt/ Non-Exempt</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2988	Bernier Bissell	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$850,000	Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2989	Bissell Property	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$1,075,000	Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2992	Gibbet Hill	11/15/2003	11/15/2022	\$3,000,000	Exempt	\$140,000.00	\$10,350.00	\$150,350.00
2972	Library #1	7/15/1999	7/15/2017	\$1,831,464	Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2973	Library #2	7/15/1999	7/15/2017	\$364,000	Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2991	Lost Lake Fire	11/15/2003	11/15/2022	\$1,450,000	Exempt	\$70,000.00	\$5,250.00	\$75,250.00
2987	Norris Property	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$750,000	Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2981	Senior Center	7/15/1999	7/15/2016	\$151,110	Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2983	Town Hall	7/15/1999	7/15/2017	\$2,500,000	Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2912	Center Fire Station	4/18/2013	6/30/2035	\$7,730,000	Exempt	\$335,000.00	\$131,612.52	\$466,612.52
2999	New Senior Center	11/27/2018	6/30/2039	\$5,130,000	Exempt	\$180,000.00	\$193,637.50	\$373,637.50
2913	DPW Garage- NEW	2/15/2020	2/15/2040	\$4,613,000	Exempt	\$233,000.00	\$161,455.00	\$394,455.00
2914	Library Roof- NEW	2/15/2020	2/15/2040	\$1,130,000	Exempt	\$60,000.00	\$39,550.00	\$99,550.00
					Total Exempt	\$1,018,000.00	\$541,855.02	\$1,559,855.02
2990	Fire Truck	11/15/2003	11/15/2016	\$485,000	Non-Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2994	Project Eval	11/1/2003	2/1/2024	\$330,000	Non-Exempt	\$14,393.38	\$487.53	\$14,880.91
2986	Shattuck Property	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$500,000	Non-Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2978	Fire Ladder Truck	11/27/2018	11/15/2037	\$875,000	Non-Exempt	\$50,000.00	\$30,956.26	\$80,956.26
2979	Lost Lake Fire Protection	11/27/2018	11/15/2038	\$1,375,000	Non-Exempt	\$70,000.00	\$49,056.26	\$119,056.26
					Total Non-Exempt	\$134,393.38	\$80,500.05	\$214,893.43
<u>Summary</u>	<u>for General Fund</u>				Total for General Fund	\$1,152,393.38	\$622,355.07	\$1,774,748.45
<u>GELD</u>								
2995	GELD- Transformer	7/15/2001	7/15/2019	\$750,000	Non-Exempt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
2998	GELD- Headqtrs.	8/1/2014	11/1/2033	\$2,000,000	Non-Exempt	\$90,000.00	\$47,200.00	\$137,200.00
<u>Summary</u>	<u>for GELD</u>				Total Non-Exempt for GELD	\$90,000.00	\$47,200.00	\$137,200.00
<u>CPC</u>								
012	Surrenden Farm	7/6/2007	12/15/2021	\$5,015,000	Non-Exempt	\$465,000.00	\$17,890.63	\$482,890.63
<u>Summary</u>	<u>for CPC</u>				Total Non-Exempt for CPC	\$465,000.00	\$17,890.63	\$482,890.63
<u>Sewer</u>								
<u>ID</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Issued</u>	<u>Matures</u>	<u>Orig Amt</u>	<u>Exempt/ Non-Exempt</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2910	Boston Road	10/26/2007	10/1/2025	\$310,940	Non-Exempt	\$16,647.50	\$3,922.57	\$20,570.07
2911	Old Ayer Rd	10/26/2007	10/1/2025	\$155,960	Non-Exempt	\$8,352.50	\$1,968.06	\$10,320.56
9994	Project Eval	11/1/2003	2/1/2024	\$330,000	Non-Exempt	\$5,323.58	\$180.37	\$5,503.95
<u>Summary</u>	<u>for Sewer</u>				Total Non-Exempt for Sewer	\$30,323.58	\$6,071.00	\$36,394.58
<u>Title V</u>								
2993	Title Five	8/1/2002	8/1/2023	\$197,403	Non-Exempt	\$10,200.00	\$0.00	\$10,200.00
<u>Summary</u>	<u>for Title V</u>				Total Non-Exempt for Title V	\$10,200.00	\$0.00	\$10,200.00
<u>Water</u>								
2997	Water SRF Loan 2	12/14/2006	7/15/2026	\$1,234,434	Non-Exempt	\$65,871.00	\$9,826.97	\$75,697.97
2909	Water System	11/23/2004	8/1/2024	\$4,417,366	Non-Exempt	\$265,000.00	\$17,653.04	\$282,653.04
<u>Summary</u>	<u>for Water</u>				Total for Water	\$330,871.00	\$27,480.01	\$358,351.01
					FY21 Totals-	\$2,078,787.96	\$720,996.71	2,799,784.67

REPORT OF THE TAX COLLECTOR - JULY 1, 2020 TO JUNE 30, 2021

	Collected (a)	Uncollected @
	<u>During Fiscal 2021</u>	<u>June 30, 2021</u>
<u>Fiscal 2021</u>		
Real Estate	33,950,622	404,922
Community Preservation Act	813,016	8,955
Water District	144,551	3,535
Personal Property	398,987	1,013
Motor Vehicle Excise	1,525,235	170,439
<u>Fiscal 2020</u>		
Real Estate	293,434	117,587
Community Preservation Act	5,768	2,516
Water District	2,868	2,008
Personal Property	1,048	1,715
Motor Vehicle Excise	319,351	20,882
<u>Fiscal 2019</u>		
Real Estate	81,871	3,364
Community Preservation Act	1,691	21
Water District	314	287
Personal Property	-	2,628
Motor Vehicle Excise	10,607	7,080
<u>Fiscal 2006-2018</u>		
Real Estate	24	4,247
Community Preservation Act	-	-
Personal Property	-	4,121
Motor Vehicle Excise	<u>2,268</u>	<u>45,241</u>
TOTALS	37,551,655	800,561
(a) Net of refunds		
<u>Other Selected Tax Collector Data:</u>		
Demands, Interest, Fees Collected	106,224	
Payments In Lieu of Taxes Collected	399,707	
Tax Title Collections	53,793	
Tax Deferral Collections	-	
Scholarship Donations Collected	6,136	
Water/Sewer Liens Collected	-	
Electric Liens Collected	2,146	
Boat Excise Tax Collected	4,235	
Municipal Lien Certificates Fees Collected	25,200	
Tax Title Account- Balance	468,619	
Taxes in Deferral- Balance	157,289	
Tax Possessions- Balance	45,745	

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

Maureen Heard, Veterans' Service Officer

Office Hours: Mon. 12:00pm-4:00pm or by Appointment

Legion Hall, 75 Hollis Street, Groton, MA

Mail should go to the Town Hall, 173 Main Street, Groton, MA 01450

(978) 448-1175

veteran@grotonma.gov

This past year was a transition period for the Veterans' Services Office. With many thanks to Joe Dean, I was appointed the Groton Veterans' Services Officer in August 2021. I am a retired Master Sergeant who served in the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, and the Army National Guard. In December 2008, I retired from the Massachusetts Army National Guard in which I served as the Judge Advocate General's Office Senior Legal Noncommissioned Officer for many years.

I have been busy with some in-person training and reading the Department of Veterans' Services Training Manuals along with becoming familiar with the VA system. I have received numerous phone calls and emails mostly asking for information of a general nature. I answer all inquiries as soon as possible.



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 email me at mheard@grotonma.gov or call me at (978)448-1175. During this time of COVID it is requested you make an appointment for an office visit.

If you have any questions concerning veterans' benefits please give me a call or an email and I will be more than happy to research an answer.

Maureen Heard
Master Sergeant (RET)
Groton Veterans' Services Officer

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

Kara Cruikshank, Zoning Board of Appeals Office Assistant

Wednesday Meetings as posted

Office Hours: Tues – Thurs 10am -3pm

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

zoning@grotonma.gov

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.

The Zoning Board of Appeals met to consider eight applications in 2021. There were five special permit applications, all to allow the alteration of a non-conforming structure/lot, four of which were granted and one special permit which was withdrawn. There were three variance application for relief from front setback. One variance was withdrawn.

The ZBA would like to thank Member Cynthia Maxwell for her many years of service and wish Assistant Margot Hammer a happy retirement.

- Variances – 3
- Special Permits – 5

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Easom, Chairman

Daniel McLaughlin, Clerk

Jack Petropoulos, Full Member

Jay Prager, Full Member

Jenepher Spencer, Full Member

Kara Cruikshank, Assistant



Photo Courtesy of Steve Lieman

GROTON'S APPOINTED COMMITTEES



Affordable Housing Trust
Cable Advisory Committee
Capital Planning Advisory Committee
Commission on Accessibility
Community Preservation Committee
Complete Streets Committee
Conductorlab Oversight Committee
Diversity Task Force
Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee
Graves Registration Officer
Great Pond Advisory Committee
Greenway Committee
Invasive Species Committee
Local Cultural Council
Old Burying Ground
Recycling Committee
Sustainability Commission
Town Forest Committee
Trails Committee
Weed Harvester Committee
Williams Barn Committee

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST

Fran Stanley, Housing Coordinator

(978) 732-1393

housing@grotonma.gov



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. Members of the Trust are appointed by the Select Board provided that at least one the five members is drawn from the Select Board.

Over the past few years, The Housing Trust participated in the development of the Town's new Housing Production Plan, which reviewed current zoning and identified current housing needs as well as parcels with development potential. The town followed a process that drew in community ideas and preferences and then sought to build consensus for a path to meet the Town's needs.

The Housing Trust coordinated with other Town boards and participated in the Housing Summit in June, 2021, which was well attended and well received.

In response to the loss of income to Groton households due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and with Town Meeting's approval of Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds, the Affordable Housing Trust created an Emergency Rental Assistance Program. This program was launched in late 2020 and has helped 8 families in Groton.

The Trust is actively investigating new opportunities with town owned land to create affordable housing, and has applied for and received CPA funds to assist in progressing towards achieving these goals.

The Trust also applied for Mass Housing Technical Assistance for Affordable Housing but we were not selected.

The Trust encourages community input and participation, and will be working with other town boards to pursue other ideas on fulfilling Groton's Affordable Housing needs.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca H. Pine, Chair
Carolyn Perkins, Vice Chair
Phil Francisco, Member
Richard Perini, Member

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ashley Doucette, Cable Director

(978) 448-3796

info@thegrotonchannel.org

CAC Role

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 (Verizon Channel 40/Charter Channel 191) and The Groton Government Channel (Verizon Channel 41/Charter Channel 192). In 2021, our two access channels aired 650 unique, locally produced programs.

Pandemic Adjustments

All of our meeting coverage and original programming has carried on at a steady pace over Zoom. With attendance limited due to restrictions, we have also made it a priority to live broadcast more high school sports when possible. We also partnered with a few local theatre groups this year to record and broadcast their productions.

Live-Streaming & "Screenweave"

In 2021, our channels were made available online. Now you can tune into to either channel from your computer just as you would on your television. Just go to our website, click which channel you would like to watch live and enjoy! You can also access the Groton Channel from your Roku TV, Apple TV, and a growing list of other devices by downloading "Cablecast Screenweave."

Video On Demand

In addition to watching the channel live online, all of our Groton-produced programs are available On Demand through our website, www.thegrotonchannel.org. You can watch any of our programs at anytime, from anywhere.

Some of our older content has moved to our archive.org site to make room for new programming. If you are unable to find or access a particular program or meeting on our website, it may be located in these archives. Just search for The Groton Channel on archive.org and you will find lots of meetings, community and school events, and lots more from years past. If you are having difficulty finding a program or meeting, please do not hesitate to reach out. We would be happy to help you find what you are looking for.

Social Media

You can find the Groton Channel on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram where we will post meeting announcements, video links, important information about the channel, and more.

We also have a special Facebook page, "Groton Channel Newsflash," which serves as an online news feed. Here you can enjoy short news pieces about various Groton-based stories, events, people, and places. We also produce regular weekly videos such as our "Community Calendar of Events" and "Select Board Wrap Ups."

If you have any questions, please email info@thegrotonchannel.org or call (978) 448-3796.

Cable Advisory Committee:

Eric Fischer

John Macleod

Janet Sheffield

Neil Colicchio

Robert Piché



CAPITAL PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1111

selectboard@grotonma.gov

The Capital Planning Advisory Committee was created by the Select Board in 2019 to advise the Town Manager regarding the Town's five-year capital plan. In addition, they make other capital asset recommendations.

The Committee is made up of five residents, each serving three-year terms. In 2021 three members served the full year: Mike O'Rourke, John Croteau, and David Manugian. Two members, Don Koski and Scott Haggerty served for part of the year, stepped off the Committee, and were replaced by Jamie MacDonald and Michael Sulprizio.

In 2021 the Committee met approximately seven times in public meetings. The primary focus of the year was refilling its membership and advising the Town Manager on the FY2023 Capital Plan preparation. This included a review and feedback of the initial Plan, meetings with multiple departments heads to discuss their capital requests, and final review of the Plan before submission to the Select Board and Finance Committee as part of the FY2023 budget.

In 2022 the Committee looks forward to working with the Town Manager on a review of the Town's capital asset inventory and establishing general criteria for significant capital expenditures.

David Manugian, Chair



COMMISSION ON ACCESSIBILITY

Michelle Collette, ADA Coordinator
Meetings 2nd Monday, every other month
(978) 448-1111 Fax: (978) 448-1115
mcollette@grotonma.gov

The Commission on Accessibility was established in 1985 when the Town Meeting voted to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 8J. As required by State Statute, the Commission must include a majority of people with disabilities, an immediate family member of a person with a disability, and an elected or appointed official. The Commission's purpose is to ensure that people with disabilities are welcome and able to participate in Groton's community life to the fullest extent possible. The ADA Coordinator, appointed by the Town Manager, works in conjunction with the Commission on Accessibility and with the Building Commissioner, who reviews and enforces the Architectural Access Board (AAB) Regulations, 521 CMR.

The Commission normally meets on the second Monday, every other month. However, the Commission was not able to meet regularly during 2021 because the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and health considerations prohibited in-person meetings. Virtual meetings on ZOOM were very challenging for many.



Picnic Area on Tinker Trail

The Commission continues to consider and resolve accessibility complaints in accordance with the Town's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Policy adopted by the Select Board in January 2016. Concerns or complaints on accessibility issues should be directed to the ADA Coordinator by contacting the Town Manager at 978-448-1111 or the Human Resources Director at 978-448-1145.

The ADA Coordinator and the Building Commissioner responded to several complaints during 2021. All complaints were resolved amicably to ensure full compliance with ADA and AAB Regulations.

The Commission thanks former members Mark Shack and Jane Fry for their years of service on the Commission. The Commission welcomes new member Judy Anderson. We would also like to thank Paul Shay for serving as the Commission's representative on the Diversity Task Force from 2020-2021. The Select Board appointed Gordon Candow to represent people with disabilities on the Diversity Task Force from 2021-2022. The Commission thanks Mr. Candow for his representation.

The Commission also thanks the Building Commissioner, DPW Director, and Land Use Departments for their assistance in making sure that all buildings, that are open to the public, and programs are universally accessible.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Fleischer, Chairman
Lynne Pistorino
Carol Ann Sutton
Michelle Collette, ADA Coordinator

Judy Anderson
Thomas Pistorino
Alan Taylor

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Sammie Kul, Interdepartmental Assistant
Meetings: 2nd and 4th Mondays of the Month
(978) 448-1140 Fax: (978) 448-1113
communitypreservation@grotonma.gov

The Community Preservation Act, MGL Chapter 44b (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 Trust 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, Park Commission, Planning Board, Conservation Commission and two members at large that are appointed by the Select Board. 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 (see CPC page at <https://www.grotonma.gov/>). 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 a combined \$1,155,065 in funds from the local surcharge, state fund match, and interest during FY 2021. We expect \$1,195,219 including the state match of \$524,219 in FY 2022.

Ongoing CPC Projects

- Conservation Fund - To help preserve open space, protect water resources and wildlife habitat, and preserve land for agricultural, recreational, and forestry activities - CPC request: \$400,000.
- Groton Housing Coordinator Salary - To create and retain affordable housing. - CPC Request: \$51,385.
- Lost Lake / Knops Pond Restoration - Restore Knops Pond/Lost Lake to prevent treatment from potential weed infestation - CPC Request: \$95,000.
- Hazel Grove - To make improvements on the viewing tower and storage shed - CPC Request: \$9,242.
- WWI Cannon Restoration - To complete the process of restoring the "Cannon de 75 mle 1897" - CPC Request: \$15,000.
- Emergency Rental Assistance - To establish an emergency rental assistance program for the benefit of eligible tenants residing in the Town of Groton - CPC Request: \$200,000.

Projects approved for FY 2022

- Feasibility Study for Cow Pond Fields; Woitowicz Field; Cutler Field - Carry out a Feasibility Study to determine that safe playing surfaces are being provided on the parks acreage - CPC Request: \$20,000.
- Maintenance and Mausoleum Restoration - Repair and restore both the Maintenance Building and the Mausoleum located at the Groton Cemetery - CPC Request: \$65,000.
- Non-Point Sources of Pollution - Complete the dataset identifying the non-point sources of pollution entering Lost Lake and the development of a mitigation plan to correct these problems - CPC Request: \$40,000.
- Site Assessment Study - Explore possible locations for the development of affordable housing - CPC Request: \$150,000.
- Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) - For construction of the SRRT from the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing - CPC Request: \$30,000.
- Duck Pond, Phase 2 - To help with the continuation of the restoration and preservation work completed during Phase 1 of the previously approved Duck Pond Restoration project - CPC Request: \$19,800.
- Multi Use Recreational Courts - To help fund the restoration project at the Groton Country Club that will create new multi-use recreational courts - CPC Request: \$157,480.

Respectfully submitted,

Representing Conservation Commission: Bruce Easom
Representing Park Commission: Anna Eliot
Representing Historic Commission: Bob DeGroot

Representing Housing Authority: Dan Emerson
Representing Planning Board: Russell Burke
Members at Large: Richard Hewitt & Carolyn Perkins

COMPLETE STREETS COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1105

planning@grotonma.gov

The Town of Groton's Complete Streets policy aims to accommodate the full range of users of our roadways, walkways, trails, and transit systems by creating a transportation network that meets the needs of individuals utilizing a variety of transportation modes. Decision-makers are directed to consistently plan, design, construct, and maintain streets to accommodate all users. The Select Board adopted the Complete Streets Policy in 2016.

Through the implementation of Complete Streets principles, people of all ages, abilities and income levels will be able to efficiently and safely travel between home, school, work, recreation facilities, and commercial venues. Demonstrated benefits of Complete Streets include cleaner air, promotion of physical exercise, improved access to retail and employment centers, and reduced personal transportation costs.

The focus of the Complete Streets Committee is ensuring the implementation of the Complete Streets Policy and, where necessary, modifying existing practices and overcoming barriers to implementation.

The Complete Streets Committee was awarded a construction grant from MassDOT in 2017 to improve crosswalks on Main Street, to extend the sidewalk on Long Hill Road, to add speed limit signage throughout town, and to install bicycle repair stations along the Nashua River Rail Trail. These projects were implemented in 2018.

In December 2021, the Complete Streets Committee was awarded another construction grant from MassDOT to extend two sidewalks. In West Groton, the sidewalk on West Main Street will be extended to the Senior Center. And in the Town Center, the sidewalk on Lowell Road will be extended to the Gibbet Hill Grill. The Complete Streets Committee looks forward to implementing these projects in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Members of the Complete Streets Committee
George Barringer, Chair
Kristen von Campe
Michelle Collette
Peter Cunningham
Robert T. Delaney
Stephen A. Legge



Sweet & Easy Bridge on Gibbet Hill
Picture courtesy of Paul Funch

CONDUCTORLAB OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1111

selectboard@grotonma.gov

Current Members: Michelle Collette, Mark Deuger, Robert Hanninen

Background: The Conductorlab facility operated between 1958 and 1985 and is located at 430 Main Street east of the railroad bridge. In 1985, the town learned that the facility operator had buried toxic or hazardous chemicals on the property. In the following months, due to contamination, private water supply wells located down-gradient from the site on Main, Arlington and Mill Streets, and Gratuity Road were shut down and town water was extended throughout the area. By this time the original company had been sold and passed through several different parent companies. The previous owners are by law “Responsible Parties” and are subject to state regulatory liability as interpreted and enforced by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). The current owner and one/Responsible Party is Honeywell International, Inc.

In 1996, a Class C Response Action Outcome (RAO) documenting a “Temporary Solution” was implemented at the site in accordance with the governing state regulation known as the Massachusetts Contingency Plan (MCP). Under the MCP, a “Permanent Solution” can only be 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 present, a Temporary Solution has been implemented, because a condition of No Significant Risk has not yet been demonstrated for all receptors, such as construction workers who might come into contact with soil and/or groundwater at the site. However, and more importantly, a condition of No Significant Risk has been demonstrated for down-gradient neighboring residents in off-property areas and for trespassers to the site. Honeywell continues remedial activities in an effort to achieve a Permanent Solution and Regulatory Site Closure. The Committee anticipates a forth coming Permanent Solution will include both permitted and restricted land uses to be described in a permanent, Activity and Use Limitations (AUL) document to be recorded at the Registry of Deeds.

Activities in 2021: In 2009, Honeywell and AMEC Foster Wheeler(now Wood E&IS), its Licensed Site Professional (LSP), implemented in situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) treatment for trichloroethylene (TCE), the primary Contaminant of Concern (COC), in groundwater at the site. The ISCO injection of peroxide and other chemicals into the subsurface to break down the TCE and related organic compounds to less than the required 5 ppb TCE. Following the September 2009 ISCO injection event, groundwater monitoring data indicated an increase in hexavalent chromium (Cr+6) concentrations, which was found to be a result of the ISCO treatment. To control migration of hexavalent chromium (Cr+6) impacted groundwater at the site, the groundwater recovery and treatment system was reactivated and treated groundwater was re-circulated into the ISCO system infiltration trenches at the rear of the site, as approved by MassDEP. The hexavalent chromium was also treated in situ by injection of a bisulfite reducing solution. Operation of the treatment system concluded in March 2013 and the on-site building was demolished in 2017. To demonstrate that groundwater poses no significant risk of harm to human health and the environment, the MCP requires four consecutive quarterly rounds of sampling where TCE and hexavalent chromium (Cr+6) concentrations are lower than the applicable regulatory standards. Quarterly groundwater monitoring data obtained throughout 2014-2018 indicated that average TCE and hexavalent chromium (Cr+6) concentrations were lower than applicable Upper Concentration Limits (UCLs) described in the MCP. However, some on-site monitoring wells and a some stream samples still exceed applicable GW-3 standards for Cr+6 . (GW-3 regulatory standards are 600ppm Cr+3 and 300ppm Cr+6.) In 2020 -2021: (1) Honeywell & Wood proposed and ran a new chemical targeted remediation method to eliminate the source of the high Cr+6 levels in stream water. (2) Beginning in early 2020 and continuing into 2021, the analytical data show a condition of No Significant Risk in the stream and on site. (3) in 2022 Honeywell & Wood will complete a Method III Risk Characterization and a Stage II Ecological Risk Assessment to show that a condition of No Significant Risk has been achieved. (4) A Permanent Solution Statement with Conditions will replace the 1996 RAO. (5) An Activity and Use land use Limitations (AUL) document will be drafted, (6) reviewed, and (7) will be recorded on the property deed. The Committee will request of the Town Manager and Select Board procedures for review of all closure related documents. This Committee will continue to meet with Honeywell and Wood E&IS representatives to review forthcoming data, remedial plans, and site closure documents. Honeywell anticipates achieving closure (likely in 2022) after demonstrating the No Significant Risk condition. After closure Honeywell will market the property with activity and use limitations (AUL) appropriate to the site conditions.

DIVERSITY TASK FORCE

(978) 448-1111

selectboard@grotonma.gov

The charge of the Diversity Task Force is to study the causes of systemic racism and stereotypes attached to, but not limited to, the following identifiers: age, ability, gender, socioeconomic status, race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation and culture. The committee will meet with local and state stakeholder groups to identify areas that need to be evaluated to determine if they are still appropriate in today's culture. The committee will provide observations and give recommendations to the Select Board and suggest ideas to help to educate the citizens of Groton and make it a more welcoming community. The committee meets biweekly on Thursdays.

The committee's membership changed: removed representation from the Select Board, added representation from the New England Shirdi Sai Temple, added new representation from the town, and a new member at large representative was added.

Our focus has been on developing opportunities to engage with the community and inform about our process in suggesting that the town seal is modified to remove the words "Holy Bible". We have partnered with the Select Board to host two listening sessions for the community before the 2022 spring town meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Gordon Candow: ADA Community

Michelle Collette (vice chair): Council on Aging

Amy Degen: Groton Interfaith Council

Bhaskar Gupta Karpurapu: New England Shirdi Sai Temple

Susan Hughes: A Better Community/ RSJG

Raquel Majeski (chair): Lawrence Academy (Assistant Head of School for Equity & Community Life)

James Moore: Member at Large

Deirdre Slavin – Mitchell: Groton Civil Discourse Project

Fran Stanley: Town Employee



Photo Courtesy of Steve Lieman

EARTH REMOVAL STORMWATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Michelle Collette, Earth Removal Stormwater Inspector

Meeting's 1st Tuesday of the Month

(978) 448-1105

mcollette@grotonma.gov

The first Earth Removal Bylaw, adopted in Groton in 1963, was amended in 1968 and again in 1984. The Advisory Committee was formed in 1968, when the Bylaw was first amended. The Earth Removal Stormwater Inspector, appointed by the Town Manager, works in conjunction with the Advisory Committee. Currently, three members are appointed by the Select Board for staggered terms of three years; and ex officio, one member is chosen annually by the Planning Board, and one by the Conservation Commission.

The duties of the Advisory Committee changed substantially in 1996 when Town Meeting adopted the first Erosion and Sedimentation Control By-law. This By-law was superseded in 2006 when the Town Meeting adopted the Stormwater Management – Low Impact Development By-law, Chapter 198 of the Code of the Town of Groton. The Committee became the Earth Removal Stormwater Advisory Committee at that time.

The Advisory Committee reviewed three (3) new Stormwater Management Permit applications in 2021 in addition to monitoring construction projects approved in previous years. The Advisory Committee works closely with the Land Use Departments in its review of applications and monitoring construction sites.

The Committee would like to thank Ed Perkins who served on the Committee for many years. The Committee welcomes new member Steven Savage. The Committee also thanks the Town Departments, including the Select Board, DPW Director, Building Commissioner, Conservation Commission, and Planning Board for their continued support and assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen McHugh, Chairman
Robert T. Delaney
Steven Savage

George Barringer
Robert Hanninen
Michelle Collette, Stormwater Inspector



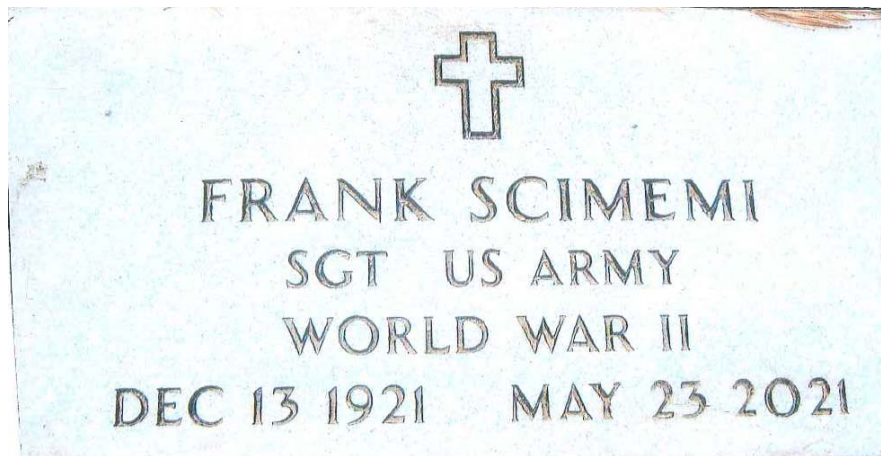
Blanding's Turtle Seeking a Nesting Site – Photo Courtesy of Charlene Legge

GRAVES REGISTRATION OFFICER

Deborah Beal Normandin, Graves Registration Officer
(978) 602-2610

I am responsible for placing the American Flag on all the Veterans Graves in both cemeteries, the Groton Cemetery and the Old Burying Ground. The flags are also placed at all the memorial commons.

In 2021, the following Veterans were interred in the Groton Cemetery. At this time, each Veteran gets a flag and a flag holder.



- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| • Frank Scimemi | Sgt. U.S. Army, World War II - “The Flying Tigers” |
| • David M. Kloo | Navy, Vietnam |
| • Richard J. D’Agostino | Army, Korea |
| • Robert B. Gallipeau | Air Force, World War II |
| • Henry W. Buswell, Jr. | Air Force, Korea |

Respectfully Submitted,

Deborah Beal Normandin

GREAT POND ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1111

GPAC@grotonma.gov

Members:

Jim Luening, Chair	Art Prest, Member
Alex Woodle, Vice Chair	Remi Kaleta, Member
George Wheatley, Treasurer	Larry Hurley, Member

Lost Lake and Knops Pond

A CPC grant funded a whole lake treatment for non-native invasive weeds in the Spring and Summer of 2021. The initial treatment was conducted in April followed by booster treatments in May, June and September. The results overall were very successful, except in the main inlet to the lake. Martins Pond Brook had continual heavy flows into Lost Lake and the high water effected the treatment in this area. A targeted treatment is planned for 2022. To sustain the lake per the guidelines of Groton's Open Space and Recreation Plan (OSRP) and its long-term management plan, the Town and the Groton Lakes Association have made a joint commitment to fund future spot treatments. This helps keep the lake safe for recreational swimming and boating for generations to come.

A second CPC grant, funded a Watershed Based Plan (WBP) prepared by Geosyntec to study where the non-point sources of pollution were contributing to the high levels of Phosphorus in the lake. Geosyntec has prepared a blueprint for the Town to move forward in securing federal funds to begin to address some of the most egregious problems. A map was created depicting the "hotspots" that need to be addressed. Best Management Practices and costs are spelled out for some of these problem areas.

Baddacook Pond

The GPAC managed the 5th year of weed harvesting which continues to improve the water conditions in Baddacook Pond. The yearly harvesting is jointly funded by the Town and the Water Department. This harvesting keeps the pond safer for recreational use, clear for navigation, and suitable for the aquatic habitat. There were Loons on Baddacook for the first time this year, which is a very positive indication of habitat improvement. Since harvesting cuts back the weeds but does not kill them, yearly harvesting will be required to maintain these gains.

Porta-potties

Again this year, Porta-potties were placed at both the Lost Lake and Baddacook public boat launches which has mostly eliminated people relieving themselves directly in the lakes.

Duck Pond

The CPA funded aerator pilot project continued this year. More time is needed to prove value of aeration and to establish sustainable funding. The pump was shut down at the end of the season and sent out for routine maintenance.

Whitney Pond

A Whitney Pond "Aquatic plant Survey and Water Quality Report" was conducted by SOLitude Lake Management. The report included recommendations to manage to invasive and emergent plant species threatening the littoral zone. It also included a recommendation to improve low oxygenation in the pond.

GREENWAY COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1111

selectboard@grotonma.gov

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 enjoy our rivers.



Summer Day on Nashua River
Photo Courtesy of Charlene Legge

Groton Greenway Mission

- Continue to increase the protection of the Nashua and Squannacook River Greenways.
- Provide educational and interpretive opportunities to raise awareness of the importance of the rivers and associated greenways in Groton, and invite townspeople to use and enjoy the stream corridors in Groton in a low-impact manner.
- Promote low-impact usage and provide stewardship for the greenways.

Activities During the year 2021:

- The Groton Greenway Committee held limited meetings during the year, working with restrictions imposed to control the COVID-19 epidemic.
- The Committee met with Board of Health and Select Board to address concerns about the abandoned Groton Town landfill on Nod Road, adjacent to Nashua River. The Greenway Committee wants to work with the Town of Groton to stabilize the site and reclaim the site for wildlife habitat and recreational use along the Nashua River greenway corridor.
- The Committee had to cancel the 2021 Nashua River Festival due to COVID-19 restrictions, and the Committee will consider planning for a 2022 festival.

Goals for the year 2022:

- Plan for a 2022 River Festival to be held at the Petapawag Boat Launch.
- Continue dialog with landowners on protecting riverfront property.
- Continue to work with Massachusetts Fisheries and Wildlife Division to identify and promote opportunities to protect ecosystems and increase biological diversity along the Groton greenways.
- Continue to provide water sampling along the Nashua River for the Nashua River Watershed Association.
- Work with the Town of Groton and landowners along Nashua River to identify and designate vernal pools.
- Continue to provide guidance on operations and maintenance of Fitch's Bridge.
- Investigate management opportunities for the Nod Road parcel (former Groton town landfill) along the Nashua River.
- Recruit additional volunteers for the 2022 River Festival and pursue donation funds and other sources of funding to sustain the River Festival tradition.
- Investigate and pursue opportunities for conservation education and outdoor recreational opportunities along the Nashua River corridor.
- Continue to assist in the National Wild and Scenic River Act study of Nashua River and tributaries.
- Provide input to revisions to the Groton Open Space & Recreation Plan.

Respectfully,

The Groton Greenway Committee

Adam Burnett, Chair, Carol Coutrier Marina Khabituyeva, David Pitkin

INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1111

invasive@grotonma.gov

Members:

- Jonathan Basch (Secretary)
- Brian Bettencourt (Chair)
- Adam Burnett
- Richard Hewitt
- Olin Lathrop (Vice-Chair)
- Ron Strohsahl
- Charlotte Weigel*
- Benjamin Wolfe*

* notes new members who joined in 2021.

2021 was a very productive year for the Invasive Species Committee. We worked hard in several main areas, including Education/Research, Outreach, and Invasives Mapping and Control. Here are some of the highlights:

Education/Research

- Started an experiment to optimize treatment of Phragmites reed
 - Worked with UMass Lowell students to compare effects of different treatments
- Welcomed an intern from Groton School, Amelia Lee, who has been instrumental in invasives mapping and grant preparation
- Participated in invasive species management workshops hosted by the Pepperell Invasive Plant Advisory Committee and Land Stewardship Inc.
- Attended training for and piloted an invasive species computer application for a new project mapping Japanese knotweed along the Nashua River
- Established and cultivated a working relationship with the Pepperell Invasive Plant Advisory Committee

Outreach

- Co-sponsored the Groton Garden Club's Annual Lecture ("Natural Control of Pesky Invasive Plants" with Michael Nadeau)
- Coordinated invasive plant discussions with the Garden Club and the Parks Commission concerning Carol Wheeler Park
- Wrote an article discussing the Committee that was published in the Groton Herald
- Fielded numerous emails from town residents and provided guidance on invasive species identification and control
- Submitted a letter in support of legislation being considered for invasive species management support at the State level

Invasives Mapping and Control

- Treated Japanese knotweed at the Groton Country Club, the Hayden Rd. extension trail, and the Campbell Well Site
- Treated Japanese knotweed and black swallowwort at the Shattuck Homestead
- Treated Phragmites reed at Priest Family and Eliades conservation areas
- Removed multiple invasive species at the Farmers and Mechanics property, including Asian bittersweet, glossy buckthorn, Ailanthus (Tree of Heaven), multiflora rose, and honeysuckle
- Continued treatment of Emerald Ash Borer at the Petapawag Boat Launch
- Launched new project mapping invasive plants along the Nashua River, utilizing computational mapping tools

- Created Subcommittee for Mapping and Prioritization of public parcels
 - Established criteria for prioritization
 - Created priority list of parcels to start mapping invasive plants
- Filed RDAs and received approval for treatment at two additional sites for invasive plant treatment in 2022: Petapawag Boat Launch and Carmichael Swamp
- Worked with the Conservation Commission and established a Memorandum of Understanding for future treatment on their properties outside of wetlands buffer zones



Fig. 1. Clearing vegetation at Priest Hill, May 2021.

LOCAL CULTURAL COUNCIL

(978) 448-1100

selectboard@grotonma.gov

Current Active Members:

David Zeiler, Chair

Kathleen Phelps, Treasurer

Jacquie Waters, Secretary

Leslie Lathrop

Christine Brooks

2021 Fiscal Year Funds

\$8,193 requested from grants.

\$8,072 allotted for funding.

Grant Denials

On January 3rd, 2022 the denied grantees were notified that their grants were not approved via email through the “Smart Simple” system.

Reconsiderations

After allowing the fifteen days for denied applicants to request a reconsideration, no requests were submitted.

Approved Grants

Fifteen grants were approved with a total of \$8,072 awarded. Those approved were notified via the MCC’s “Smart Simple” system. Grantees could then log in to their account for the details of each proposal. A separate email was sent to each individual notifying them of their accepted proposal and amount awarded.

2021-2022 Cycle Action:

The grantees have one year from the date of their accepted notification to submit a request for reimbursement. Failure to meet that deadline will result in the loss of funds. They may request additional time to complete their project in writing to the council. Grant recipients also need the Council’s written permission to make changes to their projects. Project modifications must be requested in writing, and the modification should not significantly alter the original purpose of the approved application. Extension and modification requests are reviewed on a case-by-case basis and are not automatically granted.

The grantees are also required to acknowledge the financial support of the Groton Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council in published materials and announcements about their project. This information will be sent out via email. This credit is required by the MCC.

OLD BURYING GROUND COMMISSION

(978) 732-1893

dmain@grotonma.gov

The Old Burying Ground is overseen by the Park Commission with guidance from the Old Burying Ground Commissioners. As one of the most sacred and historic locations in the town, much care and concern is given to maintaining its setting as guided by the period it represents in Groton's History. Amongst the buried are 105 Groton Minutemen and Women who answered the call on 19 April 1775 and fought at Bunker Hill and other battles of the Revolutionary War. Members of Prudence Wright's Guard, a regiment of Groton women, acted as under cover spies while garnering information from British sympathizers and passing it on to the Committee of Safety.



History abounds at the Old Burying Ground. Simply read the plaques that describe the significance of the heroes interred there.

To honor the memory of those who served the town so notably, each December we join with "Wreaths Across America" in a wreath laying ceremony to which the names of those who braved the hazards of early life in Groton are remembered by having their names read.

We encourage you to visit, once you do, you will see your hometown as never before.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald Black 2022

Deborah Beal Normandin 2022

Gail Chalmers 2022



Wreath Laying Ceremony – Old Burying Ground – December 2021
Photos Courtesy of Steve Lieman

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1162

recycle@grotonma.gov

The Recycling Committee continues to find better recycling methods and advises the Public Works on recycling regulations and practices. Recycling is mandated by the Town.*

The committee researched and the town now contracts with Black Earth Compost which collects food scraps for composting. Residents can drop off for free at our Transfer Station or pay for discounted curbside collection.

RecycleSmartMA.org helps users determine the recyclability of their discards. The committee has helped update this valuable service.

Devens Regional Household Hazardous Products Collection Center www.DevensHHW.com is a valuable resident resource that committee members support and volunteer to help.

* The following items are banned from disposal in Massachusetts:

- Glass, metal, and plastic containers
- Paper, paperboard, and cardboard
- Leaves, grass, yard waste (excluding diseased plants), and brush (less than 1 inch in diameter)
- Large appliances (e.g., refrigerators, stoves, dryers)
- Tires
- Cathode ray tubes
- Vehicle and lead acid batteries
- Construction materials (e.g., asphalt, brick, concrete, metal, wood, clean gypsum wallboard)
- Commercial Organic Material
- Textiles
- Mattresses



SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

(978) 448-1111

We have added climate change to our purview and are working in four areas which are as follows:

- We are participating in the North Central Climate Change Collaborative meetings. This is a regional initiative working on climate change issues.
- Our solar power group is looking into green community grants that can be used to subsidize charging stations. We are preparing to teach an informational class on home solar power.
- We are participating in Green Future Act meetings. This is a bill that would provide funding for projects related to meeting carbon emissions goals.
- The Alternative Mosquito Management Plan group is investigating neonicotinoid spraying and alternatives.

We continued work on the pollinator habitat at the Groton Center. Additional shrubs and perennials were installed.

The current membership includes Alison D Peterson (Chair), Phil Francisco (Vice Chair), Katrina Posner (Clerk), Deborah Swartz (Member), Jim Simko (Member), James Allen (Member), Ginger Vollmar (Member), David Southwick (Member), and Bruce Easom (Member).

Respectfully submitted,

Alison Dolbear Peterson, Chair



Groton Place - Bee
Photo Courtesy of Grace Remillard

TOWN FOREST COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1111

selectboard@grotonma.gov

For the second year in a row due to the outbreak of the Covid 19 Pandemic and the Massachusetts Governor's directive for quarantining and social distancing, the Town Forest Committee did not meet.

The Town Forest continues to be used as a valuable resource for activities such as walking, hiking, biking, cross country skiing, horseback riding and hunting to name a few. No motorized vehicles are allowed.

As a reminder the Select Board has determined that all dogs on public property must be leashed at all times.

The 23rd annual Town Forest Road Race was held in October.

Several mock fox hunts were also held.

Hopefully 2022 will be a better year.

Respectfully submitted;

Stephen Babin Chair
Carter Branigan Clerk
John Sheedy Member



Cross-country Skiing on Groton Town Forest
Dead River Trail – Photo Courtesy of Laura DeGroot

TRAILS COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1111

trails@grotonma.gov

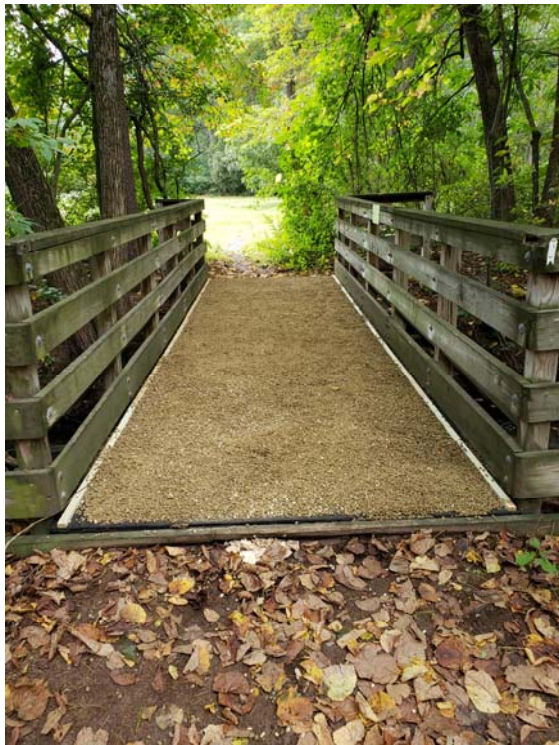
<http://www.grotontrails.org>

During 2021 Groton Trails Committee (GTC) members and 42 recruited volunteers assisted with weekly trail maintenance and new trail projects. A total of 378 person-hours of effort was expended, with 43% of the total performed by supervised volunteers.

The GTC spent 55 person-hours chain sawing trees that had fallen across trails.

The largest project undertaken by the GTC this year in terms of manpower was to replace a failed pedestrian/horse bridge over a stream in the Sorhaug Woods behind Williams Barn. The old bridge was removed and a new bridge was built off-site. In October the new bridge was built, dismantled, transported and erected on granite footings. Over 15 volunteers and Scouts (formerly Boy Scouts) were involved in the project.

The largest project in terms of material moved was the relocation of the Brown Trail in the Walker Conservation Area, where it crosses Chicopee Row a short distance north of Williams Barn. A stone wall was removed and replaced about 50 feet away across the old trail. The new trail was excavated through a small hill, smoothed, and covered with wood chips. The result was a substantially safer road crossing - for horses and pedestrians.



The Gamlin Esker Trail was re-routed to prevent further serious erosion from water.

In Sorhaug Woods the Chestnut Hill Loop Trail was completed and a new Brooks Orchard Loop Trail was created.

A trail access via the Shattuck easement off Wallace Road to the Fitch's Bridge Estates was relocated at the end of a house lot and gravel was spread over a geo-grid to span a wet area.

Pea stone was installed over a geo-textile fabric on the Gratuity Brook Bridge to create a non-slip surface for equestrians. This had been a hazardous crossing for some years. *(Photo to the left is of Gratuity Brook Bridge courtesy of Paul Funch)*

A new trail was created to connect the Mason Back 100 to the Whispering Brook Lane cul-de-sac.

Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) Update:

2021 was another year which saw tangible progress on realizing the vision of the SRRT, a 3.7-mile pedestrian and bike pathway from Townsend Center to the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area in West Groton. Squannacook Greenways (SG) is the private partnership building the trail in the two towns. SG officially opened Phase 1, from Townsend center to Old Meetinghouse Road (1.1 miles) with a formal ribbon cutting ceremony on Sept. 25, 2021.

\$100,000 of ARPA money was awarded and is being used for Phase 2 which began construction in December 2021. This phase will extend the SRRT from Old Meetinghouse Road to Townsend Harbor (0.7 miles).

Phase 3, which is scheduled to commence in November 2022, will be the section in Groton from the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing. The Groton Highway Dept. removed the rails and ties from both Crosswinds Drive crossings this year when they resurfaced the road.

Signs were made and placed by the GTC on properties around town giving guidance to trail users with dogs. Other signs were added around town to provide directions and distances to points of interest, and to identify eight named brooks where they cross trails. These efforts are part of a multi-year effort.

The interactive map of Groton, found on the grotontrails.org website, was updated with a GPS locator. It allows people on trails using phones to see their locations on the trails.

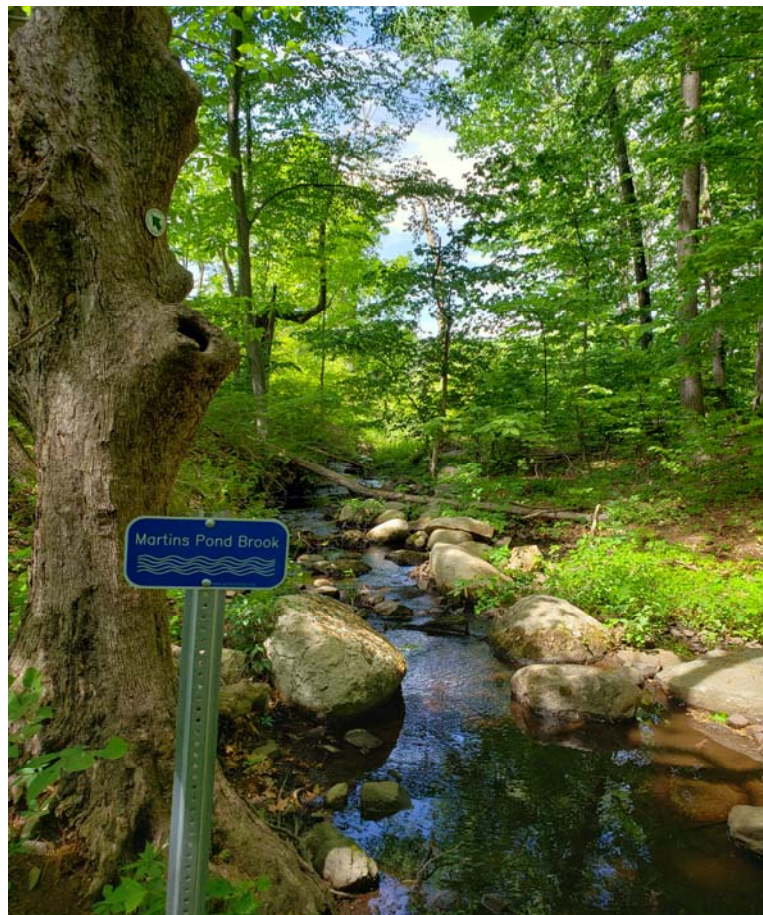
In this second year of Covid-19 the town brought back its annual Grotonfest celebration, and the Town Forest Trail Races were held in October. Both events were cancelled last year due to Covid. The GTC met many members of the public at its Grotonfest booth and helped educate visitors about the wealth of outdoor opportunities in the town. The Committee also assisted the Squannacook River Runners in their operation of the 23rd Annual Town Forest Races. Many Groton residents participate in these races.

The GTC supported the Prescott Community Center by offering guided hikes in town in the spring and fall, led by Paul Funch.

GTC members Kevin Barrett, Olin Lathrop, Bob Ordemann, Jason Remillard and Lisa Ireland resigned this year. All of these members left a major mark on the Committee's progress and accomplishments over recent years. New members joining were Adam Burnett, Harris McWade, and Ralph Acaba.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Acaba
Adam Burnett
Derek Cianci
Laura DeGroot, Clerk
Paul Funch, Chair
Steve Legge
Harris McWade
Wanfang Murray, Vice Chair
Jim Peregoy



Martins Pond Brook

WEED HARVESTER COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1111

selectboard@grotonma.gov

Executive Summary:

Yearly weed harvesting continues to improve the water conditions of Baddacook Pond. Recreational use is safer, navigation is clearer, and the aquatic habitat is better suited for wildlife. The improvement, from year over year harvesting, continues to be observed in less and delayed weed growth. When harvesting began in August, most of the weeds had just reached the surface. Before mechanical harvesting was employed, mats of weeds would have already spread across the 35 acres of infested water, out of Baddacook's total 76 acres. This year 292 cubic yards of weeds were removed. Since harvesting cuts back the weeds but does not kill them, yearly harvesting will be required to maintain these gains.

There were Loons on Baddacook for the first time this year, which is a very positive indication of habitat improvement. People have also spotted Swans, Osprey, and a Bald Eagle that is well fed by ice fishermen. Baddacook users and abutters have provided very positive feedback on the continued improvement. Public boat launch usage has grown as Lake Management has improved conditions.



Figure 1: Loon (stock photo since the loons were camera shy)

The porta-potty, at the boat launch, was very actively used. The heavy usage indicating the porta-potty significantly reduces the number of recreational users relieving themselves directly in the pond and along the shore line.

Background:

Baddacook Pond is Groton's largest and deepest natural pond. Abutted by mostly conservation land, the Groton Water Department, private property, and a public boat launch. Baddacook is a year-round recreational area. In the summer there is boating, swimming, fishing, and it's bordered by hiking trails. In the winter there is ice fishing and skating. It also supports a robust aquatic habitat for fish, turtles, and other wildlife. It is stocked twice a year by the state. However, there are non-native, invasive weeds that require yearly management. When these weeds were unchecked, they impaired navigation, presented a danger to swimmers, and degraded the nature habitat. For 3 years, Weed Harvesting and Hydro-raking were used to control weed growth under a Community Preservation Act [CPA] pilot program grant. Based on the those positive results, maintenance is now jointly funded between the Town and the Water Department. This is the 5th year of Baddacook Pond weed management.

Operations Summary:

This summer, weeds started to break the surface around the beginning of August. Before lake management was implemented, weeds would have been densely matted across the surface well before that. Even though the lake level was high this year, by the time that harvesting started, the weeds were just reaching the surface and beginning to flower. This was a good time to cut since most of the weeds were at the surface but not thick yet.

Solitude Lake Management was awarded the contract for \$26,440.00. The contract was funded under the Town Weed Harvester Committee (\$16,440) and the Groton Water Department (\$10,000). As per the contract, Solitude supplied a Weed Harvester Operator, a Dump Truck, and the Truck Driver, for 104 hours of harvesting. The Groton Lakes Association provided the Harvester. The town Weed Harvester Committee prepped and launched the Weed Harvester. The DPW provided the weed composing location, at the Transfer Station. The project was managed by the Great Ponds Advisory Committee. Tom Orcutt, Groton Water Superintendent, aided throughout the process.

Operations began on 8/09/2021 and continued through 8/20/2020. Overall, operations went smoothly and the weather co-operated. Repairs this year, during operations, were nominal. There was a clogged fuel screen, a cutter bar repair and sensor repair.

In total, 73 loads of weeds were removed which was approximately 292 cubic yards. The invasive weeds were a combination of Fanwort and Milfoil. At the end, the remaining weeds were well below the surface, to the best extent possible since some areas are not accessible. Feedback from users and abutters was very positive. Based on this year's results, we will likely use the same approach next year. User and abutter feedback has been very positive.

Notable quotes from users:

"I canoe on the pond while trout fishing and have noticed the improvement with weed removal."

"My wife swims on the pond almost daily and she has notice fewer weeds and feels more comfortable swimming."

"Less weeds, less weed growth. I think the weed harvesting program is a prudent use of funds."

"Thanks goodness for the porta poti ... yes they will urinate directly into the pond... first hand knowledge."



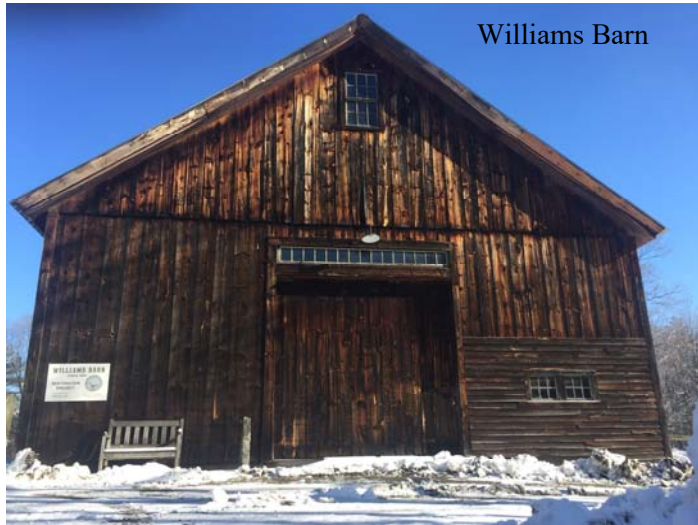
Fig. 2 – Transferring harvested weeds

WILLIAMS BARN COMMITTEE

(978) 448-1106

conservation@grotonma.gov

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 and to cooperate with the conservation Commission with respect to the use of the surrounding conservation land and trails.



Williams Barn

2021:

At the March meeting, Steve Woodin was voted into the Williams Barn Committee. Steve is a local resident and a carpenter, as was his late grandfather Al Wyatt. Steve has been a great asset already. After serving sixteen wonderful years on the WBC Leo Wyatt gave his letter of resignation.

The Farmers Market did open in 2021, with live music. A grant from the Lecture Fund paid for the musicians. With guidelines by the State and Town, the WBC managed to provide a decent Market, hats off to them. The Market was held at the Williams Barn Fridays 3-7pm, July 9 - October 8. New to the market was Griffin Farm from Townsend. Their specialties are microgreens and local tea.

Social Media Internship, the 2021 WBC internship was awarded to Sarah Cote. Sarah is a Groton High School student and came highly recommended by her principle. A grant from the Pete Bertozzi Trust was awarded to Sarah. The Intern helps the Williams Barn Committee with social media and day to day operations. Sarah did a great job and will be missed.

The Prescott Community Center/ friends of Prescott welcomed guests to the WB for a nature walk.

The Nashua River Watershed Association held two, youth education, summer sessions at the Williams Barn. With social distancing, led by Stacey Chilcoat, the children learned about the surrounding woods and its inhabitants.

After a 2020 recess, the 2021 Thanksgiving Market was a huge success. The Williams Barn House Band, "Back to the Garden" did a great job of entertaining the crowd.

With help from the Groton Grange, the Williams Barn Committee agreed to donate \$750 to the Brad Smith Memorial Scholarship.

Williams Barn Committee:

Sandra Tobies

Kathy Stone

Joe Twomey

Bob Kniffin

Bruce Easom

May Brackett

Steve Woodin

APPENDIX



Spring Town Meeting Warrant/Minutes

May 1, 2021

Fall Town Meeting Warrant/Minutes

October 23, 2021

Election Results

May 25, 2021 Annual Town Election Results

Town Accountant Financials

MINUTES

TOWN OF GROTON



2021 SPRING TOWN MEETING

**Groton-Dunstable Middle School Track
342 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts 01450**

Beginning Saturday, May 1, 2021 @ 9:00 AM

Rain Date – Sunday, May 2, 2021 @ 1:00 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***

Introduction to Groton Town Meeting

Voters are familiar with casting ballots in local and state elections, but they have another important civic duty in towns, the Town Meeting.

What is Town Meeting?

The Town Meeting is the legislative body in the town form of government in Massachusetts. Town Meeting is a formal gathering of registered voters who propose, debate and vote on measures. Groton holds at least two Town Meetings per year.

What is a warrant?

The warrant is the official notice to voters that a Town Meeting is scheduled. The warrant includes the date, time, location and a description of each subject to be acted on at Town Meeting. In Groton, the warrant must be posted in two public places and mailed to each household 14 days in advance of Town Meeting. "The warrant must contain a sufficient description of what is proposed so as to constitute an adequate warning to all the inhabitants of the town."¹ "Every action taken at the meeting must be pursuant to some article in the warrant and must be within the scope of such article."²

How does Town Meeting proceed?

Voters attending Town Meeting must first check in with the clerks and receive a voting card which is required to vote. The meeting typically acts on the articles in the order they are printed in the warrant. For each article, a main motion is made and seconded by voters and placed by the moderator on the floor for debate. Permission of the moderator is required to speak. The moderator presides and regulates the proceedings, decides all questions of order, and calls and declares all votes. After debate has ended, the moderator will call for a vote by a show of voter cards. If the vote is too close to call by sight or if seven voters immediately question the moderator's declaration of the vote, the moderator will order a hand count to confirm the vote.

Who can attend?

Town Meeting is open to the public. Only Groton voters are entitled to attend, speak and vote. Non-voters may be required to sit in a separate section. Non-voters may ask the moderator to speak on the topic of the debate.

How long is town meeting?

¹ *Town Meeting Time: A Handbook of Parliamentary Law* (page 12) Johnson, Trustman and Wadsworth, Third Edition, 2001.

² Id.

Town Meeting concludes when all articles on the warrant have been acted upon. Town Meeting may conclude in one session or adjourn for subsequent sessions.

Pandemic Safety Procedures for Town Meeting

Due to the pandemic, the Spring Town Meeting will be held outdoors on the field behind the Florence Roche Elementary School. Voters and non-voters attending the meeting are asked to follow these procedures:

- Attendees should wear masks, even while speaking, and observe social distancing whenever possible.
- Keep at least 6-feet of distance from others while in the voter check-in line.
- Voters should arrive early, check-in, receive a voter card, and proceed directly to a seat.
- A cart will be available for anyone who needs assistance moving from the parking lot to the field.
- Single and household-pair seating will be six or more feet apart and should not be moved. Attendees may bring their own chairs.
- Children may accompany parents and are asked to bring a seat for the child. Families with two or more children are asked to provide their own chairs.
- Voters will speak from their seats when called on by the moderator. Wireless microphones will be brought by an usher and sanitized between uses.
- Voting will be by raised voter card and not by voice.
- Anyone unable to wear a mask may sit in a reserved section with a dedicated microphone.
- There will not be a break for lunch, but Town Meeting attendees are urged to bring a bagged lunch so that the Town Meeting can be completed in one day, if possible.
- At the end of the meeting, voters are asked to observe social distancing while exiting the field.

Rain Date: In the event of inclement weather, the Town Meeting will be held the following day, May 2nd at 1 p.m. in the same location. If the Town Moderator postpones the meeting, notice will be made on the town website, posted in three public places, and through news and social media.

Please direct questions regarding the meeting procedures to Jason Kauppi, Town Moderator, at moderator@grotonma.gov or call 978-391-4506.

Explanation of a Consent Agenda

A consent agenda is a procedure to group of multiple main motions into a single motion for voting. A consent agenda saves time by eliminating the reading of multiple motions and explanations when there are no objections or questions. In Groton, a consent agenda generally consists of articles unanimously supported by the Select Board and Finance Committee. Articles that change by-laws or introduce new spending are typically not included. In this warrant, the Select Board has grouped articles in consent agendas and labeled them for easy reference.

How Consent Agendas Work

As the first step to act on a consent agenda, the moderator will read the titles of the included articles. A voter who wishes to remove an article from the consent agenda for separate debate and vote should state "hold." The held article will be set aside and acted on after the vote on the consent agenda. After

the meeting agrees on the contents of the consent agenda, there will be no debate and the moderator will immediately call for a vote. Every motion included in the consent agenda will either pass or fail as a group. Voters should read the warrant and review the proposed consent agendas to identify articles they wish to remove for separate consideration.



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.

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 for this Town Meeting will be provided adjacent to the Florence Roche Elementary School.

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. The van is wheelchair accessible. Your reservation can be made by calling the Senior Center at 978-448-1170. Seats will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

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

2021 SPRING TOWN MEETING OFFICIALS
MEETING DATE : MAY 1, 2021

Town Moderator:

Jason Kauppi

Deputy Moderator

Michael Bouchard

Board of Selectmen:

Allison Manugian, Chair
Joshua A. Degen, Vice-Chair
Becky Pine
John Giger
John Reilly

Finance Committee:

Colby Doody
Gary Green, Vice-Chair
Scott Whitefield
Mary Linskey
David Manugian
Bud Robertson, Chair
Art Prest

Town Manager:

Mark W. Haddad
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Town Clerk:

Michael F. Bouchard

PROCEEDINGS:

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM on May 1, 2021 outside at the track behind the Florence Roche School. Moderator Jason Kauppi presided.

There is no quorum requirement for this Annual Town Meeting. 375 voters attended the meeting.

Announcements:

Bob Colman was recognized for his dedicated service to the Town. Bob will be leaving to become a stay-at-home Dad. Ashley Doucette, newly appointed Cable Access Director, was welcomed.

The Town Election will be held on May 25. The ballot will contain all town offices and Ballot Question #1 to authorize borrowing to fund the construction of a new elementary school. Precinct 1 will vote at The Center, 163 West Main Street, and Precincts 2 and 3 will vote at the Groton-Dunstable Middle School (North), 344 Main Street. In-Person Early Voting will take place at Town Hall from May 17 – 20, during normal business hours. Absentee and Early Vote By Mail applications are now available through the Town Clerk's Office.

Candidates Night will be held on Tuesday, May 4 at 7:00 PM on Zoom.

John Giger, who is not running for re-election for the Select Board, was recognized for his years of service on the Planning Board, Regional School Committee, Select Board and numerous committees since 2007.

The Moderator wished to thank the Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee, the Maintenance Staff and Stasia Twomey, Town of Groton Department Heads and the Groton Police Department for their assistance in holding the meeting at this location.

Kathy Shelp is resigning as Council on Aging Director. Kathy was appreciated for her service to Groton.

Face masks are required. If an individual cannot wear a mask, please maintain social distance.

A moment of silence was observed for Grotonians who have passed since the last meeting.

The Meeting took the Pledge of Allegiance.

Stuart Schulman was recognized for his service as Deputy Moderator, and numerous other service to the Town. Michael Bouchard was appointed by the Meeting as Deputy Moderator for a term of one year. The Moderator administered the oath.

Procedures to be used on May 1 as the coronavirus pandemic is still prevalent:

- There will be no voice votes, only votes by raising voter cards
- Wireless mics will be brought to speakers
- There are 31 articles on the warrant with 57 Motions and 4 Consent Agendas.
- The main proponent and opponent of an article will be allowed 7 minutes in which to present their argument.

MOTION – Limit Debate

MOVER: Michelle Collette

I move that debate be limited to three minutes for each speaker, with the exception of the main proponent and opponent of each article, and at the discretion of the moderator.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3rds Majority

Vote of Motion to Limit Debate: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

The timekeeper will be Dawn Dunbar.

Tellers were sworn: Bob Garside, Megan Foster, Patricia Dufresne, Takashi Tada, Shawn Campbell, and Nik Gualco,

The Moderator determined that the warrant was duly posted. The reading of the warrant was waived by Majority vote.

2021 SPRING TOWN MEETING MINUTES - MAY 1, 2021

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 Track in said Town on Saturday, the first day of May, 2021 at Nine O'clock in the morning, to consider all business other than the election of Town Officers and on the twenty-fifth day of May, 2021, between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M., at an adjourned session thereof at the following locations:

Precinct 1	The Groton Center 163 West Main Street	Precincts 2 & 3	Middle School North Gymnasium 346 Main Street
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to give their ballots for:

Vote for One	Board of Assessors	3 Years
Vote for One	Board of Health	3 Years
Vote for One	Select Board	3 Years
Vote for One	Commissioner of Trust Funds	3 Years
Vote for Two	Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee	3 Years
Vote for One	Groton Electric Light Commission	3 Years
Vote for One	Park Commission	3 Years
Vote for One	Park Commission	2 Years
Vote for Three	Planning Board	3 Years
Vote for One	Town Clerk	3 Years
Vote for One	Town Moderator	3 Years
Vote for One	Sewer Commission	3 Years
Vote for Two	Trustees of the Groton Public Library	3 Years
Vote for One	Trustees of the Groton Pubic Library	2 Years
Vote for One	Water Commission	3 Years
Vote for One	Groton Housing Authority	3 Years

QUESTION 1:

Shall the Town of Groton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation and construction of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto?

YES_____ NO_____

ARTICLE LISTINGS

CONSENT MOTION #1 – Articles 1 through 4		Passed
Article 1:	Hear Reports	
Article 2:	Elected Officials Compensation	
Article 3:	Wage and Classification Schedule	
Article 4:	Appropriate FY 2022 Contribution to the OPEB Trust Fund	
CONSENT MOTION #2 – Article 5 Operating Budget		Passed
Article 5:	Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Operating Budget	
Article 6:	Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget	Passed
Article 7:	CPA Project Funding for Replacing Middle School Track	Passed
Article 8:	Florence Roche Elementary School Construction	Passed
Article 9:	Engineering Funds – Whitney Pond Treatment Facility	Passed
Article 10:	Engineering Funds – Whitney Pond Well #3	Passed
Article 11:	Extend Groton Center Sewer District	Passed
Article 12:	Grant Easement for Sewer Connection – 227 Boston Road	Passed
Article 13:	Community Preservation Funding Accounts	Passed
CONSENT MOTION #3 – CPA Funding Recommendations		Passed (1)
Article 14:	Community Preservation Funding Recommendations	
Article 15:	Amend Zoning Bylaw – Clarifications	Passed
Article 16:	Bylaw Prohibiting Polystyrene Containers	Passed
Article 17:	Citizens' Petition – Transfer Control of Land	Did Not Pass
CONSENT MOTION #4 – Articles 18-31		Passed
Article 18:	Current Year Line-Item Transfers	
Article 19:	Appropriate Funding to Offset Snow and Ice Deficit	
Article 20:	Transfer Within the Water Enterprise Fund	
Article 21:	Transfer Within the Sewer Enterprise Fund	
Article 22:	Transfer Within Four Corner Sewer Enterprise Fund	
Article 23:	Transfer Within Cable Enterprise Fund	
Article 24:	Prior Year Bills	
Article 25:	Authorization to Transfer Money from Free Cash	
Article 26:	Authorization to Transfer Money from Free Cash	
Article 27:	Debt Service for Surrenden Farm	
Article 28:	Assessors' Quinquennial Certification	
Article 29:	Establishing Limits for Various Revolving Funds	
Article 30:	Accept Law Increasing Real Estate Tax Exemptions	
Article 31:	Accept Provisions of M.G.L., c.59, §5, Clause 22F	
	Budget Report of the Town Manager and Finance Committee to Town Meeting	
	Appendix A – Fiscal Year 2022 Proposed Operating Budget	
	Appendix B – Fiscal Year 2022 Wage and Classification Schedule	

(1) Some CPA Funding Recommendation Motions “Held” and Voted Separately

CONSENT MOTION #1 – Articles 1 through 4

Mover: John Reilly

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #1) ARTICLE 1: HEAR REPORTS

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

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

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

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #1) ARTICLE 2: ELECTED OFFICIALS' COMPENSATION

To see if the Town will vote to set the compensation for the elected officials of the Town for the ensuing year, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *To provide compensation for elected officials as proposed by the Town Manager. The Town Clerk is proposed to receive a salary of \$90,853 in FY 2022 and the Moderator is proposed to receive a salary of \$65 in FY 2022.*

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

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #1) ARTICLE 3: WAGE AND CLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE

To see if the Town will vote to amend and adopt for Fiscal Year 2022 the Town of Groton Wage and Classification schedule as shown in Appendix B of this Warrant, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER**

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

Summary: *The purpose of this Article is to set the wage and classification schedule for the three (3) employees (Executive Assistant to the Town Manager, Human Resources Director and IT Director) covered by the Personnel Bylaw. Under the policy of the Select Board, these employees receive the same benefits as contained in the Town Supervisors' Union Contract. These employees will not receive a cost-of-living adjustment in Fiscal Year 2022.*

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #1) ARTICLE 4: APPROPRIATE FY 2022 CONTRIBUTION TO THE OPEB TRUST

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32B, Section 20, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The purpose of this article is to fund the Town's OPEB Liability. The Select Board and Finance Committee have adopted a funding policy for this purpose. One of the funding goals is to commit to an annual appropriation to the Trust that would keep the Net Present Value Liability from growing until such time as the Town can begin to pay down the liability. In Fiscal Year 2022, the anticipated amount necessary for this purpose is estimated to be \$177,094. This Article will seek an appropriation of \$177,094 from Free Cash to add to the OPEB Liability Trust Fund.*

MOTION: I move that the sum of One Hundred Seventy-Seven Thousand and Ninety-Four Dollars (\$177,094), be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to be expended by the Town Manager, to be added to the Other Post-Employment Benefits Liability Trust Fund as authorized by Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 32B, Section 20.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

The Moderator read the title of each article in **CONSENT MOTION #1**. No "Holds" were requested.

VOTE on CONSENT MOTION #1: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 5: FISCAL YEAR 2022 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money as may be necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for the next Fiscal Year (2022), and act upon the budget of the Finance Committee, or to take any other action relative thereto.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER**

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

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

CONSENT MOTION #2 – Operating Budget

Mover: Bud Robertson

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

Moved and Seconded

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

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 1: GENERAL GOVERNMENT

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 2: LAND USE DEPARTMENTS

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 3: PROTECTION OF PERSONS & PROPERTY

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

MOTION 4: SCHOOLS

(CONSENT MOTION #2) a.) Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

b.) Groton Dunstable Regional School District

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION b.A: I move that the sum of Twenty-Four Million, Twenty-Three Thousand, One Hundred Thirty-Four Dollars (\$24,023,134) be hereby raised and appropriated from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District as represented by lines 1410 through 1413 as shown in Appendix A of the Warrant.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION b.B: I move that the sum of Two Hundred Seventeen Thousand Two Hundred Ninety-Eight (\$217,298) be hereby transferred from the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Capital Stabilization Fund to the Groton Dunstable Regional School District to pay for the capital assessment from said School District as represented by line 1414 in Appendix A of the Warrant.

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

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 5: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 6: LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 7: DEBT SERVICE

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 8: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 9: WATER ENTERPRISE

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 10: SEWER ENTERPRISE

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

Sewer Enterprise Excess and Deficiency; and the sum of \$34,849 be raised and appropriated in the General Fund Operating Budget to be allocated to the Sewer Enterprise for Fiscal Year 2022.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 11: LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 12: FOUR CORNERS SEWER ENTERPRISE

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 13: STORMWATER UTILITY ENTERPRISE

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #2) MOTION 14: ELECTRIC LIGHT

MOTION: I move that the income from sales of electricity to private customers or for electricity supplied to municipal buildings, together with receipts from jobbing accounts, be appropriated for the Groton Electric Light Department, the whole to be expended by the Manager of the Groton Electric Light Department under the direction and control of the Groton Board of Electric Light Commissioners, for expenses of the Department for Fiscal Year 2022,

as defined in Section 57 of Chapter 164 of the Mass. General Laws, and that, if said sum and said income shall exceed said expense for said year, such excess shall be transferred to the construction fund of said plant and appropriated and used for such additions thereto as may thereafter be authorized by the Board of Electric Light Commissioners.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

The Moderator read the title of each article in **CONSENT MOTION #2**. No “Holds” were requested.

VOTE on CONSENT MOTION #2: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLE 6: FISCAL YEAR 2022 CAPITAL BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the purpose of funding the Fiscal Year 2022 Capital Budget, or to take another other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Summary: *The following is the proposed Town Manager’s Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022:*

Item #1 – Engine 1 Refurbishment	\$225,000	Fire/EMS
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Summary: *Engine 1 is a truck that is currently in good condition thus making it a prime candidate for a refurbishment to extend its life. Proactive refurbishment before major issues occur can save significant money on major unexpected repairs and lengthen the life of the Truck. Due to its level of use, the refurbishment of Engine 1 would be best served in FY 2022 to minimize corrosion caused by salt and weather.*

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Item #2A – Dump Truck	\$60,000	Highway
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Summary: *In Fiscal Year 2018, Town Meeting approved a bond for \$185,000 to purchase a new Dump Truck for the Highway Department, with the intent to pay it back over five years. The appropriation this year is the fourth of five payments for this truck.*

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Item #2B – Dump Truck	\$185,000	Highway
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Summary: *This vehicle is a scheduled replacement of a front-line truck responsible for plowing and sanding as well as normal construction duties. The anticipated cost of replacement of this truck is \$185,000. It is proposed that the Town borrow the funds through State House notes and pay off the debt over five years. The Town will begin repaying the bond on this Truck in Fiscal Year 2023.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #3 – IT Infrastructure

\$40,000

Town Facilities

Summary: *This item in the Capital Budget was established ten years ago and has been very successful. In Fiscal Year 2022, the following items will be purchased/upgraded with this allocation: 10 replacement computers; replace aging servers and storage arrays; investment to expand the network and keep equipment and maintenance costs current; and network switch upgrades and increased wireless coverage.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #4 – Municipal Building Repairs

\$25,000

Town Facilities

Summary: *This appropriation will be used to continue to maintain all municipal buildings by performing various maintenance activities to prevent major breakdowns in our municipal building infrastructure. In FY 2022, these funds will be used to perform brick pointing on Town Hall by the back door as well at Legion Hall.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #5 – Tractor Trailer Unit

\$20,000

Transfer Station

Summary: *At the 2018 Spring Town Meeting, the Meeting authorized the acquisition of a new Tractor Trailer Unit for the Transfer Station by borrowing the necessary funds (\$140,000) through the Commonwealth's State House Notes method and pay off the debt over four years. This will be the final payment for the Unit.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Item #6 – Reconstruct Library Parking Lot

\$45,000

Library

Summary: *The parking lot behind the Library has been patched and repaired, but in FY 2022 it will be 23 years old. It is worn, tired, cracking, not draining water properly, and becoming uneven in spots. It will need a full and complete reconstruction.*

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

Item #7 – Property Improvements \$25,000 Park Department

Summary: *The Park Commission has been working over the past several years developing a strategy to address deficiencies in the various Park Department Properties located throughout Groton. By appropriating \$25,000 each year, the Park Commission can develop a capital improvement program that will allow them to keep our various park locations in good shape and avoid a major construction project.*

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

Item #8 – Golf Carts \$25,000 Country Club

Summary: *Eight years ago, the Country Club 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 \$25,000. Beginning in FY 2022, the Club will need to replace the Carts. In an effort to support the Town's move to "green" energy, the Club will begin a trial of electric carts by replacing the current fleet with 21 gas powered carts and 4 electric carts. The Club will take the next few years testing out electric carts on the course, while looking to construct the infrastructure necessary to convert to an all-electric cart fleet.*

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

Item #9 – Cart Path/Tee Box Repairs \$10,000 Country Club

Summary: *This funding will be used to extend the Cart Path from the fourth hole green to the fifth hole forward tee. In addition, it will pay for repairs to the second hole tee box.*

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

Item #10 – Country Club Roof \$50,000 Town Facilities

Summary: *This is a needed replacement of the roof on the main building. The Tavern Building's roof was repaired four years ago. The back of the main building is in reasonable shape, but the front of the building is need of replacement.*

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

Item #11 – Police Cruisers**\$100,000****Police Department**

Summary: *Purchase of two police cruisers and related equipment to replace cruisers that are no longer cost effective to maintain. This allows for lesser mileage per year, better maintenance scheduling, assignment of cars to officers and for a programmed replacement schedule that ensures line cars are rotated out at reasonable mileage and wear. Un-marked cars are rotated in the same fashion.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

TOWN MANAGER

Mover: Joshua Degen

ARTICLE 6 - MOTION A: I move that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of One Hundred Eighty Five Thousand Dollars (\$185,000), be appropriated to be expended by the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Dump Truck for the Highway Department, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$185,000 under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase, and, further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Moved and Seconded

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

VOTE on Article 6 – Motion A: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLE 6 - MOTION B: I move that Six Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$625,000) be hereby appropriated, to be expended by the Town Manager, for the capital items shown below; and to meet this appropriation, the sum of \$100,000 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash); the sum of \$50,000 be raised from the Fiscal Year 2022 Tax Levy and other general revenues of the Town; and, the sum of \$425,000 be transferred from the Capital Stabilization Fund.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Department</u>
Engine 1 Refurbishment	\$225,000	Fire/EMS
Dump Truck	\$ 60,000	Highway
IT Infrastructure	\$ 40,000	Town Facilities
Municipal Building Repairs	\$ 25,000	Town Facilities
Tractor Trailer Unit	\$ 20,000	Transfer Station

Reconstruct Library Parking Lot	\$ 45,000	Library
Property Improvements	\$ 25,000	Park Department
Golf Carts	\$ 25,000	Country Club
Cart Path/Tee Box Repairs	\$ 10,000	Country Club
Country Club Roof	\$ 50,000	Town Facilities
Police Cruisers	<u>\$100,000</u>	Police Department
Total	\$625,000	

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- **Q: Why is a Dump Truck listed in both Motions A and B?**
 - **R: There are two dump trucks. Motion A is authorization to borrow for one truck. Payments on that truck will begin in FY2023. Motion B is to pay the last payment (previous debt) on a second truck.**
- **Q: Given green energy initiatives, why are only 4 electric golfs carts being purchased?**
 - **R: The cost of new infrastructure to sustain a full fleet of electric golf carts is too expensive at this time. The Town will purchase 4 electric carts now with an option to replace the entire fleet of gas carts (with electric carts) in two years. This will afford time to build the infrastructure to support the electric carts if it is affordable.**
- **Q: Please explain the financial status of the Country Club.**
 - **R: The Country Club is not revenue neutral in FY20 due to the pandemic. In FY19, the Club generated \$60,000 positive cash flow, Negative \$160,000 in FY20, \$80,000 positive in FY21 and is anticipated to have a positive cash flow in FY22.**

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

ARTICLE 7: CPA RECOMMENDATION – MIDDLE SCHOOL TRACK

To see if the Town will vote to adopt and approve the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the General Laws, to construct a new Middle School Track, and all costs associated and related thereto, and to implement such recommendation, borrow pursuant to any applicable statute and/or appropriate a sum or sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the General Laws, said funds to be expended by the Town Manager, or to take other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board: Recommended (4 In Favor, 1 Against – Giger)

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Abstain – Easom)

Summary: *The sitework expenses associated with the Florence Roche Elementary School Project campus track relocation are not eligible for reimbursement through the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA). Approval of this Article will authorize the track relocation expenses to be paid for with Community Preservation Funds. These funds include an annual state match to local dollars; construction costs for residents will be reduced by over half a million dollars. Relocation of the track will only occur if the Florence Roche Elementary School Project is approved at Town Meeting and at the Ballot.*

Mover: Bud Robertson

MOTION: I move to adopt and approve the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee established pursuant to Chapter 44B, Section 5 of the General Laws, and to appropriate One Million Four Hundred and Five Thousand, Three Hundred and Seventy Four Dollars (\$1,405,374) to construct a new Middle School Track, and for the payment of all costs associated and related thereto, and to implement such recommendation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$1,405,374, to be expended by the Town Manager, under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase, and, further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- **Ms. Gilbert presented on behalf on the Elementary School Building Committee.**
 - **Article 7 is intended to reduce the cost of the new elementary school. As the feasibility study concluded that the present site was the most cost-effective and educationally beneficial site for the new school, the current track will be displaced. Replacing the track using CPA finds will allow the school construction bonding to be lower by \$1,405,374. If Article 7 is not passed, Article 8 will be amended to request the cost of the track.**
 - **It is estimated that using CPA funds to build a new track, along with estimated state CPA reimbursement, will save Groton taxpayers \$600,000.**
- **Q: What happens with Article 7 if Article 8 fails at town meeting or if the ballot question fails?**
 - **R: Article 7 will become moot. Funds will revert back to the CPC.**
- **Q: Is it necessary to have a track at the Middle School?**
 - **R: Yes. There is a big track program here. The track is used by many organized groups and also gets a lot of use by members of the community at large. The alternative for the school programs would be to bus to the high school, which involves significant cost and presents scheduling challenges.**
- **Q: Why isn't this article being presented with the other CPA motions?**

- R: Article 7 is being presented before Article 8 because Article 7's outcome will determine the amount of money requested in Article 8, and needed to be determined before Article 8 was discussed.
- Q: Is the \$1.4m in Article 7 accounted for in the CPC recommendations and allocations?
 - R: The \$1.4m will be bonded with a first payment in FY23. There is no impact to the current (FY22) CPC recommendations or allocations for this town meeting.
- Several comments from attendees that the track is heavily used.

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 7 – Main Motion: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLE 8: FLORENCE ROCHE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds, an amount of money to be expended under the direction of Florence Roche Elementary School Building Committee, for the design and construction of a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school, known as the Florence Roche Elementary School, with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation and construction of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto, which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children of at least 50 years and for which the Town may be eligible for a school construction grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"). The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town. Any grant that the Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-three and thirty-nine hundredths' percent (53.39%) of eligible, approved project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; or to take any other action relative thereto.

FLORENCE ROCHE SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *An extensive Feasibility Study of K-4 education of Groton students has determined that the most cost effective and educationally beneficial solution is to rebuild the Florence Roche Elementary School on the current parcel. The relocation of the Middle School Track is an incidental cost to the Florence Roche Elementary School Building Project. As outlined in the GDRSD Regional Agreement, capital expenses are assessed to each member town based on the five-year rolling enrollment average per building. Because no Dunstable students have attended Florence Roche in recent years the cost of the Florence Roche Elementary School construction is the sole responsibility of*

the Town of Groton. Approval of this Article allows for short-term borrowing of funds for construction. The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) reimbursements will be made during the construction phase. Approval of this Article allows for long term consolidation of borrowed funds once construction has been completed; which is estimated to be in 2025. As stated in the Article, a Debt Exclusion of Proposition 2½ at the Annual Town Election will also be required.

Mover: Bud Robertson

MOTION: I move that the Town appropriates the amount of Seventy-Six Million Four Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Three Hundred Sixty dollars (\$76,495,360) for the purpose of paying costs of the design and construction of a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation and construction of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto (the "Project"), which school facility shall have an anticipated useful life as an educational facility for the instruction of school children for at least 50 years, and for which the Town may be eligible for a grant from the Massachusetts School Building Authority ("MSBA"), said amount to be expended under the direction of the Florence Roche Elementary School Building Committee. To meet this appropriation the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, is authorized to borrow said amount under G.L. c. 44, or pursuant to any other enabling authority. The Town acknowledges that the MSBA's grant program is a non-entitlement, discretionary program based on need, as determined by the MSBA, and any project costs the Town incurs in excess of any grant approved by and received from the MSBA shall be the sole responsibility of the Town; provided further that any grant that Town may receive from the MSBA for the Project shall not exceed the lesser of (1) fifty-three and thirty-nine hundredths percent (53.39%) of eligible, approved Project costs, as determined by the MSBA, or (2) the total maximum grant amount determined by the MSBA; provided that any appropriation hereunder shall be subject to and contingent upon an affirmative vote of the Town to exempt the amounts required for the payment of interest and principal on said borrowing from the limitations on taxes imposed by G.L. c. 59, §21C (Proposition 2½); and that the amount of borrowing authorized pursuant to this vote shall be reduced by any grant amount set forth in the Project Funding Agreement that may be executed between the Town and the MSBA. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- **Presentation by Marlena Gilbert, Chair of the Elementary School Building Committee**
 - **The 2016 school capital plan included replacement of the Florence Roche building. In 2019, a feasibility study was funded buy town meeting which looked at the condition of the current building, evaluation of all school owned space as an alternative to new building, enrollment projects, alternative locations, adding on the current building, and replacing FloRo.**
 - **The most cost effective plan to is build a new school building at the current location. It is recommended to build it behind the current school (where the track is) because it's cost effective and educationally effective. The Mass**

School Building Association's (MSBA) criteria is met with the design. All square footage is reimbursable, which is not the norm. The school is expected to have a 50 year life. Enrollment is projected to be 645. Students. Groton currently has approximately 125 students attending Swallow Union in Dunstable, and they would return to this school in Groton.

- **Why not renovate and leave the 125 student to attend the Swallow Union School in Dunstable?**
 - There would be no MSBA reimbursement for a renovation of the current building. The cost of a renovation project is estimated at \$52m. In addition, when Swallow Union is expected to need significant investment is 10-15 years, Groton would be responsible for its share. The net cost of Articles 7 and 8 will be \$54m. Also note that the Swallow Union school really doesn't have adequate space for students. Program space is shared.
- The Project Manager presented an overview of the proposed school's design. Highlights of the design include an off-street location which enhances student safety, a playground accessible without crossing a street, significant greenspace, a tailored design to meet educational needs, energy efficiency, and natural daylight. In addition, the use of the current school during construction reduces costs, and the students get to see the construction progress.
- The Select Board was unanimous in support of this Article.
- **Q: Are there components of the design that are not educationally necessary and could reduce costs if not included?**
 - R: The design does not include unnecessary components. The MSBA has approved the design for educational programs and occupant safety and well being. Superintendent Chesson reiterated that the MSBA would not have approved anything "extra" to educational necessity.
- **Q: What happens if there is a growth in population or programs?**
 - R: MSBA and NESDEC have projected Groton enrollment for the next 20 years. A pre-school program could be added in this space. A mix of ½ day and full day kindergarten programs give flexibility and work well with this space.
- **Q: What happens to the Swallow Union school? Will Groton be responsible for repairs if our students don't go there?**
 - R: Once Groton students have left Swallow Union, Groton will not be financially responsible for that building.
- **Q: Will a reduction in Groton students at Swallow Union allow for the reduction of administrative costs?**
 - R: Administrative costs are district wide. There will still be a principal at Swallow Union, even though there are 125 less students. There will be no increase or reduction in operating expenses as a result of the new school building.
- **Q: Does the \$76m included Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (FF&E)? Does it include contingency?**
 - R: The budget includes all costs, including FF&E.
- **Q: What is the contingency amount?**
 - R: There is a 5% contingency for hard (construction) costs, and a 5% contingency for soft costs. Costs escalators have also been used. Mr. Haddad added that whole \$76m is the requested amount, it will be temporary borrowing. Permanent financing will not be sought until the project is complete and the actual costs are known.

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

ARTICLE 9: ENGINEERING FUNDS – WHITNEY POND TREATMENT FACILITY

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay costs of engineering design services and owners project manager services related to improving the Whitney Pond Water Treatment Facility, commencing in fiscal year 2021, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Water Commissioners: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend the sum of \$722,300, to be raised through water rates, for the Design Engineering Services and the Owners Project Manager Services related to the new Manganese Treatment Facility at the Whitney Pond Well Site.*

Mover: Greg Fishbone

MOTION: I move that Seven Hundred Twenty-Two Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$722,300) be appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay costs of engineering design services and owners project manager services related to improving the Whitney Pond Water Treatment Facility, commencing in Fiscal Year 2021, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$722,300, under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(4) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase, and, further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- Mr. Fishbone explained that this engineering was to design a facility to reduce manganese in the water supply.
- Q: Will this address PFAS or other contaminants?
 - R: No. It is being designed to be modified to address PFAS if it's needed.
- Q: Will this proposed facility have capacity to handle a new well?
 - R: Yes
- Q: If one has a private well, what is the impact?
 - R: This facility will not address private wells. It will be funded by ratepayers, not taxpayers.

VOTE on Article 9 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 10: ENGINEERING FUNDS – WHITNEY POND WELL #3

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay costs of engineering design services and owners project manager services related to developing the new Whitney Pond Well #3, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; to determine whether this amount shall be raised by taxation, transfer from available funds, borrowing or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

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

Summary: *This article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend the sum of \$300,000, to be raised through water rates, for the Design Engineering Services and the Owners Project Manager Services related to the new source well at the Whitney Pond Well Field (Whitney Pond Well #3).*

Mover: Greg Fishbone

MOTION: I move that Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) be appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay costs of engineering design services and owners project manager services related to developing the new Whitney Pond Well #3, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$300,000, under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 8(3A) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase, and, further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Moved and Seconded

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

VOTE on Article 10 – Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 11: EXTEND GROTON CENTER SEWER DISTRICT

To see if the Town will vote to extend the “Groton Center Sewer District” as established by the vote of the Special Town Meeting of February 6, 1989, under Article 7, and as shown most recently on the plan approved under Article 14 of the Annual Town Meeting of April 25, 2005, to include the property shown on Assessors’ Map 109, Lot 43-0 (108 Pleasant Street) but only for the exclusive use of 108 Pleasant Street, and its successors or assigns, and provided that all costs of designing, laying, and construction of the extension and any associated connection and the cost of additional capacity and the property owner’s proportionate share of the general benefit facilities, and all other costs associated therewith, are paid by the owner of the property benefited thereby, whether by the assessment of betterments or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *This article requests authorization from the Town Meeting to expand the Center Sewer District to include 108 Pleasant Street, Groton.*

Mover: Jim Gmeiner

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- **Sewer Commission:** After a public hearing, it voted unanimously to recommend this article to town meeting. One abutter attended the hearing and voiced support. There is sufficient sewer capacity. The applicant’s septic system is in failure. The extension is only for the house known as The Elms.

- There are conservation restrictions on other parcels in this property which prevent new construction.
- Mr. Collins (for the applicant) noted that installing a sewer line preserves the exceptional landscaping on the property and reiterated that no additional construction is possible on the property.
- Q: Can the existing house be expanded?
 - R: There is sewer capacity to accommodate this. However, the applicant intent is to preserve the property and is applying as such.

VOTE on Article11- Main Motion: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 12: GRANT EASEMENT FOR SEWER CONNECTION – 227 BOSTON ROAD

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to grant an easement to Christine R. and Kevin J. Lindemer, and their successors and assigns, for the purpose of placing and maintaining a subsurface sewage disposal line to service 227 Boston Road below existing grade surface and under the surface of Town owned property under the control of the Select Board located at 94 Lovers Lane, shown on Assessors Map 115, Parcel 34, Recorded Deed Book 20265, Page 302 at the South Middlesex Registry of Deeds, as shown on the plan on file with the Office of the Town Clerk, on terms and conditions deemed by the Select Board to be in the best interest of the Town, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *No Recommendation (3 In Favor, 2 Opposed – Degen, Manugian)*

Finance Committee: *Recommended (5 In Favor, 0 Against, 2 Abstain – Green, Doody)*

Summary: *The 2018 Fall Town Meeting approved the extension of the Groton Central Sewer District to 227 Boston Rd. The extension will allow for the development of one additional house lot, connection of the existing house, and conversion of the barn to residential use. The extension will be a private connection and will not extend beyond the confines of what is currently 227 Boston Rd. The work will be done using directional drilling from the site of the new house lot and is not expected to result in surface disturbance except for a small area at the point of connection to the town sewer at the edge of the golf course across from Johnson's Restaurant. The owners of 227 Boston Rd. (Kevin and Christine Lindemer) will pay for the cost of construction and connecting to the existing sewer line. It is anticipated there will be no cost to the Town of Groton for the connection and maintenance. In addition, if the work is completed as envisioned, property tax revenue to the Town of Groton will increase in addition to the added town sewerage fees.*

Mover: Rebecca Pine

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

Middlesex Registry of Deeds, as shown on the plan posted on the Town's website, on terms and conditions deemed by the Select Board to be in the best interest of the Town.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- **Mr. Lindemer asked the meeting to support this article. At a previous town meeting, the sewer district had been extended for the purpose of connecting his property. He plans to build a new house on the property, keep the existing house, convert the barn into two dwelling units and decommission the existing septic. This article is to authorize the Select Board to enter into a negotiation to grant an easement to run the private sewer line under a portion of the golf course. Mr. Lindemer will be responsible for all costs of installation, maintenance and repair.**
 - **There are two easements to install the private sewer line; a temporary construction easement and a permanent sewer line easement. The line will be install underground using direction al drilling. There will be minimal disruption to the golf course, and that would be at the standpipe across the street from Johnson's restaurant where a manhole will need to be installed.**
 - **Mr. Lindemer had the value of this easement appraised. The appraisal stated that there would be no damage to the course, and potentially add value to the course should it ever be developed as the sewer would be available 9howeveer a private line). The easement was valued at \$2300 to the town, would result in an additional \$20-\$30k in taxes as a result of the proposed development, and would avoid the installation of two septic systems and decommission the existing septic.**
 - **There are two steps necessary for Mr. Lindemer to complete before he can begin his project: this town meeting vote to authorize the Select Board to negotiate an easement on town land, and successful negotiations.**
 - **Mr. Lindemer stated that the alternative of running the private line under Route 119 was much more expensive and potentially disruptive to the road because of Mass DOT requirements, which are complicated and specifies more engineering requirements than would be necessary with the easement.**
- **Concern was expressed by Select Board members that granting this an easement for private use over (under) town land would set a precedent. Concern was also expressed that the attractiveness of the and could be impacted should alternative use be considered.**
- **Q: Could this be considered a public sewer line, but the cost of installation borne by Mr. Lindemer?**
 - **R: Mr. Gmeiner, Chair of the Sewer Commission, stated that the Commission would prefer the line to be private to avoid potential public costs. There are no plans to extend the public sewer any further down Route 119.**
- **Q; Was the previous vote of town meeting to expand the sewer district to the Lindemer's property for the purpose of accommodating a function hall only, or did the presentation at that time identify the dwelling units.**
 - **R: The previous town meeting presentation did include the construction of a new house, keeping the existing house, and the use of the barn as a seasonal function hall. Mr. Lindemer stated that plans had changed to drop the plan for**

a function hall, but rather convert the barn into two dwelling units. His intent is to preserve the barn for the long term, and it needs a revenue stream.

- Mr. Robertson, Chair of the Finance Committee, commented that he thought the granting of an easement would be a “win-win” for the town and the Lindemers. It would unlock value in the Lindemer property and the town gets additional tax revenue. He commented that he didn’t see “downside” risks.
- A member of the public commented that a 99 year lease would be a preferred option as future technology could allow the town to reclaim the land while still allowing for this sewer service.
- Ms. Pine restated that this article is not granting an easement, only authorizing the Select Board to negotiate an easement.

MOTION to MOVE THE QUESTION:

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

VOTE on MOTION to MOVE THE QUESTION: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

VOTE on Article 12-Main Motion: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLE 13: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING ACCOUNTS

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

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 20,500
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Unallocated Reserve:	\$528,930

or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This is an accounting procedure that is necessary to ensure the Community Preservation Committee will have access to the funds raised during Fiscal Year 2022. Except for the CPC Operating Expenses, none of these funds will be spent without additional approval at Town Meeting*

Mover: Bruce Easom

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

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 20,500
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 78,490
Unallocated Reserve:	\$528,930

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

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

ARTICLE 14: 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 2022, and vote to implement such recommendations by appropriating a sum or sums of money from the Community Preservation Fund established pursuant to Chapter 44B of the General Laws, and by authorizing the Select Board, with the approval of the Community Preservation Committee, to acquire, by purchase, gift or eminent domain, such real property interests in the name of the Town, or enforceable by the Town, including real property interests in the form of permanent affordable housing restrictions and historical preservation restrictions that will meet the requirements of Chapter 184 of the General Laws, as may be necessary or proper to carry out the foregoing, or to take any other action relative thereto.

Mover: Bruce Easom

CONSENT MOTION #3 - CPA Funding Recommendations

I move that the Town take affirmative action on Motion 1 through Motion 11, under Article 14, as recommended by the Community Preservation Committee, and as set forth in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided however that if any voter requests the right to debate a specific motion, then said motion shall be debated and voted upon separately.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3's Majority (as originally moved)

[Town Clerk Note: Mr. Easom stated that he is a member of Squannacook Greenway and the CPC. As such, he stated that he did not participate in any of the CPC project discussions].

The Moderator read the titles of each CPC Proposal. Proposals that were held from Consent Motion #3 by the Meeting were:

Proposal D (Motion 4)	Site Assessment Study
Proposal E (Motion 5)	Squannacook River Rail Trail
Proposal G (Motion 7)	Housing Coordinator
Proposal H (Motion 8)	Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan
Proposal I (Motion 9)	Conservation Fund
Proposal J (Motion 10)	Multi-Use Recreational Courts

These proposals were voted separately.

CONSENT MOTION #3 included these CPC Proposals after Proposal were “Held”:

Proposal A (MOTION 1)	Maintenance and Mausoleum Restoration
Proposal B (MOTION 2)	Field and Recreation Feasibility Study
Proposal C (MOTION 3)	Non-Point Sources of Pollution
Proposal F (MOTION 6)	Duck Pond Restoration, Phase 2
Proposal K (MOTION 11)	Original Interior Skylight Restoration

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote (after Proposals were “Held”): Majority

VOTE on CONSENT MOTION #3 (after Proposals were “Held”): Passed by Unanimous Vote

(CONSENT MOTION #3) CPC Proposal A: Maintenance and Mausoleum Restoration \$65,000

Summary: *The Groton Cemetery Association is requesting \$65,000 in CPA funds to repair and restore both the Maintenance Building and the Mausoleum located at the Groton Cemetery. The full amount to be paid from the Historic Reserve.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Abstain – Easom)*

MOTION 1: Maintenance and Mausoleum Restoration

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Historic Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-01 “Maintenance and Mausoleum Restoration”.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #3) CPC Proposal B: Field and Recreation Feasibility Study \$20,000

Summary: *The Park Commission is requesting \$20,000 in CPA funds to carry out a Feasibility Study that would include Cow Pond Fields, Woitowicz Field, and Cutler Memorial Field, to determine that they are providing maximum and safe playing surfaces on their acreage while correcting the issue of parking and travel on their properties. The full amount to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended (5 In Favor, 1 Against – Svarczkopf, 1 Abstain – Easom)*

MOTION 2: Field and Recreation Feasibility Study

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Unallocated Reserve to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-02 “Field and Recreation Feasibility Study”.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #3) CPC Proposal C: Non-Point Sources of Pollution \$40,000

Summary: *As part of the continuation of the Lost Lake/Knops Pond Long-Term Lake Management Plan, the Great Pond Advisory Committee and the Groton Lakes Association is seeking \$40,000 in CPA funds to complete a major component of this plan namely the dataset identifying the non-point sources of pollution entering Lost Lake and the development of a mitigation plan to correct these problems. The full amount to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Abstain – Easom)

MOTION 3: Non-Point Sources of Pollution

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(HELD) CPC Proposal D: Site Assessment Study \$75,000

Summary: *The Affordable Housing Trust (AHT) is exploring possible locations for the development of affordable housing. As part of this process, the AHT is seeking \$75,000 in CPA funds to pay for investigatory pre-development and engineering work and/or expert advice in order to assess the costs and feasibility of any potential site for development. Funds may also be used to prepare grant applications to support the creation of affordable housing. Either town-owned or privately-owned parcels may be considered and evaluated. The full amount to be paid from the Community Housing Reserve.*

Select Board: No Recommendation (3 In Favor, 2 Against – Degen, Manugian)

Finance Committee: Recommended Against (3 In Favor, 4 Against)

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended (4 In Favor, 1 Deferred – Emerson, 1 Abstain – Easom)

MOTION 4: Site Assessment Study

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- Select Board voted 3-2 in favor of Motion 4.
- Ms. Pine stated that home prices are escalating. She pointed out that municipal employees, police and teachers can't afford to live in Groton. Senior citizens looking to downsize have limited options in Groton due to the type of new housing stock. This study would be a first step to meet state and federal requirements regarding affordable housing.

MOTION to AMEND MOTION 4. Mover: Josh Degen

I move that the following be inserted at the end of the (Motion 4) Main Motion: "provided the Affordable Housing Trust not expend and of these funds for any purpose until after the Diversity Task Force holds its Affordable Housing Summit and issues an executive summary to the Groton Select Board no later than September 15, 2021."

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority

- Mr. Degen stated that he fully supports the goal of creating affordable housing. He stated that there are many groups involved with this issue, and that groups are working in isolation. There will be an Affordable Housing Summit in June, 2021, which is an opportunity to define ways for groups to work together, and with the public to create a cohesive plan.
- Planning Board: Unanimous in support of (Motion 4) Main Motion
- Groton Housing Authority: Unanimous in support of (Motion 4) Main Motion
- Diversity Task Force: 9-0-1 in support of (Motion 4) Main Motion, and 5-4-0 in support of the amendment to Motion 4.
- Ms. Perkins stated that the amendment is inconsistent with the award of funding.
- State Representative Harrington rose to oppose the amendment, stating that the time to act is "now" and not wait 6 months, which could jeopardize access to unprecedented state and federal funding. She related accounts of current real and urgent needs in the community. She urged adoption of the (Motion 4) Main Motion.

MOTION to MOVE the AMENDMENT

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

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

VOTE on MOTION to AMEND MOTION 4: Defeated

- Q: What is \$75,000 buying? Is there a timeline for the study? Will there be an action plan?
 - R: There are no "checkbook ready" projects. The goal is to get in line for state and federal funds and be able to present property that can be developed.

MOTION to MOVE ARTICLE 14 - MOTION 4:

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

VOTE on MOTION to MOVE ARTICLE 14 – Motion 4: Passed by Unanimous Vote

VOTE on Article 14 – Motion 4: Passed by Majority Vote

(HELD) CPC Proposal E: Squannacook River Rail Trail \$30,000

Summary: *Squannacook Greenways is requesting \$30,000 in CPA funds for construction of the Squannacook River Rail Trail (SRRT) from the Bertozzi Wildlife Management Area to the northern Crosswinds Drive crossing for a total distance of .65 miles. The construction of the entire SRRT is being conducted in phases due to environmental requirements which limit construction activity to a period of between November 15th and March 15th. Squannacook Greenways is also relying on DCR Trails grants to underwrite a large portion of construction costs and has been the successful recipient in the last two rounds of grant cycles. Squannacook Greenways will be applying for a DCR MassTrails grant for FY 2022 and will be relying on CPA funds as the local match requirement. If successful, it is their intention to commence construction in November, 2022. The amount of \$2,000 to be paid from the Open Space Reserve and the amount of \$28,000 to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Abstain – Easom)*

MOTION 5: Squannacook River Rail Trail

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- **Mr. Easom disclosed that he is a member of Squannacook Greenways and did not participate in any of the CPC discussion about Proposal D.**
- **The Conservation Commission issued a letter of support for Proposal D.**
- **The Trails Committee was unanimous in support of Proposal D.**
- **Mr. Cunningham presented that this trail is .65 miles of stone dust covered trail following the railroad along the Squannacook River in Groton.**
- **A resident abutting this section of the rail trail rose to identify significant noise and disruption from motorized vehicles using the rail trail, and road parking that hinders siteway. He found these issues very intrusive to the peaceful enjoyment of his property.**
- **It was stated by other residents living on the Nashua River Rail Trail (a different trail) that these issues were not experienced and that living on the rail trail was a positive experience.**
- **Q: Why is stone dust needed?**
 - **R: The stone dust will stabilize the trail’s surface. It will also make the rail trail accessible.**

- VOTE on Article 14 – Motion 5 Main Motion: Passed by Majority Vote**

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- **Mr. Haddad stated that this is has been an annual appropriation for the Housing Coordinator since FY2011. The position is for 25 hours per week, and has been very effective for the town.**

VOTE on Article 14 – Motion 7: Passed by Unanimous Vote

(HELD) CPC Proposal H: Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan \$230,232

Summary: *The Groton Dunstable Regional School Committee is requesting \$230,232 in CPA funds to use towards the renovations of the GDRHS Stadium Field and GDRHS Softball Field. After assessing the conditions of the 25 acres of athletic fields in the district, these two field restoration projects have been identified as needing to be completed in order for the fields to be considered safe and usable for the student athletes and community usage. This project will include total replacement and restoration of the stadium high school natural turf field and resolve tree overgrowth at the high school softball field to address the wet field preventing the use of the field. The Dunstable Community Preservation Committee is in support of funding Dunstable's proportionate share of this project at \$74,268. GD@Play generously donated \$100,000 to offset the cost of this initiative. The purchase of equipment not included in the CPC request of a utility tractor, aerator attachments and top dresser will be purchased with this donation with the balance of \$18,500 to be applied to support the cost of the renovation of the stadium field. The amount of \$98,232 to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve and the amount of \$132,000 to be paid through a five-year Bond.*

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Abstain – Easom)

MOTION 8: Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan

I move, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, the sum of Two Hundred Thirty Thousand, Two Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$230,232) be hereby appropriated to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-09 "Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan"; that to meet this appropriation the sum of One Hundred Seventy Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$170,232) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Unallocated Reserve; and further, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$50,000, to be expended by the Town Manager, under and pursuant to Chapter 44, Section 7(1) of the General Laws, or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all

appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase, and, further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- **Ms. Gilbert stated that private fundraising has covered the full amount needed to restore the high school field, but that these funds would be used for equipment. The field is used for education purposes and is a community asset.**
- **Dunstable has agreed to make a percentage match to Groton's CPA contribution.**

VOTE on Article 14 – Motion 8: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

(HELD) CPC Proposal I: Conservation Fund FY 2022

\$350,000

Summary: *The Conservation Commission is requesting \$350,000 in CPA funds to be added to the Town's Conservation Fund to help preserve open space, protect water resources and wildlife habitat, and preserve land for agricultural, recreational, and forestry activities. The Conservation Fund allows the Town to move quickly in the event a priority parcel becomes available. In the past, the Conservation Fund has been used to purchase Conservation Restrictions, Agricultural Preservation Restrictions, and fee ownership of conservation land in the Town. The Commission's goal is to maintain an amount between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000 in the Conservation Fund. The Conservation Fund balance is \$320,129. The full amount to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

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

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Abstain – Easom)

MOTION 9: Conservation Fund

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

Q: What will be done with this money?

R: this will increase the Conservation Commission fund balance. These funds can be spent on land and conservation restrictions. Often the Conservation Commission must act in "real time" make purchase decisions for Chapter 61 Agricultural Land,

with 120 day timeframes. This can be outside the window of a town meeting process, so the Commission needs funds to act quickly.

- **Q: What is the current balance for the Conservation Commission?**
 - **R: As stated in the warrant, \$320,000.**

VOTE on Article 14 – Motion 9; Passed by Majority Vote

(HELD) CPC Proposal J: Multi-Use Recreational Courts \$157,480

Summary: *Friends of Groton Pickleball is requesting \$157,480 in CPA funds to help fund the restoration project at the Groton Country Club that will create new multi-use recreational courts, consisting of 8 pickleball courts, 1 tennis court and a half of a basketball court. The full amount to be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Abstain – Easom)*

MOTION 10: Multi-Use Recreational Courts

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- **Friends of Groton Pickleball presented that this proposal is to renovate the 4 dilapidated tennis courts located at the Country Club, and repurpose them to Pickleball courts, one tennis court and ½ basketball court. Private funds have been raised, but need to be supplemented. The operation of the courts will be self funding through lessons, court fees and tournaments, including a plan to resurface the courts in 8-10 years.**
- **The courts will be open to the public. It will cost \$3.00 to play. Reservations will be made through the Pro Shop.**
- **Q: Why not renovate all 4 tennis courts?**
 - **R: There is a plethora of tennis courts in town. Pickleball is very popular. The proposed renovation addresses this new recreation, which is a very fast growing and popular activity.**
- **Q: What are the revenue projections?**
 - **R: \$3,000 from fees and \$10,000 from tournaments, events and lessons, all to be applied to the long term maintenance needs.**
- **Q: Are other tennis courts available to the public?**
 - **R: Yes**
- **Q: Who will maintain the courts?**
 - **R: The Country Club**

MOTION to MOVE the QUESTION (Article 14- Motion 10)

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

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

VOTE on Article 14- Motion 10 Main Motion: Passed by Majority Vote

(CONSENT MOTION #3) CPC Proposal K: Original Interior Skylight Restoration \$3,000

Summary: *The Groton Public Library is requesting \$3,000 in CPA funds to restore and fortify the original piece of the building fabric that is part of the Library's original interior skylight. The full amount to be paid from the Historic Reserve.*

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended (6 In Favor, 1 Abstain – Easom)

MOTION 11: Original Interior Skylight Restoration

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 15: AMEND ZONING BYLAW – CLARIFICATIONS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaw as follows:

1. Amend Section 218-9.4 Attached Accessory Apartment by deleting the word "Attached" so it reads as follows:

"Section 218-9.4 Accessory Apartment"
2. Amend the Schedule of Use Regulations by deleting Row 103 in its entirety and replacing it with the following

Schedule of Use Regulations								
	R-A	R-B	NB	VB	GB	I	P	O
103. Accessory Apartments as regulated under Section 218-9.4								
A. Attached accessory apartment	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N
B. Detached accessory apartment	PB	PB	N	N	N	N	N	N

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *The purpose of this Article is to cleanup and clarify various sections of the Zoning Bylaw.*

Mover: Russell Burke

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority (Interpretation under Chapter 358 of the Acts of 2020)

Moderator Statement regarding Quantum of Town Meeting Vote for Article 15: "Chapter 358 of the acts of 2020 reduced the number of votes to enacted certain kinds of zoning ordinances and bylaws from a 2/3s supermajority to a simple majority. Town Counsel has provided a written legal opinion that the quantum of vote needed to pass this motion is a simple majority."

Discussion:

- Planning Board voted on April 8, 2021 unanimously to recommend this article to Town Meeting

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

ARTICLE 16: BYLAW PROHIBITING USE OF POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by adding a new Chapter 199 of the Code of the Town of Groton, entitled Polystyrene Container Restrictions for Food Service Establishments as follows:

Chapter 199: Polystyrene Container Restriction for Food Service Establishments

§ 199-1. Findings and Intent.

- Whereas, the Town has a duty to protect the health of its citizens and the natural environment.
- Whereas, Polystyrene sometimes known by Dow Chemical Co. brand name of Styrofoam is a synthetic plastic that biodegrades so slowly (hundreds of years) it is considered to be non-biodegradable.
- Whereas, expanded polystyrene containers are not part of the Town's regular recycling program.
- Whereas, styrene, the key ingredient in expanded polystyrene, was recently added to the National Toxicology Program's list of carcinogens (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services) and can leach from containers into food and beverages.
- Whereas, polystyrene has become a significant component of plastic debris in the environment, is sometimes mistaken for food by animals including marine life, and thereby transfers toxic chemicals into the food chain.
- Whereas, appropriate alternative products are readily available from vendors and are already being used by many local businesses

§199-2. Effective Date.

This bylaw shall take effect January 1, 2022.

§199-3. Definitions.

Disposable food service container shall mean single-use disposable products for serving or transporting prepared, ready-to-consume food or beverages, including, without limitation, take-out foods and/or leftovers from partially consumed meals prepared by a food establishment. This includes, but is not limited to plates, cups, bowls, trays, hinged or lidded containers, cups, lids, straws, and utensils. It does not include single-use disposable packaging for unprepared foods.

Polystyrene shall mean blown polystyrene (polystyrene that has been expanded or blown using a gaseous blowing agent into a solid foam) and expanded and extruded forms, which are thermoplastic petrochemical materials utilizing a styrene monomer and processed by any number of techniques including, but not limited to fusion of polymer spheres (expandable bead polystyrene), injection molding, form molding, and extrusion-blow molding (extruded foam polystyrene).

The term also includes clear or solid polystyrene, which is also known as "oriented," or referenced in this bylaw as "Rigid Polystyrene." Rigid Polystyrene is generally used to make clear clamshell containers, lids, and cutlery.

The term also includes products with a Polystyrene coating.

Fineable Offense is defined as a knowing or common use of item or items restricted by the by-law. Common use refers to item or items that are part of one's daily use.

Food establishment shall mean any food service operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption, as further defined in 105 CMR 590.002 located within the Town of Groton. Any establishment requiring a permit to operate in accordance with the Minimum Sanitation Standards for Food Establishment, 105 CMR 590.000, et seq., shall be considered a food establishment for purposes of this bylaw.

PFAS/PFOA shall mean per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals.

Prepared food shall mean any food or beverage prepared on the food establishment's premises using any cooking or food preparation technique. Prepared food does not include any raw uncooked meat, fish or eggs unless provided for consumption without further food preparation. Prepared food may be eaten on or off the food establishment's premises.

Acceptable replacement product shall mean any food container, disposable cutlery, or other limited use item provided with food meeting all functional and safety requirements and not containing Polystyrene or other known or emerging environmental contaminants such as PFAS/PFOA.

Town Facility shall mean any building, structure, land, or recreational area owned, leased, or operated by the Town of Groton.

§199-4. Prohibitions.

1. Except as provided herein, food establishments are prohibited from dispensing prepared food and drink in disposable food service containers made from polystyrene. All food establishments are required to use acceptable replacement products for such purposes. All food establishments are strongly encouraged to use reusable food service containers and cutlery, and when possible biodegradable, compostable alternatives. Compostable materials must meet ASTM (American Society of the International Association for Testing and Materials) Standards for compostability.
2. Town departments or agencies shall not purchase or use disposable food service containers and / or utensils made from polystyrene while in the performance of official Town duties within the Town of Groton.
3. Individuals, contractors, vendors, or other entities shall not use disposable food service containers and / or utensils made from polystyrene in a Town facility or Town property while acting or performing under a Town contract, lease, license, permit, grant, or other agreement.

§199-5. Variance.

1. Any food establishment or Town Department and its agencies may make a written application to the Board of Health for a variance from this bylaw.
2. Every application for a variance is subject to a public hearing. Notice of the hearing shall be posted as part of a public notice of the Board of Health meeting at which the application will be considered. Notice shall be posted no less than two weeks (14 calendar days) before the meeting.

3. By vote of a majority of its full authorized membership, the Board of Health may grant a variance in cases where a suitable biodegradable, compostable, reusable or recyclable alternative does not exist for a specific usage, and/ or enforcement of this bylaw would cause undue hardship to that food establishment or Town Department.
4. A variance may be granted for up to six months and extended for like periods upon submission of a renewal application.
5. Any variance granted by the Board shall be in writing.
6. A copy of the variance granted under this Section shall be available for public inspection on the premises for which it is issued.

§199-6. Enforcement, Penalties and Fines.

1. The Board of Health or its designee shall have primary responsibility for enforcement of this bylaw. This shall include establishment of regulations or administrative procedures, inspections, and issuance of citations for violations.
2. The Board of Health, after a hearing conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in 105 CMR 590.14 and CMR 590.15, may suspend or revoke the license or permit issued by the Board of Health for any establishment failing to comply with this bylaw.
3. A person, individually or by his servant or agent, who violates any provision of this bylaw may be penalized by a noncriminal disposition pursuant to MGL C. 40, § 21D, and the Town's noncriminal disposition bylaw. The following penalties apply:
 1. First offense -- a written warning specifying the violations and appropriate penalties for future violations
 2. Second offense -- \$100
 3. Third Offense -- \$200
 4. Fourth and subsequent Offense -- \$300

Fines for repeated violations in a one-year period are cumulative as provided in Chapter 1, Section 1-4B, of the bylaws.

§199-7. Severability.

If any provision of this bylaw or any application thereof is held to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity shall be limited to said provision(s) and the remainder of the bylaw shall remain valid and effective.

or take any action relative thereto.

BOARD OF HEALTH

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

Summary: *The purpose of this by-law is to establish restrictions on the use of polystyrene in food containers. Polystyrene has been added to the US Department of Health and Human Services list of known carcinogens and may leach from food containers into food. Restricting the use of polystyrene food containers will have an immediate, positive impact on public health. Doing so will also benefit our environment by reducing solid waste because polystyrene cannot be recycled.*

Mover: Jason Weber

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

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- **Jason Weber, Board of Health Chirr presented that:**
 - **Polystyrene is a suspected carcinogen**
 - **Polystyrene cannot be recycled and that it adds to the waste stream**
 - **No objections were made by local businesses during the public hearings**

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

ARTICLE 17: CITIZENS' PETITION - TRANSFER CONTROL OF LAND

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 1 of the April 24, 2006 Special Town Meeting that authorized a fee interest in 14 acres, more or less, of land to be owned by the Town and managed and controlled by the Select Board for all uses allowed by statute under the Community Preservation Act, said parcel located in the southwest corner of Lot 7 as shown on a Plan of Land entitled Community Preservation Act Acquisition by the Town of Groton, Massachusetts, prepared by Beals Associates, Inc. and dated April 21, 2006, and transfer said control to the Conservation Commission for open space and recreation purposes, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CITIZENS' PETITION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Nathan Shapiro	133 Shirley Road	Melanie O'Leary	21 Old Orchard Road
Mark Martel	10 Whiting Avenue	Dan O'Leary	21 Old Orchard Road
Ken Kolodzies	44 Farmers Row	Joshua Stark	9 Old Orchard Road
John Smigelski	150 Mill Street	Erin Stark	9 Old Orchard Road
Laurie Smigelski	150 Mill Street	Stacey Vow	43 Joy Lane

Select Board: Recommended (3 In Favor, 2 Against – Manugian, Pine)
Finance Committee: No Position

Summary: The following summary was prepared by the petitioners and represents their view on the Article: *This Article proposes to place the Surrenden Farm Reserve Parcel under the control of the Groton Conservation Commission and to restrict its use to open space or recreation. This will more permanently preserve the land, akin to its surrounding ~345 acres. In 2006 the Town of Groton, Groton School, the Groton Conservation Trust, the Trust for Public Land and others, raised \$19 million to rescue 360 acres of Surrenden Farm from building development. Conservation restrictions were placed on all of Surrenden Farm with the exception of a 14-acre parcel known as the Reserve Parcel. The Reserve Parcel is owned by the Town and is currently open space used for passive recreation. The Reserve Parcel is on the East side of Shirley Road, adjoining the Ayer town line to the South and the General Field to the East and North. Importantly, as part of the 2006 arrangements, the Town of Groton and Groton School entered into an agreement which provides that if the town allows the use of the Reserve Parcel for a use other than undeveloped land, then the Town would give the current Joy Lane to Groton School. To access the Reserve Parcel, the Town would then have to relocate Joy Lane to the General Field and upgrade the existing partially paved and partially dirt and gravel "way" that winds through the General Field into a widened two-lane road that meets Town Subdivision Road Standards, greatly altering the park-like feel and inhibiting the recreational use of the General Field. Since 2006, the General Field has become a much-used public space. The proponents of this Article believe that relocating Joy Lane to the General Field would have a significantly adverse effect on it. The proposed Article would transfer management and control of the Reserve Parcel to the Conservation Commission and restrict its use in order to preserve the Reserve Parcel and to make any use of the land that would trigger the construction of a road across the General Field unlikely.*

Mover: Nate Shapiro

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

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- The Select Board voted 4-1 to support the article.
- The Nashua River Watershed Association supports the Article
- The Conservation Commission voted 4-2-0 to recommend support the article
- The Planning Board voted unanimously to support the article
- Mr. Shapiro presented that the 365 acre Surrenden Farm was purchased in 2006, of which the Town contributed \$5,000,000. 350 acres were placed into conservation; 15 were not. An agreement with Groton School stipulated that if these acres were ever used for anything other than open space, Joy Lane would be closed. There is public enjoyment of the space. If these 15 acres were placed into conservation, the space would be protected in perpetuity.
- Ms. Pine presented that if Joy Lane were to be closed, another access would be needed. Another access would infringe on conservation land, and be very hard to accomplish.
- Q: If this article passes, does it violate the terms of the purchase in 2006 (and requested an opinion from the Attorney General)?

- R: The terms of the 2006 purchase allows any use allowed by the Community Preservation Act, which this is believed to be. An Attorney General opinion would be sought if this article passes.
- **Comment:** This article is not necessary. This is not high value conservation land, as determined in 2006. The Joy Lane issue protects development on the land. It would be wiser to not put this 15 acres into conservation at this time, but keep it available should a need for the town to identify conservation land (e.g. a land swap). Why limit options on something that could happen decades from now.

VOTE on Article 17 – Main Motion (Teller count): 50 In Favor; 56 Against.

ARTICLES 18 THROUGH 31 WILL BE PART OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. PLEASE SEE EXPLANATION PROVIDED ON PAGE 2 OF THIS WARRANT.

CONSENT MOTION #4 – Articles 18 through 31

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the Town vote to combine for consideration Articles 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31 of the Warrant for this Town Meeting and that the Town take affirmative action on said articles as set forth in the motions in the Town Meeting Information Handout, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided, however, that if any voter, prior to the taking of the vote, requests the right to debate a specific article, then said article shall be removed from this motion and acted upon in the ordinary course of business.

Moved and Seconded

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

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 18:

CURRENT YEAR LINE-ITEM TRANSFERS

To see if the Town will vote to transfer certain sums of money within the Fiscal Year 2021 budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *In agreement with Article's withdrawal*

Finance Committee: *In agreement with Article's withdrawal*

Summary: *To transfer money within the Fiscal Year 2021 Budget should the need arise. A handout explaining any necessary transfers will be available at Town Meeting.*

MOTION: I move that Article 18 be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 19: APPROPRIATE MONEY TO OFFSET SNOW AND ICE DEFICIT

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow a sum or sums of money, to be expended by the Town Manager, to reduce the deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 Snow and Ice Budget, as approved under Article 4 of the 2020 Spring Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: *In agreement with Article's withdrawal*

Finance Committee: *In agreement with Article's withdrawal*

Summary: *This article will allow the Town to fund any deficit in the Snow and Ice Account in FY 21.*

MOTION: I move that Article 19 be indefinitely postponed.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: **Majority**

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 20: TRANSFER WITHIN WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Water Department Operating Budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article will request a transfer of funds from Water Surplus to help fund the Fiscal Year 2021 Water Department's Operational Expenses. As of the printing of the Warrant, it is anticipated that \$122,000 will be transferred for this purpose.*

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: **Majority**

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 21: TRANSFER WITHIN CENTER SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Center Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Center Sewer Enterprise Department Budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article allows the Sewer Department to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 Center Sewer Budget. As of the printing of the Warrant, it is anticipated that \$210,000 will be transferred for this purpose.*

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: **Majority**

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 22: TRANSFER WITHIN FOUR CORNERS SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Four Corners Sewer Enterprise Department budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article allows the Sewer Department to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 Four Corners Sewer Budget. As of the printing of the Warrant, it is anticipated that \$35,000 will be transferred for this purpose.*

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: **Majority**

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 23: TRANSFER WITHIN CABLE ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Cable Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2021 Cable Enterprise Department budget, or to take any other action relative thereto.

CABLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This article allows the Cable Advisory Committee to transfer money from its surplus account to cover any deficit in the Fiscal Year 2021 budget. As of the Printing of the Warrant, it is anticipated that \$10,000 will be transferred for this purpose.*

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: **Majority**

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 24: PRIOR YEAR BILLS

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

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

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

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

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

Total \$862.55

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

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 25: AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM FREE CASH

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$71.92 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the FY20, 911 EMD Grant and furthermore, to see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$167.16 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the FY20 911 Training Grant. The total to be charged to Free Cash for this purpose is \$239.08, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

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

Summary: *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts routinely awards the Town of Groton grant money to be used for 911 Dispatch operations. These are reimbursable grants; the award is not forwarded to the Town until after the expense has been made. In regards to the 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 to close out these accounts for Fiscal Year 2021-year end.*

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: **Majority**

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 26: AUTHORIZATION TO TRANSFER MONEY FROM FREE CASH:

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$1,861.04 from Free Cash to offset a deficit balance in the Fire Details Agency Account, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

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

Summary: *The Town of Groton Firefighters routinely work private details when construction projects in Town involve blasting activities. These officers are compensated for their time through the Town's payroll, and the vendor requesting the detail is billed to recover those funds. Occasionally, one of these vendors is unable to pay for the service provided (for instance in the event of a business failure) and after attempts to work with that vendor prove unsuccessful, the receivable is judged uncollectible and must be written off.*

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 27: 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 2022 for the Surrenden Farm Land Acquisition, as authorized under Article 1 of the April 24, 2006 Special Town Meeting, or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Community Preservation Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *This article appropriates the debt payments for the Surrenden Farm Land Purchase. Funding for this article will come from Community Preservation Funds. This is the final year for paying off the Debt. The anticipated debt service for Fiscal Year 2022 is \$204,150. To fund this \$145,000 would be paid from the Open Space Reserve and \$59,150 would be paid from the Unallocated Reserve.*

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 28: ASSESSORS QUINQUENNIAL CERTIFICATION

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 expended by the Board of Assessors, for the purpose of completing the five-year full certification program necessary to achieve full and fair cash value in accordance with the requirements of G.L. c. 40, § 56 and c. 58, §§1, 1A and 3 and the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: Assessors in every city and town are responsible for developing a Revaluation program to completely analyze and revalue all property within its borders every year. Revaluation annually, is required under Massachusetts law and is regulated by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue's Bureau of Local Assessment (BLA). The rationale for revaluation is to always maintain property at fair market or fair cash value to ensure equity for all classes of property. Every fifth year the Massachusetts Department of Revenue requires a full certification with BLA oversight. The Assessors are seeking \$29,200 to cover the cost for appraisal services of Real Property to be conducted by Vision Government Solutions.

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 29: ESTABLISHING LIMITS FOR THE VARIOUS REVOLVING FUNDS

To see if the Town will vote, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 44 sec 53E½ and the Revolving Fund Bylaw, to amend the Revolving Fund Bylaw to add or delete any revolving account and/or to set the FY 2022 spending limits for the various revolving funds as follows:

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

or take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

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

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

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 30: ACCEPT LAW INCREASING REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, §5C1/2, inserted by Section 14 of Chapter 62 of the Acts of 2014, for the purpose of increasing the real estate tax exemptions by 100 percent to all persons who qualify for property tax exemptions under Clauses 17, 17C, 17C1/2, 17D, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E, 22F, 22G, 37, 37A, 41, 41B, 41C, 41C½, 42, 43, 56 or 57 of G.L. c. 59, §5, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously
Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

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

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 31: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, §5, CLAUSE 22F

To see if the Town will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 59, §5, clause 22F last paragraph, which, for clauses 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22D, 22E and 22F of section 5, allows the Town to reduce from five consecutive years to one year the residency requirement for, making certain veterans and their surviving spouses or parents, to be eligible for the property tax exemptions of said clauses 22 through 22F under Massachusetts General Laws, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF ASSESSORS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *M.G.L.Ch. 59, s.5, clause Twenty-Second F, Last Paragraph. Notwithstanding this section, in any city or town which accepts this clause, the exemptions available pursuant to clauses Twenty-second, Twenty-second A, Twenty-second B, Twenty-second C, Twenty-second D, Twenty-second E and Twenty-second F may be granted to otherwise eligible persons who have resided in the commonwealth for 1 year prior to the date of filing for exemptions pursuant to the applicable clause.*

(CONSENT MOTION #4) ARTICLE 31: ACCEPT PROVISIONS OF M.G.L., CHAPTER 59, §5, CLAUSE 22F

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

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

The Moderator read the title of each article in CONSENT MOTION #4. No articles were held.

VOTE on CONSENT AGENDA #4 (Articles 18 Through 31): Passed by Unanimous Vote

MOTION TO DISSOLVE THE 2021 SPRING TOWN MEETING

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: Majority

VOTE on Motion to Dissolve: Passed by Majority Vote

The 2021 Spring Town Meeting was dissolved at 1:14 PM on May 1, 2021.

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 12th Day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-One.

Alison S. Manugian

Alison S. Manugian, Chair

Joshua A. Degen

Joshua A. Degen, Vice Chair

Rebecca H. Pine

Rebecca H. Pine, Clerk

John R. Giger

John R. Giger, Member

John F. Reilly

John F. Reilly, Member

OFFICERS RETURN

Groton, Middlesex

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

Constable

Date Duly Posted

BUDGET MESSAGE FROM THE TOWN MANAGER AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

TOWN OF GROTON FISCAL YEAR 2022

Pursuant to Article 6 “Finance and Fiscal Procedure”, Section 6.4 “The Budget”, of the Charter of the Town of Groton, Massachusetts, the Finance Committee, Select Board and Town Manager are pleased to submit for your consideration the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget for the Town of Groton. Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Town has had to take extraordinary action to provide a Balanced Budget to the 2021 Spring Town Meeting that continues to provide the same level of services with a Budget that has seen its revenues significantly impacted by the Pandemic. Receipts and Other Revenue Sources were reduced for Fiscal Year 2021, resulting in these revenues for Fiscal Year 2021 being budgeted below Fiscal Year 2020 by \$30,235. While it is expected that the Town will see a slight rebound and have increased them for Fiscal Year 2022, the Finance Committee, Select Board and Town Manager are concerned that if the COVID-19 Pandemic does not continue to improve, these increases may not materialize.

In accordance with the Groton Charter and the Town’s Financial Policies, in October, 2020, the Finance Committee and Select Board issued the following guidance to the Town Manager prior to the development of the initial Proposed Operating Budget:

1. The Town Manager shall prepare a balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2022 with no proposed Override of Proposition 2½.
2. There shall be no increase in the Municipal Budget for Fiscal Year 2022.
3. It shall be level funded at the Fiscal Year 2021 level of \$15,175,486 without In-Levy Debt Service and \$15,521,525 including In-Levy Debt Service.
4. The Town Manager shall work with representatives of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District and Nashoba Valley Technical School District to balance the budget.
5. There shall be no new benefited positions proposed in the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget as the hiring freeze shall remain in effect.

6. Depending on how the budget is balanced, the Select Board and Finance Committee have acknowledged that Free Cash may have to be used to maintain services.

As stated above, the COVID-19 Pandemic has made the process of developing estimated revenues for Fiscal Year 2022 the most difficult the Town has faced. Based on sound financial policies and a complete review of revenues over the last ten years, the Finance Committee and Town Manager have developed the following estimated revenues for Fiscal Year 2022:

<u>Revenue Source</u>	<u>Budgeted FY 2021</u>	<u>Proposed FY 2022</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Property Tax**	\$ 32,985,370	\$ 34,074,005	\$ 1,088,635	3.30%
State Aid	\$ 950,546	\$ 1,002,840	\$ 52,294	5.50%
Local Receipts - Excluding Country Club	\$ 3,599,341	\$ 3,890,312	\$ 290,971	8.08%
Country Club Revenue	\$ 491,939	\$ 600,000	\$ 108,061	21.97%
Enterprise Fund Reimbursement for Benefits	\$ 256,264	\$ 271,148	\$ 14,884	5.81%
Free Cash	\$ 341,505	\$ 367,679	\$ 26,174	7.66%
Other Available Funds	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ -	0.00%
TOTAL	\$ 38,924,965	\$ 40,505,984	\$ 1,581,019	4.06%

**Includes 2½ percent increase allowed by law and \$15 million in new growth.

In developing the level funded budget pursuant to the guidance, the Town Manager and Finance Team conducted a thorough review of all submitted budgets. The Town's Department Heads continue to do an amazing job creating and presenting their budgets. While some increases in the budget are considered discretionary, there are two line items in the budget that the Town had no choice but to fund. Due to the decision to provide full-time 24-hour coverage at the Fire Department, the Town added four (4) new Group 4 Employees. This has required the Pension Budget to increase by 14.11%, or \$294,966. Ordinarily, this budget increases by approximately 5.6% annually. Fiscal Year 2022 is the worst possible year to absorb such an increase, but the Town has no choice but to fund it at the required level. Health Insurance is another budget that requires the Town to fund at the required level. Based on a four (4%) percent increase in rates, this Budget has increased by \$83,064, or 4.82%. These two accounts alone have required an increase in spending of \$378,030. Therefore, in order to meet the Budget Guidance, this amount needed to be reduced from the Fiscal Year 2021 approved Budget.

In addition to the Pension and Health Insurance Budgets, there are some areas of the budget that the Finance Committee and Town Manager would like to call to your attention as you review the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget. First, the Town has seven (7) Collective Bargaining Units. All Contracts were up for renegotiation in Fiscal Year 2022. In order to meet the Guidance and deal with the mandatory increases, the Town needed to level fund all salary and wage line items that would require tax revenues to fund. Over the last several years, the Town and the Unions have formed a strong partnership. The Unions have always worked cooperatively with the Town to meet the Town's financial challenges. This year was no different. All seven (7) Unions agreed to freeze their salaries in Fiscal Year 2022 in exchange for a one-time cash bonus of 1.5% that can be paid for from the Town's Excess and Deficiency Fund ("Free Cash"). This amounted to a transfer of \$98,611 from Free Cash to

meet this obligation. The Finance Committee and Town Manager would like to take this opportunity to thank our employees and the individual Unions for their continued cooperation and willingness to work with the Town. Without this partnership and cooperation, balancing the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget would have been even more challenging.

Second, the Town experienced a significant increase in Excluded Debt in Fiscal Year 2021 as it was the first full year on the new DPW Facility and the Library Roof. For Fiscal Year 2022, Municipal Excluded Debt will increase from \$1,473,787 to \$1,541,752, an increase of \$67,965 or 4.6%. Excluded Debt from the Groton Dunstable Regional School District will decrease by \$163,071, or 25% from \$648,497 to \$485,426. Overall, Excluded Debt will decrease in Fiscal Year 2022 by \$95,106, or 4.5% from \$2,122,284 to \$2,027,178. In addition, the Town is continuing with its practice to stabilize debt service within the Levy Limit at approximately \$250,000 annually. In Fiscal Year 2022, the Town continues to follow the plan by using the Excess and Deficiency ("Free Cash") Account to pay down the Principal and Interest on the Police and Fire Radio Project with the intent of paying that off in FY 2025. Last year, the Budget called for a transfer from Free Cash of \$91,574 for this purpose and committed \$254,465 from taxation to cover non-excluded Debt Service. In Fiscal Year 2022, the Town will continue to use Free Cash for the Police and Fire Radio Project (\$91,974). The following chart shows a comparison between FY 2021 and FY 2022:

	<u>FY 2021</u>	<u>FY 2022</u>
Long Term Debt - Principal Non-Excluded	\$ 159,394	\$ 159,154
Long Term Debt - Interest Non-Excluded	\$ 95,071	\$ 88,007
Short Term Debt - Principal	\$ 85,174	\$ 85,174
Short Term Debt - Interest	\$ 6,400	\$ 6,800
Total	\$ 346,039	\$ 339,135
Less Free Cash Offset	\$ 91,574	\$ 91,974
Total Taxation for Debt Service	\$ 254,465	\$ 247,161

Third and final, the collaboration between the Town of Groton and the Groton Dunstable Regional School District continues to be strong. The relationship between the Finance Committee, Select Board, Town Manager and the Groton Dunstable Regional School District is one of strong collaboration and respect. This collaboration was very important in balancing the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget. In an effort to assist both Groton and Dunstable in meeting budgetary challenges, for the third year in a row, the District School Committee voted to use their Excess and Deficiency Fund to offset increases in their operational assessment for Fiscal Year 2022. This has allowed the Town of Groton to fund the proposed Operating Assessment without either a further reduction in the Municipal Budget or an override of Proposition 2½. The proposed Operating Assessment from the Groton Dunstable Regional School District for Fiscal Year 2022 is \$23,481,350, an increase of \$1,460,755, or 6.63%.

With regard to the Nashoba Valley Regional Technical High School, the Town has been informed that the number of Groton students attending the School has increased from 38 to 46. This is a substantial increase that will require a significant increase in the Nashoba Tech Assessment. The proposed Assessment for Nashoba Tech is \$807,474, an increase of \$119,201, or 17.32%

Section 6-5 of the Groton Charter requires the Finance Committee to provide a report that details the differences between the Town Manager's Proposed Budget and their final Proposed Budget. The primary adjustments to the original budget submitted by the Town Manager were for collective bargaining (as discussed above), restoring funding for a Police Officer position in the Police Budget and an increase in the Liability Insurance Budget to reflect a high number of claims over the past three years. The following Chart shows the differences between the budget received by the Finance Committee from the Town Manager on December 31, 2020 and the budget that will be proposed to the 2021 Spring Town Meeting:

<u>Line</u>	<u>Department/Description</u>	<u>Original Proposed</u>	<u>Committee Approved</u>
1030	Town Manager Salaries	\$ 226,111	\$ 227,220
1031	Town Manager Wages	\$ 112,786	\$ 115,172
1050	Town Accountant Salaries	\$ 95,021	\$ 96,408
1051	Town Accountant Wages	\$ 49,873	\$ 50,865
1060	Board of Assessors Salaries	\$ 78,581	\$ 80,000
1061	Board of Assessors Wages	\$ 64,728	\$ 61,763
1071	Treasurer/Tax Collector Wages	\$ 114,246	\$ 115,693
1090	Human Resources Salary	\$ 81,598	\$ 82,822
1100	Information Technology Salary	\$ 113,491	\$ 115,193
1101	Information Technology Wages	\$ 61,095	\$ 62,317
1130	Town Clerk Salaries	\$ 89,510	\$ 90,853
1131	Town Clerk Wages	\$ 63,982	\$ 65,205
1160	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 250,000	\$ 290,000
1200	Conservation Commission Salary	\$ 68,454	\$ 69,481
1210	Planning Board Salaries	\$ 82,774	\$ 84,016
1220	Zoning Board of Appeals Wages	\$ 20,607	\$ 21,017
1240	Building Inspector Salaries	\$ 92,000	\$ 93,380
1241	Building Inspector Wages	\$ 55,395	\$ 56,503
1300	Police Department Salaries	\$ 265,916	\$ 269,791
1301	Police Department Wages	\$ 1,891,089	\$ 1,981,381
1310	Fire Department Salaries	\$ 235,403	\$ 238,928
1311	Fire Department Wages	\$ 988,064	\$ 997,893
1370	Police & Fire Communications Wages	\$ 408,978	\$ 423,552
1400	Nashoba Tech Operating Assessment	\$ 828,273	\$ 807,474
1410	GDRSD Operating Expenses	\$ 23,440,050	\$ 23,481,350
1414	GDRSD Capital Assessment	\$ 519,078	\$ 217,298
1500	Highway Department Salaries	\$ 112,216	\$ 113,877
1501	Highway Department Wages	\$ 636,449	\$ 656,364
1540	Municipal Buildings Wages	\$ 147,363	\$ 149,751
1600	Council on Aging Salaries	\$ 79,554	\$ 80,747
1601	Council on Aging Wages	\$ 70,819	\$ 72,429
1610	Senior Center Wages	\$ 52,091	\$ 52,530
1660	Library Salary	\$ 408,050	\$ 412,593
1661	Library Wages	\$ 276,295	\$ 279,389
1700	Groton Country Club Salary	\$ 159,524	\$ 162,214
3010	Employee Benefits Health Insurance	\$ 1,850,268	\$ 1,805,544

The following is a breakdown of the Finance Committee's Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget by function:

<u>Category</u>		<u>FY 2021</u>		<u>FY 2022</u>		<u>Dollar Difference</u>	<u>Percentage Change</u>
General Government	\$	2,197,833	\$	2,153,410	\$	(44,423)	-2.02%
Land Use	\$	448,055	\$	452,856	\$	4,801	1.07%
Protection of Persons and Property	\$	4,395,632	\$	4,362,268	\$	(33,364)	-0.76%
Department of Public Works	\$	2,294,853	\$	2,202,359	\$	(92,494)	-4.03%
Library and Citizen Services	\$	1,695,650	\$	1,660,560	\$	(35,090)	-2.07%
Sub-Total - Wages and Expenses	\$	11,032,023	\$	10,831,453	\$	(200,570)	-1.82%
Debt Service	\$	1,819,826	\$	1,880,887	\$	61,061	3.36%
Employee Benefits	\$	4,143,463	\$	4,516,593	\$	373,130	9.01%
Sub-Total - All Municipal	\$	16,995,312	\$	17,228,933	\$	233,621	1.37%
Nashoba Tech	\$	688,273	\$	807,474	\$	119,201	17.32%
Groton-Dunstable Operating	\$	22,020,595	\$	23,481,350	\$	1,460,755	6.63%
Groton-Dunstable Excluded Debt	\$	648,497	\$	485,426	\$	(163,071)	-25.15%
Groton-Dunstable Debt	\$	58,147	\$	56,358	\$	(1,789)	-3.08%
Groton Dunstable Capital	\$	265,172	\$	217,298	\$	(47,874)	-18.05%
Sub-Total - Education	\$	23,680,684	\$	25,047,906	\$	1,367,222	5.77%
Grand Total - Town Budget		\$ 40,675,996		\$ 42,276,839		\$ 1,600,843	3.94%

The total Fiscal Year 2022 Proposed Operating Budget, including Regional School Assessments and excluded debt, is \$42,276,839 or an increase of 3.94%. This proposed balanced budget is slightly under the anticipated FY 2022 Proposition 2½ Levy Limit. When you take into consideration the proposed Capital Budget, Enterprise Fund Budgets and additional appropriations raised on the recap sheet, the total proposed balanced budget is \$45,747,197. The Fiscal Year 2021 Tax Rate has been certified at \$17.60. Based on the Proposed Balanced Budget, the estimated Tax Rate in Fiscal Year 2022 is \$18.09, or an increase of \$0.49. In Fiscal Year 2021, the average Tax Bill in the Town of Groton (based on a home valued at \$507,000) is \$8,923. Under this proposed balanced budget, that same homeowner can expect a tax bill of \$9,172 or an increase of \$249. The following chart shows a comparison between FY 2021 and FY 2022:

	<u>Actual FY 2021</u>	<u>Proposed FY 2022</u>	<u>Dollar Change</u>	<u>Percent Change</u>
Levy Capacity Used*	\$ 32,727,034	\$ 34,074,005	\$ 1,346,971	4.12%
Tax Rate on Levy Capacity Used	\$ 16.53	\$ 17.07	\$ 0.54	3.27%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 8,381	\$ 8,654	\$ 274	3.27%
Excluded Debt	\$ 2,122,284	\$ 2,025,303	\$ (96,981)	-4.57%
Tax Rate on Excluded Debt	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.02	\$ (0.05)	-4.67%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 542	\$ 517	\$ (25)	-4.67%
Final Levy Used	\$ 34,849,318	\$ 36,099,308	\$ 1,249,990	3.59%
Final Tax Rate	\$ 17.60	\$ 18.09	\$ 0.49	2.78%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 8,923	\$ 9,172	\$ 249	2.80%

*The FY 2022 Levy Limit includes FY 2021 unexpended tax capacity of \$280,997 and \$15 million in New Growth.

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mark W. Haddad

Groton Town Manager

Respectfully submitted,

Bud Robertson, Chair

Gary Green, Vice Chair

Colby Doody

Mary Linskey

David Manugian

Arthur Prest

Scott Whitefield

Town of Groton Finance Committee

**TOWN OF GROTON
FISCAL YEAR 2022
REVENUE ESTIMATES**

	BUDGETED FY 2021	ESTIMATED FY 2022	CHANGE
PROPERTY TAX REVENUE	\$ 32,985,370	\$ 34,074,005	\$ 1,088,634
DEBT EXCLUSIONS	\$ 2,070,421	\$ 2,025,303	\$ (45,118)
CHERRY SHEET - STATE AID	\$ 950,546	\$ 1,002,840	\$ 52,294
UNEXPENDED TAX CAPACITY	\$ 280,997	\$ -	\$ (280,997)
LOCAL RECEIPTS:			
General Revenue:			
Motor Vehicle Excise Taxes	\$ 1,555,341	\$ 1,665,312	\$ 109,971
Meals Tax and Room Occupancy Tax	\$ 150,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 100,000
Penalties & Interest on Taxes	\$ 110,000	\$ 120,000	\$ 10,000
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	\$ 265,000	\$ 265,000	\$ -
Other Charges for Services	\$ 82,000	\$ 82,000	\$ -
Fees	\$ 300,000	\$ 340,000	\$ 40,000
Rentals	\$ 40,000	\$ 28,000	\$ (12,000)
Library Revenues	\$ 12,000	\$ 5,000	\$ (7,000)
Other Departmental Revenue	\$ 725,000	\$ 775,000	\$ 50,000
Licenses and Permits	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ -
Fines and Forfeits	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -
Investment Income	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	\$ -
Recreation Revenues	\$ 491,939	\$ 600,000	\$ 108,061
Miscellaneous Non-Recurring	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sub-total - General Revenue	\$ 4,091,280	\$ 4,490,312	\$ 399,032
Other Revenue:			
Free Cash	\$ 297,090	\$ 467,679	\$ 170,589
Capital Stabilization Fund for GDRSD	\$ 265,172	\$ 217,298	\$ (47,874)
Stabilization Fund for Tax Rate Relief	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Capital Asset Stabilization Fund	\$ 125,100	\$ 475,000	\$ 349,900
EMS/Conservation Fund Receipts Reserve	\$ 625,000	\$ 300,000	\$ (325,000)
Community Preservation Funds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Water Department Surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sewer Department Surplus	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Insurance Reimbursements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Encumbrances	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sub-total - Other Revenue	\$ 1,312,362	\$ 1,459,977	\$ 147,615
WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	\$ 1,388,916	\$ 1,404,564	\$ 15,648
SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE	\$ 763,301	\$ 798,747	\$ 35,446
LOCAL ACCESS CABLE ENTERPRISE	\$ 214,804	\$ 215,905	\$ 1,101
FOUR CORNER SEWER ENTERPRISE	\$ 32,805	\$ 68,769	\$ 35,964
STORMWATER UTILITY ENTERPRISE	\$ 188,800	\$ 209,753	\$ 20,953
TOTAL ESTIMATED REVENUE	\$ 44,090,804	\$ 45,750,175	\$ 1,659,372

**TOWN OF GROTON
FISCAL YEAR 2022
TAX LEVY CALCULATIONS**

FY 2022 PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

TOWN MANAGER - Proposed Budget

General Government	\$	2,153,410
Land Use Departments	\$	452,856
Protection of Persons and Property	\$	4,362,268
Regional School Districts	\$	25,047,906
Department of Public Works	\$	2,202,359
Library and Citizen Services	\$	1,660,560
Debt Service	\$	1,880,887
Employee Benefits	\$	4,516,593

Sub-Total - Operating Budget \$ 42,276,839

A. TOTAL DEPARTMENTAL BUDGET REQUESTS	\$	42,276,839
B. CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS	\$	625,000
C. ENTERPRISE FUND REQUESTS	\$	2,426,591
D. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION REQUEST		

OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED

1. Amounts certified for tax title purposes	\$	-
2. Debt and interest charges not included	\$	-
3. Final court judgments	\$	-
4. Total Overlay deficits of prior years	\$	-
5. Total cherry sheet offsets	\$	21,691
6. Revenue deficits	\$	-
7. Offset Receipts	\$	-
8. Authorized deferral of Teachers' Pay	\$	-
9. Snow and Ice deficit	\$	100,000
10. Other		

E. TOTAL OTHER AMOUNTS TO BE RAISED	\$	121,691
F. STATE AND COUNTY CHERRY SHEET CHARGES	\$	97,077
G. ALLOWANCE FOR ABATEMENTS AND EXEMPTIONS	\$	200,000

TOTAL PROPOSED EXPENDITURES \$ **45,747,197**

FY 2022 ESTIMATED RECEIPTS

ESTIMATED TAX LEVY

Levy Limit	\$	34,074,005
Debt Exclusion	\$	2,025,303

A. ESTIMATED TAX LEVY	\$	36,099,308
B. CHERRY SHEET ESTIMATED RECEIPTS	\$	1,002,840
C. LOCAL RECEIPTS NOT ALLOCATED	\$	4,490,312
D. OFFSET RECEIPTS	\$	-
E. ENTERPRISE FUNDS	\$	2,697,739
F. COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDS	\$	-
G. FREE CASH	\$	467,679

OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS

1. Stabilization Fund		
2. Capital Asset Fund	\$	475,000
3. GDRSD Capital Asset Fund	\$	217,298
4. EMS/Conservation Fund	\$	300,000

H. OTHER AVAILABLE FUNDS \$ 992,298

TOTAL ESTIMATED RECEIPTS \$ **45,750,175**

FY 2022 SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) \$ **2,978**

APPENDIX A

TOWN OF GROTON

FISCAL YEAR 2022

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
<u>GENERAL GOVERNMENT</u>								
MODERATOR								
1000	Salaries	\$ 65	\$ 65	\$ 65	\$ 65	0.00%	\$ 0.01	0.00%
1001	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 80	\$ 80	\$ 80	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 65	\$ 145	\$ 145	\$ 145	0.00%	\$ 0.03	0.00%
BOARD OF SELECTMEN								
1020	Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1021	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1022	Expenses	\$ 1,802	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	0.00%	\$ 0.70	0.01%
1023	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1024	Minor Capital	\$ 25,633	\$ 25,683	\$ 25,683	\$ 25,683	0.00%	\$ 5.44	0.06%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 27,435	\$ 28,983	\$ 28,983	\$ 28,983	0.00%	\$ 6.14	0.07%
TOWN MANAGER								
1030	Salaries	\$ 227,980	\$ 233,050	\$ 227,220	\$ 227,220	-2.50%	\$ 48.11	0.52%
1031	Wages	\$ 120,450	\$ 125,336	\$ 115,172	\$ 115,172	-8.11%	\$ 24.38	0.27%
1032	Expenses	\$ 9,784	\$ 14,600	\$ 14,600	\$ 14,600	0.00%	\$ 3.09	0.03%
1033	Engineering/Consultant	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1034	Performance Evaluations	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 358,214	\$ 372,986	\$ 356,992	\$ 356,992	-4.29%	\$ 75.58	0.82%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
FINANCE COMMITTEE								
1040	Expenses	\$ 210	\$ 215	\$ 215	\$ 215	0.00%	\$ 0.05	0.00%
1041	Reserve Fund	\$ 49,400	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	0.00%	\$ 31.76	0.35%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 49,610	\$ 150,215	\$ 150,215	\$ 150,215	0.00%	\$ 31.80	0.35%
TOWN ACCOUNTANT								
1050	Salaries	\$ 95,155	\$ 97,083	\$ 96,408	\$ 96,408	-0.70%	\$ 20.41	0.22%
1051	Wages	\$ 47,776	\$ 49,627	\$ 50,865	\$ 50,865	2.49%	\$ 10.77	0.12%
1052	Expenses	\$ 41,815	\$ 37,595	\$ 37,706	\$ 37,706	0.30%	\$ 7.98	0.09%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 184,746	\$ 184,305	\$ 184,979	\$ 184,979	0.37%	\$ 39.16	0.43%
BOARD OF ASSESSORS								
1060	Salaries	\$ 78,580	\$ 80,528	\$ 80,000	\$ 80,000	-0.66%	\$ 16.94	0.18%
1061	Wages	\$ 62,550	\$ 64,728	\$ 61,763	\$ 61,763	-4.58%	\$ 13.08	0.14%
1062	Expenses	\$ 20,743	\$ 45,858	\$ 45,215	\$ 45,215	-1.40%	\$ 9.57	0.10%
1063	Legal Expense	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 161,873	\$ 191,114	\$ 186,978	\$ 186,978	-2.16%	\$ 39.59	0.43%
TREASURER/TAX COLLECTOR								
1070	Salaries	\$ 88,286	\$ 93,975	\$ 85,000	\$ 85,000	-9.55%	\$ 18.00	0.20%
1071	Wages	\$ 112,007	\$ 119,037	\$ 115,693	\$ 115,693	-2.81%	\$ 24.49	0.27%
1072	Expenses	\$ 18,752	\$ 20,945	\$ 20,945	\$ 20,945	0.00%	\$ 4.43	0.05%
1073	Tax Title	\$ 2,048	\$ 5,725	\$ 5,725	\$ 5,725	0.00%	\$ 1.21	0.01%
1074	Bond Cost	\$ 2,550	\$ 4,900	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	-32.65%	\$ 0.70	0.01%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 223,643	\$ 244,582	\$ 230,663	\$ 230,663	-5.69%	\$ 48.84	0.53%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
TOWN COUNSEL								
1080	Expenses	\$ 77,338	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.00%	\$ 19.06	0.21%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 77,338	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.00%	\$ 19.06	0.21%
HUMAN RESOURCES								
1090	Salary	\$ 82,673	\$ 84,313	\$ 82,822	\$ 82,822	-1.77%	\$ 17.54	0.19%
1091	Expenses	\$ 9,547	\$ 11,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	-9.09%	\$ 2.12	0.02%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 92,220	\$ 95,313	\$ 92,822	\$ 92,822	-2.61%	\$ 19.65	0.21%
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY								
1100	Salary	\$ 114,722	\$ 117,004	\$ 115,193	\$ 115,193	-1.55%	\$ 24.39	0.27%
1101	Wages	\$ 59,031	\$ 61,095	\$ 62,317	\$ 62,317	2.00%	\$ 13.19	0.14%
1102	Expenses	\$ 20,552	\$ 24,800	\$ 22,800	\$ 22,800	-8.06%	\$ 4.83	0.05%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 194,305	\$ 202,899	\$ 200,310	\$ 200,310	-1.28%	\$ 42.41	0.46%
GIS STEERING COMMITTEE								
1120	Expenses	\$ 14,675	\$ 10,800	\$ 10,800	\$ 10,800	0.00%	\$ 2.29	0.02%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 14,675	\$ 10,800	\$ 10,800	\$ 10,800	0.00%	\$ 2.29	0.02%
TOWN CLERK								
1130	Salaries	\$ 88,080	\$ 92,073	\$ 90,853	\$ 90,853	-1.33%	\$ 19.24	0.21%
1131	Wages	\$ 61,051	\$ 67,751	\$ 65,205	\$ 65,205	-3.76%	\$ 13.81	0.15%
1132	Expenses	\$ 10,458	\$ 9,867	\$ 9,867	\$ 9,867	0.00%	\$ 2.09	0.02%
1135	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 159,589	\$ 169,691	\$ 165,925	\$ 165,925	-2.22%	\$ 35.13	0.38%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ELECTIONS & BOARD OF REGISTRARS								
1140	Stipend	\$ 6,082	\$ 19,115	\$ 6,336	\$ 6,336	-66.85%	\$ 1.34	0.01%
1141	Expenses	\$ 8,692	\$ 22,185	\$ 7,912	\$ 7,912	-64.34%	\$ 1.68	0.02%
1142	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 14,774	\$ 41,300	\$ 14,248	\$ 14,248	-65.50%	\$ 3.02	0.03%
STREET LISTINGS								
1150	Expenses	\$ 3,900	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,850	\$ 4,850	-3.00%	\$ 1.03	0.01%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 3,900	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,850	\$ 4,850	-3.00%	\$ 1.03	0.01%
INSURANCE & BONDING								
1160	Insurance & Bonding	\$ 226,650	\$ 250,000	\$ 290,000	\$ 290,000	16.00%	\$ 61.40	0.67%
1161	Insurance Deductible Reserve - Liability	\$ 3,220	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 12,000	0.00%	\$ 2.54	0.03%
1162	Insurance Deductible Reserve - 111F	\$ 6,416	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	0.00%	\$ 5.29	0.06%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 236,286	\$ 287,000	\$ 327,000	\$ 327,000	13.94%	\$ 69.23	0.75%
TOWN REPORT								
1170	Expenses	\$ 1,464	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.32	0.00%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,464	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.32	0.00%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
POSTAGE/TOWN HALL EXPENSES								
1180	Expenses	\$ 44,276	\$ 70,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	-14.29%	\$ 12.70	0.14%
1181	Telephone Expenses	\$ 25,244	\$ 35,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	-14.29%	\$ 6.35	0.07%
1182	Office Supplies	\$ 12,048	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	\$ 17,000	0.00%	\$ 3.60	0.04%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 81,568	\$ 122,000	\$ 107,000	\$ 107,000	-12.30%	\$ 22.65	0.25%
<hr/>								
	TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	\$ 1,881,705	\$ 2,197,833	\$ 2,153,410	\$ 2,153,410	-2.02%	\$ 455.93	4.97%
 <u>LAND USE DEPARTMENTS</u>								
CONSERVATION COMMISSION								
1200	Salary	\$ 66,686	\$ 71,545	\$ 69,481	\$ 69,481	-2.88%	\$ 14.71	0.16%
1201	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	-	0.00%
1202	Expenses	\$ 8,556	\$ 7,350	\$ 7,350	\$ 7,350	0.00%	\$ 1.56	0.02%
1203	Engineering & Legal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	-	0.00%
1204	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	-	0.00%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 75,242	\$ 78,895	\$ 76,831	\$ 76,831	-2.62%	\$ 16.27	0.18%
<hr/>								
PLANNING BOARD								
1210	Salaries	\$ 83,043	\$ 85,518	\$ 84,016	\$ 84,016	-1.76%	\$ 17.79	0.19%
1211	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	-	0.00%
1212	Expenses	\$ 11,159	\$ 8,650	\$ 8,650	\$ 8,650	0.00%	\$ 1.83	0.02%
1215	M.R.P.C. Assessment	\$ 3,664	\$ 3,756	\$ 3,850	\$ 3,850	2.50%	\$ 0.82	0.01%
1216	Legal Budget	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	-	0.00%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 97,866	\$ 97,924	\$ 96,516	\$ 96,516	-1.44%	\$ 20.43	0.22%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS								
1220	Wages	\$ 20,798	\$ 21,375	\$ 21,017	\$ 21,017	-1.67%	\$ 4.45	0.05%
1221	Expenses	\$ 920	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.32	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 21,718	\$ 22,875	\$ 22,517	\$ 22,517	-1.57%	\$ 4.77	0.05%
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	\$ 115,869	\$ 93,975	\$ 93,380	\$ 93,380	-0.63%	\$ 19.77	0.22%
1241	Wages	\$ 52,486	\$ 56,970	\$ 56,503	\$ 56,503	-0.82%	\$ 11.96	0.13%
1242	Expenses	\$ 936	\$ 3,100	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,500	12.90%	\$ 0.74	0.01%
1243	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 169,291	\$ 154,045	\$ 153,383	\$ 153,383	-0.43%	\$ 32.47	0.35%
MECHANICAL INSPECTOR								
1250	Fee Salaries	\$ 28,890	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	0.00%	\$ 6.35	0.07%
1251	Expenses	\$ 3,207	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	-20.00%	\$ 0.85	0.01%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 32,097	\$ 35,000	\$ 34,000	\$ 34,000	-2.86%	\$ 7.20	0.08%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
EARTH REMOVAL INSPECTOR								
1260	Stipend	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	0.00%	\$ 0.53	0.01%
1261	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
1262	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,500	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	\$ 2,600	0.00%	\$ 0.55	0.01%
<hr/>								
BOARD OF HEALTH								
1270	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1271	Expenses	\$ 465	\$ 1,575	\$ 1,575	\$ 1,575	0.00%	\$ 0.33	0.00%
1272	Nursing Services	\$ -	\$ 13,111	\$ 13,767	\$ 13,767	5.00%	\$ 2.91	0.03%
1273	Nashoba Health District	\$ 47,849	\$ 28,730	\$ 30,167	\$ 30,167	5.00%	\$ 6.39	0.07%
1274	Herbert Lipton MH	\$ 8,000	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	0.00%	\$ 1.69	0.02%
1275	Eng/Consult/Landfill Monitoring	\$ 6,713	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,200	\$ 10,200	2.00%	\$ 2.16	0.02%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 63,026	\$ 53,416	\$ 63,709	\$ 63,709	19.27%	\$ 13.49	0.15%
<hr/>								
SEALER OF WEIGHTS & MEASURES								
1280	Fee Salaries	\$ 2,260	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200	\$ 3,200	0.00%	\$ 0.68	0.01%
1281	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 100	\$ 100	\$ 100	0.00%	\$ 0.02	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,260	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	\$ 3,300	0.00%	\$ 0.70	0.01%
<hr/>								
TOTAL LAND USE DEPARTMENTS		\$ 463,000	\$ 448,055	\$ 452,856	\$ 452,856	1.07%	\$ 95.88	1.05%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
<u>PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY</u>								
POLICE DEPARTMENT								
1300	Salaries	\$ 343,223	\$ 268,334	\$ 269,791	\$ 269,791	0.54%	\$ 57.12	0.62%
1301	Wages	\$ 1,833,948	\$ 1,968,864	\$ 1,981,381	\$ 1,981,381	0.64%	\$ 419.51	4.57%
1302	Expenses	\$ 142,069	\$ 217,200	\$ 212,200	\$ 212,200	-2.30%	\$ 44.93	0.49%
1303	Lease or Purchase of Cruisers	\$ 3,960	\$ 4,920	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	1.63%	\$ 1.06	0.01%
1304	PS Building (Expenses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1305	Minor Capital	\$ 7,150	\$ 20,000	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000	-45.00%	\$ 2.33	0.03%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,330,350	\$ 2,479,318	\$ 2,479,372	\$ 2,479,372	0.00%	\$ 524.94	5.72%
FIRE DEPARTMENT								
1310	Salaries	\$ 184,836	\$ 235,000	\$ 238,928	\$ 238,928	1.67%	\$ 50.59	0.55%
1311	Wages	\$ 903,135	\$ 999,244	\$ 997,893	\$ 997,893	-0.14%	\$ 211.28	2.30%
1312	Expenses	\$ 168,346	\$ 200,905	\$ 161,682	\$ 161,682	-19.52%	\$ 34.23	0.37%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,256,317	\$ 1,435,149	\$ 1,398,503	\$ 1,398,503	-2.55%	\$ 296.10	3.23%
GROTON WATER FIRE PROTECTION								
1320	West Groton Water District	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	0.00%	\$ 0.00	0.00%
1321	Groton Water Department	\$ -	\$ 1	\$ 1	\$ 1	0.00%	\$ 0.00	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ -	\$ 2	\$ 2	\$ 2	0.00%	\$ 0.00	0.00%
ANIMAL INSPECTOR								
1330	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.00%	\$ 0.44	0.00%
1331	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.00%	\$ 0.08	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,082	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.00%	\$ 0.53	0.01%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER								
1340	Salary	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	\$ 2,082	0.00%	\$ 0.44	0.00%
1341	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	0.00%	\$ 0.08	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,082	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	\$ 2,482	0.00%	\$ 0.53	0.01%
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY								
1350	Salary	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	0.00%	\$ 0.85	0.01%
1351	Expenses	\$ 6,068	\$ 12,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	-20.00%	\$ 2.12	0.02%
1352	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 10,068	\$ 16,500	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,000	-15.15%	\$ 2.96	0.03%
DOG OFFICER								
1360	Salary	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.00%	\$ 3.18	0.03%
1361	Expenses	\$ 2,597	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	-25.00%	\$ 0.64	0.01%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 17,597	\$ 19,000	\$ 18,000	\$ 18,000	-5.26%	\$ 3.81	0.04%
POLICE & FIRE COMMUNICATIONS								
1370	Wages	\$ 337,559	\$ 416,824	\$ 423,552	\$ 423,552	1.61%	\$ 89.68	0.98%
1371	Expenses	\$ 2,706	\$ 23,875	\$ 23,875	\$ 23,875	0.00%	\$ 5.05	0.06%
1372	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 340,265	\$ 440,699	\$ 447,427	\$ 447,427	1.53%	\$ 94.73	1.03%
TOTAL PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY		\$ 3,958,761	\$ 4,395,632	\$ 4,362,268	\$ 4,362,268	-0.76%	\$ 923.60	10.07%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
<u>REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGETS</u>								
NASHOBA VALLEY REGIONAL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL								
1400	Operating Expenses	\$ 728,802	\$ 688,273	\$ 807,474	\$ 807,474	17.32%	\$ 170.96	1.86%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 728,802	\$ 688,273	\$ 807,474	\$ 807,474	17.32%	\$ 170.96	1.86%
GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT								
1410	Operating Expenses	\$ 22,063,256	\$ 22,020,595	\$ 23,481,350	\$ 23,481,350	6.63%	\$ 4,971.56	54.20%
1411	Debt Service, Excluded	\$ -	\$ 648,497	\$ 485,426	\$ 485,426	-25.15%	\$ 102.78	1.12%
1412	Debt Service, Unexcluded	\$ -	\$ 58,147	\$ 56,358	\$ 56,358	-3.08%	\$ 11.93	0.13%
1413	Out of District Placement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1414	Capital Assessment	\$ 459,647	\$ 265,172	\$ 217,298	\$ 217,298	-18.05%	\$ 46.01	0.50%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 22,522,903	\$ 22,992,411	\$ 24,240,432	\$ 24,240,432	5.43%	\$ 5,132.27	55.96%
TOTAL SCHOOLS		\$ 23,251,705	\$ 23,680,684	\$ 25,047,906	\$ 25,047,906	5.77%	\$ 5,303.24	57.82%
<u>DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS</u>								
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT								
1500	Salaries	\$ 112,891	\$ 115,659	\$ 113,877	\$ 113,877	-1.54%	\$ 24.11	0.26%
1501	Wages	\$ 684,021	\$ 708,055	\$ 656,364	\$ 656,364	-7.30%	\$ 138.97	1.52%
1502	Expenses	\$ 132,550	\$ 136,900	\$ 136,900	\$ 136,900	0.00%	\$ 28.98	0.32%
1503	Highway Maintenance	\$ 56,304	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000	0.00%	\$ 19.06	0.21%
1504	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 985,766	\$ 1,050,614	\$ 997,141	\$ 997,141	-5.09%	\$ 211.12	2.30%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
STREET LIGHTS								
1510	Expenses	\$ 12,165	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.00%	\$ 3.18	0.03%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 12,165	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	0.00%	\$ 3.18	0.03%
SNOW AND ICE								
1520	Expenses	\$ 148,927	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	\$ 165,000	0.00%	\$ 34.93	0.38%
1521	Overtime	\$ 220,790	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	\$ 140,000	0.00%	\$ 29.64	0.32%
1522	Hired Equipment	\$ 75,071	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	\$ 35,000	0.00%	\$ 7.41	0.08%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 444,788	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	\$ 340,000	0.00%	\$ 71.99	0.78%
TREE WARDEN BUDGET								
1530	Salary	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1531	Expenses	\$ 374	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	0.00%	\$ 0.64	0.01%
1532	Trees	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	0.00%	\$ 0.32	0.00%
1533	Tree Work	\$ 11,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	0.00%	\$ 2.12	0.02%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 11,874	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	\$ 14,500	0.00%	\$ 3.07	0.03%
MUNICIPAL BUILDING AND PROPERTY MAINTENANCE								
1540	Wages	\$ 144,189	\$ 149,451	\$ 149,751	\$ 149,751	0.20%	\$ 31.71	0.35%
1541	Expenses	\$ 256,829	\$ 270,950	\$ 270,950	\$ 270,950	0.00%	\$ 57.37	0.63%
1542	Minor Capital	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	-50.00%	\$ 2.12	0.02%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 421,018	\$ 440,401	\$ 430,701	\$ 430,701	-2.20%	\$ 91.19	0.99%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL								
1550	Wages	\$ 134,303	\$ 143,243	\$ 142,722	\$ 142,722	-0.36%	\$ 30.22	0.33%
1551	Expenses	\$ 38,726	\$ 44,486	\$ 45,686	\$ 45,686	2.70%	\$ 9.67	0.11%
1552	Tipping Fees	\$ 135,159	\$ 175,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	-14.29%	\$ 31.76	0.35%
1553	North Central SW Coop	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	\$ 5,850	0.00%	\$ 1.24	0.01%
1554	Minor Capital	\$ 4,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	-50.00%	\$ 1.06	0.01%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 318,538	\$ 378,579	\$ 349,258	\$ 349,258	-7.75%	\$ 73.95	0.81%
PARKS DEPARTMENT								
1560	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1561	Expenses	\$ 30,452	\$ 55,759	\$ 55,759	\$ 55,759	0.00%	\$ 11.81	0.13%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 30,452	\$ 55,759	\$ 55,759	\$ 55,759	0.00%	\$ 11.81	0.13%
	TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS	\$ 2,224,601	\$ 2,294,853	\$ 2,202,359	\$ 2,202,359	-4.03%	\$ 466.29	5.08%
 <u>LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES</u>								
COUNCIL ON AGING								
1600	Salaries	\$ 77,802	\$ 81,868	\$ 80,747	\$ 80,747	-1.37%	\$ 17.10	0.19%
1601	Wages	\$ 67,975	\$ 81,026	\$ 72,429	\$ 72,429	-10.61%	\$ 15.33	0.17%
1602	Expenses	\$ 5,701	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,454	0.00%	\$ 1.79	0.02%
1603	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 151,478	\$ 171,348	\$ 161,630	\$ 161,630	-5.67%	\$ 34.22	0.37%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
SENIOR CENTER VAN								
1610	Wages	\$ 43,631	\$ 52,091	\$ 52,530	\$ 52,530	0.84%	\$ 11.12	0.12%
1611	Expenses	\$ 6,723	\$ 17,673	\$ 12,673	\$ 12,673	-28.29%	\$ 2.68	0.03%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 50,354	\$ 69,764	\$ 65,203	\$ 65,203	-6.54%	\$ 13.80	0.15%
VETERAN'S SERVICE OFFICER								
1620	Salary	\$ 4,615	\$ 5,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	20.00%	\$ 1.27	0.01%
1621	Expenses	\$ 69	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,100	0.00%	\$ 0.23	0.00%
1622	Veterans' Benefits	\$ 38,137	\$ 42,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 37,000	-11.90%	\$ 7.83	0.09%
1623	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
DEPARTMENT TOTAL		\$ 42,821	\$ 48,100	\$ 44,100	\$ 44,100	-8.32%	\$ 9.34	0.10%
GRAVES REGISTRATION								
1630	Salary/Stipend	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	\$ 250	0.00%	\$ 0.05	0.00%
1631	Expenses	\$ 760	\$ 760	\$ 760	\$ 760	0.00%	\$ 0.16	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 1,010	\$ 1,010	\$ 1,010	\$ 1,010	0.00%	\$ 0.21	0.00%
CARE OF VETERAN GRAVES								
1640	Contract Expenses	\$ -	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	-3.23%	\$ 0.32	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ -	\$ 1,550	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	-3.23%	\$ 0.32	0.00%
OLD BURYING GROUND COMMITTEE								
1650	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	0.00%	\$ 0.17	0.00%
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ -	\$ 800	\$ 800	\$ 800	0.00%	\$ 0.17	0.00%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
LIBRARY								
1660	Salary	\$ 396,760	\$ 407,364	\$ 412,593	\$ 412,593	1.28%	\$ 87.36	0.95%
1661	Wages	\$ 275,513	\$ 331,959	\$ 279,389	\$ 279,389	-15.84%	\$ 59.15	0.64%
1662	Expenses	\$ 153,507	\$ 205,304	\$ 205,304	\$ 205,304	0.00%	\$ 43.47	0.47%
1663	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 825,780	\$ 944,627	\$ 897,286	\$ 897,286	-5.01%	\$ 189.98	2.07%
COMMEMORATIONS & CELEBRATIONS								
1670	Expenses	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 0.11	0.00%
1671	Fireworks	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 500	0.00%	\$ 0.11	0.00%
WATER SAFETY								
1680	Wages	\$ 1,900	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,200	0.00%	\$ 0.89	0.01%
1681	Expenses and Minor Capital	\$ 17,520	\$ 2,732	\$ 2,732	\$ 2,732	0.00%	\$ 0.58	0.01%
1682	Property Maint. & Improvements	\$ -	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	0.00%	\$ 1.91	0.02%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 19,420	\$ 15,932	\$ 15,932	\$ 15,932	0.00%	\$ 3.37	0.04%
WEED MANAGEMENT								
1690	Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
1691	Expenses: Weed Harvester	\$ 2,497	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 22,000	0.00%	\$ 4.66	0.05%
1692	Expenses: Great Lakes	\$ -	\$ 2,385	\$ 2,385	\$ 2,385	0.00%	\$ 0.50	0.01%
<hr/>								
DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL		\$ 2,497	\$ 24,385	\$ 24,385	\$ 24,385	0.00%	\$ 5.16	0.06%

		FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2022		FY 2022	FY 2022
LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	ACTUAL	APPROPRIATED	TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	AVERAGE TAX BILL	PERCENT OF TAX BILL
GROTON COUNTRY CLUB								
1700	Salary	\$ 157,092	\$ 161,634	\$ 162,214	\$ 162,214	0.36%	\$ 34.34	0.37%
1701	Wages	\$ 119,626	\$ 129,000	\$ 150,000	\$ 150,000	16.28%	\$ 31.76	0.35%
1702	Expenses	\$ 150,837	\$ 127,000	\$ 136,000	\$ 136,000	7.09%	\$ 28.79	0.31%
1703	Minor Capital	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 427,555	\$ 417,634	\$ 448,214	\$ 448,214	7.32%	\$ 94.90	1.03%
	TOTAL LIBRARY AND CITIZEN SERVICES	\$ 1,520,915	\$ 1,695,650	\$ 1,660,560	\$ 1,660,560	-2.07%	\$ 351.58	3.83%
	DEBT SERVICE							
	DEBT SERVICE							
2000	Long Term Debt - Principal Excluded	\$ 1,054,090	\$ 970,030	\$ 1,070,000	\$ 1,070,000	10.31%	\$ 226.54	2.47%
2001	Long Term Debt - Principal Non-Exclud	\$ -	\$ 159,394	\$ 159,154	\$ 159,154	-0.15%	\$ 33.70	0.37%
2002	Long Term Debt - Interest - Excluded	\$ 454,453	\$ 503,757	\$ 471,752	\$ 471,752	-6.35%	\$ 99.88	1.09%
2003	Long Term Debt - Interest - Non-Exclud	\$ -	\$ 95,071	\$ 88,007	\$ 88,007	-7.43%	\$ 18.63	0.20%
2006	Short Term Debt - Principal - Town	\$ -	\$ 85,174	\$ 85,174	\$ 85,174	0.00%	\$ 18.03	0.20%
2007	Short Term Debt - Interest - Town	\$ 95,648	\$ 6,400	\$ 6,800	\$ 6,800	6.25%	\$ 1.44	0.02%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,604,191	\$ 1,819,826	\$ 1,880,887	\$ 1,880,887	3.36%	\$ 398.23	4.34%
	TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	\$ 1,604,191	\$ 1,819,826	\$ 1,880,887	\$ 1,880,887	3.36%	\$ 398.23	4.34%
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS							
	EMPLOYEE BENEFITS							
	GENERAL BENEFITS							
3000	County Retirement	\$ 1,973,053	\$ 2,090,289	\$ 2,385,255	\$ 2,385,255	14.11%	\$ 505.02	5.51%
3001	Other Post Employment Benefits	\$ 169,000	\$ 177,094	\$ 177,094	\$ 177,094	0.00%	\$ 37.50	0.41%
3002	Unemployment Compensation	\$ 1,960	\$ 15,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	-33.33%	\$ 2.12	0.02%
	INSURANCE							
3010	Health Insurance/Employee Expenses	\$ 1,578,803	\$ 1,722,480	\$ 1,805,544	\$ 1,805,544	4.82%	\$ 382.28	4.17%
3011	Life Insurance	\$ 3,629	\$ 3,600	\$ 3,700	\$ 3,700	2.78%	\$ 0.78	0.01%
3012	Medicare/Social Security	\$ 130,034	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000	\$ 135,000	0.00%	\$ 28.58	0.31%
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 3,856,479	\$ 4,143,463	\$ 4,516,593	\$ 4,516,593	9.01%	\$ 956.27	10.43%
	TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	\$ 3,856,479	\$ 4,143,463	\$ 4,516,593	\$ 4,516,593	9.01%	\$ 956.27	10.43%

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	FY 2022 FINCOM BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE	FY 2022 AVERAGE TAX BILL	FY 2022 PERCENT OF TAX BILL
<u>ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS</u>								
ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS								
	Capital Budget Request	\$ 705,820	\$ 450,100	\$ 625,000	\$ 625,000	38.86%	\$ 132.33	1.44%
	Offset Receipts	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%	\$ -	0.00%
	Cherry Sheet Offsets	\$ 18,527	\$ 18,527	\$ 21,691	\$ 21,691	17.08%	\$ 4.59	0.05%
	Snow and Ice Deficit	\$ -	\$ 103,816	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	-3.68%	\$ 21.17	0.23%
	State and County Charges	\$ 93,392	\$ 93,392	\$ 97,077	\$ 97,077	3.95%	\$ 20.55	0.22%
	Allowance for Abatements/Exemptions	\$ 202,272	\$ 150,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 200,000	33.33%	\$ 42.34	0.46%
<hr/>								
	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,020,011	\$ 815,835	\$ 1,043,768	\$ 1,043,768	27.94%	\$ 220.99	2.41%
<hr/>								
	GRAND TOTAL - TOWN BUDGET	\$ 39,781,368	\$ 41,491,831	\$ 43,320,607	\$ 43,320,607	4.41%	\$ 9,172	100.00%

FY 2022 ENTERPRISE FUND BUDGETS

LINE	DEPARTMENT/DESCRIPTION	FY 2018 ACTUAL	FY 2019 ACTUAL	FY 2020 ACTUAL	FY 2021 APPROPRIATED	FY 2022 DEPARTMENT REQUEST	FY 2022 TOWN MANAGER BUDGET	PERCENT CHANGE
WATER DEPARTMENT								
	WD Salaries	\$ 122,759	\$ 134,036	\$ 145,271	\$ 154,549	\$ 154,449	\$ 154,449	-0.06%
	WD Wages	\$ 193,076	\$ 246,235	\$ 167,539	\$ 176,927	\$ 179,675	\$ 179,675	1.55%
	WD Expenses	\$ 510,616	\$ 526,539	\$ 547,269	\$ 655,300	\$ 668,300	\$ 668,300	1.98%
	WD Debt Service	\$ 398,045	\$ 362,548	\$ 402,140	\$ 402,140	\$ 402,140	\$ 402,140	0.00%
100	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 1,224,496	\$ 1,269,358	\$ 1,262,219	\$ 1,388,916	\$ 1,404,564	\$ 1,404,564	1.13%
SEWER DEPARTMENT								
	Sewer Salaries	\$ 18,200	\$ 19,212	\$ 19,440	\$ 20,179	\$ 20,583	\$ 20,583	2.00%
	Sewer Wages	\$ 39,119	\$ 37,432	\$ 36,540	\$ 50,695	\$ 51,709	\$ 51,709	2.00%
	Sewer Expense	\$ 595,119	\$ 642,205	\$ 633,821	\$ 656,032	\$ 691,295	\$ 691,295	5.38%
	Sewer Debt Service	\$ 4,050	\$ 5,873	\$ 38,338	\$ 36,395	\$ 35,160	\$ 35,160	-3.39%
200	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 656,488	\$ 704,722	\$ 728,139	\$ 763,301	\$ 798,747	\$ 798,747	4.64%
FOUR CORNERS SEWER DEPARTMENT								
	Four Corners Sewer Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	Four Corners Sewer Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
	Four Corners Sewer Expense	\$ -	\$ 22,466	\$ 20,619	\$ 32,805	\$ 68,769	\$ 68,769	109.63%
	Four Corners Sewer Debt Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0.00%
300	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ -	\$ 22,466	\$ 20,619	\$ 32,805	\$ 68,769	\$ 68,769	109.63%
LOCAL ACCESS CABLE DEPARTMENT								
	Cable Salaries	\$ 70,921	\$ 74,004	\$ 77,180	\$ 78,695	\$ 77,941	\$ 77,941	-0.96%
	Cable Wages	\$ 50,079	\$ 51,556	\$ 53,999	\$ 56,454	\$ 57,575	\$ 57,575	1.99%
	Cable Expenses	\$ 64,174	\$ 64,552	\$ 61,355	\$ 74,655	\$ 75,389	\$ 75,389	0.98%
	Cable Minor Capital	\$ 6,462	\$ 5,091	\$ 803	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	0.00%
400	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ 191,636	\$ 195,203	\$ 193,337	\$ 214,804	\$ 215,905	\$ 215,905	0.51%
STORMWATER UTILITY								
	Stormwater Wages/Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 43,800	\$ 69,753	\$ 69,753	59.25%
	Stormwater Equipment	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	-33.33%
	Stormwater Capital Outlay	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	\$ 51,000	\$ 51,000	104.00%
	Stormwater Compliance Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 80,000	\$ 49,000	\$ 49,000	-38.75%
	Stormwater Disposal/Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	100.00%
500	DEPARTMENTAL TOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 188,800	\$ 209,753	\$ 209,753	11.10%
TOTAL ENTERPRISE FUNDS		\$ 2,072,620	\$ 2,191,749	\$ 2,204,314	\$ 2,588,627	\$ 2,697,739	\$ 2,697,739	4.22%

APPENDIX B**FACTOR: 1.0000**

**Town of Groton Personnel By-Law
Wage and Classification Schedule
Fiscal Year 2022 (Effective July 1, 2021)**

Grade	Position Title	Low	High
4	Salary		
	Wages	39,655	49,074
5	Salary		
	Wages	41,919	51,883
7	Salary		
	Wages	48,470	61,396
8	Salary		
	Wages	55,025	68,131
9	Salary		
	Wages	56,351	69,731
10	Salary		
	Executive Assistant to Town Manager	64,627	81,568
11	Salary		
	Human Resources Director	69,430	85,919
12	Salary		
	Wages	69,639	86,219
	Salary		
	Wages	69,639	86,219

APPENDIX B
Town of Groton Personnel By-Law
Wage and Classification Schedule
Fiscal Year 2022 (Effective July 1, 2021)

FACTOR: 1.0000

Grade	Position Title	Low	High
13	Salary	72,126	91,544
	Wages	34.38	42.55
14	Salary	72,115	89,239
	Wages	34.68	42.90
15	Salary	76,045	94,101
	Wages	36.55	45.24
16	Salary	78,792	97,558
	Wages	37.88	46.88
17	Salary	88,272	109,201
	Wages	42.44	52.51
18	Salary	95,461	118,140
	Wages	45.90	56.80
19	Salary	97,968	121,220
	Wages	47.09	58.30
20	Salary	105,046	129,192
	Wages	50.51	62.12

APPENDIX B					
NON-CLASSIFIED, TEMPORARY SEASONAL AND STIPEND POSITIONS					
NON-STEP AND STIPEND POSITIONS					
FIRE/EMS DEPARTMENT			Country Club Seasonal Employees		
Call Captain: Fire	25.00		Pro Shop Staff		MW *- 17.00
Call Lieutenant: Fire	24.50		Pool Staff		MW - 17.00
Call Firefighter	21.43		Lifeguards		MW - 18.00
Call Emergency Medical Technician	21.43		Swim Coaches		MW - 23.00
Probationary Firefighter	17.85		Camp Staff		MW - 17.00
Probationary Emergency Medical Technician	17.85		Counselors		MW - 18.00
Call Fire Mechanic	60.00		Buildings & Grounds		MW - 27.00
			Library Shelves		13.50 - 18.00
MISCELLANEOUS					
Veteran's Agent	6,000		* - Minimum Wage		
Earth Removal Inspector	2,500				
Dog Officer	15,000				
Animal Inspector	2,082				
Animal Control Officer	2,082				
Town Diarist	1.00				
Keeper of the Town Clock	1.00				
Per Diem Van Driver	18.66 - 21.00				
Park Ranger	13.50				
Graves Registration Officer	250				
Emergency Management Director	4,000				
Election Worker: Warden	Minimum Wage				
Election Worker: Precinct Clerk	Minimum Wage				
Election Worker: Inspectors (Checker)	Minimum Wage				

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

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Groton, MA 01450
PERMIT #3

RESIDENTIAL POSTAL PATRON GROTON, MA

MINUTES

TOWN OF GROTON



2021 FALL TOWN MEETING

**Groton-Dunstable Middle School Complex
342 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts 01450
Masks are required.**

Beginning Saturday, October 23, 2021 @ 9:00 AM

Rain Date – Sunday, October 24, 2021 @ 11:30 AM

LOCATION NOTE: The 2021 Fall Town Meeting will be held on the Middle School Track unless moved indoors to the Performing Arts Center (PAC) by a decision of the Moderator, after consulting with the Select Board, on October 21st. Notice will be published on www.grotonma.gov.

Attention – Voters and Taxpayers
Please bring this Report to Town Meeting
Introduction to Groton Town Meeting

Voters are familiar with casting ballots in local and state elections, but they have another important civic duty in towns, the Town Meeting.

What is Town Meeting?

The Town Meeting is the legislative body in the town form of government in Massachusetts. Town Meeting is a formal gathering of registered voters who propose, debate and vote on measures. Groton holds at least two Town Meetings per year.

What is a warrant?

The warrant is the official notice to voters that a Town Meeting is scheduled. The warrant includes the date, time, location and a description of each subject to be acted on at Town Meeting. In Groton, the warrant must be posted in two public places and mailed to each household 14 days in advance of Town Meeting. "The warrant must contain a sufficient description of what is proposed so as to constitute an adequate warning to all the inhabitants of the town."¹ "Every action taken at the meeting must be pursuant to some article in the warrant and must be within the scope of such article."²

How does Town Meeting proceed?

Voters attending Town Meeting must first check in with the Clerks and receive a voting card which is required to vote. The meeting typically acts on the articles in the order they are printed in the warrant. For each article, a main motion is made and seconded by voters and placed by the Moderator on the floor for debate. Permission of the Moderator is required to speak. The Moderator presides and regulates the proceedings, decides all questions of order, and calls and declares all votes. After debate has ended, the Moderator will call for a vote by a show of voter cards. If the vote is too close to call by sight or if seven voters immediately question the Moderator's declaration of the vote, the Moderator will order a hand count to confirm the vote.

Who can attend?

Town Meeting is open to the public. Only Groton voters are entitled to attend, speak and vote. Non-voters may be required to sit in a separate section. Non-voters may ask the Moderator to speak on the topic of the debate.

How long is town meeting?

Town Meeting concludes when all articles on the warrant have been acted upon. Town Meeting may conclude in one session or adjourn for subsequent sessions.

Pandemic Safety Procedures for Town Meeting

¹ *Town Meeting Time: A Handbook of Parliamentary Law* (page 12) Johnson, Trustman and Wadsworth, Third Edition, 2001.

² *Id.*

Due to the Delta Variant, the Fall Town Meeting will be held outdoors on the field behind the Florence Roche Elementary School. Voters and non-voters attending the meeting are asked to follow these procedures:

- Attendees should wear masks, even while speaking, and observe social distancing whenever possible.
- Keep at least 6-feet of distance from others while in the voter check-in line.
- Voters should arrive early, check-in, receive a voter card, and proceed directly to a seat.
- A golf cart will be available for anyone who needs assistance moving from the parking lot to the field.
- Single and household-pair seating will be six or more feet apart and should not be moved. Attendees may bring their own chairs.
- Children may accompany parents and are asked to bring a seat for the child. Families with two or more children are asked to provide their own chairs.
- Voters will speak from one of the microphones set up at various locations on the field of the Middle School Track. Please adhere to social distancing when standing in line to speak.
- Voting will be by raised voter card and not by voice.
- Anyone unable to wear a mask may sit in a reserved section with a dedicated microphone.
- There will not be a break for lunch, but Town Meeting attendees are urged to bring a bagged lunch so that the Town Meeting can be completed in one day, if possible.
- At the end of the meeting, voters are asked to observe social distancing while exiting the field.

LOCATION NOTE: The 2021 Fall Town Meeting is scheduled to be held outdoors on the Middle School Track. If it appears that the weekend weather will be unsuitable for an outdoor meeting, the Moderator, after consulting with the Select Board, may decide on October 21st to move the Meeting to the Performing Arts Center if it is considered safe to hold the Meeting indoors. Notice will be published on www.grotonma.gov. Masks will be required at either location.

Rain Date: In the event of circumstance, the Town Meeting will be held the following day, October 24th at 11:30 a.m. If the Town Moderator postpones the meeting, notice will be made on the town website, posted in three public places, and through news and social media.

Please direct questions regarding the meeting procedures to Jason Kauppi, Town Moderator, at moderator@grotonma.gov or call 978-391-4506.

Explanation of a Consent Agenda

A consent agenda is a procedure to group multiple main motions into a single motion for voting. A consent agenda saves time by eliminating the reading of multiple motions and explanations when there are no objections or questions. In Groton, a consent agenda generally consists of articles unanimously supported by the Select Board and Finance Committee. Articles that change by-laws or introduce new spending are typically not included. In this warrant, the Select Board has grouped articles in consent agendas and labeled them for easy reference.

How Consent Agendas Work

As the first step to act on a consent agenda, the Moderator will read the titles of the included articles. A voter who wishes to remove an article from the consent agenda for separate debate and vote should state "hold." The held article will be set aside and acted on after the vote on the consent agenda. After the meeting agrees on the contents of the consent agenda, there will be no debate and the Moderator will immediately call for a vote. Every motion included in the consent agenda will either pass or fail as a group. Voters should read the warrant and review the proposed consent agendas to identify articles they wish to remove for separate consideration.



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.

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 several microphones set up for speaking at various locations on the Field. Please observe social distancing when standing in line to speak.

Restrooms – Accessible restrooms for this Town Meeting will be provided adjacent to the Florence Roche Elementary School.

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. The van is wheelchair accessible. Your reservation can be made by calling the Senior Center at 978-448-1170. Seats will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

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

2021 FALL TOWN MEETING OFFICIALS
MEETING DATE : OCTOBER 23, 2021

Town Moderator:

Jason Kauppi

Deputy Moderator

Michael Bouchard

Board of Selectmen:

Allison Manugian, Vice-Chair
Joshua A. Degen
Becky Pine, Chair
John Giger
John Reilly

Finance Committee:

Colby Doody, Vice-Chair
Gary Green
Scott Whitefield
Mary Linskey
David Manugian
Bud Robertson, Chair
Art Prest

Town Manager:

Mark W. Haddad
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Town Clerk:

Michael F. Bouchard

PROCEEDINGS:

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM on October 23, 2021 inside the Performing Arts Center located at 342 Main Street. Moderator Jason Kauppi presided.

There is no quorum requirement for this Annual Town Meeting. 129 voters attended the meeting.

Announcements:

Face coverings are required to be worn at all times during the meeting, even while seated or speaking.

Social distancing is requested. Seats have been marked off to provide a distancing guide.

All voting will be by using the voter card issued at the Check-In.

New Town Counsel, Brian Falk from Mirick, O'Connell, DeMallie & Lougee, LLP was introduced. Brian has been Town Counsel since July, 2021.

A moment of silence was observed for Grotonians who have passed since the last meeting.

The Meeting took the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION – Limit Debate

MOVER: Michelle Collette

I move that debate be limited to three minutes for each speaker, with the exception of the main proponent and opponent of each article, and at the discretion of the moderator.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: 2/3rds Majority

Vote of Motion to Limit Debate: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

The timekeeper will be Dawn Dunbar.

Tellers were sworn during the Meeting: Richard Mitchell, Connie Sartini, Bruse Easom, Michael Manugian, Chris Cifra, Deb Busser.

The Moderator determined that the warrant was duly posted. A motion to waive the reading of the warrant was moved and seconded. The reading of the warrant was waived by Majority vote.

2021 FALL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

2021 Fall Town Meeting Minutes

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OCTOBER 23, 2021

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 at the Groton-Dunstable Middle School Track 342 Main Street, Groton, Massachusetts in said Town on Saturday, the twenty-third day of October, 2021 at Nine O'clock in the morning, to consider the following:

ARTICLE SUMMARY

Article 1	Prior Year Bills	Passed
CONSENT AGENDA*		Passed
Article 2*	Amend the Fiscal Year 2022 Town Operating Budget	
Article 3*	Transfer Within Water Enterprise Fund	
Article 4*	Transfer Money Into Capital Stabilization Fund	
Article 5*	Transfer Money Into Stabilization Fund	
Article 6*	Transfer Money Into the GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund	
Article 7*	Capital Purchase – Fire Chief's Vehicle	
Article 8*	Assessing Software	
Article 9*	Community Preservation Funding Accounts	
Article 10*	Amend Article 14, Motion 8 of the 2021 Spring Town Meeting	
Article 11	Whitney Pond Well Construction	Passed
Article 12	Water Treatment Facility Construction	Passed
Article 13	Special Legislation – Change Town Clerk to Appointed	Passed
Article 14	Extend Center Sewer District	Passed
Article 15	Zoning Amendments – Clarifications, Updates, Corrections	Passed
Article 16	Zoning Amendment – Marijuana Retail Establishments	Passed
Article 17	Citizens' Petition – Transfer of Land	Passed
	Report of the Town Manager to the 2021 Fall Town Meeting	

***Articles 2 through 10 presented in one motion as a Consent Agenda**

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.

SELECT BOARD

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

Summary: *Town Meeting approval is required to pay bills from a prior fiscal year. A list of unpaid bills will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 33 for additional information related to this Article.*

Mover: Alison Manugian

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$11,601.72 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) for the purpose of paying a prior year fiscal bill from Nitsch Engineering.

Moved and Seconded

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

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

ARTICLES 2 THROUGH 10 WERE MOVED AS A CONSENT AGENDA

ARTICLE 2: AMEND THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget as adopted under Article 5 of the 2021 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 2022, or to take any other action relative thereto.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
SELECT BOARD
TOWN MANAGER

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

Summary: *The Fiscal Year 2022 Town Operating Budget was approved at the 2021 Spring Town Meeting in May, 2021. 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 2022 Operating Budget. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 33 for additional information related to this Article.*

ARTICLE 3: TRANSFER WITHIN WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer a sum or sums of money from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2022 Water Department Operating Budget for Engineering Services, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

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

Summary: *This article will request a transfer of funds from Water Surplus to help fund the Fiscal Year 2022 Water Department's Operational Expenses related to operational needs of the Water Department.*

ARTICLE 4: TRANSFER MONEY INTO THE CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Capital Stabilization Fund, or to take any other action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

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

Summary: *As of the printing of this Warrant, the Fund has a balance of \$80,214. 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. The target amount for the Capital Stabilization Fund will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 33 for additional information related to this Article.*

ARTICLE 5: TRANSFER MONEY INTO THE STABILIZATION FUND

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

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously (to withdraw the Article)*
Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously (to withdraw the Article)*

Summary: *As of the printing of this Warrant, the balance in this fund is \$2,140,794. The financial management goal is to achieve and maintain a balance in the Fund equal to 5% of the total annual budget. The target amount for the Fund will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 33 for additional information related to this Article.*

ARTICLE 6: TRANSFER MONEY INTO THE GDRSD CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Town of Groton Capital Stabilization Fund for the Groton Dunstable Regional School District, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

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

Summary: *As of the printing of the Warrant, the balance in this fund is \$18,136. This fund covers the Town of Groton's share of the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Committee's long-range Capital Plan to address its capital needs. The target amount will be provided at Town Meeting. Please see the Town Manager's Report starting on page 33 for additional information related to this Article.*

ARTICLE 7: CAPITAL PURCHASE – FIRE CHIEF'S VEHICLE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Command Vehicle for the Fire Department, and all costs associated and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

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

Summary: *The original proposed FY 2022 Capital Budget had called for the purchase of a new command vehicle for the Fire Department. During last year's Capital Budget cycle, due to the uncertainty of the budget, it was decided to put off this purchase until the Fall and revisit the potential funding for this purchase. Purchasing this new vehicle is important for the command operation of the Fire Department. This will provide both the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief with reliable response vehicles going into the winter season. In addition, this will provide enhanced incident command and control features for both the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief, which is currently only available with the Fire Chief's vehicle. This capability is vital*

in times when major storms, complex incidents or multiple incidents are occurring simultaneously. The anticipated cost of this vehicle is \$70,000.

ARTICLE 8: ASSESSING SOFTWARE

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, and/or borrow pursuant to any applicable statute, a sum or sums of money, to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager, for the purpose of upgrading the software used in the Assessing Department, and all associated costs related thereto, or to take another other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

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

Summary: *The Assessing Department is currently using Vision 6.5 for the valuation of all Real Property in the Town of Groton. Vision Government Solutions (VGSI) released Vision 8.0 in 2017. The upgrade version operates on a SQL database (**Structured Query Language** which is basically a language used by databases and allows to handle the information using tables and shows a language to query these tables) and includes an enhanced sketching program and report writing features which will allow the Assessing Department to comply with MA Department of Revenue reporting requirements seamlessly. Vision 6.5 operates on an Oracle database that is no longer supported by Oracle. As VGSI sunsets Vision 6.5, support will no longer be available. The cost of this upgrade is \$35,000.*

ARTICLE 9: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING ACCOUNTS

To see if the Town will vote to amend the vote taken under Article 13 of the 2021 Spring Town Meeting by amending the appropriations for the Community Preservation Fund for Fiscal Year 2022 as follows:

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 20,500
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 93,467
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 93,467
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 93,467
Unallocated Reserve:	\$633,769

or to take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

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

Summary: *This is an accounting procedure that is necessary to ensure the Community Preservation Committee will have access to the funds raised during Fiscal Year 2022. The 2021 Spring Town Meeting used estimates to fund these accounts. The Final Accounting is complete and all State reimbursements have been received. This Article updates the subaccounts that were approved at the Spring Town Meeting.*

ARTICLE 10: AMEND ARTICLE 14, MOTION 8 OF 2021 SPRING TOWN MEETING

To see if the Town will vote to amend Article 14, Motion 8 “Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan” of the 2021 Spring Town Meeting by rescinding the appropriation as approved, and in its place approving the following appropriation:

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Thirty Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$30,232) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$230,232 to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-09 “Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan”, on file with the Town Clerk,

or take any other action relative thereto.

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Community Preservation Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *When this Article (project) was approved at the 2021 Spring Town Meeting, the final State Reimbursement for Community Preservation Funds had yet to be received. Based on the best estimates at the time, the Community Preservation Committee recommended that of the amount needed to fund this Project (\$230,232), \$50,000 be appropriated through borrowing. Now that the final State Match projections have been provided, there are sufficient funds within the Community Preservation Fund to pay for the project without needing to borrow any funds. The purpose of this Article is to rescind the original appropriation that required borrowing and utilize only currently available Community Preservation Funds for this Project.*

CONSENT AGENDA MOTION

ARTICLES 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 – CONSENT MOTION

Mover: Joshua Degen

MOTION: I move that the town take affirmative action on Articles 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10, pursuant to the motions as set forth in the Town Meeting Information Handout for this Meeting, without debate and in accordance with the action proposed under each motion, provided however that if any voter requests the right to debate a specific motion, then said motion shall be debated and voted upon separately.

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 2: AMEND FY 2022 TOWN OPERATING BUDGET

Article 2 BUDGET MOTIONS:

Article 2 BUDGET MOTION 1: I move that the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget, as adopted pursuant to Article 5 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting, be amended as follows, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT: By increasing the General Government Appropriation from \$2,153,410 to \$2,169,374 so as to: increase Line Item 1060 – “Board of Assessors Salaries” by \$1,200, from \$80,000 to \$81,200; increase Line Item 1070 – “Treasurer/Tax Collector Salaries” by \$53,138 from \$85,000 to \$138,138; and decrease Line Item 1071 – “Treasurer/Tax Collector Wages” by \$38,374 from \$115,693 to \$77,319; And to transfer the sum of \$10,520 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), and, further, to raise and appropriate from the Fiscal Year 2022 tax levy and other general revenues of the Town the sum of \$5,444 to fund said increases.

Article 2 BUDGET MOTION 2: I move that the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget, as adopted pursuant to Article 5 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting, be amended as follows, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted:

LAND USE DEPARTMENTS: By decreasing the Land Use Departments Appropriation from \$452,856 to \$431,839 so as to decrease Line Item 1220 – “Zoning Board of Appeals Wages by \$21,017 from \$21,017 to \$0.

Article 2 BUDGET MOTION 3: I move that the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget, as adopted pursuant to Article 5 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting, be amended as follows, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: By increasing the Department of Public Works from \$2,202,359 to \$2,293,376 so as to: increase Line Item 1501 – “Highway Department Wages” by \$70,000 from \$656,364 to \$726,364; and increase Line Item 1560 “Parks Department Wages by \$21,017 from \$0 to \$21,017; And to transfer the sum of \$70,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act Appropriation, and, further to raise and appropriate from the Fiscal Year 2022 tax levy and other general revenues of the Town the sum of \$21,017 to fund said increases.

Article 2 BUDGET MOTION 4: I move that the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget, as adopted pursuant to Article 5 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting, be amended as follows, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted:

LIBRARY AND CITIZEN'S SERVICES: By increasing the Library and Citizen's Services Appropriation from \$1,660,560 to \$1,715,760 so as to: increase Line Item 1620 – "Veteran's Service Officer Salary by \$200 from \$6,000 to \$6,200; and increase Line Item 1661 – "Library Wages" by \$55,000 from \$279,389 to \$334,389; And to transfer the sum of \$200 from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), and, further, to raise and appropriate from the Fiscal Year 2022 tax levy and other general revenues of the Town the sum of \$55,000 to fund said increases.

Article 2 BUDGET MOTION 5: I move that the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget, as adopted pursuant to Article 5 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting, be amended as follows, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted:

DEBT SERVICE: By Increasing the Debt Service Appropriation from \$1,880,887 to \$1,996,043 so as to increase Line Item 2002 – "Debt Service – Long Term Debt – Interest – Excluded" by \$115,156 from \$471,752 to \$586,908; And to raise and appropriate from the Fiscal Year 2022 tax levy and other general revenues of the Town the sum of \$115,156 to fund said increase.

Article 2 BUDGET MOTION 6: I move that the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget, as adopted pursuant to Article 5 of the May 1, 2021 Spring Town Meeting, be amended as follows, each line item to be considered as a separate appropriation for the purposes voted:

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS: By Increasing the Employee Benefits Appropriation from \$4,516,593 to \$4,571,593 by increasing Line Item 3010 – "Employee Benefits – Health Insurance/Employee Expenses by \$55,000 from \$1,805,544 to \$1,860,544; And to transfer the sum of \$20,000 from the American Rescue Plan Act Appropriation, and, further to raise and appropriate from the Fiscal Year 2022 tax levy and other general revenues of the Town the sum of \$35,000 to fund said increases.

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 3: TRANSFER – WITHIN WATER ENTERPRISE FUND

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$150,000 be transferred from the Water Enterprise Fund Surplus to the Fiscal Year 2022 Water Enterprise Department Budget for general expenses.

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 4: TRANSFER – CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$600,000 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Capital Stabilization Fund.

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 5: TRANSFER – STABILIZATION FUND

MOTION: I move that Article 5 be Indefinitely Postponed.

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 6: TRANSFER – GDRSD CAPITAL STABILIZATION FUND

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$560,000 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash) to be added to the sum already on deposit in the Groton Dunstable Regional School District Capital Stabilization Fund.

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 7: CAPITAL PURCHASE – FIRE CHIEF’S VEHICLE

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$70,000 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager, to purchase and equip a new Command Vehicle for the Fire Department, and all costs associated and related thereto.

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 8: ASSESSING SOFTWARE

MOTION: I move that the sum of \$35,000 be transferred from the Excess and Deficiency Fund (Free Cash), to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager, for the purpose of upgrading the software used in the Assessing Department, and all associated costs related thereto.

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 9: COMMUNITY PRESERVATION FUNDING ACCOUNTS

MOTION: I move to amend the vote taken under Article 13 of the 2021 Spring Town Meeting by amending the appropriations for the Community Preservation Fund for Fiscal Year 2022 as follows:

CPC Operating Expenses:	\$ 20,500
Open Space Reserve:	\$ 93,467
Historic Resource Reserve:	\$ 93,467
Community Housing Reserve:	\$ 93,467
Unallocated Reserve:	\$633,769

(Consent Agenda) ARTICLE 10: AMEND ARTICLE 14, MOTION 8 OF 2021 SPRING TOWN MEETING

MOTION: I move to amend Article 14, Motion 8 “Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan” of the 2021 Spring Town Meeting by rescinding the appropriation as approved, and in its place approving the following appropriation:

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44B, Section 5, that the sum of Thirty Thousand Two Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$30,232) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Open Space Reserve and the sum of Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000) be appropriated from the Community Preservation Fund Unallocated Reserve for a total of \$230,232 to fund Community Preservation Application 2022-09 "Groton Dunstable Field Restoration Plan", on file with the Town Clerk,

or take any other action relative thereto.

The Moderator read the title of each article in the Consent Agenda, after having advised the Meeting that individual articles could be "held" for further discussion. No articles were held.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Vote on Consent Agenda – Articles 2 through 10: Passed by Majority Vote

ARTICLE 11: WHITNEY POND WELL SITE CONSTRUCTION

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money, by borrowing or otherwise, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay all of the costs of construction related to the development of the new Whitney Pond Well Site (Whitney Pond Well #3), including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, or to take any other action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *Recommended Unanimously*

Water Commission: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This Article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend funds, either borrowed or transferred from available funds, to be raised through water rates, for the Construction related to the new source well at the Whitney Pond Well Site (Whitney Pond #3). The anticipated cost of construction will be provided to Town Meeting.*

Mover: Tom Orcutt

MOTION: I move that Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000) be appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay all of the costs of construction related to the development of the new Whitney Pond Well Site (Whitney Pond Well #3), including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto; that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$700,000, under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §8(5), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager

be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase, and, further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Moved and Seconded

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

VOTE ON ARTICLE 11 – MAIN MOTION: Passed by Unanimous Vote

ARTICLE 12: WATER TREATMENT FACILITY CONSTRUCTION

To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum or sums of money, by borrowing or otherwise, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay all of the costs of construction related to the new Water Treatment Facility to be located at the Whitney Pond Well Site, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, or to take any action relative thereto.

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Select Board: Recommended Unanimously

Finance Committee: Recommended Unanimously

Water Commission: Recommended Unanimously

Summary: *This Article allows the Board of Water Commissioners to expend funds, either borrowed or transferred from available funds, to be raised through water rates, for the Construction related to the new Water Treatment Facility located at the Whitney Pond Well Site.*

Mover: Tom Orcutt

MOTION: I move that Ten Million Eighty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$10,082,000) be appropriated, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Water Commissioners, to pay all of the costs of construction related to the new Water Treatment Facility to be located at the Whitney Pond Well Site, including the payment of all costs incidental and related thereto, that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Select Board, be authorized to borrow the sum of \$10,082,000, under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, §8(4) or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefor; and, further, that the Town Manager be authorized to contract for the accomplishment of the foregoing purpose, including the expenditure of all appropriated funds and any funds received from any source for such purchase, and, further, that any premium received by the Town upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with G.L. c. 44, §20, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- **Q: Are the Water Users in favor of this facility?**
 - **R: The Waters Users are aware of the need for this facility. The Town is under a Consent Order to address iron and manganese levels in the water supply.**
- **Q: Can the facility be made more attractive? It will be located in a visible site.**
 - **R: The facility is being designed to look like a barn. It will suitable for the area.**
- **Q: Will this facility be able to treat PFAS?**
 - **While PFAS have tested low so far in the well, the treatment facility can be modified/extended to treat PFAS if needed.**
- **Q: What is the cost breakdown for each water rate payer?**
 - **R: In anticipation of building this facility in order to comply with the Consent Order, there is currently a \$20 / quarter capital charge itemized on water bills. It is expected that the capital charge may need to be raised to \$35 / quarter for 2-5 years, and then reduced to current levels. These capital charges are predicated on the bids to build the facility.**

VOTE ON ARTICLE 12 – MAIN MOTION: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLE 13: SPECIAL LEGISLATION – CHANGE TOWN CLERK TO APPOINTED

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to enact special legislation to change the position of Town Clerk in the Town of Groton from elected to appointed as follows:

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CHARTER AND THE TOWN CLERK IN THE TOWN OF GROTON

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the office of town clerk in the town of Groton shall be appointed by the select board in accordance with the charter of the town of Groton. The town clerk shall have all the powers, perform the duties and be subject to the liabilities and penalties conferred and imposed by law on town clerks. The town manager may establish an employment contract with the town clerk for salary, fringe benefits and other conditions of employment, including, but not limited to, severance pay, reimbursement for expenses incurred in the performance of the duties of office, liability insurance and conditions of discipline, termination, dismissal, reappointment, performance standards and leave.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding section 1, the position of elected town clerk shall be abolished upon the effective date of this act and the term of the elected incumbent terminated provided, however, that the elected incumbent shall then become the first appointed town clerk and shall serve in that capacity for a period of time equivalent to the remainder of the elected term or sooner resignation, retirement or removal. Thereafter, appointments to the position of town clerk shall be made by the select board under said section 1.

SECTION 3. The charter of the town of Groton, which is on file in the office of the archivist of the commonwealth as provided in section 12 of chapter 43B of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out section 3.1.1, section 3.9, section 3.10, section 3.11, and section 4.5.1, and inserting in place thereof the following sections:

3.1.1 Elective Town Offices - The town offices that the voters shall fill by ballot shall be: (i) the town moderator; (ii) the members of the select board; (iii) the town's component of the Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee; (iv) the commissioners of trust funds; (v) the elected members of the Groton Housing Authority; (vi) the members of the planning board, public library board of trustees, Groton electric light commission, Groton water commission, Groton sewer commission, park commission, board of health and board of assessors; and (vii) other officers or representatives to regional authorities or districts as may be established by law or by interlocal agreement that shall also be filled by ballot at a town election.

3.2.4 Appointing Authority - The select board shall appoint the town manager, town counsel, a zoning board of appeals and a board of registrars. The select board shall appoint a police chief, fire chief and town clerk consistent with clause (v) of section 4.2; provided, however, that the police chief shall serve under section 97A of chapter 41 of the General Laws and the fire chief shall serve under section 42 of chapter 48 of the General Laws. The select board shall appoint a conservation commission, council on aging, housing partnership, local cultural council and other committees as required by law, by-law or town meeting vote.

Section 3.9: Board of Assessors

3.9.1 Composition, Term of Office and Eligibility for Office - There shall be a board of assessors that shall consist of 3 members elected for 3-year terms. An employee in the assessors' office shall not simultaneously hold an elected position as a member of the board of assessors.

3.9.2 Powers and Duties - The board of assessors shall have the powers and duties given to boards of assessors under the constitution and laws of the commonwealth and directives of the commissioner of revenue and such additional powers and duties as may be authorized by this charter, by-law or town meeting vote that are not in conflict with laws of the commonwealth and regulations and directives of the department of revenue except as otherwise provided in this charter.

Section 3.10: Other Elected Officers

Powers and Duties - All other elected officers shall have the powers and duties that have been conferred upon their offices by law, this charter, by-law or town meeting vote.

4.2(v) if a vacancy occurs in the office of police chief, fire chief or town clerk, selecting and presenting not less than 2 qualified candidates to the select board for appointment by the board to the office pursuant to section 3.2.4;

4.5.1 If a vacancy shall occur in the office of town manager, a screening committee shall be established to solicit, receive and evaluate applications for the position of town manager. The screening committee shall consist of 7 persons, 3 of whom shall be designated by the select board, of which only 1 may be a select board member, 2 of whom shall be designated by the finance committee, of which only 1 may be a member of the finance committee, and 2 of whom shall be designated by the town moderator. A person chosen by an appointing authority may be a member of the appointing authority's agency; provided, however, that there shall not be more than 1 select board member and not more than 1 member of the finance committee on the screening committee.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

provided, however, that the General Court may make clerical or editorial changes of form only to the bill, unless the Select Board approves amendments thereto before enactment by the General Court, which amendments shall be within the public purposes of said petition; or take any action relative thereto.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: *Michael Bouchard has served honorably as our Town Clerk since 2008. He was first appointed in January, 2008 to fill a vacancy in office caused by the resignation of Onorina Maloney. He has been (re)elected six times since being appointed (2008, 2009, 2012, 2015, 2018, 2021). In each of these elections, Mr. Bouchard ran unopposed. He recently informed the Town Manager and Select Board that he intends to retire at the end of the year. While he did run unopposed for a new three-year term in May, 2021, he did so to assist the Town through a very important local election (Florence Roche Elementary School Debt Exclusion) and help plan for a transition to a new Town Clerk. That said, his intention to retire gives the Town the unique opportunity to examine the Town Clerk's position in detail and determine if the time is right to change the position from Elected to Appointed. The Town of Harvard took advantage of the elected Town Clerk's retirement to change the position to appointed, and the Town of Middleton is planning on making the change to appointed when the current Town Clerk retires. Since Mr. Bouchard was first appointed in 2008, the Town Clerk's position has changed dramatically. It has become an extremely technical job with many responsibilities that requires experience that is not always available through an election. Specifically, over the last two years, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has completely overhauled election laws. This overhaul requires Town Clerks to understand and implement constant changes in the law. They are much more technical with more and more regulations and responsibilities. Records retention and management laws have changed over the last decade, as has the Open Meeting Law and Conflict of Interest Law. Town Clerks are now called upon more and more for advice and enforcement of these Laws. In addition, Town Clerks have the responsibility of budget*

development, customer service to residents, communications to boards and committees, public communications, cash management, staff management and they must be bondable. All of this requires the ability to vet (appraise, verify, and check for suitability, etc.) candidates for the position. An election does not provide for the same vetting process as an appointment provides. The purpose of this Article is to request approval of a Special Act that would change the Groton Town Clerk from an Elected Position to an Appointed Position. The Article also requests the Legislature to adjust the Groton Charter by deleting reference to the elected town clerk (Sections 3.1.1 and 3.9), adjusting the numbering of subsequent sections (i.e., new sections 3.9 and 3.10; new sections 3.9 and 3.10 do not contain any changes to the text), adding appointment language similar to Police Chief and Fire Chief and removing the Town Clerk from the Town Manager Screening Committee (Section 4.5.1).

Mover: Rebecca Pine

MOTION: I move to authorize the Select Board to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to enact special legislation to change the position of Town Clerk in the Town of Groton from elected to appointed as set forth in the Handout provided for this Town Meeting.

[Town Clerk note: The language “as set forth in the Handout” is incorporated in Section 2 of these Minutes (above). The language corrects a scribe’s error section 2 to reflect that the Select Board makes the appointment of the town clerk. The Handout is included as an appendix to these minutes.]

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- The Meeting was apprised of the error in Section 2 of the warrant and notified that it was corrected in the Handout. The correction in Section 2 states that the appointment of the town clerk would be made by the select board.
- Ms. Pine presented the Select Board’s argument in support of the article:
 - The position of town clerk has become more complicated in the past decade.
 - The town clerk needs to have a specific set of skills and experience to carry out an increasingly complex set of tasks.
 - It is the opinion of the Select Board that the town will find a better and more qualified candidate through a thorough job search and application process, rather than through an election.
 - The Select Board unanimously agreed that the appointment process should be the same as the process used to hire the Police Chief and Fire Chief.
- Mr. Wallens and Mr. Fitzgerald spoke as the main opponents to the article:
 - The 2017 charter review looked at the issue of appointing the Town Clerk, and the appointment process of other bodies. The Finance Committee process was specifically mentioned. It had arrived at the conclusion that the Town Clerk should remain elected.
 - This proposed structural change to town government has not gone through due process.

- The Town Clerk should live in Groton. Appointing the Town Clerk would open the position to non-Groton residents.
- The Select Board will choose a very liberal clerk and create an politically unbalanced Board of Registrars. The Clerk should be an independent and impartial person.
- Mr. Bouchard delivered a statement in support of Article 13. He also thanked present and past team members for delivering great service to the town.
- Mr. Green offered an amendment to name the appointing authority of an appointed town clerk as the town manger.

MOTION TO AMEND ARTICLE 13 – MAIN MOTION (Mr. Green)

I move to amend the main motion be deleting the words “the Handout provided for this Town Meeting” and replacing them with “the Handout entitled ‘Town Manager As Appointing Authority” provided for this Town Meeting.

Summary: The purpose of the ‘Motion to Amend’ is to change the appointing authority for the Town Clerk to be the Town Manager rather than the Select Board. There is no other intentional change included in the replacement language. The reason for the proposed change is to remove any potential or perceived conflicts of interest wherein one of the important and powerful elected boards in town would have appointing authority over the Town’s Chief Election Officer. (Mr. Green)

[Town Clerk note: As this amendment was defeated, the Handout entitled ‘Town Manager As Appointing Authority’ in not included with these minutes.]

Discussion [at this time, debate was limited to Mr. Green’s Motion to Amend]

- Q: What is the Select Board position?
 - R: The Select Board unanimously voted that it should be the appointing authority because the clerk is currently an elected position and would be then appointed by an elected board.
- C: Favors the Select Board appointing process as ratifying a Town Manager’s appointment (as required by the charter) puts pressure on the Select Board to make the ratification, without further due diligence.
- C: Argument to keep the town clerk elected. A town manager appointment would further distance the town clerk from the electorate.

MOTION TO MOVE THE QUESTION (MOTION TO AMEND (Mr. Green))

Moved and Seconded

Quantum: 2/3rds Majority

VOTE ON MOTION TO MOVE THE QUESTION (Amendment – Mr. Green):

Passed by 2/3rds Majority

VOTE ON THE MOTION TO AMEND (Mr. Green):

Quantum: Majority

VOTE: Defeated by Majority Vote

MOTION TO AMEND ARTICLE 13 – MAIN MOTION (Mr. Hargraves)

I move that the main motion (Article 13) be amended by inserting, after Section 4 in the special legislation, a new section that states:

Section 5. This act shall be submitted for acceptance to the voters of the town of Groton at an annual or special town election in the form of the following question which shall be placed on the ballot: Shall an act passed by the general court in the year 20__, entitled 'An Act Relative to the Charter and the Town Clerk in the Town of Groton' be accepted?" If a majority of the votes cast in answer to the question is in the affirmative, the voters shall be taken to have accepted the amendments to the charter of the town of Groton.

Discussion [at this time, debate was limited to Mr. Hargraves' Motion to Amend]

- Mr. Hargraves commented that on such an important article that all voters should have an opportunity to vote on this.
- Ms. Pine: A town meeting vote was all that was required to amend the charter on 2 occasions, including eliminating the elected highway surveyor and creating an appointed DPW Department. This article is following precedent.
- Ms. Pine: A special election would cost \$7,000 to \$10,000. To put this on the May 2022 ballot, with potentially a partial term for the Town Clerk, will be confusing to the voters.
- Mr. Boles: In favor of the amendment. There are only 118 voters present, and it's being asked to change the charter on an important issue.
- Mr. Degen: This is a substantial change to the charter, and supports a ballot approach.
- Q: How would an election be held if the Town Clerk retires?
 - R: The Select Board would appoint an Interim Town Clerk to serve until the next annual town election. At that time the Town Clerk position would be on the ballot for the remainder of the original term (until 2024 in this case). The Town Clerk position would become appointed in 2024, or sooner if there becomes a vacancy in the office (as per the proposed special legislation).
- C: Often less than 2000 voters come out for the town election. In this case, the representatives at this town meeting can vote on this and avoid a "messy" situation.
- Representative Harrington commented on the process of special legislation. She indicated that a preliminary copy of the special legislation was submitted to House Counsel for preliminary review. After review of final legislation, it is released to Representative Harrington to file with the House Clerk. It is then sent to Committee for a hearing and positive recommendation. The timing for this to take place is unknown. Bills are usually filed by the third week in January, so this bill would be a "late file". It is then sent to a Committee on Third Reading and when released, sent to the House Floor where it is scheduled for a vote. A Floor vote may not happen until July , 2022.

MOTION TO MOVE THE AMENDMENT (Mr. Hargraves)

Quantum: 2/3rds Vote

Vote: Passed by 2/3rds Majority

VOTE ON MOTION TO AMEND (Mr. Hargraves): Passed 69 In Favor; 55 Against

Discussion on Article 13- Main Motion:

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- C: The Charter Review Committee in 2017 determined that the Town Clerk should be elected.
- Mr. Wallens supports the Motion As Amended.
- Q: Why make the changes in this way?
 - R: A specific skill set is required for the Town Clerk position. A job search process would be the best way to find candidates. The town meeting vote process was used to amend the charter as it has been used twice previously.
- Mr. Cunningham: people need confidence in the Clerk's ability to conduct elections and the other responsibilities. Many people would be involved in the appointment process.
- Ms. Manugian: A concern with the position remaining elected is that there not an obvious pool of willing candidates.
- Mr. Fitzgerald: There is plenty of training around, so the new clerk can learn the position. He is most concerned that the select Board will play politics by appointing a liberal to the Clerk's position and the Board of Registrars.
- Mr. Baran: If the Clerk is not performing well, voters can just vote the person out. To change an appointed clerk, voters would need to vote the select board out to change the appointment.
- Mr. Boles: Don't give up your right to vote for an office. You won't get it back.
- C: Believe that 2000 voters can best vet an applicant.
- Mr. Petropoulos: As a former Select Board Member and a current committee appointee, he has not observed politics come into play when appointments are made.
- Mr. Haddad: Since 1923, there have been 64 elections, but only 4 contested elections. Does the electorate really have a choice. He relayed an example from his town where an elected clerk did not perform well but there is no recourse.
- Mr. Robertson: This issue is not about politics, but about a better way to find the best candidate. He favors appointment, and favors Mr. Hargraves amendment.
- Mr. Lindemer: Suggested adding a "Section 6" that insures the Town Clerk is "independent" regarding the conduct of elections.
 - Town Counsel Brian Falk discussed this offline with Mr. Lindemer and reported that the rules for elections are set. The Town Manager and Select Board have no role.
- Mr. Easom: This seems to be a question between "Jeffersonian" independence and "Hamiltonian" competence in government. He is not willing to give up a voice in government to have it run more efficiently. He is willing to accept some inefficiency, and favors keeping the Town Clerk and elected position.
- Q: Are interviews public?
 - R: The Select Board final interviews are public. Preliminary interviews are not to protect the confidentiality of candidates.
- The Select Board are representatives of the community. We should reply upon their judgement.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 13 – MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED

Q: Majority

V: Passed by Majority Vote. 7 Voters did not contest the ruling of the Moderator.

ARTICLE 14: EXTEND CENTER SEWER DISTRICT

To see if the Town will vote to extend the “Groton Center Sewer District” as established by the vote of the Special Town Meeting of February 6, 1989, under Article 7, and as shown most recently on the plan approved under Article 8 of the 2015 Fall Town Meeting of October 19, 2015, to include the property shown as Assessors’ Lot 216-102 and further described as the third parcel in a Deed recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 63144, Page 174, and its successors and assigns; provided that all costs of designing, laying, and construction of the extension and any associated connection and the cost of additional capacity and the property owner’s proportionate share of the general benefit facilities, and all other costs associated therewith, are paid by the owner of the property benefited thereby, whether by the assessment of betterments or otherwise, or to take any other action relative thereto.

TOWN MANAGER

Select Board: *Recommended (4 In Favor, 1 Against – Degen)*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Sewer Commission: *Recommended Unanimously*

Summary: *This parcel abuts the Deluxe Property on Main Street. As part of the proposed redevelopment of that property, this parcel is being acquired by the same company purchasing Deluxe to enhance the overall redevelopment. It is important to have this property as part of the Sewer District for that purpose*

Mover: John Reilly

MOTION: I move to extend the “Groton Center Sewer District” as established by the vote of the Special Town Meeting of February 6, 1989, under Article 7, and as shown most recently on the plan approved under Article 8 of the 2015 Fall Town Meeting of October 19, 2015, to include the property shown as Assessors’ Lot 216-102 and further described as the third parcel in a Deed recorded with the Middlesex South District Registry of Deeds in Book 63144, Page 174, and its successors and assigns; provided that all costs of designing, laying, and construction of the extension and any associated connection and the cost of additional capacity and the property owner’s proportionate share of the general benefit facilities, and all other costs associated therewith, are paid by the owner of the property benefited thereby, whether by the assessment of betterments or otherwise.

Moved and Seconded

Quantum of Town Meeting Vote: Majority

Discussion:

- **Planning Board: Does not have a position on this article.**
- **Sewer Commission: Held a public hearing with notice published in the Groton Herald for two weeks and letters to the abutters. No objections were made in the public hearing. The Sewer Commission voted unanimously to support this article. Mr. Gmeiner also noted that when the district was expanded in 2004 to include the**

“NEBS/Deluxe” parcel (500 Main Street), this was likely a paperwork error not to include this parcel.

- **Q: What is the impact to the District’s sewer capacity?**
 - **R: There is sufficient capacity to accept this parcel which may produce 5500 gallons per day.**
- **Mr. Amaral: This is the 5th of 5 parcels that comprise 500 Main Street. It complements the other 4 parcels.**
- **Mr. Degen: Not in favor of this acceptance. Plans for the property are not defined.**
- **Mr. Amaral: The development is anticipated to be a mixed use development. He and his development partners have a have a solid track record. It makes sense to have the entire parcel at 500 Main Street in the district. The development team needs to know what they are working with in order to specify plans.**

VOTE ON ARTICLE 14- MAIN MOTION: Passed by Majority Vote

ARTICLE 15: ZONING AMENDMENT – CLARIFICATION, UDPATE, CORRECTION

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

1. In Section 218-9.3 Multifamily Use, Subsections 218-9.3. B. (3) and 218-9.3. B. (5), delete the words “**Board of Appeals**” and insert the words “**Planning Board**”.
2. In Section 218-3 Definitions, delete the existing definitions for **Dwelling** and **Dwelling Unit**, and replace with the following:
 - a. Dwelling – A building that contains one or more dwelling units used, intended or designed to be used, rented, leased, let or hired out to be occupied for living purposes.
 - b. Dwelling Unit – A single unit providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

or to take any other action relative thereto.

PLANNING BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board Report: *Recommended (Hearing October 7)*

Summary: *The proposed amendment corrects an internal inconsistency in the Zoning Bylaw that dates to the adoption of Article 19 at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting. As part of a comprehensive update of the Zoning Bylaws to implement the recommendations of the Comprehensive Master Plan adopted in 2012, the Schedule of Use Regulations was amended.*

Among the various amendments, the Planning Board was designated as the Special Permit Granting Authority (SPGA) for “Multifamily Uses as allowed by the provisions of Sections 218-27A through 27C” (now Sections 218-9.3 A through C). However, Article 19 failed to update the corresponding language of the cross-referenced Sections A and B, leaving intact the SPGA reference in those subsections as the Zoning Board of Appeals and not the Planning Board as intended in the Schedule of Use amendment. The proposed amendment to Subsections 218-9.3.B.(3) and 218-9.3.B.(5) remedies the regulatory inconsistency by inserting the correct SPGA as intended by the adoption of Article 19 at the 2014 Annual Town Meeting.

Mover: Russell Burke

MOTION: I move to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218, Zoning, as set forth in the document entitled “Article 15: Revised Zoning Cleanup” as set forth in the Handout provided for this Town Meeting.

[Town Clerk note: The wording of the motion for this Article in these minutes incorporates the wording contained in the Handout. The wording change is in Section 2a to read “one or more dwelling units”, as per Planning Board public hearing on October 7, 2021. The Handout is included as an appendix to these minutes.]

Moved and Seconded

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

VOTE ON ARTICLE 15 – MAIN MOTION (as in the Handout) : Passed by 2/3rds Majority

ARTICLE 16: ZONING AMENDMENT – MARIJUANA RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS

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

To amend Chapter 218 of the Town By-Laws (Zoning By-Laws)

- A. By adding the following to Ch. 218-10.4 “Marijuana Establishments” D(3) “Special Permit Requirements”:
 - d. Marijuana product manufacturer
 - e. Marijuana retailer
 - f. Marijuana transportation or distribution facility
 - g. Any other type of licensed marijuana related business
- B. By amending Ch. 218-5.2 “Schedule of Use Regulations” By deleting Line 112 “Marijuana establishments; any other type of licensed marijuana-related business” in its entirety and insert the following:

	USE	R-A ¹⁰	R-B ¹⁰	NB	VCB ¹⁰	GB	I	P ¹⁰	O
112	Marijuana establishments; any								

**other type of licensed
marijuana-related
business:**

Marijuana cultivator, but not including craft marijuana cultivator cooperative	N	N	N	N	PB	PB	N	N
Marijuana product manufacturer	N	N	N	N	PB	PB	N	N
Marijuana retailer	N	N	N	N	PB	N	N	N
Marijuana testing facility	N	N	N	N	PB	PB	N	N
Marijuana transportation or distribution facility	N	N	N	N	N	PB	N	N
Marijuana research facility	N	N	N	N	PB	PB	N	N
Any other type of licensed marijuana- related business including marijuana micro business	N	N	N	N	PB	PB	N	N
On-site consumption of marijuana at licensed marijuana establishment		N	N	N	N	N	N	N

Note: The **PB** shown in bold represents proposed changes from “N”.

or take any action relative thereto.

SELECT BOARD

Select Board: *Recommended Unanimously*

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Planning Board Report: *No Position*

Summary: *At the November 8, 2016 Presidential State Election, Groton voters voted in favor of Question 4 on the ballot; Legalization, Regulation and Taxation of Marijuana. However, there were concerns over the impact this new and emerging business would have on the town. These concerns were expressed in non-binding referendum questions at the May 20, 2018 Annual Town Election where voters expressed opposition to all but two of the marijuana related activities allowed under state law; marijuana research and marijuana testing laboratories. This sentiment was affirmed again at the October 1, 2018 Special Town Meeting where voters narrowly chose to pass a zoning by-law amendment that opted Groton out of all marijuana*

related business with the exception of commercial cultivation and marijuana testing and research facilities. As required by state law, this more restrictive by-law required affirmation at a town election which occurred at a Special Town Election on the November 6, 2018 State Election ballot. Since that time, the marijuana business has evolved and there are numerous examples in other communities where they have operated without issue. These communities are realizing the financial benefit of these businesses through the 3% local sales tax on sales as well as community host agreements negotiated with marijuana vendors. The proponents of Groton's decision to opt out acknowledged the decision could be revisited in the future once more was known about the impact of marijuana related businesses on communities. Recognizing this, Article 22 of the 2018 Spring Town Meeting accepted the provision of state law that would allow the collection of a 3% local sales tax on the recreational sale of marijuana, should those sales be allowed in Groton. This article, if approved, would allow a business in Groton to opt into the recreational marijuana business and realize a non-property tax-based form of revenue that has the potential to be significant.

Mover: Peter Cunningham

MOTION: I move to amend the Code of the Town of Groton, Chapter 218, Zoning, as set forth under Article 16 in the Warrant for the 2021 Fall Town Meeting.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- **Planning Board Report: No Position. The Planning Board preferred to remain neutral.**

VOTE ON ARTICLE 16 – MAIN MOTION: Passed 78 In Favor; 29 Against

ARTICLE 17: CITIZENS' PETITION - TRANSFER TAX TITLE LAND

To see if the Town will vote to transfer the title, jurisdiction, custody and control of Parcel 227 – 135 (Groton Assessors Map 227 and Parcel 135) from the Groton Tax Collector to the Groton Select Board for general municipal purposes, and further to authorize the Groton Select Board in turn to transfer such title, jurisdiction, custody and control of said Parcel to the Groton Housing Authority for use as Groton Housing Authority owned and operated housing on such terms deemed advisable by said Select Board, provided, however, that such title, jurisdiction, custody and control of said Parcel so conveyed shall be subject to reversion to the Town of Groton Select Board in the event that the housing use for which the conveyance is being made is not commenced by the Groton Housing Authority within a five year period from the date of conveyance, or to take any other action related thereto.

CITIZENS' PETITION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
Donald R. Black	573 Longley Road	Katherine Bach	36 Floyd Hill Road

Kyle Petka
Megan Petka
Alicia W. Black
Eric Bach

573 Longley Road
573 Longley Road
573 Longley Road
36 Floyd Hill Road

Karen F. Tuomi
Gail Chalmers
Richard Chalmers
Robert L. Gosselin

27 Windmill Hill Road
123 Pepperell Road
123 Pepperell Road
133 Smith Street

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

Finance Committee: *No Position*

Summary: **The following summary was prepared by the petitioners and represents their view on the Article:** *This property was originally owned by the North Middlesex Mutual Aid Association and used as a training site for Firefighter training. In 2012, after going unused for many years, the Town took title to it through Tax Title Possession. This article would transfer title to the Groton Housing Authority, whose goal it would be to construct Senior Affordable Rental Housing for Groton Citizens. This transfer will help us to address the needs for affordable housing in Groton and continue our policies and strategies to meet the needs of our Seniors.*

Mover: Don Black

MOTION: I move to transfer the title, jurisdiction, custody and control of Parcel 227 – 135 (Groton Assessors Map 227 and Parcel 135) from the Groton Tax Collector to the Groton Select Board for general municipal purposes, and further to authorize the Groton Select Board in turn to transfer such title, jurisdiction, custody and control of said Parcel to the Groton Housing Authority for use as Groton Housing Authority owned and operated housing on such terms deemed advisable by said Select Board, provided, however, that such title, jurisdiction, custody and control of said Parcel so conveyed shall be subject to reversion to the Town of Groton Select Board in the event that the housing use for which the conveyance is being made is not commenced by the Groton Housing Authority within a five year period from the date of conveyance.

Moved and Seconded

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

Discussion:

- **Affordable Housing Trust: Voted unanimously to support**
- **Q: Where is the property? Is there a structure on the property?**
 - **R: It is located about ½ mile up Nashua Road. There is a structure on the property. Demolition and testing would be the responsibility of the Groton Housing Authority.**
- **Ms. A. Manugian: The project is not well defined. Does not favor turning over the land at this time.**
- **Mr. M. Manugian: What is the plan for the property. Does not favor tying the property up.**
- **Mr. Black: This has been fallow land for 40 years. The intention is to build affordable housing.**
- **Q: Who is responsible for possible contamination cleanup from the use of firefighter foam (formerly a fire training site)?**
 - **R: The contamination issue needs to be explored. The Groton Housing Authority would be responsible.**
- **Q: Is there frontage on Nashua Road?**

- R: There are legal questions, including frontage and the right to use an easement.
- Q: Who will pay for the engineering required to determine if the lot is developable?
 - R: The Groton Housing Authority
- Mr. Black: This is a chance to develop some affordable housing. Please support this article.

VOTE ON ARTICLE 17 – MAIN MOTION: 72 In Favor; 29 Against

MOTION TO DISSOLVE THE MEETING

Moved and Seconded

VOTE ON MOTION TO DISSOLVE: Passed by Unanimous Vote

The 2021 fall Town Meeting was dissolved at 11:40 AM on October 23, 2021.

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 4th Day of October in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-One.

Rebecca H. Pine

Rebecca H. Pine, Chair

Alison S. Manugian

Alison S. Manugian, Vice Chair

Peter S. Cunningham

Peter S. Cunningham, Clerk

Joshua A. Degen

Joshua A. Degen, Member

John F. Reilly

John F. Reilly, 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

2021 Fall Town Meeting Minutes
Page 31 of 38

TO THE 2021 FALL TOWN MEETING

The 2021 Fall Town Meeting Warrant contains several warrant articles that seek appropriations, some of which will affect the Tax Rate and some of 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 2022 Tax Rate. In preparing for the Fall Town Meeting, the Select Board and Finance Committee reviewed the balances in the various reserve accounts. These accounts will either be used to fund the various articles, or money will be added to them to comply with the Town's Financial Policies. The balances as of August, 2021, are as follows:

Stabilization Fund:	\$2,140,794
Capital Stabilization Fund:	\$ 80,214
GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund:	\$ 18,136
Unexpended Tax Capacity:	\$ 95,444
Certified Free Cash:	\$2,347,087

The following is a summary of Warrant Articles requesting funding:

Article 1: Unpaid Bills

Requested: \$11,602

There is one unpaid bill owed to Nitsch Engineering for Peer Review services for the Planning Board. The amount of the bill is \$11,602 and funding will come from Free Cash.

Article 2: Amend the FY 2022 Town Operating Budget

Requested: \$311,320

This Article will request the following adjustments in the Operating Budget:

1. Board of Assessors Salaries – When the budget was submitted to the 2021 Spring Town Meeting, the one-time 1.5% cash payment for the Principal Assistant Assessor was inadvertently left out of the budget. The amount needed is \$1,200 and will be funded from Free Cash.
2. Treasurer/Tax Collector Salaries and Wages – When Hannah Moller was promoted to Treasurer-Collector and Mike Hartnett became the Assistant Treasurer-Collector, Mr. Hartnett's pay was placed in the Wage Account instead of the Salary Account. He is not paid hourly, but a weekly salary. Therefore, a transfer of the funds from the Wage Account to the Salary Account (\$43,818) is required. In addition, the Town had agreed to let Mr. Hartnett carry over his accrued vacation to Fiscal Year 2022 so it would not have to be paid out in Fiscal Year 2021. It has been paid to him over the last three months. In addition, similar to the Principal Assistant Assessor issue, the one-time 1.5% cash payment to the Treasurer-Collector was inadvertently left out of the budget. The total amount needed for these two issues is \$9,320 (\$8,045 for Hartnett and \$1,275 for Moller) and will be funded from Free Cash. Finally, there was a calculation error in the Assistant to the Treasurer/Payroll Clerk's Wage Account, including a health insurance opt out. An appropriation of \$5,444 from taxation will be required to cover this shortfall.

3. Zoning Board of Appeals Wages/Park Commission Wages – The Zoning Board of Appeals Administrative Assistant retired at the beginning of the Summer. The Town Manager presented a reorganization plan to the Select Board that would transfer the duties of the ZBA Administrative Assistant to the Land Use Administrative Assistant. To allow for the added duties, the Park Commission Assistant duties were removed from the Land Use Administrative Assistant and a part-time Administrative Assistant was hired to handle Park Commission duties. To address this, \$21,017 will be transferred from the ZBA Wage Account to the Park Commission Wage Account.
4. Highway Department Wages – When the Fiscal Year 2022 Budget was presented to the Finance Committee and Select Board, several positions were eliminated from the Budget due to anticipated reduced revenues due to the impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic. One of the positions eliminated was a Highway Department Heavy Equipment Operator Position. The Town Manager requested that if any funding became available, this would be one of the positions restored. Due to the fact that the Federal Government has provided funding through the Coronavirus Recovery Relief Fund to make up for lost revenues due to the Pandemic, the Select Board has voted to authorize filling this vacancy utilizing these funds. The amount needed in the Wage Account is \$70,000.
5. Veteran's Service Officer Wages – The Town has recently hired a new Veteran's Service Officer (VSO). To assist with the transition, the retiring VSO worked an additional week providing updates and guidance to the new VSO. To fund this, a transfer of \$200 from Free Cash is needed.
6. Library Wages – Similar to the Highway Department, the Library Budget Wage Account was reduced by \$55,000 due to the anticipated loss of revenues caused by the Pandemic. This reduction put the Library Budget below the Municipal Appropriation Requirement for Certification. If a waiver is not granted, the Town would be at risk of losing state funding and the ability to participate in the Merrimack Valley Library Consortium that allows for the sharing of materials with other Libraries in the Region. Due to an increase in New Growth and Motor Vehicle Excise Tax Revenue, the Select Board and Finance Committee voted to restore this funding. The \$55,000 will come from taxation.
7. Health Insurance – Due to changes during Open Enrollment and Qualifying Events, an additional \$35,000 to cover those costs is needed in the Health Insurance Budget and \$20,000 is needed for the restoration of the Highway Department Position (total increase of \$55,000). To fund this, \$35,000 will come from taxation and \$20,000 from the Coronavirus Recovery Relief Funds.
8. Debt Service – Based on the \$8 million bond issue approved for the Florence Roche Elementary School Project, the Town will have an interest payment of \$115,156 due in March, 2022. This amount will be raised through taxation outside the levy limit as excluded debt.

The following is a summary of funds proposed for this Article:

Free Cash:	\$ 10,720
Unexpended Tax Capacity:	\$ 90,352
Excluded Debt Tax Revenue:	\$115,156
Coronavirus Recovery Relief Funds:	<u>\$ 90,000</u>
Total Requested:	<u>\$306,228</u>

Article 3: Transfer - Water Enterprise Fund

Requested: \$150,000

The Water Department will need to transfer \$150,000 out of its excess and deficiency fund to cover additional expenses in Fiscal Year 2022. Specifically, \$95,000 is to cover wages and benefits for the new Water Department employee and for another employee who has worked out of class. \$30,000 is for their Manganese Line Item in the Budget for GELD to purchase and install new power poles and a transformer for the new treatment plant. Finally, \$25,000 is for the Whitney Well #3 Building/Shed (Nashoba Tech is constructing the building and the Department is purchasing the materials and doing some minor sitework).

Article 4: Transfer – Capital Stabilization Fund

Requested: \$600,000

The current balance in this fund is \$80,214. The anticipated Capital Plan for Fiscal Year 2023 is approximately \$600,000. The Town's Financial Policies call for a balance in this Fund of 1.5% of the Operating Budget. If all the transfers and appropriations are approved under Article 2 of this Warrant, the total Fiscal Year Operating Budget will be \$42,588,159. This would require a Capital Stabilization Fund Balance of \$638,822. This Article will request a Transfer of \$600,000 from Free Cash to be added to the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Article 5: Transfer - Stabilization Fund

Requested: \$0

The current balance in the Stabilization Fund is \$2,140,794. The Town's Financial Policies state that this Fund should have a balance of five (5%) percent of our Operating Budget (\$42,588,159). This would require a balance of \$2,129,408. As of the writing of this report, the Town would not need to add to the fund, however, a decision to add funding may be made prior to Town Meeting. This will be addressed, if necessary, at Town Meeting.

Article 6: Transfer - GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund

Requested: \$560,000

The current balance in the GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund is \$18,136. The FY 2023 Capital Plan for the District is \$553,411. This Article will request a Transfer of \$560,000 from Free Cash to be added to the GDRSD Capital Stabilization Fund.

Article 7: Capital Purchase – Fire Chief's Vehicle

Requested: \$70,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: The original proposed FY 2022 Capital Budget had called for the purchase of a new command vehicle for the Fire Department. During last year's Capital Budget cycle, due to the uncertainty of the budget, it was decided to put off this purchase until the Fall and revisit the potential funding for this purchase. Purchasing this new vehicle is important for the command operation of the Fire Department. This will provide both the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief with reliable response vehicles going into the winter season. In addition, this will provide enhanced incident command and control features for both the Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief, which is currently only available with the Fire Chief's vehicle. This capability is vital in times where major storms, complex incidents or multiple incidents are occurring simultaneously. The anticipated cost of this vehicle is \$70,000. Funding for this Article will come from Free Cash.

Article 8: Assessing Software

Requested: \$35,000

From the Summary in the Warrant: The Assessing Department is currently using Vision 6.5 for the valuation of all Real Property in the Town of Groton. Vision Government Solutions (VGSI) released Vision 8.0 in 2017. The upgrade version operates on a SQL database (**Structured Query Language** which is basically a language used by databases and allows to handle the information using tables and shows a language to query these tables) and includes an enhanced sketching program and report writing features which will allow the Assessing Department to comply with MA Department of Revenue reporting requirements seamlessly. Vision 6.5 operates on an Oracle database that is no longer supported by Oracle. As VGSI sunsets Vision 6.5, support will no longer be available. The anticipated cost of this upgrade is \$35,000. Funding for this Article will come from Free Cash.

Article 9: Community Preservation Funding Accounts

From the Summary in the Warrant: This is an accounting procedure that is necessary to ensure the Community Preservation Committee will have access to the funds raised during Fiscal Year 2022. The 2021 Spring Town Meeting used estimates to fund these accounts. The Final Accounting is complete and all State reimbursements have been received. This Article updates the subaccounts that were approved at the Spring Town Meeting.

Article 10: Amend Article 14, Motion 8 of the 2021 Spring Town Meeting

From the Summary in the Warrant: When this Article (project) was approved at the 2021 Spring Town Meeting, the final State Reimbursement for Community Preservation Funds had yet to be received. Based on the best estimates at the time, the Community Preservation Committee recommended that of the amount needed to fund this Project (\$230,232), \$50,000 be appropriated through borrowing. Now that the final State Match projections have been provided, there are sufficient funds within the Community Preservation Fund to pay for the project without needing to borrow any funds. The purpose of this Article is to rescind the original appropriation that required borrowing and utilize only currently available Community Preservation Funds for this Project.

Article 11: Whitney Pond Well Construction**Requested: \$700,000**

This Article will authorize the Water Commission to borrow \$700,000 for the construction of a new well at the Whitney Pond Well Site. This is an important new Water Source for the operation of the Groton Water Department and has been in the Capital Plan for the past several years. Payment of the debt service on the \$700,000 loan will come from Water Rates.

Article 12: Water Treatment Facility Construction**Requested: \$10,082,000**

The Town of Groton and the Groton Water Department are under a Consent Order from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to address elevated levels of manganese in the Town's Water Supply. To address this issue, a new Water Treatment Plant must be constructed. The purpose of this Article is to authorize the Water Commission to borrow the funds necessary to construct the new Treatment Plant. The Water Commission is planning on going out to bid on this project next February. This appropriation will allow them to bid the project and start construction immediately to comply with the schedule approved by the DEP. Payment of the debt service on this loan will come from Water Rates.

Should Town Meeting agree with these appropriations, \$1,287,322 will come from the Town's Free Cash Account, leaving a balance of \$1,059,765. For the line items that are reoccurring and will be funded through taxation, the Town will use all of its unexpended tax capacity and be right at the anticipated Levy Limit for Fiscal Year 2023. The estimated tax rate at the Spring Town Meeting was \$18.09. Based on the proposed changes at the Fall Town Meeting and the increase in the excluded debt budget, the anticipated tax rate is \$18.15. The following chart is a breakdown of the anticipated rate:

	<u>Actual</u> <u>FY 2021</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>FY 2022</u>	<u>Dollar</u> <u>Change</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>Change</u>
Levy Capacity Used*	\$ 32,727,034	\$ 34,088,085	\$ 1,361,051	4.16%
Tax Rate on Levy Capacity Used	\$ 16.53	\$ 17.08	\$ 0.55	3.33%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 8,381	\$ 8,660	\$ 279	3.33%
Excluded Debt	\$ 2,122,284	\$ 2,140,459	\$ 18,175	0.86%
Tax Rate on Excluded Debt	\$ 1.07	\$ 1.07	\$ -	0.00%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 542	\$ 542	\$ -	0.00%
Final Levy Used	\$ 34,849,318	\$ 36,228,544	\$ 1,379,226	3.96%
Final Tax Rate	\$ 17.60	\$ 18.15	\$ 0.55	3.12%
Average Tax Bill	\$ 8,923	\$ 9,202	\$ 279	3.12%

*The FY 2022 Levy Limit includes FY 2021 unexpended tax capacity of \$280,997 and \$15.8 million in New Growth.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark W. Haddad
 Mark W. Haddad
 Town Manager

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

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Groton, MA 01450
PERMIT #3

RESIDENTIAL POSTAL PATRON GROTON, MA

Town of Groton - Annual Town Election - May 25, 2021

Town of Groton, Ma				
FINAL RESULTS				
Annual Town Election May 25, 2021				
Election Turnout	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Groton Registered Voters (April 9, 2021)	2998	2804	2690	8492
May 25 Voter Turnout	693	486	567	1746
Turnout %	23.12%	17.33%	21.08%	20.56%
Office/Candidate	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Board of Assessors	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Jenifer Evans, Candidate for Re-election	536	355	412	1303
Write - In (scatterings)	3	4	3	10
Blank	154	127	152	433
Total	693	486	567	1746
Board of Health	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Michelle Collette	541	360	447	1348
Write - In (scatterings)	4	1	3	8
Blank	148	125	117	390
Total	693	486	567	1746
Select Board	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Craig A. Bennett	126	133	142	401
Peter S. Cunningham	416	231	294	941
Vikram Narayan	105	90	92	287
Write - In (scatterings)	1	1	3	5
Blank	45	31	36	112
Total	693	486	567	1746
Commissioner of Trust Funds	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Joseph E. Twomey, Candidate for Re-election	551	372	456	1379
Write - In (scatterings)	0	1	1	2
Blank	142	113	110	365
Total	693	486	567	1746
Groton Electric Light Commission	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Kevin J. Lindemer, Candidate for Re-election	560	376	436	1372
Write - In (scatterings)	1	1	1	3
Blank	132	109	130	371
Total	693	486	567	1746

Town of Groton - Annual Town Election - May 25, 2021

Office/Candidate	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Park Commission - 3 Year Term	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Anna Eliot, Candidate for re-election	523	348	415	1286
Write - In (scatterings)	4	1	3	8
Blank	166	137	149	452
Total	693	486	567	1746
Park Commission - 2 Year Term	Vote for One		Two Year Term	
Write - In (Total of top votes and scatterings)	23	9	20	52
Top Vote Write-in (Tie Vote - Failure to Elect)				
Brad Pierantozzi	2	1		3
Don Black	2		1	3
Kate Ferrioca	1		2	3
Write-in scatterings (total)	18	8	17	43
Robert Lockett	1			1
Tony DeRouin	1			1
Nick Degaihs	1			1
Mark Presti	1			1
Joseph Fischetti	2			2
Carl Flowers	1			1
Michelle Spears	1			1
Jenifer Evans	1			1
Andrew Saball	1			1
Leslie Knope	1			1
Teresa F. Cartier	1			1
Dan Twomey	1			1
Dianne Amarao	1			1
Nadia Madden	1			1
Mike Koza	1			1
Rob Flynn	1		1	2
S.C.Flynn	1			1
Paul Matise		1		1
Steve Stark		1		1
Phil Francisco		1		1
Mark Gerath		1		1
Jeff Dries		1		1
Elizabeth McCauley		1		1
Joe Bezcek		1		1
Jack Petropoulos		1		1
Guy Albergini			1	1
Michael Kinnon			1	1
Craig Bennett			1	1
Chris Davey			1	1
Pia Anctil			1	1
Matt Pisani			1	1

Town of Groton - Annual Town Election - May 25, 2021

Art Check			1	1
Joseph Ravagni			1	1
Jason Dolforia			2	2
M. B. Lowry			1	1
Vikram Narayan			1	1
Sean Metras			2	2
Brad Paul			1	1
Tom Delaney			1	1
Blank	670	477	547	1694
Total	693	486	567	1746
Office/Candidate	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Planning Board - 3 Year Term	Vote for Three	Three Year Term		
Lorayne A. Black, Candidate for Re-election	474	320	379	1173
Russel J. Burke, Candidate for Re-election	469	318	351	1138
Alison J. Bedard	466	306	350	1122
Write - In (scatterings)	2	1	3	6
Blank	668	513	618	1799
	2079	1458	1701	5238
Sewer Commission	Vote for One	Three Year Term		
Michael F. Bouchard, Candidate for Re-election	540	361	442	1343
Write - In (scatterings)	1	0	3	4
Blank	152	125	122	399
Total	693	486	567	1746
Trustees of the Groton Public Library	Vote for Two	Three Year Term		
Jane R. Allen, Candidate for Re-election	500	344	410	1254
Kristen Von Campe, Candidate for Re-election	497	332	376	1205
Write - In	0	0	1	1
Blank	389	296	347	1032
Total	1386	972	1134	3492
Trustees of the Groton Public Library	Vote for One	Two Year Term		
Kathryn Bettencourt	509	355	410	1274
Write - In (scatterings)	1	0	0	1
Blank	183	131	157	471
Total	693	486	567	1746

Town of Groton - Annual Town Election - May 25, 2021

Office/Candidate	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
Water Commission	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
John J. McCaffrey, Candidate for Re-election	521	357	417	1295
Write - In (scatterings)	0	0	1	1
Blank	172	129	149	450
Total	693	486	567	1746
Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee	Vote for Two		Three Year Term	
Fay I. Raynor, Candidate for Re-election	484	328	369	1181
Brian C. LeBlanc, Candidate for Re-election	503	318	386	1207
Write - In (scatterings)	6	8	8	22
Blank	393	318	371	1082
Total	1386	972	1134	3492
Groton Housing Authority - 3 Year Term	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
John R. Sopka	503	334	394	1231
Write - In (scatterings)	1	1	1	3
Blank	189	151	172	512
Total	693	486	567	1746
Town Clerk	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Michael Bouchard, Candidate for Re-election	571	373	457	1401
Write - In	0	0	0	0
Blank	122	113	110	345
Total	693	486	567	1746
Town Moderator	Vote for One		Three Year Term	
Jason N. Kauppi, Candidate for Re-election	561	364	448	1373
Write - In (scatterings)	0	0	2	2
Blank	132	122	117	371
Total	693	486	567	1746
Ballot Question #1:				
Shall the Town of Groton be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the bond issued for the purpose of funding the design and construction of a new kindergarten through fourth grade elementary school with an approximate square footage of 109,855 square feet located at 342 Main Street in Groton, Massachusetts, inclusive of abatement and demolition of the existing school structures on said property, new parking lots, relocation and construction of the existing track, various other site improvements, and all other costs incidental and related thereto?				
	Precinct 1	Precinct 2	Precinct 3	Total
YES	429	287	347	1063
NO	246	188	205	639
Blank	18	11	15	44
Total	693	486	567	1746

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, 2021

	Governmental Fund Types			Fiduciary Fund Types	Total (Memorandum Only)
	General	Special Revenue	Capital Projects	Water, Sewer, Cable & Electric Light Enterprise Funds	Exp & Non-Exp Trust Funds
Revenues:					
Property Taxes / SurTaxes	35,124,996	816,307			35,941,303
Motor Vehicle/Other Excise	2,019,066				2,019,066
Licenses and Permits	465,011				465,011
State / Fed Revenue	975,619	2,223,352	605,655	118	3,804,744
Charges for Servs/Fees/Rent	1,222,917	443,687		13,988,062	15,654,666
Penalties and Interest	140,840				140,840
Fines and Forfeits	23,548				23,548
Interest Earnings	39,470	7,340		9,189	3,959,515
Departmental and Other	1,172,732	77,614	90,000	554	1,355,536
Total Revenues	41,184,199	3,568,300	695,655	13,997,923	63,364,229
Expenditures:					
General Government	2,368,266	208,248			2,576,514
Public Safety	4,383,322	359,726			4,743,048
Education	23,415,512	0			23,563,006
Highway and Public Works	1,675,067	17,602	85,012	12,257,105	14,034,786
Culture, Recreation & Cit Svcs	1,644,881	158,242		212,554	2,237,805
Debt Service	1,762,179	493,091		535,569	2,790,839
Intergovernmental	94,829	813,472			908,301
Capital Outlay/Construction	860,822	316,423	1,550,603	49,599	2,777,447
Employee Benefits & Misc.	4,224,708				4,224,708
Total Expenditures	40,429,586	2,366,804	1,635,615	13,054,827	57,856,454
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	754,613	1,201,496	(939,960)	943,096	5,507,775
Other Financing Sources (Uses):					
Operating Transfers In	1,082,815	239	268,663	0	1,949,811
Operating Transfers Out	(375,368)	(1,091,044)	(56,338)	(38,650)	(1,951,672)
Proceeds of Bonds			6,810		6,810
Total Other Sources (Uses)	707,447	(1,090,805)	219,135	(38,650)	4,949
Excess of Revenues and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and Other Uses	1,462,060	110,691	(720,825)	904,446	5,512,724
Fund Balance, Beginning	0	0	0	0	0
Adjust to Fair Market Value	2,279,841	2,798,514	128,233	22,364,376	23,494,143
Prior Period Adjutment	(918)			411,313	410,395
Fund Balance, Beginning, as Restated	2,278,923	2,798,514	128,233	22,775,689	51,475,502
Fund Balance, Ending	3,740,983	2,909,205	(592,592)	23,680,135	56,988,226

Town of Groton, Massachusetts
Statement of Revenues and Expenditures
Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP Basis)
General Funds
For The Year Ended June 30, 2021

	Final <u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues:			
Property Taxes	34,849,318	34,725,289	(124,029)
Motor Vehicle, Boat, Room & Meals Excise	1,705,341	2,019,066	313,725
Payments in Lieu of Taxes	265,000	399,707	134,707
Licenses, Leases, Fees and Permits	1,137,045	1,602,682	465,637
Intergovernmental (State Aid)	950,546	975,619	25,073
Charges for Services	82,000	85,246	3,246
Penalties and Interest	110,000	140,840	30,840
Fines and Forfeits	26,000	23,548	(2,452)
Interest Earnings	40,000	39,470	(530)
Departmental and Other	982,158	1,172,732	190,574
Total Revenues	40,147,408	41,184,199	1,036,791
Expenditures:			
General Gov	2,618,038	2,413,572	204,466
Public Safety	4,385,631	4,151,814	233,817
Education	23,680,684	23,680,684	0
Highway and Public Works	2,333,953	2,222,161	111,792
Culture, Recreation & Citizen's Services	1,694,400	1,518,866	175,534
Capital Expenditures/Special Articles	573,870	410,951	162,919
Debt Service	1,737,302	1,737,209	93
Intergovernmental (State Cherry Sheet Chgs)	94,829	94,829	0
Employee Benefits & Miscellaneous	3,967,369	3,959,726	7,643
Prior Year Encumbrances	553,519	214,804	338,715
Total Expenditures	41,639,595	40,404,616	1,234,979
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	(1,492,187)	779,583	2,271,770
Other Financing Sources (Uses):			
Operating Transfers In/Repurposed Funds	1,082,815	1,082,815	0
Available Funds: Encumbrances	553,045	553,045	0
Operating Transfers Out	(376,718)	(375,368)	1,350
Free Cash to Offset Tax Rate	0	0	0
Free Cash & Overlay Appropriated	528,849	528,849	0
Additional Overlay & Deficits to be raised	(289,466)	(289,466)	0
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	1,498,525	1,499,875	1,350
Excess of Revenue and Other Sources Over (Under) Expenditures and other Uses	6,338	2,279,458	2,273,120

FISCAL 2021
BUDGET VS ACTUAL EXPENDITURES

	Appropriation or Bal/Fwd	Res. Fund or Line Item Tx	Expended	Balance to Fund Bal	Balance to FY 22
GENERAL GOVERNMENT					
Moderator Salary	65.00		65.00	0.00	
Moderator Expense	80.00		0.00	80.00	
Selectmen Expense	3,300.00		2,388.46	911.54	
Selectmen Expense Prior Year	2,000.00		2,000.00	0.00	
Selectmen Minor Capital (Sewer SRF)	25,683.00		25,556.29	126.71	
Town Manager Salaries	228,635.00	7,246.00	235,880.05	0.95	
Town Manager Wages	125,336.00		124,977.28	358.72	
Town Manager Expense	14,600.00		8,322.11	5,277.89	1,000.00
Town Manager Expenses Prior Year	660.00		160.00	500.00	
Town Mgr Consulting Sportsman's Club	18,000.00		0.00	18,000.00	
Finance Committee Expense	215.00		210.00	5.00	
Reserve Fund	150,000.00	(64,500.00)		85,500.00	
Town Accountant Salary	97,083.00		97,082.86	0.14	
Town Accountant Wages	49,627.00	310.00	49,936.74	0.26	
Town Accountant Expense/Audit	37,595.00	(310.00)	35,489.80	1,795.20	
Assessors Salaries	80,528.00	5,056.00	85,583.63	0.37	
Assessors Wages	64,728.00	(5,056.00)	53,465.50	6,206.50	7,462.00
Assessors Revaluation Expense	20,000.00		12,538.00	0.00	
Assessors Revaluation Expense Prior Year	21,600.00		0.00	21,600.00	
Assessors Revaluation Expense FY22	29,200.00		4,348.05	0.00	24,851.95
Assessors Expense	25,858.00	(2,831.00)	15,540.60	7,486.40	
Treasurer/Tax Collector Salary	93,975.00		93,975.58	(0.58)	
Treasurer/Tax Collector Wages	119,037.00	5,694.00	124,730.75	0.25	
Treasurer/Tax Collector Expense	20,945.00	(1,465.00)	19,479.25	0.75	
Treasurer/Tax Collector Expense Prior Year	200.00		0.00	200.00	
Treasurer Tax Title	5,725.00	(2,429.00)	2,461.00	835.00	
Treasurer Bond Costs	4,900.00	(1,800.00)	3,100.00	0.00	
Town Counsel Expense	90,000.00		85,216.55	0.00	4,783.45
Town Counsel Expense Prior Year	2,000.00		1,985.00	15.00	
Personnel Board Salary	84,313.00		84,312.83	0.17	
Personnel Board Expense	11,000.00		9,107.46	0.00	1,892.54
Personnel Board Expense Prior Year	500.00		152.00	348.00	
Information Technology Committee Salary	117,004.00		117,003.32	0.68	
Information Technology Committee Wages	61,095.00	21.00	61,115.77	0.23	
Information Technology Committee Expense	24,800.00	(21.00)	20,592.24	4,186.76	
Information Technology Committee Exp PY	2,000.00		1,368.39	631.61	
Information Technology Capital Exp FY20	27,152.38		27,152.38	0.00	
Information Technology Capital Exp FY21	40,000.00		4,138.23	0.00	35,861.77
GIS Committee Expenses	10,800.00	11,500.00	16,000.00	6,300.00	

Town Clerk Salary	92,073.00		92,072.70	0.30
Town Clerk Wages	67,751.00	1,740.00	69,490.48	0.52
Town Clerk Expense	9,867.00	85.00	9,951.39	0.61
Election/Registrar Wages	19,115.00	(1,740.00)	16,356.16	1,018.84
Election/Registrar Wages Prior Year	450.00		450.00	0.00
Election/Registrar Expense	12,185.00	10,000.00	11,280.49	10,904.51
Street Listing Expense	5,000.00	(85.00)	4,706.05	208.95
Conservation Commission Salary	71,545.00	(75.00)	70,277.98	1,192.02
Conservation Commission Expense	7,350.00	75.00	7,196.26	8.74
Planning Board Salary	85,518.00		85,518.70	(0.70)
Planning Board Expense	8,650.00		5,540.47	2,109.53
Planning Board Expense Prior Year	250.00		250.00	0.00
Planning Board MRPC Assessment	3,756.00		3,755.46	0.54
Board of Appeals Wages	21,375.00		20,524.48	850.52
Board of Appeals Expense	1,500.00		484.00	816.00
Municipal Buildings Wages	149,451.00	1,196.00	150,646.79	0.21
Municipal Buildings Expense	270,950.00	19,100.00	275,040.14	9.86
Municipal Buildings Expense Prior Year	7,100.00		5,311.63	1,788.37
Municipal Buildings Minor Capital	20,000.00		19,855.83	144.17
Municipal Building Repair FY20	19,614.52		19,614.52	0.00
Muni Bldg Repair Police Station FY20	20,000.00		19,319.21	680.79
Prescott Operational Maintenance FY19	31,872.48		31,872.48	0.00
ADA Improvements FY19	38,377.31		16,304.35	0.00
Police Station Roof/Siding FY21	50,000.00		0.00	0.00
Building Security FY17	2,800.09		0.00	0.00
Insurance and Bonding	230,000.00	20,000.00	243,884.79	4,115.21
Insurance Deductible Reserve-GenLiab	12,000.00		12,000.00	0.00
Insurance Deductible Reserve-GenLiab Pr Yr	8,779.95		0.00	8,779.95
Insurance Deductible Reserve-111F	25,000.00	(19,100.00)	0.00	5,900.00
Insurance Deductible Reserve-111F Prior Yr	5,000.00		193.20	4,806.80
Town Reports	1,500.00		1,416.41	83.59
Postage, General Expenses	60,000.00	10,000.00	53,942.42	14,057.58
Postage, General Expenses Prior Year	2,568.96		661.96	1,907.00
Central Purchasing/Office Supplies	17,000.00		12,837.07	2,162.93
Telephone Expense	35,000.00		24,033.60	8,966.40
Telephone Expense Prior Year	5,000.00		651.42	4,348.58
Total General Government	3,128,638.69	(7,389.00)	2,710,875.56	235,229.37
PROTECTION OF PERSONS AND PROPERTY				
Police Department Salary	268,334.00	(10,000.00)	200,206.83	58,127.17
Police Department Wages	1,968,864.00		1,952,785.75	16,078.25
Police Department Expense	217,200.00		177,092.88	37,784.10
Police Department Expense Prior Year	25,175.13		125.13	25,050.00
Police Department Cruisers Lease/Purchase	4,920.00		4,920.00	0.00
Police Department Minor Capital	20,000.00		19,965.81	34.19
Total	3,128,638.69	(7,389.00)	2,710,875.56	175,144.76

Police Department New Cruisers FY21	56,570.00	37,331.63	0.00	19,238.37
Fire Department Salaries	235,000.00	234,999.96	0.04	
Fire Department Wages	999,244.00	929,402.47	69,841.53	
Fire Department Expense	174,700.00	174,566.77	6,238.23	20,100.00
Fire Exp Prior Year	203.00	203.00	0.00	
Fire Department Minor Capital Prior Year	8,791.61	8,791.61	0.00	
Fire Dept. Ambulance 2 Replaced FY21	325,000.00	316,604.00	0.00	8,396.00
Fire Hydrant Charge West Groton	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Fire Hydrant Charge Groton	1.00	0.00	1.00	
Building Inspector Salaries	93,975.00	118,521.96	453.04	
Building Inspector Wages	56,970.00	55,788.39	581.61	
Building Inspector Expense	3,100.00	3,699.79	0.21	
Salaries/Fees-Mechanical Inspector	30,000.00	38,620.00	180.00	1,200.00
Mechanical Inspector Expense	5,000.00	2,838.28	1,861.72	300.00
Mechanical Inspector Expense Prior Year	79.18	79.18	0.00	
Sealer Weights & Measures Salary/Fees	3,200.00	300.00	2,460.00	440.00
Sealer Weights & Measures Expense	100.00	0.00	100.00	
Earth Removal Inspector Salary	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	
Earth Removal Inspector Expense	100.00	0.00	100.00	
Animal Inspector/Animal Control Off. Salaries	4,164.00	4,164.16	(0.16)	
Animal Inspector/Animal Control Off.Expense	800.00	250.00	300.00	250.00
Civil Defense Salaries	4,000.00	4,000.00	0.00	
Civil Defense/Aux Police/EOC Expenses	12,500.00	12,500.00	0.00	
Dog Officer Salary	15,000.00	14,503.08	496.92	
Dog Officer Expense	4,000.00	3,997.34	2.66	
Police & Fire Communications Wages	416,823.00	409,095.30	7,727.70	
Police & Fire Communications Expense	23,875.00	9,364.03	14,229.97	281.00
Police & Fire Communications Exp Prior Yr	45.00	40.43	4.57	
Dispatch Building Upgrade FY18	42,498.84	0.00	0.00	42,498.84
Dispatch Building Upgrade FY19	60,000.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00
Dispatch Building Upgrade FY20	60,000.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00
Total Protection Persons and Property	5,142,733.76	51,205.00	4,737,257.78	241,653.75
SCHOOLS				215,027.23

Nashoba Valley Tech High School Assmt	688,273.00	688,273.00	0.00	
Minuteman Regional Vocation Technical	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Groton Dunstable Reg School District Assmt	22,992,411.00	22,992,411.00	0.00	
Total Schools	23,680,684.00	0.00	23,680,684.00	0.00

PUBLIC WORKS & FACILITIES				
General Highway Salary	115,659.00	115,659.21	(0.21)	
General Highway Wages	708,055.00	646,439.37	60,419.63	
General Highway Expense	136,900.00	125,642.55	6,730.45	4,527.00
General Highway Prior Year Exp	110.00	110.00	0.00	

General Highway Road Maintenance	90,000.00	54,076.47	5,073.53	30,850.00
General Highway Pick Up Truck FY21	45,000.00	43,437.61	1,562.39	
General Highway James Brook Maint. FY19	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
Snow & Ice Overtime	140,000.00	137,132.77	2,867.23	
Snow & Ice Expense	165,000.00	195,332.99	(30,332.99)	
Snow & Ice Hired Equipment	35,000.00	82,972.75	(47,972.75)	
Street Lighting	15,000.00	12,203.78	2,796.22	
Waste Disposal Wages	143,243.00	138,483.57	4,759.43	
Waste Disposal Consulting	5,850.00	5,850.00	0.00	
Waste Disposal Expense	44,486.00	40,596.46	3,889.54	
Waste Disposal Tipping Fees	135,000.00	155,100.89	6,768.75	13,130.36
Waste Disposal Tipping Fees Prior Year	2,840.95	795.00	2,045.95	
Waste Disposal Minor Capital	10,000.00	6,774.97	3,225.03	
Tree Department Expense	3,000.00	612.44	0.00	2,387.56
Tree Department Tree Work	11,500.00	8,800.00	0.00	2,700.00
Graves Registration Salary	250.00	250.00	0.00	
Graves Registration Expense	760.00	759.65	0.35	
Care of Veterans' Graves	1,550.00	1,550.00	0.00	
Total Public Works & Facilities	1,859,203.95	1,772,580.48	21,832.55	103,594.92

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Board of Health Expense	1,575.00	829.85	745.15	
Board of Health Engineering Consult	10,000.00	11,233.00	17.00	
Board of Health Engineering Consult Prior Yr	1,187.50	1,187.50	0.00	
Nashoba Nursing Service/Health Assessment	41,841.00	49,841.20	(0.20)	
Council on Aging Salaries	81,868.00	88,446.51	0.49	
Council on Aging Wages	81,026.00	72,037.39	2,207.61	
Council on Aging Expense	8,454.00	8,655.95	0.05	
Senior Center Van Wages	52,091.00	37,842.17	14,248.83	
Senior Center Van Expenses	17,673.00	5,126.43	12,220.57	326.00
Senior Center Van Expenses Prior Year	143.54	143.54	0.00	
Veterans' Agent Salary	5,000.00	5,000.06	(0.06)	
Veterans' Agent Expense	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00	
Veterans' Benefits	42,000.00	(1,250.00)	16,740.63	
Total Health & Human Services	343,959.04	304,352.97	47,280.07	326.00

LIBRARY AND CITIZENS' SERVICES

Library Salaries	407,364.00	418,094.97	0.03	
Library Wages	331,959.00	(10,731.00)	54,167.63	
Library Expense	205,304.00	(30,000.00)	40,514.33	11,750.00
Library Expense Prior Year	22,560.00	10,861.75	11,698.25	
Library Emergency Exit FY19	40,000.00	40,000.00	0.00	
Country Club Salaries	161,634.00	161,609.00	25.00	
Country Club Wages	144,000.00	(25,974.00)	0.42	

Country Club Expenses	136,000.00	31,974.00	163,420.67	4,329.42	223.91
Country Club Expenses Prior Year	25.00		22.77	2.23	
Country Club Rough Triplex Mower	5,100.00		5,091.45	8.55	
Country Club Pool Improvements FY20	12,581.42		12,581.42	0.00	
Park Department Expense	55,759.00	20,000.00	50,940.44	0.00	24,818.56
Park Department Expense Prior Year	612.55		612.55	0.00	
Care of the Old Burying Ground	800.00		0.00	800.00	
Town Forest Expense FY11	2,800.00		0.00	0.00	2,800.00
Town Forest Expense FY21	5,000.00		0.00	0.00	5,000.00
Celebrations/Commemorations	500.00		86.06	413.94	
Great Ponds Advisory Gen Expenses	2,385.00		50.36	0.00	2,334.64
Weed Harvesting/Great Ponds Expense	7,000.00	15,000.00	17,566.13	4,433.87	
Water Safety Wages	4,200.00		931.50	3,268.50	
Water Safety Expense	11,732.00		5,304.48	6,427.52	
Water Safety Expense Prior Year	3,400.00		2,900.00	500.00	
Total Library and Citizens' Services	1,560,715.97	11,000.00	1,398,199.17	126,589.69	46,927.11

DEBT SERVICE

Principal Long-Term Debt	1,129,424.00		1,129,423.38	0.62	
Interest Long-Term Debt	598,828.00		598,827.88	0.12	
Short-Term Debt Prin/Int	91,574.00		91,482.04	91.96	
Total Debt Service	1,819,826.00	0.00	1,819,733.30	92.70	0.00

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

County Retirement Assessment	2,090,289.00		2,090,289.00	0.00	
Health & Life Insurance	1,727,080.00		1,727,020.60	59.40	
Health & Life Insurance Prior Year	4,000.00		4,000.00	0.00	
Unemployment Compensation	15,000.00		10,008.00	0.00	4,992.00
Unemployment Compensation Prior Year	13,040.00		0.00	13,040.00	
Medicare Employer Contribution	135,000.00		132,407.96	0.04	2,592.00
Medicare Employer Contribution Prior Year	5,500.00		4,903.98	596.02	
Total Employee Benefits	3,989,909.00	0.00	3,968,629.54	13,695.46	7,584.00

WATER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

Water Department Salaries	154,549.00		151,444.41	3,104.59	
Water Department Wages	176,927.00	15,000.00	186,050.30	5,876.70	
Water Department Expense	655,300.00	117,715.00	499,510.60	272,543.40	961.00
Water Department Expense Prior Year	33.00		32.16	0.84	
Water Manganese Project FY20	135,241.39		49,598.89	85,642.50	
Water Whitney III Project		100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00	
Water Department Debt Service	402,140.00	285.00	400,624.49	1,800.51	
Total Water Department Enterprise	1,524,190.39	233,000.00	1,287,260.85	468,968.54	961.00

SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

Sewer Department Salaries	20,179.00	368.00	20,488.47	58.53
Sewer Department Wages	50,695.00	32.00	50,727.00	0.00
Sewer Department Expense	656,032.00	259,600.00	534,551.94	381,080.06
Sewer Department Expense Prior Year	35.00		28.47	6.53
Sewer Dept: Debt Service (incl. betterments)	36,395.00		36,394.58	0.42
Total Sewer Department Enterprise	763,336.00	260,000.00	642,190.46	381,145.54
				0.00

4 CORNERS SEWER DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

Sewer Department Salaries	0.00		0.00	0.00
Sewer Department Wages	0.00		0.00	0.00
Sewer Department Expense	32,805.00	40,000.00	34,902.10	37,902.90
Sewer Dept: Debt Service	0.00		0.00	0.00
Total Sewer Department Enterprise	32,805.00	40,000.00	34,902.10	37,902.90
				0.00

CABLE DEPARTMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

Cable Department Salaries	78,695.00	15,000.00	93,104.38	590.62
Cable Department Wages	56,454.00		55,272.11	1,181.89
Cable Department Expense	74,655.00	(5,000.00)	58,737.37	10,917.63
Cable Department Expense Prior Year	150.00		125.99	24.01
Cable Department Minor Capital	5,000.00		2,356.71	2,643.29
Cable Department Minor Capital Prior Year	3,500.00		2,958.00	542.00
Total Cable Department Enterprise	218,454.00	10,000.00	212,554.56	15,899.44
				0.00

STORMWATER ENTERPRISE FUND

Stormwater Department Salaries				
Stormwater Department Wages		43,800.00	31,330.01	12,469.99
Stormwater Department Expense		95,000.00	27,536.60	67,463.40
Stormwater Department Minor Capital		50,000.00	0.00	0.00
Total Stormwater Enterprise Fund	0.00	188,800.00	58,866.61	79,933.39
				50,000.00
				50,000.00

CAPITAL PROJECTS

Complete Streets Engineering	40,544.34		720.77	0.00	39,823.57
Senior Center Building FY18	53,269.20		7,749.00	0.00	45,520.20
Fire Engine 3 FY20	650,000.00		650,000.00	0.00	0.00
DPW Garage FY19	265,859.33		265,859.33	0.00	0.00
Library Roof FY19	75,066.13		50,000.00	0.00	25,066.13
Water Manganese Treatment Plant	722,300.00		83,400.00	0.00	638,900.00

Total Capital Projects	1,807,039.00	0.00	1,057,729.10	0.00	110,409.90
GRAND TOTAL	45,871,494.80	833,420.00	43,685,816.48	1,670,223.40	709,974.92

**SPECIAL REVENUE
FISCAL 2021**

	Bal. Forward	Receipts	Expenditures	Bal to FY22
CHAPTER 90 HIGHWAY FUNDS	(5,719.00)	605,655.00	627,886.00	(27,950.00)
Chapter 90 Highway Funds				0.00

Note: Bal. forward to 2022 incl. encumbrances for incomplete projects; Unalloc Rsrv incl. operating rsrv

Community Preservation Fund					
Unallocated Reserve	430,409.37	809,662.67	770,368.58		469,703.46
Community Housing Reserve	562,123.45	115,137.53	245,992.69		431,268.29
Historic Resource Reserve	214,889.35	115,137.53	180,971.89		149,054.99
Open Space Reserve	70,587.57	115,137.53	99,305.00		86,420.10
Totals	1,278,009.74	1,155,075.26	1,296,638.16	0.00	1,136,446.84

GIFTS

150 Highway Department	540.43	1,850.00	5.02		2,385.41
151 Fire Department SAFE	263.13				263.13
152 Fire Department	12,848.03	2,930.00	362.37		15,415.66
153 EMS	2,436.68				2,436.68
154 Police Department	11,515.22	2,075.00	1,276.15		12,314.07
155 Shooting Range	144.04				144.04
156 DARE	1,086.05				1,086.05
158 Sargisson Beach GLA Gift	5,000.00				5,000.00
159 Civil Defense	1,100.34				1,100.34
160 Library	52,882.52	6,555.05	5,184.02		54,253.55
161 Council on Aging	6,653.54	12,230.00	5,185.59		13,697.95
162 GLA Weed Control Gift	3,767.36				3,767.36
163 Library Tarbell Paintings Gift	58,245.52	1,000.00	12,084.83		47,160.69
164 Sargisson Beach Life Guards	975.63				975.63
166 K-9 Gift Fund Police Dept.	9,597.89		1,252.49		8,345.40
167 COA Women in Need Gift	1,000.00				1,000.00
168 Community Emergency Relief	850.00	1,050.00	240.00		1,660.00
171 Williams Barn	4,250.94	978.00	2,881.06		2,347.88
174 Care of Old Burying Ground Bentley	3,000.00				3,000.00
175 Care of Old Burying Ground	452.23				452.23
177 Groton Military Covenant	213.00				213.00
179 Diversity Education & Training		17,500.00	274.45		17,225.55

180 Dog Pound	1,987.95			1,987.95
190 Groton Children's Fund	17,523.39			15,031.51
220 Pavilion Maintenance	236.00		8,323.88	236.00
221 Smith Fountain	2,017.94			2,017.94
222 Sargisson Beach Canoe Launch	6,168.21			6,168.21
251 Cable TV Programming	2,678.42		115.71	2,562.71
252 Greenway	10,763.43		332.51	10,430.92
255 Parks Basketball Court Maintenance	3,508.55			3,508.55
270 C-Lab/Insko Monitoring	1,406.51			1,406.51
275 Fire EMT Tuition Gift	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	0.00
278 Flagpole Solar Maintenance	550.00			550.00
281 Country Club Gift	3,078.00	6,140.00	6,550.00	2,668.00
287 Lost Lake Dam Gift Fund	80,533.85			80,533.85
288 Sustainability Committee Fund	48.32			48.32
290 Trails Committee Gift Fund	11,152.07	60.00	5,352.96	5,859.11
291 Recycling Gift Fund	2,818.17		25.00	2,793.17
294 Lost Lake/Knops Pond Gift Fund	3,430.00			3,430.00
296 Swim Team Gift Fund	19.02			19.02
297 Vets Breakfast/Senior Lunch Fund	0.00		0.00	0.00
298 BOS Gift Fund/GRG Traffic Light	100,550.00		25.25	100,524.75
Totals	425,292.38	59,200.05	50,471.29	434,021.14

GRANTS

060 Glass Pulverizer Transfer Station	101.34	0.00	0.00	101.34
099 Car Charging Stations	0.00	30,000.00		30,000.00
181 Center for Civic Life Elections Grant	0.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	0.00
410 Fire Department SAFE	8,692.31	0.00	728.93	7,963.38
411 Fire Department Equipment Grant	0.00		2,274.00	(2,274.00)
415 Fire Safer Grant	0.00	21,987.55	32,099.25	(10,111.70)
424 Police Bullet Proof Vests Grant	2,023.48	0.00	1,874.10	149.38
427 Police Federal JAG Grant	0.00	0.00	20,759.00	(20,759.00)
434 DEP Recycle IQ	418.00	0.00	0.00	418.00
440 Conservation WHIP Grant	1,875.00	0.00	0.00	1,875.00
442 Fire UTV Grant FY18	29.00	0.00	0.00	29.00
444 911 Support & Incentive Grant FY20	0.00	4,702.07	4,702.07	0.00
446 911 EMD Grant FY20	(767.04)	958.80	191.76	0.00
447 StormWater: James Brook Grant	59.41	0.00	38.00	21.41
449 FY20 911 Training Grant	(889.62)	1,692.86	803.24	0.00
450 Aid to Libraries	88,291.85	20,928.03	12,073.03	97,146.85

452 Arts Council	7,024.53	6,459.71	3,975.00	9,509.24
455 Elder Programs	0.00	19,620.00	19,620.00	0.00
458 Gibbet Hill Bridge	(12,100.00)	12,100.00	0.00	0.00
459 MVP Planning Grant	1,100.00	0.00	1,100.00	0.00
461 Police Med Box Grant	1,950.00	1,300.00	201.12	3,048.88
463 HHS CARES Ambulance FY20	5,987.74	0.00	5,753.79	233.95
464 Covid CARES Act Relief	159,150.12	657,236.00	540,882.51	275,503.61
464 Covid FEMA Reimbursement	(90,405.24)	95,758.75	270,731.68	(265,378.17)
466 CARES Act Postage	0.00	1,859.36	1,859.36	0.00
470 Polling Hours	99.36	2,172.42	0.00	2,271.78
471 911 S&I Grant FY21	0.00	259,640.33	265,992.47	(6,352.14)
472 911 EMD Grant FY21	0.00	1,873.24	1,873.24	0.00
473 911 Training Grant FY21	0.00	6,801.12	8,487.18	(1,686.06)
474 Muni Road Safety Grant FY21	0.00	2,269.30	4,521.51	(2,252.21)
487 SMRP Recycling	13,175.71	5,600.00	16,978.50	1,797.21
491 Green Communities	0.00	138,830.00	136,681.00	2,149.00
494 IT Infrastructure Grant	9,758.25	0.00	8,337.00	1,421.25
496 IT Cybersecurity Grant FY17	12,360.00	0.00	4,164.23	8,195.77
497 Pedestrian Safety Grant FY18	(329.12)	5,902.28	5,573.16	0.00
499 BoH Equipment Grant	51.49	617.88	617.88	51.49
2551 ARPA Grant	0.00	592,685.69	0.00	592,685.69
2900Title V	39,498.35	526.97	10,200.00	29,825.32
Totals	247,154.92	1,896,522.36	1,388,093.01	0.00

REVOLVING

Affordable Housing Marketing	10,962.19		10,962.19
Handicap Parking Fines	30.00	100.00	130.00
Boat Tax for Waterway Maintenance	160.00	2,100.75	1,780.75
Municipal Building Maintenance	0.00	20,000.00	20,000.00
Home Recycling	6,313.89	4,452.00	10,144.89
Drug Forfeiture	15,919.76		15,919.76
Insurance Claims	8,452.60	13,569.40	16,672.00
Erosion Control	7,298.72	18,891.88	9,993.97
Conservation Land Management	13,479.55	125.00	13,432.05
Transfer Station Glass Plant Maintenance	738.00	2,928.75	3,666.75
Sr. Center Fitness Equipment	3,170.00	0.00	2,883.51
Cons Com 593 Academy Hill	510.43	6.41	516.84
Cons Com 593 Geld Peer Review	1.29		0.00
Cons Com 593 NESSP Temple	69.57	0.71	70.28
Planning Board 593	21,717.37	29,199.72	21,351.51
		29,565.58	

0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
88,823.37	91,374.62	52,673.49	0.00
			127,524.50

RECEIPTS RESERVED

TNC Distribution Ride Share	1,071.30	204.20	0.00	1,275.50
Town Forest	79,358.26		5,000.00	74,358.26
EMS Fees	636,456.25	366,234.33	631,205.00	371,485.58
Insurance Reimb. over 20K	6,925.07			6,925.07
Bond Premium & Excess Proceeds	33,839.19		33,839.19	0.00
Sale of Tarbell School	1,584.00			1,584.00

EMS Rpts Res. includes \$300,000 encumbered for FY 2022

759,234.07	366,438.53	670,044.19	0.00	455,628.41
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NON-EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS

	Interest & + Market Adj	Disbursements & - Market Adj	Transfers In or Out
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Samuel Green	139,586.15	28,810.28		168,396.43
Joseph Shepley	321,725.62	66,403.48		388,129.10
Barr Eye	2,762.68	570.22		3,332.90
Dalrymple Eye	11,660.20	2,406.64		14,066.84
Waters	6,281,310.40	1,296,448.98		7,577,759.38
Robbins Library	3,244,848.54	669,729.77		3,914,578.31
Library Book	179,557.69	37,060.32		216,618.01
Lecture	4,970,806.15	1,025,963.72		5,996,769.87
Shepley Fountain	2,762.66	570.21		3,332.87
Spaulding	1,113.26	229.77		1,343.03
Blood Cemetry	1,113.23	229.77		1,343.00
Sawyer	5,723.38	1,181.30		6,904.68
Butler School	13,171.29	2,718.52		15,889.81
Groton Commons	11,064.33	2,283.65		13,347.98
Robertson Onners	40,132.27	1,323.20		41,455.47
Robbins Scholarship	18,450.78	3,808.20		22,258.98
Twomey Scholarship	47,043.04	1,078.72		48,121.76
VanHoogan Scholarship	90,955.25	1,866.27		92,821.52
Bertozi Scholarship	181,075.86	4,831.35		185,907.21
Belitsky Scholarship	21,894.49	532.37		22,426.86
T. Hartnett Memorial Scholarship	20,543.53	500.45		21,043.98
Champney Cemetery	1,113.24	229.77		1,343.01
	15,608,414.04	3,148,776.96	0.00	18,757,191.00

EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS	Revenue, Interest + Market Adj	Disbursements & - Market Adj	
Samuel Green	986,201.05	42,008.70	1,013,122.53
Joseph Shepley	412,861.58	23,507.70	422,409.67
Barr Eye	2,106.25	148.39	2,254.64
Dalrymple Eye	30,656.19	1,391.41	32,047.60
Waters	966,637.27	183,367.82	1,032,962.77
Robbins Library	648,439.29	100,281.72	669,745.06
Library Book	73,988.00	7,019.79	81,007.79
Lecture	793,773.07	147,711.94	894,645.50
Shepley Fountain	3,957.25	217.96	4,075.21
Spaulding	507.61	46.25	553.86
Blood Cemetery	5,337.83	238.30	5,576.13
Lawrence Library	76,272.52	13,547.74	89,820.26
Sawyer	1,900.56	209.35	2,109.91
Butler School	3,174.61	434.03	3,608.64
Groton Commons	5,311.94	469.79	5,781.73
Robertson Onners	15,034.04	620.76	15,654.80
Robbins Scholarship	7,417.37	726.15	8,143.52
Twomey Scholarship	2,461.74	461.06	1,922.80
VanHoogan Scholarship	5,727.81	875.52	6,603.33
Bertozzi Scholarship	3,901.54	2,059.87	3,036.22
Belitsky Scholarship	625.25	249.85	375.10
T. Hartnett Memorial Scholarship	490.07	588.33	578.40
Champney Cemetery	3,028.76	146.46	3,175.22
OPEB Trust	398,607.41	322,959.79	721,567.20
Avenue of Flags	3,394.54	34.03	3,428.57
Groton Scholarship	12,962.57	14,398.21	1,834.10
Turtle Study Trust	25,854.59	259.36	26,113.95
Turtle Main Trust	28,957.08	290.48	29,247.56
Affordable Housing Trst	236.03	200,000.00	150,401.05
Affordable Housing SquannacookTrst	47,149.90	346.43	46,024.86
Stabilization	2,037,373.03	79,972.76	2,117,345.79
Conservation	102,034.71	221,358.47	307,533.68
Capital Stabilization	475,000.00	205,282.14	555,182.14
GDRSD Capital Stabilization	217,298.00	283,288.16	235,414.16
	7,398,679.46	1,854,518.72	8,493,303.75
		0.00	

Note: Capital Purchase Stabilization Fund Balances include amounts encumbered to FY22 for Capital Expenditures

AGENCY FUNDS	Bal. Forward	Receipts	Expenditures	Bal to FY22
Payroll Deductions	89,381.05	874,418.95	874,044.60	89,755.40
Police Details Due	4,749.80	226,435.00	233,915.00	(2,730.20)
Fire Details Due	(1,861.04)	3,621.04	1,760.00	0.00
Ambulance Fees due other Towns	4,125.00	47,025.00	43,450.00	7,700.00
Fees due Collection Agency	726.26	17,561.53	16,599.48	1,688.31
GEO/TMS Fees Payable	47,251.36	26,989.93	13,425.28	60,816.01
Due to State Agency Sales Tax	1,060.48	7,713.78	7,713.39	1,060.87
Firearms Fees Due State	3,525.00	19,100.00	19,012.50	3,612.50
Fee Due to Deputy Collector	7,927.50	27,183.06	19,733.06	15,377.50
Due to Other Towns - Recycling	7,375.00	0.00	0.00	7,375.00
Fee Due to NEBS	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	10,000.00
Guarantee Deposits (Perf Bonds)	118,375.19	135,215.16	1,611.46	251,978.89
West Groton Water	39,918.23	145,693.14	176,819.43	8,791.94
Mass-Toss	1,422.67	65,172.04	48,966.19	17,628.52
	333,976.50	1,596,128.63	1,457,050.39	473,054.74

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS JULY 1, 2021 -DECEMBER 31, 2021

	Original Appropriation	Transfers & Town Mtg Adj	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 Expense	3,300.00		1,763.10	1,536.90
Selectmen Minor Capital	25,683.00		25,683.00	0.00
Town Manager Salaries	227,220.00		119,452.22	107,767.78
Town Manager Wages	115,172.00		54,248.64	60,923.36
Town Manager Expense	14,600.00		5,206.26	9,393.74
Town Manager Expense Prior Year	1,000.00		0.00	1,000.00
FinCom Reserve Fund	150,000.00		0.00	150,000.00
FinCom Expenses	215.00		210.00	5.00
Town Accountant Salary	96,408.00		50,162.32	46,245.68
Town Accountant Wages	50,865.00		24,213.66	26,651.34
Town Accountant Expenses/Audit	37,706.00		11,684.69	26,021.31
Assessors Salaries	80,000.00	1,200.00	41,199.96	40,000.04
Assessors Wages	61,763.00		28,781.34	32,981.66
Assessors Revaluation FY22	24,851.95		4,373.78	20,478.17
Assessors Revaluation FY21	7,462.00		0.00	7,462.00
Assessing Software Upgrade FY22	0.00	35,000.00	14,687.50	20,312.50
Assessors Expense	45,215.00		14,651.90	30,563.10
Treasurer/Tax Collector Salary	85,000.00	53,138.00	74,621.43	63,516.57
Treasurer/Tax Collector Wages	115,693.00	(38,374.00)	35,004.34	42,314.66
Treasurer/Tax Collect Expense	20,945.00		11,880.45	9,064.55
Treasurer Tax Title	5,725.00		633.30	5,091.70
Treasurer Bond Costs	3,300.00		0.00	3,300.00
Town Counsel Expense	90,000.00		22,592.16	67,407.84
Town Counsel Expense Prior Year	4,783.45		2,400.00	2,383.45
Human Resource Salaries	82,822.00		42,022.91	40,799.09
Human Resource Expense	10,000.00		8,600.47	1,399.53
Human Resource Expense Prior Year	1,892.54		580.00	1,312.54
Information Technology Salary	115,193.00		58,447.89	56,745.11
Information Technology Wages	62,317.00		27,829.11	34,487.89
Information Technology Expense	22,800.00		8,041.70	14,758.30
Information Technology: Capital Outlay FY21	35,861.77		5,063.01	30,798.76
Information Technology: Capital Outlay FY22	40,000.00		0.00	40,000.00
Town Clerk Salary	90,853.00		46,097.62	44,755.38
Town Clerk Wages	65,205.00		30,344.18	34,860.82
Town Clerk Expense	9,867.00		3,503.03	6,363.97
Election/Registrar Wages	6,336.00		162.00	6,174.00
Election/Registrar Expense	7,912.00		204.80	7,707.20
Street Listing Expense	4,850.00		2,246.90	2,603.10
Conservation Commission Salary	69,481.00		35,253.86	34,227.14
Conservation Commission Expense	7,350.00		4,857.83	2,492.17
Conservation Commission Expense Prior Year	220.00		220.00	0.00
GIS Committee	10,800.00		3,975.00	6,825.00
Planning Board Salary	84,016.00		42,628.67	41,387.33
Planning Board Expense	8,650.00		4,653.82	3,996.18

	Original Appropriation	Transfers & Town Mfg Adj	6-Month Expended	Est. To Be Expended
Planning Board Expense Prior Year	1,000.00		727.86	272.14
Planning Board County Assessments	3,850.00		3,849.34	0.66
Planning Board Prior Year Bill	11,601.72		11,601.72	0.00
Board of Appeals Wages	21,017.00	(21,017.00)	0.00	0.00
Board of Appeals Expense	1,500.00		293.00	1,207.00
Board of Appeals Expense Prior Year	200.00		66.00	134.00
Municipal Buildings Wages	149,751.00		72,831.91	76,919.09
Municipal Buildings Expense	270,950.00		103,792.17	167,157.83
Municipal Buildings Expense Prior Year	15,000.00		14,852.00	148.00
Municipal Buildings Minor Capital	10,000.00		9,940.50	59.50
Muni Bldgs Repair FY22	25,000.00		0.00	25,000.00
Muni Bldgs Police Sta Improvements Prior Yr	680.79		0.00	680.79
ADA Improvements FY19	22,072.96		9,708.50	12,364.46
Muni Bldgs Police Sta Roof/Siding FY21	50,000.00		0.00	50,000.00
Building Security FY17	2,800.09		0.00	2,800.09
Insurance and Bonding	290,000.00		280,134.26	9,865.74
Insurance and Bonding Prior Year	2,000.00		0.00	2,000.00
Insurance and Bonding Deductible Reserve	12,000.00		2,634.00	9,366.00
Insurance and Bonding, 111F	25,000.00		141.38	24,858.62
Town Report	1,500.00		0.00	1,500.00
Postage and Copying Expense	60,000.00		21,128.74	38,871.26
Central Purchasing (Office Supplies)	17,000.00		7,647.45	9,352.55
Telephone Expenses	30,000.00		11,292.33	18,707.67
Prior Year Expenses Postage/Telephone/Purch.	6,000.00		428.19	5,571.81
TOTAL GENERAL GOVERNMENT	3,032,402.27	29,947.00	1,419,252.20	1,643,097.07

PROTECTION PERSONS AND PROPERTY

Police Department Salary	269,791.00		138,710.74	131,080.26
Police Department Wages	1,981,381.00		1,001,145.57	980,235.43
Police Department Expense	212,288.00		77,823.32	134,464.68
Police Department Expense PY	2,235.02		1,685.90	549.12
Police Department Lease for Motorcycles	5,000.00		5,000.00	0.00
Police Department Minor Capital	11,000.00		0.00	11,000.00
Police Department FY21 Cruiser	19,238.37		18,493.90	744.47
Police Department FY22 Cruisers	100,000.00		76,377.45	23,622.55
Fire Department Salaries	238,928.00		117,499.98	121,428.02
Fire Department Wages	997,893.00		496,118.04	501,774.96
Fire Department Expense	161,682.00		55,797.68	105,884.32
Fire Department Expense: Prior Year	20,100.00		14,066.51	6,033.49
Fire Dept Ambulance #2 FY21	8,396.00		3,954.28	4,441.72
Fire Dept Eng 1 Refurbishment FY22	225,000.00		0.00	225,000.00
Fire Dept Chief's Vehicle FY22	0.00	70,000.00	7,090.86	62,909.14
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	423,552.00		278,129.70	145,422.30
Police & Fire Communications: Expense	23,875.00		2,910.21	20,964.79
Police & Fire Communications: Exp Prior Year	281.00		256.59	24.41
Police & Fire Communications: Bldg Upgrade 19	60,000.00		0.00	60,000.00
Police & Fire Communications: Bldg Upgrade 18	42,498.84		6,600.00	35,898.84

	Original Appropriation	Transfers & Town Mfg Adj	6-Month Expended	Est. To Be Expended
Police & Fire Communications: Bldg Upgrade 20	60,000.00		0.00	60,000.00
Building Inspector Salary	93,380.00		47,379.98	46,000.02
Building Inspector Wages	56,503.00		27,262.84	29,240.16
Building Inspector Expense	3,500.00		2,761.86	738.14
Salary/Fees-Gas/Plumbing/Elec Inspectors	30,000.00		17,350.00	12,650.00
Salary/Fees-Gas/Plumbing/Elec Inspectors PY	1,200.00		0.00	1,200.00
Gas/Plumbing/Elec Inspector Expense	4,000.00		1,150.24	2,849.76
Gas/Plumbing/Elec Inspector Exp Prior Year	300.00		0.00	300.00
Sealer Weights & Measures Salary Fees	3,200.00		300.00	2,900.00
Sealer Weights & Measures Salary Fees PY	440.00		440.00	0.00
Sealer Weights & Measures Expense	100.00		0.00	100.00
Earth Removal Inspector Salaries	2,500.00		0.00	2,500.00
Earth Removal Inspector Expense	100.00		0.00	100.00
Animal Inspector/Control Officer Salaries	4,164.00		2,082.08	2,081.92
Animal Inspector/Control Officer Expense	800.00		40.00	760.00
Animal Inspector/Control Officer Expense PY	250.00		0.00	250.00
Civil Defense Salaries	4,000.00		0.00	4,000.00
Civil Defense / EOC Expenses	10,000.00		8,513.50	1,486.50
Dog Officer Salary	15,000.00		7,499.96	7,500.04
Dog Officer Expense	3,000.00		169.40	2,830.60
TOTAL PROTECTION PERSONS/PROPERTY	5,095,578.23	70,000.00	2,416,610.59	2,748,967.64
SCHOOLS				
Nashoba Valley Tech High School Assmt	807,474.00		605,605.50	201,868.50
Groton Dunstable Reg School Dist Capital Assmt	217,298.00		108,649.00	108,649.00
Groton Dunstable Reg School Dist Assmt	24,023,134.00		12,011,567.00	12,011,567.00
TOTAL SCHOOLS	25,047,906.00	0.00	12,725,821.50	12,322,084.50
HIGHWAY AND HEALTH				
General Highway Salary	113,877.00		58,475.14	55,401.86
General Highway Wages	656,364.00	70,000.00	318,365.78	407,998.22
General Highway Expense	136,900.00		70,275.77	66,624.23
General Highway Expense Prior Year	4,527.00		4,500.96	26.04
General Highway Road Maintenance	90,000.00		9,104.31	80,895.69
General Highway Road Maintenance Prior Yr	30,850.00		6,299.13	24,550.87
James Brook Maintenance FY19	50,000.00		0.00	50,000.00
Snow & Ice Overtime	140,000.00		18,181.26	121,818.74
Snow & Ice Expense	165,000.00		33,753.92	131,246.08
Snow & Ice Hired Equipment	35,000.00		0.00	35,000.00
Street Lighting	15,000.00		6,084.55	8,915.45
Waste Disposal Wages	142,722.00		67,596.68	75,125.32
Waste Disposal Consulting	5,850.00		3,088.00	2,762.00
Waste Disposal Expense	45,686.00		25,825.66	19,860.34
Waste Disposal Tipping Fees	150,000.00		60,412.04	89,587.96
Waste Disposal Tipping Fees Prior Year	13,130.36		4,330.36	8,800.00
Waste Disposal Minor Capital	5,000.00		0.00	5,000.00
Tree Warden Expenses	3,000.00		2,398.90	601.10

	Original Appropriation	Transfers & Town Mfg Adj	6-Month Expended	Est. To Be Expended
Tree Warden Expenses Prior Year	2,387.56		150.00	2,237.56
Tree Department Tree Work	11,500.00		824.11	10,675.89
Tree Department Tree Work Prior Year	2,700.00		0.00	2,700.00
Graves Registration Salary	250.00		0.00	250.00
Graves Registration Expense	760.00		683.00	77.00
Care of Veterans' Graves	1,500.00		0.00	1,500.00
Board of Health Expense Consulting	8,000.00		8,000.00	0.00
Board of Health Engineering	10,200.00		1,100.00	9,100.00
Board of Health Nursing/ Health Services	43,934.00		32,949.96	10,984.04
Board of Health General Expenses	1,575.00		66.00	1,509.00
Council on Aging Salaries	80,747.00		32,986.27	47,760.73
Council on Aging Wages	72,429.00		25,016.78	47,412.22
Council on Aging Expense	8,454.00		3,144.84	5,309.16
Senior Center Van Wages	52,530.00		15,031.62	37,498.38
Senior Center Van Expenses	12,673.00		2,382.73	10,290.27
Senior Center Van Expenses Prior Year	326.00		132.00	194.00
Veterans' Agent Salary	6,000.00	200.00	2,692.34	3,507.66
Veterans' Agent Expense	1,100.00		25.00	1,075.00
Veterans' Agent: Veteran's Benefits	37,000.00		8,571.02	28,428.98
TOTAL HIGHWAY AND HEALTH	2,156,971.92	70,200.00	822,448.13	1,404,723.79

CULTURE AND RECREATION

Library Salaries	412,593.00		208,586.71	204,006.29
Library Wages	279,389.00	55,000.00	131,156.08	203,232.92
Library Expense	205,304.00		88,933.58	116,370.42
Library Expense PY	11,750.00		399.86	11,350.14
Library Parking Lot Repair FY22	45,000.00		0.00	45,000.00
Country Club: Salaries	162,214.00		81,873.16	80,340.84
Country Club: Wages	150,000.00		102,612.69	47,387.31
Country Club: Expenses	136,000.00		112,241.16	23,758.84
Country Club: Expenses Prior Year	223.91		223.91	0.00
Country Club Roof Repair FY22	50,000.00		0.00	50,000.00
Country Club Tee Box/Cart Path Project	10,000.00		10,000.00	0.00
Country Club Golf Cart Lease	25,000.00		0.00	25,000.00
Park Department Wages	0.00	21,017.00	6,964.24	14,052.76
Park Department Expense	55,759.00		24,688.95	31,070.05
Park Department Expense Prior Year	12,966.06		12,966.06	0.00
Park Dept. Property Improvements FY22	25,000.00		5,620.45	19,379.55
Park Department Minor Capital	11,852.50		8,052.79	3,799.71
Care of Old Burying Ground	800.00		0.00	800.00
Town Forest Committee FY11	2,800.00		0.00	2,800.00
Town Forest Committee FY21	5,000.00		0.00	5,000.00
Commemorations & Celebrations	500.00		0.00	500.00
Great Lakes Advisory Committee Expense	2,385.00		766.00	1,619.00
Great Lakes Advisory Committee Expense PY	2,334.64		2,334.00	0.64
Weed Harvester Expense	22,000.00		7,830.83	14,169.17
Water Safety Wages	4,200.00		2,322.00	1,878.00
Water Safety Expense	11,732.00		833.08	10,898.92
TOTAL LIBRARY & CITIZENS' SERVICES	1,644,803.11	76,017.00	808,405.55	912,414.56

	Original Appropriation	Transfers & Town Mfg Adj	6-Month Expended	Est. To Be Expended
DEBT SERVICE				
Principal Long-term Debt	1,229,154.00		584,153.33	645,000.67
Interest Long-term Debt	642,933.00	115,156.00	285,877.87	472,211.13
Principal/Interest Short-term Debt	8,800.00		0.00	8,800.00
TOTAL DEBT SERVICE	1,880,887.00	115,156.00	870,031.20	1,126,011.80
EMPLOYEE BENEFITS				
County Retirement Assessment	2,385,255.00		2,385,255.00	0.00
Unemployment Compensation	10,000.00		6,180.42	3,819.58
Unemployment Compensation Prior Year	4,992.00		0.00	4,992.00
Health & Life Insurance	1,809,244.00	55,000.00	1,034,392.11	829,851.89
OPEB Transfer	177,094.00		177,094.00	0.00
Medicare Employer Contribution	135,000.00		72,158.93	62,841.07
Medicare Employer Contribution Prior Year	2,592.00		2,592.00	0.00
TOTAL EMPLOYEE BENEFITS	4,524,177.00	55,000.00	3,677,672.46	901,504.54
WATER DEPARTMENT				
Water Department Salaries	154,449.00		73,438.37	81,010.63
Water Department Wages	179,675.00	70,000.00	119,259.78	130,415.22
Water Department Expense	668,300.00	25,000.00	280,322.88	412,977.12
Water Department Expense Prior Year	961.00		961.00	0.00
Water Manganese Project (from E&D) FY20	0.00	30,000.00	30,000.00	0.00
Whitney Well Project	0.00	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00
Water Department Debt Service	402,140.00		344,940.53	57,199.47
TOTAL WATER DEPARTMENT	1,405,525.00	150,000.00	873,922.56	681,602.44
SEWER DEPARTMENT				
Sewer Department Salaries	20,583.00		10,654.01	9,928.99
Sewer Department Wages	51,709.00		24,542.10	27,166.90
Sewer Department Expense	691,295.00		377,791.91	313,503.09
Sewer Department Expense Prior Year	59,000.00		33,464.87	25,535.13
Sewer Department Debt Service (inc Betterments)	35,160.00		32,934.44	2,225.56
TOTAL SEWER DEPARTMENT	857,747.00	0.00	479,387.33	378,359.67
4 CORNERS SEWER DEPARTMENT				
4 Corners Sewer Salaries				
4 Corners Sewer Wages	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4 Corners Sewer General Expenses	68,769.00	0.00	27,082.66	41,686.34
TOTAL 4 CORNERS SEWER DEPARTMENT	68,769.00	0.00	27,082.66	41,686.34
LOCAL CABLE ACCESS				
Cable Department Salaries	77,941.00		33,475.00	44,466.00
Cable Department Wages	57,575.00		26,872.74	30,702.26
Cable Department Expense	75,389.00		23,476.29	51,912.71
Cable Department Minor Capital	5,000.00		1,359.29	3,640.71
TOTAL CABLE DEPARTMENT	215,905.00	0.00	85,183.32	130,721.68
STORMWATER ENTERPRISE				
Stormwater Wages	69,753.00		35,784.49	33,968.51
Stormwater Expenses	89,000.00		17,294.84	71,705.16
Stormwater Expenses Prior Year	5,800.00		5,800.00	0.00

	Original Appropriation	Transfers & Town Mfg Adj	6-Month Expended	Est. To Be Expended
Stormwater Minor Capital	51,000.00		0.00	51,000.00
Stormwater Minor Capital Prior Year	50,000.00		0.00	50,000.00
TOTAL STORMWATER ENTERPRISE	265,553.00	0.00	58,879.33	206,673.67
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION				
Operating Reserve	20,500.00		7,918.03	12,581.97
Unallocated Reserve Debt Service	59,150.00		59,150.00	0.00
Unallocated Field & Rec Feasibility Study	20,000.00		0.00	20,000.00
Unallocated NonPoint Sources of Pollution	40,000.00		11,437.51	28,562.49
Unallocated Multi Use Rec Courts FY22	157,480.00		8,611.36	148,868.64
Unallocated GDRSD Field Restoration FY22	150,000.00	50,000.00	0.00	200,000.00
Unallocated Squannacook Rail Trail FY22	28,000.00		0.00	28,000.00
Unallocated Reserve Duck Pond Restore FY18	3,272.00		3,272.00	0.00
Unallocated Reserve Duck Pond Restore FY22	19,800.00		1,935.07	17,864.93
Unallocated Reserve Baddacook Pond FY19	9,225.66		9,225.66	0.00
Unallocated Reserve Conservation Fund Trf	350,000.00		350,000.00	0.00
Unallocated Res Lost Lake/Knops Pond FY21	95,000.00		88,765.00	6,235.00
Unallocated Reserve Prescott Phase 3 FY21	6,000.00		6,000.00	0.00
Community Housing Reserve Wages	51,617.00		25,787.74	25,829.26
Community Housing AHT Site Assessmt FY22	75,000.00		945.00	74,055.00
Historic Resource Library Pocket Doors FY21	621.00		372.80	248.20
Historic Resource Reserve Portraits FY21	11,400.00		8,925.00	2,475.00
Historic Res. Rsv Monument Restoration FY17	23,927.50		0.00	23,927.50
Historic Res. Rsv Prescott Phase 3 FY21	19,600.14		0.00	19,600.14
Historic Resource WWII Cannon FY21	15,000.00		0.00	15,000.00
Historic Resource Fitch's Bridge Wall FY20	23,537.38		0.00	23,537.38
Historic Resource Library Skylight FY22	3,000.00		0.00	3,000.00
Historic Resource Mausoleum Restore FY22	65,000.00		0.00	65,000.00
Open Space Hazel Grove FY21	1,937.00		0.00	1,937.00
Open Space Reserve Surrenden Debt Service	145,000.00		145,000.00	0.00
Open Space Reserve Squannacook Trail FY22	2,000.00		0.00	2,000.00
Open Space GDRSD Field Restore FY22	30,232.00		0.00	30,232.00
TOTAL COMMUNITY PRESERVATION	1,426,299.68	50,000.00	727,345.17	748,954.51
CAPITAL PROJECT FUND				
Complete Streets	39,823.57		0.00	39,823.57
CPC FloRo School Track FY22	1,405,374.00		0.00	1,405,374.00
DPW Vehicles FY22	185,000.00		0.00	185,000.00
Senior Center Building	45,520.20		21,498.60	24,021.60
FloRo School Construction FY22	76,495,360.00		2,229,789.50	74,265,570.50
Manganese Treatment Plant Construction	668,900.00	10,082,000.00	480,750.00	10,270,150.00
Whitney Well #3 Construction	325,000.00	700,000.00	278,191.00	746,809.00
TOTAL CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND	79,164,977.77	10,782,000.00	3,010,229.10	86,936,748.67
GRAND TOTAL	126,787,501.98	11,398,320.00	28,002,271.10	110,183,550.88