



*Town of Groton  
New Hampshire  
2019 Annual Town Report*

For 247 years, the Town of Groton has held town meetings—most of them under these timbers—for the purpose of deciding the town's needs and how much to spend for those needs; these decisions can become controversial and heated; therefore, we need to have some rules of procedure and conduct. These are the rules that we will follow for this meeting unless modified by a majority of the voters present for this meeting:

Tony Tavares, Moderator

1. Robert's Rules are not being used.
2. Our purpose is to have a meeting that is civil, informative, and as brief as possible
3. A request to change a rule can be made by a point of order
4. You are a legislative body by law, and only registered voters of the town may participate
5. Registered voters of the town must have a voter card received from the supervisors of the checklist at the start of this meeting—if you do not have this card, please see the supervisors now—without it you may not speak or vote on the articles.
6. Articles will be considered in the order that they are presented in the warrant
7. Articles will be read as presented; a motion to move the article will be asked for; and for a second; when seconded, the person moving the article will be recognized to speak for the article; then the article will be open for floor discussion and debate.
8. Persons that move and second an article or motion must state their name (RSA91A:2)
9. Comments and questions are to be directed to the moderator; not to others in the room.
10. Persons wishing to speak on the article must raise their hand or stand at their seat, showing their voter card, and be recognized by the moderator in order to have the floor. While that person has the floor, everyone else should be courteous and refrain from speaking so that all in the room can hear the person having the floor. The person recognized must first state their name before speaking.
11. Everyone wishing to speak on an article will have an opportunity to speak at least once.
12. Non-residents may speak only by approval of the voters
13. If a motion to move the article is made, all persons who, prior to the motion, have indicated that they wish to speak may be allowed to speak, if they have not already spoken to the article, before the motion is accepted. Once the motion has been made no additional speakers may request to speak. Once the motion is accepted, a vote on the motion will be taken; a simple majority vote will be required to pass the motion; if it passes, all discussion on the article stops and a vote on the article will be taken.
14. Articles may be amended; this must be made in writing and not change the intent of the article.
15. Secret Yes/No ballots can be requested prior to a voice vote; this requires a written request by five voters, present at the meeting: (RSA40:4a).
16. If a vote is questioned by seven or more voters immediately after the moderator declares a non-ballot vote and before other business is begun, a secret ballot will be taken: (RSA40:4b). The request may be oral or in writing.
17. A motion to restrict reconsideration of any prior vote taken may be made; if passed, this means that those votes are protected by RSA40:10 at the current meeting. If it is desired to reconsider a protected vote, it will be done at a separate meeting with notice, at least seven days later.
18. Finally, RSA40:7 requires everyone to “be silent at the desire of the moderator, on pain of forfeiting \$1 for each offense, for the use of the town.” (A potential fund raiser)

## **Notes**

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# Annual Report

*of the Officers of the*



*(Incorporated December 7, 1796)*

*New Hampshire*  
*Year Ending December 31, 2019*

## ***Appointed Officials/Employees as of December 31, 2019***

<b>Administrative Assistant</b> Sara Smith	<b>Health Officer</b> Select Board
<b>Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector</b> Joanna Peel	<b>Deputy Treasurer</b> TBH
<b>Police Chief</b> Michael Bagan	<b>Fire Chief/Fire Warden</b> Roger Thompson
<b>Police Officers</b> TBH	<b>Deputy Wardens</b> Bill Oakley Norm Willey Jeremy Haney
<b>Emergency Management Director</b> Bill Oakley	<b>Deputy Emergency Management Director</b> Patti Oakley
<b>Transfer Station Superintendent</b> Norm Willey	<b>Transfer Station Attendants</b> Richard Cross
<b>Public Works Director</b> Robert Ellis	<b>Equipment Operators</b> Fred Brooks Norm Willey Jeremy Haney
<b>Custodial</b> Gina Rescigno	<b>Ballot Clerks</b> Judy Demers Bonnie Lane Helen Santoro Vickie Kimball- (sub)

## ***Elected Town Officials as of December 31, 2019***

<b>Select Board</b> Tony Albert 2020 John Rescigno 2021 Ron Madan 2022	<b>Moderator</b> Tony Tavares 2021
<b>Treasurer</b> Pamela Hamel 2020	<b>Trustees of the Trust Fund</b> Michele Lacroix 2020 Gina Rescigno 2021 TBH 2020
<b>Town Clerk/Tax Collector</b> Ruth Millett 2021	<b>Library Trustees</b> Ruth Gaffey 2020 Gina Rescigno 2022 Bonnie Lane 2020
<b>Planning Board</b> Deb Johnson 2020 Russell Carruth 2020 Dave LaBar 2021 Forest Blake 2021 Dave Madden 2022 Kristina Brodie 2022 John Rescigno (Select Board Liaison)	<b>Zoning Board</b> Glen Hansen 2022 Ann Joyce 2020 Peter Smith 2022 Gary Easson 2020
<b>Cemetery Trustees</b> Jim Gaffey 2020 Stephen Spafford 2020 TBH 2020	<b>Supervisors of the Checklist</b> Pamela Hamel 2022 Anne Tobine 2024 Gina Rescigno 2020
<b>Local Auditor</b> Ann Joyce 2020	

## **Letter from the Groton Select Board**

The Select Board would like to thank Bubba and Sara for all of their hard work and countless hours they put into filing grant applications for Sculptured Rocks Road, the work needed in filing the July 2019 storm paperwork with FEMA and the follow up required on the October 2017 FEMA money. All these processes were long and required attention to detail. Had it not been for their tenacity the Town could have lost out on both grant and FEMA money. We would also like to acknowledge all members on our committees, departmental employees and board members. Your hard work and dedication to the town is greatly appreciated. And finally, we would like to thank Avangrid Renewables for their support in the town.

The year started off as usual, snowy and cold. As we transitioned into spring and summer the town began to renew itself as the Transfer Station was painted and road work began. Then out of nowhere the July storm abruptly halted all work on Sculpture Rocks Road as much of the road was washed away. The damage was caused by the Atwell Brook jumping its bank. Sadly, all of the hard work that was completed on the road in order to get it ready to be paved was washed away. Within 24 hours Bubba, our Road Agent, had the road passable once again. The Select Board, with the help of Sara, arranged a meeting with Fish and Game, Department of Environmental Services and Army Corps of Engineers to walk the damage along Atwell Brook to see if they were able to help the Town protect itself from future storm damage. Unfortunately, they were unable to offer any assistance other than advice. There was also significant damage Edgar Albert Road due to the storm. Had it not been for the quick thinking from Bubba, Jeremy Haney and John Rescigno all of the town's equipment would have been lost due to the Town Garage flooding once again.

The Town also saw the completion of its second dry hydrant located on North Groton Road. The money for this project was given to the Town by Avangrid Renewables.

Finally, we would like to welcome Michael Bagan aboard as our new Police Chief. We look forward to working with you.

We look forward to servicing the town through 2020 and ask that more town citizens become involved in town meetings, elected positions and committees.

Respectfully submitted,  
The Groton Select Board

## **Notes**



## **Town of Groton Warrant 2020 Annual Meeting**

### **STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WARRANT FOR 2020 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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 14<sup>th</sup> day of March at nine o'clock in the morning at the Groton Town House.

### **BALLOT ARTICLES MARCH 10, 2020**

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

### **DELIBERATIVE SESSION MARCH 14, 2020**

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven hundred sixty-four thousand, seven hundred ninety-six dollars (\$764,796)** 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 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000)** for the purpose of the Sculptured Rocks Road upgrade project with the amount of **two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000)** (50%) being offset by a Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) Grant the Town applied for and was awarded and the remaining town's share of **two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$250,000)** (50%) to come from general 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 **sixty-nine thousand dollars (\$69,000)** to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Funds. The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required)

Town House CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$47,192.85): \$5,000  
Disaster Relief CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$5,135.52): \$25,000  
Heavy Equipment CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$62,085.72): \$5,000  
Atwell/Orange Brook CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$6,220.41): \$2,000  
Assessing Reval CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$27,623.77): \$7,000  
Public Works CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2019 balance: \$46,624.98): \$25,000  
**Total Capital Reserve Funds \$69,000**

**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 thousand dollars (\$100,000)** for repair/reconstruction of the North Groton Road project. (submitted by the Highway Department and Road Committee)

**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 thirty thousand dollars (\$130,000)** for the purpose of purchasing and equipping a new Dump Truck with a front/wing plow with a sander for the highway department and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to trade-in the 2014 Dodge 5500 with any proceeds received to offset the total purchase amount. With **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** anticipated to be received by a USDA grant, **eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000)** to come from the Truck/Sander Capital Reserve Fund and the remaining **sixty-two thousand (\$62,000)** to be raised by general taxation. If the grant is not received, the amount of **one hundred twelve thousand dollars (\$112,000)** will be raised through general taxation. (Majority vote required.) (submitted by the Highway Department)

**The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0**

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000)** for the repair of Groton roads. (submitted by the Highway Department and Road Committee)

**The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0**

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **thirteen thousand seven hundred eighty-five dollars (\$13,785)** for the construction of slabs for the dumpsters at the Transfer Station. (submitted by the Transfer Station Supervisor)

**The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0**

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **ten thousand four hundred dollars (\$10,400)** for the demolition of the old library and old Town Office building.

**The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0**

ARTICLE 10: 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 Recommends This Article 3-0**

ARTICLE 11: By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the town of Groton, NH, we the town of Groton hereby call upon our State and Federal elected representatives to enact carbon-pricing legislation to protect New Hampshire from the costs and environmental risks of continued climate inaction. To protect households, we support a Carbon Fee and Dividend approach that charges fossil fuel producers for their carbon pollution and rebates the money collected to all residents on an equal basis. Enacting a Carbon Cash-Back program decreases long-term fossil-fuel dependence, aids in the economic transition for energy consumers, and keeps local energy dollars in New Hampshire's economy. Carbon Cash-Back has been championed by US economists (Jan 17, 2019 WSJ) as the most effective and fair way to deliver rapid reductions in harmful carbon emissions at the scale required for our safety.


We expect our representatives to lead in this critical moment for the health and well-being of our citizens and for the protection of New Hampshire's natural resources upon which we all rely.

The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice to Groton's State Legislators, to the Governor of New Hampshire, to Groton's Congressional Delegation, and to the President of the United States, informing them of the instructions from their constituents, by Groton's Select Board, within 30 days of this vote. (Submitted by Petition)

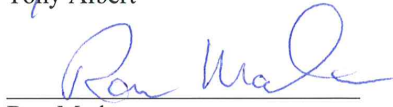
ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town this 11<sup>th</sup> day of February 2020.

**GROTON SELECT BOARD**

  
John Rescigno, Chairman

  
Tony Albert

  
Ron Madan

TOWN OF GROTON - 2020 Proposed Budget & 2019 Expenditures									
						Proposed 2020 Budget	2019 Actual	Approved 2019 Budget	
<b>II - EXPENDITURES (TOTAL)</b>									
<b>OPERATING BUDGET</b>						<b>1,362,981</b>	<b>999,083.21</b>	<b>1,248,452</b>	
<b>SPECIAL &amp; INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES</b>						<b>764,796</b>	<b>707,515.61</b>	<b>766,652</b>	
						<b>598,185.00</b>	<b>291,567.60</b>	<b>481,800</b>	
<b>1 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>						<b>\$ 290,076</b>	<b>264,391.64</b>	<b>\$ 302,550</b>	
<b>4130</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE</b>					<b>62,775</b>	<b>60,018.93</b>	<b>60,933</b>	
	4130.1	Administrative Assistant Wages				45,885	45,301.22	44,533	
	4130.2	Selectmen Stipend				9,600	9,406.38	9,600	
	4130.3	Moderator/Assistant Salary				640	180.25	150	
	4130.4	Other Town Meeting Expense				50	0.00	50	
	4130.5	Contracted Services(Web hosting)				150	150.00	150	
	4130.6	Workshops & Seminars				400	55.00	400	
	4130.7	Telephone/Internet				1,200	1,243.80	1,200	
	4130.8	Mileage				400	414.51	400	
	4130.9	Supplies				1,000	824.14	1,000	
	4130.10	Postage				900	746.60	900	
	4130.11	Furniture / Fixtures				50	0.00	50	
	4130.12	Office Equipment Maintenance				600	530.03	600	
	4130.13	Hiring Expenses				400	25.00	400	
	4130.14	Other Expenses (CU recordings, etc.)				200	32.00	200	
	4130.15	Computer/maintenance/software				1,300	1,110.00	1,300	
<b>4140</b>	<b>ELECTION/REGIST/VITAL STATS</b>					<b>57,975</b>	<b>52,080.83</b>	<b>55,304</b>	
	4140.1	Town Clerk/Tax Collector Salary				30,606	30,268.61	29,714	
	4140.2	Deputy Wages				9,000	7,387.45	9,000	
	4140.3	Town Clerk/Tax Collector Dues				60	40.00	60	
	4140.4	Town Clerk Expenses				1,000	1,048.30	1,000	
	4140.5	Tax Collector Expenses				2,500	2,765.19	2,500	
	4140.6	Workshops & Seminars				2,000	1,562.30	2,000	
	4140.7	Telephone/Internet				1,450	1,483.68	1,450	
	4140.8	Computer Maintenance/Software				1,500	902.95	1,500	
	4140.9	Advertising				50	71.25	150	
	4140.10	Supplies/Advertising Election				200	1,148.77	1,550	
	4140.11	Supplies-General				1,300	933.57	1,300	
	4140.12	Postage				1,350	1,345.20	1,350	
	4140.15	Ballot Clerks				2,035	370.80	600	
	4140.16	Checklist Supervisors				2,924	922.98	1,330	
	4140.17	Mileage				2,000	1,829.78	1,800	
<b>4150</b>	<b>FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION</b>					<b>24,160</b>	<b>23,475.69</b>	<b>24,160</b>	
	4150.1	Financial Reporting (Town Report)				1,200	973.82	1,200	
	4150.2	Auditing				4,750	3,750.00	4,750	

	4150.3	Assessing					15,000	15,623.50	15,000		
	4150.4	Treasurer Salary					3,000	3,000.00	3,000		
	4150.5	Deputy Treasurer Salary					50	18.75	50		
	4150.6	Mileage					150	109.62	150		
	4150.7	Supplies					10	0.00	10		
<b>4153</b>		<b>LEGAL EXPENSES</b>					<b>11,000</b>	<b>8,227.39</b>	<b>11,000</b>		
	4153.1	Claims, Judgments and/or Settlements					1,000	85.00	1,000		
	4153.2	Attorney Fees					7,000	3,124.29	8,000		
	4153.4	Junkyard Compliance					3,000	5,018.10	2,000		
<b>4155</b>		<b>PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION</b>					<b>71,100</b>	<b>70,201.48</b>	<b>87,750</b>		
	4155.1	NH Retirement System					10,000	10,446.95	23,750		
	4155.2	Life & Disability Insurance					1,100	705.06	1,200		
	4155.3	Health Insurance					49,000	49,627.34	51,000		
	4155.4	FICA/Medicare					11,000	9,422.13	11,800		
<b>4191</b>		<b>PLANNING AND ZONING</b>					<b>6,626</b>	<b>3,924.98</b>	<b>5,777</b>		
	4191.1	Planning Board Postage					175	0.00	200	offset by revenues	
	4191.2	Planning Board Advertisement					225	0.00	150		
	4191.3	Planning Board Mileage					25	0.00	25		
	4191.4	Recording Fees					175	80.00	200	offset by revenues	
	4191.5	Planning Board Dues					1	0.00	1		
	4191.6	Planning Board Supplies					25	193.98	800		
	4191.7	Planning Board Seminars/Training					600	0.00	1		
	4191.8	Planning Board Legal					2,500	3,000.00	2,000		
	4191.81	Planning Board Master Plan & Zoning					1,000	651.00	500		
	4191.9	Zoning Board Legal					1,000	0.00	1,000		
	4191.10	Zoning Board Seminars					600	0.00	600		
	4191.11	Zoning Postage					100	0.00	100		
	4191.12	Zoning Mileage					50	0.00	50		
	4191.13	Advertising/notices					100	0.00	100		
	4191.14	Zoning Supplies					50	0.00	50		

<b>4194</b>		<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS</b>				<b>22,405</b>	<b>21,505.85</b>	<b>24,105</b>	
	4194.1	Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance:				3,000	1,625.44	4,000	
	4194.2	Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance: Wages				1,800	1,760.25	1,800	
	4194.3	Town Garage Repairs & Maintenance				4,250	3,933.06	4,250	
	4194.4	Transfer Station Repairs & Maintenance				1,500	3,916.89	2,200	
	4194.5	Cleaning Supplies				200	121.36	200	
	4194.6	General Supplies				500	450.07	500	
	4194.7	Contracted Services(Security Monitoring/Elevator)				2,355	2,715.62	2,355	
	4194.8	Town House Electric				2,800	2,165.08	2,800	
	4194.9	Town House Heat				6,000	4,818.08	6,000	
<b>4195</b>		<b>CEMETERIES</b>				<b>5,802</b>	<b>5,145.00</b>	<b>6,151</b>	
	4195.1	Cemetery Repairs & Maintenance				2,500	2,500.00	2,500	
	4195.2	Salaries/Lawn Care				2,000	2,000.00	2,000	
	4195.3	Supplies				250	270.00	500	
	4195.4	Mileage				1	0.00	100	
	4195.5	Fuel				1	0.00	1	
	4195.6	Advertising				50	0.00	50	
	4195.7	Site Work-River Road Cemetery				1,000	375.00	1,000	
<b>4196</b>		<b>GENERAL INSURANCE</b>				<b>14,532</b>	<b>12,139.43</b>	<b>15,294</b>	
	4196.1	Property & Liability Insurance				9,633	8,505.81	8,838	
	4196.2	Workers' Compensation				4,629	3,133.62	5,956	
	4196.3	Unemployment Compensation				270	500.00	500	
<b>4197</b>		<b>ADVERTISING &amp; REGIONAL</b>				<b>4,450</b>	<b>2,375.64</b>	<b>2,425</b>	
	4197.1	Advertising				500	450.00	500	
	4197.2	Dues				1,950	1,925.64	1,925	
	4197.3	GHS				1,000	0.00	0	
	4197.4	NLRA				1,000	0.00	0	
<b>4199</b>		<b>OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT</b>				<b>9,251</b>	<b>5,296.42</b>	<b>9,651</b>	
	4199.1	Exigent/Hazardous Circumstances				1	0.00	1	
	4199.2	Forestry				800	160.00	1,200	
	4199.3	Tax Mapping				1,450	500.00	1,450	
	4199.4 *	Grants/Engineering				7,000	4,636.42	7,000	off set by revenues

4210	2 - PUBLIC SAFETY		203,578	146,948.75	210,001	
	POLICE					
	4210.1	Police Chief Wages		41,288.11	107,748	
	4210.2	Police Officer Wages (FT)	1	0.00	1	
	4210.3	Police Officer Wages (PT)	18,750	9,931.49	18,750	
	4210.4	Telephone/Communications	2,500	2,393.14	2,500	
	4210.5	Dues & Subscriptions	700	400.00	700	
	4210.6	Other-Equipment Repairs/Maint	1,500	1,371.60	1,500	
	4210.7	Office Supplies	1,500	0.00	1,500	
	4210.8	NH Special Ops Unit	1	3,500.00	3,000	
	4210.9	Dispatch Service	5,500	5,568.80	5,500	
	4210.10	Prosecutor	9,896	9,852.42	9,896	
	4210.11	Vehicle Maintenance	500	300.00	2,000	
	4210.12	Cruiser Equipment	2,000	0.00	600	
	4210.13	Uniforms	2,500	2,458.00	2,500	
	4210.14	Books/Periodicals	100	0.00	100	
	4210.15	Equipment (guns/ammo/taser etc.)	1,500	200.32	1,500	
	4210.16	Mileage	400	273.44	400	
	4210.17	Postage	50	0.00	50	
	4210.18	Gasoline for Cruiser	3,000	221.00	3,000	
	4210.19	Advertising	250	281.90	250	
	4210.20	Training	2,500	0.00	2,500	
	4210.21	Animal Control	500	0.00	500	
	4210.22	Special Detail	1,000	0.00	1,000	
	4210.23	SOU Stipend	1	0.00	1	
4220		FIRE/AMBULANCE	102,651	105,491.28	101,350	
	4220.1	Stipend	500	500.00	500	
	4220.2	Communications/Training	300	300.00	300	
	4220.3	Equipment	400	0.00	400	
	4220.4	Contracted Services - Hebron	73,000	73,000.00	73,000	
	4220.5	Contracted Services - Rumney	15,000	19,694.33	15,000	
	4220.6	Lakes Region Mutual Aid	13,400	11,996.95	12,000	
	4220.7	Dues	1	0.00	100	
	4220.8	Mileage	50	0.00	50	
4290		EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	1,278	169.36	903	
	4290.1	Supplies	200	0.00	200	
	4290.2	Workshops/training	1	169.36	1	
	4290.3	Equipment	1	0.00	1	
	4290.4	Equipment Maintenance	200	0.00	200	
	4290.5	Mileage	1	0.00	1	
	4290.6	Wages/Stipend	875	0.00	500	



		<b>3 - HIGHWAYS AND STREETS</b>			<b>165,366</b>	<b>188,341.08</b>	<b>160,618</b>	offset by Highway Block Grant
<b>4311</b>		<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>			<b>83,965</b>	<b>77,201.42</b>	<b>79,217</b>	
	4311.1	Road Agent Wages			45,500	47,075.65	41,860	
	4311.2	Assistants Wages			31,000	25,093.89	30,000	
	4311.3	Telephone/Internet			1,240	987.67	1,232	
	4311.4	Training & CDL Testing			500	460.00	400	
	4311.5	Electricity			1,100	953.35	1,100	
	4311.6	Heating Fuel			3,600	2,254.70	3,600	
	4311.7	Mileage			500	252.88	500	
	4311.8	Membership/Dues			25	25.00	25	
	4311.9	Supplies			500	98.28	500	
<b>4312</b>		<b>HIGHWAYS &amp; STREETS</b>			<b>80,301</b>	<b>109,993.50</b>	<b>80,301</b>	
	4312.2	Vehicles-Equipment Maintenance & Repairs			15,000	13,062.11	15,000	
	4312.3	Contracted Services/Equipment Rentals			16,000	53,116.64	15,000	
	4312.4	Material			7,500	6,791.78	7,500	
	4312.5	Signs			500	283.50	500	
	4312.6	Uniforms			500	439.00	500	
	4312.7	Tools & Equipment Purchases			2,000	2,210.05	2,000	
	4312.8	Gas			4,500	2,150.13	5,000	
	4312.9	Diesel			8,500	7,129.77	10,000	
	4312.10	Salt, Sand, Deicer			20,000	20,561.83	20,000	
	4312.11	Hydrants			1	0.00	1	
	4312.12	Culverts			1,500	1,500.00	1,500	
	4312.13	Safety			800	248.69	800	
	4312.14	Tree Maintenance			3,500	2,500.00	2,500	
<b>4316</b>		<b>STREET LIGHTING</b>			<b>1,100</b>	<b>1,146.16</b>	<b>1,100</b>	
	4316.1	Utility Charges			1,100	1,146.16	1,100	

		4 - SANITATION				85,765	92,088.68	71,636	
4321		MONITORING				9,000	10,983.00	6,375	
	4321.1	Landfill Monitoring				8,000	9,983.00	5,375	
	4321.2	Landfill Repairs				1,000	1,000.00	1,000	
4324		SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL				76,765	81,105.68	65,261	
	4324.1	Wages				19,055	20,325.04	18,500	
	4324.2	Stipend				3,000	3,000.00	3,000	
	4324.3	Telephone				500	439.46	500	
	4324.4	Training & Certification				300	100.00	300	
	4324.5	Electricity				1,200	1,372.57	1,200	
	4324.6	Propane				350	164.66	500	
	4324.7	Supplies				350	229.80	350	
	4324.8	Compactor Related Expenses				1,000	0.00	1,000	
	4324.9	Mileage				300	62.64	300	
	4324.10	Dues				800	682.22	800	
	4324.11	Portable Toilet				1,860	1,860.00	1,860	
	4324.12	Transportation Costs/Solid Waste				45,000	44,830.93	30,000	
	4324.13	Recycle Costs				2,300	7,509.86	6,200	offset by revenues
	4324.14	Uniforms				150	150.00	150	
	4324.15	Safety				150	0.00	250	
	4324.16	Tire disposal				350	378.50	350	
	4324.17	Other (brush hog rental, etc.)				100	0.00	1	
		6 - HEALTH				6,281	5,888.40	6,243	
4411		ADMINISTRATION				1,588	1,233.40	1,588	
	4411.1	Stipend				1,250	1,198.40	1,250	
	4411.2	Supplies/Postage				1	0.00	1	
	4411.3	Mileage				1	0.00	1	
	4411.4	Training				150	0.00	150	
	4411.5	Dues				50	35.00	50	
	4411.6	Water Testing				135	0.00	135	
	4411.7	Legal				1	0.00	1	
4415		HEALTH AGENCIES AND HOSPITALS				4,693	4,655.00	4,655	
	4415.1	Mid-State Health				200	200.00	200	
	4415.2	Perni-Baker Home Health Agency				2,823	2,785.00	2,785	
	4415.3	Task Force / Domestic Violence				500	500.00	500	
	4415.4	Genesis Behavioral Health				400	400.00	400	
	4415.5	CASA				250	250.00	250	
	4415.6	Transport Central				20	20.00	20	
	4415.7	CADY				500	500.00	500	



## Proposed Budget

### Groton




For the period beginning January 1, 2020 and ending December 31, 2020

**Form Due Date: 20 Days after the Annual Meeting**

This form was posted with the warrant on: 2/11/2020

## GOVERNING BODY CERTIFICATION

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Name	Position	Signature
John Rescigno	Selectman	
Tony J. ALBERT	SELECTMAN	
Ron Madan	Selectman	

This form must be signed, scanned, and uploaded to the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal:  
<https://www.proptax.org/>

**For assistance please contact:**  
NH DRA Municipal and Property Division  
(603) 230-5090  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>



**New Hampshire**  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

**2020**  
**MS-636**

**Appropriations**

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2019	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	
					(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
General Government						
0000-0000	Collective Bargaining		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4130-4139	Executive	02	\$60,019	\$60,933	\$62,775	\$0
4140-4149	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	02	\$52,081	\$55,304	\$57,975	\$0
4150-4151	Financial Administration	02	\$23,476	\$24,160	\$24,160	\$0
4152	Revaluation of Property		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	02	\$8,227	\$11,000	\$11,000	\$0
4155-4159	Personnel Administration	02	\$70,201	\$87,750	\$71,100	\$0
4191-4193	Planning and Zoning	02	\$3,925	\$5,777	\$6,626	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	02	\$21,506	\$24,105	\$22,405	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	02	\$5,145	\$6,151	\$5,802	\$0
4196	Insurance	02	\$12,139	\$15,294	\$14,532	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Association	02	\$2,376	\$2,425	\$4,450	\$0
4199	Other General Government	02	\$5,296	\$9,651	\$9,251	\$0
General Government Subtotal			\$264,391	\$302,550	\$290,076	\$0
Public Safety						
4210-4214	Police	02	\$41,288	\$107,748	\$99,649	\$0
4215-4219	Ambulance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4220-4229	Fire	02	\$105,491	\$101,350	\$102,651	\$0
4240-4249	Building Inspection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4290-4298	Emergency Management	02	\$169	\$903	\$1,278	\$0
4299	Other (Including Communications)		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Safety Subtotal			\$146,948	\$210,001	\$203,578	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center						
4301-4309	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets						
4311	Administration	02	\$77,201	\$79,217	\$83,965	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	02	\$109,994	\$235,301	\$80,301	\$0
4313	Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	02	\$1,146	\$1,100	\$1,100	\$0
4319	Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets Subtotal			\$188,341	\$315,618	\$165,366	\$0



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**Appropriations**

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2019	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	
			(Recommended) (Not Recommended)			
Sanitation						
4321	Administration	02	\$10,983	\$6,375	\$9,000	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	02	\$81,106	\$65,261	\$76,765	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Cleanup		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4326-4328	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Sanitation Subtotal			\$92,089	\$71,636	\$85,765	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment						
4331	Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338-4339	Water Conservation and Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric						
4351-4352	Administration and Generation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4353	Purchase Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4354	Electric Equipment Maintenance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4359	Other Electric Costs		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Health						
4411	Administration	02	\$1,233	\$1,588	\$1,588	\$0
4414	Pest Control		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4415-4419	Health Agencies, Hospitals, and Other	02	\$4,655	\$4,655	\$4,693	\$0
Health Subtotal			\$5,888	\$6,243	\$6,281	\$0
Welfare						
4441-4442	Administration and Direct Assistance	02	\$0	\$1	\$1	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	02	\$2,043	\$2,043	\$2,043	\$0
4445-4449	Vendor Payments and Other	02	\$1,149	\$5,000	\$3,500	\$0
Welfare Subtotal			\$3,192	\$7,044	\$5,544	\$0
Culture and Recreation						
4520-4529	Parks and Recreation	02	\$5,025	\$5,989	\$6,239	\$0
4550-4559	Library	02	\$0	\$501	\$2	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	02	\$100	\$100	\$100	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
Culture and Recreation Subtotal			\$6,125	\$7,590	\$6,341	\$0



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**Appropriations**

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2019	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2019	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	
					(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
Conservation and Development						
4611-4612	Administration and Purchasing of Natural Resources	02	\$1,541	\$1,970	\$1,845	\$0
4619	Other Conservation		\$1,000	\$1,000	\$0	\$0
4631-4632	Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651-4659	Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal			\$2,541	\$2,970	\$1,845	\$0
Debt Service						
4711	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Principal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Long Term Bonds and Notes - Interest		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4723	Tax Anticipation Notes - Interest		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4790-4799	Other Debt Service		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay						
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$237,568	\$822,082	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay Subtotal			\$237,568	\$822,082	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out						
4912	To Special Revenue Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Proprietary Fund - Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Proprietary Fund - Electric		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Proprietary Fund - Other		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Proprietary Fund - Sewer		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Proprietary Fund - Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4918	To Non-Expendable Trust Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4919	To Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Operating Transfers Out Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations					\$764,796	\$0





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**Special Warrant Articles**

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4915	To Capital Reserve Fund	04	\$69,000	\$0
<i>Purpose: add to previously established CRFs</i>				
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$69,000	\$0



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Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2020	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4312	Highways and Streets	07 <i>Purpose: Repair of Groton roads</i>	\$25,000	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	05 <i>Purpose: North Groton Road Repair</i>	\$100,000	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation	08 <i>Purpose: Transfer Station Slabs</i>	\$13,785	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment	06 <i>Purpose: New Dump Truck with plows and sander</i>	\$130,000	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	09 <i>Purpose: Demolition of old library and townhouse</i>	\$10,400	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	03 <i>Purpose: NBRC Grant match</i>	\$500,000	\$0
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$779,185	\$0



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2019	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2019	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2020
<b>Taxes</b>					
3120	Land Use Change Tax - General Fund	02	\$0	\$1,000	\$1,000
3180	Resident Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Tax	02	\$0	\$10,686	\$10,686
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	02	\$0	\$597,384	\$608,585
3187	Excavation Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	02	\$0	\$11,225	\$11,225
9991	Inventory Penalties		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Taxes Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$620,295</b>	<b>\$631,496</b>
<b>Licenses, Permits, and Fees</b>					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	02	\$0	\$140	\$140
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	02	\$0	\$120,000	\$120,000
3230	Building Permits	02	\$0	\$240	\$240
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	02	\$0	\$3,800	\$3,800
3311-3319	From Federal Government	03	\$0	\$0	\$250,000
<b>Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$124,180</b>	<b>\$374,180</b>
<b>State Sources</b>					
3351	Municipal Aid/Shared Revenues		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	02	\$0	\$30,789	\$30,693
3353	Highway Block Grant	02	\$0	\$27,111	\$26,685
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	02	\$0	\$353	\$353
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Other (Including Railroad Tax)	02	\$0	\$552,461	\$1,000
3379	From Other Governments	06	\$0	\$0	\$50,000
<b>State Sources Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$610,714</b>	<b>\$108,731</b>
<b>Charges for Services</b>					
3401-3406	Income from Departments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Charges for Services Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Revenues</b>					
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		\$0	\$0	\$0
3502	Interest on Investments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3503-3509	Other		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>



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Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2019	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2019	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2020
<b>Interfund Operating Transfers In</b>					
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Enterprise Funds: Airport (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Enterprise Funds: Electric (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Enterprise Funds: Other (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Enterprise Funds: Sewer (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914W	From Enterprise Funds: Water (Offset)		\$0	\$0	\$0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds	06	\$0	\$0	\$18,000
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$18,000</b>
<b>Other Financing Sources</b>					
3934	Proceeds from Long Term Bonds and Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance		\$0	\$0	\$0
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Other Financing Sources Subtotal</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Estimated Revenues and Credits</b>			<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$1,355,189</b>	<b>\$1,132,407</b>



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### Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 12/31/2020
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$764,796
Special Warrant Articles	\$69,000
Individual Warrant Articles	\$779,185
Total Appropriations	\$1,612,981
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$1,132,407
<b>Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised</b>	<b>\$480,574</b>

## **Notes**



## Tax Collector's Report

For the period beginning  and ending

This form is due **March 1st (Calendar Year) or September 1st (Fiscal Year)**

### Instructions

#### Cover Page

- Specify the period begin and period end dates above
- Select the entity name from the pull down menu (County will automatically populate)
- Enter the year of the report
- Enter the preparer's information

#### For Assistance Please Contact:

NH DRA Municipal and Property Division  
Phone: (603) 230-5090  
Fax: (603) 230-5947  
<http://www.revenue.nh.gov/mun-prop/>

### ENTITY'S INFORMATION

Municipality:  County:  Report Year:

### PREPARER'S INFORMATION

First Name  Last Name   
Street No.  Street Name  Phone Number   
Email (optional)





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Debits					
		Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)			
Uncollected Taxes Beginning of Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Year: 2018	Year: 2017	Year: 2016
Property Taxes	3110		\$110,589.46		
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187		\$738.44		
Other Taxes	3189				
Property Tax Credit Balance		(\$1,991.26)			
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance					

		Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies
Taxes Committed This Year	Account	2018	
Property Taxes	3110	\$1,312,431.00	
Resident Taxes	3180		
Land Use Change Taxes	3120	\$7,400.00	
Yield Taxes	3185	\$13,109.47	
Excavation Tax	3187	\$41.48	
Other Taxes	3189		

		Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
Overpayment Refunds	Account	2018	2017	2016	
Property Taxes	3110	\$31.00			
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	3190	\$1,097.22	\$9,407.43		
Interest and Penalties on Resident Taxes	3190				
Total Debits		\$1,332,118.91	\$120,735.33	\$0.00	\$0.00



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Credits				
Remitted to Treasurer	Levy for Year of this Report	2018	Prior Levies	
			2017	2016
Property Taxes	\$1,129,305.27	\$73,480.97		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes	\$5,000.00			
Yield Taxes	\$13,109.47			
Interest (Include Lien Conversion)	\$1,067.97	\$8,039.58		
Penalties	\$29.25	\$1,367.85		
Excavation Tax		\$738.44		
Other Taxes				
Conversion to Lien (Principal Only)		\$37,108.49		
Discounts Allowed				

Abatements Made	Levy for Year of this Report	2018	Prior Levies	
			2017	2016
Property Taxes	\$618.00			
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes				
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Current Levy Deeded	\$279.00			



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Uncollected Taxes - End of Year # 1080	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2018	2017	2016
Property Taxes	\$180,407.66			
Resident Taxes	\$2,400.00			
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes	\$41.48			
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Property Tax Credit Balance	(\$139.19)			
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance				
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>\$1,332,118.91</b>	<b>\$120,735.33</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	\$182,709.95
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	\$57,661.02



**New Hampshire**  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

**MS-61**

**Lien Summary**

**Summary of Debits**

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
		Year: 2018	Year: 2017	Year: 2016
Unredeemed Liens Balance - Beginning of Year			\$43,512.11	\$14,380.81
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year		\$42,245.60		
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)		\$45.42	\$3,240.04	\$3,484.36
<b>Total Debits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$42,291.02</b>	<b>\$46,752.15</b>	<b>\$17,865.17</b>

**Summary of Credits**

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies		
		2018	2017	2016
Redemptions		\$4,829.10	\$21,776.52	\$13,986.71
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution) #3190		\$45.42	\$3,240.04	\$3,484.36
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens				
Liens Deeded to Municipality		\$708.56	\$782.51	\$394.10
Unredeemed Liens Balance - End of Year #1110		\$36,707.94	\$20,953.08	
<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$42,291.02</b>	<b>\$46,752.15</b>	<b>\$17,865.17</b>

**For DRA Use Only**

Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	<b>\$182,709.95</b>
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	<b>\$57,661.02</b>



**New Hampshire**  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

**MS-61**

**GROTON (193)**

**1. CERTIFY THIS FORM**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

Preparer's First Name

Preparer's Last Name

Date

RUTH

MILLETT

01-06-2020

**2. SAVE AND EMAIL THIS FORM**

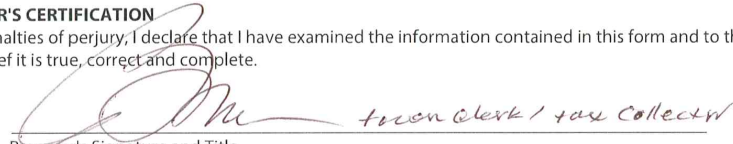
Please save and e-mail the completed PDF form to your Municipal Bureau Advisor.

**3. PRINT, SIGN, AND UPLOAD THIS FORM**

This completed PDF form must be PRINTED, SIGNED, SCANNED, and UPLOADED onto the Municipal Tax Rate Setting Portal (MTRSP) at <http://proptax.org/nh/>. If you have any questions, please contact your Municipal Services Advisor.

**PREPARER'S CERTIFICATION**

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined the information contained in this form and to the best of my belief it is true, correct and complete.

  
Preparer's Signature and Title

*Town Clerk / Tax Collector*

## **Town Clerk Report**

**JANUARY 1, 2019 – DECEMBER 31, 2019**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Motor Vehicle Permits</b>	<b>\$137,917.00</b>
<b>Title Fees</b>	<b>\$360.00</b>
<b>Municipal Agent Fees</b>	<b>\$2,977.70</b>
<b>Building Permit Fees</b>	<b>\$331.00</b>
<b>Candidate Fees</b>	<b>\$6.00</b>
<b>Copy Fees</b>	<b>\$119.00</b>
<b>Current Use Recording Fees</b>	<b>\$113.47</b>
<b>Dog Licenses Town &amp; State</b>	<b>\$971.50</b>
<b>E-Reg. Fees</b>	<b>\$18.85</b>
<b>Junkyard Permits</b>	<b>\$105.00</b>
<b>Pistol Permits</b>	<b>\$30.00</b>
<b>Recycle Income</b>	<b>\$1,897.13</b>
<b>Transfer Station Fees</b>	<b>\$2,665.00</b>
<b>Vital Records Town &amp; State</b>	<b>\$380.00</b>
<b>Refunds</b>	<b>\$128.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$148,019.65</b>

## Treasurer's Report

January 1, 2019 - December 31, 2019

<b>Beginning Balance on January 1, 2019</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>577,193.34</b>
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,321,626.21</b>
<b>Total Orders Paid</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(2,199,030.87)</b>
<b>Total Bank Interest</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>102.62</b>
<b>Deposits:</b>		
<b>Tax Collector</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,272,495.84</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>148,019.65</b>
<b>Treasurer:</b>		
Donations	\$	1,223.00
OHD Fireworks	\$	1,446.91
Fema	\$	177,070.36
Forest Land Reimbursement	\$	352.90
Groton Wind Pilot	\$	608,585.04
Highway Block Grants	\$	27,069.89
Insurance Claims	\$	41,741.99
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$	1,201.96
Refunds	\$	115.00
Revenue from Sales	\$	850.00
Rooms and Meals Revenue	\$	30,789.50
Municipal Aid	\$	10,279.17
UCC Quarterly Allocation	\$	135.00
Voter Checklist	\$	250.00
<b>Total Treasurer Deposits</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>901,110.72</b>
<b>Adjustments:</b>		
Refund	\$	10.00
Capital Reserve Contributions	\$	(24,500.00)
Capital Reserve Transfers	\$	6,716.70
Stop Pmt	\$	11.00
Pdip Contributions	\$	(1,100,000.00)
Pdip Transfers	\$	835,000.00
Voided Checks	\$	2,592.46
<b>Total Adjustments</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>(280,169.84)</b>
<b>Ending Balance on December 31, 2019</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b><u>419,721.46</u></b>

On Hand in Meredith Village Savings Bank

## Public Deposit Investment Pool

<b>Beginning Balance January 1, 2019</b>	<b>\$ 57,029.01</b>
<b>Total Contributions</b>	<b>\$ 1,100,000.00</b>
<b>Total Withdrawals</b>	<b>\$ (835,000.00)</b>
<b>Interest Earned</b>	<b>\$ 6,664.50</b>
<b>Fees</b>	<b>\$ (13.89)</b>
<b>Ending Balance on December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$ 328,679.62</u></b>

## Groton Conservation Fund

<b>Beginning Balance on January 1, 2019</b>	<b>\$ 6,445.78</b>
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$ 88.00</b>
<b>Total Checks</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Total Bank Interest</b>	<b>\$ 2.79</b>
<b>Ending Balance on December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$ 6,536.57</u></b>

On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank

## Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund

<b>Beginning Balance on January 1, 2019</b>	<b>\$ 2,985.78</b>
<b>Total Deposits</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Total Checks</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Total Bank Interest</b>	<b>\$ 1.30</b>
<b>Ending Balance on December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$ 2,987.08</u></b>

On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank



## Police Department Revolving Fund

<b>Beginning Balance on January 1, 2019</b>	\$ 1,399.81
<b>Total Deposits</b>	\$ -
<b>Total Checks</b>	\$ -
<b>Total Bank Interest</b>	\$ 0.36
<b>Ending Balance on December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$ 1,400.17</u></b>
On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank	

## Groton Yield Tax Account

<b>Beginning Balance on January 1, 2019</b>	\$ 170.51
<b>Total Deposits</b>	\$ -
<b>Total Checks</b>	\$ -
<b>Total Bank Interest</b>	\$ -
<b>Ending Balance on December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$ 170.51</u></b>
On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank	

## Old Home Day Fund

<b>Beginning Balance on January 1, 2019</b>	\$ 973.83
<b>Total Deposits</b>	\$ 2,876.13
<b>Total Checks</b>	\$ -
<b>Total Bank Interest</b>	\$ 0.05
<b>Ending Balance on December 31, 2019</b>	<b><u>\$ 3,850.01</u></b>
On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank	

## **Local Auditor's Report**

The local auditor's report for the Town of Groton should be available by March 2020.

Sincerely,

Ann Joyce  
Local Auditor

## **2019 MS-5**

The 2019 MS-5 will be compiled by April 1, 2020. The Final Report should be ready for the public in April 2020. The completed document will be posted on the Town's website, [www.grotonnh.org](http://www.grotonnh.org) and at the Town office.



**New Hampshire**  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

**2020**  
**MS-9**

**Groton**

**Trustees**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
Michele Lacroix	Trustee	3/31/2020
Gina Rescigno	Trustee	3/31/2021

**Ledger Summary**

Number of Fund Records	16
Ledger End of Year Balance	\$349,414.43

*This ledger was reviewed for accuracy and submitted electronically under penalty of perjury on January 22, 2020 by Michele Lacroix on behalf of the Trustees of Trust Funds of Groton.*



**New Hampshire**  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

**2020**  
**MS-9**

**Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds**

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Assessment/Revaluation		10/1/2012		\$27,623.77			
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
<b>Principal</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>New Funds</b>	<b>Unrealized Gains</b>	<b>Realized Gains</b>	<b>Cash Cap Gains</b>	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>EOY Fair Value</b>
	\$19,600.00	\$12,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$26,600.00
<b>Income</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>EOY Balance</b>			
	\$523.54	\$500.23	\$0.00	\$1,023.77			

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Atwell Bridge		3/1/2006		\$6,220.41			
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
<b>Principal</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>New Funds</b>	<b>Unrealized Gains</b>	<b>Realized Gains</b>	<b>Cash Cap Gains</b>	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>EOY Fair Value</b>
	(\$990.00)	\$2,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,010.00
<b>Income</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>EOY Balance</b>			
	\$5,103.03	\$107.38	\$0.00	\$5,210.41			

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Cemetery General Maintenance		10/1/2011		\$792.42			
<b>Type:</b> Expendable Trust (RSA 31:19-a)		<b>Purpose:</b> Cemetery Trust (Other)		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
<b>Principal</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>New Funds</b>	<b>Unrealized Gains</b>	<b>Realized Gains</b>	<b>Cash Cap Gains</b>	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>EOY Fair Value</b>
	\$750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$750.00
<b>Income</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>EOY Balance</b>			
	\$25.57	\$16.85	\$0.00	\$42.42			

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Common Fund		7/1/1963		\$2,623.71			
<b>Type:</b> Trust		<b>Purpose:</b> Cemetery Perpetual Care		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
<b>Principal</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>New Funds</b>	<b>Unrealized Gains</b>	<b>Realized Gains</b>	<b>Cash Cap Gains</b>	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>EOY Fair Value</b>
	\$767.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$767.00
<b>Income</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>EOY Balance</b>			
	\$1,800.95	\$55.76	\$0.00	\$1,856.71			

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Conservation		7/1/2007		\$109.90			
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
<b>Principal</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>New Funds</b>	<b>Unrealized Gains</b>	<b>Realized Gains</b>	<b>Cash Cap Gains</b>	<b>Withdrawals</b>	<b>EOY Fair Value</b>
	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
<b>Income</b>	<b>BOY Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expended</b>	<b>EOY Balance</b>			
	\$7.55	\$2.35	\$0.00	\$9.90			



**New Hampshire**  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

**2020**  
**MS-9**

**Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds**

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Disaster Relief		12/1/2004		\$5,135.52			
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$23,889.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$29,500.00	(\$611.00)
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended	EOY Balance			
	\$5,308.88	\$437.64	\$0.00	\$5,746.52			

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Dump Site		7/1/1989		\$6,446.82			
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$1,382.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,382.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended	EOY Balance			
	\$4,927.83	\$136.99	\$0.00	\$5,064.82			

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Electronic Equip/Software		8/1/2018		\$3,410.30			
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,741.70	\$3,258.30
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended	EOY Balance			
	\$43.96	\$108.04	\$0.00	\$152.00			

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Fire Station & Equip		3/1/2005		\$64,248.28			
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Police/Fire		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$55,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$55,000.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended	EOY Balance			
	\$7,883.05	\$1,365.23	\$0.00	\$9,248.28			

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Groton Recreation Fund		6/1/1995		\$835.07			
<b>Type:</b> Expendable Trust (RSA 31:19-a)		<b>Purpose:</b> Parks/Recreation		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$790.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$790.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended	EOY Balance			
	\$27.31	\$17.76	\$0.00	\$45.07			



**New Hampshire**  
Department of  
Revenue Administration

**2020**  
**MS-9**

**Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds**

Fund Name		Date Of Creation					Fund EOY Balance
Heavy Equipment		3/1/2006					\$62,085.72
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)			<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool		
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$52,675.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$57,675.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended				
	\$3,153.43	\$1,257.29	\$0.00				
							EOY Balance
							\$4,410.72

Fund Name		Date Of Creation					Fund EOY Balance
Police Cruiser		1/1/1991					\$23,102.10
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Police/Fire			<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool		
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$21,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$21,000.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended				
	\$1,611.21	\$490.89	\$0.00				
							EOY Balance
							\$2,102.10

Fund Name		Date Of Creation					Fund EOY Balance
Preamblement		1/1/2009					\$34,033.76
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)			<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool		
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$32,246.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$32,246.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended				
	\$1,064.58	\$723.18	\$0.00				
							EOY Balance
							\$1,787.76

Fund Name		Date Of Creation					Fund EOY Balance
Public Works		10/1/2014					\$46,624.98
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)			<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool		
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$4,975.00	\$45,025.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended				
	\$837.37	\$762.61	\$0.00				
							EOY Balance
							\$1,599.98

Fund Name		Date Of Creation					Fund EOY Balance
Town House Fund		12/1/1995					\$47,192.85
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)			<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool		
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$39,500.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$44,500.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended				
	\$1,752.02	\$940.83	\$0.00				
							EOY Balance
							\$2,692.85



**New Hampshire**  
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**2020**  
**MS-9**

### Report of Trust and Capital Reserve Funds

Fund Name		Date Of Creation		Fund EOY Balance			
Truck Sander Fund		6/1/1989		\$18,928.82			
<b>Type:</b> Capital Reserve (RSA 34/35)		<b>Purpose:</b> Capital Reserve (Other)		<b>How Invested:</b> Public Deposit Investment Pool			
Principal	BOY Balance	New Funds	Unrealized Gains	Realized Gains	Cash Cap Gains	Withdrawals	EOY Fair Value
	\$13,114.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$18,114.00
Income	BOY Balance	Income	Expended	EOY Balance			
	\$474.55	\$340.27	\$0.00	\$814.82			

**Groton**  
Tax Totals

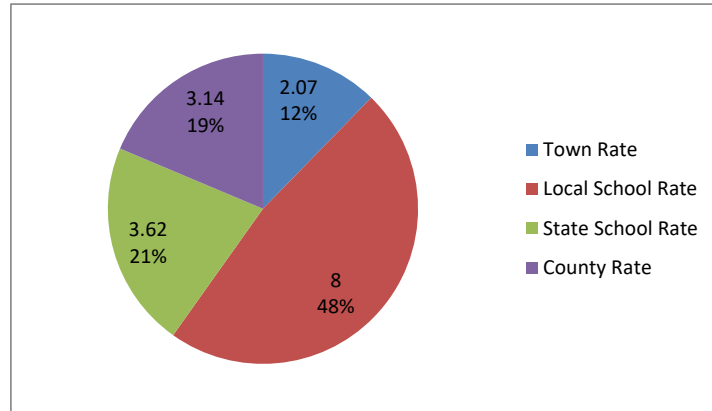
Tax Warrant:	2019P02 of 2
Number of Parcels:	751
<b>Valuations</b>	
Non-Utility Land Value:	40,594,900
Current Use Credits:	( 11,897,631 )
Non-Utility Improvements Value:	44,315,100
Utility Value:	11,843,060
Exempt Property Value:	( 3,067,600 )
Valuation Before Exemptions:	81,787,829
Exemptions Applied:	( 320,000 )
<b>Net Valuation:</b>	<b>81,467,829</b>
Net Non-Utility Valuation:	69,624,769
Net Utility Valuation:	11,843,060

<b>Tax Rates</b>			
Total: 16.83	Municipal:	2.07	State Education Tax: 3.62
	School:	8.00	County: 3.14

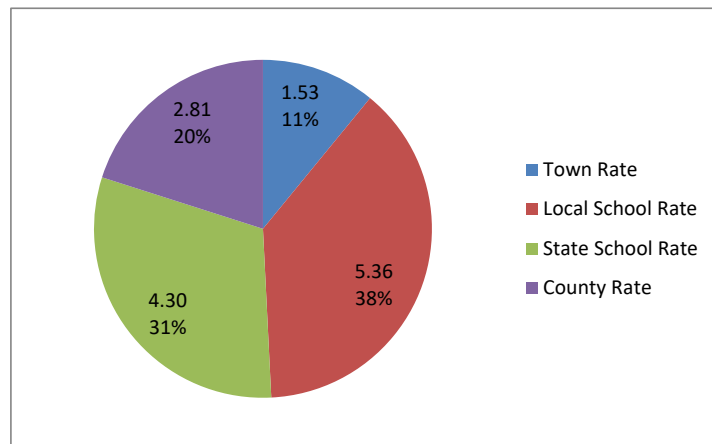
<b>Taxes</b>	
Total Property Tax:	1,328,228.00
Veterans Credits Applied:	( 19,500.00 )
<b>Commitment Amount:</b>	<b>1,308,728.00</b>
Penalties:	2,806.00
First Bills Minus Abatements:	535,115.00
First Bills Exceeding Total Tax Needing Refund:	( 310.00 )
Adjusted First Bills:	( 534,805.00 )
<b>Total Tax Bills:</b>	<b>776,729.00</b>



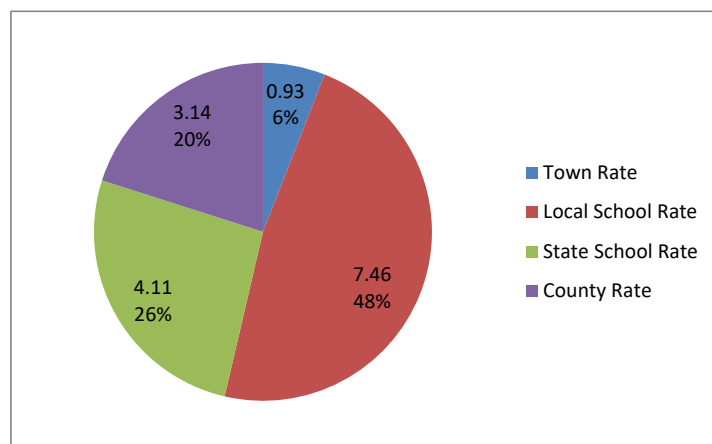
2019 Taxes	
Town Rate	2.07
Local School Rate	8
State School Rate	3.62
County Rate	3.14
Total	16.83



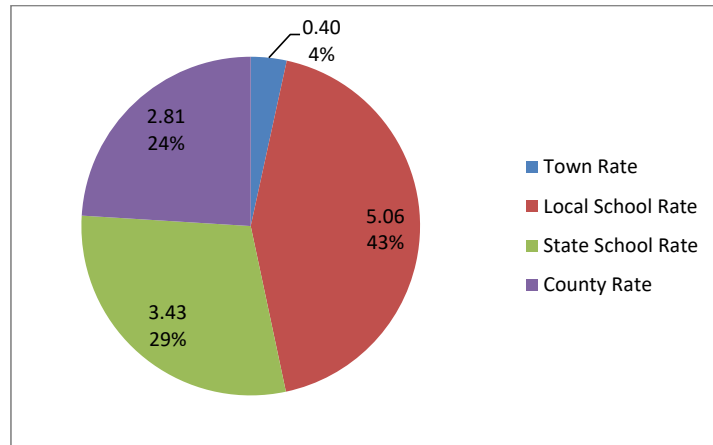
2018 Taxes	
Town Rate	1.53
Local School Rate	5.36
State School Rate	4.30
County Rate	2.81
Total	14.00



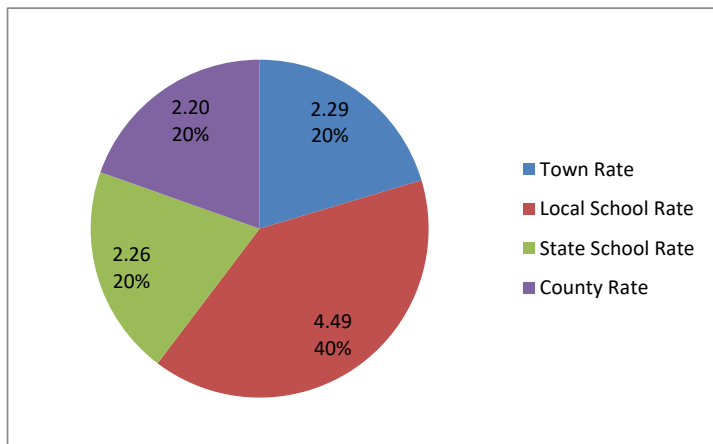
2017 Taxes	
Town Rate	0.93
Local School Rate	7.46
State School Rate	4.11
County Rate	3.14
Total	15.64



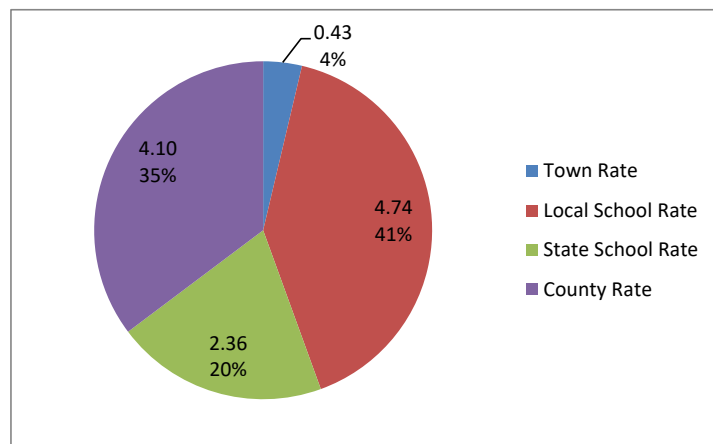
2016 Taxes	
Town Rate	0.40
Local School Rate	5.06
State School Rate	3.43
County Rate	2.81
Total	11.70



2015 Taxes	
Town Rate	2.29
Local School Rate	4.49
State School Rate	2.26
County Rate	2.20
Total	11.24



2014 Taxes	
Town Rate	0.43
Local School Rate	4.74
State School Rate	2.36
County Rate	4.10
Total	11.63



**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION  
Municipal Services Division  
2019 Tax Rate Calculation**

<b>TOWN/CITY:</b>	<b>GROTON</b>		
Gross Appropriations	1,799,734		
Less: Revenue	1,355,189		
Less: Fund Balance to reduce taxes	300,000		
Add: Overlay	4,327		
War Service Credits	19,500		
Net Town Appropriation	168,372		
Special Adjustment	0		
Approved Town/City Tax Effort	168,372	<b>TOWN RATE</b>	<b>2.07</b>
<b>SCHOOL PORTION</b>			
Net Local School Budget (Gross Approp. - Revenue)	0		
Regional School Apportionment	905,391		
Less: Adequate Education Grant	(0)		
State Education Taxes	(252,695)	<b>LOCAL</b>	
Approved School(s) Tax Effort	652,692	<b>SCHOOL RATE</b>	<b>8.00</b>
<b>STATE EDUCATION TAX</b>			
Equalized Valuation (no utilities) x 2.390		<b>STATE</b>	
69,624,769	252,699	<b>SCHOOL RATE</b>	<b>3.62</b>
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (no utilities)			
69,731,249			
<b>COUNTY PORTION</b>			
Due to County	256,260	<b>COUNTY RATE</b>	
Approved County Tax Effort	256,260	<b>3.14</b>	
		<b>TOTAL RATE</b>	<b>16.83</b>

**PROOF OF RATE**

	Assessed Value	Tax Rate	Assessment
State Education Tax (no utilities)	69,731,249	3.62	252,699
All Other Taxes	81,574,309	13.21	1,077,324
			<b>1,330,023</b>

## **Welfare Assistance Report**

In 2019, the Town saw a slight increase in general assistance to Groton residents and authorized \$3,191.61 in Vendor Assistance payments.

### **2019 Expenditures**

Grafton County Senior Citizens		\$500.00
Tri-county Community Action		\$1,543.00
Electric Assistance		\$0.00
Rental Assistance		\$0.00
Fuel Assistance		\$48.61
Food		\$0.00
Gasoline		\$0.00
Other- Frozen Pipes		\$350.00
Other- Cremation		\$750.00
<b>Total Expenditures</b>		<b>\$3,191.61</b>

Organizations in local communities reached out to the Town of Groton to inform us they would be delivering Thanksgiving baskets to needy families in Groton. Once again, the Town collected donations of winter clothing and food for our residents. Thank you to all who donated.

Requests for assistance must be made through the Town's Welfare Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Smith  
Welfare Officer

Schedule of Town Properties					
Map/Lot	Land/ Building	Acres	Location	Valuation	Year Acquired
1-91	Land	5.11	North Groton Road	\$ 32,300	2015 tax deed
2-26	Land	8.5	Old Rumney Road	\$ 26,600	2011 tax deed
2-123	Land	47	North Groton Road	\$ 36,400	2006 tax deed
5-23-4	Land	0.05	Sculptured Rocks Road	\$ 4,800	2019 tax deed
5-61	Land	0.5	adjacent to Garage	\$ 30,800	1992
6-61	Land	2.9	559 North Groton Road	\$ 50,700	2018 tax deed
7-36	Land	3.25	North Groton Road	\$ 32,300	2006 tax deed
10-12	Land	0.55	Halls Brook Road	\$ 500	2006 tax deed
10-22	Land	50	Old Rumney Road	\$ 56,100	1985 tax deed
10-29	Land	5	Halls Brook Road	\$ 8,800	2006 tax deed
10-40	Land	1	Halls Brook Road	\$ 2,600	2012 tax deed
10-41	Land/old building	1	404 Halls Brook Road	\$ 35,000	2019 tax deed
1-50-CEM	Bailey Hill Cemetery	0.1	Bailey Hill Road	\$ 13,000	
2-57-CEM	North Groton Cemetery	0.69	North Groton Road	\$ 41,400	
2-114-CEM	River Road Cemetery	0.232	River Road	\$ 20,100	
2-114-CEMA	Jenny Decoste Smith Annex	0.464	River Road	\$ 35,900	2012
4-1-CEM	Kimball Hill Cemetery	0.1	Kimball Hill	\$ 10,800	
7-54-CEM	Rolfe Hill Cemetery	0.51	North Groton Road	\$ 38,600	
5-62	Town Garage & Former Offices	5	63 North Groton Road	\$ 119,700	
5-62-1	Conservation/ Pond Area	1.6	North Groton Road	\$ 9,500	Entrusted to Cons. Comm. 2008
5-136	Park	6.67	Sculptured Rocks Road	\$ 67,300	
6-1-3	Land- Future Town Garage	6	North Groton Road	\$ 36,700	Purchased from Green Acre Woodlands 2015
6-55	Transfer Station	11.4	677 North Groton Road	\$ 85,500	
7-54	Town Hall	1	754 North Groton Road	\$ 239,500	

## **GROTON POLICE DEPARTMENT**

### **ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

I would like to start by thanking the Select Board and the town residents for selecting me to be their next Police Chief. I have 27 years of police experience that range the gamut from inner city to affluent suburban community and a more rural country township. The one thing that was consistent with all of those communities was that through professionalism and sound community policing techniques, I was able to treat all residents with a level of respect and dignity that they deserve while still effectively protecting our citizens, deterring unlawful behavior and prevent future problems.

As I write this letter, we are currently having a new cruiser outfitted for the department as the previous one was lost in the flood. We've had some delays due to equipment supplier back log but we hope to have it shortly. As I endeavor to familiarize myself with what we have, where it is and what we need there may be times when my response is hindered. Rest assured that I will address your questions or concerns as timely as possible.

My plan is to provide cost effective quality policing through community interaction and good old fashioned policework and patrolling. With your help we can establish a more efficient targeted enforcement policy that should eliminate trending problems. You, the residents, are the eyes and ears out there please reach out with any concerns, questions or problems you may have. If I don't know about it, I cannot address it. I welcome everyone to stop by while I'm in the office or reach out by phone or e-mail. There are no wrong questions or issues too small.

Respectfully submitted,

Your Chief of Police  
Michael Bagan  
Ph (603) 744-3703  
Fx (603) 744-7894  
[mbagan@grotonnh.org](mailto:mbagan@grotonnh.org)

## **Groton Fire Chief's Report**

Thank you for a safe year in 2019. Make sure you check and test your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. You should have carbon monoxide detectors on each floor of your residence. Good chimney maintenance is important when it comes to heating appliance devices, whether it is LP gas, oil or wood heat. If you have auxiliary emergency power, the exhaust should be 10' away from doors and windows and should never be operated inside any residence or garage. Safety is very important so please call if you have any questions.

Remember **fire permits** are required by law for any open outside burning when the ground is **NOT** completely covered by snow. Permits are issued for the burning of clean materials **ONLY**. If you have questions related to what can and cannot be burned this information is located on the back of your fire permit.

Permits can be obtained from the following people:

Roger Thompson	Warden	786-2138	72 River Rd
Norm Willey	Deputy Warden	744-5928	777 N. Groton Rd
Jeremy Haney	Deputy Warden	254-6037	28 Smith Rd
Bill Oakley	Deputy Warden	236-2269	22 Crosby Lane
Pattie Oakley	Agent	520-4712	22 Crosby Lane
Debra Thompson	Agent	786-2138	72 River Rd

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger Thompson  
Fire Chief Groton

## HEBRON FIRE DEPARTMENT Annual Report for Groton 2019

In 2019 the Hebron Fire Department responded to 177 calls. That compares with 218 for 2018 and 206 for 2017. Of that 177 calls for 2019, 104 were medical emergencies. The calls break down as follows:

72 of the calls were in the Town of Groton, 91 calls were in Hebron, and 14 were mutual aid calls to other neighboring towns.

The Hebron Fire Department is a “Call” Department. That means that members are paid when they are called out for an emergency. The department also pays members per diem when station coverage is needed or for maintenance of vehicles and equipment. Members are not paid for meetings or monthly training.

In analyzing the Department’s payroll for 2019 it is interesting to note where the personnel hours were spent. 737.5 hours were spent handling emergencies in Groton, 794.75 hours in Hebron, and 162.25 hours on mutual aid calls. There were also 1,663 hours spent for station coverage, maintenance of equipment, administration, and training for certification. All of the hours that members of the Department spend, all the effort put into training, maintenance, and administration come down to one focal point. That focal point is: when an emergency call comes in that the right equipment with the right trained people goes out the door 24/7/365. Everything we do has to work toward that goal.

I have often said that there are three main categories when it comes to managing a fire department. Equipment, Training, and Personnel. As I reported last year the Department is in pretty good shape when it comes to equipment. One of the larger expenses we have planned for over the last two years is replacing the air tanks that go with our self-contained breathing apparatus. The air tanks have a 15-year life span. In the first two months of 2020 24 of those tanks reach their expiration date. We have gradually been phasing in new tanks at a cost of \$900. each. On the EMS side, in December we purchased a portable Nitrous Oxide unit. This is an added a new capability to help control pain especially resulting from trauma. The unit cost \$3,800 and was purchased out of the Hebron Fire Dept. Improvement Fund. This money comes from Department fund raising and gifts.

Then there is training. During 2019 the Department hosted an EMT course and three new EMTs were added to our roster.

It is in the area of personnel that we face the biggest challenge. Over the next couple of years our most active EMTs will be retiring. One plan is to staff the station with certified personnel on a per diem basis. Most of these people will come from other area departments. The present reality is that Fire Departments in New Hampshire and beyond are having a challenge attracting new people to serve as firefighters and EMTs. This is especially true in call and volunteer departments.

I believe that the people of Hebron and Groton deserve the best service possible. The challenge going into the future will be just how to provide that service.

As always, I want to thank the members of the Department for their dedication and commitment. Their resourcefulness makes it possible to meet the many demands of our active communities. And, I want to thank the community for all its support and encouragement.

JOHN M. FISCHER  
Chief, HFD  
Commanding

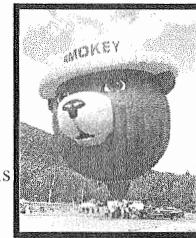


## Report of Forest Fire Warden and State Forest Ranger

This past year we were fortunate enough to have favorable weather conditions in the spring and summer which limited the amount of wildfire activity throughout the state. Your local fire departments and the Division of Forests & Lands worked throughout the year to protect homes and the forests. The statewide system of 16 fire lookout towers continues to operate on high fire danger days. The towers' fire detection efforts are supplemented by the NH Civil Air Patrol when the fire danger is especially high.

Many homes in New Hampshire are located in the wildland urban interface, which is the area where homes and flammable wildland fuels intermix. Every year New Hampshire sees fires which threaten or destroy structures, a constant reminder that wildfires burn more than just trees. Homeowners should take measures to prevent a wildfire from spreading to their home. Precautions include keeping your roof and gutters clear of leaves and pine needles, and maintaining adequate green space around your home free of flammable materials. Additional information and homeowner recommendations are available at [www.firewise.org](http://www.firewise.org). Please help Smokey Bear, your local fire department, and the state's Forest Rangers by being fire wise and fire safe!

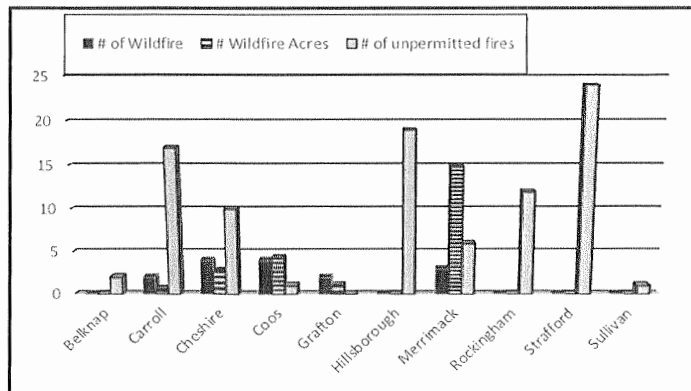
The Forest Protection Bureau and local fire departments were very busy this year celebrating Smokey Bear's 75<sup>th</sup> year preventing wildfires. Many events were held at local libraries, in fact, this program was so successful we will be offering it again in 2020. We were fortunate enough to partner with the Northeast Forest Fire Protection Compact and bring the Smokey Hot Air Balloon to Franconia Notch in August. The weather was fantastic and hundreds of people got the chance to ride in the balloon! Smokey's message has always been about personal responsibility – remember his ABC's: Always Be Careful with fire. If you start a fire, put it out when you are done.  
**"Remember, Only You Can Prevent Wildfires!"**



As we prepare for the 2020 fire season, please remember to contact your local Forest Fire Warden or Fire Department to determine if a fire permit is required before doing ANY outside burning. Under State law (RSA 227-L:17) a fire permit is required for all outside burning, unless the ground is completely covered with snow. Fire permits are also available online in most towns and may be obtained by visiting [www.NHfirepermit.com](http://www.NHfirepermit.com). The burning of household waste is prohibited by the Air Resources Division of the Department of Environmental Services (DES). You are encouraged to contact the local fire department or DES at 603-271-3503 or [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov) for more information. Safe open burning requires your diligence and responsibility. Thank you for helping us to protect New Hampshire's forest resources. For more information please contact the Division of Forests & Lands at (603) 271-2214, or online at [www.nh.gov/nhdfl/](http://www.nh.gov/nhdfl/).

### 2019 WILDLAND FIRE STATISTICS

(All fires reported as of December 2019)



\* Unpermitted fires which escape control are considered Wildfires.

Year	Number of Wildfires	Wildfire Acres Burned	Number of Unpermitted Fires*
2019	15	23.5	92
2018	53	46	91
2017	65	134	100
2016	351	1090	159
2015	143	665	180

### CAUSES OF FIRES REPORTED

(These numbers do not include the WMNF)

Arson	Debris Burning	Campfire	Children	Smoking	Railroad	Equipment	Lightning	Misc.
4	3	1	0	1	1	1	1	3

## **Highway Department**

2019 was another busy and challenging year for the Highway Department. July 11, 2019 the Town was once again faced with a devastating flood causing damages to many Town roads. This not only caused more unexpected work for the Highway Department and made them put other projects on hold, but also cost the Town a lot of money. The Highway Department budget, along with the remainder of the Disaster Relief Capital Reserve Fund, was depleted to cover these repairs. The Select Board reached out to New Hampshire Municipal Association legal department and to the Department of Revenue for advice and since we did not have a Police Department for the majority of the year, the Select Board was told that they can vote to move money from the Police Budget to the Highway budget to cover the emergency road repairs from these storm damages. Most of this work has been completed. The Town is currently working the State and FEMA for funding to be reimbursed for the work already done and to complete the repairs that are still needed. The Town is very thankful to the many contractors and their workers that came together to help out when the Town was in need. Thank you Kuplin Land Services, M.E. Latulippe, Coursey and Son, Harris Excavating, Dave Leone, Mike Ethier Excavating, and anyone else we may have missed.

Major projects accomplished in 2019:

- The reclaimed section of Sculptured Rocks Road that was repaired from the October 2017 storm was paved. This was ready for pavement eight weeks prior to when it was actually done, but this was one of the roads that was washed away in the July 2019 storm. Therefore, the road needed to be rebuilt again before it could be paved.
- Sculptured Rocks Road required work in other areas as well due to the storm. At this time, the road repair is 50% complete.
- Edgar Albert Road was also washed away in the July 2019 storm which led to a lot of road repair to bring it back to pre-disaster condition. At this time, the road repair is 90% complete.
- Blanchette Lane was already on the project list to rebuild the upper half of the road because of drainage problems. This work was completed before the July storm which limited the damages that could have occurred. The bottom half of the road did experience some damage which has since been 100% repaired after the storm.

- North Groton Road received the finishing coat and shoulder gravel. There were enough funds to put a levelling course from Halls Brook Road to Nedeau Lane with the hopes and intentions of putting a finishing course and shoulder gravel in 2020.
- Bailey Hill Road was ditched and reshaped for proper drainage. Thank you, Dave Leone, for your help with this project.
- M.E. Latulippe was awarded the contract for Province Road to repair the October 2017 storm damages. This project was delayed due to the July 2019 Storm which resulted in the project not entirely being completed this year.
- Thank you to Coursey and Son who assisted with many repairs to Town equipment.
- Thank you to T.L.C. Tree and Crane Service for completing cutting on Edgar Albert Road and Fletcher Road.
- The Highway Department did some trimming on Smith Road.
- Mike Ethier and the Highway Department began clearing the lot across from the Transfer Station to save the Town substantial money for the potential Publics Works Building. Mike pulled some elevations and put some grade stakes where the building may potentially go.
- The Highway Department cleaned up the Town Garage inside and most noticeably outside.

For 2020, we will continue to work with the building committee to have meetings to design and develop the new Town Garage across from the Transfer Station and continue to work with the road committee to improve the conditions of the Town roads.

I would like to thank Fred Brooks, Jeremy Haney, Norm Willey, and Sara Smith for their hard work and continued service and loyalty to the Town. I would also like to thank John Rescigno, Tony Albert and Ron Madan for their continued support of the Highway Department and our projects.

In closing, I appreciate the continued support of the townspeople. I am available on the nights of the Select Board meetings from 6:30pm to 7:00pm, at the Town House, if any residents have any questions or concerns regarding the Highway Department. I will also provide the Town residents with Department updates at the Select Board meetings. I welcome any and all feedback that you may have.

Thank you again for allowing us the opportunity to be of service to you.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert “Bubba” Ellis  
Highway Department

Assistants:  
Fred Brooks  
Norm Willey  
Jeremy Haney



## **Road Committee**

In 2019, \$130,000 was provided for the final wear course on the approximate 8700 linear feet with finished pavement edges that was previously completed on North Groton Road.

FEMA funding from the October 2017 storm was used on Sculptured Rocks Road to fine water grade compact for 3500 linear feet to 20 feet wide and 2500 linear feet to eighteen feet wide with 2 feet shoulders where applicable, pave surface and apply winder binder basecoat.

Province Road had 10 culverts replaced by Central NH Aggregate. The final spreading of material was not accomplished due to the storm of July 11, 2019 that caused significant destruction to NH. Material vendors were unable to provide material to finish in 2019. This will be completed in 2020.

Edgar Albert Road and Bailey Hill Road had new material spread, raked, rolled and graded. Bailey Hill and Edgar Albert Road also had tree trimming done by John Faucher.

The Road Committee worked on the following warrant articles:

- A Northern Borders Regional Commission (NBRC) grant in the amount of \$500,00 has been awarded to the Town of Groton. This is a 50-50 grant with the cost to the Town of Groton being \$250,000. This grant is to grind the whole road up to Sculptured Rocks State Park, replace 8-10 culverts, create an underdrain system and bring the road up 16-18" from Hardy County down approximately 1000 feet. Raising the road will create ditches on the side of the road and alleviate drainage issues due to the amount of ledge present.
- \$100,000 for the one-inch wear course from Halls Brook Road and the area that was shimmed last year for approximately 1,000 feet past Nadeau Lane. This will be dependent on the cost of asphalt for 2020.
- \$25,000 for the repair of Groton Roads.

Respectfully Submitted,

Road Committee: Tony Albert, Robert Ellis, Ruth Millett, James Joyce, Ann Joyce Jeremy Haney, Dan Tobine and Roger Thompson.

## **Building Committee**

The new building committee members are Robert (Bubba) Ellis, Rick Belanger, Dave Madden, Kristina Brodie, Gary Easson, Steven (Slim) Spafford, Ann Joyce and John Rescigno (Select Board Liaison). Meeting Minutes are done by Ann Joyce. The committee has met six times since its inception in November of 2018.

Land clearing, tree and bush removal was accomplished in the spring and fall of this year by Mike Ethier and the Highway Department. Test pits were dug and the site was found to contain ledge. There is ledge approximately thirty feet from the tree line. There are drainage issues on the site which will require stone to be trucked in. The back of the site is bleeding water so when the building is built, the hope is that we will attempt to have the water flow down towards a fire pond. The driveway was roughly cut in which is slightly offset below the transfer station opening for line of sight vision.

The **preliminary** design calls for the building, salt and sand sheds to be 140 feet by 40 feet with 16-foot doors on the front of the building. The back of the building would be concrete and built into the ground for cost saving measures with fourteen feet being above ground due to the amount of ledge. The front of the building would be wood and steel. The office and mechanical room would be relocated to the other side of the building from the original design.

Respectfully Submitted,

The Building Committee: (Robert (Bubba) Ellis, Rick Belanger, Dave Madden, Kristina Brodie, Gary Easson, Steven (Slim) Spafford, Ann Joyce, and John Rescigno (Select Board liaison).

## **Transfer Station**

2019 was another very busy year at the Transfer Station. As everyone is now aware, the bottom fell out of the recyclables market with the advent of China stopping all importing of recycling materials due to environmental concerns. With this, the process to dispose of these materials rose drastically by June of this year. The Transfer Station and the Select Board reluctantly made the decision to stop recycling cardboard, glass and paper due to the cost of these items. We could not stay within the confines of our budget if we had continued recycling these items, which is reflected in our budget. It is hoped that, if recycling these items in the future becomes cost effective, we would go back to recycling these items. Remember that we still recycle all metals, aluminum cans, tires, electronics, batteries and light bulbs.

We completed staining and painting of the building which greatly improved the appearance of the facility with many favorable comments from the townspeople and state inspectors.

We have been keeping records weekly of “customer visits” per day and have shown an increase of 20-30% the last two years. With this, the amount of material to be disposed of has risen which will affect our budget requests for 2020. A reminder that all fees charged for electronics, furniture, tires, batteries, etc. reflect the cost to dispose of these items.

We look forward to another year of serving the people of Groton.

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Willey, Transfer Station Supervisor  
Richard Cross, Transfer Station Attendant  
Ron Madan, On Call Operator  
Jeremy Haney, On Call Operator





*"Partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions"*

Northeast Resource Recovery Association, 2101 Dover Road, Epsom, NH 03234 Telephone: (603) 736-4401 or 1-800-223-0150 Fax: (603) 736-4402  
E-mail: [info@nrra.net](mailto:info@nrra.net) Web Site: [www.nrra.net](http://www.nrra.net)

Dear NRRA Member,

**Thank you for being a member of the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA), your member owned recycling and resource recovery nonprofit.**

Your membership, along with that of over 400 other municipalities, businesses, and individuals throughout the Northeast, helps support our mission of "partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions." NRRA is one of only a handful of nonprofits in the country that enables communities to manage their own recycling programs by providing cooperative marketing and purchasing programs, along with education and technical assistance.

**Through your continued support and dedication, NRRA has assisted our members to recycle over 50,351 tons of recyclable material in 2019!** NRRA is proud to partner with you to achieve these results, and we look forward to sharing with you NRRA's comprehensive Environmental Impact Report in our forthcoming Annual Report.

**Enclosed is your individual Environmental Impact Report, which highlights some of the many positive impacts generated from your recycling efforts in 2019.** We know many of our municipal members enjoy sharing this report with their residents each year, and we're pleased to provide this information to you.

If you have any questions, please contact us at 603-736-4401 or visit our website at [www.nrra.net](http://www.nrra.net)

From all of us here at NRRA, we wish you a Happy New Year!





Northeast Resource Recovery Association  
2101 Dover Road, Epsom, NH 03234  
Phone: 603.736.4401 Fax: 603.736.4402  
Email: [info@nrta.net](mailto:info@nrta.net) Web: [www.nrta.net](http://www.nrta.net)

*"Partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions"*

## **Groton, NH**

### Congratulations for being such active recyclers!

Below please find information on the positive impact your recycling has had on our environment.

The recyclable materials listed below were sent to market to be remanufactured into new products through your non-profit recycling organization, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association.

Recyclable Material	Amount Recycled In 2019	Environmental Impact! Here is <u>only one</u> benefit of recycling materials rather than manufacturing products from virgin resources
Tires	1.8 tons	Conserved 1.2 barrels of oil!

#### **Avoided Emissions:**

Recycling uses much less energy than making products from virgin resources, and using less energy means fewer greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere.

By recycling the materials above, you have avoided about **1 tons** of carbon dioxide emissions.

# **PEMI-BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT**

Brian Patnoe, Chairman  
Jessie Jennings, Vice-Chairman  
Erik Rasmussen Treasurer  
Danica Melone, Secretary

c/o 161 Main Street  
Littleton, NH 03561  
(603) 444-6303 ext. 2025  
[dmelone@nccouncil.org](mailto:dmelone@nccouncil.org)

## **2019 Annual Report**

In 2019, Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District continued its cooperative efforts to promote waste reduction, increase recycling, and to provide residents with a means of properly disposing of their household hazardous waste (HHW).

The District held two (2) one-day HHW collections, one in Littleton on Sunday, August 4<sup>th</sup> and the other in Plymouth on Saturday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. A total of 241 households participated in the program and over 3,210 gallons of material was collected. The total expenses for 2019 HHW programming, which includes disposal costs, advertising, & insurance, totaled at \$21,477. The District was awarded a grant from the State of New Hampshire for \$5,026, received a \$5,000 donation from Casella Waste Management, and received \$500 in sponsorship from Littleton Chevrolet Buick. The net expenditures for the program were \$10,951.00 (a cost of \$0.39 per resident.)

The district also coordinated two (2) fluorescent light bulb collections in the spring and fall, where all member towns were able to dispose of their bulbs and ballast. This year, fluorescent light bulb collections resulted in over 24,891 linear feet of fluorescent tubes being properly disposed of; as well as 780 bulbs; 2,047 units of ballasts and batteries; and 97 smoke detectors. The total cost for this effort was \$3,649.62 covered by district dues.

When selling your recyclables, be sure to call multiple brokers to ensure you receive the best price. Brokers also can offer a wide array of collection options (single-stream, co-mingled, split loads, etc) to best suit your recycling facility. What works for one town may not work for another, but no matter the circumstances, there are many possibilities for members to decrease waste and increase recycling efforts. We are very fortunate to have some of the best municipal recycling programs in the State as well as a knowledgeable and innovative group of facility operators. If your town has questions, issues, or concerns you would like to address, please use the resources you have available. New Hampshire the Beautiful offers grants to NH communities to help with the purchase of recycling equipment. Grants may total up to one-half of the purchase price of such things as balers, roll-off containers, collections bins, or other equipment that will assist a town in achieving a higher diversion rate. More information on the grant program is available at [www.nhthebeautiful.org](http://www.nhthebeautiful.org).

As always, citizens interested in participating in the development of the District's programs are welcome to attend the District's meetings. Information regarding the place and time of the meetings is available at all municipal offices and recycling centers. If at any time an individual community needs assistance in regards to their solid waste/recycling program, please contact the District by email at [dmelone@nccouncil.org](mailto:dmelone@nccouncil.org).

Respectively Submitted,  
Danica Melone, Secretary

## **Planning Board Report**

Public service can be both hard work and very rewarding.

During 2019 your Planning Board (PB) regularly preformed public business – reviewed applications, provided advisory opinions and worked with the selectman on many additional matters.

The first part of 2019 the PB considered the impacts of growth in Groton. The population has been expanding. With that growth, the development in areas of town is much denser with increased cost to the town for public services, school needs, and county requirements – all affecting our tax bills.

To avoid these negative impacts associated with uncontrolled and often times, unwanted growth your PB formed a Citizen Planning Committee to work with us to consider what tools/regulations were available. Very few residents volunteered to assist in this process but the PB did receive interest from six individuals. Thank you to Pamela Hamel, Vickie Kimball, Bonnie Lane, Bernard Dauphinais, Steve Lindsey, Tony Tavares and all PB members.

The process, which led us to proposing zoning to the town's voters, was as transparent as possible despite what was said in the misinformation that was circulated just before town meeting in March. The PB and Citizen Planning Committee had held two Open Planning discussions at the start of the process, mailing out invitations to all property owners to attend. There were many public meetings of the Citizen Planning Committee (over 12) and the Planning Board held 3 work sessions and 2 public hearings – again with often disappointing attendance from town residents. Thank you to those residents that participated, helping the PB to better understand what residents might want. The PB modified or deleted areas of the proposal the resident participants suggested.

And while some town money paid for meeting notices and required mailings, the planning board won a grant that paid for informational mailings – again despite misinformation circulated just prior to the vote. We brought forth the proposal by Ballot, as required by law.

Again, we want to thank those of you that participated, volunteered and on many matters wrote to us to express your viewpoints and hopes. We also want to encourage all of the town residents to attend meetings, ask questions of your PB, and volunteer as an alternate for the board.

Respectfully submitted,

Groton Planning Board (Deborah Johnson (Chair), Russ Carruth, Ray Blake, Dave LaBar, Dave Madden, John Rescigno (Select Board Liaison))

## **Conservation Commission Report**

The mission of the Groton Conservation Commission is the promotion of public awareness and protection of our natural resources.

In 2019, the Commission continued to work with the Natural Resource Inventory phase 1 which was compiled by Moosewood Ecological LLC and received by the Commission this year. This document, which is an inventory of Groton's physical landscape and conserved properties is held at the Town House and available to the public. The Commission will be considering the focus for the next phase of the Natural Resources Inventory in 2020.

Of great interest to the residents of Groton is the acquisition of 2,731 acres of Kimball Hill. This area was purchased by the Nature Conservancy, which retains the conservation easement for this land, with support of Groton residents. It was then sold to the Fish and Game Dept which will manage the area. Citizens will have access to this area for hiking, fishing, hunting, trapping, snowmobiling and snowshoeing. The area protects the wildlife corridor from Cardigan State Forest to Province Road State Forest and Kimball Hill. This area is now known as the Kimball Hill Wildlife Management Area.

Two town road cleanups were held this year. The Spring Earth Day cleanup was particularly well attended by 23 hardworking volunteers. A convivial potluck was enjoyed following the cleanup. The Conservation Commission applauds our local citizens who clean up areas of Groton roads on a continual basis and hopes more people will join in this effort.

The Fishing Derby sponsored by the Commission was well attended and continues to be a popular event for local families.

There is still room for new members on the Conservation Commission. We hope those interested will attend our meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Groton Conservation Commission  
Slim Spafford, Chair  
Gina Rescigno, Vice Chair

Ruth Gaffey, Secretary  
Cindy Carpenter  
Ray Blake, Planning Board Liaison

## **Old Home Day Committee**

The day started off with threatening rain and as time got closer it looked like Old Home Day would be called off. Thanks to the quick thinking of Bubba and Ron, the day was saved, and Old Home Day was moved to the Town House. Unfortunately, we were unable to enjoy the permanent lighting that Gary Easson installed at the pavilion. The weather stayed in our favor, and the parade went off without a hitch. The participants traveled from the Town Garage to the Town House where they were met by a turn out larger than expected. Christina suggested the band, Horsepower, who played for hours entertaining the town with classic rock hits. We hope they will join us again in 2020. Janet, Mikayla and Christina all helped out and made the raffles a complete success. John brought over his tractor and delighted the kids with a hayride.

The Old Home Day Committee would like to thank Avangrid Renewables, Sara for all of her behind the scenes work, all who donated food and those who donated to the fireworks fund. It looks promising that there will be a firework display in 2020.

Respectfully submitted,  
Old Home Day Committee

Gina Rescigno, John Rescigno, Gary Easson, Ron Madan, Christina Goodwin

## **Groton Recreation Committee**

In the past few years the Groton Recreation Committee has been vacant. It has been recommended that the Select Board combine the Recreation Committee and the Old Home Day Committee into one Community Events Committee. This still hasn't happened as of yet.

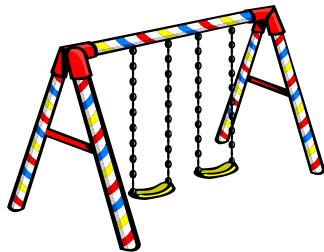
With that said, members are still needed. The Select Board would like to encourage those with interest and passion to contact the Board so that a team of committee members can be formed to ensure that future recreational events and opportunities continue.

We ask for your feedback as we continue to look at ways to keep the community coming together and providing a place for families and friends to gather for events. Please let us know if you have ideas for ways that we can improve the Everett Hobart Memorial Park.

If you are interested in holding an event at the park, please contact the Select Board office at (603)744-9190.

Respectfully submitted,

Groton Select Board



## **GROTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Groton Historical Society (GHS) would like to thank its members and friends for their ongoing encouragement and support as we continue to “Preserve Groton’s Past for Its Future.”

For the 2019 Memorial Day Program, George Morrison presented “Benedict Arnold: Patriot and/or Traitor.” The program was made possible by a grant from NH Humanities. The presentation was followed by a light lunch supplied by GHS members and friends. As in prior years, there was an excellent turnout.

On September 8, GHS sponsored a program called “Mary Baker Eddy-Her Life.” It was presented by Linda Salatiello and Evelyn Auger, both members of Sanbornton’s Historical Society. After the program, the GHS Museum was open to the public and Cindy Love from Longyear Museum also opened the Mary Baker Eddy house in Groton for tours. GHS would like to thank all who made this program possible.

This year’s new display at the Museum was the renovation of the Schoolhouse in memory of Louise Traunstein and the many people who lent a hand. The displays were created with items from the GHS archives. The Museum was open on June 22 and July 13, and by appointment.

GHS was present at the Hebron Fair on July 27, Rumney Old Home Day on August 10 and Groton Old Home Day on August 17.

As a part of ongoing maintenance of the Schoolhouse, GHS had the roof on the front side of the building re-shingled. We are very thankful for all who donated to the roof project to make this possible.

The Hebron Historical Society took on the task of reviewing all available early deeds for Cockermouth before the town separated into what is now Groton and Hebron. We split the cost with the Hebron Historical Society to obtain copies of these early deeds.

The 2020 calendar this year was called “Mines in Groton, NH”. We are happy to report that all calendars have been sold.



At the 2019 Groton Town Meeting, the Town voted to provide \$800 to have informative signs made for the trail going into the Town Pound. Universal Signworks did an excellent job fabricating 5 metal signs. GHS researched the history of the pound and took photos of other pounds in the area to include on the signs. They will be installed in the spring of 2020.

Thank you for your continued support of the Groton Historical Society.

GHS Board Members

Paul Cole (Building Manager)  
Pamela Hamel (Treasurer)  
Sharon Nelson  
Steve “Slim” Spafford

Roger Daniels (Vice President)  
Debra Lindsey (Secretary)  
Kathy Sobetzer (President)

*Groton Historical Society, PO Box 50, Rumney, NH 03266*  
[grotonhistorical@yahoo.com](mailto:grotonhistorical@yahoo.com)

*The Groton Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.*

## **Groton Public Library**

In 2019, Groton residents have continued to enjoy free access to books, magazines, DVDs, as well as downloadable books, audios and programs through the Hebron Library. There are also passes available to use at Squam Lake Nature Center and more. This service has been made possible by a Memorandum of Understanding between the two towns that was passed as a warrant article in 2018.

There is an active Friends of the Hebron Library group which exists to plan programs and help support the mission of the Library. We urge Groton residents to join this creative and lively group which meets monthly. For more information contact:

Hebron Library  
8 Church Lane  
Hebron  
603-744-7998

Visit the website to access the library and book catalog from home at [www.hebronlibrary.org](http://www.hebronlibrary.org).

Respectfully submitted,

Groton Library Trustees  
Gina Rescigno  
Ruth Gaffey  
Bonnie Lane



## **Groton Cemeteries**

2019 was a busy year for the care and maintenance of the town's five cemeteries. The most significant improvements were to the Rolfe Cemetery (also known in years past as the Blood Cemetery in honor of members of the Blood family who were among Groton's earliest residents who are buried there.) The cemetery trustees contracted with Bob Clay & Son for the repair of the stone wall which forms the perimeter of the cemetery on three sides. Over the years, frost had heaved many of the stones, leaving them on the ground and contributing to an unkempt appearance. With the use of a small excavator, the stones were lifted and replaced in their original locations. Repairs to the steel gate at the south end of the cemetery were also made through the installation of new hinges and a latch so that the gate can be opened and closed properly. Sections of the rail fencing that had rotted away were also replaced and painted. Most significantly, a pedestrian gate to the cemetery was moved from behind the town house to just across from the parking lot. A broken stone pillar was repaired with a steel rod and epoxy and will serve as the post onto which the gate will open and close. The mounting of the original cast-iron gate will complete the repair, which will make it much easier for visitors to exit their cars and enter the cemetery without having to walk a considerable distance over mud, snow or uneven terrain.

Two major developments also occurred at the River Road Cemetery. A white, picket-fence style gate was hung at the original entrance to the cemetery facing River Road. Whatever was left of the original gate was long gone, leaving only rusted hinge pins as evidence of the previous gate's existence. The new gate provides an attractive entrance to the cemetery and is easily seen from the road. The trustees have also contracted with Beede Cemetery Works of Laconia for the engraving of a large granite boulder designating the cemetery annex as the "Jenny

DeCoste Smith Annex” in honor of Jenny Smith and her family who donated the property which greatly expanded the size of the cemetery.

In honor of Memorial Day, the cemetery trustees, with the help of volunteers, placed a flag at the grave of every Groton veteran who served his or her country in wars dating back to the American Revolution. The flags remained until after the Fourth of July. The trustees continue to update the database which lists the names and locations of all Groton residents who are interred in our cemeteries.

Sadly, the July flooding which affected many parts of Groton also impacted the Bailey Hill cemetery. A large deposit of sand, gravel and debris was left behind when floodwaters flowed down the hillside and through the cemetery perimeter. Some method of ditching or drainage will be needed in the future to prevent further damage to the cemetery and the grave markers.

Finally, the trustees would like to remind Groton residents that no interments of any kind may be made in the town cemeteries without proper grave registration as mandated by New Hampshire state law. These cemeteries provide an important historical record for future generations that must be maintained through accurate record keeping. Please contact the town offices for information regarding burial in any of the town’s cemeteries.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Gaffey  
Slim Spafford  
Cemetery Trustees



### **North Country Council Regional Planning Commission & Economic Development District**

North Country Council Regional Planning Commission and Economic Development District is one of nine regional planning commissions in New Hampshire established by RSA 36:46. The Commission's region consists of serving 50 communities and 25 unincorporated places in the northern third of New Hampshire. The Commission serves in an advisory role to local governments in order to promote coordinated planning, orderly growth, efficient land use, transportation access, and environmental protection. The Council's professional staff provides transportation, land use, economic development, community and environmental planning services; geographic information services (GIS); data collection and analysis; grant writing; grant administration; facilitation; and project management.

To date in 2019, North Country Council undertook the following activities:

- Completed assessments of over 200 stream culverts in the Baker River watershed to better understand flood vulnerability and aquatic habitat barriers.
- Facilitated three meetings of the North Country Council Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) discuss regional transportation issues and identify priority projects for funding opportunities, including the Ten Year Plan.
- Supported the work of two Regional Coordinating Councils (Carroll County and Grafton-Coos) to promote coordination of transportation services for the region's residents, including facilitating seven RCC meetings and assisting with federal grant applications to support transportation services for senior and limited-mobility residents. Secured a Federal Transit Administration grant to begin work on updating the *Coordinated Public Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan* for the region, which supports the ability of providers to access critical federal funds for transportation services.
- Represent the transportation needs of the region in the Ten Year Plan process, including participation in public hearings and promoting public input opportunities to the region's communities.
- Supported the work of the North Country Scenic Byways Council (NCSBC) to steward and promote the region's many scenic and cultural byways, including facilitating three NCSBC meetings and working to develop a website to provide information on scenic touring along the byways.
- Represented the region as an at-large member to the NH Complete Streets Advisory Committee, including providing a regional perspective on the development of the *NH Pedestrian and Bicycle Transportation Plan*.
- Continued the effort to develop an updated *Regional Transportation Plan*, which will identify the transportation-related needs, issues, and opportunities of the region in order to support the development of transportation projects and provide a helpful reference for communities.
- Completed regional over 100 traffic counts to meet federal requirements and provide up-to-date information on traffic volumes.
- Promoted the NH CommuteSmart Challenge to regional businesses to encourage carpooling.
- Supported and participated in the White Mountain National Forest Alternative Transportation Working Group to address issues of overflow parking and promote safe transportation access to National Forest destinations.
- Undertook a pilot study to develop an accurate and efficient method of counting OHRVs on roadways.
- Provided mapping and GIS services to communities throughout the region in support of project development and funding opportunities.
- Responded to multiple request for reviews of Development of Regional Impact, prepared comments corresponded with state and local officials.

- Continued to assist Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) in providing assistance to potential and awarded grantees. In 2019 the Council provided pre-project development coaching to over 25 potential NBRC grantees.
- Convened four full Commission meetings and facilitated discussions on – Communities Becoming Age Friendly, Council Highlights, Energy and update on Scenic By-ways.
- Hosted the October 24, 2019 Annual Meeting held at the Town and Country Resort in Shelburne NH. The focus of the evening was encouraging a “smart, safe, clean and cool” North Country through building investable projects.
- Collaborated with other Regional Planning Commission’s through the NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions and Director meetings in Concord, NH.
- Supported efforts and attended the NH Planners Conference, NH Municipal Association Conference and Office of Strategic Initiative Conference.
- Bulk ordered and distributed New Hampshire Planning and Land Use Regulation books to local land use boards (estimated savings of \$70.00 per book).
- Re-Established the North County Council Brownfield Program through funding from the United States Environmental protection Agency (EPA).
- Updated the North Country Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) for the Economic Development District. Hosting five open house input sessions, convened and facilitated five committee meetings with four guest speakers.
- Staff attended over ten workshops, info sessions to increase Council capacity to better serve communities.
- Responded to various requests from communities for technical assistance and data research.
- Hosted four workshops - invasive species, flood plain management 101, planning and zoning board training. Published and distributed quarterly newsletter.

### 2019 Tapply-Thompson Community Center Report to Towns

2019 was a year full of projects, activities and events. Our gym renovation project was completed during the winter and what a difference it has made. It was no easy feat to replace all the old boards but with lots of volunteer labor and great contractors we made it happen. Our youth baseball & softball program raised funds to install seating along the 3rd base line, installed irrigation and made improvements to the field at Wells Field. We were also able to purchase new sports equipment for soccer and basketball. Four new programs have been added to our offerings that now include Fall Trail Running, Irish Dance, soccer nights at the High School and Roller Fitness.

Our Teen Council consisted of 35 High School students and they provided many special activities such as Parent Nights Out, 4th & 5th Grade Bash, Teen Dances, Haunted Basement and support at all sports programs and fundraisers.

We celebrated our 65th year of Santa's Village this year with 1,043 in attendance. This program is a "Wink" Tapply original and is a tradition for families around the Lakes Region and beyond. It takes over 100 volunteers to do the scene set up, crafts, date the ornaments, bake the cookies and greet over 1,100 guests each year. We also interview 4th & 5th grade students for the coveted job of being one of Santa's elves! They fill out applications, attend an interview, receive a letter of acceptance and Elf Manual and attend trainings leading up to the big event. This is real world experience and a treasured memory for these youth throughout their lives.

Our 13th Annual Westward Bound Teen Expedition traveled to South Dakota and Colorado. They visited Mount Rushmore, Crazy Horse Monument, Deadwood, Badlands National Park, Rocky Mountain National Park and Custer State Park. These youth spend 6 months planning their trip and also receive a 1/2 credit for High School for their participation.

We are so fortunate to have the support our many donors, team sponsors, and volunteers. You are helping to provide a safe, nurturing environment filled with opportunity to try new activities, a wide variety of sports and supportive, caring staff. With your help we were able to provide over \$29,000 in youth program scholarships so that no child is denied the opportunity to recreate with us. In a time when volunteerism is down nationally we are so fortunate to thrive with so many people willing to give of their time and energy to make our programs successful. It truly takes a community provide our recreational program and our Newfound Community is incredible! The TTCC Staff wishes everyone a Happy & Healthy 2020!





**Request for Groton Allocation in Fiscal Year 2020: \$400.00 (level-funded)**

Lakes Region Mental Health Center (LRMHC), formerly Genesis Behavioral Health (GBH) is designated by the State of New Hampshire as the community mental health center (CMHC) serving the 24 towns that make up Belknap and southern Grafton Counties. LRMHC provides Emergency Services 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to anyone in the community experiencing a mental health crisis, regardless of their ability to pay. Additionally, LRMHC provides individual, group and family therapy; mobile crisis teams in the event a tragic event occurs that impacts a community at large, psychiatry; nursing; community support programs for people with severe and persistent mental illness; care management; community-based supports; housing; supported employment; substance use disorder treatment; and specialty services and evidence-based practices for children and their families, including trauma-focused therapy, art therapy and play therapy. Child Impact seminars are offered in Laconia and Plymouth for divorcing families. LRMHC owns two handicapped accessible vans and provides transportation services to patients in the greater Plymouth and Laconia areas as a means to enhance access to care in this rural area.

Founded in 1966, LRMHC provides comprehensive, integrated mental health treatment for people living with - and recovering from - mental illness and/or emotional distress. In Fiscal Year 2019, LRMHC's 195 employees served 4,081 children, adolescents, adults and families. During this same time period, we provided over \$1.2 million of charity care.

In Fiscal Year 2019, **7 residents of Groton received services from LRMHC.**

	<b>Patients Served- LRMHC</b>
Children (0 to 17 years)	6
Adults (18 to 61 years)	1
Elder (62 + years)	0

LRMHC is requesting **\$400** this year; which is a level funded request from last year. Your continued support will help us ensure the provision of 24/7 Emergency Services to people in crisis, as oftentimes emergencies are attributable to lack of health insurance and/or the financial resources necessary to seek preventative care. For many, Emergency Services at LRMHC are the gateway into treatment. Access to timely and effective treatment supports recovery, and minimizes further harm to the patient, the community, and other systems of care.

An investment from Groton will be leveraged with appropriations from other communities to offset the tremendous cost of staffing the Emergency Services program round the clock. It will help us expand mental health services and increase awareness. Similar to a municipal police or fire department, Emergency Services is a safety net for *all* residents of your town, not just those utilizing the service. Your appropriation will ensure the provision of this essential service for the residents of your community and reduce the burden on your town.





GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, INC.

10 Campbell Street • P.O. Box 433  
Lebanon, NH 03766

phone: 603-448-4897

fax: 603-448-3906

[www.gcsc.org](http://www.gcsc.org)

**GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, INC.  
ANNUAL REPORT 2019**

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services to support the health and well being of our communities' older citizens. The Council's programs enable elderly individuals to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

The Council operates eight senior centers in Plymouth, Littleton, Canaan, Lebanon, Bristol, Orford, Haverhill and Lincoln; and sponsors the Grafton County ServiceLink Resource Center and RSVP's Volunteer Center. Through the centers, ServiceLink and RSVP, older adults and their families take part in a range of community-based long-term services including home delivered meals, community dining programs, transportation, outreach and counseling, chore/home repair services, recreational and educational programs, and volunteer opportunities.

During 2018-19, 25 older residents of Groton were served by one or more of the Council's programs offered through the Plymouth Regional Senior Center or Newfound Area Senior Services; 7 were assisted by ServiceLink:

- Older adults from Groton enjoyed 125 balanced meals in the company of friends in the center's dining room.
- Frail older adults in Groton received 344 hot, nutritious home delivered meals, brought to their homes by caring volunteers.
- Groton residents benefited from 6 visits with a trained outreach worker and 20 contacts for assistance from ServiceLink.
- Groton citizens volunteered 157 hours of their time and talent to GCSCC during the past year.

The cost to provide Council services for Groton residents in 2018-19 was \$5,363.76.

Such services can be critical to elderly individuals who want to remain in their own homes and out of institutional care in spite of chronic health problems and increasing physical frailty, saving tax dollars that would otherwise be expended for nursing home care. They also contribute to a higher quality of life for older friends and neighbors. As our population grows older, supportive services such as those offered by the Council become even more critical. Groton's population over age 60 increased by 169.2% over the past 20 years, according to U.S. Census data from 1990 to 2010.

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council very much appreciates Groton's support for our programs that enhance the independence and dignity of older citizens and enable them to meet the challenges of aging in the security and comfort of their own communities and homes.

Kathleen Vasconcelos, Executive Director

## Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc.

Statistics for the Town of Groton

October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019

During the fiscal year, GCSCC served 25 Groton residents (out of 140 residents over 60, 2010 U.S. Census). ServiceLink served 7 Groton residents.

<u>Services</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Units of Service</u>	x	<u>Unit (1) Cost</u>	=	<u>Total Cost of Service</u>
Congregate/Home Delivered	Meals	469	x	\$9.34	\$	4,380.46
Transportation	Trips	3	x	\$16.98	\$	50.94
Social Services	Contacts	6	x	\$35.86	\$	215.16
ServiceLink	Contacts	20	x	\$35.86	\$	717.20
Activities		208		N/A		

Number of Groton volunteers: 2

Number of Volunteer Hours: 157

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GCSCC cost to provide services for Groton residents only	\$	5,363.76
Request for Senior Services for 2019	\$	500.00
Received from Town of Groton for 2019	\$	500.00
Request for Senior Services for 2020	\$	500.00

### NOTE:

1. Unit cost from GCSCC Statement of Revenue and Expenses for October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.
2. Services were funded by federal and state programs, 55%; local government, 11%; client donations, 9%; charitable contributions, 16%; grants and contracts, 6%; other, 3%.



## 2019 ANNUAL

## REPORT





**Pemi-Baker Community Health (PBCH)** is a non-profit offering a wide range of vital health services to residents of 18 Central NH towns. This past year PBCH provided almost 15,000 home visits delivering skilled nursing, physical, occupational, and speech therapy, hospice end of life care, palliative care, and social work to residents regardless of their ability to pay.

In the 53 years of Pemi-Baker Community Health's existence, we have never experienced such growth in our organization as we are seeing today. The demand for compassionate services in your community has risen steadily and thanks to community support, we have been able to meet the ongoing needs of every resident, in spite of the uncertain financial and regulatory climate in which we operate.

Rising health care costs and reductions in government funding have put needed health care out of reach for too many of our neighbors and friends. Pemi-Baker will continue to provide care, regardless of ability to pay. Town funds are used to provide services to those with limited or no ability to pay, and to augment (as in Hospice care) the cost of services that are not covered through third party payers. Our agency is dependent upon charitable donations, town funds, and grants to provide services.

Health is not a moment in time, but an ongoing adventure. Decisions about being healthy happen from the day we are born until the day we die. PBCH's programs assist members of our community in this journey to become and stay healthy, and with Hospice, we make the end of life journey one of hope and dignity, while putting the patient/family in the driver's seat. Most of our community members would choose to remain healthy at home and many have been able to realize this possibility.

Pemi-Baker Community Health is interested in the complete health of the community. Our primary services are:

-  **Home Health** – nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social work, LNAs and nutritional counseling in the home setting
-  **Hospice** – nursing, therapies, social work, spiritual care counseling, bereavement services, hospice doctor, LNAs, hospice trained volunteers, 24/7 on call support, and medical supplies in the home setting
-  **Palliative Care** - nursing, therapies, social work, and LNAs in the home setting
-  **Facility-based Therapy** – physical, occupational, and aquatic therapy in our facility

In addition, PBCH provides:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
|  Bereavement Group Workshops                   |  Foot Clinics                     |
|  Widows & Widowers Workshops                   |  Blood Pressure Clinics           |
|  Joint Mobility Classes                        |  Children's Swim Lessons          |
|  Gym and Aquatic Membership/Classes            |  Nutrition & Health Presentations |
|  American Red Cross CPR/First Aid/Lifeguarding |  Community Information Workshops  |

We are pleased to be part of your community and touching lives: yours, your family's, your neighbor's, in a partnership to improve health and lives.

Thank you for all your support!

*Chandra Engelbert*

Chandra Engelbert, RN, BSN, MBA  
Chief Executive Officer



Community Contact Offices are the Outreach Offices of Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. (TCCAP) Energy Assistance Program, providing access to apply for fuel, electric and weatherization services.

Community Contact Offices provide outreach services to households applying for energy assistance programs; Fuel Assistance, Electric Assistance and Weatherization. Households have the option to apply in person at the office, or through a convenient method of their choice; phone, mail, internet (downloading and mailing completed application). The various methods of applying provide households with the opportunity to apply for the necessary assistance to meet their households most basic needs, while not having to incur additional costs or inconvenience; missed work, gas expenditure, child care, etc. TCCAP's Energy Assistance Program has found that the greater majority of clients are now utilizing the alternative methods of applying for assistance versus the old method of a face-to-face intake appointment.

During the agency's fiscal year 2018; July 1, 2018 – June 30, 2019, Community Contact Offices throughout Coös, Carroll and Grafton Counties provided services to 6,051 households through \$5.8MM in Fuel Assistance, \$2.3MM in Electric discounts, \$1.6MM in Weatherization, and \$513,000 in food value distributed to local food banks; totaling \$10.2MM in total assistance distributed to our neighbors in need. Community Contact does not charge a fee for services provided, and services are available for all income eligible households.

TCCAP and our Community Contact Offices are dedicated to provide services all residents of Coös, Carroll and Grafton County's residents. The agency thanks all communities we serve for their financial support of the program, so that we may be able to continue to provide services to our neighbors in need.

Sincerely,

Sarah Wight  
Division Director  
Energy Assistance Services



Family, Internal and Pediatric Medicine • Behavioral Health • Dental Care  
midstatehealth.org

*Where your care comes together.*

## Town of Groton

Mid-State's mission is to provide high quality health care services to the community, regardless of a person's ability to pay. Mid-State's sliding fee scale program ensures everyone has access to health care, especially those who might go without due to cost. Through our sliding fee scale program, Mid-State provided \$256,950 in uncompensated charity care to the region in the past year. Local support is essential to ensure we are able to continue to help the under and uninsured in your community.

Mid-State's services go beyond medical care by offering a wide variety of options to help patients reach their best health. Mid-State launched a school-based oral health program in the Newfound Area schools providing onsite oral health education and hygiene services. Most recently, Mid-State launched a Same Day Access and Acute Care program. Mid-State is also working to address the opioid epidemic by offering outpatient substance use disorder treatment in both its locations, including those who need a sliding fee scale.

### ***Service we offer:***

- Primary Medical Care for all ages including pediatrics, family and internal medicine.
- Behavioral Health Services – counseling for individuals and families
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment – including Medication Assisted Treatment for opioid dependence
- Dental & Oral Health Care (Bristol office)
- Dental Hygiene (Plymouth office)
- Onsite Pharmacy in Plymouth
- Financial Assistance – Sliding Fee Scale is available for all services for those eligible
- Enrollment Assistance for the Marketplace, Medicare and Medicaid
- Same Day Access and Acute Care

### ***Mid-State's Year in Review (June, 2018 - July, 2019)***

- Number of unduplicated patients served:
  - Medical: 9,779 Dental: 1,221 Behavioral Health: 1,550
- Number of Visits:
  - Medical: 28,883 Dental: 7,551 Behavioral Health: 3,906
- Total cost of uncompensated charity provided: \$256,950

### ***Town of Groton Usage Statistics (July, 2018 – July, 2019)***

- Total number of patients: 39
- Total number of charity care recipients: 0
- Total in uncompensated charity care provided: \$0

## **CADY 2019 ANNUAL REPORT TOWN OF GROTON**

Communities for Alcohol- and Drug-Free Youth would like to thank the town of Groton for your support over the past year—together we are building possibilities, potential, and promise for our youth!

Addiction is one of the most complex issues facing New Hampshire today—the consequences of this epidemic are severe with overdose deaths stealing the lives of 471 people in 2018. Use of addictive substances during adolescence poses serious risks of harm, including interference with brain development and significantly increased risk of addiction. We must remember addiction is a progressive disease that's preventable. CADY works to build protective factors and reduce risk for our children and youth, and together with our community partners, we are accomplishing that important goal.

As I write this year's annual report, I am excited to share the progress we made this past year. We have built youth resiliency by providing asset-building, high-impact prevention programming and leadership training for hundreds of area students in grades 5-12. We also continue to provide our most vulnerable youth a second chance to learn, grow, and turn their lives around through our region's juvenile court diversion program, Restorative Justice. Many of the youth referred to Restorative Justice are already struggling with substance use disorders—this vital intervention is preventing entry to the addiction pipeline and saving lives.

Your support allowed CADY to continue the implementation of programming outlined above as well as Thriving in the Middle School youth conferences at Newfound Memorial Middle School. We know the earlier we provide education the greater the likelihood of preventing high-risk behavior before it starts. We also continue to promote the permanent Rx Medication Drop Box at the Bristol Police Department where Newfound area residents are safely disposing of unwanted or expired prescriptions to prevent the diversion of potentially harmful and lethal drugs to kids. We are proud to collaborate with the Bristol Police Department, Speare Memorial Hospital, and the Central NH Public Health Network on this important prevention initiative, so let's TAKE IT TO THE BOX!

Our community outreach includes collaboration with the Stand Up Newfound Coalition and an ongoing media campaign designed to raise awareness on substance misuse and solutions with regular submissions to the Hometown Voice, the Record Enterprise, school newsletters, and the PennySaver, as well as social media sites, Facebook and YouTube. We also host a video library and other outstanding resources for parents and community on our website: [cadyinc.org](http://cadyinc.org).

Beyond our primary prevention mission, our work with the Substance Use Disorders Continuum of Care includes helping to launch Plymouth Area Recovery Connection (PARC) at Whole Village Family Resource Center. PARC is our region's first recovery center providing support to Pemi-Baker, Newfound, and Lin-Wood individuals and families.

While we are grateful for our many successes, we have a long way to go. Together we can protect our children and erase the devastating headlines of addiction and overdose deaths by stopping the problem before it starts. Thank you, Groton, for your ongoing support of prevention and active participation!

Sincerely,  
Deb Naro  
Executive Director





**2019 Annual Report to Newfound Watershed Towns**  
**Newfound Lake Region Association**  
**(603) 744-8689 / [www.NewfoundLake.org](http://www.NewfoundLake.org)**

In 2019, the Newfound Lake Region Association (NLRA) continued working with watershed towns, businesses, summer camps, partner organizations, and permanent and seasonal residents to protect Newfound's clean water and healthy forests. Highlights for 2019 include:

**Water quality**

- Completed our 33<sup>rd</sup> consecutive year of water quality sampling and analysis in Newfound Lake in partnership with University of New Hampshire's Lakes Lay Monitoring Program (LLMP). Lake water quality continues to be better than average, but non-harmful algal blooms are becoming more common.
- Continued sampling tributaries and headwater streams at 35 locations also with LLMP. The extensive, healthy forests covering the hillsides that form the upland drainages are the reason for our clean water.
- Worked with NH Department of Environmental Services and local partners to evaluate lake level management and how to reduce shoreline erosion all while balancing the needs of all stakeholders.
- Hired three local youth students for second year of Newfound Youth Conservation Corps (NYCC). NYCC works with homeowners to reduce stormwater pollution and flooding.

**Watershed plan projects**

- Wrapped up the fourth watershed management plan with NH Department of Environmental Services.
- Completed a culvert replacement project on Wulamet Road in Bristol.
- Worked with the town of Alexandria to pave Shem Valley Road.

**Invasive Species**

- With NH Lakes, coordinated the Lake Host program to prevent milfoil and other invasive species from entering Newfound Lake. In 2019 paid and volunteer personnel inspected over 3,000 boats at Wellington boat launch.
- Coordinated Weed Watchers, a volunteer network that surveys the shoreline in search of invasive aquatic species. In 2019 we focused on surveying high-risk areas, including areas adjacent to boat launches, and other areas around the lake.

**Grey Rocks**

- Completed extensive restoration landscaping at our Grey Rocks Conservation Area, including multiple volunteer work days.
- Provided public access to the lake and land for hundreds of visitors.

**Education and community engagement**

- Hosted over 300 passengers on our educational Newfound Eco-Tours, a two-hour narrated expedition around Newfound Lake on our pontoon boat *Madeleine*.
- Coordinated Seven Weeks of Summer, providing fun outdoor educational experiences to families and individuals. 2019 activities included stargazing, a guided paddle, an around the lake sailing race, and a mushroom forage walk led by a local expert.
- Co-sponsored fourth Watershed Outdoor Week (WOW!) with Tappley-Thompson Community Center. This youth camp includes five days of outdoor play and environmental place-based education.

**Land conservation**

- Continued our participation in the Newfound Land Conservation Partnership with the Lakes Region Conservation Trust, Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, and The Nature Conservancy.

You can help protect clean water, the local economy, and your property values by preventing stormwater pollution on your own property, encouraging your town to adopt low-impact development ordinances, and conserving land. NLRA can assist you with any and all of these positive actions.



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

**White River Junction VA Medical Center**  
**215 North Main Street**  
**White River Junction, VT 05009**  
**866-687-8387 (Toll Free)**  
**802-295-9363 (Commercial)**

In Reply Refer to: 405/00

December 23rd, 2019

Dear Veteran,

The White River Junction VA Medical Center is attempting to contact all Veterans in our catchment area of Vermont and New Hampshire who are not enrolled or are enrolled and no longer utilizing our services. If you currently receive our services, please pass this note on to a Veteran who may benefit.

We offer a wide variety of services including assistance to Veterans who are homeless or unemployed to providing primary and specialty care. We have a robust mental health department offering one-on-one counseling, peer support, group sessions, and more. There is a designated treatment area for our women Veterans at the Women's Comprehensive Care Clinic; a safe space.

The White River Junction VA Medical Center has seven community-based outpatient clinics. They are located in Bennington, Rutland, Brattleboro, Newport and Burlington, Vermont; in New Hampshire we offer services in Keene and Littleton. We are here to serve all Veterans, please do not hesitate to contact us, if for no other reason than to register/enroll with us in case of future need.

Our eligibility office in White River Junction can be reached at 802-295-9363 extension 5118. A single form - VA form 10-10EZ – and a copy of the DD214 is all that is needed.

The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have full time service officers that are knowledgeable about our programs. These independent organizations serve all Veterans including nonmembers in processing disability and pension claims. They can be reached in White River Junction at:

American Legion	802-296-5166
Disabled American Veterans	802-296-5167
Veterans of Foreign Wars	802-296-5168

Thank you for your service to our nation. On behalf of the White River Junction VA Medical Center team, we look forward to serving you.

Respectfully;

Becky Rhoads, Au.D.  
Associate Medical Center Director



## 2019 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Meeting comes to order at 9:15am on March 16, 2019 at the Groton Town House Community Room

Tony Albert, Moderator

Select Board Members present: Ron Madan, John Rescigno

Supervisors of the Checklist: Pamela Hamel; Gina Rescigno; Anne Tobine

Pledge to the American Flag

Moderator reviews the Rules of the Meeting.

Moderator begins with the Ballot Articles for 2019 -

### **Ballot Article 1:**

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the year ensuing.

Based on the Elections that were held on March 12, 2019

List of elected Officials incumbent and newly elected:

Selectmen - John Rescigno, Ron Madan, Tony Albert

Treasurer - Darlene Andrews

Town Clerk/Tax Collector - Ruth Millett

Planning Board - Deborah Johnson, Russell Carruth, Dave Labar, Forest Blake, Dave Madden, Kristina Brodie

Cemetery Trustees – TBD (James Gaffey, Stephen “Slim” Spafford)

Local Auditor - Ann Joyce

Moderator - Tony Tavares

Trustees of the Trust Fund - Michele Lacroix, Gina Rescigno

Library Trustees – TBD (Ruth Gaffey, Gina Rescigno, Bonnie Lane)

Zoning board - Glenn Hansen, Ann Joyce, Gary Easson, Peter Smith

Supervisors of the Checklist - Pamela Hamel, Annie Tobine, Gina Rescigno

### **Ballot Article 2:**

Are you in favor of the adoption of the Zoning Ordinance as proposed by the Planning Board and the repeal of the 2007 (ratified in 2008) Zoning Ordinance, the 2015 Ordinance for Large Wind Energy Systems-LWES and the Floodplain Development Regulations of 2007?

The effect of a yes vote can be summarized as follows:

1. Replace the current zoning with the proposed zoning ordinance, known here after as the Town of Groton Zoning Ordinance that will:
  - a. Establish zoning districts and uses within each district (Rural Residential, Forestry and Conservation, Renewable Energy and Forestry and a Floodplain and Aquifer Overlay).
  - b. Set lot size and lot dimensional requirements and
  - c. Create performance standards
2. Integrate and revise the Floodplain Development Regulations of 2007 in article 8.
3. Integrate and revise the 2015 Ordinance for Large Wind Energy Systems in article 9.

Should the proposed Zoning Ordinance fail to receive an affirmative vote, the 2007 Zoning Ordinance, The LWES and Floodplain Zoning will continue in their present forms as Groton’s zoning.

This article was defeated 47 “yes” - 95 “no”

### **Article 3:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven hundred thirty-five thousand, two**

**hundred eighty-two dollars (\$735,282)** for the purpose of the Sculptured Rocks Road culverts project with the amount of **five hundred fifty-one thousand, four hundred sixty-one dollars (\$551,461)** (75%) being offset by a Federal Hazard Mitigation Grant the Town applied for and the remaining Town's share of **one hundred eighty-three thousand, eight hundred twenty-one dollars (\$183,821)** (25%) to come from general taxation. (Majority vote required)

**The Select Board recommends this article 3-0**

Ron Madan makes a motion to accept the article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**Miles Sinclair:**

Point of order; Miles makes a motion to move article 16 forward. The motion was submitted to the moderator.

Moderator read the amendment:

"Motion to bring Article number 16, the Operating Budget, forward to be addressed prior to Article number 3, thereby making Article number 16 the 1st Article to be acted upon at Town Meeting."

Lou Lieto seconded the motion.

**Miles Sinclair:**

This is my 22nd Town Meeting and this is the first time the Operating Budget has been moved to last place. There may be a situation that warrants this, but not to my knowledge. In my opinion the operating budget is the most important thing to be voted upon during Town Meeting. There is a concern that people will leave before the end of Town Meeting and the budget will be voted on after they leave.

Without an Operating Budget the Town does not function. All the other warrants if we had to, we could do without. The Operating Budget tends to set the tone for spending in other areas. For this year the total proposed expenditures are up by about \$114,000. About \$75,000 of this is in individual warrant articles that are proposed. It is far too important to be relegated to last place. I would like to see if the Town's people would move to address it initially.

**Lou Lieto:**

There may be argument for not moving it forward as some Articles would affect the budget such as a Police Department. It is in the State Statutes that we can reconsider any article that's passed before the end of Town Meeting. If we want to address any article again we may do that before the Moderator closes the Meeting.

**John Rescigno:**

Just to clarify; the reason this was moved to last was we didn't know if the Police Department would remain or not. That would change the overall Operating Budget.

Moderator calls the vote on the motion and reads the motion again:

Motion passes.

(The Meeting will consider Article 16 first.)

**Article 16:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **seven hundred sixty-six thousand, six hundred fifty- two dollars (\$766,652)** 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**

Ron Madan makes motion to accept the article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

The bulk of the increase of \$23,000 is from the contract with the Hebron Fire Department. Other than that everything else remains pretty much the same.

**Ruth Gaffey:**

Speaking of the Fire Department, I noticed there are some mobility forms on the table in the other room.

**John Rescigno:**

Yes, there are forms on the table in the other room that need to be filled out. Please take one of each before the end of the Meeting.

Moderator calls the vote, the Article is read again.

The Article passes.

**Dave Leone:**

I believe there is a way that an Article can be reconsidered in the same Meeting is that correct?

**Lou Lieto:**

Yes, it would require a motion to reconsider.

**Article 3:**

Moderator reads Article 3 again, (as stated above).

Ron Madan makes a motion to accept the article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

This grant money is from the October storm and the \$183,821 represents the 25% that the Town is responsible for. This money will be used to replace three box culverts on Sculptured Rocks Road. The culverts that are there currently there are not box culverts. This will up the size of them so they will be able to handle the water more effectively. This will hopefully prevent further washouts on that road.

**Dave Leone:**

There is some confusion about the way the article is written. Are we actually raising the \$735,282 and then being reimbursed for \$551,461?

**John Rescigno:**

We are just raising the \$183,821.

**Rick Belanger:**

Where is the rest of this money coming from?

**John Rescigno:**

This money will be coming from FEMA.

**Rick Belanger:**

Usually that money is reimbursed after the work is done, will the contractor be willing to wait for his pay?

**Sara Smith:**

There are certain circumstances where you can request that the money be paid up front. It has been made clear that this is something that we would need as we would not be able to come up with that amount up front. To be clear we have not been accepted for this grant. We had hoped to hear before this.

**Rick Belanger:**

Does this include any engineering that will need to be done?

**John Rescigno:**

Yes, this includes everything.

**Dave Darlington:**

I'd like to amend this \$183,000 contingent upon the grant being approved before the money is released.

**Tony Albert:**

It's written into the article. The money cannot be spent unless the grant is approved.

**John Rescigno:**

We can't use these funds for anything else.

**Tony Albert:**

If the grant is not approved, the Town portion will be rolled into the General Fund.

**Dave Darlington:**

I don't think that's how it is worded in the Article.

**Tony Albert:**

Unless we get the grant money this Town portion money cannot be spent.

**John Rescigno:**

Remember, this is a one-time thing. If this is voted down, the opportunity will not be there again for this money.

Moderator calls the vote and reads Article 3 again.

Article passes.

**Article 4:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one hundred thirty thousand dollars (\$130,000)** for repair/reconstruction of North Groton Road to continue work on the section that was reclaimed and paved in 2018.  
(submitted by the Highway Department and Road Committee)

**The Select Board recommends this article 3-0.**

Ron Madan makes a motion to accept the article as written. John Rescigno second.

**John Rescigno:**

This is money that will put a second coat of asphalt on the section of the road that was paved last year. It will be the completion of that project.

**Robert Ellis:**

This will be for the wear coat and for finishing the edges.

**Dave Leone:**

Do you know the actual cost of the pavement part?

**Robert Ellis:**

We have several bids, mostly for budget purposes. They were coming in around \$120,000. Just to explain, if oil prices go up, the price of asphalt goes up as well. If the asphalt prices change, we'll need to pay the difference. The contract won't mean anything if it the asphalt price changes. I tried to be proactive and go with \$130,000 in case there's some change in oil prices.

Moderator calls the vote and reads Article 3 again.

Article 4 passes.

**Article 5:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **eighty-six thousand dollars (\$86,000)** for the Towns 25% portion of the cost to repair damages to Town roads from the October 2017 storm which we are working with FEMA. It is anticipated that the remaining cost will be absorbed by FEMA.

**Select Board recommends this article 3-0.**

Ron Madan moves to accept the article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

The article is fairly self-explanatory. The \$86,000 is the 25% for which we are responsible for the storm damage to the roads last October.

**Sara Smith:**

It was actually almost \$124,000. We've already spent some money from last year's budget to cover the cost. So the remainder that we need to raise is this \$86,000.

**Rick Belanger:**

What will this money be used for?

**John Rescigno:**

Some of the FEMA money has already been spent and it is for repairs on Sculptured Rocks Road and Providence Road. When FEMA money is given, it must be used for its intended purpose.

Moderator calls the vote, reads the article again.

Article 5 passes.

**Article 6:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **fifty four thousand dollars (\$54,000)** to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Funds.

**The Selectmen recommend this special article. (Majority vote required).**

(Moderator did not read the rest of this article in the meeting.)

Truck/Sander CR Fund (December 31, 2018 balance \$13,588.55): \$5000

Townhouse CR Fund (December 31, 2018 balance \$41,252.02): \$5000

Disaster Relief CR Fund (December 31, 2018 balance \$29,197.88): \$5000

Heavy Equipment CR Fund (December 31, 2018 balance: \$55,828.43): \$5000

Atwell/Orange Bridge CR Fund (December 31, 2018 balance \$4113.03): \$2000

Assessing Reval CR Fund (December 31, 2018 balance \$20,123.54): \$7000

Public Works CR Fund (December 31, 2018 balance \$25,837.37): \$25,000

**Total Capital Reserve Funds \$54,000**

**The Select Board recommends this article 3-0.**

Ron Madan moves to accept the article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

These are the same Capital Reserve Funds we have every year and we're putting the same amount in them as we normally do.

**Peter Smith:**

What is the purpose now of the "Atwell/Orange Bridge Fund"?

**John Rescigno:**

We're seeking to put money into that account for two reasons, one is the repair and maintenance on the bridge and also to put money aside for the future in case it does need to be replaced again.

**Peter Smith:**

So we will be putting money into this every year for 40 or 50 years till we need another bridge?

**John Rescigno:**

Yes.

Miles Sinclair presents an amendment to article 6.

“Move to amend Article 6 to eliminate the \$2000 appropriation for the Atwells/Orange Brook CRF.”

Lou Lieto seconded.

**Miles Sinclair:**

I believe I had a similar thought process as the gentleman in the back. From my perspective we have done our job and we have done it well. And I think we should be proud of ourselves for that because it ended up costing us a lot more money than originally estimated. While it is admirable to look towards the future, for me I believe we have done our part. The life expectancy of the bridge should be about 75 years. To me this becomes a problem for future generations. I don't believe we should continue to save money just to make it easier for them because no one did that for us and I don't think it's supposed to happen that way. Only the youngest of us in this room will be around when it's time to replace that bridge again. So I would like to see us eliminate that contribution, we have \$4000 already in that account. I would like to see us use that money for more pressing issues that we're facing currently rather than saving for a rainy day. We don't know 75 years from now what infrastructure will look like. I think the more prudent thing to do is to vote down this appropriation and have the Select Board present an Article next year that will eliminate that CRF.

**Pam Hamel:**

I disagree with that. It's because people in the past years did not put a little money away that we ended up in the position where we have had to come up with a large chunk of money. It's \$2000 which isn't a lot of money but over 75 years will accumulate and that probably still won't be enough money to replace it. We're looking forward for the entire community. We might not be here, but our children will be here and this is not a lot of money. If somebody else had done this 20 years ago we wouldn't have been in the position we were in having to spend a lot of money. We will always have a lot of pressing things to do and replacing that bridge ended up being one of those pressing things because it was not planned for. I think we should actually vote to keep this in the warrant article.

**Gina Rescigno:**

What are the chances of having to fix the bridge?

**John Rescigno:**

That money would also be used for maintenance of the bridge. That money will be used for the future or for maintenance.

Many people will be passing their houses down to their children. They don't want to leave them with large bills to pay. As Pam said we don't want to leave future generations with the predicament we are in today with several things that need to be replaced or repaired in the Town which will cost the Town a lot of money.

**Lou Lieto:**

The altruism is nice and if that's the mechanism for deciding, there should probably be 10 more items on this list. We should look at a modest estimate of rate of inflation and at a reasonable estimate of the life of this bridge; it may not last 75 years but probably 50. No, I'm not in favor of passing a tax burden on to future generations but just by living here we will. In 50 years the \$100K + interest will make this amount of money as

insignificant as \$1000 is today. It's an inadequate amount. If you're really interested in doing this kind of thing for future years you need to be putting effort and time into figuring out what those costs will be in the future, then you would have an accurate amount of how much you would have to deposit between now and then into this account. This is a waste of money.

**Robert Ellis:**

I agree it's probably going to be a drop in the hat. But the other thing is, there will be maintenance on this bridge. Will the guardrails last 75 years? Maybe it won't be enough to replace a bridge, but it will be enough to maintain it.

**Gary Easson:**

When you add all this up the budget is shooting up, so just be careful.

**Bill Jolly:**

Was there a maintenance schedule put together for this bridge? If we had that we'd have a better idea of what it would cost to maintain.

**Miles Sinclair:**

To address some of the issues that have been brought up; we had hardly any maintenance for that bridge, and I expect that this new bridge will be even better and require little to no maintenance on an on-going basis. Beyond that we always have maintenance responsibilities on our roads and everything else. To me that argument is weak. The old bridge didn't require very much maintenance and it shouldn't be expected that this one will either.

**Chuck Stata:**

Maintenance is not Capital. Capital Reserve Funds cannot be expended on maintenance.

**Anne Tobine:**

I'm one of the youngest people here. I have young children who will live in this Town.

The reason the bridge got that way in the first place was because it was not maintained. So if we don't keep this in, we'll be making the same mistake over again. Two thousand dollars is a lot for a lot of people, me too, but we need to start looking ahead for my kids and for other people's kids.

**Lou Lieto:**

I accept Annie's comments but what Chuck said is correct, this money cannot be used for that purpose so a direction to the Select Board would be to re-define for an article next year for a maintenance fund for this and other things. The Capital Reserve Fund could only be used for building a new bridge.

Moderator calls the vote and reads the motion made.

A count is necessary 24 yes; 27 no. The motion fails

Moderator reads article 6 again. (See above).

There is no more discussion so the Moderator calls the vote.

Article passes.



#### **Article 7:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000)** for the repair of Groton Roads (submitted by the Highway Department and Road Committee).

**The Select Board Recommends this Article 3-0.**

Ron Madan moves to accept the Article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

#### **Robert Ellis:**

The only difference between this and last year is that we took out "paved roads". That way we can use the money on any road that needs to be repaired.

#### **Miles Sinclair:**

Just maybe a word of caution. The way it reads right now, "Groton roads", I think we understand that is Town maintained roads only but somebody else could misconstrue that so for the record this should be Groton Town maintained roads.

#### **Dave Leone:**

Since it's against the law for us to do any maintenance on any other roads except Town roads, I don't think it's necessary.

No more discussion so the Moderator calls the vote.

Article passes.

#### **Article 8:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500)** for a firework display at the 2019 Old Home Day celebration (submitted by the Old Home Day Committee).

**The Select Board Recommends this Article 2-1**

Ron Madan moves to accept the article as written, John Rescigno seconded

#### **John Rescigno:**

Due to insurance regulations the Town is required to have a licensed Pyro technician put on the firework display at Old Home Day. They did go out to get a couple of estimates and this is what the cost would be.

#### **Lou Lieto:**

The discussions in this Meeting and prior Meetings have been about monies that were for infrastructural changes and have been debated as to the effect it would have on people who have limited resources. I consider this a frivolous expenditure of Town funds.

#### **Gina Rescigno:**

The reason why we put this forward is that people were upset that at the Old Home Day last year there was no firework display. The reason there were no fireworks was because Glen Hansen, (Thank you Glen Hansen, I appreciate all his hard work.), worked for the community and did fireworks every year for us. Because Glen no longer works for the Town I was afraid he would fall under some type of liability and we then could possibly get sued. I went to the attorneys through the Select Board, and we now know we cannot do that. We could

have someone in the Town get licensed to do this, or have a company come in and do this for us. Some did come forward at Old Home Day thinking they had licenses for explosives, but they didn't. If the Town wants fireworks this is the only way we're going to get them. For the communities around us this is the amount of money that they pay. I understand about finances, but if people want to have fireworks this is the only way for us. We will need to pay someone to come and do this.

**Kyle Andrews:**

I was the one who voted against this as a Selectmen. I agree with Lou that it should not be raised through taxes. If they want to raise money for fireworks, the money should come from donations.

**Gina Rescigno:**

We do get donations at Old Home Day, but it would never amount to the cost it would be for somebody to come in and do fireworks for us. I am willing for anyone to come forward that has a license for doing explosives. If they had a license they could do fireworks. We used to use the money that the wind farm so graciously gave us towards a fireworks display, but the fireworks alone cost that much money. They are very expensive and then we'd need a person with a license for explosives to do it. If anybody knows anyone who would like to come forward for the Town, have them come talk to me.

**John Rescigno:**

The Town is accustomed to having fireworks each year and last year because we didn't have them several people were upset. We wanted to put this Warrant Article out there so the Town could vote whether they want this money to be spent or not.

**Gina Rescigno:**

I really wanted to do this so that Glen would understand that this is not a personal thing, it's a liability issue. That's the reason why we didn't ask him. If anyone would like to join this committee we would love to have them.

We would love to have more people attend Old Home Day. It's one thing that I don't want to let go of and it's a huge thing for the whole community to enjoy. It's the one other thing besides the Fishing Derby that the Conservation Commission puts forward.

**Dave Leone:**

This person who has license to do explosives, do they also need to have insurance, or does the Town's insurance cover and you just need to have someone with an explosives license?

**John Rescigno:**

They would need their own insurance.

**Ron Madan:**

For a few of years now we've been having this Old Home Day and I feel it's a time when everybody can have some fun where you meet all your neighbors in Town. Lately there's been quite a few kids coming. There are games for the kids to play. We've even had a jump house available, popcorn machine, all the food hamburgers, hotdogs, beans and salads, all that stuff is included. Now it costs money for the fireworks that's all. There were others in the past who would donate money- \$400/\$500 and it's not enough. They now aren't able to come up with the \$2500 and so we requested it this year.

**Tony Tavares:**

I know personally someone who is enthusiastic about fireworks, but I also know that this is probably not proper use for tax money. I'm wondering, if this does pass, if people can donate to offset this amount so that it would not be taken from taxes?

**John Rescigno:**

The money would just go into the General Fund.

**Tony Tavares:**

It was a disappointment last year to not have the fireworks. And I think Old Home Days and the fireworks are something that the Town needs. The spirit of this Town a few years back was pretty low and I think Old Home Days brings up the spirit. I think it's worthwhile to have Old Home Days. Is this \$2500 just for the operator or does it include the fireworks?

**John Rescigno:**

That includes everything. If you vote for this amendment that money will be spent for the fireworks. If people donate money towards that, towards offsetting the \$2500, that money would just go into the general fund.

**Tony Tavares:**

I think we should be able to get donations for this.

**Jeremy Elder:**

I don't know why we can't do this like the Town of Bristol does, putting jars out in the convenience stores. That's how they raise money for their fireworks. I don't know why we can't put jars out in surrounding towns. I don't think it should come out of our tax money.

**Gina Rescigno:**

That is not how other Towns do it. They put in Warrant articles to pay for it and other communities have done this. Money has been a little tight this past year and surrounding communities do put in Warrant Articles.

**Lou Lieto:**

I don't want to be mistaken I do think this contributes to community spirit. I just question whether this should be a tax supported event.

**Miles Sinclair:**

The wind farm still does donate money towards this, is that correct?

**John Rescigno:**

Yes, they have graciously donated money towards this.

Moderator moves the vote and reads article 8 again. The votes are close so votes are counted, 24 yes, 26 no

Article 8 is defeated.

**Article 9:**

To see if the town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **one thousand three hundred fifty dollars (\$1350)** for signs and posts for the Town Pound.

**The Selectmen Recommend this Article 2-1.**

Ron Madan makes motion to accept the article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

The Historical Society is been restoring the Town Pound, fixing up the area to make it a bit more noticeable.

Slim Spafford brings an amendment to this article.

"I would like to amend article 9 to read \$800 instead of \$1350 due to donations already received."

Pam Hamel seconded.

Moderator calls the vote.

Amendment passes.

**Stephen Spafford:**

This summer when they were doing work on the powerlines I had them dump wood chips for a path going down to the Town Pound. The Town owns this property and the Pound that's on it. This is not private property. It was built in 1808. We have the complete history in Town Reports of the money, \$42 and change, which was used to build it originally. We would like to have signs that go along the path down to it. It won't get in the way of any future building that will take place for the Town Garage. The wood chip path does exist, and you can walk down anytime to see it. There are a couple places where trees have come down pulling some rocks down. We have someone already who will work on that. We want this money to build some signs with sign posts.

**Lou Lieto:**

I just want to point out that according to the RSA if the Article says "signs and posts" that's what the money must be spent on.

**Melissa Gromko:**

I'm kind of new to the town. I've been here only a little over a year. What is the Town Pound?

**Steve Spafford:**

I anticipated this question. In the colonies in New England, livestock would run wild sometimes. There was a Town Pound Keeper. The first Town Pound Keeper from Groton lived in the same house that Miles lives in now. He would go out and round up the stray livestock and take it to the Town Pound because in those days there was a gate on it. The farmer couldn't get stock back until he paid a fine. Once that fine was paid the livestock were released to the owner. There are still quite a few around New England and they are very interesting to see. There's one on the way over to Center Harbor.

**Tim Crosby:**

Considering the amount of money that we're spending already isn't this a frivolous use of our funds?

**Pam Hamel:**

The Select Board had asked the Historical Society to do some research on the Town Pound a number of years ago when we acquired this property. This is not the only Town Pound that Groton ever had. It is the only one that is still in existence dating from the late 1700s. It's a little sketchy about where all of them were located. It's a stone enclosure where all the animals would be kept. There is so much history that has been destroyed over the years and this is one item that still remains and we'd like to keep it. \$800 is kind of chump change. Most of the work that's gone in over there has been volunteer; clearing the trees, the chips, and someone who has agreed to come and cut more trees. They will be doing that as a donation. We'd like to have some signs to actually explain the history. This is the first sign, (showing a sign that was brought in as an example), and there are four more planned. These will have the history, the Warrant Articles, who the Town Pound Keepers were, as well as some photos of local pounds. It was required by statute back then that towns had to have a pound in order to keep the livestock from roaming. \$800 is not a lot of money and, yes, it is taxpayer money and it is your Town and this is a Town owned site. This is a historical site that we would like to see remain and be up-kept so that we'll have some pride in our heritage.

**Lou Lieto:**

Every Town had to have a Town Pound, so it loses its uniqueness in that and every town has a history and that's great for those who want to maintain that history, but I think there's more important things for the Town to spend its money on.

**Celine Richer:**

I disagree. I think history tells us where we come from and where we're going. I'm not from this Town and I'm not even from this State. I've lived in many places. You forget where you come from when you obliterate everything from the past. I think it lessens you as a person, and it lessens the community. I know that \$800 may seem frivolous, but I think to maintain what this community is, it is a good way to spend it.

**Stacy Darlington:**

You've already set a precedent and some money has been raised through donations. The remainder of these funds should be able to be raised through donations. I've heard comments that the Pound should be maintained and that it's part of the history of the Town. I agree with that. If that's the case, the Town needs to adopt the Town Pound into part of its routine maintenance so there is money, part of the maintenance budget, to maintain property. As you've already demonstrated you have been able to raise money through donations and this amount seems feasible to be raised through donations as well.

**Bill Jolley:**

This is not really a maintenance issue; this is about acquisition of new things. Being a parent of a small child and many of us are parents or grandparents; we want to preserve things for them. I come from Boston where they dedicate a lot of money to history. Part of children's education is learning about history and children are being distanced from their history these days. They're losing their roots. The US is a collection of small towns, and if we abandon the small things that made the towns what they are, we will no longer have that link. Fireworks only last a moment and that is a frivolous expense for taxpayer to pay. This \$800 that is being asked for is to improve the Town.

**Ruth Gaffey:**

I just wanted to say that I agree with Celine and Bill. A lot of volunteers have worked hard on this project and \$800 doesn't even come close to the amount of work that's been done. This is a small amount to pay in recognition of a part of our Town's history. I agree we should spend that money.

Moderator moves to vote on article 9 as amended. Moderator reads the amended article.

**Amended Article 9:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **eight hundred dollars (\$800)** for signs and posts for the Town Pound.

**The Select Board recommends this article 2-1.**

Amended Article passes.

**Article 10:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **one thousand dollars (\$1000)** for support of the Groton Historical Society.

**The Select Board recommends this article 3-0.**

Ron Madan moves to accept this article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

This is the same \$1000 that we contribute every year to the Historical Society. They do a lot of work preserving the history of the Town. We have a little Historical Society Museum that was one of the school houses in Town at the intersection of North Groton and Hall's Brook Rd.. There's a lot of great information there regarding the Town and is very worth going for a visit. This money is well spent preserving the Town's history.

**Pam Hamel:**

We had positive comments that were made for the previous article. It is actually the Historical Society that does the legwork and research for these things and historical programs for the community. We thank you very much for the support of \$1000 dollars. We know that many feel that this is something that taxpayers should not be contributing to, but I will say that it is part of the heritage of this community. It's where this community came from and it's our work to preserve that.

**Steve Spafford:**

Last week we were able to meet up with a lady here at the Town Hall and she gave us a whole box of old photographs as well as a family Bible. She will be expecting us to have this available and on display at the museum. She lives in Hebron. Our President and Curator of the Museum was there and she couldn't believe the amount of things that we were given. Afterwards, we were able to take a walk through the museum and view the displays. This lady was excited about seeing all the great work.

Moderator calls the vote on article 10. Moderator reads article again.

Article passes.

**Article 11:**

To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **one thousand dollars (\$1000)** for support of the Newfound Lake Regional Association, (NLRA).

**The Select Board Recommends this Article 3-0**

Ron Madan moves to accept article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

The Newfound Lake Region Association has helped the Town to apply for grants to help with Sculptured Rocks Road. They help to maintain the clarity of the water in Newfound Lake. We have donated in the past and we believe this is money well spent.

**Robert Ellis:**

We've used them quite a bit this past year. They are helping us with grants for various things in Town. Sara and I have worked with them. They have been helping us with a maintenance plan to help with the roads. They helped us to find matching grants. We replaced over 26 culvert in Town last year. We received almost \$9000 in match grants from NLRA.

**Celine Richer:**

If any of you been to Gray Rocks; the NLRA maintains that and improves the trails. There are many trails that you can walk on. Within a year they completely transformed it. It is quiet and peaceful with lovely paths through the woods. Gray Rocks is in Hebron but it's open to anybody and we use it a lot.

**Sherry Nelson:**

I didn't know till a few years ago that Groton is part of the watershed for a Newfound Lake. The NLRA helps to monitor the water that's going into the lake from the Cockermouth and other rivers that flow into it.

Moderator calls the vote on article 11. Moderator read the Article again.

Article passes.

**Article 12:**

To see if the Town of Groton will vote to abolish the Police Department.

**The Select Board does not recommend this article 1-2.**

Ron Madan moves to accept Article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

It is not impossible to reinstate a Police Department once it has been abolished. It may take time but it can be done. We have been unsuccessful in filling even a part-time position, regardless of the pay. We have been looking for someone for over a year and in the past, the Town has struggled filling this position. We have been unsuccessful in filling the Chiefs position. The first time this position was opened there were three applicants, two from the outside and EJ. EJ was the only one that was qualified at the time to do this job.

At a cost of over \$100,000 a year this is a lot of money for a small Town to be putting forward.

The turnover is very high, the training is expensive. We've sent people to the Police Academy then they only turn around and leave and go to another town. We look at the percentage of time that the Town is covered. It's even low when you have a Chief and a Police Officer. There still a lot of time that we don't have coverage in Town.

On the flipside of that, the only time you need a Police Officer is when you NEED a Police Officer. This is the reason it makes it a difficult decision which way to go.

We spoke to several towns that rely on the State Police. They all seem to be very pleased with the response time, and as long as it is not contracted, there is no cost to the Town. If there is an arrest made it is all handled by the Department that responded to that call. If it's the Sheriff's Department that is called then the Sheriff's Department picks up the tab. We had talked during one of our previous meetings about the possibly having the Sheriff's Department cover the Town a little more in the summertime. We did meet with the new Sheriff and it will be difficult if not impossible for them to cover even at all during the summertime because their traffic goes up and their people will be required to cover their own assignments.

**Gary Easson:**

I'm not crazy about this. After making a call it was three hours before a trooper showed up. It's a good thing there wasn't anything serious. These guys are spread pretty thin now and I'm concerned about that. I think there should be something in the contract when we hire someone and train them that they need to work for the Town at least three years and if they don't stay, if they decide to leave then they need to pay back the money for the training.

**Bill Jolly:**

I would like to know what the calls for service have been. I would like to see us shelf this decision for year. After we determine what the real demand is for the community we can use that to plan. We can use that information to help us decide whether to keep it or not.

**Frank Harris:**

The Sheriff is here so he can speak for himself. I know that if you're depending on the State Police you're talking about long wait times. If you're gone and your house is burglarized who investigates that and at what rate? Who goes to Concord with the evidence? Who's going to go to the grand jury? Who's going to prosecute? That's just one case. I know there will be more felony level cases in this Town. Relying on outside agencies; sure they will be here, the State Troopers will be here, but they don't have a commitment to the Town that a Town Officer would have. They don't know us and we certainly need to consider that.

They have limited resources, they have fairs going on and races going on and other things during the summer. They will probably not be able to be here in a timely manner. If there is something going on in town such as an active incident, we will need someone who can stabilize that scene quickly otherwise you're just on your own until the Police Department shows up. How do we move forward? I've heard, "Let's table it for year," I'm not sure if the board is qualified to figure out what's best for the Town. I



think we need to go to the experts. We may not need a full-time Police Chief. It might be nice to find someone who is retired and have them for 25-30 hrs. a week. Once the PD is abolished we will lose it for a year. It will take a lot of time to reestablish it. I'd be very concerned if we let the Police Department go. It is a lot of money, but law-enforcement cost a lot of money. Our selection process is not working we need to sit down and discuss what the Town's needs are with some experts and I think waiting a year is a good thing.

(There was much more to this, but the recording was quite poor).

**John Rescigno:**

When you are looking for a Police Officer for the Town, it's like looking for a "needle in a haystack". We are looking for someone who will fill that niche; someone who wants to live and work in a small town. We did speak to our new Sheriff. One of the questions I asked was how do we make this position more enticing? It's not a simple thing to just abolish the Police Department. We wanted to know how to open up that application pool so we'd have a better drawing. That's one of the biggest challenges for a small community set in the middle of nowhere, finding someone who wants to live within a certain distance from the Town who will be here and available for us.

**Dave Leone:**

When Bill White retired, I was Selectman at the time, I called the State Police and the Sargent from the State Police and Sheriff Dutile came out and we met with them. We asked them if they would help us find a good candidate and we presented what type of person we were looking for. The Sargent laughed and said, "You won't find that guy because we took him already." I would be in favor of tabling this for a year and maybe look in different ways. Out there someplace there must be a guy that is a cop or qualified to be a cop, that wants to live out in the woods, that likes to snowmobile, that likes to hunt, that likes to fish that wants to be a part of our community, that wants to be here. Maybe we do need to pay him a little more money or some other incentives to get that man here to run everything. I may be wrong, but I'd still be in favor of tabling this for a year.

**Stacy Darlington:**

We have a very popular tourist attraction in Town; Sculptured Rocks. Recently on a Facebook page with 75,000 followers Sculptured Rocks was noted as the number one place to go to among 11 top things to do in New Hampshire this spring. We need a presence locally to take care of us and our tourists and to take care of us from the tourists.

**Jeremy Elder:**

The equipment that the Police Department has needs to be certified every so often and without a Police Officer how are we addressing the cruiser and all the gear that we have paid for as far as staying up-to-date. What is the future cost to bring that up to speed when, or if we find a person to fill that position?

**John Rescigno:**

We really can't answer that question because if this doesn't go through we don't know if we'll find someone in 6 months or a year from now. The Police Cruiser is being stored inside. We do run it now and then to keep the exhaust from rotting out and to keep moisture from building up. There really is no one to certify the equipment on a yearly basis.

**Gina Rescigno:**

It's not the Select Board who will choose to have a Police Department. It will be the Town who will choose. The problem is, they can't find anyone who wants to come here. We have not been able to find anyone who will come to Groton and work here for us. The part-timers we had before didn't want to work for us they would just go somewhere for a better-paying job. If the community didn't want to pay before, are they going to be willing to pay whatever it takes to pay for a Police Officer that would be willing to work for our community?

**John Rescigno:**

We did raise the hourly rate to make it more appealing. Our Police Department has always been a revolving door. It's always going to be a challenge.

**Lou Lieto:**

I also believe we should maintain the Police Department. I understand the difficulties involved and I don't presume to know the right answer. I don't think we should refuse to do this job because it's hard. I don't know all the possibilities. I'm not sure what could be arranged with surrounding towns that would benefit the prospective officer or candidate. I'd like to see us look around. We have a lot of resources right in this room. As we age we don't see as well or get around as well. We need to provide security for those who reside in this Town.

As I recall from times past, roughly 25% of the properties in this Town are owned by people who don't reside in this Town. Vacation homes are one of the largest sources of crime or break-ins. How long do you think you can maintain a population of people who don't use services, but pay taxes, if their homes are not going to be secure?

**John Rescigno:**

If the decision is made to keep the Police Department, every effort will be put towards finding someone to fill that position. We've reached out to Hebron to see about joining them and they didn't seem to be too interested. It would also have to go before Hebron's Town-people before a decision could be made, and then our Town would need to vote. The Police Chief in Hebron has Hebron to look after, and if he joins into Groton he will have twice the ground to cover, twice the headaches, twice the responsibility at the same pay. It's not all that enticing for them to want to cover our town. We did look at that idea.

**Annie Tobine:**

Like I said before I have children, and the opioid crisis and heroin don't just affect Manchester and down that way, it is affecting here, now. With that comes domestic abuse and a whole range of other things. It

is happening in our Town whether people want to acknowledge that or not. I work at Bristol Elementary School and my kids are in the school system and it's happening. We need a Police Department in Groton to at least be there to help protect the families in Groton. If someone is abusing drugs and is really mad and is getting ready to kill their kids, a local Police Officer would be there much quicker than the State Police or the Sheriff's Department. There are some like those who live in our Town. They live everywhere. Who's going to protect our kids? It's won't be long before Groton doesn't have a Police Force. I know it doesn't now. All these factors are there and they're getting worse. If we do away with our Police Department now, things will continue to get worse.

**Pam Hamel:**

I think if the vote goes that we keep the Police Department we need to use a different approach. We are looking for a very unique individual. They will come here and realize that the job is not 40 hours a week. Any Police Chief or Officer that comes to this community he will be the cop. He will be it. He won't be working Monday through Friday he will have to fill the needs in the community. I think we should have law enforcement here. But no matter what happens, let's not fool ourselves into believing that there will be coverage anytime anything might happen. Even a full-time Officer might not be the one to respond. He truly might not be working. He could be away. It's just 40 hours per week he would be here. He's take up the investigation if necessary, but he might not be there to answer every call. That's just the nature of how it is and it's one of the reasons why we live here. Going in with other communities; I don't feel is the way to go. I've thought that in situations in the past where there is a sharing of help that the heart wasn't in it. Groton didn't get the services that they needed and paid for. We need to find someone to be invested in this community.

**Miles Sinclair:**

I know it's frustrating to try to find someone but right now I feel it's a little premature to abolish the Police Department. What people need to understand is that this problem of hiring personnel is widespread. Even the State Police are having a hard time. It's not impossible to find the right person but it does take the right kind of person to fill the needs of the Town. I believe Joe Pivirroto did a great job of filling that role. To find the right person we just need to keep at it. A different approach may provide some new areas to explore.

**Ron Madan:**

If we abolish the Police Department we will abolish that budget so it would allow us no money to even search for a new Officer or if we were to find a new Officer who is willing to take the job. Once that money is gone there's no money to even look for a Police Officer or even have a Sheriff come in for a couple of weeks when it's going to be busy. That money is going to be gone.

**John Rescigno:**

It's clearly a very difficult decision to make. The reality is if you are relying on the State Police or the Sheriff's Department the problem is how close they are to Town as to how quick they can get there. If we have our own Police Department and they are staffed at that time they'll be here a lot faster. There are a lot of great ideas being thrown around right now Frank made some great suggestions. Whether it's the Zoning that failed the Police Department the Town Garage we had a lot of meetings that led up to these things. It would be nice if people came to those meetings so that the things that are being thrown around now could have been brought up then. It wouldn't just be information you're picking up at the Hebron Store or something that was handed out, whatever it may be. It's nice to come to these meetings and you can ask these questions. We may not know the answer but we do it for you. It opens the door for so many more possibilities. Maybe what Frank's suggested is what we need to do. I got a lot of great

information from the Sheriff. Maybe that's where we need to go figuring out another avenue to go down to find that person. Joe was a fantastic Chief. The Town got lucky. I had the honor of working with him for a year. He's the needle in a haystack that we're looking for. We all know how hard it is to find a needle. The needle's out there, but very difficult to find. Even if we find someone, we'll be going through this cycle again. That doesn't mean we shouldn't go through the cycle.

**Melissa Gromko:**

I'm curious as to the number and nature of calls. I thought I heard earlier that we have that information.

**John Rescigno:**

In January they were 49 calls that went to dispatch.

In February it was 41. In March they were 44.

June calls go to 62. Second quarter was 168 that was half of Hebron's calls. July 58 calls; August 20; September 19; the full third-quarter 97 calls and that was for the summer. When you need a Police Officer is when you need a Police Officer.

**Gina Rescigno:**

Aren't we contracting with Hebron for fire and ambulance service?

**John Rescigno:**

Yes, we contract for those services.

**Gina Rescigno:**

I just want to make it plain that the ambulance comes from Hebron because we contract for those services.

**Melissa Gromko:**

So based on the numbers given, we paid EJ a full-time salary and EJ basically patrolled.

**John Rescigno:**

Yes, when he was here, yes.

**Melissa Gromko:**

How many of those calls came in on EJ is 40 hour shifts?

**John Rescigno:**

Not many. The time the Town is actually covered, when the Town has an Officer, is very low. What we are looking for is a Chief and two part-time Officers. The bulk of the time he was here he was by himself. We continue to advertise through different resources. We upped the money because we thought our hourly rate was too low.

**Sara Smith:**

Depending on who we get for a Chief could make the difference. I'm not saying it was because of EJ that we couldn't get the part-timer at all, but if it's a Chief that's well-known, we may have a better chance of getting part-timers.

**John Rescigno:**

It was mentioned that one of the reasons we couldn't find anyone is because people didn't want to work for EJ. When he was Chief we did continue with advertising and no one wanted to work for Groton.

**Sara Smith:**

When our Officer is not working the State Police will respond.

**Melissa Gromko:**

So the response time is based upon the proximity to the location.

**John Rescigno:**

So for 40 hours per week we'd have a full-time Officer and the remaining of the hours we would be relying on the State Police. If we have a part-time Officer will have 60 hours of coverage. There's 168 hours in a week so 128 hours would not be covered if you have a 40 hour per week officer.

**Robert Ellis:**

Sculptured Rocks has increased in popularity over the years and it's helpful if someone at least sees a Police presence. The traffic on Sculptured Rocks Road is tremendous in the summertime. If you don't live down there you wouldn't know it. There are thousands of people that go down that road in the summertime.

**Frank Harris:**

(Much of this was hard to hear on the recording). Each one of these calls has a lot of time involved in it. There's a lot of stuff that you don't see that's involved in each call. Much of it is desk work. You will be paying for that. Who will be doing that work for you? The Chief is not all that we need we need part-time person's to. Don't just look at the numbers but what the need is.

**Sherry Nelson:**

Before everyone goes home could we get names for those who would be able to work on a Search Committee?

**Stephen Spafford:**

I would advise the Selectmen not to start putting ads in with "pie in the sky" figures. We need to have people that really care about the Town.

**John Rescigno:**

We always do things in a fiscally responsible manner. That's why we did the wage study.

**Nick Blodgett:**

I know we talked about it in meetings before that people are afraid they're not going to have coverage. Don't forget that the Plymouth PD is a central hub for troopers in the area. They can get from Plymouth to here in a cruiser at what they call code 3 in about eight minutes even on these roads. You will have somebody covering you at all times. That same person may be covering a call in Piermont so it may take a lot longer to get here. Any Officer around would come to assist if there were a mass casualty incident or some bad accident. I'm a big supporter of the Police Department, but when the stuff happens we don't hear about is covered by a Trooper it's hard for me in my mind to justify a local Officer to stay here with the history we've had. The contracts we keep on these people, we know from experience don't

work. These guys go to the Academy, they get out, they'll give you their word that they going to stay for \$40 grand a year. Then when somebody comes around and offers \$60 grand a year, their word's not worth \$20 grand to them. They're going to take that \$60,000 job at Plymouth PD or Bristol and their contracts don't mean anything. Just keep that in mind. They get out of them all the time and it's not worth it to fight with them. I want the PD, but look at the past at what we've been getting. We get a guy who takes 16 months to go to the Academy then he takes off. We get a Chief people have bad experiences with. That could happen to anybody. Somebody's always not going to be happy with the Chief and other people are going to love that Chief. Don't be afraid that if something happens no one's going to be here for you. If you don't hear the guy breaking into your house, then you see him and he takes off running whoever is in the area is going to come. There could be chances they won't be here just as there may be a chance the local Cop might not be here. The follow-up is very important. The Trooper's still going to do it. They have a daily backlog of stuff they can't get caught up on. You'll probably be frustrated because you may not get your chainsaw back as quickly as if a local Cop had gotten the call. If the local Cop has to put 40 hours into your chainsaw that's not going to happen either. He's got 4 tickets he's written and needs to cover in court with a prosecutor we're paying \$10/\$15 grand a year for. The main thing is you will be covered.

**Bill Jolly:**

We really do need a committee so that we can build a vision of what we see the Police Department doing. Then backwards from that we can look at what human resources is able to do. So should we keep the Department at least in name and continue our search? I think we should move the question.

Moderator moves the vote and reads article 12 again.

Article 12 is defeated.

**Article 13:**

To see if the Town of Groton will vote to contract Police services with the State Police and/or Sheriff's Department for Police coverage.

**In the event article 12 passes the select board recommends this article 3-0**

**In the event article 12 fails the select board does not recommend this article.**

Ron Madan makes a motion to accept the article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

We will gather those names to create that committee. We'll do everything we can to move forward to staff that Department. Currently we are working with the Sheriff's Department covering the Town for a four hour block. The days change throughout the week so that no one knows when there will be someone here or not. One thing that came up at one of our meetings was to increase those to two 4 hour blocks during the summer. In speaking with the Sheriff's department they will probably not be able to cover any blocks in the summertime. We're currently trying to work on a contract with the State to get their coverage. There were some discrepancies that we're trying to fix. There still will not be guaranteed coverage even if this passes but we will work on getting that coverage.

**Jeremy Elder:**

If this fails that means that the State Police and the Sheriff's Department will not be getting paid because it's not contracted; is that correct?



**John Rescigno:**

They'll be working on their own time, so they'll still receive their pay. The difference is if it's contracted and something does happen in the Town then they'll be responsible for the prosecution and all of those fees. If they respond and there's no contract then the State or the Sheriff's Department will pick up that tab. When you call 911 there will always be someone that will respond. Just because we don't have a contract it doesn't mean they will hang up the phone on you. Someone will be here. Just to clarify if this passes it does not guarantee that there will be coverage it just means that you'll be willing to spend taxpayer money to service the contracts. If we find someone that can do it State or Sheriff will respond if we don't you'll be relying on that 911 call.

The Moderator ask permission from the body for Sheriff Stigler to speak.

Permission granted.

**Sheriff Jeff Stiegler:**

It's an honor for me to be here today. I did have a meaningful conversation with your Select Board members and Administrative Assistant. I want to say it's awesome because I think you folks are probably a few round-table discussions away from deciding what you want to do about policing as a whole. That's from my perspective from 43 years in law enforcement. My career started in Littleton New Hampshire right out of high school, I grew up in the Town of Haverhill living less than a mile away from the Sheriff's Office. I spent the next 25 years in the City of Laconia then on the Attorney Generals Drug Task Force then running the Detective Bureau. I understand what Miles said earlier about how difficult it is to find Cops. Every one of us and here pays county taxes; we have a former full-time Deputy Sheriff here, Norm understands and could tell you more about it. We have constitutional and a statutorial requirements we must do. Most people see us and they ask why we're not doing this or that. Statutorily what we're budgeted for is the security of the courthouse that's one of our four primary functions; transportation of prisoners taken from Grafton to the state prison. Last year we logged in just under 310,000 miles transporting prisoners. Grafton is the second biggest county in the state, 75,000 square miles and Norm can attest to how many miles he put on in his career. Civil process, we're the only one by statute that can serve civil writs. That is a money maker so I can see why former Sheriffs have put a lot of emphasis on getting this done and bring it back revenue to the tune of almost \$200,000. We also have the duty of serving warrants. Those are on us. The Local Police, the State Police can not detain on those things.. When they are superior court ordered warrants we are the only ones who can process the person in the system and bring them back to the court. So those are the things that keep us primarily busy at the Sheriff's Department. When I arrived there I was always interested in returning to my hometown. I finally found the home of my dreams back up north. My kids came along my wife was a Police Officer for 14 years in the neighboring Town of Guilford. We moved back up there because I found this job right along the Connecticut River in a neighboring State and I got to be the small-town Police Chief in the Town of Bradford; a little under 3000 people. I can relate to what your folks are struggling with here today because that's one of the first things I saw when I walked into that town. I didn't want to be that guy. I used to hire a lot of people from Massachusetts in Laconia. They'd all stand up when you were going through orientation and talk about how it was done, "down in Mass." I don't care. Welcome to New Hampshire. I didn't want to be that guy going into Vermont. We had a State Police barracks near Town and we had a full-time vacancy, I thought why do we need to hire him when we've got the State Police barracks. It's foolish to spend the money. I noticed very quickly, just like the thought process that is in this room today, most people would be able to take care of themselves. It's just Yankee common sense and the further north you go the more there is. I grew up in that. I understand people think in different

ways and soon will find a common ground. I could live way out in the woods but my wife's not so much. She likes the sidewalks and that sort of thing. I remember being up on this very rural road to see this gentleman late in the evening. He came out and asked what I was doing there so late at night. I told him, Troopers don't usually get out to some of these back roads. He said, "I don't need you around at night. It's a waste of tax money. I can take care of myself you be around during the day and watch my house while I'm at work down in Hanover."

I inherited 42 sworn Special Deputies when I arrived at the Sheriff's Department. There's a lot of Workmen's Comp cost for the number of people that you put on. I took a look at the number of hours that people worked here before. If you're only showing up to do the training to maintain your certification it doesn't really make sense to have all those people. I want part-time people to be meaningful to have a purpose in the agency; that they actually do some work. It's hard for me to find people who want to work. Special Deputies, that's generally what you've had of late, down here working your Town. They have full-time jobs elsewhere. The extra money is nice, but I don't think it would matter if you put up \$200 an hour. For some people, if it means I have to give up something like a walk with my kids, I'd rather do that. I also want you to know that the Sheriff's Department is never going to turn a blind eye to something that they see if they're out here and they come across an accident or someone operating a vehicle erratically. I know the previous Sheriff didn't like traffic enforcement but why are we spending \$3000 to put blue lights on? That's what they're there for. I don't want somebody sitting beside the road running radar because they have enough to do, but if they see something I want them addressing it. We are in Groton from time to time and we won't turn a blind eye to your needs. If were in Plymouth at the regional hub we will respond from there if we hear something is going on. It's on our dime but it's your money too. Our function is different from most law enforcement entities that you see. The Municipal Police, the State Police by statute have an obligation to cover all towns that are under 3000 which you are. I worked for 6 years in Laconia where they wanted that local touch. There are many things you could be doing which aren't responding to calls but are some of the things that I think should be done as part of "Policing" today; like checking on people's houses. You get to know everybody. You know someone will be gone in the evening so you take a ride by or if someone is gone to work during the day you will notice if there's a pickup truck backed up into the driveway idling. You can work collaboratively with the Select Board. There are the elderly who would benefit from someone checking in on them. I like to check to see if they're OK a couple of times a week. Policing is changing; it's not just enforcing the law anymore. A lot of it is about community care. So with respect to article 13, we'll do our absolute best for you as far as trying to get people here, but in the summer time we have other things that come up. The White Mountain National Forest has called and wants us to work over there in the Lincoln/Thornton area. The Moore Dam up in Littleton calls for extra security reasons; there are all these temporary things that the Sheriff's Department has always filled the void for. They are multi-jurisdictional duties and the Sheriff's Department obviously has State wide authority. That's what makes it unique to us. I only have so many people and I don't want to maintain 40 Special Deputies that are not working actively in the department. I am working on trying to downsize to active part-time people who are working and understand the need of our county. Right now I can't just give you a guarantee for times like Memorial Day that we'd be able to fill that block of time. Some days we may be able to fill the eight hours.

This is a great time to meet people ask questions and I think you're headed in the right direction. I don't think the common ground is that far away. Are there any questions?

**Sherry Nelson:**

Do you have time to serve on the Town search committee?



**Sheriff Seigler:**

I hear echoes of people who used to work here that you were very pleased with and did well. You have a retired Massachusetts State Trooper you have a current New Hampshire State Police Rep ranking Lieutenant you have a former prosecutor here and a Deputy living in Town who may be on some sort of special assignment and he is very knowledgeable about law-enforcement and about contracting or having a Police Department. You may come to relying on the State Police by what the State Statute says but you have some heads that could come together to determine what the needs are. Don't look at the numbers only but what the core of those numbers is in determining what is fiscally prudent. When I went through my process in Bradford, the room was almost as full as it is here. There were 61 people who applied for that job. You will prevail if you work together to find what you need. The State Police may be the right prescription. I will be willing to help with answering questions, but my responsibility is 39 communities equally. If you have questions feel free to contact me.

**Deb Johnson:**

What will the cost be to contract with the State Police and will that contract be paid from the Police Department budget?

**John Rescigno:**

It is paid out of the Police budget.

**Sara Smith:**

We don't know what the amount will be because the details have not been worked out.

**Deb Johnson:**

When you say contract does that mean you'll be able to negotiate hours with them?

**John Rescigno:**

The way it works right now is that we have them for four hour blocks and we asked them to be on specific days Monday this week maybe next week Saturday we switch that around. After Memorial Day the Sheriff's Department will not be able to cover those shifts. With the Sheriff's Department it is not so much of a contract as an agreement. The State Police would be more of a contract.

**Pam Hamel:**

Is it correct to assume that if we contracted with the State Police, if an incident happened here they would do the investigation and the prosecution and all of this could easily exceed our Police budget?

**John Rescigno:**

We are liable for 100% of any hours that they spend on a call in Town. If it happens during contracted hours we are responsible for 100% of any fees. If the incident happens outside the contracted hours we are not responsible though you're not creating that Police relationship with the Town. Someone different would probably be here every time, so there are advantages and there are disadvantages.

**Frank Harris:**

You don't get a lot done in four hours. But it is nice to see a cruiser or go by your house checking on things. What's that worth?

**Dave Leone:**

Does that include private roads as well?

**Miles Sinclair:**

I can identify with the Sheriff trying to weed out those people who are not productive and are looking just to maintain your certification. Not everyone carries their weight like they should. Some people just show up drive around a little bit and do as little as possible. I asked the Select Board at the hearing if they could get any details of the work that was done. Are we getting value for money? Is it money that's being wasted? In your opinion are we getting value for what we're investing?

**John Rescigno:**

In a four hour shift you're not getting much. If you're driving around and they see something wrong they report it. That's one cruiser going through 11 miles of road in four hours.

**Sara Smith:**

There was a snowmobile accident that they responded to. There was a fall at the Town House which they responded to. So there have been a few cases.

**Miles Sinclair:**

Have they made arrests that are documented? That's the kind of stuff that should be ready available.

(Recording is unclear through a response from Sheriff and interaction between Miles and the Sheriff).

**John Rescigno:**

The reason we had that block of four hours is so no one would know when an Officer was going to be cruising through the Town. They have been active.

**Ron Madan:**

I've seen them at least twice coming out Giovanna Road checking on houses out there.

Moderator calls the vote. Vote was a tie. Moderator voted no to break ties. 22 yes; 23 no

The article is defeated.

**Article 14:**

To see if the town of Groton will vote to stop recycling at the transfer station.

**The select board recommends this article 2-0-1**

Ron Madan moves to accept the article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**Norm Willey:**

It's no secret if you read the paper and listen to the news the majority of plastic and glass was going to China but due to the grain in embargo China is not taking any plastic or glass. The only thing that's recyclable is cardboard and that only if it's not contaminated with something. Right now we're paying \$80 a ton for recyclables to get rid of them. We get no revenue back. The whole system is reversed The Town used to get reimbursed now all we do is pay to get rid of it. Sara informed me that Waste Management as of next month will be increasing \$10, so it will be \$90 a ton. I will be going to a workshop

put on by the NLRA and Casella, Waste Management and others will be there to discuss the future of recycling. In May the cost will go up \$25 per ton for recycling and it could go even higher than that before were done. There's no way you can plan in the budget for this type of increase. We do have a Plan B. People may not know this but approximately 75% of the stuff we throw in to the recycling bin doesn't get recycled. It winds up in a landfill. So that means were paying a lot more money to "recycle". Twenty-five percent of what we're putting in the recycling may be recycled and the rest is going to go to the landfill anyway. The only other alternative is it everything goes into a bin but it will not be recycling.

**Frank Grelle:**

How much money will we save if we're not recycling?

**Norm Willie:**

I think it stabilized at about \$80 a ton which is what we're paying now to get rid of everything across-the-board. What we're looking at right now is a budget that will increase 25% or 50%. We knew this was coming last fall.

**Rick Belanger:**

How much do we pay for demolition?

**Norm Willie:**

We pay by the ton and also by the trip for demolition. Most of our stuff goes to the Bethlehem landfill. Anything in the blue bin goes to Casella

**Rick Belanger:**

How much in tons does the Town recycle each year?

**Norm Willie:**

Last year we did we did 67.4 ton of recycling and we had 78 ton that left the Transfer Station that was not recyclable; that would include construction debris, the overflow and the compactor.

(some discussion in here between Rick and Norm that was not clear on the recording)

\$190.55 per haul for each container. Waste Management goes south and all the rest goes north.

**Rick Belanger:**

Right now recycling is not worth much but it will come back someday. What he is saying is true, right now things that should be recycled are going to a landfill. Back when things were being shipped to China even a quarter or a third was going into a landfill even then. Once you get out of recycling the chances of ever bringing it back are extremely poor. It's hard to get people to come back in that direction. Right now people are educated in separating the things. Economically it's not the right answer but it may be at some point in time. So I'm wondering if for the time being we put stuff into the compactor?

**John Rescigno:**

By doing so you will have a more negative affect than positive. We're horrific at recycling we're not educated we don't know what we're doing we don't know what to put in there. We put false claims out there. Look at McDonald's. McDonald's used to use Styrofoam containers why did they switch to paper? Because they're recyclable; but they're not recyclable because they have grease on them. They made everybody think they were recyclable when they're not. Paper cups are not recyclable. Pizza boxes are

not recyclable because there's a lot of contaminants in those things. If we let people know we're not really recycling, but we want to keep everyone in that motion. What will happen is people are going to become more and more lax over time. They will throw more and more things into the black bag and into the compactor and this will create a new pattern of behavior that will be harder to break down.

The problem is not recycling the problem is in the amount of waste that people produce. How many cups of coffee do people buy out at McDonald's or Starbucks and people could just as well buy a container and refill it. We do this disposable cup because of convenience. What about K cups? Who just drinks one cup of coffee. More plastic containers go into the trash. Get a mug filled up, fill up your thermos and guess what else you've done? How much does a cup of coffee cost at 7-11; or at Starbucks? Think of the money that you're saving on top that. Does it make more sense to recycle or to reuse and re-purpose? There are a lot of things we can do to save the environment. Let's think about recycling. In order to recycle a mayonnaise container have to wash it out which means hot water which means energy to heat the water using oil, releasing Carbon into the atmosphere, that plastic then goes on to a ship from New Jersey to China. A cruise ship burns 108 gallons of fuel per mile. How much carbon are we putting into the atmosphere at that point? We're reducing the landfill but we're creating all that global warming that's putting us in the situation were in today. Does it make more sense to use a reusable container or a paper cup?

I think we're doing better to educate people on how to reuse, repurpose, reduce and to stress the importance of recycling and what that should look like. There are new markets opening up in India, Pakistan, and other countries but it's just a fraction of what China took.

**Ron Madan:**

You can check those two container for recycling up there now. Out of 10 people that go into the transfer station, one will throw contaminated stuff into that container and that contaminates the whole load.

**John Rescigno:**

That load is then brought to a place where there is recyclables from every Town. The chances or recycling are not great.

**Pam Hamel:**

I was shocked when we came to the public hearing and found out that we're not recycling. How politically incorrect can you get? It angers me that I've been paying for recycling and it's been going to Bethlehem. Waste Management is taking my money for recycling and putting it into a landfill that angers me. I don't want to stop recycling but I don't want to do it the way it's happening now. We can't really have a true recycling program where it's uncontaminated where you know that it's actually being recycled. I say scrap it and start again, maybe in a couple of years would be smart. The way it is now it's not the way to go.

**Gina Rescigno:**

I'm the Vice-Chair of the Conservation Commission we had a discussion on this and I feel that in some ways we failed because we should have been at the Select Board meetings. We are going to work on this issue that is so important to us. I do agree that it doesn't make sense to pay for recycling when it's all just going to a landfill. It's sickening, sad, unfortunate... I've recycled me whole life, I'm a tree hugger. I use that along with a lot of other things in our house to reduce. I need to focus on really reducing our garbage. We can't rely on recycling anymore, we need to go back to what was done long ago, getting rid

of packaging just for convenience. Our committee is going to work on giving ideas on ways to reduce you garbage load. Maybe you can also give some helpful hints.

**Steve Spafford:**

I'm the Chairman of the Conservation Commission and what Gina was alluding to is the meeting we had on this. Because it is important and my suggestion was that the Conservation go on record with a resolution. The resolution reads:

Whereas the Town of Groton has been notified of the price increase for handling recyclable materials; whereas and Article concerning this issue is on the Town Warrant; whereas the importance of keeping recyclable materials out of the landfill is unquestionable. Be it resolved that the Groton Conservation Commission goes on record as wishing to continue monitoring this situation in the future to reduce waste.

Respectfully submitted as amended,  
The Conservation Commission

(Given to the Moderator, who gives this to the Select Board)

**Ruth Gaffey:**

I apologize that I was not at any of the hearings concerning this and need to take a minute here and say that I have not had time to do proper research. I did call the North East Recycling Counsel and I'm hearing numbers that are different, I'm not questioning anybody here but I think more research needs to be done. I'm fully on board with the Conservation Commission. We'll be looking into things and try to do our best to be responsible. I have heard these numbers before but if I did my math correctly the recycling that has been collected and the garbage including construction and everything we've produced in Groton equals 144.4 tons of garbage. How many people live in this Town? It's shocking we all need to address this.

**Anne Joyce:**

Asked to move the Article

**Dave Leone:**

Is the reason this Article is in here today because in the past in an Article we voted to recycle?

**John Rescigno:**

Correct.

**Dave Leone:**

We've also given the Select Board the authority to do what's legal, what's right. So can we keep the Article saying we will recycle but let the Select Board use their judgement and when it's not worth it for us to recycle to not go that route? Can that happen?

**John Rescigno:**

You want to maintain the system we have right now that we're collecting/separating it and we'll throw it into the landfill until times change. When Norm came to me and said they were considering getting rid of recycling I thought he was out of his mind, until he explained a little more and I started doing some research on my own. The situation is bad; there are States like Oregon and Massachusetts where it is against the law to put recyclables into the landfill. They have now signed waivers to allow recyclables to

go into the landfills. I don't see the value of continuing to separate it when people know that it is going into the landfill because it's just going to give people the mindset that it doesn't matter, it's all going to the landfill anyway. It may not be two years before this is resolved, but when it does get resolved, we're going to be so used to throwing it all together thinking that we're recycling that then it will be hard to change that mindset that recycling is a real thing again.

I think we just need to continue educating people. We can't forget about it, we need to continue talking about it so that when it does come back we can implement it once again in a more successful fashion realizing what needs to go in there and what needs to stay out.

**Lou Lieto:**

Trying to incorporate the two points of view, starting with the economics, it is \$80/ton to recycle?

**Sara Smith:**

It's \$65 per ton for the garbage through Casella, it's \$80, probably \$90 and will be even more for the recyclables.

**Lou Lieto:**

And essentially they are all going to the same place. The education process that John describes doesn't depend on the outcome of this vote. We can continue to educate our citizens whether we decide to recycle or not. They don't know what we just heard about the grease and things like that. We could implement it in an education process that would inform our public so when recycling really became more useful, they'd already be there. At this point in time the major driver to me is that it's not going to make that big a difference if it's going to be 10 or 15 dollars a ton. What they suggested is that the Select Board retain their responsibility so that if in fact as Sara suggested the price goes to \$120/\$130 then the Select Board can say, "We're not doing that anymore". It would be in their authority to do that. I would prefer to stay in the business because once we get out of it, people will get sloppy. I say to stay with it and let the Select Board make the decision based upon what is most reasonable and try to educate people.

**Bill Jolly:**

This is a commodity, plastic is a commodity, newspaper is a commodity, wood is a commodity, it's stuff. Many of us are self-employed or work for small businesses and have our finger on the pulse of our own individual companies. Your company wouldn't go out of business because your product came out of favor unless it had been out of favor for an extended period of time. Commodities are fickle things and this particular commodity relies on "Joe Political" garbage going back and forth and right now it's being used as a weapon against us. There are other nations who are going to step in and take advantage creating a demand. If we simply react to a trend that is out of our control instead of saying, "Let's wait it out." It will go in a hole and not be made into new products. If we do that then we'll have to build it back beyond the cognitive dimension that John's talking about we'd need to do contracts all that stuff again. No one knows how far we need to ride this out. Commodities will bump along and then spike and the bump along, that's how it works. Right now it's so low that there is a high likelihood that it will spike again. We'll be saying, "We don't recycle anymore." and be paying for waste removal when we could be paying maybe \$40 for plastic renewables. When you're making a decision to abandon a system that we have in place right now, whether or not it's at its optimal performance just think about how long this trend might last.



**John Rescigno:**

This happened before President Trump was elected. This has more to do with supply and demand. We have so much plastic that we are creating, even if it was clean and ready to go again, the demand for that amount just isn't there.

Moderator calls the vote and reads the Article again.

**John Rescigno:**

So if we vote to continue recycling that means that we need to recycle no matter what the cost, is that correct?

(lots of discussions erupt here and it's hard to hear what is being said on the recording)

**John Rescigno:**

We will phone our attorney right now to find out since it was voted in to recycle if we can say if it goes over a certain amount we can stop recycling.

Moderator makes the decision to take a break while the Select Board calls the Attorney.

(during the break the Moderator is given an amendment to Article 14)

"To see if the Town will give the Select Board the power to either recycle or not as appropriate use of Town funds."

Seconded by Bill Jolly

**Ruth Gaffey:**

I understand why we're doing this amendment and I agree with that, but I don't agree that it's OK the way it's stated. It sounds like it could move to a place where we could not have recycling again. It sounds like the Town is not going to recycle.

**John Rescigno:**

The Select Board has the right to put in a new warrant article, next year or five years from now, or whenever the Town agrees to recycle.

**Jeremy Elder:**

Who is to decide what is reasonable and what is not reasonable?

**John Rescigno:**

The three Select Men would need to decide amongst themselves what they feel is acceptable.

**Melissa Gromko:**

I think that is a very broad thing to give you the power to determine. Someone might think that recycling is worth \$300/ton. You need to set a dollar figure cap on what we're willing to pay.

**John Rescigno:**

We looked into that and it was recommended that we don't do that because it opens up a lot of doors where for instance if we set the cap at \$90, and tomorrow it's \$91 and then it goes down to \$88, there's a big fluctuation in the market. It causes a large grey area. There are too many variables.

The way the Warrant Articles work, for instance the first year there was an Article for a 2001 Cruiser. In 2002 we had to hunt around for a 2001 Cruiser because that's what the Article stated. The way the Warrant Article is stated is exactly what needs to happen.

If we vote not to go over \$88 and the next day it goes to \$87 we'd need to start again and if the next day it went to \$89 we would need to stop.

**Stacy Darlington:**

I just want to be sure I know what this Amendment means; we are giving the Select Board the authority to make the decision that recycling is the appropriate use of our funds. Is that correct?

**John Rescigno:**

Basically if it goes over a certain dollar amount and it is no longer feasible for the Town to continue recycling then they will have the right to stop recycling.

**Stacy Darlington:**

So at your next Select Board meeting you could decide that where we are today with the money we're spending on recycling, it is no longer an appropriate use of funds.

**John Rescigno:**

We could, but I assure you I would never do that. Yes, you are giving us that authority. We also report to you in a sense and that would not be wise on our part to do something as silly as that. Yes, you are right, we'd have the authority to do that.

We're voting that if the price goes over a certain dollar amount that the Select Board have the right to stop the recycling.

**Stacy Darlington:**

And you're saying you can't put a dollar amount in this amendment so you're still making a determination of what that dollar amount is. You could determine that the dollar amount we're paying right now is inappropriate, so at the next meeting you could say we're not paying for recycling anymore.

**John Rescigno:**

We could.

**Lou Lieto:**

I don't regard the Select Board as residents of Washington, DC. These are our friends and neighbors and they've heard this discussion. They hear that the Town wishes to continue recycling. I'm sure that if the price were too high they would hold some type of forum to let the Town's people know that the price has gone to a place where the Town will go in hock to continue. I would hope they would consider if that is an appropriate way to spend the Town's money. It could be part of the regular Select Board meeting. If we don't have that type of confidence in them, then maybe we should throw them all out and start over.



**Gina Rescigno:**

This discussion didn't start with whether the Town wanted to recycle or didn't want to recycle. It is about cost and that the "recyclables" are being thrown into the land fill. You may think you are recycling when you throw things into the bin and your aren't and the real answer is to reduce.

**Pam Hamel:**

I don't have a problem with the Select Board having that leeway. They need to work within a budget and if they went over that amount they'd be taking it from someplace else in Town. There are a lot of constraints to be thinking about on their end as far as continuing. Having said that, I have always thought that single stream recycling is a joke. Real recycling is really separating your things. No matter what happens with this vote going forward and hopefully the Conservation Commission will take this up we should actually educate about that type of recycling and get that implemented as some point at our transfer station; actually separating the garbage the way we should. This way if there is something that isn't making any money or is not worth doing we wouldn't have to scrap recycling as a whole and it would also keep contamination down.

**John Rescigno:**

The original verbage was to stop recycling. We started to vote on it and when I realized that people didn't really want to stop it, I stopped the vote so we could amend it in some way so we could continue to recycle unless the cost is too high. I doubt the Select Board will go away today and decide we're not going to do it.

**Gina Rescigno:**

From my understanding the system that Pam explained is very expensive right now. John has looked at other communities that do it that way, but I learned from Slim, that we did do it that way in this community and that Miles changed it to make it more convenient for all and that more people would participate.

**Miles Sinclair:**

I was on the Board when the decision was made to go with single stream and it was based on the discussions and initiatives at the time. The way it was presented is that is the way the industry was headed at the time. It made sense to do it, it was less costly that's why the decision was made then. I did not make the decision by myself.

**Gina Rescigno:**

I did not mean it that way. I just meant that the decision was made to that it would be more convenient and that more people would participate. I thought the community had already tried to do the separation thing and thought that the single stream would be more convenient and more would participate.

Moderator moves the vote. Voting is on the amendment.

Amendment is read again.

Amendment passes.

Article is read as amended and a vote is taken.

Amended Article passes.

**Article 15:**

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 residence.  
(Submitted by the Library Trustees)

**The Select Board recommends this article 3-0**

Ron Madan moves that we accept the Article as written. John Rescigno seconded.

**John Rescigno:**

This is everyone's favorite because it doesn't cost the taxpayers any money. We entered a contract with the Hebron Library. Our Library Trustees pay the Hebron Library to allow our residents to go and use their Library at no cost.

**Ruth Gaffey:**

This is my opportunity to tell you all about the Library services that are available to all Groton residents. I can sign you up for a library card here. This library has completely changed. It is fully functioning right up to the computers; books you can download onto your phone or tablet and someone is there to help you do that. There are DVDs, books, magazines, and a free interlibrary loan service. There are free passes to Squam Lake Nature Center, and New Hampshire State Parks and Newfound Lake. There are programs and upcoming events. There is not a web site, but it will be up soon and will have dates of special activities. The Library Trustees will be making one mailing out to every Groton resident so they understand what's available to them. All the books in the other room are free for the taking.

**Dave Leone:**

Does this cost us any money?

**John Rescigno:**

No, it comes out of the Library Fund.

**Dave Leone:**

Does the Town of Groton have a library?

**Ruth Gaffey:**

No, we do not.

**Dave Leone:**

I'm a little confused. When I was a Select Board member, I signed the check for the Library which was somewhere in the line of \$25,000.00. So that money is in the Library that we don't have.

**John Rescigno:**

That's in the fund that's paying for this.

**Ruth Gaffey:**

We do not have a physical library in Groton.

**Annie Tobine:**

Just to clarify, because I was a Library Trustee at that time. That money was insurance money. It was supposed to be used to replace the books in the Library that got flooded. Many of the books at that time were replaced when we had the Library. So that money is pretty much gone.

**Gina Rescigno:**

Elizabeth Jespersen was the Library Trustee. She met with the State Librarian and it would have cost a lot of money to build up the Library, so Ruth Gaffey is now a Trustee. As long as the money holds out we will contract with the Hebron Library and after that we'll need to come to the Town to see if it is something the Town wants to continue.

**Ruth Gaffey:**

This arrangement has been made so that Groton will have Library Services.

**Lou Lieto:**

When the money was reimbursed for loss after the flood, the money was to be used by the Trustees as they saw was appropriate. Now it is being used to provide library access. It would be difficult to use these funds outside of what is stated to provide Library Services.

**Sherry Nelson:**

That money is \$2000 per year.

**Ruth Gaffey:**

It is currently, I could be raised in the future.

(Discussion on the floor)

**Ruth Millett:**

There is a computer set up in the front room and is funded by the library and is available for anyone to use when the building is open.

**Stacy Darlington:**

There is a line item in the budget for Library Services which is paying for Library Services through Hebron.

Moderator calls the vote and reads the Article again.

The Article passes.

**Miles Sinclair:**

Point of order. Based on the votes that were taken on Articles 12 and 13, I was considering moving to reconsider that action on the budget if it made sense financially to change the Police line, but would need to know how much has been expended from that budget year to date; from January 1<sup>st</sup> to end of March.

(There was much back and forth so the Moderator calls for an amendment if there is to be one.)

A motion is brought to reconsider Article 16. Steven Spafford seconded the motion.

Moderator calls the vote to reconsider Article 16.

Motion is defeated. Article 16 will not be reconsidered.

**Article 17:**

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

**John Rescigno:**

A couple things I want to go over, please stop by if you are interested in serving on the Police Committee. There's a donation jar for donations for the Fireworks display. Thank you to all who have donated already.

The calendar online is the best place to get all the information about upcoming meetings, dates, times, etc.

Please come to those meetings. They're critical and you get all the information at them. We are doing our Hazard Mitigation meetings and people can come to those meetings as well.

We urge everyone to sign up for the App "Code Red", which notifies you whenever there is an emergency in your area.

There's a volunteer form out front. This form you fill out if you are able to help in times of emergency so if we do have a disaster in Town we'll know who we can contact to help out. There's also another form. If you are a person who has special needs if you're handicapped in some way, it helps us respond to you in a faster time.

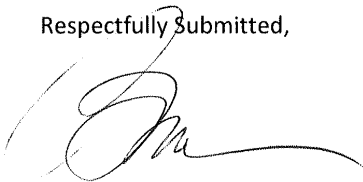
There's also another form for the 911 signs. These signs help the emergency/fire to find you in an emergency.

I just want to thank Elizabeth. Elizabeth has moved from the Town. She helped out with many different events in the Town. I also want to thank all the volunteers and committee members. There are still Committees that need people. If you'd like to help out with the Town, we'd appreciate your help.

Thank you for coming out today, thank you for staying for the whole meeting. Votes do count, we listen to your votes. We do listen to what people say regardless of what some people think. Come talk to us. We can all benefit from suggestions.

Town Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Millett', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Ruth Millett, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

DEPARTMENT OF STATE						
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION						
GROTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE						
<b>Resident Death Report</b>						
<b>01/01/2019 - 12/31/2019</b>						
<b>Decedent's Name</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>	<b>Place of Death</b>	<b>Father's Name</b>	<b>Mother's Maiden Name</b>		
Rego, Henry E.	03/31/2019	Groton, NH	Rego, Henry	(unknown), Mary		
Spaulding, Terrie L.	04/25/2019	Groton, NH	Hobart, William L.	Rice, Kathy M.		
Matthews, Roland	07/15/2019	Groton, NH	(unknown)	(unknown)		
Girouard, Lisa A.	09/03/2019	Groton, NH	Bartlett, Ralph L.	Campbell, Betty M.		
Kelley, Rose V.	12/02/2019	Groton, NH	Rainey, Leslie	Dorman, Virginia		
<b>Resident Marriage Report</b>						
<b>01/01/2019 - 12/31/2019</b>						
<b>Person A's Name</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>Person B's Name</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>Town of Issuance</b>	<b>Place of Marriage</b>	<b>Date of Marriage</b>
Vignone, Bethany	Groton	Sharp, Scott	Groton	Groton	Groton	09/14/2019
Pardy, Raymond	Groton	Moccia, Sandra	Groton	Groton	Groton	09/15/2019
O'Donnell, Brigid	Groton	Parrish, Clinton	Groton	Groton	Groton	11/08/2019



## Don't Forget to Register Your Dog!

All dog licenses are due by April 30<sup>th</sup>. If they are not licensed by June 1 there will be a forfeit of \$25.00 and a fine of \$1.00 monthly.

License Fees are:

Male or Female	\$9.00
Spayed or Neutered	\$6.50
First Dog for Owner over 65	\$2.00

**Current Rabies Certificate should be presented at time of registration.**

Ruth Millett  
Town Clerk  
Groton, New Hampshire



Just a reminder, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Office hours are:

Monday, Wednesday & Thursday	9:00am – 4:00pm
Tuesday	12:00pm – 7:00pm
*closed Friday, Saturday & Sunday	

# STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Executive Council

**MICHAEL J. CRYANS**  
Executive Councilor  
District One



State House Room 207  
107 North Main Street  
Concord, NH 03301  
[WWW.NH.GOV/COUNCIL](http://WWW.NH.GOV/COUNCIL)  
(603) 271-3632

### 2019 Year End Report from Councilor Michael Cryans

On January 3, 2019, I passed my one-year anniversary serving on the Executive Council for District One.

This District is made up of over 100 towns and four cities (Berlin, Claremont, Laconia and Lebanon). It covers up to ½ of the land area from Tilton to Pittsburg.

The Council, which has 5 members, each represent approximately 275,000 constituents. The Council meets approximately every 2 weeks and most of the meetings are held in Concord, except for the 6 meetings during the summer. These summer meetings are held in the five Council Districts along with one hosted by the Governor. I chose Littleton and will be looking for a community to host the meeting next summer.

The Executive Council votes on all contracts with the state over \$10,000 as well as appointments to Boards and Commissions. Fifty-four persons from District One were confirmed to various positions on State Boards and Commissions this year. The Council also votes on Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners of State Agencies as well as confirms the appointment of judges to serve in New Hampshire District, Supreme and Superior Courts.

I have traveled to all the towns and cities as well as the seven counties in this District. The function that I enjoy the most is constituent service. I like to assist, if I can, with the issues that arise from individual concerns to general issues in towns and cities in the District. You can always reach out to me with issues of concern.

This year I hosted the Department of Transportation GACIT Meetings in Lebanon, Claremont, Berlin and North Conway. GACIT stands for The Governor's Advisory Commission on Intermodal Transportation. This Commission is required to propose a plan for improvements to our state transportation system every two years, ultimately creating what is known as the Ten Year Highway Plan.

If you wish to serve on any Boards or Commissions, please submit your resume to me and Jonathan Melanson of the Governor's office. The Boards and Commissions, along with the qualifications needed, can be reviewed at <http://sos.nh.gov/GC2.aspx>.

Please feel free to contact me if you feel I can be helpful. My contact information is [Michael.Cryans@NH.gov](mailto:Michael.Cryans@NH.gov) or 603-443-1901 or PO Box 999, Hanover, NH 03755.

Remember, I am here to serve you.

Sincerely,  
Michael Cryans  
Executive Councilor, District One

# TOWN OF GROTON

## SELECT BOARD OFFICE HOURS

**Monday-Thursday: 8:00-4:00**

*\*closed Friday, Saturday & Sunday*

**744-9190**

**744-3382 fax**

[selectmen@grotonnh.org](mailto:selectmen@grotonnh.org)

[www.grotonnh.org](http://www.grotonnh.org)

## SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

**The 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday Evening of the month: 7:00 pm**

**Please call 744-9190 by noon on Mondays to get on the current week's agenda.**

**Administrative Assistant:  
Sara Smith**

## TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR OFFICE HOURS

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:00-4:00**

**Tuesday evenings: 12:00-7:00**

*\*closed Friday, Saturday & Sunday*

**All other times by appointment**

**Ruth Millett**

**Joanna Peel – Deputy**

**744-8849**

**744-8803 fax**

[townclerk@grotonnh.org](mailto:townclerk@grotonnh.org)

## TRANSFER STATION HOURS

**Wednesday: 12:00-6:00**

**Saturday: 9:00-5:00**

**Sunday: 12:00-6:00**

**744-3623**

**Transfer Station Superintendent:  
Norm Willey**

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Chief Michael Bagan**

**744-3703**

**744-7894 (fax)**

[police@grotonnh.org](mailto:police@grotonnh.org)

**Animal Control Officer: Groton Police**

**EMERGENCY: 911**

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

**Road Agent: Robert Ellis**

**744-3758**

