

Town of Groton Warrant 2021 Annual Meeting

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WARRANT FOR 2021 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TOWN OF GROTON

To the inhabitants of the Town of Groton in the county of Grafton in said State, qualified to vote in Town Affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Groton Town House in said Groton on Tuesday, the 9th day of March, next, polls to be open at eleven o'clock in the morning until seven o'clock in the evening for voting on Article 1, and meeting for action on the remaining articles in the Warrant on the 8th day of May at nine o'clock in the morning at the Groton Town House or at The Everett Hobart Memorial Park depending on COVID-19 and weather.

BALLOT ARTICLES MARCH 9, 2021

ARTICLE 1: To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION MAY 8, 2021

ARTICLE 2: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one million eighty-three thousand nine hundred eighty four dollars (\$1,083,984.00)** to design and construct a new Department of Public Works building, and to authorize the issuance of **six hundred eighty-five thousand dollars (\$685,000)** of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33); to authorize the Selectmen to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; to authorize the Selectmen to apply for, obtain and accept federal, state or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; and to authorize the Selectmen to take any other action or to pass any other vote relative thereto. The remaining appropriation will be funded through an anticipated **two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000)** USDA grant, and the withdrawal of **one hundred forty-eight thousand nine hundred eighty-four dollars (\$148,984)** from the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund. Further, to raise and appropriate from taxation up to \$100,000 for the first year's debt service payment.

Recommendations required (3/5 ballot vote required)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven hundred ninety-one thousand, eight hundred ninety-two dollars (\$791,892)** which represents the **Operating Budget** for the ensuing year. Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 4: To see if the town will vote to discontinue the following CAPITAL RESERVE AND/OR EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS. Said funds and accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the municipality's general fund. (Majority vote required)

- Fire & Equipment Capital Reserve Fund (Dec. 31, 2020 balance: \$64,650.96)
- Perambulation Non-Capital Reserve Fund (Dec. 31, 2020 balance: \$34,247.08)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred fifty-five thousand eight hundred ninety-four dollars (\$155,894)** to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Funds. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

Disaster Relief CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2020 balance: \$30,180.29): \$50,000
Assessing Reval CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2020 balance: \$34,800.42): \$7,000
Public Works CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2020 balance: \$60,051.95): \$98,894
Total Capital Reserve Funds \$155,894

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred ten thousand dollars (\$110,000)** for repair/reconstruction of the River Road project. (submitted by the Highway Department and Road Committee)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred thirty-five thousand five hundred ninety-three dollars (\$135,593)** to repair damages received due to a severe storm in July 2019 with **one hundred one thousand six hundred ninety-five dollars (\$101,695)** to come from FEMA and the remaining **thirty-three thousand eight hundred ninety-eight dollars (\$33,898)**, the Town's 25% portion of the cost, to come from general taxation.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **four thousand nine hundred seventy-five dollars (\$4,975)** for the repair of the bridge that leads to the Town Conservation Pond.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three thousand two hundred dollars (\$3,200)** for excavation services to prepare for the construction of the concrete slabs at the Transfer Station. (submitted by the Transfer Station Supervisor)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three thousand dollars (\$3,000)** for the purpose of grave mapping layout of the Jenny DeCoste Annex at River Road Cemetery; perform research in soil, water, elevation or restrictions in grave layout; establish burial rights for each grave and procedure for interment; establish policy and procedure for memorial placement; establish and study the cost of land development to help set fees for future grave sales; review Perpetual Care funds currently established and future needs from grave sales. (submitted by the Cemetery Trustees)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two hundred forty-six dollars (\$246)** for deposit in the Conservation Fund. Fund to be offset by **two hundred forty-six dollars (\$246)** from unassigned fund balance. This sum represents 3% of the Timber Tax revenue for 2020. (submitted by the Conservation Commission) (Majority vote required)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to enter into a contract with Hebron Public Library, pursuant to RSA 202-A:4-b Contract for Services, for a period of one (1) year to provide library services to Groton residents. (submitted by the Library Trustees)

The Select Board Does Not Recommend This Article 0-3

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to change all voting times for State, Federal, Newfound Area School District, and Town elections to take place from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on all election days. These are the current polling hours for town elections; all other elections have polling hours of 8:00am to 7:00pm.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote pursuant to RSA 80:80 to authorize the Selectmen to dispose of property acquired by tax deed as justice may require, in addition to disposing it by public auction and advertised sealed bids. This authority shall continue indefinitely and remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of the municipal Town meeting.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 15: To see if the town will vote to authorize the selectmen to dispose of the following tax deeded properties by listing them with a realtor for sale, or otherwise as justice may require and allowing the selectmen to negotiate the terms of sale, including but not limited to the sale price.

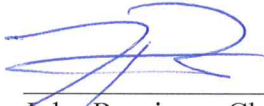
- Map 1 Lot 91
- Map 2 Lot 26
- Map 7 Lot 36
- Map 10 Lot 12
- Map 10 Lot 22
- Map 10 Lot 29
- Map 10 Lot 40

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

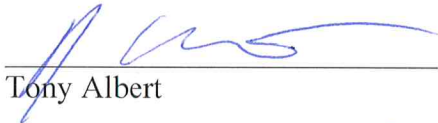
ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Selectmen transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town this 9th day of February 2021.

GROTON SELECT BOARD



John Rescigno, Chairman



Tony Albert



Ron Madan