

Town of Groton  
Select Board Work Session Minutes  
February 11, 2025

**In attendance: John Rescigno, Tony Albert, Ron Madan and Sara Smith (Town Administrator)**

**John called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.**

***Budget/warrant items***

The following are items to discuss regarding the budget and warrant articles.

- The Select Board agreed to keep the operating budget the same.
- The Select Board agreed to change warrant article 4 and only put \$25,000 into the Disaster Capital Reserve Fund instead of \$30,000. This takes \$5,000 off the overall budget. Sara updated the warrant articles and budget to reflect this.
- There were some issues with Warrant Article 6 for SAU108. The DRA had some concerns since we could not explain what exactly this is for. The DRA asked what costs the town could incur that could not be raised on the school's warrant. They explained that the town budget and warrant articles are paid for with the town portion of the tax rate. The school budget and warrant articles are paid for with the local school portion of the tax rate. If there is money that needs to be raised for SAU 108, it should be part of their budget or warrant articles, not the Towns. Towns cannot legally raise money for a school purpose. Since we cannot answer what costs the Town could incur that could not be raised on the schools warrant and the Town of Groton does not want to do anything that is not legal, the Select Board agreed to remove this warrant article.
- Sara will work tomorrow with DRA on removing this article and rerunning the budget, warrant and MS-636. **John motioned to come in and sign the updated warrants and MS-636, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

***Update on Town Report***

Sara reached out to the printers regarding the town report. Originally, she was going to send it over 2/10/25 but due to the issue with the wording on the warrant article regarding the school, she reached out to let them know. She offered to send all other items now and they prefer to receive it all at once. They said it is okay to wait until the end of this week or Monday of next week at the latest. She should have all information by then which will also allow us to attend the school budget public hearing and see what they say at that meeting. They will send Sara a proof and Sara will let the Select Board know when it is ready so they can come review it and give approval to send to print. 3/4/25 is the deadline for the Town Report to be available to the Public. The printers said we will meet this deadline no problem.

***Reminder: School Public Hearing on the budget 2/13/25 at 6pm at Bridgewater Town Hall***

Sara wanted to remind the Select Board that the public hearing on the school budget is this Thursday at 6pm at the Bridgewater Town Hall.

***.gov paperwork/agreement***

Sara mentioned that she has been working on the .gov process. She has a call next week with them to discuss the next steps. At this point they sent over an agreement to work on them and get the process started. Sara reviewed it and filled in the places we needed to fill in. She will not send it over until after the call next week. Also, the agreement said that they already worked with Primex on the agreement but Sara thinks we should still send it to Primex for review to be sure. Sara wants to be sure that if for

some reason we do not get the grant that we are not required to pay anything. The Select Board agreed.  
**John motioned to sign the .gov agreement between Overwatch and Groton, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup> so voted.**

***Go through basement and Meeting Room***

The Select Board went through the items in the basement and in the big meeting room to see what items to keep, what items to store somewhere else and what items to get rid of.

**John motioned to go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) and (b) at 6:30pm, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**John motioned to return to public session at 6:55pm, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**John motioned to seal the non-public minutes, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

**Having no other business to conduct, John motioned to adjourn at 6:56pm, Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>, so voted.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith  
Town Administrator