

Town of Groton New Hampshire



**2024
Annual Town Report**

This picture was taken on Halls Brooks Road in Groton.
Thank you to Sara Smith for submitting the cover photo!

Dedication of the Town Report

Like the last few years, instead of choosing one person to dedicate the report to this year, the Select Board has chosen to dedicate the 2024 Annual Town Report to all of the residents that we have lost this past year. Please take a moment to honor these residents. They may be gone, but will never be forgotten!

- ❖ Joseph Edward Koslow who passed away on February 5, 2024
- ❖ William Paul Johnson Sr. who passed away August 9, 2024
- ❖ Rebecca Lynn Person who passed away August 25, 2024



It has been a pleasure to serve the Town of Groton for the past 2 years as Moderator. My hope is to inspire others to get involved in town government so that we may continue to enrich the lives of the residents and wildlife that call Groton home. – Amy Hardy

1. Robert's Rules will not be used.
2. Our purpose is to have a meeting that is civil, informative, and as brief as possible.
3. A request to change any of these rules may be made at the start of the meeting; and accepted by a majority of the voters present. (Rules listed with an RSA may not be modified)
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; without it you may not speak or vote on the articles.
6. Articles will be considered in the order presented in the warrant.
7. Articles will be read as presented; a motion to accept the article and a second will be called for. When seconded, the person moving the article will be recognized to speak for the article; then the article will be open for discussion and debate.
8. Persons that move and second an article or motion must state their name (RSA91A:2)
9. The use of the microphone is required for everyone.
10. Comments and questions are to be directed to the moderator-not to others in the room.
11. 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 to have the floor. They must use the microphone at the front of the room so that everyone present can clearly hear what is being stated. The person recognized must first state their name before speaking. While that person has the floor, everyone else should be courteous and refrain from speaking so that everyone can hear the person having the floor.
12. Everyone wishing to speak to an article will have an opportunity to speak at least once.
13. Non-residents may speak only by approval of the voters.

(Continued)

14. 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 voters 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.
 15. Articles may be amended; this must be done in writing and not change the intent of the article.
 16. 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).
 17. 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.
 18. 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.
 19. 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.”
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Annual Report

of the Officers of the



(Incorporated December 7, 1796)

New Hampshire
Year Ending December 31, 2024

Appointed Officials/Employees as of December 31, 2024

Town Administrator	Health Officer
Sara Smith	Tony Albert
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Deputy Treasurer
Hilary Coles	Debra Lindsey
Police Chief	Fire Warden
Michael Bagan	Jeremy Haney
Police Officers	Deputy Wardens
TBH	Bill Oakley Norm Willey
Emergency Management Director	Deputy Emergency Management Director
Bill Oakley	Patti Oakley
Transfer Station Superintendent	Transfer Station Attendants
Norm Willey	George Evirs Ron Madan Fred Brooks
Public Works Director	Equipment Operators
Robert Ellis	Robert Ellis Fred Brooks Norm Willey Jeremy Haney
Custodial	Ballot Clerks
Gina Rescigno	Sara Smith Hilary Coles PJ Currin

Elected Town Officials as of December 31, 2024

Select Board	Moderator
John Rescigno 2027 Ron Madan 2025 Tony Albert 2026	Amy Prive-Hardy 2026
Treasurer	Trustees of the Trust Fund
Pamela Hamel 2026	Michele Lacroix 2026 Gina Rescigno 2027
Town Clerk/Tax Collector	Library Trustees
Ruth Millett 2027	Gina Rescigno 2026 Ray Sheehan 2026 TBH 2025
Planning Board	Zoning Board
Deb Johnson 2026 Russell Carruth 2026 TBH 2025 Forest Blake 2027 Dave Madden 2025 Kristina Madden 2025 John Rescigno (Select Board Liaison)	Jonathan Beliveau 2026 Peter Smith 2025 Casey Kuplin 2026 Jeremy Haney 2026 Heath Matthews 2025
Cemetery Trustees	Supervisors of the Checklist
Jonathan Beliveau 2026 Richard Ross 2026 Slim Spafford 2027	Pamela Hamel 2030 Gina Rescigno 2026 Virginia Parker 2028
Local Auditor	
Ann Joyce 2025	

Letter from the Groton Select Board

As you will see in this year's budget, many contracted services have greatly increased. The Select Board worked hard to control all other lines and to maintain a budget that works for the town and its residents.

There was a delay in the town being able to set our tax rate this year due to SAU 4 filing for an extension to set their rate. The overall tax rate for the town consists of four areas; the local school rate, the state school rate, the county rate and the town rate. Therefore, any town that belongs to SAU 4's needs their rate, which is the local school rate, in order to set the towns tax rate. The town needs to know the rates for the other three areas in order to know what the town rate needs to be to raise enough money to cover all of the towns expenses.

There was a lot of back and forth with USDA, the holder of the grant, for the new Public Works Building/Highway Garage. Items were added to the building requirements, that were not anticipated, greatly increasing the overall cost of the building. After several months the town worked things out and brought the cost back down. All of this delayed the project by more than 6 months. In writing this report, we broke ground and hopefully, by the time you are reading this, the foundation will be poured, weather permitting, and a building be standing by town meeting.

The separation from SAU 4, and the creation of SAU108, continues to move smoothly. The school board led by Virginia Parker, from Groton, has done an outstanding job in working on a budget and securing all the necessities needed to run a successful school. Our children will now have the option to attend Plymouth High School or Newfound Regional High School.

Sara worked to secure another grant for the town. This time it is a 90/10 grant match opportunity, meaning the grant will pay for 90% of the cost of the project and the Town will only need to come up with 10% of the cost. This project will be to install a bridge on North Groton Road by the cemetery. Currently there is a culvert there, which will be replaced with a

bridge, to handle greater water flow, reducing the risk of flooding. These 90/10 grants are hardly ever offered and are a great opportunity for the Town to take advantage of.

Finally, we would like to thank all town employees and those that serve on committees for making the town a great place to live.

Thank you,

The Groton Select Board
(John Rescigno, Tony Albert and Ron Madan)

Town of Groton Warrant 2025 Annual Meeting

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE WARRANT FOR 2025 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 11th 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 15th day of March at nine o'clock in the morning at the Groton Town House.

BALLOT ARTICLES MARCH 11, 2025

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

DELIBERATIVE SESSION MARCH 15, 2025

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **one million, fifty-two thousand, six hundred fifty-six dollars (\$1,052,656)** 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 North Groton Road culvert project with the amount of **four hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$450,000)** (90%) being offset by a federal Hazard Mitigation Grant the Town applied for and the remaining town's share of **fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000)** (10%) 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 **one hundred thirty-two thousand five hundred dollars (\$132,500)** to be added to the previously established Capital Reserve Funds. (Majority vote required)

Public Works CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2024 balance: \$3.38): \$50,000
Disaster Relief CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2024 balance: \$191,441.90): \$25,000
Truck/Sander CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2024 balance: \$32,751.72): \$20,000
Heavy Equipment CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2024 balance: \$22,079.17): \$10,000
Police Cruiser CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2024 balance: \$37,955.47): \$10,000
Town House CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2024 balance: \$26,715.06): \$10,000
Assessing Reval CR Fund (Dec. 31, 2024 balance: \$27,032.28): \$7,500

Total Capital Reserve Funds \$132,500

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 thirty-nine thousand dollars (\$139,000)** for chip sealing. (submitted by the Highway Department)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

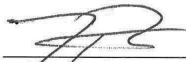
ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **five hundred twenty-nine dollars (\$529)** for deposit in the Conservation Fund, with said amount to come from the unassigned fund balance. This sum represents 3% of the Timber Tax revenue received in 2024. (submitted by the Conservation Commission) (Majority vote required)

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

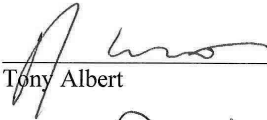
ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Selectmen transact any other business that may legally come before the Town.

Given under our hands and the seal of the Town this 12th day of February 2025.

GROTON SELECT BOARD



John Rescigno, Chairman



Tony Albert



Ron Madan

TOWN OF GROTON - 2025 Proposed Budget & 2024 Expenditures						
			Proposed 2025 Budget	2024 Actual	Approved 2024 Budget	
II - EXPENDITURES (TOTAL)			1,374,685	1,242,210.45	1,314,759	
OPERATING BUDGET			1,052,656	862,253.86	920,474	
SPECIAL & INDIVIDUAL WARRANT ARTICLES			322,029.00	379,956.59	394,285.00	
			\$ 374,921	338,548.32	\$ 364,508	
4130	1 - GENERAL GOVERNMENT		89,294	84,783.42	86,990	
	4130.1 Administrator/ Assistant Wages		67,084	63,374.84	64,480	
	4130.2 Selectmen Stipend		13,200	13,200.00	13,200	
	4130.3 Moderator/Assistant Salary		800	1,147.50	700	
	4130.4 Other Town Meeting Expense		50	0.00	50	
	4130.5 Contracted Services(Web hosting)		150	122.50	150	
	4130.6 Workshops & Seminars		500	448.92	500	
	4130.7 Telephone/Internet		1,560	1,550.41	1,560	
	4130.8 Mileage		500	442.86	500	
	4130.9 Supplies		1,000	998.53	1,000	
	4130.10 Postage		900	872.82	900	
	4130.11 Furniture / Fixtures		50	63.99	50	
	4130.12 Office Equipment Maintenance		600	540.00	600	
	4130.13 Hiring Expenses		400	0.00	400	
	4130.14 Other Expenses (CU recordings, etc.)		200	200.00	200	
	4130.15 Computer/maintenance/software		1,500	1,471.05	1,500	
	4130.16 Minute Taker		800	350.00	1,200	
4140	ELECTION/REGIST/VITAL STATS		74,730	69,434.70	69,990	
	4140.1 Town Clerk/Tax Collector Salary		39,700	35,367.43	34,700	
	4140.2 Deputy Wages		16,000	13,439.95	14,000	
	4140.3 Town Clerk/Tax Collector Dues		80	60.00	140	
	4140.4 Town Clerk Expenses		900	777.72	1,400	
	4140.5 Tax Collector Expenses		3,700	3,530.00	3,700	
	4140.6 Workshops & Seminars		2,500	2,679.26	2,500	
	4140.7 Telephone/Internet		2,100	1,688.00	2,100	
	4140.8 Computer Maintenance/Software		1,000	573.45	1,000	
	4140.9 Advertising		25	0.00	25	
	4140.10 Supplies/Advertising Election		800	621.13	400	
	4140.11 Supplies-General		1,000	687.16	1,000	
	4140.12 Postage		2,000	1,968.61	2,000	
	4140.15 Ballot Clerks		1,100	2,523.75	1,600	
	4140.16 Checklist Supervisors		1,825	3,275.08	4,225	
	4140.17 Mileage		2,000	2,243.16	1,200	
4150	FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION		25,125	24,191.10	25,575	
	4150.1 Financial Reporting (Town Report)		1,300	1,619.10	1,750	

	4150.2	Auditing					5,000	4,000.00	5,000	
	4150.3	Assessing					15,000	14,905.00	15,000	
	4150.4	Treasurer Salary					3,600	3,600.00	3,600	
	4150.5	Deputy Treasurer Salary					50	0.00	50	
	4150.6	Mileage					150	67.00	150	
	4150.7	Supplies					25	0.00	25	
4153		LEGAL EXPENSES				13,000	3,851.78	13,000		
	4153.1	Claims, Judgments and/or Settlements				1,000	0.00	0.00	1,000	
	4153.2	Attorney Fees				9,000	2,866.31	9,000	9,000	
	4153.4	Junkyard Compliance				3,000	985.47	3,000	3,000	
4155		PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION				99,000	93,989.09	94,618		
	4155.1	NH Retirement System				16,200	16,088.32	14,250	14,250	
	4155.2	Life & Disability Insurance				800	759.60	1,100	1,100	
	4155.3	Health Insurance				64,500	61,977.93	61,768	61,768	
	4155.4	FICA/Medicare				17,500	15,163.24	17,500	17,500	
4191		PLANNING AND ZONING				8,448	5,348.21	8,072		
	4191.1	Planning Board Postage				200	162.80	100	100	offset by revenues
	4191.2	Planning Board Advertisement				300	0.00	400	400	offset by revenues
	4191.3	Planning Board Mileage				25	0.00	25	25	
	4191.4	Recording Fees				350	185.41	425	425	offset by revenues
	4192.41	Application Fees				100	0.00	100	100	offset by revenues
	4191.5	Planning Board Dues				1	0.00	1	1	
	4191.6	Planning Board Supplies				50	0.00	100	100	
	4191.7	Planning Board Seminars/Training				1	0.00	1	1	
	4191.8	Planning Board Legal				6,000	5,000.00	5,000	5,000	
	4191.81	Planning Board Master Plan & Zoning				1	0.00	500	500	
	4191.9	Zoning Board Legal				1,000	0.00	1,000	1,000	
	4191.10	Zoning Board Seminars				200	0.00	200	200	
	4191.11	Zoning Postage				100	0.00	100	100	offset by revenues
	4191.12	Zoning Mileage				100	0.00	10	10	
	4191.13	Advertising/notices				100	0.00	100	100	offset by revenues
	4191.14	Zoning Supplies				10	0.00	10	10	

4194		GENERAL GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS			24,600	21,919.77	26,100
	4194.1	Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance:			3,000	2,111.76	3,000
	4194.2	Town Hall Repairs & Maintenance: Wages			1,800	1,705.83	1,800
	4194.3	Town Garage Repairs & Maintenance			4,250	1,746.69	4,250
	4194.4	Transfer Station Repairs & Maintenance			1,500	5,310.49	1,500
	4194.5	Cleaning Supplies			200	206.38	200
	4194.6	General Supplies			500	503.18	500
	4194.7	Contracted Services(Security Monitoring/Elevator)			2,850	2,571.03	2,850
	4194.8	Town House Electric			3,250	2,322.52	4,000
	4194.9	Town House Heat			7,250	5,441.89	8,000
4195		CEMETERIES			6,182	3,910.00	8,182
	4195.1	Cemetery Repairs & Maintenance			2,500	2,010.00	4,500
	4195.2	Salaries/Lawn Care			2,000	1,840.00	2,000
	4195.3	Supplies			100	60.00	100
	4195.4	Mileage			1	0.00	1
	4195.5	Fuel			1	0.00	1
	4195.6	Licensing			80	0.00	80
	4195.7	Site Work-River Road Cemetery			1,500	0.00	1,500
4196		GENERAL INSURANCE			22,750	20,239.00	20,239
	4196.1	Property & Liability Insurance			17,783	15,751.00	15,751
	4196.2	Workers' Compensation			4,467	3,988.00	3,988
	4196.3	Unemployment Compensation			500	500.00	500
4197		ADVERTISING & REGIONAL			4,600	4,538.00	4,450
	4197.1	Advertising			600	572.00	500
	4197.2	Dues			2,000	1,966.00	1,950
	4197.3	GHS			1,000	1,000.00	1,000
	4197.4	NLRA			1,000	1,000.00	1,000
4199		OTHER GENERAL GOVERNMENT			7,192	6,343.25	7,292
	4199.1	Exigent/Hazardous Circumstances			1	0.00	1
	4199.2	Forestry			400	280.00	500
	4199.3	Tax Mapping			1,791	1,791.00	1,791
	4199.4 *	Grants/Engineering			5,000	4,272.25	5,000
							off set by revenues

		2 - PUBLIC SAFETY					299,047	174,351.89	195,652
4210		POLICE					79,019	62,510.80	79,439
	4210.1	Police Chief Wages					50,435	40,509.64	48,935
	4210.2	Police Officer Wages (FT)					1	0.00	1
	4210.3	Police Officer Wages (PT)					1	0.00	1
	4210.4	Telephone/Communications					3,000	3,154.50	3,000
	4210.5	Dues & Subscriptions					700	650.00	700
	4210.6	Other-Equipment Repairs/Maint					1,500	615.50	1,500
	4210.7	Office Supplies					1,000	963.08	1,000
	4210.8	NH Special Ops Unit					1	0.00	1
	4210.9	Dispatch Service					3,800	4,541.00	6,000
	4210.10	Prosecutor					5,280	5,280.00	5,500
	4210.11	Vehicle Maintenance					2,500	2,637.43	1,500
	4210.12	Cruiser Equipment					1,500	1,500	1,500
	4210.13	Uniforms					1,000	95.82	1,000
	4210.14	Books/Periodicals					100	112.00	100
	4210.15	Equipment (guns/ammo/taser etc.)					1,000	1,217.63	1,000
	4210.16	Mileage					400	0.00	400
	4210.17	Postage					50	0.00	50
	4210.18	Gasoline for Cruiser					3,000	2,084.20	3,000
	4210.19	Advertising					250	0.00	250
	4210.20	Training					2,000	650.00	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				218,750	110,966.09	114,935	
	4220.1	Stipend				1	0.00	1	
	4220.2	Communications/Training				1	0.00	1	
	4220.3	Equipment				1500	0.00	1500	
	4220.4	Contracted Services - Hebron				125,000	80,500.00	82,000	
	4220.5	Contracted Services - Rumney				72,735	14,035.30	15,000 lw/ one time pmt	
	4220.6	Lakes Region Mutual Aid				19,511	16,430.79	16,431	
	4220.7	Dues				1	0.00	1	
	4220.8	Mileage				1	0.00	1	
4290		EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT				1,278	875.00	1,278	
	4290.1	Supplies				200	0.00	200	
	4290.2	Workshops/training				1	0.00	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	875.00	875	

	3 - HIGHWAYS AND STREETS			offset by Highway Block Grant	
4311	ADMINISTRATION	224,011	204,702.23	211,193	
	4311.1 Road Agent Wages	54,500	45,692.56	51,687	
	4311.2 Assistants Wages	30,000	34,716.75	30,000	
	4311.3 Telephone/Internet	2,000	1,778.62	2,000	
	4311.4 Training & CDL Testing	500	120.00	500	
	4311.5 Electricity	1,540	1,117.58	1,540	
	4311.6 Heating Fuel	3,600	1,900.41	3,600	
	4311.7 Mileage	500	514.56	500	
	4311.8 Membership/Dues	30	30.00	25	
	4311.9 Supplies	500	606.06	500	
4312	HIGHWAYS & STREETS	129,301	116,788.37	119,301	
	4312.2 Vehicles-Equipment Maintenance & Repairs	17,500	18,880.41	17,500	
	4312.3 Contracted Services/Equipment Rentals	16,000	17,623.46	16,000	
	4312.4 Material	7,500	6,942.58	7,500	
	4312.5 Signs	500	361.00	500	
	4312.6 Uniforms	500	478.00	500	
	4312.7 Tools & Equipment Purchases	2,000	1,363.57	2,000	
	4312.8 Gas	4,000	2,205.91	4,000	
	4312.9 Diesel	6,500	5,899.07	6,500	
	4312.10 Salt, Sand, Deicer	32,500	33,529.34	32,500	
	4312.11 Hydrants	1	0.00	1	
	4312.12 Culverts	2,000	1,416.50	2,000	
	4312.13 Safety	800	818.44	800	
	4312.14 Tree Maintenance	4,500	4,000.00	4,500	
	4312.15 Groton Roads Repair and Maintenance	35,000	23,270.09	25,000	
4316	STREET LIGHTING	1,540	1,437.32	1,540	
	4316.1 Utility Charges	1,540	1,437.32	1,540	

4321		4 - SANITATION										
		MONITORING										
	4321.1	Landfill Monitoring										
	4321.2	Landfill Repairs	13,490					13,450.00				12,800
4324		SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL										
	4324.1	Wages	112,850					108,981.91				109,650
	4324.2	Stipend	27,500					24,629.70				26,000
	4324.3	Telephone/Internet	4,000					4,000.00				4,000
	4324.4	Training & Certification	1,600					1,778.62				650
	4324.5	Electricity	250					150.00				250
	4324.6	Propane	1,300					985.59				1,500
	4324.7	Supplies	600					357.25				800
	4324.8	Compactor Related Expenses	500					389.10				450
	4324.9	Mileage	300					218.42				300
	4324.10	Dues	1,050					1,038.80				1,050
	4324.11	Portable Toilet	2,400					2,667.50				2,100
	4324.12	Transportation Costs/Solid Waste	66,000					68,949.09				66,000
	4324.13	Recycle Costs	2,000					1,200.00				2,000
	4324.14	Uniforms	200					177.50				200
	4324.15	Safety	150					0.00				150
	4324.16	Tire disposal	1,000					0.00				1,000
	4324.17	Other (brush hog rental, etc.)	500					0.00				200
	4324.18	Backhoe Maintenance	3,000					2,440.34				2,500
		6 - HEALTH										
4411		ADMINISTRATION										
	4411.1	Stipend	2,803					1,295.16				2,803
	4411.2	Supplies/Postage	2,500					1,250.16				2,500
	4411.3	Mileage	1					0.00				1
	4411.4	Training	1					0.00				1
	4411.5	Dues	150					0.00				150
	4411.6	Water Testing	50					45.00				50
	4411.7	Legal	100					0.00				100
	4411.7	Legal	1					0.00				1
4415		HEALTH AGENCIES AND HOSPITALS										
	4415.1	Mid-State Health	6,996					6,196.00				6,196
	4415.2	Perrin-Baker Home Health Agency	200					200				200
	4415.3	Task Force / Domestic Violence	2,896					2,896				2,896
	4415.4	Lakes Regional Mental Health Center	1,100					550				550
	4415.5	CASA	1,050					800				800
	4415.6	Transport Central	250					250				250
	4415.7	CADY	1,000					1,000				1,000

			7 - WELFARE						
4441			Administration			4,951	3,565.34	4,951	
			Dues			0	0.00	0	
4442	4441.1		DIRECT ASSISTANCE			0	0.00	0	
	4442.1		Direct Assistance			1	0.00	1	
4444			INTERGOVERNMENTAL WELFARE PAYMENTS			1950	1,950.00	1950	
	4444.1		Tri-County Community Action			1200	1,200.00	1200	
	4444.2		Grafton County Senior Citizens			750	750.00	750	
4445			VENDOR PAYMENTS			3000	1,615.34	3000	
	4445.1		Other Vendor Payments			3000	1,615.34	3000	
			8 - CULTURE AND RECREATION			12,887	11,163.01	12,721	
4520			PARKS & RECREATION			10690	9,985.73	10524	
	4520.1		Maintenance of Parks			500	200.15	500	
	4520.2		Maintenance of Recreational Facilities			50	0.00	50	
	4520.3		Porta Potty			1,600	1,435.00	1,600	
	4520.4		Advertising			80	0.00	80	
	4520.45		Electricity			420	416.59	360	
	4520.5		Tappily Thompson Community Center			3,640	3,534.00	3,534	
	4520.6		Old Home Day			4,400	4,399.99	4,400	
4550			LIBRARY			2	0.00	2	
	4550.1		Services			1	0.00	1	
	4550.2		Library/Other			1	0.00	1	
4583			PATRIOTIC PURPOSES			100	94.87	100	
	4583.1		Patriotic			100	94.87	100	
4611			CONSERVATION			2,095	1,082.41	2,095	
	4611.1		Conservation			300	0.00	300	
	4611.2		Workshops/seminars/dues			275	250.00	275	
	4611.3		Postage/supplies			200	0.00	200	
	4611.4		Mileage			70	0.00	70	
	4611.5		Other/Fishing Derby			1,000	652.41	1,000	
	4611.6		Water Testing			250	180.00	250	
			13 - CAPITAL OUTLAY			189,529	213,125.59	227,454	
4902	4902		MACHINERY, VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT			0	55,257.57	58,350	
4903	4903		BUILDINGS			0	8,778.91	9,000	
4909	4909		IMPROVEMENTS OTHER THAN BUILDINGS			189,529	149,089.11	160,104	
			14 - INTERFUND TRANSFERS OUT			132,500	166,831	166,831	
4915	4915		TRANSFERS TO THE CAPITAL RESERVE FUND			132,500	166,831	166,831	
4916	4916		TRANSFERS TO EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS			0	0.00	0	



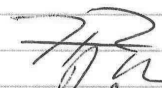

Proposed Budget
Groton

For the period beginning January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2025
Form Due Date: **20 Days after the Annual Meeting**

This form was posted with the warrant on: 2/12/25

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	Select Board Chair	
Tony Albert	Selectman	
Ronald Madan	Selectman	Ron Madan

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
<https://www.revenue.nh.gov/about-dra/municipal-and-property-division/municipal-bureau>



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for	Appropriations	Proposed Appropriations for period	
			period ending	for period ending	ending	
			12/31/2024	12/31/2024	12/31/2025	
					(Recommended) (Not Recommended)	
General Government						
4130	Executive	02	\$84,783	\$86,990	\$89,294	\$0
4140	Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics	02	\$69,435	\$69,990	\$74,730	\$0
4150	Financial Administration	02	\$24,191	\$25,575	\$25,125	\$0
4152	Property Assessment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4153	Legal Expense	02	\$3,852	\$13,000	\$13,000	\$0
4155	Personnel Administration	02	\$93,989	\$94,618	\$99,000	\$0
4191	Planning and Zoning	02	\$5,348	\$8,072	\$8,448	\$0
4194	General Government Buildings	02	\$21,920	\$26,100	\$24,600	\$0
4195	Cemeteries	02	\$3,910	\$8,182	\$6,182	\$0
4196	Insurance Not Otherwise Allocated	02	\$20,239	\$20,239	\$22,750	\$0
4197	Advertising and Regional Associations	02	\$4,538	\$4,450	\$4,600	\$0
4198	Contingency		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4199	Other General Government	02	\$6,343	\$7,292	\$7,192	\$0
General Government Subtotal			\$338,548	\$364,508	\$374,921	\$0
Public Safety						
4210	Police	02	\$62,511	\$79,439	\$79,019	\$0
4215	Ambulances		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4220	Fire	02	\$110,966	\$114,935	\$218,750	\$0
4240	Building Inspection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4290	Emergency Management	02	\$875	\$1,278	\$1,278	\$0
4299	Other Public Safety		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Public Safety Subtotal			\$174,352	\$195,652	\$299,047	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center						
4301	Airport Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4302	Airport Operations		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4309	Other Airport		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Airport/Aviation Center Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets						
4311	Highway Administration	02	\$86,477	\$90,352	\$93,170	\$0
4312	Highways and Streets	02	\$116,788	\$119,301	\$129,301	\$0
4313	Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4316	Street Lighting	02	\$1,437	\$1,540	\$1,540	\$0
4319	Other Highway, Streets, and Bridges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Highways and Streets Subtotal			\$204,702	\$211,193	\$224,011	\$0



2025
MS-636

Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for	Appropriations	Proposed Appropriations for period	
			period ending	for period ending	ending 12/31/2025	
			12/31/2024	12/31/2024	(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
Sanitation						
4321	Sanitation Administration	02	\$13,450	\$12,800	\$14,190	\$0
4323	Solid Waste Collection		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4324	Solid Waste Disposal	02	\$108,982	\$109,650	\$112,850	\$0
4325	Solid Waste Facilities Clean-Up		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4326	Sewage Collection and Disposal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4329	Other Sanitation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Sanitation Subtotal		\$122,432	\$122,450	\$127,040	\$0
Water Distribution and Treatment						
4331	Water Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4332	Water Services		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4335	Water Treatment		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4338	Water Conservation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4339	Other Water		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Water Distribution and Treatment Subtotal		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Electric						
4351	Electric Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4352	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	Health Administration	02	\$1,295	\$2,803	\$2,803	\$0
4414	Pest Control		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4415	Health Agencies and Hospitals	02	\$6,196	\$6,196	\$6,996	\$0
4419	Other Health		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	Health Subtotal		\$7,491	\$8,999	\$9,799	\$0
Welfare						
4441	Welfare Administration	02	\$0	\$1	\$1	\$0
4442	Direct Assistance		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4444	Intergovernmental Welfare Payments	02	\$1,950	\$1,950	\$1,950	\$0
4445	Vendor Payments		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4449	Other Welfare	02	\$1,615	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$0
	Welfare Subtotal		\$3,565	\$4,951	\$4,951	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for	Appropriations	Proposed Appropriations for period	
			period ending 12/31/2024	for period ending 12/31/2024	ending 12/31/2025	(Recommended) (Not Recommended)
Culture and Recreation						
4520	Parks and Recreation	02	\$9,986	\$10,524	\$10,690	\$0
4550	Library	02	\$0	\$2	\$2	\$0
4583	Patriotic Purposes	02	\$95	\$100	\$100	\$0
4589	Other Culture and Recreation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Culture and Recreation Subtotal			\$10,081	\$10,626	\$10,792	\$0
Conservation and Development						
4611	Conservation Administration	02	\$1,082	\$2,095	\$2,095	\$0
4612	Purchase of Natural Resources		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4619	Other Conservation		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4631	Redevelopment and Housing Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4632	Other Redevelopment and Housing		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4651	Economic Development Administration		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4652	Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4659	Other Economic Development		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Conservation and Development Subtotal			\$1,082	\$2,095	\$2,095	\$0
Debt Service						
4711	Principal - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4721	Interest - Long Term Bonds, Notes, and Other Debt		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4723	Interest on Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4790	Other Debt Service Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Debt Service Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay						
4901	Land		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4902	Machinery, Vehicles, and Equipment		\$55,258	\$58,350	\$0	\$0
4903	Buildings		\$8,779	\$9,000	\$0	\$0
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings		\$148,985	\$200,000	\$0	\$0
Capital Outlay Subtotal			\$213,022	\$267,350	\$0	\$0



Appropriations

Account	Purpose	Article	Expenditures for period ending 12/31/2024	Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2024	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025	
					(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
Operating Transfers Out						
4911	To Revolving Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4912	To Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4913	To Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914A	To Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914E	To Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914O	To Other Proprietary Fund		\$104	\$104	\$0	\$0
4914S	To Sewer Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
4914W	To Water Proprietary Fund		\$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		\$104	\$104	\$0	\$0
Total Operating Budget Appropriations					\$1,052,656	\$0



Special Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4619	Other Conservation	06	\$529	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Conservation Fund- Timber Tax 3%</i>		
4915	To Capital Reserve Funds	04	\$132,500	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Add to previously established CRFs</i>		
Total Proposed Special Articles			\$133,029	\$0



Individual Warrant Articles

Account	Purpose	Article	Proposed Appropriations for period ending 12/31/2025	
			(Recommended)	(Not Recommended)
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	03	\$500,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Hazard Mitigation Grant Match</i>		
4909	Improvements Other than Buildings	05	\$139,000	\$0
		<i>Purpose: Chip Sealing</i>		
Total Proposed Individual Articles			\$639,000	\$0



Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2024	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2024	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025
Taxes					
3120	Land Use Change Taxes for General Fund	02	\$15,500	\$4,000	\$4,000
3180	Resident Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3185	Yield Taxes	02	\$17,616	\$12,500	\$12,500
3186	Payment in Lieu of Taxes	02	\$688,486	\$688,486	\$688,486
3187	Excavation Tax		\$0	\$0	\$0
3189	Other Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
3190	Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	02	\$11,334	\$12,000	\$12,000
Taxes Subtotal			\$732,936	\$716,986	\$716,986
Licenses, Permits, and Fees					
3210	Business Licenses and Permits	02	\$95	\$140	\$140
3220	Motor Vehicle Permit Fees	02	\$192,705	\$175,000	\$175,000
3230	Building Permits	02	\$565	\$400	\$400
3290	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	02	\$6,166	\$4,000	\$4,000
Licenses, Permits, and Fees Subtotal			\$199,531	\$179,540	\$179,540
From Federal Government					
3311	Housing and Urban Development		\$4,850	\$0	\$0
3312	Environmental Protection		\$0	\$0	\$0
3313	Federal Emergency		\$0	\$0	\$0
3314	Federal Drug Enforcement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3319	Other Federal Grants and Reimbursements	03	\$0	\$0	\$450,000
From Federal Government Subtotal			\$4,850	\$0	\$450,000
State Sources					
3351	Shared Revenues - Block Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3352	Meals and Rooms Tax Distribution	02	\$57,341	\$54,888	\$54,888
3353	Highway Block Grant	02	\$26,257	\$26,500	\$26,500
3354	Water Pollution Grant		\$0	\$0	\$0
3355	Housing and Community Development		\$0	\$0	\$0
3356	State and Federal Forest Land Reimbursement	02	\$212	\$212	\$212
3357	Flood Control Reimbursement		\$0	\$0	\$0
3359	Railroad Tax Distribution		\$0	\$0	\$0
3360	Water Filtration Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3361	Landfill Closure Grants		\$0	\$0	\$0
3369	Other Intergovernmental Revenue from State of NH		\$0	\$0	\$0
3379	Intergovernmental Revenues - Other		\$40,000	\$290,000	\$0
State Sources Subtotal			\$123,810	\$371,600	\$81,600



Revenues

Account	Source	Article	Actual Revenues for period ending 12/31/2024	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2024	Estimated Revenues for period ending 12/31/2025
Charges for Services					
3401	Income from Departments		\$75	\$0	\$0
3402	Water Supply System Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3403	Sewer User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3404	Garbage-Refuse Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3405	Electric User Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
3406	Airport Fees		\$0	\$0	\$0
3409	Other Charges		\$0	\$0	\$0
Charges for Services Subtotal			\$75	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous Revenues					
3500	Special Assessments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3501	Sale of Municipal Property		\$11,500	\$11,500	\$0
3502	Interest on Investments		\$0	\$0	\$0
3503	Rents of Property		\$0	\$0	\$0
3504	Fines and Forfeits		\$0	\$0	\$0
3506	Insurance Dividends and Reimbursements		\$0	\$0	\$0
3508	Contributions and Donations		\$0	\$0	\$0
3509	Revenue from Misc Sources Not Otherwise Classified		\$0	\$0	\$0
Miscellaneous Revenues Subtotal			\$11,500	\$11,500	\$0
Interfund Operating Transfers In					
3911	From Revolving Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3912	From Special Revenue Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3913	From Capital Projects Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914A	From Airport Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914E	From Electric Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914O	From Other Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914S	From Sewer Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3914W	From Water Proprietary Fund		\$0	\$0	\$0
3915	From Capital Reserve Funds		\$251,548	\$243,500	\$0
3916	From Trust and Fiduciary Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
3917	From Conservation Funds		\$0	\$0	\$0
Interfund Operating Transfers In Subtotal			\$251,548	\$243,500	\$0
Other Financing Sources					
3934	Proceeds from Long-Term Notes/Bonds/Other Sources		\$0	\$0	\$0
9998	Amount Voted from Fund Balance	06	\$0	\$0	\$529
9999	Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes		\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Financing Sources Subtotal			\$0	\$0	\$529
Total Estimated Revenues and Credits			\$1,324,250	\$1,523,126	\$1,428,655



Budget Summary

Item	Period ending 12/31/2025
Operating Budget Appropriations	\$1,052,656
Special Warrant Articles	\$133,029
Individual Warrant Articles	\$639,000
Total Appropriations	\$1,824,685
Less Amount of Estimated Revenues & Credits	\$1,428,655
Estimated Amount of Taxes to be Raised	\$396,030

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)



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue Administration

MS-61

Debits							
Uncollected Taxes Beginning of Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	Year:	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)			
			2023	Year:	2022	Year:	2021-
Property Taxes	3110		\$125,875.71		\$2.17		
Resident Taxes	3180						
Land Use Change Taxes	3120		\$4,000.00				
Yield Taxes	3185						
Excavation Tax	3187						
Other Taxes	3189						
Property Tax Credit Balance		(\$371.18)					
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance							

Taxes Committed This Year	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	2023	Prior Levies	
Property Taxes	3110	\$1,029,870.00			
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120	\$11,500.00			
Yield Taxes	3185	\$21,693.87			
Excavation Tax	3187	\$101.36			
Other Taxes	3189				

Overpayment Refunds	Account	Levy for Year of this Report	2023	2022	2021-
Property Taxes	3110				
Resident Taxes	3180				
Land Use Change Taxes	3120				
Yield Taxes	3185				
Excavation Tax	3187				
Interest and Penalties on Delinquent Taxes	3190	\$628.97	\$5,093.33	\$0.18	
Interest and Penalties on Resident Taxes	3190				

Total Debits	\$1,063,423.02	\$134,969.04	\$2.35	\$0.00
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Credits

Remitted to Treasurer	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2023	2022	2021-
Property Taxes	\$544,740.57	\$91,006.40	\$2.17	
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes	\$11,500.00	\$4,000.00		
Yield Taxes	\$17,615.92	\$3,497.48	\$0.18	
Interest (Include Lien Conversion)	\$578.68	\$1,595.83		
Penalties	\$50.29			
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
Conversion to Lien (Principal Only)		\$34,859.31		
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>				
Discounts Allowed				

Abatements Made	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2023	2022	2021-
Property Taxes	\$59.00	\$10.00		
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes	\$2,478.57			
Excavation Tax				
Other Taxes				
<input style="width: 100%;" type="text"/>				
Current Levy Deeded				



New Hampshire
 Department of
 Revenue Administration

MS-61

Uncollected Taxes - End of Year # 1080	Levy for Year of this Report	Prior Levies		
		2023	2022	2021-
Property Taxes	\$485,098.52			
Resident Taxes				
Land Use Change Taxes				
Yield Taxes	\$1,599.38			
Excavation Tax	\$101.36			
Other Taxes				
Property Tax Credit Balance				
Other Tax or Charges Credit Balance	(\$399.27)			
Total Credits	\$1,063,423.02	\$134,969.02	\$2.35	\$0.00

For DRA Use Only	
Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	\$486,399.99
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 - All Years)	\$35,643.89



Lien Summary

Summary of Debits

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies (Please Specify Years)		
		Year: 2023	Year: 2022	Year: 2021-
Unredeemed Liens Balance - Beginning of Year			\$24,376.61	\$18,398.49
Liens Executed During Fiscal Year		\$37,700.74		
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution)		\$544.50	\$1,560.84	
				\$6,303.58
Total Debits	\$0.00	\$38,245.24	\$25,937.45	\$24,702.07

Summary of Credits

	Last Year's Levy	Prior Levies		
		2023	2022	2021-
Redemptions		\$14,209.66	\$12,223.80	\$18,398.49
Interest & Costs Collected (After Lien Execution) #3190		\$544.50	\$2,560.84	\$6,303.58
Abatements of Unredeemed Liens				
Liens Deeded to Municipality				
Unredeemed Liens Balance - End of Year #1110		\$23,491.08	\$12,152.81	
Total Credits	\$0.00	\$38,245.24	\$26,937.45	\$24,702.07

For DRA Use Only

Total Uncollected Taxes (Account #1080 - All Years)	\$486,399.99
Total Unredeemed Liens (Account #1110 -All Years)	\$35,643.89



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	01-02-2025

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.

 *Ruth Millett, Town Clerk - Tax Collector*
 Preparer's Signature and Title

Town Clerk Report

JANUARY 1, 2024 – DECEMBER 31, 2024

Account	Amount
Motor Vehicle Permits	\$189,490.85
Title Fees	\$310.00
Municipal Agent Fees	\$2,902.50
Building Permit Fees (includes burner inspections)	\$565.00
Candidate Fees	\$5.00
State Filing Fee	\$16.00
Copy Fees	\$78.00
Dog Licenses Town & State	\$601.50
E-Reg. Fees	\$56.90
Junkyard Permits	\$95.00
Recycle Income	\$3046.43
Transfer Station Fees (includes TFS stickers)	\$4151.00
Vital Records Town & State	\$470.00
CU Recording Fees	\$166.68
NSF Check Reimbursement	\$945.85
<i>State Wash Account *</i>	\$59,915.77
Total	\$262,816.48

*State Wash Account are monies that are transferred from the Town of Groton to the State of NH DMV. This began in October 2020 with the beginning of the “One Check” status with the State DOS. These monies are deposited into the Town of Groton and then an ACH transfer is made to the State of NH for the State portion of the auto registrations. These transfers are done daily at end of day.

Ruth Millett, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

Treasurer's Report

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2024	\$	278,389.96
Total Deposits	\$	1,780,745.18
Total Orders Paid	\$	(2,457,562.34)
Total Bank Interest	\$	22.55
Deposits:		
Tax Collector	\$	727,425.54
Town Clerk	\$	262,816.18
Treasurer:		
Forest Land Reimbursement	\$	211.60
Groton Wind Pilot	\$	688,486.32
Highway Block Grants	\$	26,257.42
Refund	\$	39.00
Grants	\$	4,850.49
Rooms and Meals Revenue	\$	57,341.08
Cemetery Fee	\$	75.00
Property Sales, Map 2 Lot 123	\$	11,500.00
UCC Quarterly Allocation	\$	120.00
Voter Checklist	\$	400.00
OHD grant	\$	1,200.00
Total Treasurer Deposits	\$	790,480.91
Adjustments:		
Returned Checks	\$	(3,393.05)
Returned Checks Fees	\$	(36.00)
Refunds	\$	117.37
ACH State Motor Vehicle Pmts	\$	(59,942.43)
Public Works CRF	\$	226,530.00
Electronic/software CRF	\$	6,114.40
Town House CRF Redemption	\$	18,904.00
Capital Reserve Fund Transfer per warrant	\$	(166,831.00)
Voided Checks	\$	228.06
PDIP Redemption	\$	675,000.00
Credit Card Transaction Error	\$	132.70
Posting error	\$	0.30
Re-issue of voided check	\$	(105.64)
Total Adjustments	\$	696,718.71
Ending Balance on December 31, 2024		
	\$	<u>298,291.51</u>
Outstanding Checks	\$	103,354.45
Ending Balance MVSB	\$	401,645.96

Public Deposit Investment Pool

Beginning Balance January 1, 2024	\$ 948,596.38
Total Contributions	\$ -
Total Withdrawals	\$ (675,000.00)
Interest Earned	\$ 41,646.93
Ending Balance on December 31, 2024	<u>\$ 315,243.31</u>

Groton Conservation Fund

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2024		\$ 10,396.88
Total Deposits	3% 2023 Timber and LUCT Tax, 2024 Timber Tax	\$ 910.97
Total Checks		\$ -
Total Bank Interest		\$ 1.12
Ending Balance on December 31, 2024		<u>\$ 11,308.97</u>

On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank

Parks and Recreation Revolving Fund

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2024	\$ 2,988.69
Total Deposits	\$ -
Total Checks	\$ -
Total Bank Interest	\$ 0.30
Ending Balance on December 31, 2024	<u>\$ 2,988.99</u>

On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank

Police Department Revolving Fund

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2024		\$	1,801.12
Total Deposits	Pistol Permit	\$	20.00
Total Checks		\$	-
Total Bank Interest		\$	0.18
Ending Balance on December 31, 2024		\$	<u>1,821.30</u>
On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank			

Groton Yield Tax Account

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2024		\$	170.80
Total Deposits		\$	-
Total Checks		\$	-
Total Bank Interest		\$	0.17
Ending Balance on December 31, 2024		\$	<u>170.97</u>
On Hand In Meredith Village Savings Bank			

Old Home Day Fund

Beginning Balance on January 1, 2024		\$	3,379.04
Total Deposits	Proceeds from OHD	\$	288.00
Total Checks		\$	-
Total Bank Interest		\$	0.35
Ending Balance on December 31, 2024		\$	<u>3,667.39</u>
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 July 2025.

2024 MS-5

The 2024 MS-5 will be compiled by April 1, 2025. The Final Report should be ready for the public in April or May 2025. The completed document will be posted on the Town's website, www.grotonnh.org and at the Town office.



For reporting year Jan 1, 2024 through Dec 31, 2024.

Trustees

Name	Position	Term Expires
Michele Lacroix	Trustee	3/31/2026
Gina Rescigno	Trustee	3/31/2027

Ledger Summary

Number of Fund Records	16
Ledger End of Year Balance	\$404,148.65

<p><i>This ledger was reviewed for accuracy and submitted electronically under penalty of perjury on January 3, 2025 by Michele Lacroix on behalf of the Trustees of Trust Funds of Groton.</i></p>



Taxpayer Funds: Capital Reserve (RSA 34 / RSA 35) Funds

Name	Purpose						Creation Date	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance
ASSESSMENT/REVALUATION										
Capital Reserve (Other)						2012	18,908.05	8,695.87	27,603.92	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	16,800.00	7,500.00	0.00	0.00	24,300.00		2,108.05	1,195.87	3,303.92	
							27,603.92	(27,603.92)		0.00
ATWELL BRIDGE										
Capital Reserve (Other)						2006	8,839.43	(8,839.43)	0.00	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	3,010.00	19,331.00	0.00	28,509.47	(6,168.47)		5,829.43	339.04	6,168.47	
							0.00	0.00		0.00
CONSERVATION										
Capital Reserve (Other)						2007	118.28	6.30	124.58	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	100.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00		18.28	6.30	24.58	
							124.58	(124.58)		0.00
DISASTER RELIEF										
Capital Reserve (Other)						2004	136,936.36	58,553.90	195,490.26	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	124,389.00	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	174,389.00		12,547.36	8,553.90	21,101.26	
							195,490.26	(195,490.26)		0.00
DUMP SITE										
Capital Reserve (Other)						1989	6,941.93	370.96	7,312.89	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	1,382.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,382.00		5,559.93	370.96	5,930.89	
							7,312.89	(7,312.89)		0.00
ELECTRONIC EQUIP/SOFTWARE										
Capital Reserve (Other)						2018	9,007.80	(5,724.24)	3,283.56	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	8,258.30	0.00	0.00	6,114.40	2,143.90		749.50	390.16	1,139.66	
							3,283.56	(3,283.56)		0.00
HEAVY EQUIPMENT										
Capital Reserve (Other)						2006	11,674.92	10,871.15	22,546.07	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	10,000.00	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	20,000.00		1,674.92	871.15	2,546.07	
							22,546.07	(22,546.07)		0.00
POLICE CRUISER										
Police/Fire						1991	27,064.58	11,693.52	38,758.10	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	25,655.30	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	35,655.30		1,409.28	1,693.52	3,102.80	
							38,758.10	(38,758.10)		0.00
PUBLIC WORKS										
Capital Reserve (Other)						2014	170,952.23	(169,841.26)	1,110.97	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	159,780.98	50,000.00	0.00	226,530.00	(16,749.02)		11,171.25	6,688.74	17,859.99	
							1,110.97	(1,110.97)		0.00
ROAD REPAIR AND ROAD PAVING										
Maintenance and Repair						7/10/2023	15,330.08	819.20	16,149.28	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00		330.08	819.20	1,149.28	
							16,149.28	(16,149.28)		0.00
TOWN BRIDGES										
Capital Reserve (Other)						7/2/2024	0.00	29,120.85	29,120.85	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	0.00	28,509.47	0.00	0.00	28,509.47		0.00	611.38	611.38	
							29,120.85	(29,120.85)		0.00
TOWN HOUSE FUND										
Capital Reserve (Other)						1995	31,678.27	(7,296.67)	24,381.60	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	28,998.85	10,000.00	0.00	18,904.00	20,094.85		2,679.42	1,607.33	4,286.75	
							24,381.60	(24,381.60)		0.00
TRUCK SANDER FUND										
Capital Reserve (Other)						1989	22,020.32	11,423.99	33,444.31	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	20,928.82	10,000.00	0.00	0.00	30,928.82		1,091.50	1,423.99	2,515.49	
							33,444.31	(33,444.31)		0.00

Taxpayer Funds: Capital Reserve (RSA 34 / RSA 35) Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$399,326.39

Taxpayer Funds: Trust (RSA 31:19-a) Funds

Name	Purpose						Creation Date	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance
GROTON RECREATION FUND										
Parks/Recreation						1995	899.17	48.05	947.22	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	790.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	790.00		109.17	48.05	157.22	
							947.22	(947.22)		0.00

Taxpayer Funds: Trust (RSA 31:19-a) Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$947.22

Cemetery Funds

Name	Purpose						Creation Date	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance
CEMETERY GENERAL MAINTENANCE										
Cemetery Trust (Other)						2011	853.21	45.60	898.81	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	750.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	750.00		103.21	45.60	148.81	
							898.81	(898.81)		0.00
COMMON FUND										
Cemetery Perpetual Care						1963	2,825.25	150.98	2,976.23	
Principal	BOY Balance	Additions	Gains/Losses	Withdrawals	EOY Balance	Income	BOY Balance	Change	EOY Balance	Market
	767.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	767.00		2,058.25	150.98	2,209.23	
							2,976.23	(2,976.23)		0.00

Cemetery Funds Total End of Year Balance: \$3,875.04

Groton
Tax Totals

Tax Warrant: 2024P02 of 2
Number of Parcels: 788

Valuations

Non-Utility Land Value:	51,699,700	
Current Use Credits:	(17,853,291)	
Non-Utility Improvements Value:	67,606,700	
Utility Value:	12,719,760	
Exempt Property Value:	(2,642,300)	
<hr/>		
Valuation Before Exemptions:	111,530,569	*
<hr/>		
Exemptions Applied:	(1,196,100)	*
<hr/>		
Net Valuation:	110,334,469	
Net Non-Utility Valuation:	97,614,709	
Net Utility Valuation:	12,719,760	

* These values include one or more Religious, Charitable, and/or Educational Exemption(s). When comparing these values to the corresponding values on the MS-1 Report, note that on the MS-1 Report Religious, Charitable, and Educational Exemptions are deducted from the Total of Taxable Buildings and thus the Total Valuation Before Exemptions rather than included as a portion of the Total Dollar Amount of Exemptions.

Tax Rates

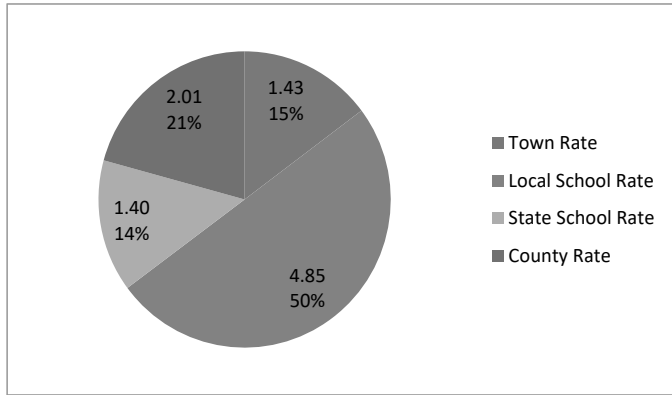
Total: 9.69	Municipal:	1.43	State Education Tax:	1.40
	School:	4.85	County:	2.01

Taxes

Total Property Tax:	1,051,325.00	
Veterans Credits Applied:	(24,787.00)	
<hr/>		
Commitment Amount:	1,026,538.00	
Penalties:	3,273.00	
First Bills Minus Abatements:	521,099.00	
First Bills Exceeding Total Tax Needing Refund:	(0.00)	
Adjusted First Bills:	(521,099.00)	
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Total Tax Bills:	508,712.00	

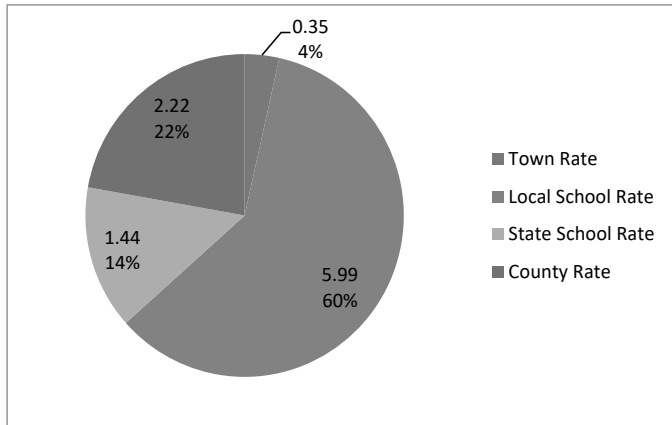
2024 Taxes

Town Rate	1.43
Local School Rate	4.85
State School Rate	1.40
County Rate	2.01
Total	9.69



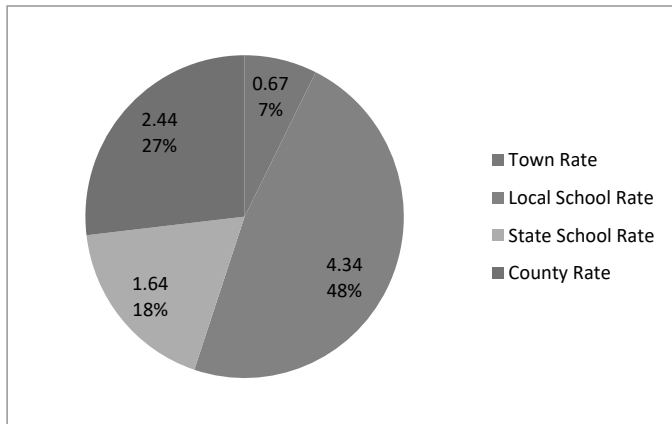
2023 Taxes

Town Rate	0.35
Local School Rate	5.99
State School Rate	1.44
County Rate	2.22
Total	10.00



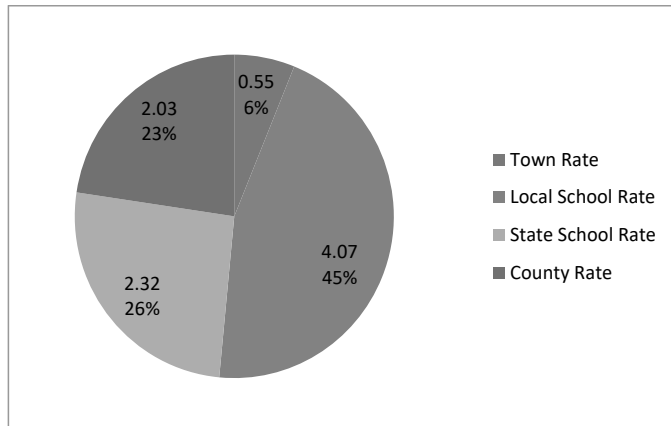
2022 Taxes

Town Rate	0.67
Local School Rate	4.34
State School Rate	1.64
County Rate	2.44
Total	9.09



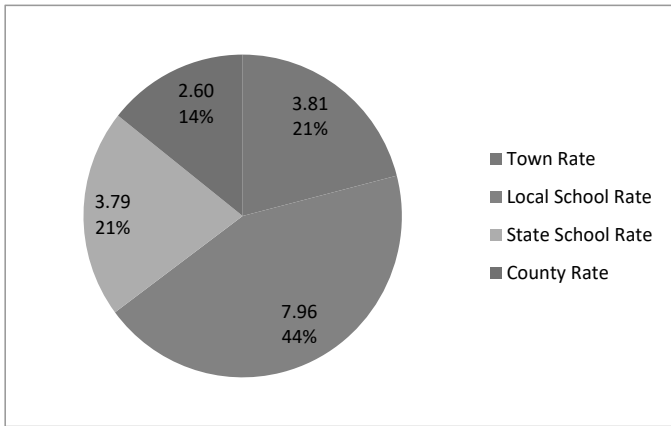
2021 Taxes

Town Rate	0.55
Local School Rate	4.07
State School Rate	2.32
County Rate	2.03
Total	8.97



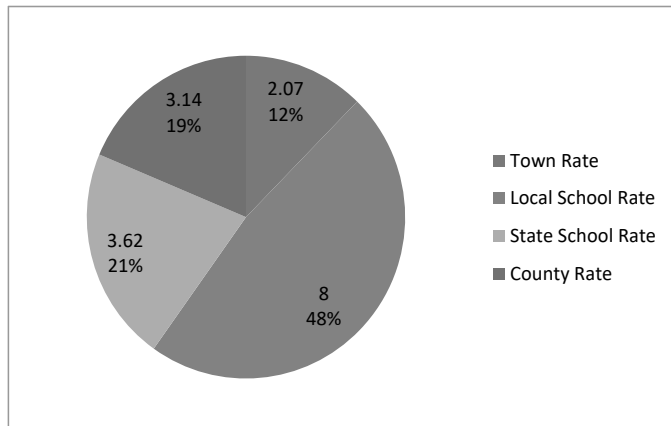
2020 Taxes

Town Rate	3.81
Local School Rate	7.96
State School Rate	3.79
County Rate	2.60
Total	18.16



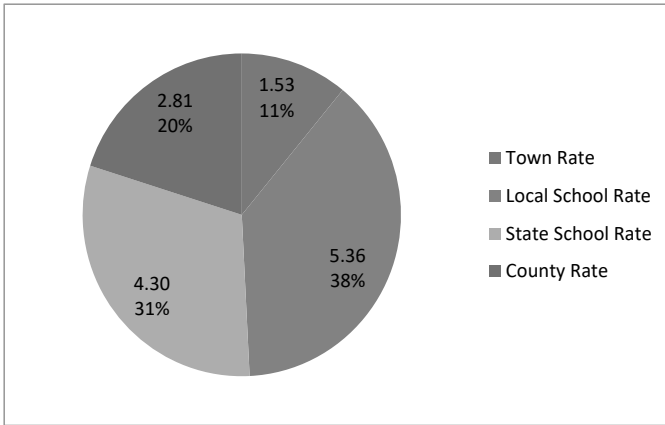
2019 Taxes

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



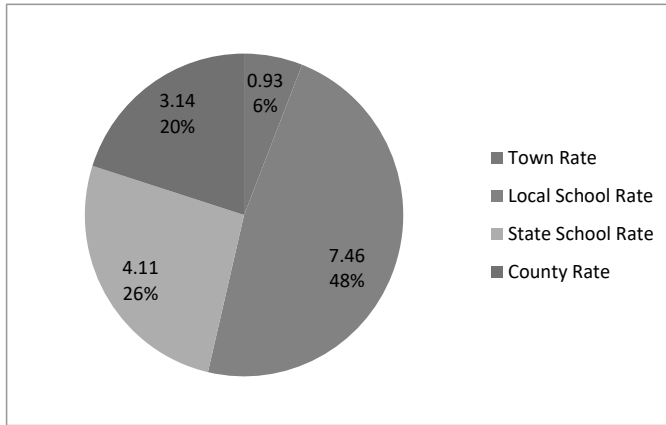
2018 Taxes

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



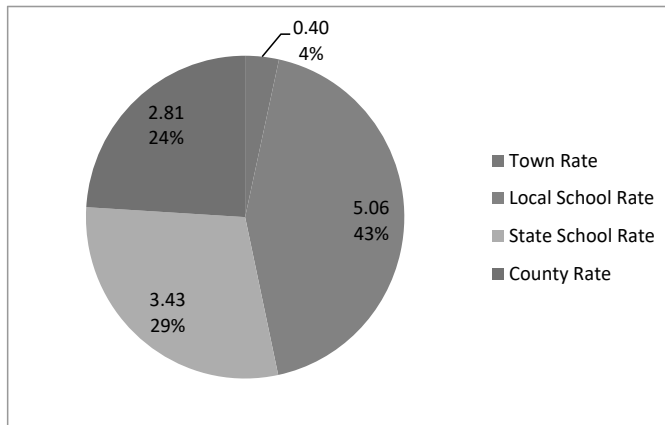
2017 Taxes

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



DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE ADMINISTRATION
Municipal Services Division
2024 Tax Rate Calculation

TOWN/CITY: GROTON

Gross Appropriations	1,354,759
Less: Revenue	1,048,231
Less: Fund Balance to reduce taxes	175,000
Less: Fund Balance voted surplus	19,435
Add: Overlay	20,852
War Service Credits	25,500

Net Town Appropriation	158,445
Special Adjustment	0
Approved Town/City Tax Effort	158,445

TOWN RATE
1.43

SCHOOL PORTION

Net Local School Budget (Gross Approp. - Revenue)	0
Regional School Apportionment	967,420
Less: Adequate Education Grant	(296,883)

State Education Taxes	(136,248)
Approved School(s) Tax Effort	534,289

LOCAL
SCHOOL RATE
4.85

STATE EDUCATION TAX

Equalized Valuation (no utilities) x 2.390	
97,506,309	136,248
Divide by Local Assessed Valuation (no utilities)	
97,506,309	

STATE
SCHOOL RATE
1.40

COUNTY PORTION

Due to County	221,300
Approved County Tax Effort	221,300

COUNTY RATE
2.01

TOTAL RATE
9.69

PROOF OF RATE

	Assessed Value	Tax Rate	Assessment
State Education Tax (no utilities)	97,506,309	1.40	136,248
All Other Taxes	110,226,069	8.29	914,034
			1,050,282

Welfare Assistance Report

In 2024, the Town stayed very close to last year regarding general assistance to Groton residents and authorized \$3,565.00 in Welfare payments.

2024 Expenditures

Grafton County Senior Citizens		\$750.00
Tri-county Community Action		\$1,200.00
Electric Assistance		\$1,020.34
Rental Assistance		\$595.00
Fuel Assistance		\$0.00
Food		\$0.00
Gasoline		\$0.00
Other- Cremation		\$0.00
Total Expenditures		\$3,565.00

Organizations in local communities and local residents reached out to the Town of Groton to see if we had any families in need for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Due to their donations, we were able to assist five families in Groton with gift cards for Thanksgiving and five families for Christmas.

Once again, the Town collected donations of food for our residents. Again, this year we put a table out and many residents continuously have dropped off donations. Please remember to only bring in non-perishable items. The table always had food on it. Residents in need were able to help themselves to whatever they needed. This was a huge help to many families in Town.

Thank you to all who donated and took a part in helping out the families in need in Groton.

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	Notes
2-26	Land	8.5	Old Rumney Road	\$ 26,600	2011 tax deed	Townpeople voted not to sell at 2021 Town Meeting
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	
10-22	Land	50	Old Rumney Road	\$ 56,100	1985 tax deed	Townpeople voted not to sell at 2021 Town Meeting
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	from Green Acre Woodlands	
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 2024

I would like to start by thanking the residents of Groton for their continued support of this police department, I am always humbled by it and extremely grateful.

Here at the police department, we've had a slight increase in some spending due to inventory needs office equipment failures and cruiser up keep. We still remain within our overall budget and are fiscally in good shape.

At this date we have had a decrease in overall call volume with a slight increase in some crime indices, this does not represent a major crime wave as things naturally ebb and flow but it is something we will keep an eye on going forward.

As always please contact me with any questions and concerns or unusual or suspicious activity you may encounter. Information is key, if we don't know about it, we can't address it.

Respectfully submitted,

Your Chief of Police
Michael Bagan

Groton PD call list provided by Plymouth Police Dispatch.

911 HANG UP:1	POLICE INFO:4
ANIMAL COMPL:16	DAILY LOG ITEM:21
ALARM:12	MOTORIST ASST:2
ANIMAL LOST/FOUND:2	MEDICAL EMERGENCY: 36
ASSAULT:1	MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT:4
CIVIL COMPL:2	MOTOR VEHICLE COMPL:2
COMMUNITY PROGRAM:4	MOTOR VEHICLE INQUIRY:2
CRIME AGAINST PERSON:2	MOTOR VEHICLE STOP:8
CRIME AGAINST PROPERTY:1	NCIC/NHIW ENTRY: 2
CIVILIAN RIDE-ALONG:1	NOISE/FIREWORK COMP:3
CRIMINAL RECORD CHECK:3	ON CALL:134
CRUISER MAINTENANCE:3	SERVE PAPERWORK:4
CIVIL STANDBY:2	PARKING ENFORCEMENT:1
DISTURBANCE:4	PRISONER WATCH:1
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE:1	POLICE SERVICE:26
SERVE DVP/STALKING ORD:1	SERVE TRESSPASS NOTICE:1
FIRE DEPT ASSIST:7	SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY:4
FISH&GAME CALL OUT:1	THEFT REPORT:5
FOLLOW-UP:11	
HARASSMENT:4	
HIGHWAY MUNICIPAL SERVICE:4	

Groton Fire Information

This is your yearly reminder to 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.

Jeremy Haney is the current Fire Warden. Thank you, Jeremy!

Don't forget that there are links on the burn permit page of our Town website if you are interested in obtaining a permit online. There is a cost to do so. Permits can also be obtained from the following people:

Jeremy Haney	Warden	254-6037	28 Smith Road
Norm Willey	Deputy Warden	744-5928	777 N. Groton Rd
Bill Oakley	Deputy Warden	236-2269	22 Crosby Lane
Patti Oakley	Agent	998-7757	22 Crosby Lane

Stay safe everyone!



HEBRON FIRE DEPARTMENT
Annual Report for Groton 2024

In 2024, the Hebron Fire Department responded to 218 calls. Of the 218 calls for 2024, 143 were in Hebron, 50 were in Groton, and 25 were mutual aid calls to other neighboring towns.

Out of all 218 calls, 155 were medical emergencies. That is consistent with fire-based ambulances services. Anywhere from 50 to 70 percent are EMS calls.

So much for statistics. The Department came through 2024 in good shape. All of the calls were handled in a professional manner and many people expressed their appreciation for our service.

The bulk of the calls are handled by a small group of very dedicated members. The challenge is that we are getting older, and our days responding to calls will, in the not to distant future, come to an end. So, what are we doing about it? Here is the good news. Many of our long-time members have renewed their certifications and are regularly making calls. This year we have also added two new EMT members, one is newly certified and one already certified. A real gift.

However, we are always looking for new people. We continually need to build the Department as we plan for the future. Part of that plan will be to establish day-time shifts where there will be two people at the station for eight hours Monday through Friday. We are also planning on-call pay for those who are available for unscheduled times.

For response to fire calls, which involve more personnel, we also need to build up the roster with people who are available to respond especially during weekdays. This is going to be a challenge given the demographics of our towns and the fact that most people work away from town.

These are issues that all small towns are facing. What used to be a 1st alarm is now a 3rd alarm not because more equipment is needed, but because more personnel are needed. It is not uncommon for mutual aid apparatus to come with a driver/operator and one firefighter.

The key is, we do not simply need people, we need people who will be dedicated to the job. Since we must be ready 24/7/365, that means being pulled out of bed in the middle of the night, leaving the house just as the dinner was set on the table, all that goes with the job of being on a “call” Fire Department. You never know when the pager is going to go off indicating some emergency.

The Department’s new ambulance arrived in 2024 and has increased our capability, safety and patient comfort. Stop by the station and get the tour.

The next big expense will be to replace all our firefighting breathing apparatus. The reason for this is that our current breathing apparatus has come to the end of its service life. The cost could be as much as \$150,000. We are seeking a grant to fund this project. If we cannot secure a grant we will have to raise the funds through a Hebron Warrant Article for replace of this equipment. We are also anticipating a significant budget increase in the salary line to fund staffing the station during the day and providing better night-time coverage.

If you have ever watched TV shows like *Chicago Fire*, *911*, *Night Shift*, and said to yourself, “I could do that” give us a call.

Let me conclude this report by expressing my deep thanks and appreciation for all those members who respond to and handle the variety of situations that modern Fire Departments are called to. It is their dedication that makes our service to the towns possible.

TONY J. ALBERT
Chief, HFD
Commanding



**Rumney Fire Department
Groton Coverage Report
2024**



Rumney Fire Department continues to provide fire coverage for the eastern portion of the Town of Groton through a contract between the two towns.

2024 was a busy year for our department. Our call level increased from the previous year, and we responded to 143 calls. We have also seen an increase in fire alarms, motor vehicle accidents, and technical rescues. Mutual Aid continues to be an important resource for all of our local departments.

Our department continues to grow, and we have welcomed 5 new members in 2024. Currently we have two members in EMT class, two taking Fire Fighter 1, one member that recently obtained their EMT B certification, and one member that obtained their Paramedic certification.

In May we received our new Engine 1, and retired our 31 year old Engine 3. The new Engine 1 has been a great addition to the Department and should serve the community well for the next 30 years.

For 2024, we responded to 4 calls to Groton. 1 Motor Vehicle Accident, 2 Fire Alarm Activations, and 1 Mutual Aid with Hebron. Our involvement with medical calls is strictly to assist EMS with lifting a patient or a carry-out from the home to an awaiting ambulance. The fire department does not provide medical services.

As the New Year begins, I look forward to continuing the good relationship we have with Groton and look forward to serving both our communities this coming year.

Respectfully,

Evan Hacker
Fire Chief
Rumney Fire Department

Highway Department

For 2024 the Highway Department stayed busy with some FEMA projects, road projects, smaller projects and maintenance work.

The projects completed in 2024:

- Grading of Blanchette Lane, Bailey Hill Road, Edgar Albert Road and North Fletcher Road.
- Chip Sealing took place on North Groton Road from Halls Brook to the MIT parking lot.
- We used the long reach mower and mowing was completed on all roads in Town.
- TLC Services once again completed some tree trimming in Town. We will continue to do this each year as the budget allows.
- Worked with FEMA to get funding for the damages from the December 2022 storm. This work was completed in 2024.

For 2025, we will continue to maintain the roads (with hopefully chip sealing the remainder of North Groton Road), will look for ways to save the Town money and we look forward to the new Town Garage building to be completed. As always, we work hard to keep the roads safe while you are traveling during the winter and all year round.

I would like to thank Fred Brooks. His hard work, loyalty and dedication to the Town is greatly appreciated.

I would also like to thank 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 the Select Board which is John Rescigno, Tony Albert and Ron Madan for their continued support of the Highway Department and our projects.

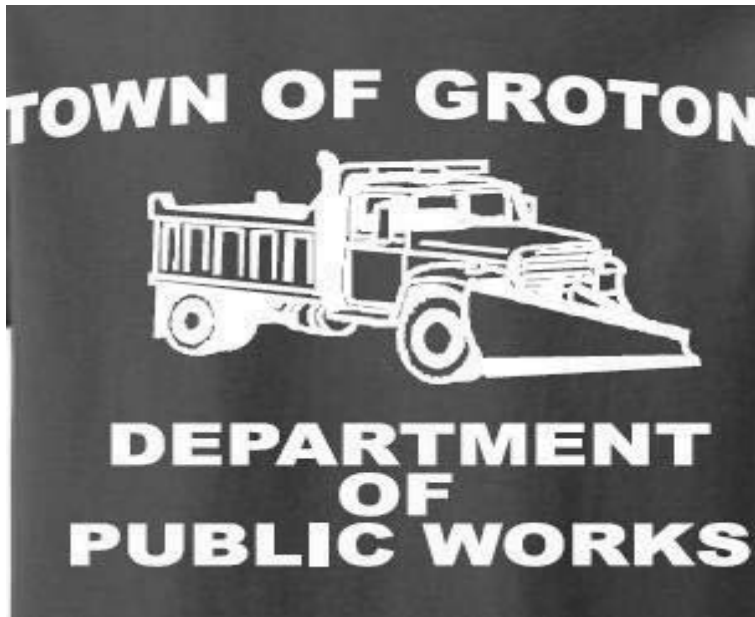
Once again, I would like to thank some of the companies that are always willing to assist the Town when needed, even if it is short notice. Thank you to Gordon Coursey & Son for always providing exceptional vehicle maintenance. Thank you to Morrison Construction for your assistance with road work. Thank you to M.E. Latulippe for always supplying material when needed. Thank you to TLC Services for taking care of the tree trimming needs for the Town.

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
Public Works Director

Assistants:
Fred Brooks
Norm Willey
Jeremy Haney



Transfer Station

Another busy year at your Transfer Station gone by and in the books! Customer visits continue to increase with the influx of new construction and existing vacant properties being bought and renovated for year-round use. Records kept for the year show we average between 75 and 110 customer visits every day that the facility is open.

As you all are aware, we were forced to “retire” our old compactor due to the age and frequent breakdowns. Our new, state of the art, compactor was installed in July and performs well. An added benefit is the increased packing pressure over the old one which has resulted in almost twice the amount of tonnage we can now pack in a container, saving on vendor hauling fees.

Also, this year we installed the new overhead door in the storage area, resulting in a much easier area to access and making the area more weather tight. No more “snowdrifts” inside the building! These upgrades were made possible by your support at town meeting.

Last, but not least, is the paving of the facility, which greatly improves access and snow removal. This was made possible by a grant received by the Town.

Transfer Station stickers are available at the Town Office and the Transfer Station, for the same fee of \$1.00. Please see the attendant if you need a sticker as there is a form to fill out and then he will issue you one. This is for Groton residents only and you will need to show proof of residency to get one. If you have a new or different vehicle, you will need a sticker for that vehicle.

We would like to remind you all that fees charged to drop off items reflects the towns costs to have them hauled away. All funds go into the general fund to be used towards your tax rate.

Please remember we are recycling aluminum cans, batteries, tires, electronics, waste oil, light bulbs, propane tanks and scrap metal. Revenues from aluminum cans and scrap metal continue to increase. Thank you for your efforts recycling all of these items.

Again, this year, with the weight limits on North Groton Road in the Spring, we will **NOT** be accepting construction debris, **ANY** furniture, mattresses included for the duration of the road bans. This will be posted in advance as soon as we are informed of the dates of the road bans and the postings about this will go up. Thank you for your understanding.

We look forward to serving you for another year!

Respectfully submitted,

Norm Willey, Transfer Station Supervisor
George Evirs, Transfer Station Attendant
Ron Madan, On Call Operator







Northeast Resource Recovery Association

“Partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions”

GROTON, NH

CONGRATULATIONS FOR BEING SUCH ACTIVE RECYCLERS!

Recycling isn't just good for your wallet, it's great for the environment, saving energy and resources. From October 2023 through September 2024, the Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) helped your community move the recyclable materials listed below to market to be processed into raw materials, ready to be remanufactured into new products! NRRA – **your recycling nonprofit** – partners with communities like yours to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions.

RECYCLABLE MATERIAL	2024 RECYCLED AMOUNTS	ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT! Here is just one benefit of recycling materials, rather than manufacturing new products from virgin resources.
ELECTRONICS	2,332 LBS.	 You saved enough energy to power 75 homes for 1 day!
TIRES	6,430 LBS.	 You saved 153 gallons 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 avoided about **4,980 lbs.** of carbon dioxide emissions. This is equivalent to removing **1** passenger cars from the road for an entire year!

**The above data was calculated using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Waste Reduction Model (WARM).

PEMI-BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Erik Rasmussen, Chairman
Jamin Levasseur, Vice-Chairman
Megan Boobar, Treasurer
Michael Maines, Secretary

c/o 161Main Street
Littleton, NH 03561
(603) 444-6303 ext. 2028
troy@nccouncil.org

2024 Annual Report

In 2024, the 19-member Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District continued its cooperative efforts to promote waste reduction, increase recycling, and 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 4th, and the other in Plymouth on Saturday, September 21st. A total of 272 households participated, representing every community in the District. 4,675 lbs. of material were collected, with nearly all (64%) of it being flammable materials. Total expenses for 2024 HHW programming, which includes advertising, setup & disposal, totaled \$25,975, a 14.8% decrease from 2023. To help cover these expenses, the District received a \$10,000 donation from Casella Waste Management and the NH Department of Environmental Services granted an additional \$5,811. Net expenditure for the program was \$23,489.97 which comes to \$0.80 per district 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. Due to weather conditions, the Plymouth fall bulb collection is being rescheduled for pick-up on December 20th, 2024. This year, fluorescent light bulb collections resulted in 23,278 linear feet of fluorescent tubes being properly disposed of and 326 PCBs containing light ballasts. Other materials collected were 1,070 compact fluorescent lamps and an additional 261 specialty bulbs. There were 11 smoke detectors collected. The total cost for this effort was \$4,079.97.

The District partnered with Casella to start a 6-month pilot program recycling box springs and mattresses. The Littleton Transfer Station became a host site for mattress storage. Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) conducted a 46-day study in which Littleton disposed of 34 mattresses. For every .98 tons disposed of, they saved \$82.32 in tipping fees and \$153.83 in hauling fees. They saved 27.3% of space in a construction and demolition container that would have otherwise gone to the landfill. By the end of 2024, it was estimated that they would save \$714 and 87 cubic yards of open-top landfill space.

The next two events in 2025 have been scheduled for August, 3rd in Littleton at the Transfer Station and September 20th at the Plymouth Recycling Center. Both events will run from 9 AM to 12 PM.

Citizens interested in participating in the development of the district's programs are welcome to attend the district 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 regard to their solid waste/recycling program, please contact the District by email.

Respectively Submitted,

Erik Rasmussen, Chairman

Planning Board Report

The Planning Board is seeking volunteers as Alternates to the Board. Please review the duties below and send a note of interest to the Planning Board - planningboard@grotonnh.org.

The duties of a planning board include the functions authorized by the state statutory laws, RSA Title LXIV, Chapter 674 Local Land Use Planning and Regulatory Powers, along with other Revised Statutes, Chapters 672 – 679 providing controlling requirements.

The scope of authority of Groton’s Planning Boards, their procedures and decisions can only be based on these RSAs, local Ordinances and Zoning, and interpretive judicial decisions, never on the personal views of individual board members!

Planning Boards are statutorily permitted and/or required to perform the following duties:

- **Master plan:** Prepare and amend a master plan for the municipality's development
- **Legislative role:** Propose ordinances (zoning) and enact regulations (excavation, site and subdivision) to achieve the vision of the community (set out in the master plan). Ballet vote enacts ordinances (zoning) and land use regulations pass by planning board vote following public hearings.
- **Regulatory role:** Apply Zoning, and other local ordinances and regulations to specific situations, e.g. zoning to any land use, regulations to applications and NH RSAs to building application and land use (RSA 674:41 as an example)
- **Consultation:** Consult and advise with public officials, agencies, and state & local departments to carry out the Towns Master Plan, NH Statutory Laws (RSAs), Ordinances, and Regulations
- **Other duties:** Review and revise site plans, subdivision plans, and zoning ordinances and maps

Below is a sampling of the Planning Boards work in 2024:

Public Inquiry/Discussions

- Tim McCarty, M 6 L 40- purpose of the inquiry is to clarify status of the land as a buildable lot
- Marissa Berti- purpose of the inquiry is to understand the laws to navigate building campsites for an Airbnb, property owner has not provided Map and Lot or Zoning District.
- John Polizotti- purpose of the inquiry is use and zoning of land (Map 5-158), Hardy Country Rd
- Gary Eastman- purpose of his email is to understand frontage requirements
- Heather Delsart, 878 N Dorchester Rd, Route 118, Map 1 Lot# 2- Wants to know if she can subdivide her 3.8 Acres
- Brandon Bilodeau, map 06 Lot 31-01, 238 N Groton RD- regarding the purchase of about 1.2 acres of property.
- Joe Bernitt- Has purchased parts of the 1139 acres in Jewell Hill Forest property and the 1339 acres referred to as the Sculptured Rocks Forest. He wants to establish a permaculture homestead with dwelling units for family as well as small cabins sites to lease for camping and recreational access on the undeveloped portions of the property
- Joseph Plouffe, Map 5 Lot 32- looking to buy a piece of property on Goddard Road and wants to make sure it is a conforming buildable lot.

Public Hearing

- Mourning Dove Holdings- subdivision with Zoning line correction

Building Permit

- Map 3 Lot 6-2, 103 Brock Lane, owner Nathan Hershberger- roof mounted solar panels

- Jeremy Haney for his property on Snoburk Lane, Map 6 Lot 76-30x45 garage with attached 30x30 barn.
- 10 Brock Lane- 9x14 deck, replacing one that they tore down
- Carroll, Map 1 Lot 60- Applying for a building permit for a Pole Barn

Lot Line

- Mr. Beraudo- seeks to merge two lots, Map 2 Lots 122 & 123
- Haney-Coates Lot Line Adjustment- Tax Map 6 Lot 76 & Tax Map 6 Lot 78
- The Circle Program & Brandon & Elizabeth Bilodeau- Tax Map # 6 Lot # 31 & Tax Map # 6 Lot # 31-1

Planning Board Work session – All work sessions are open to the public.

Subdivision, Site Review Regulations and Procedures are under review. Deb asks the PB members to review draft materials and reminds them to discuss these materials only at PB meetings. The PB will continue to review all drafts of the Subdivision and Site Regulations, and Board Procedures until they are fully revised. At that time, the Board will hold Public Hearings.

Respectfully submitted,

Planning Board Members: Deborah Johnson, David Madden, Russ Carruth, Dave LaBar, Ray Blake, John Rescigno

Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) Report

The Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) is often thought of as the Board which oversees the Town's Zoning Ordinances. This is not the case. The ZBA neither creates the ordinance nor enforces it. The ZBA's role is to make exceptions to the land use ordinances based on specific legal conditions. It also reviews requests for Special Exceptions as required by the ordinance. Additionally, it acts as a quasi-legal organization that takes steps as a board of appeal for the other boards of the Town in land use issues.

There has not been any business set before the board. The budget for the board was deemed sufficient to carry the same amount from the previous year.

The ZBA members and other town board members are encouraged to join in regularly offered webinar's on "Planning and Zoning" by the NH Office of Planning and Development.

Thanks to the current ZBA:

Jonathan Beliveau (Chair)
Casey Kuplin
Jeremy Haney

Heath Matthews
Peter Smith (Secy.)

Conservation Commission Report

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

The Groton Conservation Commission is continuing its service to the town with our annual kids fishing derby, semiannual road cleanups, and funding of Spectacle Pond water testing.

The results of the Spectacle Pond water testing are included on the following page and available on the Conservation Commission's page of the town website. Thank you to the Selectboard for continuing to provide a portable toilet at the boat launch which helps keep E Coli levels low.

Respectfully submitted,
Groton Conservation Commission
Slim Spafford, Chair
Ray Blake Planning Board Liaison
Cindy Carpenter
Gina Rescigno
Virginia Parker

Spectacle Pond Water Quality Summary – Revised 10/2/24

2024 is the 10th year SPA has participated in the VLAP program. This year water samples were taken on July 1, July 30, and Sept. 3. A biologist from the NHDES took samples with us on July 30.

In 2024 the levels of Phosphorous, Chlorophyll-a and E Coli were worse than 2023 and PH stayed the same.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus is the most important water quality parameter measured in our lakes. It is the nutrient that promotes algae’s ability to grow and reproduce. Samples are taken at 3 depths at the deep spot of the pond – 10’, 23’ and 36’. Goal is less than 12 ug/l for mesotrophic pond.

Phosphorous Averages (ug/l):

2015 = 15.3	2018 = 13.7	2021 = 13.8	7/1/24 = 11.0
2016 = 14.0	2019 = 11.9	2022 = 16.0	7/30/24 = 15.6
2017 = 13.0	2020 = 10.8	2023 = 13.6	9/3/24 = 16.9
2024 Average = 14.5			

According to the NHDES in the 2023 VLAP Individual Lake Report “Management efforts should focus on reducing and managing stormwater runoff, preventing agricultural run-off, septic system maintenance, and maintaining vegetative buffers along the shoreline and inlets”.

Chlorophyll-a

Elevated levels of chlorophyll-a indicate excessive algal growth typically caused by high concentrations of phosphorous and other nutrients. Samples are taken at a depth of 23’ in the deep spot of the pond. Excessively high concentrations of algae are problematic for two reasons: 1) some forms of algae produce toxins that negatively impact the health and viability of marine life as well as other animals that swim in contaminated water; and 2) when extremely high concentrations of algae (referred to as a bloom) eventually die, their decomposition results in the depletion of oxygen from the pond water that can result in suffocation of fish that inhabit the pond. There has not been an algae bloom in Spectacle Pond since 2019. The concentration goal for chlorophyll-a is less than 5 ug/l for mesotrophic ponds.

Chlorophyll-a Averages (ug/l):

2015 = 5.4	2018 = 12.9	2021 = 4.2	7/1/24 = 4.0
2016 = 6.3	2019 = 3.9	2022 = 4.6	7/30/24 = 8.7
2017 = 8.4	2020 = 5.4	2023 = 4.2	9/3/24 = 3.7
2024 Average = 5.5			

PH

Samples are taken at 3 depths at the deep spot of the pond – 10’, 23’ and 36’.

Goal is 6.5 – 8

Averages:

2015 = 6.0	2018 = 6.4	2021 = 5.9	7/1/24 = 6.2
2016 = 6.5	2019 = 6.2	2022 = 6.2	7/30/24 = 6.0
2017 = 6.5	2020 = 6.0	2023 = 6.1	9/3/24 = 6.2
			2024 Average = 6.1

E. Coli

Goal is less than 88 cts/100ml at a public beach and less than 406 cts/100ml for surface waters.

Samples are taken in 2’ of water at the boat launch and at the mouth of the brook that flows through Circle Camp property.

This year all samples taken at the mouth of the Circle Camp Brook were well below goal, however, the sample taken at the boat launch on 7/30/24 was over 3 times the goal for water where people swim. We placed a notice on the kiosk and notified the town. Recently we’ve noticed a large amount of dog waste on the ground at the boat launch which can cause elevated levels of E. Coli. The town posted a sign asking visitors to pick up after their pets. In September the level of E. Coli at the boat launch was still elevated, but below goal.

Date	7/26/22	8/25/22	6/14/23	7/30/23	9/7/23	7/1/24	7/30/24	9/3/24
Boat Launch	< 1	2	< 1	13.5	1	6.3	307.6	63.1
Circle Camp	101.2	547.5	< 1	8.4	1	12.2	12.2	20.1

Plan

- Continue to participate in VLAP program
- Take corrective action if water samples indicate degradation of water quality
- Maximize flushing rate of the pond
- Encourage Groton to continue placing a portable toilet at boat launch.

Old Home Day Committee

Old Home Day 2024 was a huge success.

The weather turned out to be good and there was an excellent turnout. The band Horsepower put on an amazing show as usual, thank you!

We were fortunate to have Hells Gate put on an amazing show of fireworks, thank you!

A special thank you to Bubba and Fred for helping with set up. To Sara for all the behind-the-scenes help and for helping run the raffles (Janet you were missed) and to Rae Pelchat for stepping in last minute to help.

Thank you to those who brought food, it was greatly appreciated.

I would like to thank Ron and Tony from the Select Board for their continued help. I would like to thank John for happily manning the grill and losing the hair on his arms!

Looking forward to another successful Old Home Day 2025!

Respectfully submitted,
Gina Rescigno



GROTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

GHS sponsored a Memorial Day program on May 27, 2024, at the Groton Town House with George Morrison returning with the program, HENRY DEARBORN, FROM CAPTAIN TO CABINET SECRETARY, with refreshments served. This program was offered through a grant from NH Humanities.

The GHS Schoolhouse was opened on June 22, July 13, and August 17, with a good turnout.

The 2025 GHS calendar is a collection of biographical “sketches” of past Groton citizens, who at one time called Groton home.

GHS is waiting to hear from the Selectmen on when we can place the Town Pound signs around the Pound.

Roger Daniels has donated pictures, documents and other items pertaining to Groton.

We recently received about 150 letters written to George E. Colburn during the years 1851-1868 with several coming from civil war soldiers. We are cataloging them, and they will be available for viewing in the future. The Colburn family lived at “Oldfields”.

This is an excerpt from a letter written by Henry Colburn to his brother George:

Groton, Oct. 6th, 1855

It rains so we cannot work so I will write you a few lines. I arrived home last Monday eve rather late by not very wet except my overcoat. I got along without any trouble although it was so dark coming through the woods that I did not dare to trot but a few rods. One place it was so dark that I could not see the road or the horse, but it was well that I came home that night for I should not have had so good a time if I had waited till the next day.

The river bridge is gone, Hardie's and J. Goodhue's bridges, the bridge just below the Orange Road are gone.... The roads in Merrill Hollow are so much injured that it will cost the Town several hundreds to repair them.

Would like to thank everyone for their continued support, preserving *Groton's past for it's future.*

Kathy Sobetzer, President of GHS

GHS Board Members

Paul Cole (Building Manager)
Debra Lindsey (Secretary)
Steve "Slim" Spafford

Roger Daniels (Vice President)
Sharon Nelson

Ray Gagnon
Kathy Sobetzer (President)

Groton Historical Society, PO Box 50, Rumney, NH 03266

grotonhistorical@yahoo.com

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

Groton Public Library

Anyone who would like reimbursement for a library card from another facility, please contact Gina Rescigno.

Respectfully submitted,

Gina Rescigno
Groton Library Trustee





The North Country Council (NCC) is one of nine regional planning commissions (RPC) in NH, covering 50 communities and 25 unincorporated areas in the state's northern third. Established by RSA 36:46, NCC advises local governments on coordinated planning, growth, in areas of land use, transportation, and community development. Its staff offers services in transportation, economic development, GIS mapping, data analysis, grant writing, project management, and more. In 2024 North Country Council undertook the following activities in the region:

Collaborated with other RPCs via the NH Association of Regional Planning Commissions.

Supported efforts and attended the NH Planners Conference and NH Municipal Association Conference.

Bulk ordered and distributed Planning and Land Use Regulation books to municipalities (estimated savings of \$110 per book).

Transportation

Staff completed 159 traffic counts coordinated with NHDOT during the collection season. From May to July, staff solicited Ten-Year Plan projects, submitting 19 projects for review. The projects submitted were from across the region, and scopes were on a variety of transportation topics such as sidewalks, bike lanes, pedestrian shoulders, and bridge replacements. The top three ranked projects were submitted to NHDOT in November.

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) held five meetings, reviewing and approving Ten-Year Plan projects, and discussing regional projects, safety, and local transportation concerns.

The Council supported two Regional Coordinating Councils (RCC). Carroll County RCC met six times and Grafton County RCC met four times throughout the year. Both RCC's worked to update bylaws and managed CDC COVID Disparity Grant funding by supporting the following:

- Vehicle Repair and Inspection Program (Coos and Carroll Counties)
- Carroll County ReCYcLed (Bicycle Co-Op)
- Marketing support for Advance Transit's expanded services in Grafton County
- Marketing support for Carroll County R.S.V.P in southern Carroll County

The Council was active with the statewide Complete Streets Advisory Committee (CSAC) where review and comments on the draft Complete Streets policy for NHDOT were provided. We also assisted with preparations for "Week Without Driving", October's CommuteSMART challenge.

The North Country Scenic Byways committee held a planning meeting in November. Staff reviewed and edited the draft update to the Corridor Management Plan that guides work on the four byways in the region.

Economic Development

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) committee grew to 27 members representing entities across the region. Staff coordinated 6 CEDS meetings held throughout the region. The big initiative for 2024 was to amend the CEDS to include an Industry Chapter highlighting manufacturing's role in the region.

The Council hosted a Webinar series, including topics on "Combating the Brain Drain" and "Supporting an Aging Workforce." The latter highlighted strategies for retaining older workers, with 37% of respondents aged 65-84 still employed, often in multiple jobs to meet living wages.

The Council worked with six communities to finalize deliverables and final reports for the InvestNH Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) Grants. All six successfully submitted their materials on time and within their budgets. InvestNH released another round of HOP Grant Funds in the Summer. Staff assisted communities in the application for 2025 round InvestNH Funding.

Continued to assist the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) & State of NH Bureau of Economic Affairs (BEA) in providing technical assistance to entities seeking to apply for NBRC funding. In 2024 the Council provided pre-project development coaching assistance to over 20 entities. Continued to assist Coos County with the Coos County Broadband Committee. During 2024, much of Coos County experienced the roll out of highspeed fiber internet.

Mapping and Data Analysis

NCC developed several surveys throughout the year that were analyzed to support projects including the Regional Plan survey and a Regional Transportation Safety survey. Surveys have also provided community members with the opportunity to take part in developing spatial data that has helped the Council understand regional needs by determining points of concern.

The Council provided mapping and data services to communities throughout the region in support of project development and funding opportunities. This includes community data snapshots that were updated for the year for community reference. Data snapshots provide data and demographics, housing, and affordability.

NCC continues to maintain the three ArcGIS Online Hubs to be a resource for the region. The Hubs are for Funding Opportunities, Data & Mapping Analysis, and Climate Resiliency which offer spaces to research funding opportunities, and data resources that are applicable to the North Country.

From the Director 😊 – [View our newly produced video at www.ttccrec.org](http://www.ttccrec.org)

What a year we have had in 2024! The grant we received for the renovations of our building has been put to good use. The project began in January of 2024 and the transformation to date has been amazing. Many historical artifacts have been unearthed that have included programs for a Church service that was held in 1893, an intact crock cover, a secret stairway and much more! We have had a new gym floor installed, new offices, updated game room, sprinkler & security system, new stairwells and a lift from the basement to the main floor!

The support and generosity from our Newfound Community has been overwhelming. The TTCC is so fortunate to have shared wonderful memories with multiple generations of families. As a staff, we know how lucky we are to be able to serve the region with a great team of Volunteers, Board members, and people of all ages. We consider it to be an honor and a gift to be able to do the work that we do.

Our plan over the next few years is to have an additional space that will include a full size gymnasium, commercial kitchen, and additional program space. We have grown to the point where we cannot accommodate the many needs of our community with just our much beloved TTCC building.

We had 480 young athletes participate in the multiple sports offerings that include Baseball & Softball, Basketball, Soccer, Field Hockey, and Track & Field. Our Teen Night program provided 103 teens a place to go on Tuesday & Thursday evenings that included a free dinner, open gym & game room and other activities with our awesome staff! We have an active Teen Council with more than 20 High School students that meet weekly with our Teen Program Coordinator to plan and implement Parents Night Out events, Teen Dances and staffing of TTCC events.

With the help of our strong financial team we are planning for the future with many new ways to support the Center through Legacy Giving, Donor Advised Funds, Gifts of Stock in addition to our Annual Fund Drive. “Wink” Tapply started an endowment fund during his time at the Center with the hope that one day those funds would help to offset the costs of running the programs. Although it has taken many years we are starting to build on his dream and secure the financial future of our programs for generations to come. This could not be done without the many donors that believe in our mission and support us in a multitude of ways.

Because of our emphasis on youth programming many people do not realize that we have a strong and thriving menu of adult activities as well. Our gym is filled throughout the year with a growing group of Pickle Ball players, Badminton, Adult Softball, Line Dance and Dance classes. We offer our Shape Up Newfound Exercise program at the Bristol Elementary School under the guidance of Donna Evans & Bonnie Tisdale. They have a great following and keep exercising fun and rewarding! We also offer Adult Volleyball at the Bridgewater Hebron Village School twice a week. We are so grateful to the Newfound Area School District and the Bridgewater Hebron Village District for the use of the school buildings to make many of our programs a success.

With the help of our community we were able to provide over \$30,000 in program scholarships to local families. Through our collaboration with Newfound Country Store on the annual Turkey Trot Race we raised over \$16,000 in 2024 to help local families in need. We often hear from people that are new to the area on what a wonderful community we have here in the Newfound Region. Through all of us working together we make sure that when there is a need it is filled. There is a vibrant community spirit that is apparent to all that live or visit here. All of us at the TTCC feel extremely fortunate to be part of this amazing community we live in! ***On behalf of our TTCC Staff & Board we thank you!!***



Lakes Region Mental Health Center

Request for Groton Allocation in Fiscal Year 2025: \$1,050

Founded in 1966, Lakes Region Mental Health Center (LRMHC) is the state-designated community mental health center (CMHC) serving 24 towns in Region 3 (Belknap and southern Grafton Counties).

LRMHC’s **mission** is to provide integrated mental and physical health care for people with mental illness while creating wellness and understanding, in our communities. The organization’s **vision** is to be the community leader providing quality, accessible, and integrated mental and physical health services, delivered with dedication and compassion.

CMHCs are the mental health safety net system of care in our state. They serve the most vulnerable people who require the highest levels of care, are the furthest from socio-economic opportunity, and therefore are dependent on Medicaid to access needed services. LRMHC’s annual budget is comprised of up to 70% Medicaid reimbursements. In Fiscal Year 2024, LRMHC and the other 9 CMHCs found themselves caring for a significant number of people with chronic mental illness, but with no payer source to fund that care due to circumstances arising from the ending of the Covid-19 public health emergency. LRMHC provided over \$906,000 in charity care, a **184%** increase from the prior fiscal year. The support of the towns we serve is more important than ever so that we can maintain services.

LRMHC has agreed to be a leader in the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) “Mission Zero” plan to eliminate hospital emergency department psychiatric boarding, and has designated part of the Plymouth office campus as a crisis center called “**A Place to Go**”. A Place to Go offers people in crisis with acute psychiatric needs access to care and supports to address their immediate psychological needs. A Place to Go will benefit the entire central region of NH, and the Town of Groton by helping to reduce the burden on local emergency resources (police, fire, emergency department), as well as providing a vital service to residents that will increase positive mental health outcomes.

Every dollar the town of Groton contributes is invested in care for people in Groton. It is leveraged with funds from other towns to offset the tremendous cost of high-quality access to care.

From July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024, LRMHC:

- Served **3,280** patients and provided over **\$906,000** in charity care
- Served **6 residents of Groton** (the same number as the prior fiscal year)

Groton residents represent **1%** of the LRMHC catchment area.

Like the police or fire department, Mental Health Care is a municipal service and a safety net for *all* residents of your town, not just those utilizing the service. Belmont’s appropriation ensures the provision of this essential service for the residents of your community and reduces the burden on your town.

Respect Advocacy Integrity Stewardship Excellence Diversity

40 Beacon Street East, Laconia, NH 03246 | 81 Highland Street, Plymouth, NH 03264
Tel 603-524-1100 * www.lrmhc.org



Town of Groton

Mid-State is dedicated to delivering high-quality healthcare services to the community, regardless of an individual's ability to pay. In the past period, Mid-State facilitated over **53,926 visits for 14,074 patients** through our diverse healthcare services. Local support remains crucial to ensure our ongoing assistance to all in the community, especially those that may be underprivileged and uninsured in your community.

In addition to medical care, Mid-State offers a broad spectrum of services designed to support patients and their families in achieving optimal health outcomes. Recognizing the significant influence of social determinants on overall health and well-being, we strive to extend our assistance beyond primary care. Our holistic approach encompasses services such as transportation support, food security initiatives, health insurance assistance, and various other vital resources, all aimed at promoting the comprehensive health and wellness of our patients.

Services 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, and Intensive Outpatient Treatment Program
- Dental & Oral Health Care (Bristol and Littleton office)
- Physical and Occupational Therapy in our Plymouth Office
- Infusion Therapy Services in our Plymouth Office
- Chiropractic Services in Plymouth
- Onsite Pharmacy in Plymouth
- Financial Assistance – Sliding Fee Scale is available for all services for those eligible
- Food Assistance – through our Feed the Need program
- Enrollment Assistance for the Marketplace, Medicare, and Medicaid
- Same Day Access and Acute Care
- Childcare through our Little Antlers Learning Center

Mid-State's Year in Review (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

- Number of Visits:
 - Medical: 36,841
 - Dental: 5,768
 - Behavioral Health: 6,689 in-person
 - Telehealth: 3,915
 - Transportation: 713

Town of Groton Usage Statistics (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

- Total number of patients served: 341 (Uninsured: 13 / Medicaid: 42 / Medicare: 168 / Private: 118)



**GRAFTON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS COUNCIL, INC.
REPORT 2023/2024**

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc. (GCSCC) is a private nonprofit organization that provides programs and services that support the health and well-being of our communities' older citizens as well as adults with disabilities. GCSCC's programs enable community members to remain independent in their own homes and communities for as long as possible.

GCSCC operates eight senior centers (located in Bristol, Canaan, Haverhill, Lebanon, Lincoln, Littleton, Orford, and Plymouth) and sponsors the Grafton County ServiceLink Resource Center and RSVP Volunteer Center (an AmeriCorps Seniors project). Through GCSCC's network, 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.

From October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2024, 24 older residents of Groton were served by one or more of GCSCC's programs offered through Newfound Area Senior Services and the Plymouth Regional Senior Center. ServiceLink provided services to one Groton resident.

- Older adults from Groton enjoyed 967 meals prepared by GCSCC.
- A Groton resident received wellness calls, assistance with problems, crises, or issues of long-term care through 1 contact with a ServiceLink counselor.
- Groton residents participated in 326 health, education, or social activities.
- One resident received transportation services.

The cost for GCSCC to provide services for Groton residents in 2023/2024 was \$14,354.05.

Such services can be critical for older adults and adults with disabilities who want to remain in their own homes and out of institutional care in spite of chronic health problems and increasing physical frailty. Doing so saves tax dollars that would otherwise be expended for nursing home care. GCSCC's programs also contribute to a higher quality of life for older friends and neighbors. As our population ages, supportive services such as those offered by GCSCC are becoming even more critical.

GCSCC would very much appreciate Groton's support for our programs that enhance the independence and dignity of older adults and adults with disabilities. GCSCC enables our community members to meet the challenges of aging, while remaining 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, 2023 - September 30, 2024

During the fiscal year, GCSCC served 24 Groton residents (of 168 residents over 60, 2019 Tufts Healthy Aging Report)
ServiceLink assisted 1 Groton residents

<u>Services</u>	<u>Type of Service</u>	<u>Units of Service</u>		<u>Unit Cost</u>	<u>Total Cost Of Service</u>
Nutrition	Meals	967	x	\$8.19	7,919.73
ServiceLink	Contacts	1	x	\$81.96	81.96
Transportation	Rides	1	x	\$18.18	18.18
Activities		326	x	\$19.43	6,334.18

Number of Volunteers:	3
Number of volunteer hours:	175

GCSCC cost to provide services for Groton residents only	\$14,354.05
Request for Senior Services for 2025	\$750.00

NOTE:

1. Unit cost from GCSCC Statement of Revenue and Expenses for October 1, 2023 to July 31, 2014
2. Services were funded by Federal and State programs 53%; Local government appropriations 11%; Client donations 6%; Charitable contributions 18%; Grants and contracts 6%; Other 6%.



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

December 13, 2024

Selectman
Town of Groton
754 North Groton Road
Groton, NH 03241

Pemi-Baker Hospice & Home Health (PBH&HH) is a non-profit organization offering a wide range of vital health services to residents of 32 central and northern NH towns. Thus far this year, PBH&HH has provided care for over 500 residents of Grafton and Belknap counties, 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 56 years of Pemi-Baker Hospice & Home Health's existence, we have continued to see a significant need for home health and hospice services. 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, despite the uncertain financial and regulatory climate in which we operate.

Rising health care costs and reductions in government funding have put much-needed healthcare out of reach for too many of our friends, neighbors, and family members. 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 journey. Decisions about being healthy happen from the day we are born until the day we die. PBH&HH's programs assist members of our community on 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's needs first. Most of our community members choose to heal and recover at home from illness or accident or progress towards the end of life in the comfort of their own home with their family and possessions around them. With the support of our team, we help make these choices a reality.

Pemi-Baker Hospice and Home Health is passionate about the complete health of the communities we serve. Our primary services are:

Home Health – nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social work, licensed nursing assistants, and 24/7 on-call support in the home setting

Hospice – nursing, therapies, social work, spiritual care counseling, bereavement services, hospice

medical doctors, licensed nursing assistants, hospice trained volunteers, 24/7 on-call support, and medications and durable medical supplies in the home setting

PBH&HH also provides:

- One-on-one bereavement support and monthly group meetings
- In-person and ZOOM caregiver support groups
- Flu vaccine clinics
- Nutrition and health presentations
- Hospice volunteer training
- Blood pressure clinics at 4 area senior centers

We are so thankful to be part of your community and touching the lives of those in need. Thank you for your continued support!



Aubrey Engle, BSN, RN
Executive Director



January 16, 2025
Town of Groton
754 North Groton Rd.
Groton NH 03241

Tri County CAP is a Family of Programs, serving families in Coos, Carroll, and Grafton Counties. We are dedicated to improving the lives and well-being of New Hampshire's individuals, families, and communities. We provide opportunities and supports for people to learn and grow in self-sufficiency and to get involved in helping their neighbors and improving the conditions in their communities. We seek to eliminate the root causes of poverty through the development of programs that allow low-income individuals the opportunity to meaningfully participate in the State and National economy and the social fabric of their communities through programs that address: Education; Emergency Support; Economic Development; Food Self Sufficiency; Marshalling of Local Resources; and Transportation.

Tri County Community Action Program provides opportunities to strengthen communities by improving the lives of low to moderate income families and individuals.

Annually we serve more than 24,000 individuals that reside over 4,455 sq. miles of Northern New Hampshire. TCCAP and our 16 service programs provide services to all residents of Coos, Carroll, and Grafton County's requesting and needing support.

During our Fiscal Year 2024 we served a Total of 37 Groton Clients valuing \$39,353 in services provided.

Tri County Community Action Program thanks all communities and counties that we serve for their financial support of the programs, so that we may be able to continue to provide services to our community families in need.

Respectfully,

Brenda Gagne

Brenda Gagne
Chief Programs Officer
Tri County Community Action Program, Inc.

30 Exchange Street, Berlin NH 03570 | P: 603-752-7001 | www.tccap.org

Tri-County Community Action Program provides opportunities to strengthen communities by improving the lives of low to moderate income families and individuals.

CADY 2024 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 preventing substance misuse and building possibilities, potential, and promise for our children.

Addiction is one of the most complex issues facing NH today—the consequences of this epidemic are severe with overdose deaths stealing the lives of 431 people in 2023. Research shows that 90% of those struggling with addiction began using alcohol and other drugs before they turned 18. Use of addictive substances during adolescence poses serious risks of harm, including interference with brain development and significantly increasing the 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.

CADY believes local problems need local solutions; as such, it is our collective responsibility to address these problems head on to ensure that we are supporting the healthy social and emotional development of children in our region. The 2023 Newfound Youth Risk Behavior Survey data indicates that local youth are experiencing significantly higher rates of sadness, hopelessness, and rates of suicidal ideation than statewide averages. Misuse of alcohol, high-potency marijuana, vaping products, and prescription drugs are risk factors of great concern. The lack of treatment and mental health services for children in New Hampshire makes preventing these problems before they start a more urgent goal.

With your support, CADY continues to build 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 with a second chance to overcome challenges, to learn, grow and to turn their lives around through our region's juvenile court diversion program, Restorative Justice (RJ). Many of the high-risk youth referred to RJ are already struggling with substance use disorders—this vital intervention is preventing entry into the addiction pipeline and saving lives. To provide wrap-around support, we have a highly qualified mental health professional on staff to provide trauma-informed counseling to RJ youth and their families.

CADY believes every child deserves a promising future. That's why we're doing whatever it takes—every day—to help local children, especially those hardest to reach and most vulnerable. We, as trusted adults, need to work together to protect the precious years of childhood from the harms of social isolation, mental health crises, substance misuse, and addiction.

Thankfully, our collective action has the power to transform lives by preventing youth substance misuse through education, skill building, early intervention services, social-emotional supports, and offering opportunities for mentoring and resiliency building. We thank our community partners for working tirelessly with CADY to build healthy environments that foster hope, growth, and resilience. We cannot do this critical work without you. Thank you to the citizens of Groton, we are truly honored and grateful for your support.

Sincerely,
Deb Naro
Executive Director



New Hampshire

Mission: Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of New Hampshire strives to protect the rights of our state’s most vulnerable children to live, learn and grow in the embrace of a loving family. Our purpose is to provide well-trained and caring Guardian ad Litem (GALs) for abused and neglected children who come to the attention of New Hampshire’s courts through no fault of their own.



Our trained volunteer advocates speak for abused and neglected children’s best interests in New Hampshire’s family court system- including the Plymouth Circuit Court, the court that serves children from the Town of Groton.

	Statewide	Plymouth Circuit Court
Children served in 2024	1,538 children	31 children

Every year, CASA serves more than 1,400 abused and neglected children and youth. Our advocates focus solely on the child, ensuring that their physical, mental, and emotional needs are being met. Without someone dedicated to their best interests, the futures of many abused and neglected children are threatened by a lack of help, stability, and support. CASA is the only organization in the state providing this crucial service.

The CASA model relies on ordinary citizens doing extraordinary things for child victims. Our advocates meet and speak with the people involved with the child, including parents and relatives, daycare providers, educators, foster parents, caseworkers, and therapists. Most importantly, they always meet with each child at least once a month. The knowledge they gain is presented both in person and via written reports to the court, as are the recommendations about placement and other relevant factors. **Each volunteer typically takes on several cases during their tenure, so the impact of recruiting just one volunteer can potentially transform the lives of many children who have been victimized by neglect and abuse in Grafton County.**

Victimization of children and acute childhood trauma are often the threshold for myriad other problems, including addiction, chronic physical conditions, depression, self-harming behaviors, insufficient educational progress, criminality, and other psychiatric disorders in later life. Ultimately, these problems harm the child and negatively impact the community as a whole, passing the impact of their trauma to the next generation. CASA advocates play a critical role in breaking the cycle of abuse and trauma. New Hampshire judges have come to rely on CASA advocates as the voice of reason in a complex legal system. **In FY year 2024, we served over 1,500 children statewide.**

Thank you to the Town of Groton for supporting this crucial and life changing work.



2024 Report to Newfound Watershed Towns

Newfound Lake Region Association

The mission of the Newfound Lake Region Association is to protect Newfound Lake and its watershed. The Association--through education, programs, and collaboration--promotes conservation and preservation of the region's natural, social, and economic resources.

In 2024, the NLRA continued to work with groups throughout the watershed and beyond, and we began construction on a conservation center that will expand our capacity and impact. Some of our successes for 2024 include:

- We ran 28 programs at Grey Rocks Conservation Area and 10 programs around the watershed for community members, including Nature Station, guided paddles, hikes, and a StoryWalk®.
- With our partners, including the Newfound Land Conservation Partnership, Pemi-Baker Trout Unlimited, and NH Audubon, we offered 14 hikes, explorations, and presentations.
- We worked with kids at the Tapply-Thompson Community Center 13 times in the afterschool & summer camp programs and provided support to their summer camp.
- We made regular classroom visits to Danbury Elementary School & Bridgewater-Hebron Village School, hosted the Danbury Elementary student body at Grey Rocks Conservation Area in May, provided science activities for local preschoolers, and are working with the Newfound Memorial Middle School & Minot-Sleeper Library on a district-/watershed-wide wildlife camera research & data literacy project.
- We worked with campers at Wicosuta, Mowglis, Mayhew, Circle, and Onaway during the summer, as well as hosting birding, snowshoeing, and hiking programs for Mayhew and Circle participants during the school year.
- We partnered with the Newfound Lake Inn to create a Newfound Science Pub series April-June and September-November as a new way to engage the local community with current conservation science.
- We continued to expand our Weed Watchers program, with 3 invasive species identification training events. In 2024 Weed Watchers surveyed 100% of Newfound's near-shore area, with no invasive species reported. Additionally NLRA conducted three surveys throughout the lake for invasive spiny water flea (*Bythotrephes longimanus*) and found none.
- In partnership with NH LAKES, our Lake Hosts performed 1,704 courtesy boat inspections at Newfound's public boat launches, protecting the lake from invasive aquatic species and the devastation they cause.
- Water quality in Newfound Lake remains high in 2024. Long, dry periods throughout the past summer had a positive impact on water quality and helped the lake rebound from all the storms in 2023. Generally less rain means fewer inputs and improved water quality. Water quality volunteers and NLRA staff added 126 lake samples and 148 tributary samples to a 38 year record of water quality during 2024 and we began a near-shore monitoring program at 15 sites.
- We expanded our small-scale stormwater management program, completing 29 homeowner and neighborhood association assessments and installing 31 stormwater control measures.
- The Newfound Land Conservation Partnership continues to work with landowners throughout the watershed to conserve land, which is the best way to protect water quality. Nearly one-quarter of the watershed, or almost 15,000 acres, is permanently protected.
- Our AmeriCorps Watershed Stewards completed impactful terms of service in 2024--engaging over 450 people through guided exploration programs and camp visits, collecting water quality samples, helping install stormwater management structures throughout the watershed, and working with the Hebron Conservation Commission to upgrade trail infrastructure in the Hebron Town Forest.
- Grey Rocks Conservation Area remained open to the public through the end of August, seeing high usage from residents and visitors. After Labor Day, the site was closed for construction of the new conservation center.

NEWFOUND LAKE REGION ASSOCIATION
10 North Main St. Unit 1 • Bristol, NH 03222
(603) 744-8689 • NewfoundLake.org

As we plan for 2025, NLRA is looking forward to welcoming the community to the Grey Rocks Conservation Center and excited about the ways that this new resource will expand the groups we work with and how we work with them. We rely on the support and partnership of our watershed towns to ensure our work to protect the natural resources of the Newfound Watershed for the benefit of all.

UNH Cooperative Extension provides outreach and resources from UNH to strengthen people and communities across New Hampshire. Through a partnership that began over 100 years ago with the county, state and federal government, and an office in each of New Hampshire's ten counties, Extension reaches people where they are, offering access to research-based solutions.

Throughout the year, Extension continued to be a partner in the Invest NH Municipal Planning and Zoning Grant program, working with towns to find ways to address the housing crisis by assessing needs, providing training and technical assistance, gathering ideas and creating solutions unique to each community. Due to the success of the program, it has been extended for two more years.

Healthy forest lands for wood products, recreation, wildlife habitat and water quality are very important to the way of life in New Hampshire. This year our Grafton County forester covered nearly 5,000 acres on woodlot visits and provided guidance to over 100 landowners, to help them achieve their land management goals.

The 4-H program takes pride in providing opportunities for youth and adults to work together, developing skills and growing confidence through experiential learning. This year, using the 4-H Global Gourmet curriculum and a collaboration with a local Chinese restaurant and community partners, youth were given the opportunity to learn about other cultures. Youth then presented their knowledge of cultural foods at the Grafton County 4-H Presents event in March.

Through the Nutrition Connections program, several 6-week youth-based nutrition education and physical activity lessons were taught. These lessons made use of the Collaborative Garden at the Whole Village Family Resource Center in Plymouth for hands-on activities and the opportunity for kids to see food they helped grow become a nutritious meal. Over 500 pounds of produce from the Collaborative Garden were delivered to local pantries and agencies. Several food pantries were also assisted with aspects of food distribution in their community.

This was the second year of a sweet potato variety trial, performed at the Grafton County complex and the UNH campus. Information was gathered on yield, quality, and disease and insect resistance, to find the varieties best suited for our region. (And taste good too!) The sweet potatoes were donated to local food pantries and senior centers.

The first hybrid Master Gardener training course was piloted in Grafton County this year, with eighteen participants completing the 12-week program in April. Master Gardener volunteers share their knowledge and enthusiasm for gardening in a variety of ways, including maintaining educational and production gardens in local communities.

Ensuring the safety of the food we purchase and consume is no small task. Presentations of farm food safety information to growers as part of Extension's New Farmer School and the Jumpstart Produce Safety program, along with trainings for staff and volunteers at NH retail food establishments and food pantries, are just some examples of how Extension is working to help minimize contamination and food-borne illnesses.

To learn more about programs and resources that are available, please visit extension.unh.edu.

Respectfully submitted by
Donna Lee - UNH Extension, Grafton County Office Administrator

2024 TOWN MEETING MINUTES

The Meeting comes to order at 9:00 AM, March 16, 2024
At the Groton Town Hall Community Room
754 North Groton Rd., Groton, NH.

Moderator: Amy Prive-Hardy

Select Board Members: Ron Madan, John Rescigno, Tony Albert.
Supervisors of the Checklist: Pamela Hamel, Virginia Parker, Gina Rescigno
Administrative Assistant: Sara Smith
Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Ruth Millett
Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Hilary Coles
Groton Police Chief: Michael Bagan

119 registered voters in attendance.
There were 94 registered voters who voted in the 2024 Groton Town elections on March 12, 2024.

The Moderator calls the meeting to order and leads with the Pledge to the American flag. Moderator then goes over the rules of the meeting found in the 2023 annual report pages 2-3.

Ballot Article 1

To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year:
The Moderator introduces the new Town Officials who were elected to office on March 12, 2024

Select Board Member for 3 years: John Rescigno
Town Clerk/Tax Collector for 3 years: Ruth Millett
Supervisor of the Checklist for 3 years: Pamela Hamel
Town Auditor for 1 year: Ann Joyce
Planning Board Members for 3 years: Forrest (Ray) Blake, David Labar
Moderator: Amy Prive-Hardy

Thank you all for your willingness to serve the Community.

Moderator reads the Warrant Article as written:

Warrant Article 2

Article 2: Shall the Town of Groton adopt the provisions of House Bill 349 (2023) to withdraw from the Newfound Area School District/SAU #4 on June 30, 2025, and effective July 1, 2025, form a separate cooperative school district and single district SAU, called the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District, in accordance with the provisions of House Bill 349 (2023) and where applicable, RSA 195 and RSA 194-C, and further, shall the Town of Groton adopt the proposed Articles of Agreement for the Bridgewater-Hebron-Groton Special Purpose School District.

The Select Board Recommends This Article 3-0

Ron Madan moves the Article; Tony Albert seconds; and John Rescigno speaks to the Article:

John Rescigno:

When created, HB 349 was a very unique bill custom tailored to the Towns of Groton, Bridgewater and Hebron. It is a one-time-only bill and can never be put forth again. The idea of it came out of the Article 5 committee. Warrant Article 5 would have altered the tax formula greatly for the Town of Groton's Taxes. The idea is to stabilize your school tax rate while providing your children with the best education available including school choice. What you are voting on today is that the Town of Groton is in favor of exiting SAU4. That is it. This must pass in all 3 towns in order for this to go through. It already passed in the Town of Bridgewater. The HB 349 Steering Committee worked tirelessly to create a "pro forma budget" by using budget information supplied by SAU4 and budget information like the SAU that will be created. They were able to create a budget. The steering committee held countless hearings throughout the process including meetings with the staff members of the Bridgewater/Hebron Village School District. The Town of Groton also held several meetings with its residents including public hearings and as recently as 48 hours ago we held a meeting in Town. What you're voting on today is if you agree to exit SAU 4. All contracts and negotiations will be performed by the school board once the exit is complete.

Moderator opens for discussion on article 2:

Bill Jolly:

I am your representative-elect to the SAU 4 School Board. I want to speak in favor of exiting for a couple of reasons. There is an effort to change the way in which taxes are created that has been abandoned for the time being, but it is proved viable, and if that comes back, we will end up being a donor town along with the other two towns to the larger SAU. We don't have the voters in our three towns to resist the voters in the other four towns that's the financial situation. The other piece has to do with curriculum and methodology for education that are questionable at best I would consider downright scary. I'll try to keep it clean here, but just think of the most vulgar thing you can think of from a sexual point of view and that's the content that's available in the library at the SAU, some of it was read to us the other night. I see us separating ourselves from that with smaller three towns and with intelligent people in our boards, setting strong policies that will protect the kids from bad methodology. At the same time, we can better control the taxes because we are three smaller towns instead of seven. We can come up with a method of assessing taxes that we can actually afford going forward. I am here for you. If you have further questions, please come to me. Please vote in favor of removing from the district.

Hilary Coles:

In the event that some of you haven't heard my story I'm going to share it with you. I, along with my partner PJ have three kids at BHES. We moved from Danbury about a year and a half ago. Newfound has been a wonderful district for us. Danbury was an amazing school and BHES has been an amazing school. I took it for granted how far away we are in Groton from Newfoundland High School. There have been times when my children cannot participate in activities simply because there is no busing from where they are to the high school. Activities happen in the middle of our workday I can't afford to take time off so sometimes I have to tell my kids; sorry you can't join. For a lot of us it's about taxes that's valid I get that, this is also about geographical location it's also as Bill said, we are massively outvoted on a number of things in the wider school district and I think it would be really great if we have a smaller school district where our tax rate would be more controllable. I just want to plead with you as a parent to please give my kids the choice. The nice thing about the situation is you can still choose to send your kids to Newfound if you feel particularly attached to that school. That's wonderful and you can do that. I can choose to send my kids to Plymouth, because it is that much closer. I have to do grocery runs, pharmacy runs, trips to the pet store, doctors, therapist, all of that is in

Plymouth and I would love the opportunity to be able to cut down on my household expenses and be able to drop my kids off and then run errands without having to run back-and-forth between Bristol and Plymouth and then back to Bristol again. I just want to urge you to please put yourself in the parent shoes, and to consider that this choice will make things a lot more affordable.

Britta Matthews:

We are hearing a lot about choice and about taxes and having more control over curriculum but as a reminder when you are tuitioned into a high school you no longer have a seat on the budget committee or the school board so you don't have a choice after that.

Michele Lacroix:

I just have a couple of points. It has been alluded that potentially we would censor written content. I would hope that would be something that would be very much discouraged because libraries should contain every option available as free speech. Busing, which was mentioned as an issue potentially now, and could still be an issue because we will still have kids that would be going to Newfound or Plymouth, so that could be an issue as well. Regarding the committee that was put in place to look at the funding model, they were disbanded, and they did determine that the current solution was the best solution so they did not look into it any further after that. I urge you to consider all of these things. It seems to me like scare tactics. We need to think more logically, and remember that there is no real answers yet on a lot of things. It reminds me of my oldest daughter, I used to say to her. When are you going to plan what you're doing and she would say, "Mom I don't need to plan. I just go for it and hope for the best." I think this is not really where we should experiment. We should have more things in place to really help us. These are our kids that were putting out there as guinea pigs.

Gary Easson:

Just the tax bill section alone scares me, what might happen to our taxes. What I've been reading about this week, I've been somewhat impressed with this plan. As I understand it, we could revert back to the old system but right now I'm not too crazy about the way things have been going and I see this as a good plan. Also, we were brought up with decent morality and I've seen this for a long while the misuse of the term "freedom of speech ". Some people can't handle it as adults look at people who turn around and become homegrown terrorist, we've seen that.

(Moderator interrupts to help the body stay on topic.)

John Rescigno:

I just want to point out that the tailing-out agreement does state that children can remain in the same school that they are currently in middle school, high school, etc. again this is about stabilizing your taxes. It's about school choice and the right education for your children.

A motion is made to move the vote and seconded.

A petition is presented to request secret ballot.

The moderator gives the petition to the supervisors of the checklist to assure those who signed are in the room and on the checklist. With this done, the moderator reads the warrant article again and instructions are given on the procedure for the secret ballot. Voting commences and takes about 20 minutes.

The result of the vote on Article 2: 109 “yes”, 10 “no”.

A motion is made to restrict future reconsideration of article 2 this is seconded. The motion passes. There will be no further discussion on Article 2.

The Moderator reads Article 3 as written.

Warrant Article 3

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **nine hundred twenty thousand four hundred seventy-four dollars** (\$920,474) which represents the operating budget for the ensuing year. Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed.

Select Board recommends this article 3–0

John motions to except article 3 as written. Tony Albert seconds

Discussion on this took place at the Public Hearing so the floor is open for discussion.

Sherry Nelson:

Back some time ago we had a hearing for this budget. We were talking about the Administrative Assistant versus the Administrator. I got to calling and visiting different towns in the area and found that there were differences according to population. For example, New Hampton has an Administrator, but they have more than 2000 people. Bridgewater has an Administrative Assistant with 2000 people. So, it's a personal choice of the Towns people. Danbury has 1300 people and they have an Administrative Assistant. Alexandria has an Administrative Assistant with 1900 people. Rumney an Administrator with 1500 people. Meanwhile, Groton has 590 people and an Administrative Assistant, and my feeling is that we should stay with an Administrative Assistant with a raise, Sara, with a raise.

Town Administrators are usually found in towns with larger populations than our town and the proposed 2024 budget list \$64,480 as Sara 's wages for an Administrative Assistant/Administrator. I can't tell which.

Moderator:

We're not voting on her job title we're just voting to accept the operating budget for the ensuing year. The discussion should be on the operating budget not job titles, that's not what the article were voting on is. So, you can speak to the budget line item and what your thoughts on that are.

Sara Smith:

Currently, the reason it says Administrator/Assistant is because currently that's what I am but after the meeting the Selectman have the authority to change the position which they have already voted to do after this meeting so I will be the Town Administrator. That part is not up for discussion The part that is, is the pay.

John Rescigno:

That's because the job that she does is that of an Administrator.

Sherry Nelson:

No, I don't think it is but it's a good job and I would give her a raise this year. I certainly would, but I don't think the pay of an Administrator should go. I wish to amend article 3 that her

operating budget for the ensuing year be \$55,751.27 (not in writing).

Moderator:

Before I let anyone further speak, I just want to let you know as a Moderator, any changes to specific line items on the operating budget can be done, however, the Selectmen do have the authority to spend, according to that operating budget and move funds as they see fit. You, as a governing body can change the line items but they can... (interrupted).

I'm just letting you know about the law regarding the operating budget according to the State of New Hampshire. Again, it is your right to change the line items, however, I just wanted to make sure you understand the role of the Selectman.

Pam Hamel:

I make a motion to amend warrant article 3.

Moderator reads the amendment.

Amendment to Article 3

Amendment to Article 3: "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **nine hundred nine thousand two hundred eighty two dollars** (\$909,282) which represents the Operating Budget for the ensuing year. Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed. The intent of this article is to reduce line, 4130-1 from \$64,480 to \$53,288."

Amendment is seconded by Deb Johnson.

Pam Hamel discusses the amendment:

The intent of the amendment is to reduce line 4130.1 from \$64,480 to \$53,288. That is the line for the Administrative Assistant and it does allow for a 3% increase in rate this year. should you guys accept that. I do want to speak to the reason for why I believe that you should reduce the budget on that particular line.

So, Groton is a small town on a hilltop. We have no Main Street we have no store fronts; we have 10 or so miles of town-maintained roads, our population is under 600, and it's made up of a lot of older people and retired people. Small communities in the State of New Hampshire are very unique in that they have all the basic responsibilities of larger communities, but on a much smaller scale.

This is a situation that we have here in Groton. The Town still must file all of the annual filings and all the quarterly filings. We still have a budget and payroll. We still have a welfare department and all the things that larger communities have. Maybe not all of them, but all of the essential ones we also must have. The big difference is the scale of this. We are a very small community. There are no departments that report directly to the Administrative Assistant. The Administrative Assistant does not have hiring authority. They should only be semi-involved in employee review, and that would be in the sense of taking minutes really. They are not involved in employee disciplinary action. At the direction of the Board, they can work on drafting policies and procedures. At the direction of the Board, they can search numerous topics, but the end of all of it is, this Town has always selected a Board of three to run the town with an Administrative Assistant who aids them. Nothing has changed about this. If it has, the Select Board has not sought out the will of the people to see if you want to change that position. They have made this decision that they're going to change it without asking anybody, without getting the input from the Town. As Sherry mentioned, that are towns our size, and even larger, have Administrative

Assistants, and you named a bunch of them. Danbury, Alexandria, Piermont, Bridgewater, Wentworth, Dorchester, Orange, Grafton, Lempster, Hill, they all have Administrative Assistants. They don't have Town Administrators and most of those communities are actually larger than ours. I understand that the Board has an employee that they highly value and guess what, she does a great job, and I'm not here to talk about that. They have an employee they highly value, and they have already done a number of things to boost the overall package for that position, including perpetual three-day, weekends, holiday pay that exceeds the holiday pay of any other employee in this Town. Also, they have already done consistent and deserved pay increases of 3% every year with 6% last year. So, it's not like we don't value our employee. She does a great job but this is not the private sector. We don't create positions here to meet company growth. There's no growth here. This is the same tax base we always had so why would we want to increase the salary. It's a \$12,000 increase which is a lot of money and again it's no reflection on the level of work that the employee currently is doing.

In addition, I am very disturbed by the fact that the Select Board did not reach out to the Legislative Body, us, to get our input on this they just made the decision, and I find it very disturbing that they had no job description for this even in February at the budget hearing where we had to request one and then they put one fourth. They probably had started it but we didn't have a completed job description because they had nothing to present to us at that hearing, then when they did leave it out, the date on it was 2023 but I don't believe it was completed until 2024 and I don't like that that happened that way either. Yes, it's a lot of the same work but that's what it's like when you're in a small community and we are in a very small community.

John Rescigno:

So, this is about employee retention and Sara is the root of the tree. Sara does all of the legwork so the Select Board will be able to make the decisions that they make. We don't have the amount of time that Sara puts in funneling/gathering all the information together. Select Boards constantly change and without the root of the tree the change would be very difficult. Are you going to rely on the Select Board to do the work for FEMA? That's a 2-to-3-year learning curve. Then at which point we may no longer be around.

Sara has raised over \$1 million for the Town in grant money. Prior to this it was \$45,000 put forth by Slim.

When we talk about an involved employee, let's talk about recruiting employees. Christina tried to recruit Sara a couple years ago to Bristol. Pam herself tried to recruit Sara by sending her potential benefits along with her pay increase should she leave the Town and go over to the windfarm. Sara is not only a valuable employee to us, she's a valuable employee to you. It's so difficult to find good employees today. Sara not only answers emails when she's on vacation but she came to take care of business for her Town when she had her surgery. You're not going to replace that. That is something of value that cannot be replaced. I know this because I've been running businesses for the last 30 years and you cannot find someone who wants to work. I had to hire my wife because I couldn't find a full-time employee. So this is about employee retention and the quality of work that Sara does that is not replaceable. She does do it for us she does it for you just the work that she put on FEMA (pulls out large FEMA note book and places it on the desk). If you think a Select Board member has time to do this? I work 50 hours a week. There's not a Select Board member in the Town prior or in the future that has the time to do this or to learn what needs to be learned to do this. This is what an Administrator does. It's years of work and learning and a commitment to the Town. That's what we're voting on here, employee retention.

Hilary, Coles:

I just want to share my perspective, being in a similar age group. I have also been going through a job search. I freelance and run my own business of sorts, so I do a lot of budgeting and a lot of work to understand how much I need to charge so I can afford just living. It's very expensive just to go outside and breathe these days. For reference, a living wage, enough money to pay my bills and to put money away for retirement is \$74,600. That's how much I need to make per year in order to keep my house. She's not earning a living wage. I work with her part time and I see the work that she does. She's there 2 to 3 hours before us every morning she does the work of multiple people and to be honest with you if she were to get hit by a bus, God forbid, I wouldn't want to struggle as a Town to find someone else to fill those shoes. And to be honest with you there are a lot of people who couldn't afford to do what she does for how much she makes. They would lose their houses. They would not be able to put away money for retirement. They would not be able to take care of things they need to.

I respectfully disagree with Pam. This is not necessarily the same tax base and our society and our community are going to continue to change and hopefully we'll have more young people moving in too. We really need to consider what we're setting ourselves up for. My mortgage is just under \$1700 a month, it's really unfortunate that I had to move during the pandemic so keep in mind what a living wage actually looks like in 2023 because that is not what she's making now.

The Moderator reminds the body that the amendment just reduces the overall operating budget per the DRA. The Select Board can take that operating budget and move monies around as they see fit.

Tony Albert:

We have done a wage study. It sounds as though many are hung up on the title. We've come up with this Administrator title because her work lines up more as an Administrator than an Administrative Assistant. MRI says her job title is more of an Administrator rather than Administrative Assistant, it's more of a title change, but her duties will mostly remain the same. She still reports to the Selectman what she does. She is our eyes and ears. For us and the other departments highway, police, everybody, the public. She contacts us. People may think she is a Town Manager. A Town Manager is a completely different form of government. The title change matches the duties that she's doing. On the pay part of it, Sara has been here 10 years. With her knowledge and understanding and that she is a resident makes her just invaluable to us. Those around us in the same position are at or above this pay we've requested. We didn't just pick this number out of the air. We did our research. Towns right next to us pay this wage. we don't want to lose her we need to get competitive. We are not going to find someone else with the same abilities. It's invaluable what she does. I'm retired, I'm not going to put the hours in that she does. I don't understand this stuff. If I don't understand people who call me with questions, I tell them to call Sara she's the one who can answer their questions. If she can't, she'll find the answer. She's a very valuable resource and she's very deserving of this pay and the title. MRI says the job she is doing is that of a Town Administrator. She doesn't have any more authority. She still answers to the Select Board.

Bill Jolly:

I have questions for the Board. The budget is 900 and change, (Moderator reads the amount from the Article, \$920,474). I don't think we should be discussing Sara's role. What is the pragmatic impact of this. I hate taxes; however, we also get what we pay for and I don't want to see Sara go somewhere else. I don't always love what Sara does, but you don't always love

what I say or do either. That's part of life. I'm rounding it off, if you took \$12,000 roughly and divide by \$900,000 you get 1.3 cents, think about that, less than pennies, a penny plus, and I don't think it's inappropriate to do this.

I want to address another thing. This has happened a couple of times that the Board has done things without effectively communicating with the public. Going forward. I think it would be really good to be more communicative about stuff like this. Get some feedback. Still come to your decisions whatever they are, we elected you, but take the input and consider what people are saying. I don't hear a complaint about Sara, not one, I hear some complaints about job titles so the question for that would be if there's a description in your management books of the new role versus the old role. It would be nice to read that in advance. If the job title changed, but nothing else changed. I don't have a problem with that. There's still a restriction of duties. There's some concern that it might change the pay scale. You are not a Town Manager. Managers have a lot more to do and they also have a staff that works with them to accomplish what needs doing. Sara is doing an Administrator's role whether she's the Administrator or the Administrative Assistant that really shouldn't matter. So, we're talking about pennies to each of us, let's not get too worked up over it.

John Rescigno:

I want to point out two things. That's what Public Hearings are for. That's when we informed the public on what we are doing. There's 119 people here today there may have been 25 there for the hearing so people don't really want to hear what we have to say sometimes. At the follow up meeting, we respond to questions that you asked during the Hearing there were zero people there. I actually sat there and answered all the questions to a crowd of zero. I thought I was going insane. I was speaking to no one. We try to let the public know, but sometimes the public doesn't show up for us to be able to let them know, we've listened to everything the public has to say because we've changed things in the past. We've taken your input and such.

Motion made to move the vote on the amendment and seconded.

Someone from the audience asked that those left to comment should stay on topic and the moderator agrees.

Sara Smith:

I didn't say anything at the public hearing because I didn't think it was my place. Obviously, the Selectman made this decision, but there was a study that went through back in 2015 where it did discuss what the job roles were. They sat with each individual and we went through everything that I did and it was more the role of a Town Administrator. There wasn't at the time a change, and I never once reminded them of that, or said, I was leaving if this doesn't happen. I will say that I not only work my 40 hours, many people here will call me or text me. You call me on my personal phone, Facebook message. I'm available all the time and I do this because I truly care about people and about the town. I have been approached by my past Job to go back and was recently approached by a friend who works for the co-op and to start there is \$57,000 without the supervisor role. The amendment is to make me less than that so I don't want to leave. People are saying it's not personal, it's hard not to take it personally when you put in so much time and take pride in your job and you go above and beyond all the time for a lot of people. There are many here who are going to speak against it or for it. I just want you all to keep that in mind that things have changed. If people want to say, it's the same job as 10 years ago when the previous lady was here, your life isn't the same as it was 10 years ago, and nothing is the same since Covid. All the reporting has changed costs have changed you name it, it's not the same job. So, I think that's not just my job. All positions here in the town are

underpaid. It's sad that you can go work at the McDonald's or Dunkin' Donuts and get paid more per hour than you can get working at the town transfer station. And it's sad that I, after working here for more than 10 years could start out somewhere brand new and make more money than I do here after working for 10 years. You can amend it but to what she says, it's just ridiculous.

Michele Lacroix:

I propose we go even less they can spend it however they want. The actuals were \$100,000 less than the budget.

Moderator:

You would need to put this in writing as a separate amendment. We need to vote on this amendment first.

Ruth Millett:

Most people know I'm a Bible thumper so I want to say this. In the Bible it says that a workman is worthy of his hire. I work in the office with Sara. I see what she does. I see what she's done for the town, and I believe that the amounts that are in the budget right now are appropriate. We can't go back to many years to find out what people did in the past we've got to live in the present and things are changing, they're not the same as they were 10 years ago. I believe the budget that we have is appropriate and I think that we should stick with it.

Moderator: we are going to vote on the proposed amendment. (moderator reads the amendment to article 3 again).

There is a motion to move the vote and seconded.

The amendment to article 3 has been defeated.

Moderator asks for any discussion on article 3 as written, and proceeds to read the article again.

Dave Leone:

We are asked to speak on the money that's being spent, but we're not asked to speak on the people that are doing the job or the job that they're doing while we have been paying for a job. It doesn't matter who the person is that's doing the job we're paying for a job to get done if we're paying a price that's an average price and it works for what's been going on, I think that's good. Speaking to the budget and what really confuses me; the budget and the Select Board, I'd agree with Pam that there are names being put into the budget that aren't the same. Are we voting to pay a Road Agent or are we voting to pay a Highway Superintendent? It's written two different ways and do we have someone filling those two positions presently? I look at the Towns website and if you read what's on the website, we're looking for a Highway Administrator. And I don't believe we have a road agent when you read what we have in the book. There was a great letter, written Bubba, who I assume is our Road Agent, but I don't know that if you read the letter, and it says in the letter that we have to thank people for stepping up to the plate, but it doesn't say why. It says we have to do different things but all the information is not out there to us. Do we have a road agent or don't we? When you go to the Town's website, it says we're looking for a road agent or a Highway Superintendent. Why does it say that if we have one? I don't want to point fingers and say somebody didn't take it away. There's a lot of questions in this book that really aren't answered at all. You read one page it says one thing if you read another page, it says a different title I think somebody's not doing their job.

Sara Smith:

So, when this town report went to print it was December this is the 2023 report so as of December 2023, he was just a part of the Highway Department and not the Road Agent but most recently he's been promoted back to the Road Agent when we posted it, nobody applied. No one was interested. Once he was able to go forward again, he did and he was selected that is why in the budget there is a Road Agent line because we do currently have one. The ad will be taken down on Monday. So, it's not contradicting, that's how it was then, but as of today there is a Road Agent.

There is a motion to amend article 3 as follows:

Amendment to Article 3

Amendment to Article 3: "To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of \$853,935 which represents the operating budget for the ensuing year. Said sum does not include special or individual articles addressed." Submitted by Michele Lacroix.

There is no second to the motion and so the amendment is defeated.

A motion is made to move the vote on article 3 and seconded.

The moderator reads article 3 as written again.

Article 3 passes.

Moderator reads article 4

Warrant Article 4

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **one hundred forty-seven thousand five hundred dollars** (\$147,500) to be added to the previously established capital reserve funds (majority vote required).

Public Works CR Fund (December 31, 2023 balance: \$170,952.23): \$50,000
Disaster Relief CR Fund (December 31, 2023 balance: \$136,936.36): \$50,000.
Police Cruiser CR Fund (December 31, 2023 balance: \$27,064.58): \$10,000
Townhouse CR Fund (December 31, 2023 balance: \$31,678.27): \$10,000
Truck/Sander CR Fund (December 31, 2023 balance: \$22,020.32): \$10,000
Heavy Equipment CR Fund (December 31, 2023 balance: \$11,674.92): \$10,000
Assessing Reval CR Fund (December 31, 2023 balance: \$18,908.05): \$7500
Total Capital Reserve Funds \$147,500.

The Select Board recommends this article 3-0

Tony makes a motion to except Article 4 as written and Ron second

Tony Albert:

These are the normal additions to each of the Capital Reserve Funds. The only one we've changed this year we've added \$50,000 to the Public Works Capital Reserve. That is because we've had to do some things for the USDA process to go forward, and we had to wait over a

year to get a bid out for the building so we anticipated some more cost to the building. Other than that, all the other amounts are about the same as last year.

Dave Leone:

You say there are additional cost to the public works building. Can you tell us what costs have been paid as of now? Once again, I have read through the minutes and have seen in the minutes where a motion is made to pay money to someone to do work and it was said that as long as it's under \$10,000, it doesn't have to go out to bid and you can just pay them. Where the minute state that, a committee member motions to bill the Town so they can pay this invoice. They don't have to hurry because it's not in our budget and we don't have to reflect that in budget but we have this money to spend so we can spend the money. I'm trying to add up all the money that we've spent. I read where we paid Mike to do work on the site and it was four days, then I read other minutes that are months later it's almost identical verbiage that says that Mike worked for four days so we're going to pay him more money, but I don't see any totals as to how much we paid on this project and where we are going. I see a lot of people who are apparently making money off this and it's not going out to bid. What are those totals in dollars and cents?

John Rescigno:

So, there were a lot of delays in the building due to the USDA grant. Federal monies are often offered but you have to work for it. So that building is going out for bid now and soon we will be opening up bids and due to the process taking longer than we had anticipated obviously with inflation we are just trying to raise the money so we can move forward.

Dave Leone: My question wasn't answered.

Moderator interrupts and states that she cannot make the Board answer the question.

(Dave leaves the meeting)

John Rescigno:

We have invoices if you would like to see them. There was some site work that was requested by the USDA. This is not something we just did for ourselves or had extra cash in our pockets. we wanted to hand out to a friend. This was stuff that was requested by the USDA in order for us to proceed forward.

Sara Smith:

The Town has a procurement policy that anything \$10,000 or less does not need to go out for bid. The work was hired out. Anything else that was mentioned was under \$10,000 what is going out to bid is the entire building project which is obviously more than \$10,000.

Tony Albert:

Some of the expense on that was for the engineer we had to pay out for the USDA. We had to do all of the plans over and everything. We paid a lot of that out of our funds. That money did not come out of the Warrant Article.

Robert Ellis: I think the money he's talking about was money that was spent even before we voted on the building.

Nick Blodgett:

So, his question was answered.

A Motion is made to move the vote and is seconded.

The moderator reads the article again.

Article 4 for passes.

The moderator reads article 5 as written.

Warrant Article 5

Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise in appropriate the sum of **eighty- five thousand dollars** (\$85,000) for the purpose of paving the driveways and parking areas at the Transfer Station and the new Public Works Department with **forty thousand dollars** (\$40,000) to come from the Grafton County ARPA funding and the remainder of **forty-five thousand dollars** (\$45,000) to be raised through taxation.

The Select Board recommends this article 3–0

John makes motion to except the article 5 as written Tony Albert seconds.

John Rescigno:

The USDA expects the Town garage area to be paved and we want to also pave at the transfer station. We've recently had several cars get stuck in the mud and had to be pushed out. \$45,000 will be raised through taxation then the other \$40,000 from the Grafton County ARPA fund.

Jeremy Elder:

Are you proposing that we will pave this before construction?

Ron Madan:

Part of this, if anyone doesn't think the transfer station needs this, come by on Sunday after it's rained all night. The other half is for once they build to blacktop that area too, so it won't get into the same position that the Transfer Station is in.

A Motion is made to call the vote and seconded.

The moderator reads the article again.

Article 5 passes.

The moderator reads Article 6

Warrant Article 6

Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **sixty thousand dollars** (\$60,000) toward the repair of damages caused by the severe storm in December 2022. FEMA

has already awarded the town \$145,394.25 which the Selectman have accepted pursuant to RSA 31:95 – B. These funds will be combined to repair the damage.

The Select Board recommends this article 3–0.

Tony Albert motions to move the article as written, and John seconds.

Sara Smith:

All this is, is the 25% to 75% ratio for FEMA. This is the 25% Town portion.

Bill Jolly:

Has the work been completed?

Sara Smith:

No, the emergency work has been done and we didn't receive the FEMA money until winter time and work cannot be done in winter, so, we put this out for bid and we have somebody ready to do it once the weather allows.

(Slim Spafford speaks about an article in the paper for grants, however, Sara explains that these are not grants that the Town can apply for as they are for the December 2023 storm when the Town did not receive damage. The storm didn't affect us so we are not eligible.)

The moderator ends this discussion as it is not speaking toward the article specifically.

A motion is made to vote and seconded

The moderator read the article again.

Article 6 passes.

The moderator reads article 7:

Warrant Article 7

Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of \$55,000 for chip sealing. (submitted by the Highway Department).

The Select Board recommend this article 3–0.

Tony motions to accept the articles written John seconded.

Robert Ellis:

Many years after paving, the pavement begins to deteriorate. This chip sealing should put another 5 to 7 years back on. Just a more inexpensive way to preserve the asphalt. We will do a little more than a mile up the other side of Halls Brook. This will probably be an ongoing thing, so will try to do a mile or so every year.

Jeremy Elder:

What is the difference of chip sealing versus doing a top coat? chip seal wears off as you plow. I work in an industry and if I'm able I recommend a 2-inch topcoat. You get a longer life out of it.

Robert Ellis: For the one mile we're looking at \$50,000 versus \$300,000 for asphalt.

A motion is made to move the vote and seconded.

The Moderator reads the article again.

Article 7 passes.

Moderator reads article 8:

Warrant Article 8

Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **thirty-six thousand dollars** (\$36,000) for a new compactor and converter for the Transfer Station. (submitted by the Transfer Station)

The Select Board recommends this article 3-0

Ron Madan makes a motion to move the article as written, Tony seconds.

Norm Willey:

As you all know, the compactor is falling apart. We've patched it up for the past five years. It's 23 years old and wasn't meant to do the amount of work that is being made to do now. It has an old-style mechanical system on it and it's having a hard time. Last summer the motor burned out and it took Casella a month to locate one, and the whole thing is starting to fall apart. We looked in the past to replace it, the problem was they don't make compactors that have single-phase power, which is what this one is. We need three-phase power for one of these newer state-of-the-art compactors. That is why we haven't been able to do anything. Last year they came out with this thing called an "inverter". What it does is it takes single-phase and turns it into three-phase power and this compactor we're looking at replacing with has that option on it. Now we can go ahead. We received a quote from the power company of \$180,000 to bring three-phase power up there and that's just to come up from Frank Harris' house. That's the reason we've dealt with the old compactor for the last four or five years. One of the other things with the old one was an influx of new people in Town. It only has 35,000 psi. The new one is 55,000 psi so we won't have to get it emptied as often and we won't be paying as much in transportation costs.

Tony Tavares:

Is this being used more now because there is less recycling?

Norm Willey:

Yes, we also keep track every day how many visitors we get. This is my seventh year since I retired and we've gone from an average of 30 to 40 people per day, to 50 or 70 some days and usually on Sundays we can have as many as 90 people there. The volume of stuff coming in has virtually doubled since I've been here and we use the same equipment to run the place.

(Gary Easson questions whether there is three-phase going directly to the Transfer Station, but the answer is, "no", it stops at Frank Harris' house. Gary also advises as an electrician that the inverter should be overrated by 35% if not it will burn out.)

Norm Willey:

We have to put our trust in Casella. They are the ones who gave us this quote. They are in the business, so I hope they know what they're doing.

A motion is made to take the vote and that is seconded.

Moderator reads article 8 again.

Article 8 passes.

Moderator reads article 9.

Warrant Article 9

Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **seventeen thousand five hundred dollars** (\$17,500) for an equipment trailer for the Highway Department. (Submitted by the Highway Department.)

Tony Albert motions to move the amendment as written and John Rescino seconds

John Rescigno motions to amend the article

The moderator reads the amended article.

Amended article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise in appropriate the sum of **ten thousand eight hundred fifty dollars** (\$10,850) for an equipment trailer for the Highway Department. (Submitted by the Highway Department.)

The Select Board recommend this amended article 3–0

This amendment to article 9 is due to the cost of the trailer changing from when we originally requested the quote until now.

A motion is made to move the vote and seconded.

Amended article 9 passes.

Moderator reads article 10

Warrant Article 10

Article 10: To see if the town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **eleven thousand five hundred dollars** (\$11,500) for a new mower for the Highway Department. (Submitted by the Highway Department.)

Select Board recommend this article 3–0

John motions to move the article as written, Tony seconds.

Robert Ellis:

The old mower has close to 60,000 hours on it and it's beginning to burn oil. It has been well-used we will continue to use it till it dies to mow the transfer station. The new mower will be at the Town Garage to mow the field.

A motion is made to move this vote and is seconded.

The moderator reads article 10 again.

Article 10 passes.

The Moderator reads article 11:

Warrant Article 11

Article 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise appropriate the sum of **four thousand eight hundred dollars** (\$4800) for a new garage door at the Transfer Station. (Submitted by the Transfer Station.)

Select Board recommend this article 3-0

Ron motions to move the article as written, Tony seconds

Norm Willey:

The reason behind this is with the old-set up 2/3 of the front of the building was originally designed to take a stab at recycling with bins. The eaves are not closed in on the building so when the wind starts blowing it rips those doors and rips hinges off. Every year we have to monkey around with them especially after winter. What we plan to do is to have the doors taken off, frame in a wall and put in a 9 x 7 commercial quality overhead door similar to at the end where we keep tires.

A motion is made to call the vote and is seconded

The moderator reads the article again.

Article 11 passes.

Moderator reads article 12

Warrant Article 12

Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise appropriate the sum of **forty-two hundred dollars** (\$4200) for a new security system for the Townhouse.

The Select Board recommends this article 3-0

Tony Albert motions to move the article as written, Ron seconds.

John Rescigno:

The alarm system we currently have in the Townhouse has been here for quite some time and we've had some issues with it. It is becoming difficult to replace parts. It's time to look into a new system.

A motion is made to move the vote and seconded.

Moderator reads article 12 again.

Article 12 passes.

The moderator reads article 13.

Warrant Article 13

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise an appropriate the sum of **one hundred four dollars** (\$104) for deposit into the Conservation Fund, with set amount to come from the unassigned fund balance. This sum represents 3% of the Timber Tax Revenue received in 2023. (Submitted by the Conservation Commission.) (Majority vote required.)

Tony Albert motions to accept the vote as written, John seconds.

There is no discussion and a motion is made to move the vote and seconded.

Article 13 passes.

A moderator reads article 14

Warrant Article 14

Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to change the name of the Atwell Orange Brook Bridge Replacement Capital Reserve Fund to be named "Town Bridges Capital Reserve Fund, to change the purpose to cover construction, reconstruction replacement, and maintenance of all Town bridges and to raise and appropriate **nineteen thousand three hundred thirty one dollars** (\$19,331) to be placed in the fund which amount is the same as the one-time payment made to the Town of Groton by the State of New Hampshire in 2022. This amount to come from the unexpended fund balance, with no amount to be raised by taxation. further, to keep the Selectman as agents to expend from said fund. (2/3 majority vote required.)

The Selectman recommend this article 3-0

Tony motions to except the article as written and Ron seconds.

John Rescigno:

When we originally created this Capital Reserve Fund, we had only one bridge in the Town. Since then, we've installed box culverts, and those are now considered bridges. When it was originally created, it was stated to replace, and we realize sometimes we need maintenance coverage. We'd like to change it so that it covers those box culverts on Sculptured Rocks Road and also the Atwell Orange Bridge and not just replacement, but also repair and maintenance.

A motion is made to move the vote and seconded.

The moderator reads the article again.

Article 14 passes.

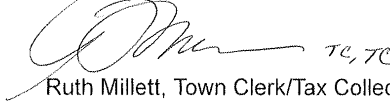
Warrant Article 15

The moderator read the Article and a motion is made to move the vote and seconded.

Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to allow the Selectman to transact any other business that may legally come before the town.

Article 15 passes.

Respectfully Submitted this 26th day of March, 2024

 *TC, TC*
Ruth Millett, Town Clerk/Tax Collector

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF VITAL RECORDS ADMINISTRATION
GROTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Resident Death Report

01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024

Decedent's Name	Date of Death	Place of Death	Father's Name	Mother's Maiden Name	Military
Koslow, Joseph Edward	02/05/2024	Laconia, NH	Koslow, Ruvin	Landes, Edith	N
Johnson SR, William Paul	08/09/2024	Franklin, NH	Johnson, Howard	Royce, Mary	N
Person, Rebecca Lynn	08/25/2024	Concord, NH	Person, Richard	Woodward, Arlene	N

Resident Marriage Report

01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024

Person A's Name	Residence	Person B's Name	Residence	Town of Issuance	Place of Marriage	Date of Marriage
Gromko, Brianna Marie	Groton	Ellis, Sawyer James	Groton	Groton	Groton	08/10/2024
Kuplin, Casey P	Groton	Dow, Michelle A	Groton	Groton	Groton	09/21/2024



Don't Forget to Register Your Dog!

All dog licenses are due by April 30th. 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	



The Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire
State House, 107 North Main Street, Concord, NH 03301

CINDE WARMINGTON
EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
DISTRICT TWO

TO: All District Two Cities and Towns
FROM: Executive Councilor Cinde Warmington
2024 ANNUAL REPORT

It has been an honor to serve the people of your community and the 81 cities and towns across District 2 during calendar year 2024. The Executive Council was busy working throughout the year to actively administer the affairs to the State of New Hampshire. We held 21 meetings of the Governor & Council to vote on over 2,840 contracts and approved billions of dollars directed towards spurring economic growth, supporting environmental initiatives including many clean water projects, and expanding access to health care for all Granite Staters.

This year we approved the final remaining contracts arising from the federal Covid relief funds ensuring these dollars were put to the best possible use for the benefit of our state. To be certain no funds went unallocated, we took action at the end of 2024 to distribute any unobligated dollars to the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority for the purpose of addressing the pressing affordable housing crisis in our state.

In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings of the Council, we held 17 public hearings to hear testimony regarding nominations for 2 administrative agency leadership positions, one to confirm Stephanie L. Simek as the Executive Director of Fish & Game, and one to confirm Mark W. Dell'Orfano to serve on the Public Utilities Commission, and 15 judicial appointments including 12 circuit court justices and 3 superior court justices. The Council also confirmed hundreds of individuals to serve as notaries public, justices of the peace and as volunteers to serve on various New Hampshire boards and commissions.

As I complete my term on the Executive Council, I want to thank the people of District 2 for electing me to serve as your representative on the Executive Council these past 4 years. It has truly been an honor and a pleasure to work with all of you to help make state government more responsive to the needs of communities all across our District. As I step away from the Council, I welcome Executive Councilor-elect Karen Liot Hill into the role and urge you to contact her if you have any comments, questions or concerns in the future.

Sincerely,
Cinde Warmington
Executive Councilor District 2

Notes

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
www.grotonnh.org

SELECT BOARD MEETINGS

The 1st and 3rd Tuesday Evening of the month: 7:00 pm

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

Town Administrator:
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
Hilary Coles – Deputy

744-8849
744-8803 fax

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

Animal Control Officer: Groton Police

EMERGENCY: 911

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Public Works Director: Robert Ellis

744-3758

