

Minutes for 2015 Annual Meeting

BALLOT ARTICLES MARCH 10, 2015

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

Results for March 10, 2015 Town Election

Selectman	3 year term	John Rescigno
Town Clerk	3 year term	Laura J. Hauser
Trustee of the Trust Fund	3 year term	Celine Richer
Planning Board	3 year term	Forrest R. Blake
Planning Board	3 year term	David Labar
Cemetery Trustee	3 year term	Elizabeth A. Jespersen
Zoning Board	2 year term	Mark H. Watson
Zoning Board	3 year term	Nancy O. Watson
Zoning Board	3 year term	Chuck M. Stata
Town Auditor	1 year term	To be appointed
Library Trustee	3 year term	To be appointed

ARTICLE 2: To propose an Amendment to the existing Town Zoning ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board. The purpose of this Amendment is to ensure that the Town of Groton has rules in place that will protect the Town. The Amendment will not stop alternative energy companies from building additional wind farms, rather it will ensure that the concerns of the people of Groton are considered and protect the Town financially. The State will consider people's concerns regarding large wind project applications if Groton has this Amendment in place.

PASSED BY BALLOT VOTE 104 – 42.

DELIBERATIVE SESSION
MARCH 14, 2015

ATTENDEES WERE:

Board of Selectmen: Christina Goodwin, Kyle Andrews, Robert Ferriere

Administrative Assistant: Sara Smith

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector: Laura Hauser

Town Moderator: Lou Lieto

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Louis Lieto, Town Moderator.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **six hundred eighty eight thousand, two hundred twenty six dollars (\$688,226)** which represents the **Operating Budget** for the ensuing year. Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed.

MOTION TO AMEND ARTICLE 3: the Operating Budget, by increasing it by \$50,000 for a new total of \$738,226. (Submitted by Miles Sinclair.)

TO AMEND ARTICLE 3 PASSES.

AMENDED ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven hundred thirty eight thousand, two hundred twenty six dollars (\$738,226)** which represents the **Operating Budget** for the ensuing year. Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed.

AMENDED ARTICLE 3 PASSES.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred forty-five thousand (\$145,000)** for repair/reconstruction of a portion of North Groton Road. (Submitted by the Road Committee)

ARTICLE 4 PASSES.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000)** for the repair of Groton paved roads.

ARTICLE 5 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for the purpose of repairing and maintaining Province Road.

ARTICLE 6 PASSES.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** for the purchase of approximately six acres of land located off North Groton Road (a portion of Tax Map 6 Lot 1) currently owned by Green Acre Woodlands, Inc., or authorize the exchange of a Town owned 50 acre lot located off Old Rumney Road (Tax Map 10 Lot 22) for the property mentioned above (as previously approved at Special Town Meeting October 2012) and to authorize the selectmen to execute any documents related to this purchase/exchange.

ARTICLE 7 PASSES.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty seven thousand, eight hundred forty-nine dollars (\$27,849.00)** to be used for the purchase of a new 2015 Ford Explorer as a new police cruiser for the Police Department, to be offset by authorizing the transfer of **twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00)** from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund and the remaining balance to come from taxation.

ARTICLE 8 PASSES.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$21,035.48)

AMNENDMENT TO ARTICLE 9: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from the funds resulting from the sale of the currently owned police cruiser for deposit into the police cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. (Submitted by William Jolly.)

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 9 FAILS.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$21,035.48)

ARTICLE 9 PASSES AS WRITTEN.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eight thousand five hundred dollars (\$8,500)** to be used for the purchasing of new equipment and transferring the radio system to a new police cruiser.

ARTICLE 10 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirty five hundred dollars (\$3,500)** to be used for the lettering of a new police cruiser.

AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of eighteen hundred dollars (\$1,800) to be used for the lettering of a new police cruiser. (Submitted by Joe Pivrotto.)

TO AMEND ARTICLE 11 PASSES.

AMENDED ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of Eighteen hundred dollars (\$1,800) to be used for the lettering of a new police cruiser.

AMENDED ARTICLE 11 PASSES.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty eight hundred dollars (\$2,800)** for the purchase of Material Handling forks to be used with the Highway Department's backhoe.

TO AMEND ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty four hundred dollars (\$2,400)** for the purchase of Material Handling forks to be used with the Highway Department's backhoe. (Submitted by Christine Goodwin.)

TO AMEND ARTICLE 12 PASSES.

AMENDED ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty four hundred dollars (\$2,400)** for the purchase of Material Handling forks to be used with the Highway Department's backhoe.

AMENDED ARTICLE 12 PASSES.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **three hundred dollars (\$300)** to maintain the Town's cemeteries and to fund this appropriation by withdrawing \$300 from the General Fund which was the amount paid for a plot in 2014.

ARTICLE 13 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ten thousand dollars (\$10,000)** for deposit into the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$10,000.00).

ARTICLE 14 PASSES.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **six thousand, five hundred dollars (\$6,500)** for deposit into the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$19,506.39)

ARTICLE 15 PASSES.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$34,172.80)

ARTICLE 16 PASSES.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Disaster Relief Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$63,040.68)

ARTICLE 17 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Atwell/Orange Brook Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$46,013.50)

ARTICLE 18 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Perambulation Non Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$19,769.61)

ARTICLE 19 PASSES.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Town House Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$20,076.39)

ARTICLE 20 PASSES.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Fire & Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$55,809.09)

TO AMEND ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **zero dollars (0.0)** for deposit into the Fire & Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$55,809.09) (Submitted by Stephen Spafford.)

TO AMEND ARTICLE 21 FAILS.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Fire & Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$55,809.09)

ARTICLE 21 PASSES AS WRITTEN.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Truck/Sander Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$28.58)

TABLED UNTIL AFTER ARTICLE 23.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the selectmen to dispose of the following tax deeded property using the services of a real estate broker to market such property rather than disposing of the property by public auction or sealed bid:

Dodge Road
Dodge Road

Map 6 Lot 87
Map 6 Lot 88

ARTICLE 23 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five thousand dollars (\$5,000)** for deposit into the Truck/Sander Capital Reserve Fund. (Dec. 31, 2014 balance: \$28.58)

ARTICLE 22 PASSES.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to change the Road Agent position to an appointed position rather than an elected position.

ARTICLE 24 PASSES.

ARTICLE 25: Shall the Town accept the provision of RSA 202-A: 4d providing that any Town at an annual meeting may adopt an article authorizing indefinitely that public Library Trustees may accept gifts of personal property, other than money, which may be offered to the Library for any public purpose, and such authorization shall remain in effect until rescinded by a vote of Town Meeting.

Prior to the acceptance of any gift valued at over \$5,000, the public Library Trustees shall hold a public hearing on the proposed acceptance.

No acceptance of any personal property under the authority of this section shall be deemed to bind the Town or the Library Trustees to raise, appropriate, or expend any public funds for the operation, maintenance, repair or replacement of such personal property.

ARTICLE 25 PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eight hundred fifty dollars (\$850)** for support of the Groton Historical Society.

ARTICLE 26 PASSES.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five hundred dollars (\$500)** for support of the Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA).

ARTICLE 27 PASSES.

ARTICLE 28: Whereas: A road of historic significance completed in August 1771, so the Governor of the Province of New Hampshire could travel from Wolfeboro to Dartmouth College for commencement exercises.

Whereas: The last nearly pristine rural section lies in Groton, NH known as Province Road.

The purpose: to designate Province Road a Scenic Road according to RSA 231:157

SECRET BALLOT VOTEON ARTICLE 28 FAILS 28-19.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

There was a motion made and seconded to adjourn the Town Meeting.

Motion **PASSES** and meeting adjourned 2:30PM.

This is a true attest of warrant and the Groton town Meeting on the 14th day of March 2015.

Laura J. Hauser, Groton Town Clerk