Town of Groton Warrant 2023 Annual Meeting

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WARRANT FOR 2023 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 14th 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 Articles 1 and 2, and meeting for action on the remaining articles in the Warrant on the 18th day of March at nine o'clock in the morning at the Groton Town House.

BALLOT ARTICLES MARCH 14, 2023

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

ARTICLE 2: Are you in favor of the adoption of the Zoning Amendments as proposed by the Planning Board of Groton?

The effect of adopting the proposed Zoning Amendments will be to <u>add permitted uses</u> and clarify sections and definitions of the current Zoning as follows:

- A. Subject to issuance of a building permit, the right of a property owner to construct a storage structure on their vacant/unoccupied lot
- B. The right of property owners to rent their single-family dwelling or seasonal camp subject to Town and state regulated water and sewage disposal systems, other appropriate local and state laws and to Life-Safety requirements.
- C. The right of resident property owners to build one separate/detached structure as a home business, to rent to a single family, either short-term or long-term, subject to Town and state regulated water and sewage disposal systems, other appropriate local and state laws and to Life-Safety requirements.
- D. Subject to issuance of a building permit, the right of a property owner to construct a cabin for seasonal habitation, subject to Town and state regulated water and sewage disposal systems, other appropriate local and state laws and to Life-Safety requirements.
- E. The right of resident property owners in Districts A and B, to store one (1) Recreational Vehicle, as defined in the Ordinance, on their lot on which there is a pre-existing principal dwelling. The Recreational Vehicle shall not be occupied as a rental while on the property, including use as a seasonal or year-round dwelling, Home Occupation, or Home Business. However, it may be occupied as a guest house, rent-free, by family guests and members during short visits.

Should the proposed Zoning Amendments fa	ail to receive a	an affirmative vote,	the 2022 Zoning
Ordinance will continue in the present form.			_

Ordinance wi	Il continue in the present form	l.		
□ Yes	□ No			

DELIBERATIVE SESSION MARCH 18, 2023

ARTICLE 3: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of six hundred seventy nine thousand dollars (\$679,000) to design and construct a new Department of Public Works building, with one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to come from the unassigned fund balance; two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000) to come from a USDA Rural Development grant; and to authorize the withdrawal of one hundred sixty thousand dollars (\$160,000) from the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund; with the remainder of one hundred sixty nine thousand dollars (\$169,000) to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required).

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eight hundred fifty-three thousand, nine hundred thirty-five dollars (\$853,935)** 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 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ninety-seven thousand five hundred one dollars (\$97,501)** to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Funds. (Majority vote required)

Disaster Relief CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2022 balance: \$81,391.98): \$50,000 Police Cruiser CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2022 balance: \$15,971.74): \$10,000 Town House CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2022 balance: \$34,137.03): \$10,000 Truck/Sander CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2022 balance: \$11,178.35): \$10,000 Heavy Equipment CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2022 balance: \$1,347.49): \$10,000 Assessing Reval CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2022 balance: \$10,657.58): \$7,500 Public Works CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2022 balance: \$161,886.66): \$1

Total Capital Reserve Funds \$97,501

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will authorize the establishment of a Road Repair and Paving Capital Reserve Fund to be used for road repairs and paving. Furthermore, to raise and appropriate the sum of **fifteen thousand (\$15,000)** to be placed in the Fund and to appoint the selectmen as agents and expend from the fund. Recommendations Required (Majority Vote Required)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty-five thousand** (\$35,000) to refurbish the 2012 International 6-wheeler body and frame.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 8: To see in the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two hundred twelve dollars** (\$212) for deposit in the Conservation Fund, with said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance. This sum represents 3% of the Timber Tax revenue received in 2022. (submitted by the Conservation Commission) (Majority vote required)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 9: STANDARD AND OPTIONAL VETERANS' TAX CREDIT (RSA 72:28)

Shall the town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28, Optional Veterans' Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will apply to every resident of this state who is any person who is a veteran, as defined in RSA 21:50, and served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States in any qualifying war or armed conflict listed in this section, and continues to serve or was honorably discharged or an officer who continues to serve or was honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that training for active duty by a member of the national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this subparagraph; (b) Every resident of this state who was terminated from the armed forces because of service-connected disability; or the surviving spouse of such resident; and (c) The surviving spouse of any resident who suffered a service-connected death. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500, which is the amount previously adopted by the town.

NOTE: This article is required because the legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 10: ALL VETERANS' TAX CREDIT (RSA 72:28-b)

Shall the Town vote to adopt the provisions of RSA 72:28-b, All Veteran's Tax Credit? If adopted, the credit will be available to any resident who is a veteran, as defined in RSA 21:50, and served not less than 90 days on active service in the armed forces of the United States and continues to serve or was honorably discharged or an officer who continues to serve or was honorably separated from service; or the spouse or surviving spouse of such resident, provided that training for active duty or state active duty by a member of the national guard or reserve shall be included as service under this paragraph; provided however that the person is not eligible for and is not receiving a credit under RSA 72:28 or RSA 72:35. If adopted, the credit granted will be \$500, the same amount as the optional veterans' tax credit voted by the Town under RSA 72:28.

NOTE: This article is required because the legislature expanded the eligibility criteria for this credit to include individuals who have not yet been discharged from service in the armed forces.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

ARTICLE 11: 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 21 day of February 2023.

GROTON SELECT BOARD

John Rescigno, Chairman

Tony Albert

Ron Madan