

# **2018**

# **GROTON TOWN REPORT**



**REPORT OF THE TOWN OFFICERS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDING**  
**DECEMBER 31, 2018**

# IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Agent to Convey Town Real Estate	Deborah Jurist	802-584-3049
Selectboard Chair	Wade Johnson, Sr.	802-584-3628
Selectboard	Deborah Jurist	802-584-3049
Selectboard	Aaron Smith	802-584-3308
Selectboard Secretary	Debra Johnson	802-584-3628
Health Officer	Daniel Webster	802-584-4108
Deputy Health Officer	Mark Shallberg	802-584-3283
Animal Control Officer & Pound Keeper	Michele Boyer	802-439-6877
Fire Chief	Wade Johnson, Sr.	802-584-3628
Asst Fire Chief	Shaun Stetson	802-584-3204
Forest Fire Warden	Wade Johnson, Sr.	802-584-3628
Forest Fire Warden Deputy	Justin Carle	802-584-4288
Highway Department	Brent Smith Phillip Palmer	802-584-3209
Emergency Management Coordinator	Brent Smith	802-584-3765
Town Clerk	Linda L. Nunn	802-584-3276
Assistant Town Clerk	Dorothy Knott	
Assistant Town Clerk	Lisa Hart	
Assistant Town Clerk	Carrie Peters	
Town Treasurer	Lisa Hart	802-584-3131
Assistant Treasurer	Carrie Peters	
Assistant Treasurer	Linda Nunn	
Collector of Current Taxes	Lisa Hart	802-584-3131
Asst Collector of Current Taxes	Carrie Peters	
Asst Collector of Current Taxes	Linda L. Nunn	
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Carrie Peters	802-584-3004
Zoning Administrator	Bradley Houghton, Jr.	802-584-4284
Asst. Zoning Administrator	Daniel Webster	802-584-4108

Zoning Board of Adjustment	Aaron Smith	802-584-3308
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	802-584-3310
	Mark Gleicher	802-584-3049
Fence Viewers	Terry Dana	802-584-3756
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	802-584-3310
	Kenneth Murray	802-584-3227
Inspectors Wood, Lumber, Shingles	Robert Dorr	802-584-3359
	Kenneth Ricker	802-584-3241
NVDA Representative	Brent Smith	802-584-3765
NVDA Alternate	Mark Gleicher	802-584-3049
NEK Solid Waste Supervisor	Timothy Dailey Sr.	802-584-3876
NEK Solid Waste Alternate	Caroline Diggins	802-584-3589
Tree Warden	Henry Knott	802-584-3243
Weigher of Coal	Frank Lapham	802-249-4887
Webmaster	Dave Spencer	802-584-3717
Planning Commission	Carrie Peters	802-584-3341
	Steve Hart	802-584-3936
	Jennifer Ivery	802-584-4067
Justice of the Peace	Brent Smith	802-584-3765
	Carrie Peters	802-584-3341
	Timothy Dailey Sr	802-584-3876
	Tirone Dyer	802-584-3730
	Linda Nunn	802-584-3881
	Dorothy Knott	802-584-3243
	Deborah Jurist	802-584-3049
First Constable	Jim Downing	802-584-3211
Second Constable	Shaun Stetson	802-584-3204
Free Public Library	Jodi Fleurie-Wohlleb	802-584-3358
Lister	Caroline Diggins	802-584-3155
	Dorothy Knott	802-584-3155
Town Grand Juror	Gary Lamberton	802-584-3917
Green Up Coordinator	Alissa Smith	802-584-3308

## Town of Groton Contact Information

### **Town Offices & Hours of Operation**

#### **Town Clerk's Office**

Town Clerk: Linda Nunn  
Asst. Clerk: Lisa Hart, Carrie Peters, & Dorothy Knott  
Telephone: 584-3276  
Fax: 584-3792  
Email: [townclerk@grotonvt.com](mailto:townclerk@grotonvt.com)  
Hours: Mon.-Thurs.: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Town Website: [www.grotonvt.com](http://www.grotonvt.com)

#### **Town Treasurer's Office**

Town Treasurer – Lisa Hart  
Asst. Treasurer – Carrie Peters, Linda Nunn  
Telephone: 584-3131  
Email: [treasurer@grotonvt.com](mailto:treasurer@grotonvt.com)  
Hours: Mon. – Thurs.: 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

#### **Highway Department**

Road Commissioner: Brent Smith  
Road Crew: Phillip Palmer  
Telephone: 584-3209 Pager 802-290-1355

#### **Animal Control Officer**

Michele Boyer  
Telephone: 439-6877

#### **Groton Free Public Library**

Librarian: Jodi Fleurie-Wohlleb  
Telephone: 584-3358  
Email: [grotonlibraryvt@gmail.com](mailto:grotonlibraryvt@gmail.com)  
Hours: Monday: 2:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Friday: 2:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Listers:** Caroline (Kitty) Diggins & Dorothy Knott  
Telephone: 584-3155  
Email: [lister1@grotonvt.com](mailto:lister1@grotonvt.com)  
Hours: Mon. – Thurs. 8:30 – 12:30 pm or by appt.

#### **Ryegate Recycling Center**

Supervisor: Gene Perkins  
Hours: Friday: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

### **Meetings**

#### **Select Board**

First and third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.  
at the Groton Community Building

#### **School Board**

Meeting posted on BMU website [www.bmuschool.org](http://www.bmuschool.org)  
& [www.grotonvt.com](http://www.grotonvt.com)

### **Municipal Calendar**

Mar. 4, 2019 – BMU School Annual Meeting  
Mar. 5, 2019 – Town Meeting  
April 1, 2019 – Dog Licenses due  
April 15, 2019 – Homestead Declaration due  
Nov. 8, 2019 – Property Taxes due  
Town offices are closed legal holidays and as posted

### **Dog Licenses**

All Dogs six months of age or older must be licensed annually between January 1 through April 1. Licenses may be obtained at the Town Clerk's Office.

A current certificate of rabies vaccination must be presented.

Fees for license on or before April 1:

\$10.00 for neutered/spayed

\$14.00 for unneutered/not spayed

Fees for license after April 1:

\$20.00 for unneutered/not spayed

\$24.00 for unneutered/not spayed

### **Groton Facebook Pages**

Groton,VT  
Groton Emergency Services  
Groton Historical Society  
Groton Free Public Library  
Groton Ryegate Fast Squad  
Groton Recreation VT  
Buckaroos of 302 Club  
First Baptist Church of Groton  
Groton VT UMC  
Groton Community Meals



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## **WARNING: NOTICE OF GROTON, VERMONT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019**

The Citizens of the Town of Groton, who are legal voters in Town Meeting are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Groton Community Building in Groton Village on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at 10 o'clock in the morning, to act on the following articles, to wit:

- ARTICLE 1** To elect a moderator for the ensuing year.
- ARTICLE 2** To act on the Town Report of the Town Officers as printed for the year ending December 31, 2018.
- ARTICLE 3** To see if, as provided in 17 V.S.A. Section 2646 (16), the Town will vote to elect a Road Commissioner or authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Road Commissioner.
- ARTICLE 4** To elect the following Town Officers as provided for by the Public Laws of Vermont, and citizens to serve on the other committees as herein specified, and to fix their compensations:

Road Commissioner	One year
Selectperson	Three years
Lister	Three years
Library Trustee	One Year
Library Trustee	Two Years
Library Trustee	Two Years
Library Trustee	Three Years
Cemetery Commissioner	Three Year
Second Constable	Two Years
Town Grand Juror	One year
Town Agent	One year
Town Agent to Convey Real Estate	One year

- ARTICLE 5** To elect by ballot one School Director to serve on the Board of Unified Union School District #21, for a three (3) year term.

**WARNING: NOTICE OF GROTON, VERMONT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING  
TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2019**

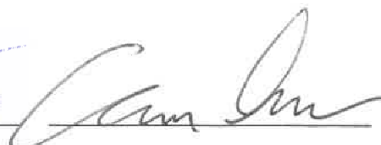
- ARTICLE 6** Shall the town establish a reserve fund to be called the Emergency Services Durable Equipment Fund to be used for the purchase and replacement of durable Fire Department and FAST equipment in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804?
- ARTICLE 7** What sum of money, shall the Town approve to raise and appropriate to fund the establishment of the Emergency Services Durable Equipment Reserve Fund?  
"Not to exceed \$18,000".
- ARTICLE 8** Shall the town appropriate a line item in the budget of \$3,500, in order to compensate a Second Constable for time during training, and for a background check?
- ARTICLE 9** Shall the town change the Emergency Reserve Funds from its original purpose,  
"providing financial stability to the Town in the case of a severe emergency?"  
To "providing stability to the Town in the case of a severe emergency, which endangers the safety and/or property of Groton or its residents?"
- ARTICLE 10** Shall the Town of Groton set the due date of Friday, November 8, 2019, by 5:00 PM as the deadline for the payment of taxes? (Postmarks are not accepted as a timely payment)
- ARTICLE 11** What sum of money shall the voters approve to raise by taxation, to be reduced by receipts, state aid and other income, to meet the current expenses and liabilities of the Town General Fund and Highway budget, including any other warned articles so voted at this town meeting, and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?
- ARTICLE 12** To transact any other business proper to come before this meeting, this does not include the expenditure of town funds or other business acted upon in the preceding articles.



Wade Johnson Sr, Selectboard Chair



Deborah Jurist, Selectboard



Aaron Smith, Selectboard

*Recorded before posting this 24th day of January 2019, at 5:00 P.M.*

Linda L. Nunn, Town Clerk

## WARNING & NOTICE

### **BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #21 ANNUAL MEETING AND PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL HEARING**

**March 4 & March 5, 2019**

The legal voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Blue Mountain Union School, Garvin Memorial Library in Wells River, Vermont on Monday, March 4, 2019 at 6:00 in the evening to transact the following business from the floor:

**Article 1:**

To elect the following officers as required by law and to authorize the Board of School Directors to fix their compensation:

Moderator  
Clerk  
Treasurer

**Article 2:**

To hear and act on the reports of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 officers for the past year.

**Article 3:**

Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 authorize the Board of School Directors to borrow money by issuance of bonds or notes not in excess of anticipated revenues for the next fiscal year.

**Article 4:**

To transact any other business thought proper under this warning.

Said meeting shall be followed immediately by a public informational hearing regarding the proposed budget and other business, to be voted on by Australian Ballot, on Tuesday, March 5, 2019.

The legal voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 are further notified and warned to meet at the following locations:

Ryegate:	Town Hall in Ryegate Corner
Groton:	Groton Community Building in Groton
Wells River:	Village Garage in Wells River



On Tuesday, March 5, 2019 between 10:00 in the morning and 7:00 in the evening there will be a vote by Australian Ballot on the following question:

Article #1:

Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 approve the school board to expend \$8,100,673, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$16,750.83 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 4.4% more than spending for the current year.

Signed by the Board of School Directors this 16th day of January, 2019 at Wells River, Vermont.

Blue Mountain Union School District #21



Angeline Alley



Bruce Stevens



E. Paul Hazel



Sara Dennis



Kelsey Root-Winchester



Judy Murray



Julie Oliver



Wade Parker



Brent Abare

The foregoing has been duly recorded before posting.



Janet Page  
Clerk


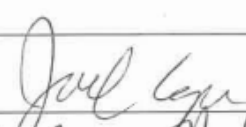
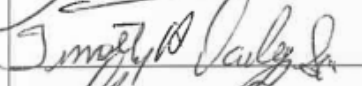
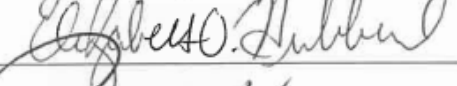
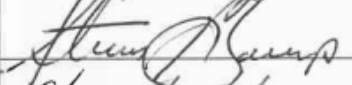
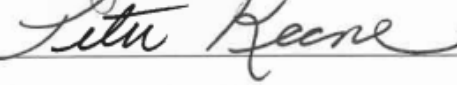

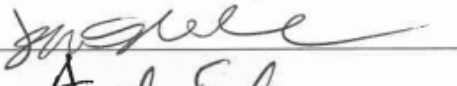
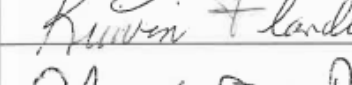
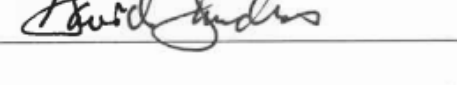
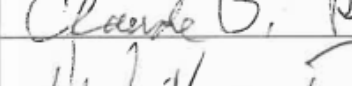
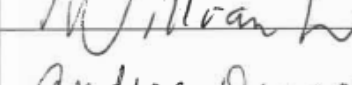
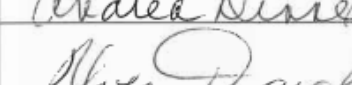

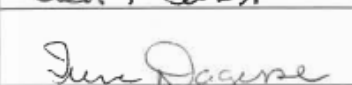
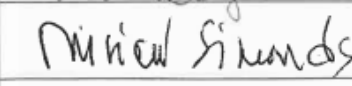
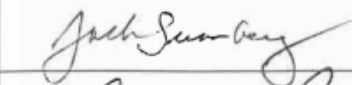
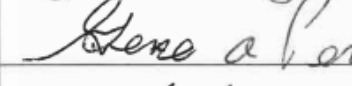

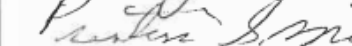

# WARNING

## NEK WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE

### MARCH 5, 2019

The legal voters of the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District are hereby notified and warned to vote, by Australian Ballot, at the polling place and between the hours specified by their municipality on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 to act on the following article.

**ARTICLE 1:** Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$825,073?

 NEWARK	
 DRETON	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	

# Executive Committee Report

The NEKWMD finished 2018 by processing slightly less recycling compared to 2017 – approximately 2750 tons in 2018 compared to approximately 2975 tons in 2017. Significant drops in organics and cardboard were responsible for most of the decline. A few items, including mixed paper, batteries, and tires saw increases in tonnage, while most other items saw tonnages that were flat or lower than last year. Recycling markets remained steady throughout most of 2018 and were generally average or slightly lower than average.

The District ended 2018 with a deficit of \$41,069.02. The District ended 2017 with a surplus of \$55,755.82. Revenues in 2018 were 11% above projections. While budgeted expenses were 16.3% above projections. The catastrophic failure of our baler on September 24, 2018 was the largest reason for the deficit. Not only did we have to pay to ship materials off-site, we lost revenue from the sale of those materials. We anticipate having a new baler by the end of February, 2019.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District membership in 2018. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state behind only Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

The NEKWMD is entering 2019 with a proposed budget of \$825,073 – an increase of 8.5% compared to 2018. The vast majority of the increase is due to the addition of a \$41,000 baler payment over the next 5 years. The surcharge rate of \$24.25 will increase by \$0.50 for 2019. Our surcharge on trash remains below the State average of \$26.59.

The NEKWMD was staffed by nine full-time and four part-time employees in 2018. Each of the member Towns is entitled to representation by at least one Supervisor. The Board of Supervisors is the principal authority over the NEKWMD and the primary means of contact with the member towns. The Board of Supervisors meets monthly with the District's Executive Director to set the direction of NEKWMD policy. The member Towns are also represented through their ability to vote on the NEKWMD budget at their Town Meeting in March.

Since the surcharge on trash is based on the amount of waste produced, members have a clear opportunity to control their waste management costs. Costs can decrease as waste generation rates decrease and recycling rates increase.

We would like to express our appreciation to our able staff for their continuing commitment to our mission. The nearly 50,000 residents of 49 Towns throughout the Northeast Kingdom can be assured that the NEKWMD will continue to address their waste management concerns in a timely and environmentally sound fashion.

***NEKWMD Executive Committee***

## Minutes of Groton, VT Annual Town Meeting, Tuesday, March 6, 2018

The Citizens of the Town of Groton, who are legal voters in Town Meeting are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Groton Community Building in Groton Village on Tuesday, March 6, 2018, at 10 o'clock in the morning, to act on the following articles along with casting their ballots for the Blue Mountain Union School District # 21 budget and the NEK waste Management District Budget.

The Town Clerk, Linda Nunn opened the polls for voting on the Blue Mountain Union School District # 21 budget and the NEK waste Management District Budget at 10:00 AM.

Moderator Brent Abare stated the floor was open for anyone wishing to offer prayer or words of inspiration or encouragement.

Peter Lyon offered a short prayer.

Words of inspiration were offered by Alissa Smith.

The Flag Salute was given.

Representative Chip Conquest touched on Income taxes, Education, roadside drug testing, waste water and high speed internet. Representative Conquest also spoke on the school shooting and the Governor's decision concerning gun control.

Moderator Brent Abare announced the Junior Class from Blue Mountain Union School were selling refreshments, there is information and signup sheets on the back tables for the recreation Committee and the Chicken pie supper on the back table.

Moderator Brent Abare announced Town Meeting was called to order the first action of business was to elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Mary Grant, Selectboard Chair asked if there were any nominations for moderator for the ensuing year.

**ARTICLE 1:** To elect a moderator for the ensuing year. Roberta Dana nominated Brent Abare. Amy Alexander seconded the motion. Hearing no other nominations Brent Abare was elected moderator by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 2:** To act on the Town Report of the Town Officers as printed for the year ending December 31, 2017. Gary Lamberton made the motion to accept the Town Report as written. Dan Webster seconded the motion. Passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 3:** To see if, as provided in 17 V.S.A. Section 2646 (16), the Town will vote to elect a Road Commissioner or authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Road Commissioner. Jim Downing made the motion to elect a Road Commissioner. Roberta Dana seconded the motion. Hearing no objections the motion passed to elect a Road Commissioner. Amy Alexander stated she thought the Selectboard should appoint the Road Commissioner. Brent Smith explained as long as he had been coming to Town Meeting the Road Commissioner had been elected for whatever reason. Bill Payton made the motion to elect a Road Commissioner. Amy Alexander seconded the motion. Passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 4:** To elect the following Town Officers as provided for by the Public Laws of Vermont, and Citizens to serve on the other committees as herein specified, and to fix their compensations:  
Amy Alexander nominated Brent Smith for Road Commissioner for One year. Roberta Dana seconded The motion. Hearing no other nominations or objections the clerk cast one ballot for Brent Smith. Brent Smith was elected Road Commissioner. Passed by voice vote.

Taylor Lamberton nominated Lisa Hart for Town Treasurer for three years. Dan Webster seconded the motion. Hearing no other nominations or objections the clerk cast one ballot for Lisa Hart. Lisa Hart was elected Town Treasurer. Passed by voice vote.

Stan Pierce nominated Amy Alexander for Selectboard for Three years. Seconded by Jean Denson. Mary Grant nominated Aaron Smith for Selectboard for Three years. Seconded by Roberta Dana. Barbara Johns nominated Mary Ellen Boyce for Selectboard for Three years. Seconded by Dave Boyce. Hearing no other nominations a paper ballot vote was done with a ballot count result of Amy Alexander 17 votes, Mary Ellen Boyce 14 votes. Aaron Smith 79 votes. Total number of votes 110. The Moderator stated that someone needs to have a majority of the votes. Aaron Smith was elected to the Selectboard for three years.

Dorothy Knott nominated Caroline Diggings for Lister for Three years. Janet Puffer seconded the motion. Hearing no other nominations or objections the clerk cast one ballot. Caroline Diggings was elected Lister. Passed by voice vote.

There was much discussion concerning Article 5, the elimination of the Office of Lister and replace it with a professionally qualified assessor appointed by the Selectboard along with an appointed assistant for the assessor. This would be taken up when we got to Article 5.

Jim Burke was nominated as Library Trustee for One Year. Jean Denson motion to have the clerk cast One ballot for Jim Burke for Library Trustee for one year. Tom Huyler seconded. The clerk cast one ballot.

Peggy Burgin was nominated as Library Trustee for Three Years. Jean Denson motion to have the clerk cast one ballot for Peggy Burgin for Library Trustee for three years. Stan Pierce seconded. The clerk cast one ballot.

A Library Trustee for Three Years will be appointed by the Selectboard as there were no nominations Hearing no objections. Passed by voice vote.

Aaron Smith nominated Shaun Stetson as Cemetery Commissioner for three years. Jo Lourenco seconded the motion. . Hearing no other nominations or objections the clerk cast one ballot for Shaun Stetson.

Stan Pierce nominated James Downing Jr. as first Constable for two years. Jean Denson seconded the motion. Hearing no other nominations or objections the clerk cast one ballot for James Downing Jr.

There was a short discussion as to why we needed a second constable and what their duties would be and if we would need to increase the budget? Roberta Dana explained the two positions used to be elected on alternating years.

The Selectboard stated the Constables would need to work things out between them and the budget would be shared. Amy Alexander recommended having a second Constable.



Roberta Dana made the motion to amend the second Constable potion from two years to one year so as to get it back on schedule for this time only. Kelly Lesieur seconded the motion.

Erich Crum nominated Shaun Stetson as second Constable for one year. Tonya Palmer seconded the motion. . Hearing no other nominations or objections the clerk cast one ballot for Shaun Stetson.

Linda Nunn made the motion to have the Selectboard appoint the Town Grand Juror. Jean Denson seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the Selectboard are authorized to appoint a Town Grand Juror for one year. Hearing no objections it was passed by voice vote.

Peggy Burgin questioned what the Town Agent does? Wade Johnson gave the definition of a Town Agent. The Town Agent is a go between for the Selectboard and lawyers when needed.

Mary Ellen Boyce nominated Amy Alexander.

Deborah Jurist nominated Wade Johnson. Wade Johnson didn't except the nomination.

Hearing no other nominations or objections the clerk cast one ballot for Amy Alexander for Town Agent.

Roberta Dana made the motion to have the Selectboard appoint the Town Agent to Convey Real Estate for one year. Janet Guy seconded the motion. Hearing no objections, the Selectboard are authorized to appoint the Town Agent to Convey Real Estate. Passed by voice vote.

The Selectboard stated that the meeting needed to go back to the second part of, ARTICLE 4: To elect The following Town Officers as provided for by the Public Laws of Vermont, and citizens to serve on the other committees as herein specified, and to fix their compensations:

Brent Smith made the motion to authorize the Selectboard to fix the compensations.

Stan Pierce seconded the motion. Passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 5:** Shall the voters authorize the elimination of the Office of Lister and replace it with a professionally qualified assessor appointed by the Selectboard who shall have the same powers, discharge the same duties, proceed in the discharge thereof in the same manner, and be subject to the same liabilities as are prescribed for Listers or the board of Listers under the provisions of Title 32, to take effect in the year 2019 with a Selectboard appointed assistant for the assessor?

There was a short discussion regarding the elimination of the Listers as it was worded wrong and under the law the terms of the current Listers shall expire on the 45<sup>th</sup> day after town meeting vote to eliminate the office of Listers and that we cannot have it take effect in 2019.

Stan Pierce made the motion to table article 5.

Amy Alexander seconded the motion. Passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 6:** Shall the select board have authority to acquire the real property of the Estate of Ernest J. Cilley located at 1494 Scott Highway in Groton, Vermont adjacent to and behind the Community Building and Emergency Service Building when it becomes available for sale for a price of up to the Town's assessed value (presently \$86,600) when the purchase and sale agreement is signed?

Stacey Slaton read a letter giving the reasons as to why they want to sell the property. There was much discussion concerning the purchase of the property with both pros and cons.

Renee Curtis made the motion to cease discussion and put to a vote. Derek Curtis seconded. Passed by voice vote.

Stan Pierce made the motion to authorize the purchase with the condition a private/independent appraisal be done. Jean Denson seconded the motion. Passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 7:** To elect by ballot one School Director to serve on the Board of Unified Union School District #21, for a three (3) year term.

Aaron Smith nominated Sarah Dennis. Gary Lamberton seconded the motion. Hearing no other nominations or objections the clerk cast one ballot for Sarah Dennis.

**ARTICLE 8:** Shall the Town of Groton set the due date of Friday, November 9, 2018, by 5:00 PM as the deadline for the payment of taxes? (Postmarks are not accepted as a timely payment)

Stan Pierce moved the question. Jean Denson seconded the motion. Hearing no objections to the due date it was passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 9:** What sum of money shall the voters approve to raise by taxation, to be reduced by receipts, State aid and other income, to meet the current expenses and liabilities of the Town General Fund and Highway budget, including any other warned articles so voted at this town meeting, and authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?

Roberta Dana questioned the figures for the Recreation and the figures concerning the Library. Mary Grant answered the question concerning the Recreation and Eric Volk answered the questions Concerning the Library. Tirone Dyer questioned if the Town had Auditors. Roberta Dana questioned about having an Audit. This was answered by Lisa Hart and Carrie Peters.

Lisa Hart, Town Treasurer made the motion to set the amount at \$983,565.00. Jean Denson seconded the motion. Passed by voice vote.

**ARTICLE 10:** To transact any other business proper to come before this meeting, this does not include The expenditure of town funds or other business acted upon in the preceding articles.

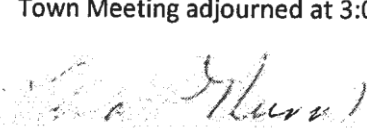
Tonya Palmer spoke for her father and asked when the Community Club was going to purchase an AED and have it installed in the Gym? The Food Shelf purchased an AED for the Office Area and the Community Club was going to purchase an AED for the Gym area.

Peter Lyon explained the Community Club had gotten grants for a scoreboard, new curtains for the Stage and were working on purchasing retractable basketball backboards. Tonya Palmer asked if these things were going to help save someone's life?

Roberta Dana stated that the Community Club use to put their financials in the Town Report and she feels that people that help with the chicken pie supper would like to see the report. The Select Board responded that the Community Club was asked for their financial but only sent the written report as seen in the Town Report.

Aaron Smith Thanked Mary Grant for all the time she has given to the Town.

Jean Denson made the motion to adjourn. Timothy Dailey Sr. seconded the motion. Passed by voice vote. Town Meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM

  
Linda L. Nun, Town Clerk

  
Brent Abare, Moderator

  
Election Officer

  
L. Knott

2019 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2018 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2018	Actual FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019	Notes
<b>GENERAL FUND EXPENSES</b>				
<b>SELECTBOARD</b>				
Selectboard & Secretary Wages & All Payroll Taxes	6,150	5,439.36	6,882	
Selectboard Assistant Wages	2,000	1,354.00	2,000	
Advertising, Postage, Supplies, Training & Mileage	890	763.52	925	
<b>1. SELECTBOARD TOTAL</b>	<b>9,040</b>	<b>7,556.88</b>	<b>9,807</b>	
<b>TOWN CLERK &amp; TREASURER</b>				
Clerk & Assistants Wages, Vacation & Payroll Taxes	45,658	44,752.88	46,869	
Treasurer & Assistants Wages, Vacation & Payroll Taxes	56,800	54,895.37	58,410	
Retirement Benefits	3,173	3,302.00	3,651	
Health Insurance	6,244	6,804.29	6,414	
Training & Mileage	1,200	346.80	600	
<b>2. CLERK &amp; TREASURER TOTAL</b>	<b>113,075</b>	<b>110,101.34</b>	<b>115,944</b>	
<b>OFFICE EXPENSES - CLERK &amp; TREAS</b>				
Dues, Postage, Supplies & Advertising	3,735	4,972.20	4,725	
Telephone/Internet	1,750	1,876.07	1,900	
NEMRC Disaster Recovery & Support, IT Services & Equipment	7,848	5,251.23	3,684	
<b>3. OFFICE EXPENSES</b>	<b>13,333</b>	<b>12,099.50</b>	<b>10,309</b>	
<b>DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION</b>				
Del Tax Collector Wages	8,000	12,672.75	10,000	Wages off set by Delinquent Tax Penalty
Payroll Taxes	612	969.47	765	Revenue (wages paid by penalty portion of delinquent tax payments)
Postage, Supplies, Telephone & Advertising	1,315	638.63	1,065	
NEMRC Disaster Recovery	366	354.56	378	
Training & Mileage	150	148.32	170	
<b>4. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION TOTAL</b>	<b>10,443</b>	<b>14,783.73</b>	<b>12,378</b>	
<b>TOWN REPORT</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	431	526.54	539	
Postage & Supplies	400	269.53	375	
Printing & Reproduction	1,800	2,072.00	1,800	
Training & Mileage	0	0.00	0	
<b>5. TOWN REPORT TOTAL</b>	<b>2,631</b>	<b>2,868.07</b>	<b>2,714</b>	
<b>ELECTIONS</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	1,108	937.83	431	
Postage, Supplies & Advertising	850	582.90	975	
Training & mileage	100	135.84	135	
<b>6. ELECTIONS TOTAL</b>	<b>2,058</b>	<b>1,656.57</b>	<b>1,541</b>	
<b>LISTERS</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	29,401	30,072.17	22,837	
Dues, Postage & Supplies	880	1,137.88	910	
Telephone/Internet	950	1,207.76	1,100	
Training & Mileage	1,350	1,222.24	1,225	
NEMRC, Cards, Disaster Recov & GIS Mapping	5,899	6,111.02	6,541	
<b>7. LISTERS TOTAL</b>	<b>38,480</b>	<b>39,751.07</b>	<b>32,613</b>	

2019 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2018 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2018	Actual FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019	Notes
<b>TOWN GENERAL EXPENSES</b>				
VLCT Pacif, Worker's Comp, Unemp Ins	12,699	12,819.88	12,032	
<b>8. INSURANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>12,699</b>	<b>12,819.88</b>	<b>12,032</b>	
Professional Audit/Services	3,000	1,230.00	1,300	
Attorney Fees	2,500	3,975.00	4,500	
<b>9. LEGAL &amp; PROF. SERVICES TOTAL</b>	<b>5,500</b>	<b>5,205.00</b>	<b>5,800</b>	
NVDA Dues	767	767.00	767	
VLCT Dues	2,191	2,191.00	2,246	
<b>10. DUES TOTAL</b>	<b>2,958</b>	<b>2,958.00</b>	<b>3,013</b>	
Money Order Fee,Wire Fee & Interest Expense	1,000	375.91	430	
Caledonia County Tax	14,000	14,276.00	14,826	
<b>11. COUNTY TAX &amp; INTEREST EXP TOTAL</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>14,651.91</b>	<b>15,256</b>	
<b>TOWN GENERAL EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>36,157</b>	<b>35,634.79</b>	<b>36,101</b>	
<b>1-11 ADMINISTRATION TOTAL</b>	<b>225,217</b>	<b>224,451.95</b>	<b>221,407</b>	
<b>PLANNING COMMISSION</b>				
Stipend & Payroll Taxes	323	0.00	323	
Postage, Printing & Reproduction	308	0.00	133	
Training & Mileage	85	0.00	85	
<b>PLANNING COMMISSION TOTAL</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>541</b>	
<b>ZONING</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	1,346	1,135.71	1,346	
Postage, Supplies & Advertising	158	0.00	158	
Training & Mileage	200	0.00	200	
<b>ZONING TOTAL</b>	<b>1,704</b>	<b>1,135.71</b>	<b>1,704</b>	
<b>12. PLANNING AND ZONING TOTAL</b>	<b>2,420</b>	<b>1,135.71</b>	<b>2,245</b>	
<b>TRANSFERS TO OTHER FUNDS</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>PUBLIC WORKS</b>				
<b>13. TOWN CLOCK TOTAL</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>450.00</b>	<b>450</b>	
<b>FIELDS &amp; PARKS</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	1,292	1,550.18	0	Fields & Parks Budget is
Gasoline, Propane & Electricity	700	590.39	0	combined into Town Property
Repairs-Tractor (2004 John Deere)	300	210.65	0	Maintenance Budget for 2019
Repairs-Land	100	149.34	0	
Bldg-Tractor Garage, Equipment	150	0.00	0	
<b>14. FIELDS &amp; PARKS TOTAL</b>	<b>2,542</b>	<b>2,500.56</b>	<b>0</b>	
Ryegate/Groton Recycling	7,000	7,868.40	8,000	
Green Up Day	250	120.00	250	
<b>15. SOLID WASTE TOTAL</b>	<b>7,250</b>	<b>7,988.40</b>	<b>8,250</b>	
<b>16. STREETLIGHTS TOTAL</b>	<b>7,200</b>	<b>7,480.27</b>	<b>7,550</b>	
<b>COMMUNITY BUILDING</b>				
Building Repairs & Maintenance	7,000	5,840.42	6,000	
Rubbish Removal & Supplies	1,900	2,070.97	1,900	
Electricity & Fuel Oil	7,800	9,122.60	8,800	
<b>17. COMMUNITY BUILDING TOTAL</b>	<b>16,700</b>	<b>17,033.99</b>	<b>16,700</b>	

<b>2019 PROPOSED Town &amp; Highway Budget &amp; 2018 Budget vs Actual</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2018</b>	<b>Actual FY - 2018</b>	<b>Budget FY - 2019</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>TOWN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	21,272	14,243.90	15,071	
Cleaning	0	0.00	6,500	
Property Upkeep	500	0.00	8,000	
Supplies, Equipment & Mileage	1,200	326.22	550	
<b>18. TOWN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>22,972</b>	<b>14,570.12</b>	<b>30,121</b>	
<b>19. TREE WARDEN TOTAL</b>	<b>362</b>	<b>161.48</b>	<b>770</b>	
<b>20. MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,281.84</b>	<b>0</b>	Cilley Property Appraisal & Edwards Property Safety Clean Up
<b>13-20 PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL</b>	<b>57,476.00</b>	<b>53,466.66</b>	<b>63,841</b>	
<b>COMMITTEES</b>				
Community & Economic Development	533	223.55	330	
Recreation Committee	2,325	1,273.92	1,875	
<b>COMMITTEES TOTAL</b>	<b>2,858</b>	<b>1,497.47</b>	<b>2,205</b>	
<b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b>				
<b>22. ANIMAL CONTROL TOTAL</b>	<b>2,250</b>	<b>432.98</b>	<b>600</b>	
<b>23. HEALTH OFFICER TOTAL</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>538.25</b>	<b>964</b>	
<b>24. EMER SERVS INSURANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>12,067</b>	<b>16,946.00</b>	<b>13,333</b>	
<b>EMER SERVS GENERAL EXPENSES</b>				
Ambulance Contract	19,754	19,753.50	19,754	
Repairs-ES Building	1,000	640.00	1,000	
Rubbish Removal & Supplies	1,000	826.90	1,000	
Telephone/Internet	1,650	1,662.77	1,800	
Electricity, Fuel Oil, Propane	3,800	4,831.27	4,400	
Dispatch Fees, Radios & Pagers	6,200	3,622.75	3,500	
<b>25. EMER SERVS GENERAL EXP TOTAL</b>	<b>33,404</b>	<b>31,337.19</b>	<b>31,454</b>	
<b>FAST</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	17,225	19,374.38	17,225	
Supplies & Equipment	7,000	6,959.97	7,110	
Training & Mileage	8,400	4,195.41	6,500	
<b>26. FAST EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>32,625</b>	<b>30,529.76</b>	<b>30,835</b>	
<b>FIRE DEPT</b>				
Wages, Stipend & Taxes	12,111	7,262.61	12,111	
Dues	1,300	1,485.00	1,300	
Gasoline & Diesel	1,300	1,155.15	1,200	
Tanker Loan Payment	20,321	20,320.59	20,321	
Repairs & Maintenance	7,300	7,150.58	7,800	
Supplies	6,600	5,417.39	4,500	
Training & Mileage	6,700	5,529.82	6,500	
Equipment-General	5,000	4,999.22	3,500	
<b>27. FIRE DEPT EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>60,632</b>	<b>53,320.36</b>	<b>57,232</b>	
<b>28. FOREST FIRE EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>2,077</b>	<b>1,079.69</b>	<b>1,808</b>	



2019 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2018 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2018	Actual FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019	Notes
<b>LAW ENFORCEMENT</b>				
Wages, Payroll Taxes, Dues	11,383	12,407.15	11,703	
Supplies & Training	675	611.27	675	
Dispatch Fees, Radios & Pagers, Equip	2,920	2,520.00	2,900	
<b>FIRST CONSTABLE TOTAL</b>	<b>14,978</b>	<b>15,538.42</b>	<b>15,278</b>	
<b>CRUISER EXPENSES</b>				
Gasoline, Repairs, Maint. & Supplies	2,950	3,945.75	3,000	
Equipment-Cruiser	0	0.00	50	
<b>CRUISER EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>2,950</b>	<b>3,945.75</b>	<b>3,050</b>	
<b>CONSTABLE &amp; CRUISER INSURANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>4,430</b>	<b>4,648.25</b>	<b>3,903</b>	
<b>29. LAW ENFORCEMENT TOTAL</b>	<b>22,358</b>	<b>24,132.42</b>	<b>22,231</b>	
<b>22-29 PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL</b>	<b>166,377</b>	<b>158,316.65</b>	<b>158,457</b>	
<b>CEMETERY</b>				
Contracted Work, Riverside Cemetery	900	880.00	900.00	
Restoration of Old Stones	2,100	250.00	0	Perpetual Care paying in 2019
Mowing	7,938	7,938.00	7,938	
Dues & Supplies	575	612.41	640	
<b>CEMETERY EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>11,513</b>	<b>9,680.41</b>	<b>9,478</b>	
<b>LIBRARY</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	21,552	20,651.21	19,089	
VLCT PACIF-Insurance	1,035	1,033.00	1,092	
Postage & Delivery&Training	800	682.07	720	
Building Rent	16,601	5,700.00	6,000	
Books & Periodicals	5,000	4,906.77	6,000	
Office Supplies	800	1,251.81	1,200	
Furnishings & Equipment	200	150.01	800	
Telephone/Internet	1,000	1,094.19	1,500	
Software/Support, Computer Repairs & Fees	1,100	649.29	1,400	
<b>LIBRARY EXPENSES TOTAL</b>	<b>48,088</b>	<b>36,118.35</b>	<b>37,801</b>	
<b>AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS</b>				
Caledonia Home Health	1,350	1,350.00	1,350	
NEK Learning Services	200	200.00	200	
NEK Human Services	920	920.00	920	
NEK Youth Services	200	200.00	200	
NEK Council on Aging	700	700.00	700	
Rural Community Transportation	800	800.00	800	
Little Rivers Health Care	2,000	2,000.00	2,000	
Community Restorative Justice	250	250.00	250	
Groton Lunches With Friends	0	0.00	2,400	
Green Up Vermont	100	100.00	100	
Umbrella	650	650.00	650	
<b>AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS TOTAL</b>	<b>7,170</b>	<b>7,170.00</b>	<b>9,570</b>	
<b>RESERVE FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS</b>				
Comm Bldg Improvement Fund	20,000	20,000.00	20,000	
Emer Servs Bldg Improvement Fund	5,000	5,000.00	5,000	
Emer Servs Vehicles Fund	21,250	21,250.00	21,888	
Reappraisal & Tax Maps Fund	1,200	1,200.00	1,200	
Recreation Fund	5,000	5,000.00	1,000	
Sidewalk Fund	0	0.00	0	
Professional Services Fund	8,000	8,000.00	7,000	
Town Emergency Fund	5,000	5,000.00	2,000	
<b>RESERVE FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS TOTAL</b>	<b>65,450</b>	<b>65,450.00</b>	<b>58,088</b>	
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 586,569</b>	<b>\$ 557,287.20</b>	<b>\$ 563,092</b>	

2019 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2018 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2018	Actual FY - 2018	Budget FY - 2019	Notes
<b>HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES</b>				
<b>HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES</b>				
<b>HWY LABOR</b>				
Wages, OT, Temp. Wages, Vacation & Payroll				
Taxes	96,169	96,481.24	110,292	
Health Insurance	30,000	29,499.08	27,000	
Retirement	3,454	3,377.92	4,247	
<b>HWY LABOR TOTAL</b>	<b>129,623</b>	<b>129,358.24</b>	<b>141,539</b>	
<b>HWY INSURANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>19,947</b>	<b>23,412.50</b>	<b>22,789</b>	
<b>HWY CONTRACTED WORK</b>				
Roadside Mowing	6,300	5,100.00	6,300	
Boulder Beach plowing	3,600	4,312.58	4,000	
Misc Contracted work	900	975.00	900	
<b>HWY CONTRACTED WORK TOTAL</b>	<b>10,800</b>	<b>10,387.58</b>	<b>11,200</b>	
<b>HWY INFRASTRUCTURE</b>				
Culverts	4,500	3,410.22	4,500	
Paving	0	0.00	0	
Signs	1,800	0.00	1,800	
Buildings	3,800	0.00	3,800	
<b>HWY INFRASTRUCTURE TOTAL</b>	<b>10,100</b>	<b>3,410.22</b>	<b>10,100</b>	
<b>HWY MATERIALS</b>				
Sand	14,000	10,000.00	14,000	
Salt	8,400	9,562.66	10,836	
Chloride	12,000	8,830.36	12,000	
Gravel	30,000	9,466.75	30,000	
<b>HWY MATERIALS TOTAL</b>	<b>64,400</b>	<b>37,859.77</b>	<b>66,836</b>	
<b>HWY OPERATING EXPENSES</b>				
Gasoline & Diesel	13,500	16,787.30	14,500	
Rental Equipment	6,000	837.50	1,000	
Supplies	4,150	3,429.88	4,150	
Training & Mileage	100	190.00	100	
Radios & Pagers	500	0.00	500	
<b>HWY OPERATING EXP TOTAL</b>	<b>24,250</b>	<b>21,244.68</b>	<b>20,250</b>	
<b>HWY EQUIPMENT REPAIRS &amp; MAINTENANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>25,000</b>	<b>24,605.11</b>	<b>25,000</b>	
<b>HWY GARAGE REPAIRS &amp; MAINTENANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>6,050</b>	<b>5,525.63</b>	<b>6,250</b>	
<b>SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE</b>				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	4,973	1,603.34	2,153	
Gasoline	250	107.47	250	
Propane	600	859.94	700	
Bldg-Tractor Garage	100	0.00	100	
Repairs-Tractor (2004 John Deere)	400	110.75	400	
<b>SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE TOTAL</b>	<b>6,323</b>	<b>2,681.50</b>	<b>3,603</b>	
<b>HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES TOTAL</b>	<b>296,493</b>	<b>258,485.23</b>	<b>307,567</b>	
<b>HWY RESERVE APPROPRIATION</b>				
Hwy Equipment Reserve	60,503	60,503.00	62,319	
Hwy Infrastructure Reserve	10,000	10,000.00	10,000	
Hwy Paving Reserve	30,000	30,000.00	30,000	
<b>HWY RESERVE APPROPRIATION TOTAL</b>	<b>100,503</b>	<b>100,503.00</b>	<b>102,319</b>	
<b>HIGHWAY BUDGET TOTAL</b>	<b>396,996</b>	<b>358,988.23</b>	<b>409,886</b>	
<b>GENERAL FUND AND HIGHWAY BUDGET TOTALS</b>	<b>983,565</b>	<b>916,275.43</b>	<b>\$ 972,978</b>	

**TOWN OF GROTON**  
**BALANCE SHEET BY FUND-2018**

ASSET	General	Cemetery Restricted	Library Restricted	Reserve Funds Restricted	Grant Fund	Food Shelf Restricted	FAST Restricted	Total
<b>CASH ACCOUNTS</b>								
MB-General Fund	496,523.36	-	-	-	-	-	-	496,523.36
MB-Customer ACH Deposits	0.22	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.22
MB-HRA acct	336.24	-	-	-	-	-	-	336.24
WRSB-Del Tax Acct	245.68	-	-	-	-	-	-	245.68
Petty Cash	56.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	56.38
MB-Perpetual Care	-	89,487.13	-	-	-	-	-	89,487.13
MB-H.Hosmer Trust	-	3,283.77	-	-	-	-	-	3,283.77
WRSB-Development Funds	-	8,661.47	-	-	-	-	-	8,661.47
WRSB-Cemetery Lot Fund	-	6,303.74	-	-	-	-	-	6,303.74
WRSB MJ Ricker Hall Trust	-	1,062.73	-	-	-	-	-	1,062.73
TD Roosevelt Carter Trust	-	6,193.47	-	-	-	-	-	6,193.47
Library Funds	-	-	13,773.78	-	-	-	-	13,773.78
Library Endowment Fund	-	-	51,094.82	-	-	-	-	51,094.82
Library Capital Improvement	-	-	31,254.65	-	-	-	-	31,254.65
Library ACH Account	-	-	9.00	-	-	-	-	9.00
Library American Fund Stock	-	-	18,708.40	-	-	-	-	18,708.40
Reserve Fund	-	-	-	422,852.99	-	-	-	422,852.99
Grant Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Food Shelf	-	-	-	-	-	9,474.47	-	9,474.47
FAST	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,736.67	1,736.67
<b>Total CASH ACCOUNTS</b>	<b>497,161.88</b>	<b>114,992.31</b>	<b>114,840.65</b>	<b>422,852.99</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,474.47</b>	<b>1,736.67</b>	<b>1,161,058.97</b>
<b>Receivables</b>								
Del Tax Interest/Other Re	6,233.80	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,233.80
Del Tax Receivable	101,891.65	-	-	-	-	-	-	101,891.65
Penalty Receivable	7,109.53	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,109.53
Accounts Receivable	6,051.92	-	-	-	-	-	-	6,051.92
Grant Receivable	-	-	-	-	13,277.79	-	-	13,277.79
Gilman Note Receivable	610,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	610,000.00
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<b>731,286.90</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>744,564.69</b>
<b>Highway Inventory</b>	<b>9,110.00</b>							<b>9,110.00</b>
N/R-Gilman Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N/R-Loan to Donald Bliss	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Prepaid Expenses	14,559.58	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,559.58
Due To/From Acct	23,248.34	343.02	(4,316.94)	0	(19,274.42)	0	0	<b>0.00</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>1,275,366.70</b>	<b>115,335.33</b>	<b>110,523.71</b>	<b>422,852.99</b>	<b>(5,996.63)</b>	<b>9,474.47</b>	<b>1,736.67</b>	<b>1,929,293.24</b>

Balance sheet cont.

	General	Cemetery	Library	Reserve Funds	Grant Fund	Food Shelf	FAST	Total
Liability		Restricted	Restricted	Restricted		Restricted	Restricted	
Dental Insurance Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
AFLAC Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Health Ins Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Prepaid Health Ins - HRA	1,890.58	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,890.58
Accounts Payable	13,456.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	13,456.38
Deferred Grant Revenue	-	-	-	-	13,277.79	-	-	13277.79
Prepaid Taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Deferred Tax Revenue	78,769.32	-	-	-	-	-	-	78,769.32
Tax Clearing Account	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Gilman Housing Grant Liab	610,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	610,000.00
Fees Due the State of Vt	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
<b>Total Liability</b>	<b>704,116.28</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13,277.79</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>717,394.07</b>
Fund Balance	General	Cemetery	Library	Reserves	Grants	Food Shelf	FAST	
Fund Balance General Fund	177,437.21	-	-	-	-	-	-	177,437.21
Fund Balance Cemetery	-	16,002.06	-	-	-	-	-	16,002.06
Non-spendable Perpetual Care	-	85,036.25	-	-	-	-	-	85,036.25
Restricted-Cart/Hosm/Hall	-	10,506.58	-	-	-	-	-	10,506.58
Fund Balance Library	-	-	17,551.37	-	-	-	-	17,551.37
Library #1 Endowment Fund	-	-	56,958.26	-	-	-	-	56,958.26
Library #2-Capital Improv	-	-	30,755.87	-	-	-	-	30,755.87
Fund Balance Reserves	-	-	-	(90,691.60)	-	-	-	(90,691.60)
Community Bldg Improve	-	-	-	55,485.00	-	-	-	55,485.00
Emer Servs Bldg Improve	-	-	-	30,614.85	-	-	-	30,614.85
Emer Servs Vehicles	-	-	-	24,248.88	-	-	-	24,248.88
Reappraisal/ Tax Maps	-	-	-	73,607.81	-	-	-	73,607.81
Recreation	-	-	-	12,301.76	-	-	-	12,301.76
Restoration/Preservation	-	-	-	31,511.70	-	-	-	31,511.70
Town Emergency Fund	-	-	-	7,690.64	-	-	-	7,690.64
Hwy Equipment	-	-	-	129,444.24	-	-	-	129,444.24
Highway Infrastructure Fu	-	-	-	58,767.83	-	-	-	58,767.83
Sidewalk Reserve Fund	-	-	-	2,473.84	-	-	-	2,473.84
Highway Paving	-	-	-	(3,169.56)	-	-	-	(3,169.56)
Prof. Services Res Fund	-	-	-	8,098.00	-	-	-	8,098.00
Food Shelf Fund Balance	-	-	-	-	-	11,245.93	-	11,245.93
FAST Fund Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,736.49	1,736.49
<b>Total Prior Years Fund Balance</b>	<b>393,813.21</b>	<b>111,544.89</b>	<b>105,265.50</b>	<b>340,383.39</b>	<b>(32,305.21)</b>	<b>11,245.93</b>	<b>1,736.49</b>	<b>931,684.20</b>
<b>Fund Balance Current Year</b>	<b>177,437.21</b>	<b>3,790.44</b>	<b>5,258.21</b>	<b>82,469.60</b>	<b>13,030.79</b>	<b>(1,771.46)</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>280,214.97</b>
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b>571,250.42</b>	<b>115,335.33</b>	<b>110,523.71</b>	<b>422,852.99</b>	<b>(19,274.42)</b>	<b>9,474.47</b>	<b>1,736.67</b>	<b>1,211,899.17</b>
<b>Total Liability &amp; Fund Balance</b>	<b>1,275,366.70</b>	<b>115,335.33</b>	<b>110,523.71</b>	<b>422,852.99</b>	<b>(5,996.63)</b>	<b>9,474.47</b>	<b>1,736.67</b>	<b>1,929,293.24</b>

## **Town Elected Officers**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Term Expires</u></b>	<b><u>Term Length</u></b>
<b>Moderator</b>	Brent Abare	2019	1 year
<b>Road Commissioner</b>	Brent Smith	2019	1 year
<b>Town Clerk</b>	Linda Nunn	2020	3 years
<b>Town Treasurer</b>	Lisa Hart	2021	3 years
<b>Select Board</b>	Wade Johnson, Sr., Chair	2019	3 years
	Deborah Jurist	2020	3 years
	Aaron Smith	2021	3 years
<b>Listers</b>	Dorothy Knott	2020	3 years
	Carolyn Diggins	2021	3 years
<b>BMU District #21 Directors</b>	Brent Abare	2019	3 years
	Julie Oliver	2020	3 years
	Sara Dennis	2021	3 years
<b>Library Trustees</b>	Debra Tinkham	2019	2 years
	Torie Peters	2019	3 years
	Alissa Smith	2019	3 years
	Peggy Burgin	2021	3 years
<b>Cemetery Commissioners</b>	Tony Dennis	2019	3 years
	Aaron Smith	2020	3 years
	Shaun Stetson	2021	3 years
<b>Collector of Current Taxes</b>	Lisa Hart	2019	1 year
<b>Collector of Delinquent Taxes</b>	Carrie Peters	2020	3 years
<b>First Constable</b>	James Downing, Jr.	2020	2 years
<b>Second Constable</b>	Shaun Stetson	2019	1 year
<b>Town Agent</b>	Amy Alexander	2019	1 year
<b>Town Grand Juror</b>	Gary Lamberton	2019	1 year
<b>Agent to Convey Real Estate</b>	Deborah Jurist	2019	1 year
<b>Town Service Officer</b>	Linda Nunn	2019	1 year



## **Town Officers Appointed by Select Board**

<u><b>Position</b></u>	<u><b>Name</b></u>	<u><b>Term Expires</b></u>	<u><b>Term Length</b></u>
<b>Health Officer</b>	Daniel Webster	2021	3 years
<b>Deputy Health Officer</b>	Mark Shallberg	2021	3 years
<b>Fire Chief</b>	Wayne Knott	2019	1 year
<b>Fire Warden</b>	Wade Johnson, Sr.	2021	5 years
			(state, appt by SB)
<b>Emer. Management Coordinator</b>	Brent Smith	2019	1 year
<b>Fence Viewers</b>	Terry Dana	2019	1 year
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	2019	1 year
	Kenneth Murray	2019	1 year
<b>Inspectors Wood, Lumber, Shingles</b>	Kenneth Ricker	2019	1 year
	Robert Dorr	2019	1 year
<b>NVDA Representative</b>	Brent Smith	2019	1 year
<b>NVDA Alternate</b>	Mark Gleicher	2019	1 year
<b>Zoning Administrator</b>	Bradley Houghton	2019	1 year
<b>Asst. Zoning Administrator</b>	Daniel Webster	2019	1 year
<b>911 Coordinator</b>	Brent Smith	2019	1 year
<b>Zoning Board of Adjustment</b>	Aaron Smith	2019	1 year
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	2019	1 year
	Mark Gleicher	2019	1 year
<b>Select Board Secretary</b>	Debra Johnson	2019	1 year
<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	Michelle Boyer	2019	1 year
<b>NEK Solid Waste Supervisor</b>	Timothy Dailey, Sr.	2019	1 year
<b>NEK Solid Waste Alternate</b>	Caroline Diggins	2019	1 year
<b>Tree Warden</b>	Henry Knott	2019	1 year
<b>Webmaster</b>	Dave Spencer	2019	1 year
<b>Planning Commission</b>	Carrie Peters	2019	1 year
	Steve Hart	2019	1 year
	Jennifer Ivery	2019	1 year

**Town Officers Appointed by Selectboard Continued**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Term Expires</u></b>	<b><u>Term Length</u></b>
Green Up Coordinator	Alissa Smith	2019	1 year
Town Service Officer	Linda Nunn	2019	1 year
Weigher of Coal	Frank Lapham	2019	1 year
Library Trustee	Alissa Smith	2019	1 year
	Debra Tinkham	2019	1 year
	(appointed by trustees) Torie Peters	2019	1 year

**APPOINTED BY TOWN CLERK**

Assistant Town Clerk	Lisa Hart	2019	1 year
	Carrie Peters	2019	1 year
	Dorothy Knott	2019	1 year

**APPOINTED BY TOWN TREASURER**

Asst. Collector of Current Taxes	Carrie Peters	2019	1 year
	Linda Nunn	2019	1 year

**BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY**

**SELECT BOARD**

Wade Johnson, Sr., Chair  
Deborah Jurist  
Aaron Smith

**JUSTICES OF THE PEACE**

Linda L. Nunn      Timothy Dailey, Sr.  
Brent Smith      Deborah Jurist  
Tirone 'Toni' Dyer      Dorothy Knott  
Carrie Peters

**BOARD OF ABATEMENT**

Wade Johnson, Sr.  
Deborah Jurist  
Aaron Smith  
Lisa Hart  
Carrie Peters  
Linda Nunn  
Brent Smith  
Tirone 'Toni' Dyer  
Dorothy Knott  
Timothy Dailey, Sr.

**COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Lisa Hart - Chair  
Deborah Jurist - Select Board Member  
Brent Smith - Highway  
Caroline Diggins - Lister  
Carrie Peters - Planning  
Brent Abare – Fire Department

**RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Lisa Hart  
Anne Hatch  
Janet Page

Town of Groton	Employee Wage Summary Report					
	01/01/18-12/31/18					
Employee	Position	Gross	Hourly Rates	Employer Share of Payroll Taxes	Retire-ment	Employer Cost (excluding Insurance)
Achilles Andrew S	EMT/Forest Fire	1,020.00	15.00/18.94	78.04		1,098.04
Achilles Kimberly P	EMT	135.00	15.00	9.09		144.09
Bees Hannah	EMT	210.00	15.00	16.07		370.16
Bliss Donald F	Mowing/Snow removal	2,929.43	16.00	224.09		3,153.52
Bruleigh Charles	Fire Fighter/ Forest Fire	775.76	12.50/18.94	59.37		835.13
Carle Justin D	Fire Fighter/Forest Fire/Asst Tree Warden	37.88	10.18/18.94	2.90		40.78
Colby Lilian	EMT/Fire Fighter	1,005.00	15.00/ 18.94	76.89		1,081.89
Connolly Deborah S	Temporary Librarian	112.50	15.00	8.61		121.11
Curtis Derek J	EMT	3,270.00	15.00	250.16		3,520.16
Diggins Caroline K	Lister/Ballot Clerk	19,848.43	19.19/11.00	1,518.43		21,366.86
Doscinski Leonard E	EMT/Fire Fighter/Forest Fire	1,252.88	15.00/18.94	95.85		1,348.73
Downing James A Jr	1 st Constable/ Temp Hwy	15,114.65	20.20/18.94	1,156.27		16,270.92
Fleurie-Wohlleb Jodi	Librarian	2,836.50	15.50	216.95		3,053.45
Gordon Susan	Temporary Librarian	720.00	15.00	55.09		775.09
Hart Lisa JL	Treasurer /Collector taxes/Asst Clerk/ CEDC Chair/Ball	41,171.51	20.20/14.00/11.00	3,149.68	1,052.69	44,321.19
Hatch Harold	Temporary Hwy	3,840.00	20.00 25.00 per permit/ 40.00 month	293.79		4,133.79
Houghton Bradley E	Zoning Administrator	915.00		70.00		985.00
Johnson Carla R	Ballot Clerk	126.50	11.00	9.68		136.18
Johnson Debra E	Select Board Secretary/Town Report Preparer	3,138.25	65.00 per meeting/16.00	240.09		3,378.34
Johnson, Wade A JR	Fire Fighter/Forest Fire	299.72	10.18/18.94	22.94		322.66
Johnson Wade A Sr	Select Board member/Forest Fire Warden/Forest Fire	1,916.40	1250.00/18.94/12.50	146.61		2,063.01
Joy Carrol B	Fire Fighter/ Forest Fire	405.00	15.00/ 18.94	30.98		435.98
Knott Dorothy L	Lister/Fire Fighter/ Forest Fire/Fast/Ballot Clerk/Asst	12,574.79	14.14/12.50/18.94/11.00/14.00	962.03		13,536.82
Knott Henry C	Tree Warden/EMT/Forest Fire	3,577.50	Stipend 300.00/15.00/ 18.94	273.69		3,851.19
Knott Wayne C	Fire Chief/Fire Fighter/ Forest Fire	5,137.88	Stipend 1250.00/12.50/18.94	393.07		5,530.95
Lamberton Gary F	IT Person	1,250.00	Stipend 1250.00	95.63		1,345.63
Lapham Frank	Fire Fighter/ Forest Fire	1,437.88	12.50/18.94	110.01		1,547.89
Lavertu Scott	Fire Fighter/ Forest Fire	652.88	15.00/18.94	49.95		702.83
Lindsley Luisa	Libarian	15,514.63	17.50	1,186.93		16,701.56
Lourenco Joseph M	Fire Fighter/ Forest Fire	25.00	12.50/18.94	1.91		26.91
Nunn Linda L	Town Clerk/Asst Treasurer	40,382.15	20.20	3,115.26	1,033.23	43,497.41
Palmer Phillip E	HWY Equipment Operator/Fire Fighter	36,138.52	18.94	2,764.72	922.29	38,903.24
Peters Carrie A	Assistant Treasurer/Asst Clerk/Ballot (CDT Wages are not paid by Town )	12,745.10	18.18/14.00/11.00	969.47		13,714.57
Shallberg Lise M	SB Admin Assistant	1,334.00	stipend Qtrly 500.00	102.05		1,436.05
Shallberg Mark	Maintenance Person	7,965.00	18.00	609.34		8,574.34
Amith Aaron J	SelectBoard/EMT/Cemetery Commisioner/ Forest Fire	2,727.88	Stipend 1250.00/15.00/18.94	208.69		2,936.57
Smith Brent D	Hwy Road Commissioner / Fire Fighter	46,986.20	20.20	3,594.74	1,192.74	50,580.94
Stetson Shaun T	2nd Constable/Fire Fighter/ Forest Fire	117.50	10.00/15.00/18.94	8.99		126.49
Walls Joshua	EMT	390.00	15.00	29.83		419.83
Webster Daniel	Health Officier/Zoning Assistant	640.00	Stipend 500.00/25.00 a permit/ 40 a month	48.96		688.96
Totals- Employees Reported: 40		290,677.32		22,256.85	4,200.95	317,135.12
Total Health Care Costs						36,303.37
Employee's including benefits						353,438.49

2018 Actual Revenues & 2019 Estimated Revenues				
	2018 Anticipated Revenues	2018 Actual Revenues	2019 Estimated Revenues	
<b>TOWN REVENUES</b>				
<b>TAX REVENUES (no education taxes)</b>				
Current Taxes - 2018	434,003	490,666.67	385,911.00	
<b>DELINQUENT TAX REVENUES</b>				
Delinquent Tax Interest	7,000.00	11,006.66	9,000.00	
Delinquent Tax Penalty Revenue	8,000.00	12,704.75	10,000.00	
<b>TOTAL TOWN TAX REVENUES</b>	<b>449,003.00</b>	<b>514,378.08</b>	<b>404,911.00</b>	
<b>STATE OF VERMONT REVENUES</b>				
Current Use	40,000.00	53,282.00	48,000.00	
PILOT(Payment in lieu of taxes) & Leaseland Revenue	72,001.00	89,599.36	80,001.00	
<b>TOTAL STATE OF VERMONT REVENUES</b>	<b>112,001.00</b>	<b>142,881.36</b>	<b>128,001.00</b>	
<b>MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES</b>				
Interest Earned	65.00	517.01	200.00	
Pre Year School Tax Refund	0.00	13,157.74	0.00	
Misc Revenue	0.00	10.16	0.00	
Workers Comp Insurance Refund	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Cemetery Interest into GF	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Summer Performer Grant	0.00	200.00	0.00	
<b>TOTAL MISC REVENUES</b>	<b>65.00</b>	<b>13,884.91</b>	<b>200.00</b>	
<b>TOWN CLERK REVENUES</b>				
Recordings, Vault Revenue	4,500.00	5,822.50	4,500.00	
Marriage & Dog Licenses	2,150.00	2,397.00	2,250.00	
Liquor/Tobacco Licenses	150.00	280.00	280.00	
Copies & Faxes Revenue	2,300.00	2,202.61	2,300.00	
Motor Vehicle Renewals	300.00	132.00	150.00	
<b>TOTAL TOWN CLERK REVENUE</b>	<b>9,400.00</b>	<b>10,834.11</b>	<b>9,480.00</b>	
<b>LISTER REVENUE</b>	<b>800.00</b>	<b>806.00</b>	<b>800.00</b>	
<b>ZONING REVENUE</b>	<b>700.00</b>	<b>920.00</b>	<b>800.00</b>	
<b>COMMUNITY BLDG REVENUE</b>	<b>2,600.00</b>	<b>3,622.50</b>	<b>2,900.00</b>	
<b>FAST REVENUE(from Town of Ryegate)</b>	<b>8,000.00</b>	<b>18,076.45</b>	<b>12,000.00</b>	
<b>CONSTABLE REVENUE</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>	<b>4,919.00</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL TOWN REVENUES (Not including tax revenue)</b>	<b>152,566.00</b>	<b>219,655.74</b>	<b>177,181.00</b>	
<b>Proposed 2019 Town Budget</b>				
			<b>563,092.00</b>	
<b>Difference to be raised by 2019 TOWN Taxes</b>				
			<b>385,911.00</b>	
<b>HIGHWAY REVENUES</b>				
Hwy 2018 Current Tax Revenue	328,996.00	328,996.00	345,886.00	
State Hwy Aid	64,000.00	64,861.57	64,000.00	
Seyon Road Plowing	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Hwy Sand Income	4,000.00	3,500.00	0.00	
Hwy Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Hwy Insurance Refund / Claim	0.00	0.00	0.00	
<b>TOTAL HIGHWAY REVENUES(Not including tax revenue)</b>	<b>68,000.00</b>	<b>68,361.57</b>	<b>64,000.00</b>	
<b>Proposed 2019 Highway Budget</b>				
			<b>409,886.00</b>	
<b>Difference to be raised by 2019 HWY Taxes</b>				
			<b>345,886.00</b>	
<b>TOTAL Estimated Tax Revenue needed for 2019</b>				
			<b>731,797.00</b>	

## 2018 - RESERVE FUND ACTIVITY & BALANCES

<b>Community Bldg Improvement Fund</b>		<b>Emergency Services Vehicle Reserve Fund</b>	
Bank balance on 12/31/17	33,301.78	Bank balance on 12/31/17	3,642.96
<b>Revenues:</b>		<b>Revenues:</b>	
Interest received on account	50.65	Interest received on account	11.77
2018 Budget appropriation	20,000.00	2018 Budget appropriation	21,250.00
Loan repayments from Donald Bliss & paid off	1,175.00	Sold Trailer & Old R1	375.00
Home Show	226.00	<b>Disbursements:</b>	
Lajuenese Refund (Bball Backboard)	2,225.00	Wild Vt Customs- lettering on new vehicle & trailer	-1,030.85
BMU Donation to Bball Backboards	2,500.00		
<b>Disbursements:</b>		<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>24,248.88</b>
CB Zoll Batteries and Supplies	-268.43		
Graphic Edge-Basketball Backboards	-3,000.00	<b>Emergency Services Building Improvement Fund</b>	
Groton Community Club	-725.00	Bank balance on 12/31/17	25,775.37
<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>55,485.00</b>	<b>Revenues:</b>	
		Interest received on account	33.99
<b>Recreation Reserve Fund</b>		2018 Budget appropriation	5,000.00
Bank balance on 12/31/17	6,079.92	<b>Disbursements:</b>	
<b>Revenues:</b>		CED Twin State	-194.51
Interest received on account	9.84	<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>30,614.85</b>
2017 Budget appropriations	5,000.00		
Donations	1,212.00	<b>Highway Infrastructures Fund</b>	
<b>Disbursements:</b>	0.00	Bank balance on 12/31/17	41,181.28
<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>12,301.76</b>	<b>Revenues:</b>	
		Interest received on account	57.57
<b>Restoration &amp; Preservation Fund</b>		Grant money received	67,140.06
Bank balance on 12/31/17	28,510.74	2018 Budget appropriation	10,000.00
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Interest received on account	35.92	<b>Disbursements:</b>	
Recording fees collected in 2018	3,529.00	Grant expense	-59,611.08
		<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>58,767.83</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>			
Land Record Books	-563.96	<b>Highway Equipment Reserve Fund</b>	
<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>31,511.70</b>	Bank balance on 12/31/17	68,832.50
		<b>Revenues:</b>	
<b>Sidewalk Reserve Fund</b>		Interest received on account	108.74
Bank balance on 12/31/17	2,470.74	2018 Budget appropriation	60,503.00
<b>Revenues:</b>		<b>Disbursements:</b>	0.00
Interest received on account	3.10	<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>129,444.24</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>	0.00	<b>Highway Paving Reserve Fund</b>	
		Bank balance on 12/31/17	25,771.05
<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>2,473.84</b>	<b>Revenues:</b>	
		Interest received on account	21.56
<b>Reappraisal &amp; Tax Mapping Fund</b>		2018 Budget appropriation	30,000.00
Bank balance on 12/31/17	96,116.81	<b>Disbursements:</b>	
<b>Revenues:</b>		Paving	-58,962.17
Interest received on account	106.95	<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>-3,169.56</b>
2018 Budget appropriation	1,200.00		
Reappraisal funds from the State of Vermont	6,851.88	<b>Town Emergency Fund</b>	
<b>Disbursements:</b>		Bank balance on 12/31/17	2,685.43
Town wide reappraisal	-30,667.83	<b>Revenues:</b>	
<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>73,607.81</b>	Interest received on account	5.21
		2018 Budget appropriation	5,000.00
<b>Professional Services Fund</b>		<b>Disbursements:</b>	
Bank balance on 12/31/17	11,137.81	<b>Bank balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>7,690.64</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Interest received on account	10.19		
2018 Budget appropriation	8,000.00		
<b>Disbursements:</b>			
Town Financial Audit	-11,050.00		
<b>Bank balance on 12/31/2018</b>	<b>8,098.00</b>	<b>Total of all Reserve Bank Accounts as of 12/31/18</b>	<b>431,074.99</b>

## **Reserve fund Articles as voted by year with description of purpose and balance as of December 31, 2018**

### **Tax Mapping & Reappraisal Fund**

March 4, 2003, Article 7: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Tax Mapping and Reappraisal Fund in the amount of \$25,000.00?

The Tax Mapping and Reappraisal Fund was established on March 4, 2003 in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the purpose of building up a Reserve Fund to pay for future appraisals and updates of the property values listed in the Grand list and update the tax maps on a yearly maintenance schedule of the Town of Groton. **Balance \$73,607.81**

### **Community Building Improvement Fund**

March 1, 2005, Article 8: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Community Building Improvement Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00? (24 V.S.A. §2804)

The Community Building Improvement Fund was established for the purpose of building up a reserve fund to finance future upgrades and improvements to the Community Building. The monies for this fund are to be used only for the improvement and upgrade of the Community Building. **Balance \$55,485.00**

### **Emergency Services Building Improvement Fund**

March 1, 2005, Article 9: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Emergency Services Building Improvement Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00? (24 V.S.A. §2804)

The Emergency Services Building Improvement Fund is to be used for improvements to the Groton Fire Station.

Including but not limited to: Heating plant, Electrical, insulation, Painting, Door Replacement, Generator installation, internal plumbing and other improvements as voted by the Fire Department. The Fire Department presents their recommendations to the Selectboard for final approval.

**Balance \$30,614.85**

### **Emergency Services Vehicles Fund**

March 1, 2005, Article 10: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Emergency Services Vehicles Fund in the amount of \$10,000.00? (24 V.S.A. §2804)

The Emergency Services Vehicles Fund shall be used for the replacement of Vehicles to include, Rescue Vehicle/Ambulance, Engine, Forest Fire Vehicle other vehicle as voted by the Fire Department. The Fire Department presents their recommendations to the Selectboard for final approval.

**Balance \$24,248.88**

### **Restoration and Preservation Reserve Funds**

March 7, 2006 (1<sup>st</sup> Warned as ARTICLE 7): Shall the Town of Groton establish a reserve fund for the restoration and preservation of the Land and Vital records to be funded by the \$1.00 per page recording fee? (Up graded in 2010 see below)

March 2, 2010 (2<sup>nd</sup> Article on Warning): ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Groton approve any increase of the annual amount reserved for the restoration and preservation of the Land and Vital records to be based upon the recording fee paid per page as determined by the Vermont Legislature?

The voters of the Town of Groton established a Municipal Records Reserve Fund for the restoration and preservation of "town records" in accordance with VSA Title 24, Section 2804 including, but not limited to, land records, vital records and, proper vault storage of town records. This fund is not to be used for anything other than the restoration, preservation, conservation and computerization of records, to be funded by revenue of not less than \$3.00 per page.

Section 1671 (a) (1) and (6) of this section and this reserve fund shall be retroactive to July 1, 2009. The exact amount shall be determined by the local legislative body.

Shall the Town of Groton approve any increase of the annual amount reserved for the restoration and preservation of the Land and Vital Records to be based upon the recording fee paid per page as determined by the Vermont Legislature? **Balance \$31,511.70**

### **Recreation Reserve Funds**

March 7, 2010: ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Groton authorize the Selectboard to appoint a Recreational Committee and establish a reserve fund of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) to be used by the Recreational Committee for any projects and/or activities?

The recreation reserve fund was established and covered large, extraordinary expenses. And will cover short falls in committee events when donations for such events lag. **Balance \$12,301.76**

### **Town Emergency Reserve Funds**

March 4, 2014: ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Groton authorize the creation of an Emergency Reserve Fund for the purpose of unforeseen Emergencies?

Town of Groton Emergency Reserve Fund is created for the sole purpose of providing financial stability to the Town in the case of a severe emergency. Money is to be set aside to support serious issues only with a goal to maintain the fund at 10% of the total budget. When looking for examples of where the application of the money would likely be required, the instance of Tropical Storm Irene applies where the Welton Road Bridge was seriously damaged. **Balance \$7,690.64**

### **Sidewalk Funds**

March 3, 2015: ARTICLE 9: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve account to be called "Sidewalk Fund" for the construction and maintenance of sidewalks in the amount of \$15,000.00?

**Balance \$ 2,473.84**

### **Professional Services Fund**

March 1 2016: ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Groton approve the establishment of reserve account to be called "Professional Services Fund" for the purpose of audit consulting services and to fund the reserve fund with \$4533.00.

**Balance \$ 8098.00**

### **Highway Paving Reserve Funds**

March 4, 2007: ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town of Groton establish a Paving Reserve Fund in the amount of \$40,306.00 of unspent 2007 Highway fund?

This fund is to be used for paving Class 2 and Class3 projects that follows the parameters of the

VTRANS Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program

Projects shall include detailed work for the preservation of any Class 2 town highway for resurfacing and reconstruction based on identified needs. Eligible activities include preliminary engineering, construction, and construction inspection/management.

Notes:

- 1) Culvert replacement for culverts equal to or greater than 36 inches in diameter shall be part of the Town Highway Structures Program. Culverts less than 36 inches in diameter are considered part of drainage work in the Town Highway Class 2 Roadway Program.
- 2) Guardrail work is only considered eligible if it is an essential part of the roadway project.
- 3) Curbing is an eligible item if it is an essential part of the roadway cross section (e.g., curbing in conjunction with a closed drainage system or associated with a raised median or other traffic control barrier).
- 4) Sidewalks are not eligible under the Class 2 Roadway grants.
- 5) Bicycle and pedestrian use should be considered when choosing shoulder widths and materials. In general, any existing shoulder should not be reduced in width. (This means that pavement overlays should include the full width of the road, including existing shoulders.) Towns should refer to the Vermont State Design Standards, Local Roads and Streets} *From the "Orange Book"*
- 6) Funding for this fund will be a line item Highway expense determined on an annual basis by using RSMS 11 (Road Surface Management System software that the town owns) for guidance. Additional funding will come from grant funds when in kind work exceeds the actual matching cost of a grant. An example would be in kind work (equipment time and labor) performed by the Highway Department that was reimbursable expenses.

The goal of having this fund is to maintain Class 2 and Class3 paved highways while maintaining a stable annual cost.

**Balance \$ -3,169.56**



### **Highway Equipment Reserve Fund**

March 7, 1999: ARTICLE 9: Shall the voters of the Town of Groton approve the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Highway Equipment Fund with the funds from the highway budget, in the amount of \$15,000. As budgeted this year, to be used for capital expenses within that department? (24 V.S.A. Sec. 2804)

This fund is to be used for replacement of Highway Department Equipment and unforeseen major capital repairs that could arise. The Highway Department will maintain a replacement schedule and update it annually. At the present time the trucks and grader will be replaced with new, and the loader, backhoe and chipper will be replaced with used.

Funding of this fund is a line item in the highway budget that is increased three percent annually. Other funds would come from the sale of surplus equipment and settlements from insurance claims.

The goal of having this fund is to maintain reliable equipment that will allow the Highway Department to provide a reasonable level of service to the needs of the highways infrastructure while maintaining a stable annual cost. **Balance \$129,444.24**

### **Highway Infrastructures Reserve Funds**

March 6, 2012: ARTICLE 7: Shall the Town establish a reserve fund for bridges, culverts and highway infrastructures to initially be funded by a \$2000.00 addition to the 2012 Highway Budget?

This fund is to be used for large highway projects that it would not be feasible to fund in a single year and projects that could take several years to plan and complete.

This fund could also be used to leverage highway grant funds that may become available for smaller projects that maybe unforeseen when setting budgets.

Funding of this fund will be for the annual line item in the highway budget. Additional funding will come from grant funds when in kind work exceeds the actual matching cost of a grant. An example would be in kind work (equipment time and labor) performed by the Highway Department that was reimbursable expenses.

The Highway Department will continue to maintain and update the bridge and culvert inventory at <http://vtculverts.org/> and use the data to aid in replacement schedule. Large structures over 20 feet span are inspected by VTRANS every two years and reported to the Select Board.

The goal of having this fund is to maintain Highway Bridges, Culverts & Infrastructures while maintaining a stable annual cost. **Balance \$58,767.83**

## Property Transfers January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018

Grantor	Grantee	Location
Thomas, Raymond & Polly	Gillander, Wendy M	Lots 5&6
Wyler, Douglas & Irma	Springer, Avi & Decarolis, Jessica	135 Twin Brooks Rd
Hall, Raymond & Pearl	Shatney, Samantha & Jeffrey	Moose Run Dr
McDermott, Michael & Leah	Ivery, Patrick & Claire	694 Powder Spring Rd
Eastman, Gene	Eastman, Ann	829 Little Italy Rd
Eastman, Ann	Puffer, Matthew & Tracy	829 Little Italy Rd
Slaby, Stefan & Donna	Pratt, Prentis & Patricia	Glover Rd
Pratt, Prentis & Patricia	Slaby, Stefan & Donna	Glover Rd
Mcallister, Jeneil C, Crippen, Julia R	Corbett, Mary E, Rachel E	2103 Scott Hwy
Sherwood, Carol Revocable Trust	Evans, Dawn M & Michael J	1080 Seyon Pond Rd
Gale Estate of Kim E	Gale, Kyle E	242 French Rd
McKay, Kenneth & Karen M	Boyce, Mary Ellen	189 Seyon Pond Rd
Boemig, Lois W	Schaarschmidt, Ralf H II Living Trust	Sunset Trail
Boyce, David B & Mary Ellen	Schaarschmidt, Ralf H II Living Trust	348 Sunset Trail
Janawicz, Shellie R	Woodworth, Devyn A & Lyman, Amanda M	136 Hi Goodwin Rd
Blair, Sally, Keller, Sandra, Kimball, Shauna, Sulham, Su-	Gherardi, Mark A & Martha J Trust	328 French Rd
Emerson, Paula J & Lakin, Charles D	Boyce, Mary Ellen	42 Power House Rd
Brunell, Ted M	Shattuck, Stephen J	406 Powder Spring Rd
Haskell, Kent H & Joan A	Cotnoir, Lawrence M & Dolly L	173 Minard Hill Rd
Lessac Chenen, Simone	LePage, E. John & Morrow, Allison	933 Glover Rd
Carpenter, Phyllis M	US Bank National Association, Not Indi	1644 Scott Hwy
Cirone, Sandra J Revocable Trust	Gandin, Judith V Trust	38 Hosmer Brook Rd
Marabello Family Living Trust	Ward, Ryan T	221 & 226 Great Rd
Bartlett Property Holdings LLC	Frey, Loretta	1191 State Forest Rd
Zimmermann Groton Forestry LLC	Sweet Tree Holdings 1 LLC	1600 Gore Rd
Keating, Gerald III	Darling, Eugene	6731 Scott Hwy
Hersey, Clifton B	Hersey, Tamara	1760 Glover Rd
Hersey, Clifton B	Hersey, Mark	3110 Will Goodwin Rd
Thomas, Paul A	Kersaken Ventures, LLC	Annis Rd
Spinner, James D	Kowal, Emily R & Kristian C	129 W. Glauchwster Rd
Darling, D Craig & Cynthia L Trustee	Hedstrom, Paul D & Lance S	1222 Scott Hwy
Ferris, Joseph	Gillander, Wendy	Wilson Dr
Uttero, Peter J	Gilles, Frederick J & Lucretia	Scott Hwy
Jolley, Gene	Phillips, Carmen	261 Powder Spring Rd
Utton, Paul W	Yaeger, Karl D	60 River St
Skinner, Pamela M & Robin Cavusoglu	Tewksbury, Brent S & Kimberly C	896 West Shore Dr
Rubin, David d/b/a Park Forestry NY,LLC	VT. State OF ANR, FPR	Old County Rd

**2018 List of Land in Groton owned by the State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources**

Ref ID	Property Description	Acres	Fair Market Value	FY2019 PILOT*
EC1	Groton Lake Dam Site	3.00	\$63,100	\$508.23
FP1	Groton State Forest-Seyon Pond	26.00	\$106,700	\$995.99
FP2	Ricker Pond Campsite & Frontage	39.00	\$175,100	\$1,514.51
FP3	Lake Groton Cottage Lots	2.07	\$3,000	\$21.32
FP4	Stillwater Campground	42.00	\$136,100	\$1,222.18
FP5	Big Deer Campground	25.00	\$28,600	\$210.59
FP6	Boulder Beach	25.00	\$109,900	\$1,021.87
FP7	Kettle Pond Campground	20.00	\$86,000	\$711.42
FP8	Natural Woodlands Area	149.00	\$105,300	\$780.54
FP9	Forest Land	11,702.00	\$13,207,200	\$66,493.38
FP10	Ricker Pond Damsite	13.00	\$12,500	\$96.93
FP11	TNC/Moffatt Acquisition	329.00	\$250,000	\$2,269.35
FP12	Lyon Acquisition Seyon Block	42.00	\$29,700	\$220.23
FP13	Page Acquisition	25.70	\$24,300	\$181.85
FW1	Pine Mountain WMA	372.00	\$372,800	\$3,359.18
FW2	Levi Pond WMA	259.20	\$78,800	\$511.00
FW3	St. Hilaire Parcel	100.00	\$80,100	\$420.79
	Buffer Reduction			-\$3,000.00

Groton Total 13,173.97 \$14,869,200 **\*\$77,539.36**

Is payment from  
the State of VT to  
the town of Groton  
in lieu of taxes

TOWN PROPERTY VALUES AS OF 12/31/2018					
Date Acquired	Description		Value		
	<b>Buildings</b>				
7/3/1996	Boy Scout Camp		\$6,100		
7/3/1996	Community Bldg/vault		\$1,247,551		
7/3/1996	Fire Station		\$274,454		
7/3/1996	Hwy Garage (2)		\$330,228		
7/3/1996	Gazebo		\$13,227		
7/3/1996	Tractor Garage		\$10,140		
<b>TOTAL VALUE OF BUILDINGS</b>					<b>\$1,881,700</b>
	<b>Contents</b>				
12/14/1998	Chairs, table, etc. upstairs				
12/14/1998	Furnaces (2)				
12/14/1998	Kitchen contents				
12/14/1998	All Office Equipment				
<b>Contents of Community Bldg.</b>					<b>\$106,000</b>
<b>Contents of Library</b>					<b>\$230,000</b>
	<b>Equipment</b>				
12/31/2002	1st Constable		\$2,350		
12/31/2002	2nd Constable		\$0		
11/29/2011	2012 Chevy Impala Cruiser		\$6,000		
<b>Constable Total</b>					<b>\$8,350</b>
3/30/2004	JD Tractor/Mower/Snowblower		\$7,400		
10/20/2011	Stihl String Trimmer		\$250		
	JD Snowblower		1600		
12/15/2013	Misc.		\$250		
<b>Property Maintenance Total</b>					<b>\$9,500</b>
	Equipment		\$225,460		
7/4/2005	40' Container for training		\$3,200		
1/25/2013	Repeater		\$10,600		
	2006 Carr 6X12 Utility Trailer		1000		
	1956 Chevy Pump Truck		\$5,300		
10/18/2017	2003 GMC Rescue Vehicle		\$58,000		
12/31/2002	2001 Freightliner Fire Truck		\$39,000		
3/10/2015	2015 Freightliner Fire Truck		\$240,000		
<b>Fire/FAST Dept Total</b>					<b>\$582,560</b>

TOWN PROPERTY VALUES AS OF 12/31/2018 cont.				
Date Acquired	Description		Value	
1/15/1972	10-I Beams		\$2,200	
1/15/1990	Brush Mower		\$100	
1/15/1990	Culvert Thawer		\$6,200	
1/15/1990	1987 130 Caterpillar Grader		\$21,865	
1/15/1994	Storage Trailer		\$350	
	Small Equipment & Tools		\$37,751	
1/15/1995	Stone Rake		\$1,000	
7/22/2015	2015 Western Star Dump Truck		\$134,865	
6/15/1999	Lowboy Trailer		\$500	
11/3/2006	2001 924G Caterpillar Loader		\$34,170	
4/21/2008	2004 Cat 420 Backhoe		\$33,690	
6/9/2017	2018 International Plow/Sand Dump Truck		\$123,000	
4/27/2012	2012 Chevrolet K3500 Pickup Truck		\$18,500	
9/21/2012	2012 Morbark 2012D Chipper		\$10,300	
7/7/2017	Daktech Lap Top		\$800	
<b>Highway Total</b>				<b>\$425,291</b>
<b>Recreation Equipment Total</b>				<b>\$2,500</b>
<b>TOTAL VALUE OF EQUIPMENT</b>				<b>\$1,364,201</b>
	<b>Town Land</b>	<b>Acres</b>		
1/25/1997	Boy Scout Camp	17.35	\$35,300	
	RR Bed-Depot Flat	0.42	\$8,200	
	Parking Lakeside Dr.	0.11	\$9,300	
1/25/1997	Village Cemeteries	16.43	\$31,200	
	Town Garage	3.31	\$32,600	
1/25/1997	Puffer Memorial Ball Field	3.8	\$23,700	
	William Scott Cemetery	0.48	\$12,000	
	Old Cemetery-Great Rd.	0.24	\$13,600	
	Old Cemetery-Glover Rd.	0.37	\$12,400	
	Old Cemetery-Dominicus Grey-Glover Rd.	0.11	\$9,300	
	Gravel Pit- Welton Rd.	67	\$113,900	
1/25/1997	Tractor Garage-Mill St.	0.04	\$1,100	
	RR Bed-Park St. to Ricker Pond	25.4	\$21,100	
	Old Stump Dump-Little Italy Rd.	8.5	\$24,800	
2/14/1997	RR Bed-Little Italy Rd. to Ryegate Town Line	9.4	\$9,100	
1/25/1997	Old Dump-Goodfellow Rd.	9.1	\$22,700	
	Community Building Land	0.47	\$17,100	
	Fire Station Land	0.59	\$18,900	
1/25/1997	Veterans Memorial Park	0.73	\$18,900	
	RR Bed-Powder Spring Rd. (near Welch Block)	1.2	\$1,200	
1/25/1997	Frost Memorial Ball Field	1.7	\$22,800	
7/3/2003	Future Cemetery- Park St.	6	\$27,000	
<b>LAND TOTAL</b>				<b>\$486,200</b>
	<b>TOTAL VALUE OF ALL TOWN PROPERTY</b>			<b>\$3,732,101</b>

## What is Current Use?

In 1978, the Vermont legislature passed a law establishing the Use Value Appraisal of Agricultural, Forest, Conservation and Farm Buildings Property. Today, this program is known as "Current Use".

The purpose of the law was to allow the valuation and taxation of farm and forest land based on its remaining in agricultural or forest use instead of its value in the market place. The primary objectives of the program were to keep Vermont's agricultural and forest land in production, help slow the development of these lands, and achieve greater equity in property taxation on undeveloped land. Benefits for land enrolled in the program were first distributed in tax year 1980.

As of September 2016, there were more than 18,400 parcels of land enrolled totaling more than 2.4 million acres, about one-third of Vermont's total land.

## PLACING YOUR PROPERTY INTO CURRENT USE

The purpose of the program is to keep agricultural and forest land in production and to slow development of these lands. Enrolled property must remain in agriculture, forest, or conservation use to be taxed at use value. If the property is developed, a land use change tax will be due. If only a portion of the property is developed, the penalty will apply only to that portion.

## 2018 USE VALUES

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Agricultural Land	\$347/acre
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Forest Land & Conservation Land	\$136/acre
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Forest Land & Conservation Land Greater than one mile from a Class 1, 2, or 3 Road	\$102/acre
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Properties in Current Use Program 2018						
Owner(s) of Property	Total Acres Owned	Acres Enrolled in Program	Total Assessed Property Value	Assessment Amt Exempted from Taxes	Taxable Value	Amount of Tax Exempted
Anagnostakis, Christopher & Sandra	106.00	101.00	\$ 138,600.00	\$ 101,700.00	\$ 36,900.00	\$ 2,053.83
Beck, Darren D.	49.00	49.00	\$ 51,600.00	\$ 44,300.00	\$ 7,300.00	\$ 894.64
Blandford-Berlejung, Mary & Paul (homestead)	74.00	59.00	\$ 270,500.00	\$ 76,400.00	\$ 194,100.00	\$ 1,612.42
Berry, Russell & Cecille	219.00	219.00	\$ 206,400.00	\$ 176,800.00	\$ 29,600.00	\$ 3,570.48
Brueckner, William C. & Dawn	370.00	382.00	\$ 318,100.00	\$ 227,500.00	\$ 90,600.00	\$ 4,594.36
Cassani Robert E & Shirley J	178.50	178.50	\$ 151,800.00	\$ 126,300.00	\$ 25,500.00	\$ 2,550.63
Chandler, Harry & Judith (homestead)	269.08	267.08	\$ 350,300.00	\$ 173,300.00	\$ 177,000.00	\$ 3,657.50
Clough, Rick & Kelly	49.00	45.70	\$ 202,400.00	\$ 74,500.00	\$ 127,900.00	\$ 1,504.53
Crum, Kathleen	126.76	124.76	\$ 176,500.00	\$ 115,300.00	\$ 61,200.00	\$ 2,328.48
Cutone,Richard J & Victoria (homestead)	131.00	129.00	\$ 439,900.00	\$ 113,200.00	\$ 326,700.00	\$ 2,389.09
DeMartino, Paul	93.08	84.34	\$ 87,600.00	\$ 55,100.00	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 1,112.74
Doscinski, Leonard & Patricia (homestead)	104.70	102.70	\$ 409,100.00	\$ 123,900.00	\$ 285,200.00	\$ 2,614.91
Ducharme, Helen	69.69	69.69	\$ 71,800.00	\$ 61,900.00	\$ 9,900.00	\$ 1,250.07
Eaton, Maureen & Henry (homestead)	57.50	55.50	\$ 415,600.00	\$ 95,500.00	\$ 320,100.00	\$ 2,015.53
Edwards, Leslie (homestead)	41.10	33.00	\$ 229,500.00	\$ 38,000.00	\$ 191,500.00	\$ 801.99
Emerson Chris W	75.00	71.00	\$ 64,200.00	\$ 49,800.00	\$ 14,400.00	\$ 1,005.71
Engle, Stephen	775.00	773.00	\$ 997,800.00	\$ 573,400.00	\$ 424,400.00	\$ 11,579.81
Engle, Stephen	147.00	147.00	\$ 136,000.00	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 2,322.43
Foster-Jerry Lund Mountain Trust	692.43	688.43	\$ 458,600.00	\$ 308,400.00	\$ 150,200.00	\$ 6,228.14
Frost, Barbara J. & Earl	35.60	30.20	\$ 51,400.00	\$ 18,900.00	\$ 32,500.00	\$ 381.69
Goodine, Allen	95.00	87.00	\$ 123,000.00	\$ 78,400.00	\$ 44,600.00	\$ 1,583.29
Gosselin, Edmund	37.50	33.00	\$ 59,400.00	\$ 36,600.00	\$ 22,800.00	\$ 739.14
Greenough, Bradley	124.00	122.00	\$ 218,400.00	\$ 68,300.00	\$ 150,100.00	\$ 1,379.32
Grimes & Nolan Revocable Trust	121.00	107.00	\$ 94,800.00	\$ 48,300.00	\$ 46,500.00	\$ 975.42
Hart, Steven & Lisa	55.00	55.00	\$ 47,300.00	\$ 38,800.00	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 783.57
Hersey, Christie M.	125.00	123.00	\$ 79,900.00	\$ 48,200.00	\$ 31,700.00	\$ 973.40
Kersaken Ventures LLC	609.75	596.75	\$ 657,400.00	\$ 238,700.00	\$ 418,700.00	\$ 4,820.55
Klein, Martin	97.40	93.40	\$ 247,400.00	\$ 74,900.00	\$ 172,500.00	\$ 1,512.61
Laffamme, Kimberly	167.00	165.00	\$ 146,000.00	\$ 107,500.00	\$ 38,500.00	\$ 2,170.96
Martell, Robert E. & Lori A.	339.12	334.02	\$ 784,800.00	\$ 464,000.00	\$ 320,800.00	\$ 9,370.48
Moore, Donald F JR	28.40	28.40	\$ 67,200.00	\$ 63,100.00	\$ 4,100.00	\$ 1,274.30
Meadowsend Timberlands LTD	128.00	128.00	\$ 126,500.00	\$ 108,200.00	\$ 18,300.00	\$ 2,185.10
Morse, Norman (homestead)	144.00	134.50	\$ 427,100.00	\$ 131,000.00	\$ 296,100.00	\$ 2,764.76
Niemaszyk Walter	378.50	366.17	\$ 373,500.00	\$ 257,800.00	\$ 115,700.00	\$ 5,440.87
Oliver Troy A	47.00	45.00	\$ 116,700.00	\$ 38,300.00	\$ 78,400.00	\$ 773.47
Page, Keith R	39.00	35.00	\$ 50,700.00	\$ 21,000.00	\$ 29,700.00	\$ 424.10
Park Forestry NY LLC	935.60	935.60	\$ 636,400.00	\$ 502,900.00	\$ 133,500.00	\$ 10,156.07
Pigeon Pond LLC (Bailey & Gable)	1,050.00	1,042.00	\$ 2,396,100.00	\$ 1,221,700.00	\$ 1,174,400.00	\$ 24,672.23
Powers, Craig & Brenda (homestead)	35.70	32.47	\$ 289,600.00	\$ 47,500.00	\$ 242,100.00	\$ 1,002.49
Puffer, Mathew	222.00	201.00	\$ 399,700.00	\$ 101,500.00	\$ 298,200.00	\$ 2,049.79
Ruggles, Patricia A (homestead)	45.00	43.00	\$ 270,700.00	\$ 52,600.00	\$ 218,100.00	\$ 1,062.26
Simakaski, Mark R. & Wolfgang, Nichole C.	38.00	36.00	\$ 303,100.00	\$ 92,300.00	\$ 210,800.00	\$ 1,947.99
Smith, Brent & Pamela (homestead)	41.00	39.00	\$ 206,500.00	\$ 49,100.00	\$ 157,400.00	\$ 1,036.26
Starr, Timothy	43.00	35.80	\$ 123,100.00	\$ 43,100.00	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 1,231.00
Thomas, Bryce & Miriam	90.00	90.00	\$ 67,900.00	\$ 55,100.00	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 1,154.45
Thomas, F. Bryce (1997 Trust)	163.00	160.50	\$ 216,400.00	\$ 127,700.00	\$ 88,700.00	\$ 2,578.90
Thomas, Paul A. & Frederick Bryce III	37.10	37.10	\$ 70,700.00	\$ 65,400.00	\$ 5,300.00	\$ 1,320.75
Thomas, Paul A	126.00	109.50	\$ 196,700.00	\$ 116,600.00	\$ 80,100.00	\$ 2,354.74
Thomas, Paul A	65.10	63.10	\$ 89,300.00	\$ 62,300.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 1,258.15
Timbervest Partners III Vermont LLC	237.00	224.80	\$ 183,200.00	\$ 139,600.00	\$ 43,600.00	\$ 2,819.22
Uttero, Peter J.	363.00	357.00	\$ 388,700.00	\$ 215,000.00	\$ 173,700.00	\$ 4,341.93
Vaughn, Tristan	46.00	44.00	\$ 85,100.00	\$ 53,100.00	\$ 32,000.00	\$ 1,072.35
Wosko, Walter & Diane	39.00	32.00	\$ 253,700.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 213,700.00	\$ 807.80
Zimmermann Groton Forestry, LLC	760.00	760.00	\$ 579,700.00	\$ 498,400.00	\$ 81,300.00	\$ 10,065.19
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>10,535.61</b>	<b>10,306.01</b>	<b>\$ 15,604,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,923,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 7,628,600.00</b>	<b>\$ 162,571.84</b>
<b>Homestead values exempted from land use</b>				\$ 909,300.00		\$ 19,190.78
<b>Non-residential values exempted from land use</b>				\$ 6,558,800.00		\$ 132,454.97
				<b>\$ 7,468,100.00</b>		<b>\$ 151,645.74</b>

# **Policy for Collection of Delinquent Taxes - Adopted April 2017**

## **Summary**

To be fair to all town taxpayers, this collection policy recognizes that individuals may go through periods of financial difficulty. At the same time, the policy asserts that, in general, shifting the burden of one property owner's debt onto other property owners in the town is not appropriate.

It is the responsibility of the taxpayer to contact the Collector of Delinquent Taxes to set up an arrangement to make payments, if needed. A time frame for payment will depend on circumstances and may stretch at most to August 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year that taxes were due. Scheduled payments must be regularly made and the property cannot go further delinquent. Properties that have been delinquent without receipt of full payment by the Collector and a written agreement specifying regular payments sufficient to clear the back taxes by the August 1<sup>st</sup> deadline will be processed for tax sale or for other methods of collection. Properties on which a payment schedule is not faithfully fulfilled or that fall further delinquent may be processed for tax sale or other methods of collection. All costs of any method of collection will accrue against the taxpayer and may become a lien on the property.

## **Overview and Philosophy**

It is in the best interest of the Town of Groton and of its residents that property taxes be paid when they are due. Town and school budgets are set in anticipation of the collection of taxes, and taxes not paid by some property owners shift the cost burden onto others. As Collector of Delinquent Taxes, I will work with people in a diplomatic and professional manner to help them become current in their obligation to the town. However, if a taxpayer fails to contact me, or if a taxpayer does not become current within what I as Collector believe to be a reasonable length of time, or if a taxpayer does not deal in good faith, it is my duty to proceed with any and all appropriate collection methods to recover the debt in a timely manner, and I shall do so. The purpose of this policy is to establish clear guidelines so that all delinquent taxpayers will be treated fairly and both the Town and the taxpayer know what to expect. Delinquent taxes represent a lien on the property and remain in effect until the delinquent tax, penalty, and interest have been paid in full.

## **Notices**

Within 20 days after receiving the warrant and list of delinquent property tax owners from the Town Treasurer, the Collector of Delinquent Taxes will mail the initial notice. This initial notice will indicate the amount of delinquent tax, assessed penalty, and accrued interest. The Collector will include with the initial delinquency notice a statement explaining the possibility of tax abatement. Follow-up delinquency notices will be sent monthly until taxes, penalty, and interest have been paid in full. It is the responsibility of the property owner or taxpayer to notify the town in writing of any change of mailing address or contact information.

## **Penalty**

A onetime penalty in an amount set by the voters, (8%), is assessed on the original amount of the tax delinquency.

## **Interest**

On the date that the warrant is issued to the Collector of Delinquent Taxes by the Treasurer and again on the first day of each month after, interest on the delinquent tax balance is assessed at the monthly rate



determined by the voters. Voters set the amount of interest at one percent (1.0%) per month or any part of a month for the first 3 months and one and one half percent (1.5%) thereafter.

### **Payments and Receipts**

Full payment of a delinquent account in a lump sum is preferred. Payment may be mailed or hand delivered to the Town Office at 1476 Scott Highway, Groton, Vermont 05046. The Collector will issue a receipt to the property owner for every payment. On a monthly basis, the Collector will deliver a report to the Town Office for the previous month. The Collector will retain a copy of each receipt issued. A payment will be credited as having been received per the legible date stamped or written on the envelope or check by the Town official receiving the payment. Postdated checks will not be accepted. Requests to hold checks for later deposit will not be honored. Cash payments will be accepted. You may also make payment online at [www.Officialpayments.com](http://www.Officialpayments.com), or by visiting our Town website at [www.grotonvt.com](http://www.grotonvt.com) and following the link to Official Payments on the right side of the page. Online payments will be credited by the time stamp of the transaction.

### **Acceptance of Partial Payments**

Partial payments will be accepted if the taxpayer has submitted in writing a dated and signed payment agreement. Without such an agreement, partial payments may be accepted at the discretion of the Collector or of the Town official receiving the payment. Acceptance of partial payments in no way excuses the taxpayer from liability for the entire balance due, including all interest and penalty and any costs.

### **Allocation of Partial Payments**

Each partial payment will be applied first to the outstanding accrued interest and penalty. Any remainder will be proportionately applied to tax.

### **Bad Payments**

If a payment is returned or refused due to insufficient funds or for any other reason not the fault of the Town or of the Collector, the taxpayer will be charged all associated costs and will lose the privilege of submitting payment by any device except pre-paid cashier's check.

### **Collection after Extended Delinquency**

If delinquent tax bills have not been paid in full on or before August 1<sup>st</sup> of the following year that the taxes were originally due, the Collector of Delinquent Taxes may begin the following actions to collect the taxes, penalty, interest, costs, and fees:

**Tax Sale:** The Collector will engage an attorney to conduct a tax sale of the property or of as much of the property as is necessary to pay the tax, interest, penalty, costs, and fees. The taxpayer and mortgage and lien holders will be notified of the tax sale decision, the deadline date by which full payment must be received to avert sale, and the costs to expect once the sale process begins. Absolutely no partial payments will be accepted after issuance of the notice of tax sale. If the deadline for full payment passes and full payment has not been received, a tax sale will be conducted according to procedures specified in 32 VSA § 5252. Costs of preparing and conducting the sale, including legal fees up to a maximum of 15% of the amount of delinquent tax, will be charged to the delinquent taxpayer. In the event that no one purchases the property at tax sale or if in the judgment of the Collector proceeding with the tax sale is unadvisable, the Collector shall collect the delinquent taxes using any and all means permitted by law, or may place the property on the following year's tax sale list.

Court Action: The Collector may file a complaint with the Caledonia County Small Claims Court or Caledonia Superior Court.

### **Abatement of Taxes**

Each taxpayer has a right to apply for abatement of property taxes based on any of the grounds listed in 24 VSA § 1535. See the attached Notice of Abatement of Taxes. To request a meeting with the Board of Abatement, please contact the town clerk at 584-3276.

### **Notice of Possibility of Abatement of Taxes**

The Board of Abatement of the Town of Groton is authorized under law, 24 V.S.A. sections 1533-1537, to conduct hearings on requests for abatement of real and personal property taxes. Not every taxpayer is eligible for abatement of taxes, but if you believe you meet the criteria listed below, you may want to consider requesting a hearing. The appropriate paperwork is available at the Groton Town Office.

The criteria include:

Taxes of persons who have died insolvent.

Taxes of persons who have moved from the state.

Taxes of persons who are unable to pay their taxes, interest, and collection fees.

Taxes in which there is a manifest error or a mistake of the Listers.

Taxes upon real or personal property lost or destroyed during the tax year.

If you believe you qualify for abatement, you should take immediate action to request a hearing, as filing the application does not stay the collection of your property tax. If you file the paperwork to request a hearing, the Board of Abatement will notify you of the date, time, and place of your hearing and you will be responsible for supplying evidence to support your request. The board is under no obligation to grant any abatement request and may choose to abate all, part, or none of the taxes, interest, and penalties due.

Carrie Peters  
Collector of Delinquent Taxes  
Town of Groton  
1476 Scott Highway  
Groton, Vermont 05046  
802-584-3004  
Cdt@grotonvt.com

## Delinquent Tax Report as of 12/31/2018

Name	Tax Year
ADAMS MICHAEL	2018
BATCHELDER BARBARA	2018
BATSAKIS ANDREW J	2018
BEAMIS SHIRLEY E	2018
BLISS DONALD	2018
BONACCORSI CAROL A	2018
BOYCE DAVID	2018
BOYCE DOUGLAS P	2017/2018
BRINKMAN STAN B	2018
BROWN LAURA R	2018
CALVELLO NICHOLAS	2018
CAREY JANNEL ANNET	2018
CORBETT MARY E	2018
CORREIRA DAVID J	2018
CROWN RUSSELL	2018
CROWN SHAWN	2018
CROWN SHAWN	2018
DARLING HENRY	2018
DARLING HENRY	2018
DARLING SHAWN R	2018
DICKEY CHRISTY LYNN	2018
EASTMAN MARY	2018
EDWARDS GALE LYN	2018
ELLISON DAVID	2016/2017/2018
FARR BRADLEY	2018
FULFORD HEIDI A	2018
GOODRICH ROBERT F	2015/2017
GRANT JEFFREY	2018
GROTON COMMERCIAL	2018
HART RONALD F	2018
HERBERT CHRISTOPHER	2018
KENNEDY MICHAEL A	2018
KHEDOURI SARAH	2018
LAKIN JAMES E SR	2017/2018
LASELL HORACE JAMES	2018
LEACH FRANCIS	2018
LEININGER TINA M	2015/2016/2017/2018

Name	Tax Year
LEPENVEN LARRY J	2018
LESIEUR KELLY F	2018
MERRYFIELD MICHELLE	2018
NEWMAN SARAH E	2018
PHILLIPS PAMELA	2018
QUINTAINE MARIE	2017/2018
RINGEN ROBERT A	2018
ROBINSON DANIEL C	2018
SANVILLE ARNOLD	2018
SANVILLE CHARLOTTE	2018
SLAYTON DAVID	2018
WILMINGTON SAVINGS	2017
WOOD ROSE-MARIE	2018
ZIMMERMANN FORESTRY	2018

### Total Principal Outstanding

<b>Tax Year 2015</b>	\$	3,217.59
<b>Tax Year 2016</b>	\$	3,571.03
<b>Tax Year 2017</b>	\$	12,879.00
<b>Tax Year 2018</b>	\$	<u>77,183.21</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$	96,850.83

A tax sale is planned for Spring 2019  
for 4 parcels as of 12/31/2018

PAYABLE TO:  
MAIL TO:

# TOWN OF GROTON

Town of Groton  
1476 Scott Highway  
Groton, VT 05046  
802-584-3131

## TAX BILL

DUE DATE: NOVEMBER 3, 2017  
BY 5:00 p.m. E.S.T.  
POSTMARKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

PARCEL ID	BILL DATE	TAX YEAR
	01/25/2018	2017

Delinquent taxes are subject to a one time 8% late penalty and 1% interest for the first three months (or fraction thereof) and 1.5% per month (or fraction thereof) after the first three months.

Description: 3.1 AC & DWL  
Location:

OWNER

### HOUSESITE TAX INFORMATION

SPAN # 267-084- SCL CODE: 084  
TOTAL PARCEL ACRES 3.10  
HOUSESITE VALUE 221,300  
HOUSESITE EDUCATION TAX 3,286.97  
HOUSESITE MUNICIPAL TAX 1,597.12  
HOUSESITE TOTAL TAX 4,884.09  
FOR INCOME TAX PURPOSES

ASSESSED VALUE	HOMESTEAD	
REAL 223,200	223,200	
TOTAL TAXABLE VALUE 223,200	223,200	
GRAND LIST VALUES 2,232.00	2,232.00	

For more information about how education tax rates are determined, go online to: <http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners>

TAX RATE NAME  
TOWN  
HIGHWAY  
LOCAL AGREEMENT/VETE

TAX RATE	GRAND LIST	TAXES
0.4551	x2,232.00=	1015.78
0.2637	x2,232.00=	588.58
0.0029	x2,232.00=	6.47

HOMESTEAD EDUCATION

1.4853	x2,232.00=	3315.19
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PAYMENT 11/03/2017  
DUE 2365.02

TOTAL TAX	4926.02
STATE PAYMENTS	2561.00
NET TAX DUE	2365.02

DETACH THE STUB BELOW AND RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT

### TOWN OF GROTON

PAYMENT DUE	TAX YEAR
11/03/2017	2017
OWNER NAME	
PARCEL ID	
AMOUNT DUE	2365.02
AMOUNT PAID	

FORWARD TO NEW OWNER IF YOU NO LONGER OWN THIS PROPERTY. SEE INSERTS FOR INFORMATION ON FORMS OF PAYMENT. NOTE: CASH PAYMENTS ACCEPTED IN EXACT AMOUNT ONLY.

- A. Last day to pay property taxes before they become delinquent.
- B. Your individual property Identification number.
- C. These figures are used by the State of VT in calculating your state payment, if any.

[www.myVTax.vermont.gov](http://www.myVTax.vermont.gov)

- D. This amount is your assessed value of your residential property.
- E. If you are a Non-Resident your assessed value is located here  
Or if you own a second property in the Town of Groton
- F. These are the amounts the town has calculated to cover Town and Highway expenses plus the Local Agreement/Veterans Exemption that the Town approved in 2009. The Local Agreement/Veterans Exemption reduces a Veterans property value by \$40,000. The State of VT pays the taxes on \$10,000 and the town covers the remaining taxes on \$30,000.

To be eligible for exemption, Veterans must meet one of the three criteria listed below

- Receive Disability compensation for a service-connected disability rated 50% or higher by the US Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Receive Improved Pension (also called Non –Service Connected Disability Pension) from the US Department of Veterans Affairs.
- Receive a permanent medical retirement from the military.

To be eligible for the exemption, Survivors must be the un –remarried spouse or a minor child of a veteran who met the eligibility criteria above at the time of their death.

Form can be found at Town Clerks office or go to [www.veterans.vt.gov](http://www.veterans.vt.gov) for more information

- G. This is the amount sent to Blue Mountain Union. This rate is figured by the State of VT and if you filed form HS-122 then you are charged the Homestead Education Rate. If you did not file form HS-122 then you are charged the Non-Residential Rate, this is also figured by the State of VT. [www.myVTax.vermont.gov](http://www.myVTax.vermont.gov)
- H. State of VT calculates this figure (from info in section C and from your income taxes) & this is applied to your tax bill to reduce the amount owed.
- I. What you owe to the Town of Groton.
- J. Payments are accepted every day all year.



## Groton Free Public Library

Welcome to your Library! I'm thrilled to invite you to everything Groton Free Public Library has to offer! As your Librarian, I believe in the power of small, rural, community libraries to transform lives and help us each reach our potential. I see this every day through the services we provide, the lives we touch, and the relationships we build.

Our Library is the ultimate place for possibilities. Whether you love to read, learn, or are working on early literacy we have the resources to help you and your family. Today's libraries are about more than just reading. We offer classes, events, a wide collection of current books, movies, audio books, magazines, local newspapers, wi-fi, and easy access to materials found in other libraries around the state via interlibrary loan, all free and accessible within a warm welcoming space!

We offer regular programming such as: book discussions, Crafts and Conversations, family movie nights, guest speakers and more. We are also a gateway to basic technology support and resources, job-hunting and homework help—we want to help you reach your goals!

Much energy and support for our library comes from Friends of the Library who continue to manage an ongoing book sale, and provide extra helping hands for our programs as needed. The funds from their sales help to cover unexpected costs that were not budgeted for, as well as to help make our programs extra special with home made baked goods or buying books for children during the holidays throughout the year. We are always building our team of volunteers and Friends, and welcome all to join our Library community!

We are looking forward to some fun and exciting guests in the coming months; this summer we are looking forward to the return of David Rosane and the Zookeepers! Last year Groton set the stage for an amazing event including, music, food, and a great turn-out all which is an expectation across the state at other performances!

All this is possible through the funding from our town, the support from our annual appeal, donations, grants, and volunteers from our community! We continue to work towards our mission of making books and resources freely available for education, enlightenment, and recreation!

It all starts with a Library card. Come visit us and see how the Library can open new possibilities for you. We are open Monday 2:30-7:00, Wednesday 10:00-4:00, Friday 2:30-7:00 & Saturday 10:00-12:00. You can find us online at [www.grotonlibraryvt.org](http://www.grotonlibraryvt.org), follow us on Facebook, or give us a call at 584-3358.

Thank You,

Jodi Fleurie-Wohlleb

(Librarian)

Board of Trustees

Alissa Smith (Chair)

Torie Peters (Secretary)

Peggy Burgin & Debra Tinkham

**2018 Library Budget vs. 2018 Actual Spent**  
**Expenses paid from Town General Fund**

	2018 Budget	Actual	2019 Budget
Librarian wages	20,020	19,183.63	17,732
Payroll taxes	1,532	1,467.58	1,357
VLCT PACIF-Insurance	1,035	1,033.00	1,092
Postage & delivery	720	682.07	720
Building rent	16,601	5,700.00	6,000
Supplies-Library	0	173.28	200
Books & periodicals-	5,000	4,906.77	6,000
Office supplies	800	1,078.53	1,000
Telephone/internet	1,000	1,094.19	1,500
Training	80	0	0
Software/support	700	649.29	1,000
Computer Repairs & Legal Fees	400	0	400
Furnishings & Equipment	200	150.01	800
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$48,088</b>	<b>\$36,118.35</b>	<b>\$37,801</b>

**Library Budget vs. Expenses**

Expenses paid by Library Fund	2018 Budget	Actual	2019 Budget
Transfers Out	0	0	0
Programs Expense	1,500	1,587.92	1,500
Postage	0	0	0
Building Operations	0	0	0
Books & Periodicals	1,000	614.57	1000
Training & Mileage	260	267.63	500
Technology Services/Soft	0	0	0
Computer Maintenance	0	0	0
Computers	2,500	0	2500
Investment Loss	0	2,045.08	0
Furnishings	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,260.00</b>	<b>\$4,515.20</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>

**Library Fund Revenue**

Funds are entered into Library Fund	Actual
Books & Copy revenue	0
Dividends American Funds	601.91
Donations/Annual Appeal	8,021.74
Fundraising revenue	0
Grant revenue	500.00
Interest income	223.55
Program revenue	0
Gains - Investments	426.21
Transfers In	0
PayPal Revenue/Donations	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,773.41</b>

**Library Fund Balances as of 12/31/2018**

Library Fund	13,773.78
Endowment	51,094.82
Capital Improvement	31,254.65
ACH Account	9.00
American Fund Stock	18,708.40

**Total** **\$114,840.65**

## **Library funds are not Town funds, they are controlled by the Library Trustees.**

### **Groton Free Public Library Reserve Fund**

March 7, 2006, Article 8: Shall the Town of Groton approve the existing accounts and the establishment of a reserve fund to be called the Groton Free Public Library fund to be funded by grants, gifts, donations, fund raising, existing library investments and other non-taxation sources said fund to be used for library improvements, managed by the library Board of Trustees and dispensed by the Town Treasurer?

### **2018- LIBRARY ACCOUNTS**

#### **Operating Fund**

Operating expense account funded by annual appeal donations, memorial funds, interest from Endowment and dividends from American Funds. **Balance \$13,959.49**

#### **Endowment Fund**

Endowment funded by capital campaign with interest deposited in Community Bank for use toward the Library portion of the monthly operating expense of the building. Endowment fund intended to contain at least \$55,000. Funds may be used for capital improvements, but not operating costs. **Balance \$51,094.82**

#### **Capital Fund Certificate of Deposit**

Anonymous gift restricted to capital improvements or non-budgeted items at the discretion of the Library Trustees. **Balance \$31,254.65**

#### **American Funds**

Investment of funds realized from sale of book in 1991. Dividends are deposited in Community Bank Fund for use toward the Library portion of the monthly operating expense of the building. **Balance \$18,708.40**

#### **Library Pay Pal Fund**

Fund Account was established to receive money electronically for Annual Appeal Donations. **Balance \$9.00**



## **GROTON CEMETERY RULES**

**TRAFFIC REGULATION** In order to protect the roadways and monuments, all Groton Cemeteries will be closed to vehicular traffic from Nov. 1 to May 1, unless otherwise authorized by the Cemetery Commissioners.

**FLOWERS AND FLAGS** All flowers, natural and artificial, should be removed from the cemeteries by Oct. 1. The flags will remain on the graves until Veteran's Day in November. Any flowers, plants and flags left in the cemetery may be removed by the maintenance workers.

**FOOTINGS** In order to facilitate mowing and for the long-term stability of the stones, all the monuments will be set on a cement foundation with footings which extend four inches outward from the monument.

### **SETTING OF CORNER STONES AND GRASS MARKERS**

A Cemetery Official will have the final say as to the location of any upright stone or grass marker should there be a question as to whether a marker has been placed correctly on any given lot. The cemetery Commissioners are responsible for setting the cornerstones.

**PLANTINGS** Planting should be of the low maintenance type that will not grow to a size which will impinge on the surrounding lots. They must be clearly marked in order to protect them. They must be planted between the monuments and not in front or behind the headstones. Please understand that it is extremely difficult to be aware of all the plantings in cemeteries as large as the ones Groton has.

The town cannot be held responsible for plantings set in front or behind monuments as these areas are maintained with a lawn mower. However, the spaces between the monuments are maintained with string trimmers. It is much easier to spot and avoid a planting in these areas than in front and behind the headstones.

**BURIALS** The cemetery will be closed for burials from the first snowfall until the ground is fully thawed in the spring, unless specifically authorized by the Cemetery Commission.

Burial vaults will be of concrete.

### **PURCHASING LOTS IN A GROTON CEMETERY**

Lots are for sale containing as few as 1 burial plot and up to 12 plots. Lots sold at resident prices will have the resident's name only listed as owner on the deed. Non-residents cannot be listed as co-owners on lots purchased at residential prices. The initial of the owner's last name will be engraved on the cornerstones. There is a price list available through the town clerk. Cremation urns can be buried in any plot.

### **SPECIFYING THE INDIVIDUALS TO BE BURIED IN A LOT**

At the time of purchase the deed holder can fill out a form that will specify the individuals who can be buried in a specific lot. This document can be notarized and filed with the deed for the current recording fee.

Should a deed holder wish to specify who may be buried on their lot, this form can also be filled out, notarized and filed with the deed for the recording fee.

Should a deed holder wish to sell a lot or portion of a lot, they must first sell it back to the town at the same price that it was originally purchased for. Then the town will sell the lot to the new owner based on current pricing. Corner stone for this new lot may not be required if the Commissioners approve.

Please be aware that the only way to securely guarantee who shall be buried in any given lot is for that person to own it. In cases where there might be a family dispute, we suggest that the parties take all steps possible to make clear who shall be allowed to use a lot.

## CREMATION BURIALS

The internment of cremation urns is not restricted to special cremation plots. Urns can be buried on gravesites already inhabited or on sites that have been purchased but not used. In order to do this the Sexton must be informed and arrangements made for the digging and interning the urn so that the exact location of the urn can be recorded and the plot can be officially prepared. There is an added cost for digging the internment hole.

All Groton Cemetery guidelines for placement of markers and cornerstones will apply to lots being used for cremation internments.

## PERPETUAL CARE

Perpetual Care fees cover emergency repair and general upkeep of the cemetery. If you are interested in purchasing a lot in the Groton cemetery, please contact the Town Clerk.

CEMETERY LOT PRICES and FEES for 2018								
SIZE	# of traditional burial sites	# of cremation sites	LOT PRICE	PERPETUAL CARE	FEES	SETTING OF CORNER STONES	TOTAL FOR RESIDENTS	TOTAL FOR NON-RESIDENT
12'x4'	1	4	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$125.00	\$50.00	\$475.00	\$1,875.00
12'x8'	2	8	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$125.00	\$50.00	\$575.00	\$3,375.00
12'x12'	3	12	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$125.00	\$50.00	\$775.00	\$4,975.00
12'x16'	4	16	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$125.00	\$50.00	\$975.00	\$6,575.00
12'x20'	5	20	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$125.00	\$50.00	\$1,175.00	\$8,175.00
FEE EXPLANATION: RECORDING COST \$20.00 CORNER POSTS: \$105.00								

Lots must be paid for in full at the time of purchase

The cost for grave preparation and cremation urn preparation is set by the contractor at the time of service.

## CEMETERY REPORT

2018 was an incredibly busy year for the Groton Village Cemetery. We had an unprecedented 16 burials this season. 7 full burials, and 9 cremations.

Tony Dennis was able to finish straightening stones in the old village cemetery, and also get to a few in the cemetery off of Glover Road. He has been working on this for a few years and has gotten everything done that he can. He has done an excellent job and we are fortunate to have someone to be able to do this.

The placement of corner stones has not been going well, and we still have a number that have not been set. We apologize for not staying on top of this. It is an issue the cemetery commission knows about and will be working to remedy in the upcoming year.

Also, thanks to Chris Knudson of CK Lawn Care for keeping all the cemeteries mowed and trimmed for us again this year.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Smith

Tony Dennis

Shaun Stetson

**2018 Cemetery Budget vs. 2018 Actual Spent**

Expenses paid from Town General Fund

	2018 Budget	Actual	2019 Budget
Contracted Work	700.00	700.00	\$ 700.00
Riverside Cemetery	200.00	180.00	\$ 200.00
Mowing	7,938.00	7,938.00	\$ 7,938.00
Dues & Meetings	25.00	0.00	\$ 25.00
Repairs & Maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00
Restoration of Old Stones	2,100.00	250.00	*** 0.00
Supplies	550.00	612.41	\$ 615.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11,513.00</b>	<b>9,680.41</b>	<b>\$ 9,478.00</b>

\*\*\*Restoration of Old Stones will be paid out of Perpetual Care Fund in 2019

**Revenues paid To Cemetery Accounts**

Cemetery Lot Sales	1,575.00
Corner stone revenue	420.00
Recording fee income	80.00
Corner stone setting fees income	200.00
Development Funds (non-resident lot sale)	0.00
Perpetual Care income (lot sales)	1,700.00
Interest Revenue	45.44

<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4,020.44</b>
----------------------	-----------------

**Expenditures paid From Cemetery Accounts**

Deposited to Development Funds	0.00
Deposited to Perpetual Care Fund	1,700.00
Recording fees (Groton Town Clerk)	80.00
Corner stones expense	150.00
Misc Exp	0.00
	<b>1,930.00</b>

**Cemetery Funds Balances 12/31/18**

	<b>Balances</b>
TD Bank-Roosevelt Carter Trust	6,193.47
WGSB H. Hosmer	3,283.77
WRSB Development Funds	8,661.47
WRSB Cemetery Lot Expenses	6,303.74
WRSB Mary Jane Ricker Hall Trust	1,062.73
MB Perpetual Care	89,487.13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>114,992.31</b>

## **SELECT BOARD REPORT**

The Groton Select Board has had a very busy year and there were a lot of issues tackled, some are completed and some are still ongoing.

The Town Treasurer and Town Clerk have been very useful in making sure the Select Board has the up-to-date information it needs from budget items to animal control.

The Select Board goal is to inform the residents and tax payers about the activities of the Select Board. The following items are some things the Select Board has been doing. These are only the high points of 2018:

### **Executive Sessions**

The Select Board this year has been dealing with some sensitive issues, some have been resolved and others are still on going.

### **Financials and Budget Updates**

This year the town had its financial audit and the Select Board appreciates the Town Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer for their hard work in the final assessment of the audit. The final report is available for the public to view at the office. The Select Board has also hired Glenna Pound throughout the year to help the Assistant and Town Treasurer in fine tuning their skills with the NEMRC system and help in preparing for the audit and end of the year work to get ready for reports for the Annual Town Report.

### **Special Town Meeting**

Town Meeting isn't the only time the residents get together. The town has had special town meetings on the Railroad Bed Ordinance, and Act 46. It's encouraging to see the towns' people participate.

### **Railroad Bed Ordinance**

This year, the hot topic, the Railroad Bed, which has been an issue of controversy over the past several years, finally has an ordinance.

### **Cilley Property**

This is another ongoing project that the towns' people approved at Town Meeting to purchase this past March 2018. There has been an agreement made and the owners are still working out some of the road blocks.

### **Highway Department**

The Highway Department has been busy this year in getting work done on our roads. Some of the projects completed are the Branch Brook Road, Minard Hill Road replacement of culvert and replaced with a box style cement form of a culvert system to allow more water to go through and control it when we receive a lot of rain and snow runoff in the spring. Glover Road was another project completed as well as Goodfellow and Red Brook Road projects. The Select Board would like to give a special thanks to Brent Smith, and the Road Crew for their hard work this past year.

There is so much other work that goes on which the towns' people don't realize. Our Town Constable has been busy patrolling. Fire Department and FAST have been busy in training and serving our town in times of emergency. The Select Board would like to thank all those who serve and sacrifice their time and families to protect our Town. Lastly, we give a special thanks to all of our military veterans who have served and those presently serving in our military.

Wade Johnson, Sr., Chair  
Deborah Jurist  
Aaron Smith

## Recreation Committee Report

The Groton Recreation Committee has been very active in our Community in 2018!

If you are interested in helping to develop recreational activities in town, or have any recreational ideas, please contact Lisa Hart at [LJLHART@yahoo.com](mailto:LJLHART@yahoo.com).

### List of Recreation Activities and Community events:

January-March- Fifth season of Ladies Beginner Floor Hockey,  
- Approximately 15 women playing throughout the season.

June-July –Second season of Intro to Tae Kwon Do Class, co-sponsored and led by Groton RT Blue Wave.

August, September & October- Latin Dance Instruction, One Saturday a month  
-Approximately 14 people attended

September 1<sup>st</sup>- Our community was entertained by Banjo Dan and Willy Lindner- Montpelier Wells River Rail Road at a concert in Groton Memorial Park.  
Sponsored by Groton Historical Society, Fire/FAST Squad, and Library.

September 8<sup>th</sup>- Groton Forest Trail Run with Cross Vermont Trail  
6.5 And 15 mile trail runs in the Groton Forest.  
-100 people participated

October 28<sup>th</sup> -The Annual Halloween Party was a great success this year. This event was run by Jazzy Children's Fund. Children and families came dressed up in their favorite costume and excited to play games and make crafts.  
-over 75 children in attendance.

Sept 24-Oct 29- Yoga  
6 Mondays, in the evening  
-approximately 26 people attended

October 25<sup>th</sup> -Washington Electric Co-op community meeting and dinner was held in the Community Gym.

November- Thank you to BMU & Rowden Brothers for helping us replace the Basketball Hoops.

December 15<sup>th</sup>- Christmas in Groton  
The SD Ireland Holiday Cement Mixer returned on Saturday, in front of My Farmer's Market, Children and families go to see Mr. and Mrs. Clause, enjoy cookies and cocoa and received free books and candy canes. Hosted by My Farmers Market and Mountain Man Pizza, Groton Free Public Library, Groton FAST Squad  
-approximately 150 people attended.

Jan 6<sup>th</sup> 2019-Community Christmas Tree Bonfire was cancelled due to winds~ will try again next year.

### Rec Committee Members:

2018: and currently Anne Hatch, Lisa Hart and Janet Page.

# 1st Constable Report

In 2018, I provided the following Law Enforcement services as Groton's First Constable:

Patrol	432.50 hours
Training	61.50 hours
Court	9.00 hours
Miscellaneous	90.75 hours
Serving Papers	14.50 hours
Total	593.75 hours

## During Patrol work, I issued:

Tickets	67
Written Warnings	427
VIN checks	51

As of December 11, 2018, the Town of Groton has received \$4369.00 in civil fines from tickets being issued.

I wish to thank the Town of Groton for their continued support and welcome any comments or suggestions to improving my services to the public.

Respectfully submitted

James A Downing  
1<sup>st</sup> constable

## **ZONING REPORT 2018**

In 2018, there were 23 permits processed. Zoning permits along the Lakes and Ponds need to check with the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources Shoreland Protection Agency to see if they need a permit through the State.

Permits and Amended permits cost \$50.00. The forms can be obtained from the Town Clerks Office or the town's website at [www.grotonvt.com](http://www.grotonvt.com).

Land owners shouldn't start any ground breaking or projects until all state and town permits are approved. Violations could occur if projects are started before permits are received.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Town of Groton.

Brad Houghton JR., Zoning Administrator

## **PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT**

The Planning Commission has had a quiet year. We are still looking for an additional member to make the Committee complete. There is also a need for the members to take on the new task of Village Center Designation and to update the Zoning Bylaws. These are both large tasks and need someone with the time and commitment each deserve. If anyone is interested please contact Carrie Peters at 584-3004.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Peters

## **GROTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

**Fire calls – 2018 – 39**

# **In an Emergency DIAL 911**

## **PLEASE INSTALL A 911 SIGN ON YOUR HOME**

Thank you for all your continued support.

Respectfully Submitted,

Fire Chief Wayne C. Knott

Groton Volunteer Fire Department

## **FIREWORKS**

In Vermont all fireworks (not including Sparklers and other novelty smoke devices) are illegal except for permitted, supervised public fireworks displays. Fireworks are dangerous and unpredictable, especially in the hands of amateurs. All too often Fireworks result in serious burns, hearing loss and other injuries due to misuse. Public fireworks display conducted by trained professionals and supervised by local fire departments are a good alternative to personal fireworks use. These displays are the smartest and safest way to enjoy fireworks.

A permit for display is required by the local fire chief of the municipality in which the display is to be held. The use, possession, sale and distribution of fireworks is legal only after the permit is granted. Applications for a permit must be made at least 15 days in advance of the fireworks display.

Sparklers less than 14 inches long with no more than 20 grams of pyrotechnic mixture and novelty sparkling items limited to snakes, party poppers, glow worms, smoke devices, string poppers, snappers, or drop pops with no more than 0.25 grains of explosive mixture, that are in compliance with United States Consumer Product Safety Commission regulations, are legal for sale and use in Vermont. However, even sparklers and smoke devices can be harmful if not used properly always make sure that everyone uses sparklers in a safe and responsible manner.



## **FOREST FIRE WARDEN REPORT**

This year fire season, there was just 2 brush fires. Thanks for all the fire fighters that participated.

The requirements to obtain a burn permit are as follows: you need to obtain a burn permit by calling the forest fire warden within 12-24 hours of burning grass or brush. The only time that you are not required to get a burn permit is when there is significant amount of snow in the area in which you are burning. This also depends on the time of the year such as early fall and late spring when we may have early snow storms. It is always best to contact me with any questions or doubts in burning. When there is a ban on burning, it will be announced on WYKR and on the Groton website.

I must also remind people that in order to burn woodpiles such as debris from buildings, other than brush, you must obtain a different permit from the Environmental Air Pollution Office. Their address and phone number is as follows: Air Pollution Control Division, Department of Environmental Conservation, Building 3 South Main Street, Waterbury, VT 05671-0402, Telephone # 802-241-3840.

If you want a permit during the week, you need to contact me the night before so you can get your permit. This has been one of the problems that I have had because I do work during the day from Monday thru Friday. You can contact me during the week after 5PM at 584-3628.

Due to the large area of Groton which is covered by forest, it is difficult to survey the area from time to time and because of that, there have been a lot of illegal burns which go unnoticed which could be a potential hazard to others and their homes if the fire warden is not aware of them. If caught without a permit, you could be issued a fine plus cost of equipment and personnel that come to the scene.

The concern now since the stump dump has been closed. What do we do about our leaves and brush? First of all, you can burn your own brush as long as you obtain a burn permit but as far as leaves go, the law prohibits the burning of leaves. If you have a concern about what to do with your leaves, give me a call.

There is also a growing issue on trash burning. There is a state law now, which has been in effect since 2005 making it illegal in the State of Vermont to burn trash. The Town of Groton has now passed a Trash Burning Ordinance. You can obtain a copy of this at the Town Clerk's office and if you have any questions, you can contact Jim Downing, the Town Constable.

Respectfully submitted,  
Wade Johnson, Sr., Forest Fire Warden  
Justin Carle, Forest Fire Warden Deputy

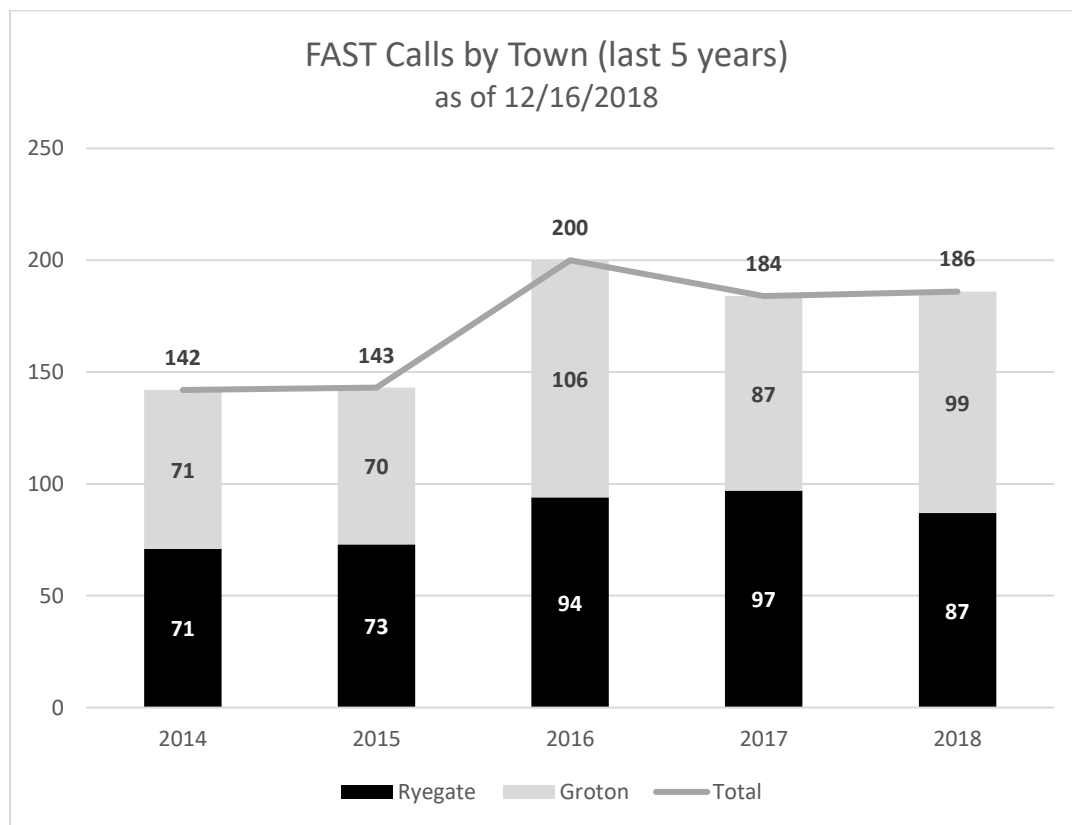
# Groton / Ryegate FAST Squad 2018 Town Report

## How Did 2018 Go?

2018 was a mixed year for the Groton / Ryegate FAST Squad. Though we achieved some of our community outreach goals, interacting more with our towns people, we fell short on offering community CPR courses. This is something we are planning on achieving in 2019 – hopefully by the time you are reading this we will have conducted at least one course, with more scheduled.

In 2018 the Groton / Ryegate FAST Squad again participated in several community events, including the Ryegate Summer and Winter Festivals, the Groton Fall Foliage day, the SD Ireland Truck at My Farmer's Market, a community outreach day at the Groton Free Public Library, and the inaugural Groton Forest Trail Run (with support from our neighboring EMS agencies). As always, we look forward to engaging with our communities, and welcome feedback, both on how we can better engage and any improvement suggestions you may have.

Our call volume was on the higher end of what can be considered the “normal range” for the past three years, with 186 runs as 12/16/18. These calls were handled with 8 licensed providers, and when needed, support from Groton and Ryegate Fire Departments. A great deal of appreciation to these agencies that provide support, often extra hands are needed to lift patients, get and carry equipment, and to make a path for us to get the patient out. The dedicated men and women of these agencies are always willing to help out!



## What is the Plan for 2019?

We are continuing our focus on community outreach, supporting community events as we did this last year, as well as getting our community CPR and Stop the Bleed courses up and running. We are also exploring some options to enable us to provide a greater level of service to some of our most precious and vulnerable customers, our older residents. Options under consideration (and subject to adequate staffing) are proactive home visits to learn about residents that may require assistance, talk about services that may be available, and provide feedback on safety issues such as fall hazards, and how to address them; and making home “key boxes” available that would enable responders to gain access to a key to enter a residence when help is required but residents are not able to get to the door.

We are also strongly focused on training, both internally and with our neighboring agencies. Targeted topics this year include high-performance CPR, advanced EMT training, and in partnership with Little Rivers Health Care, first responder mental health.

More and more studies are (thankfully) providing information on how working in Emergency Services impacts providers. Though we are fortunate that are not often asked to deal with traumatic events, we are learning that each and every call has an impact, and those impacts build up over time. Adding to the impact, often in our small communities we are not taking care of “just another patient,” but instead our friends, neighbors, and family members. The good news is that with proper mental health first aid, we can keep our providers mentally healthy, and happily serving our communities for much longer. We are able to help our providers balance the demands of this job with the demands of their family lives, and to be happy and healthy in both.

If you have ideas or suggestions on how the FAST Squad can reach more people in the community, and be a resource, please let us know.

To keep current on FAST Squad activities, please like or follow either (or both) the Groton Emergency Services (<https://www.facebook.com/Groton.Emergency.Services>) or the Groton / Ryegate FAST Squad (<https://www.facebook.com/grotonryegate.fast squad.1>) Facebook pages.

Respectfully Submitted,

Derek Curtis

Head of Service, Groton / Ryegate FAST Squad

[grotonryegatefast@gmail.com](mailto:grotonryegatefast@gmail.com)

802-745-7598

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/Groton.Emergency.Services/>

<https://www.facebook.com/grotonryegate.fast squad.1>

<b>FAST - GROTON RYEGATE FAST SQUAD ACCOUNT</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>NOTE:</b> This account is not funded by taxpayer dollars. These funds are from fundraising efforts and donations but the account is maintained by the Town Treasurer and listed under the Town's Federal ID number.	
<b>FAST Squad Account</b>	
<b>Bank account balance on 12/31/17</b>	<b>1,736.49</b>
Interest received	0.18
<b>Bank account balance on 12/31/18</b>	<b>1,736.67</b>

## **Independent Audit Report**

Fothergill Segale & Valley, the Town of Groton's independent auditors performed the Town Audit and provided a report on September 26, 2018 to the Select Board for year ending 2017.

The Town Audit Report and financial statements are available at the town office for review.

Please contact the office if you're interested in a copy.

Thank you  
Lisa JL Hart  
Town Treasurer

## **BUCKAROOS OF 302**

The Buckaroos of 302 continue to set new records in membership as we had 650 memberships last winter. Currently, as of December, we stand at 400 memberships as we look to match or best year's membership. Our volunteer crews did not have any major trail projects this year as we focused on clearing out sections of trails in West Groton. We'd like to thank our volunteers for all that they do and the hours that they put in every fall to keep our 60 miles of trails in top shape. We're hoping that the season picks up as warm weather in December has put a damper on the start of the season.

Current list of officers: President - Taylor Lamberton; Vice President - Kevin McDonnell; Secretary - Willis Page; Treasurer & Trail master - Gary Lamberton; Media Coordinator - Suzanne Pare

## **GROTON LISTER'S REPORT**

The Town Wide Reappraisal was started in July of 2018. Vermont Appraisal Company is working to complete the Reappraisal of all properties in Groton for the 2019 Grand List.

Many properties have already been visited and the appraiser will continue with site visits during the winter and spring.

This year we are including the 2018 Equalization Study in the Town Report.

Please contact us if there are any questions.

Lister office phone number is 584-3155.



State of Vermont  
Department of Taxes  
133 State Street  
Montpelier, VT 05633-1401

Phone: (802) 828-5860  
Fax: (802) 828-2239

Agency of Administration

December 24, 2018

Town Clerk  
Town of Groton  
1476 Scott Highway  
Groton, VT 05046

### 2018 Equalization Study Results

This letter serves as notification of the results of Property Valuation and Review (PVR)'s 2018 equalization study. Every year we are required to certify the equalized education property value (EEPV or EEGL) and coefficient of dispersion (COD) for each Vermont town. 32 V.S.A § 5406. This letter also communicates the Common Level of Appraisal (CLA) for your town and explains how it will impact your homestead and nonresidential education tax rates.

Education Grand List (from 411):	\$121,005,764
Equalized Education Grand List (EEGL):	\$118,602,611
<b>Common Level of Appraisal (CLA):</b>	<b>102.03 % or 1.0203</b>
Coefficient of Dispersion (COD):	24.99 %

For a copy of your town final computation sheet and certified sales report, please see:

**[tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study](http://tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study)**

The **education grand list** listed here is what was reported by your town to the state on the 411 form with your town's cable (if applicable) and tax increment financing (TIF) amounts (if any) included. This number represents the town's total property value that is subject to the education property tax (from the most recent grand list available) and serves as the numerator in the computation of the CLA. Please note: tax revenue from any TIF property value is subject to allocation. 32 V.S.A. § 5404a.

The **equalized education grand list (EEGL)** represents PVR's statutorily-mandated estimate of total fair market value of the education grand list in your town and serves as the denominator in the computation of the CLA. To find out more about how the equalization study is conducted, how to read the certified sales report, and additional instructions on how to appeal your results, please see the "Introduction to Vermont's Equalization Study" document at:

**[tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study](http://tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study)**

The **common level of appraisal (CLA)** is determined by dividing the education grand list by the equalized education grand list. 32 V.S.A. § 5401. A number over 100% indicates that property in your town is generally listed for more than its fair market value. A number less than 100% indicates that



property is generally listed for less than its fair market value. A CLA below 80% necessitates a reappraisal. 32 V.S.A § 4041a. The homestead and nonresidential tax rates in your town will be adjusted by your town's CLA. 32 V.S.A § 5402. The nonresidential rate in your town will be the statewide nonresidential rate divided by your CLA. The homestead rate will be the town homestead rate (which is determined by the per-pupil spending of any school district(s) to which your town belongs) divided by the CLA. A CLA greater than 100% will result in a downward adjustment of tax rates, and a CLA less than 100% will result in upward adjustment.

To get answers to many common questions about tax rates and how they are determined and to see how the current year property tax rates for your town were calculated, please see the department's education tax resources at:

<http://tax.vermont.gov/property-owners/understanding-property-taxes/education-tax-rate>

The **coefficient of dispersion (COD)** is a measure of how fairly distributed the property tax is within your town. It is calculated as the average of the (absolute) difference of each sales ratio (list price divided by sales price) in the study from the median ratio. That result is then divided by the median ratio to get the COD, which is expressed as a percent. 32 V.S.A. § 5401. A high COD means that within your town many taxpayers are paying more than their fair share and many are paying less than their fair share. A COD over 20% necessitates a reappraisal. 32 V.S.A. § 4041a .

**Appeals:** A municipality may petition the director of Property Valuation and Review for a redetermination of its EEPV and/or COD. 32 V.S.A § 5408. All petitions must be in writing and signed by the chair of the municipality's legislative body. Petitions should contain a plain statement of matters being appealed and a statement of the remedy being sought. **Petitions must be received by PVR by the close of business on the 35th day after mailing of this letter.** Additional instructions on appeals can be found in the "Introduction to Vermont's Equalization Study" document at:

[tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study](http://tax.vermont.gov/research-and-reports/reports/equalization-study)

If you have any questions, please contact your **district advisor** or call 802-828-5860.

Sincerely,

Jill Remick, Director  
Property Valuation and Review

cc: Chair, Board of Listers  
Chair, School Board  
Chair, Select Board  
Superintendent of Schools

## Groton Highway Report

- This year we were awarded a Vermont AOT Structures Grant for the replacement of the culvert on the north end of Minard Hill Road near the Ryegate town line. We were able to put the project out to bid and replace it this summer. This site has suffered damage many times and was identified in our capital budget plan that was completed in 2014 addressing storm water runoff.
- Our crushed gravel stockpile wasn't replaced this year. We were unable to crush this year because we ran out of good weather. We hope to be able to crush next year and recycle waste concrete from the dam removal behind the First Baptist on the Wells River when we do.
- This summer we were able to replace the undersized four-foot culvert that was near the end of Buzzy's Road. The capacity was increased and this should alleviate the water washing out the road during high water events. We were able to get a used ten foot by six-foot culvert for the replacement. Patrick Ross, Vermont stream alteration engineer located the culvert and provided the engineering and oversight of project at no cost to the town. With the use of local contractors and the in kind work we did; the cost was very low to the town. This site was identified in our capital budget plan that was completed in 2014 that addressed storm water runoff.
- Vermont Better Roads grant was awarded to us this year to correct issues and ongoing damages on the Fuller Hill Road and Goodfellow Road. New culverts were added and new stone line ditches installed. This site was identified in our capital budget plan that was completed in 2014 that addressed storm water runoff.
- Paving was done this year to around one-half mile of Boulder Beach Road.
- We worked with other departments on their projects, supplying labor and equipment time, saving them money.
- We attended many classes and workshops sponsored by Vermont Local Roads, AOT and VTDEC this year. I also represent Groton on the NVDA Transportation Advisory Committee; and represent small rural towns on the Advisory Committee for Vermont Local Roads.
- Phillip and I try our best to control cost while maintaining a level of service that keeps up with needed maintenance of roads. Thanks to each of you who gave input this past year. If you have any ideas or concerns please let us know.

Town garage phone 584-3209 Pager 802-290-1355

Brent Smith home 584-3765 or stop by the garage

# **TOWN OF GROTON WINTER OPERATIONS PLAN**

1. **TH #1** (Powder Spring Rd.) and **TH #2** (Minard Hill Rd.) have priority followed by school bus routes, then major traffic routes and then we will plow the roads which we feel cause the most problems for the public (traffic volume, steepness) and other roads in the most cost-efficient manner.
2. The town of Groton has two full time employees to do this winter maintenance. It takes about six hours to complete plowing after the snow stops. We may vary from above priorities for emergency situations. (fires, ambulance, etc.)
3. The town office and fire station lot should be plowed enough to let emergency vehicles in and out and the public in and out during office hours. (parking lot needs to be empty of vehicles to plow completely.)
4. The town will enforce no parking rules at all places where the plow trucks turn around.
5. Vehicles parked or abandoned in right-of-way or on town-owned property may be moved at owner's expense. The Town of Groton will not be responsible for damage to personal property left in right-of-way.
6. No person shall plow or otherwise deposit snow onto the traveled way, shoulder or sidewalk of a class 2 or 3 town highway. ([23 VSA § 1126A](#)).
7. The town does not plow class 4 roads or private roads.
8. After 16 hours on the job we are required to stop operations and get a minimum of 6 hours off.
9. Salt will be applied to class 2 paved roads and paved end of Goodfellow Rd. (5-1) with sand added as necessary. (salt is not effective when road temperature is below 20 degrees).
10. Sand will be applied to the gravel roads. (at temperatures below 0° sand, will not stay on the road)
11. On nights and weekends there will be a lower level of maintenance to help control costs. In most cases there will be no maintenance between 10pm and 4am.
12. Sidewalks are cleaned in the early morning, then again when state and town highway departments are done plowing. This takes about 3-1/2 hours.

## **Snow Plowing onto Roadways**

Depositing snow by blowing or plowing onto the traveled way, shoulder, or sidewalk of a class 1,2 or 3 town highway violates the Vermont Statutes Annotated—Title 19, Section 1105 and Title 23, Section 1126a. Depositing snow onto any highway results in increased maintenance costs and may result in a highway accident. When snow is blown or plowed across the highway, it may cause slippery conditions or snow berms that in turn could cause an accident. Private parties who violate this statute should be given a warning by letter from municipalities (for town-maintained roads). Further violations may result in the issuance of a traffic ticket which carries a \$50 waiver penalty or a civil action may be brought under Section 1105, which carries a fine not to exceed \$1,000 plus costs.



## **Community & Economic Development Committee**

The Community and Economic Development Committee (CEDC) is a group that started in 2016 and comprised of one member from each of the departments in town plus one select board representative. We have been working on the individual capital plans for each department. These plans will allow the town to properly budget future needs for the assets in the town.

Meetings are held on the 1st Monday of every month in the Town Treasurer's Office located at the Community Building.

Thank you,

Lisa JL Hart –Chair & Recreation committee member

Deborah Jurist–SB Member

Brent Smith- Hwy Dept

Caroline Diggins-Lister

Carrie Peters-Planning

Brent Abare-Fire Dept

## **Tree Warden Report**

In 2018, I worked with the Town Crew to remove hazard trees on Great Road and Glover Road. These trees were rotten, overhanging the roadway and posed a hazard to passing motor vehicles and in one case a home. Thank you to Wayne Knott, Brent Smith, and Phillip Palmer for helping me with this project.

Respectfully Submitted,

Henry Knott

Tree Warden

Town of Groton, Vermont

## **GROTON COMMUNITY CLUB REPORT**

The Groton Community Club is open to all Groton residents and there are no dues. We meet twice a year in October and May. Officers are Peter Lyon, President, Donna Robinson, Vice President, Roberta Dana, Treasurer, Diane Kreis, Secretary and Dan Robinson, System Analyst.

Our main project is the Fall Foliage Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of October under the direction of Peter Lyon. Next October, we will celebrate the 64<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our famous Chicken Pie Supper. The proceeds from our supper go towards senior scholarships to all Groton students who go on for additional training after high school. We also provide funding to the library for programs and planting flowers thru out the town.

The Community Club is working on behalf of the Doug Duckett family to establish a scholarship fund in honor of the late "Ducky" Duckett.

To continue to make this work we need everyone's help. Please volunteer if you can. As Groton residents, we can be really proud of what our village has accomplished.

Diane Kreis

Secretary

<b>GROTON COMMUNITY CLUB</b>	
<b>TREASURERS REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2018</b>	
Submitted by Roberta Dana	
<b>Income:</b>	
Chicken Pie Supper Tickets	8,990.00
Donations received	774.00
Refund from Lajeunesse for Basketball backboard project	725.00
Interest earned on checking account	6.39
<b>Total Income for 2018</b>	<b>10,495.39</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>	
Chicken Pie & fall foliage expenses	5,307.63
Flowers around Town	500.00
Donation to Groton library	500.00
Refund of donation to BMU (backboard project)	500.00
Scholarships paid out for 2016-2017 grads	600.00
<b>Total Expenses for 2018</b>	<b>7,407.63</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>3,087.76</b>
<b>Net profit from Chicken Pie Supper &amp; Fall Foliage Festival only</b>	<b>4,456.37</b>
<b>Outstanding checks:</b>	<b>200.00</b>
<b>Outstanding invoices:</b>	<b>10.00</b>
<b>Outstanding 2018 scholarships to be paid:</b>	<b>1,000.00</b>
<b>Total of accounts payable:</b>	<b>1,210.00</b>
<b>Checking account balance as of 12/31/18</b>	<b>10,332.63</b>
<b>Doug Duckett Groton Community Club Scholarship Fund balance</b>	<b>1,285.09</b>

## **GROTON VT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The Groton Historical Society kicked off 2018 with a Sunday Brunch in March, hosted by My Farmers Market. About 25 active GHS members gathered and we made plans.....

April saw the **Second Annual Cooking Event** at the PPH, when Groton's old and new recipes were shared. Janet Puffer taught us how to make her famous caramels on the Glenwood Cook Stove, and Phil Coutu did kettle corn.

The GHS, Groton Recreation Committee and Groton Free Public Library all co-hosted a **Banjo Dan Concert** on Sept 1st. The Fire Department sold barbecued chicken, and the Library was open. Groton was really hopping! Of course, Brent Smith, truly our Vice President in charge of building, grounds, logistics, "public awareness" made all this happen.

We hosted private visits to the PPH several times in 2018, and folks discovered new treasures on Fall Foliage Day. No matter how many times a person visits, they always find something new. It was really fun when two visitors sat down and played the **antique organ**. Do you know someone who wants to play? Please, let us know.

Thanks go to Erik Volk for his patience and diligence in publishing:

### **A Brand-New Book: Mr. Glover's Childhood**

This is a collection of 17 stories, penned by Waldo Glover and illustrated by Deborah Jurist, about his 1890's childhood in Groton. There are stories about school, trout fishing, church and tons of other adventures, in the same writing style as in his major work, Mr. Glover's Groton.

With help from Patricia Pratt and Phyllis Burke, we started an inventory of Groton's historic clothing and Richard Montague has begun to document and label the old tools in the shed.

Our warmest thank you goes to **Willard Benzie**, Genealogist and Newsletter Editor. He is our most cherished Patrician Historian! Please contact us with your genealogy inquiries.

**[www.grotonvthistory.com](http://www.grotonvthistory.com)**

Deborah Jurist  
President

Brent Smith  
Vice President

Erik Volk  
Treasurer

Phil Coutu  
Secretary

## **Groton Food Shelf**

A special heart felt thank you to all that gave donations and their time in 2018 to the Groton-Ryegate Food Shelf program.

We would like to start out by telling the community how truly fortunate we are to have a wonderful, caring and generous community. When times get tough the town's people and businesses have stepped up to aid in their neighbor's needs. We would like to thank the many people and business's in the Groton and Ryegate area that helped by putting on food drives and donating money to help keep the food shelf going. This past year we supplied food and other necessities to many families in both the Town of Groton and Ryegate. We also distributed Thanksgiving meal baskets and Christmas meal baskets with all the fixings right through dessert for completing holiday meals.

We also helped "Santa" by distributing toys to Groton children.

There were donations made in memory of Norman & Marion Murray by Judith Thrasher, in memory of Rita Hobbs by The Groton Volunteer Fire Department.

Donations were also received from:

Harry and Judith Chandler,  
Paul Clark,  
Judy Gandin  
Fred Olsen  
Diane Kreis  
James Kuhnhenh & Louise Reynolds  
Juelle Lamberton  
Alan Massey & Kirsten Murch  
Nicholas & Holly McLure,  
Kenneth & Barbara Nelson,  
Sue Smith  
Linda and Nicholas Smith,  
Nicole Wolfgang and family,

Ryegate Church Groups  
VAST Snowmobile Assoc.  
The Red Hat Ladies,  
Groton Methodist & Groton Baptist Churches,  
Blue Mountain Union School Teachers, Parents and students,  
The Town of Ryegate and tax payers.

There may be people we have missed but we say "Thank you to everyone".

If you or someone you know is in need of assistance please feel free to call us at the Town Office.  
A phone call in advance gives us time to prepare and also means less waiting for your items.  
The office numbers are 584-3276 or 584-3131.

Thank you for your cooperation.

With Sincere Gratitude,

Linda and Lisa

<b>FOOD SHELF REPORT - 2018</b>	
<b>NOTE:</b> This account is not funded by taxpayer dollars	
These funds are from donations only	
This account is under the Town Federal Tax Id #	
<b>Food Shelf Account</b>	
<b>Bank account balance 12/31/17</b>	<b>12,237.62</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>	
Interest received on bank account	3.77
Donations received (cash & checks)*	1,858.00
*(does not include value of food/toys/clothes donated)	
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>1,861.77</b>
<b>Disbursements:</b>	
Groceries and Misc items	-3,624.92
Made Donation to Groton Lunch with Friends Group	-1,000.00
<b>Total Disbursements</b>	<b>(-4624.92)</b>
<b>Bank account balance 12/31/18</b>	<b>9,474.47</b>
<b><u>Groton Food Shelf Funds</u></b>	
March 1, 2005, Article 7: Shall the Town of Groton establish a reserve fund for the Groton Food Shelf with the Food Shelf funds?	
The Groton Food Shelf Reserve Funds are to be used to assist Groton and Ryegate residents in a time of need with food or necessities with the determination of eligibility by the Town Clerk or Town Treasurer. This fund was started with donations and continues to be supported only by donations. No Groton tax dollars are raised for this fund. <b>Balance \$9,474.47</b>	

GROTON SPECIAL TOWN MEETING  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2018

The Citizens of the Town of Groton, who are legal voters in Town Meeting are hereby notified and warned to meet at the Groton Community Building in Groton Village on Monday, September 17, 2018 at 6:30 o'clock in the afternoon, to act on the following articles, to wit:

The Groton Special Town Meeting officially opened at 6:30 P.M. by the Moderator Brent Abare by reading the warned articles.

Brent Abare stated "Inasmuch as I am a Blue Mountain Union School Director, and would like to be able to speak to these questions, if there is no objection I will ask former moderator Wayne Dyer to preside over the two articles relating to Blue Mountain Union School. Hearing no objection, it is so ordered. Brent Abare handed the gavel to Wayne Dyer and takes a seat.

Wayne Dyer presiding Moderator stated that the articles had been read so what is needed is a motion to start discussion.

Brent Abare made the motion. Mark Gleicher seconded the motion.

Wayne Dyer presiding Moderator read: Article 1,

Shall the legal voters of the Town of Groton authorize the assumption of any debt originating from a merger with The Orange East Supervisory Union (OESU)?

There was discussion concerning the debt amount and the closing of the BMU High School. Hearing no more discussion or questions a voice vote was called.

Article 1 Failed, the no's have it.

Article 2, was read,

Shall the legal voters of the Town of Groton authorize conveyance of any portion of their interest in the property currently occupied by Blue Mountain Union School to the new consolidated Orange East Supervisory Union pursuant to 16 V.S.A. 562(7)?

Brent Smith made the motion. Martha Crown seconded the motion.

There were a few statements concerning Blue Mountain Union School being in good condition compared to Orange East Supervisory Union (OESU) School. Hearing no more discussion or questions a voice vote was called.

Article 2 Failed, the no's have it.

Wayne Dyer handed the gavel over to Brent Abare. Article 3 was read.

Article 3. To transact any other business that properly comes to the meeting.

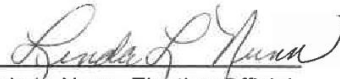
Brent Smith made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Phillip Palmer seconded the motion.

Hearing no objections the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 P.M.

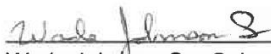


Brent Abare, Moderator

Wayne Dyer, Presiding Moderator



Linda L. Nunn, Election Official



Wade Johnson Sr., Selectboard Chair

Submitted By:

Linda L. Nunn, Town Clerk

## **Railroad Bed Public Forum**

**Groton, VT September 14, 2018 at 6:30 PM**

Wade opened the forum up at 6:30 PM.

Gary Lamberton likes the RR Bed Ordinance as written.

Gavin Reid pointed out that Forest and Parks and VAST have reviewed the ordinance and found no problems.

Wade Johnson pointed out that the ordinance refers to no parking from 12 am to 7 pm. It should be midnight or 12 PM to 7 AM.

Michael Thomas, pointed out that it would be impossible to build a trail like the RR Bed now. The RR Bed will continue to grow as an asset to the town of Groton.

A question was asked: Will permissions that the SB approves go on permanently? A suggestion is made that there should be time limits on such permissions.

A suggestion was made by Gavin Reid, that the Select Board should create a permit for alterations to the RR Bed such as a curb cut, and not rely on the permit process for roads, in order to avoid confusion.

It was pointed out that the Reversionary Clause in the deed is quite strict, and would be automatic if violated. For this reason, it would be wise for the Select Board to submit requests to grant permissions to State Forest and Parks. Gavin Reid pointed out that it is not necessary to put the Reversionary Clause into the Ordinance.

Gary Lamberton asked if the past permissions for the Buckaroos to cut trees and maintain the RR Bed in order to keep it open for snow mobile will be sufficient to allow them to continue or do, they need annual permissions. This issue can be discussed further at a Select Board meeting.

Brian Wohlleb asked what powers the Select Board would have to enforce the fines, etc. Gavin Reid responded. Repeated infractions would become a public nuisance. He also pointed out that the process of creating the ordinance is education for the public about the RR Bed. An injunction could be issued by a court.

Harold Hatch and Brian Wohlleb noted that they currently are mowing parts of the RR Bed which abut their land. There was a discussion about the maintenance of parts of the RR Bed which enhance it. It was suggested by Deborah Jurist that abutters would benefit by looking at the survey of the RR Bed to see exactly where their property lines are and then address their mowing to the Select Board.

Michael Thomas pointed out that some abutters might want to allow a buffer of tress to enhance their privacy from the public use of the trail. He suggested it might be wise to add language to the Ordinance now that addresses buffers and enhancements in order to prepare for the future.

It was asked when voting on the ordinance will be on the Select Board agenda. Hopefully, that will happen on Sept. 20, 2018.

Deborah made a motion at 7:08 PM to adjourn, Aaron seconded, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted, Debra Johnson SB Secretary



## **VOTER'S ONLINE REGISTRATION**

Last year, Secretary of State Jim Condos announced the launch of VT's new Elections Management Platform. This streamlined the elections administration process, providing voters with greater access to voter specific information. Over 25,000 Vermonters registered to vote online in 2016. For the November General Election, nearly 6,500 Vermonters requested an absentee ballot through the My Voter Page.

By using the My Voter Page, a registered voter can:

- *Check registration status;*
- *View information on upcoming elections;*
- *Access voter specific elections information, including directions to a polling place and polling hours;*
- *View a sample ballot;*
- *Request and track an absentee ballot;*
- *and much more.*

We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page to learn more.

Registered Voters can log in at: <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us>

Online registration can be found at: <http://olvr.sec.state.vt.us>

### **The New Vital Records Law (Act 46) and What It Means for You**

The Vermont Legislature passed Act 46 in May 2017, which significantly changes the state laws that govern vital records –namely, birth and death certificates. The new law and rules will enhance the safety and security of birth and death certificates, provide better protection against misuse of these legal documents, and reduce the potential for identity theft. Additionally, the changes streamline the entire statewide system for creation, storage and tracking of birth and death certificates. Act 46 will impact anyone who seeks a copy of a Vermont birth or death certificate. **The changes go into effect on July 1, 2019.**

The most notable changes are:

- Only family members (as defined in Act 46), legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties or legal representatives of any of these parties can apply to obtain a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. In the case of a death certificate only, the funeral home or crematorium handling disposition may apply for a certified copy.
- An individual must complete an application and show valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.
- An individual who refuses to complete the application or cannot provide valid identification will be ineligible and referred to the Vital Records Office.
- Certified copies of birth and death certificates can be ordered from any town, not just where the birth or death occurred or where the person was a resident.
- Certified copies will be issued on anti-fraud paper.
- Access to noncertified copies (previously called “informational” copies) is not significantly changed by the new law or rules.
- Marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificate copies and processes are not affected by the new law or rules.

For text of Act 46, go to

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2018/Docs/ACTS/ACT046/ACT046%20As%20Enacted.pdf>

### **Vital Records (Birth and Death Certificate) Changes Starting July 1, 2019**

Act 46 was passed by the Vermont Legislature in May 2017 and establishes new statutes and rules for Vital Records, which are intended to bring Vermont in line with national best practices to enhance the safety and security of vital records, provide greater protection against identity theft, and reduce the potential for misuse of these legal documents. Additionally, the new law and rules will streamline the statewide registration system's processes for greater efficiency and reduced administrative burden. The changes were developed from recommendations by the Vital Records Study Committee and testimony from stakeholders, including town clerks and members of the public. **The changes go into effect on July 1, 2019.**

#### **Key Items for Town Clerks:**

- Applicants for certified copies of birth and death certificates (not marriage certificates) must have a family or legal connection to the person named on the certificate.
- Applications will need to be fully completed and a valid form of identification presented to the town clerk before a certified birth or death certificate is issued.
- Applicants who refuse to complete the application or cannot provide valid identification will be ineligible applicants and referred to the Vital Records Office.
- Applications will need to be entered into the statewide vital records system and certified copies of birth and death certificates created only from that statewide system. (Existing paper copies in vaults will remain, but will no longer be used for creating certified copies.)
- Birth certificates will no longer travel from the hospital to the town clerk's office. They will be registered electronically in the statewide vital records system and available to the town clerk for search or printing.
- The layout of the birth certificate will be changed but the size will not.
- Corrections and amendments to birth and death certificates will be done at the Vital Records Office and new versions made immediately available to the town clerks via the statewide vital records system. Town clerks will receive electronic notification of new or revised versions. This will eliminate the mailing of copies between towns and the Vital Records Office.
- The public will be allowed to apply for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate from any town, regardless of the town of occurrence or residence.
- All town clerks will have access to the entire statewide vital records system containing all birth and death certificates in the state from 1909-present.
- There will be new language regarding the protection of materials used to create certified copies.

The Vital Records Office is maintaining a web page with information about the changes, frequently asked questions and more at [www.healthvermont.gov/stats/vital-records/changes-vital-records-law](http://www.healthvermont.gov/stats/vital-records/changes-vital-records-law).

## **Community Building Use Policy**

The community building plays an important role in our community and we hope to promote its use while continuing to meet the growing cost of maintenance. We ask that those using the facility contribute a portion of the money required to cover the cost of cleaning, utilities and heating.

Taxpayer money provides for the bulk of this financial burden but a portion of the increased maintenance cost is due to the increased use and needs to be supplemented by user fees. Increased activity has also required that our scheduling policy be updated to allow for more residents and diverse activities to be accommodated.

The Community Building Gymnasium and Kitchen will be available for public use providing there is no conflict with Town-sponsored activities. Town usage and use by town residents shall take precedence over non-resident, non-profit, or private use.

Space will be scheduled in hourly segments with a fee of \$8.00 per hour for residents & \$10.00 per hour for Non-residents for up to 50 people.

There will be a \$50.00 Cleaning and damage deposit at the time the Reservations are made and paid in advance. It will be returned after the space has been determined to be clean and damage free, within 7 days after space use.

Larger Events, over 50 people will be reserved in advance and be approved by the Select Board, or by the person being appointed by the Selectboard to approve the application. All day events will cost \$100.00 a day plus the \$50.00 deposit fee. Non-profit, public, town events may have the fee waived if agreed upon by the Select Board.

The Community Building Sign-Up Sheet and Release of Responsibility Form will be available at the Town Clerk's office during regular business hours.

It is the responsibility of the individuals or groups using the Community Building to clean the rented space and to remove their trash after each use. The key must be returned promptly after the function. Keys shall not be duplicated.

If the applicant will need to have a custodian, it is the applicant's responsibility to contact the town's custodian to schedule their services and make arrangements for payment of their services.

Misuse of any of the Groton Community Building facilities and premises and/or failure to comply with the above policy, or any of the rules will result in immediate revocation of permission to use any of the facilities in the future.

## GROTON LUNCHES W/ FRIENDS

Last August an enthusiastic group of volunteers got together to plan re-instituting a senior meals program in Groton. We were inspired by a similar group of volunteers who sponsored the Groton Senior Community Center from 1987 to 2001. After months of planning we were pleased to present our first meal on December 6<sup>th</sup> in the dining hall of the Groton United Methodist Church. We chose the name *Groton Lunches w/ Friends* to reinforce our hopes that this would be seen as not only a senior meal site but an opportunity for all members of our community to gather together for a wholesome, nutritious meal and friendly companionship.

As an approved senior meal site, sponsored by the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging (NEKCOA) , we serve lunch every Thursday at noon. Our monthly menus are advertised in the local media. And if you've had an opportunity to attend one of our lunches you know that we offer a great variety of delicious meals. In our very first month we are pleased to report that we have already registered 54 folks and we expect to begin offering Meals on Wheels in 2019 for those who are unable to get out to the meal site.

We also have plans to include entertainment, education and commemorative events in the coming months. Our site already includes a variety of board games, puzzles and even a Wii station if you'd like to come early or stay late and bowl, golf, play tennis or box a bit.

The suggested donation for our meals is just \$3 for those who are 60 years and older and \$5 for all others. We receive a small reimbursement for seniors from the NEKCOA but this does not cover all of our costs. We have been blessed by an outpouring of financial support from the people in our community to get us up and going and we look forward to many years of your continued support.

We are always in need of volunteers and we hope you will consider joining us in our efforts to enfold our community with love and compassion, through nutritious meals and companionship.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and all the wonderful meal site volunteers of *Groton Lunches w/ Friends* I thank you for your support. We hope you'll join us soon for lunch!

Susan Gordon  
Board Secretary

## **TOWN OF GROTON CIVIL ORDINANCE**

### **Regarding the Groton Railroad Bed and Town Parking Areas**

#### **1. AUTHORITY**

This is a civil ordinance adopted consistent with or under the authority of 5 V.S.A. § 3425 and §3431; 12 V.S.A. 462; 24 V.S.A. §1971; 24 V.S.A. §2121; 24 V.S.A. § 2291(3)(4)(7)(14)(15)(26) and 19 V.S.A. §2307 re bicycle paths by the Town of Groton by and through its selectboard.

#### **2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this ordinance is to establish rules and regulations to govern the public use of the Groton Railroad Bed in order to preserve, protect, and maintain it as a multi-use, public recreational pathway and a place of natural beauty as well as to promote public safety in the use of this property. The bed shall not be considered a part of the town highway system. The Railroad Bed is intended to be a recreational pathway and will be maintained as such by the Town.

#### **3. DEFINITIONS**

For purposes of this ordinance, the following definitions shall apply:

**A. Railroad Bed:** The town property approximately 5 miles long, of varying width but generally at least 66 feet wide that extends from the Ryegate town line to the Groton State Forest railroad bed. A survey giving specific property dimensions is available at the Groton Town Hall. This property at one time was owned by the Montpelier and Wells River Railroad. Ownership passed to the Town of Groton from the State of Vermont in 1981. The state authorized use of the Railroad Bed as a snowmobile trail in 1976 and such use has continued to the present, most recently in accordance with permission forms issued to the Vermont Association of Snow Travelers, Inc. (VAST), the Caledonia County Snowmobile Club and Buckaroos of 302, the local snowmobile club.

**B. Winter:** As used in this Ordinance, winter shall be the period from December 15<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> enhanced by such additional peripheral periods as may be established from time to time by notice posted by the selectboard consistent with actual snow fall and cover.

**C. Public Use:** Such use as is shared, enjoyed and utilized in common by and for the benefit of all persons and not just by one user for that person's particular needs or requirements.

#### **4. RULES and REGULATIONS**

**A. Use, Winter and Otherwise:** All wheeled or tracked motor vehicles are prohibited from use of the Railroad Bed during Winter except for snowmobiles and VAST grooming vehicles and other vehicles by specific written permission of the selectboard. Also, if the Railroad Bed conditions, usage or safety conditions warrant, especially during mud season,



vehicle use may be restricted or a portion of the Railroad Bed may be temporarily closed to vehicle use by notice posted by the selectboard. Emergency Service vehicles shall be permitted to use the Railroad Bed as appropriate and warranted. Pre-existing Winter crossing access is permitted for the following: Nathan Bartlett driveway crossing, Cindy & Lee Waterhouse driveway crossing, Jacob Frey driveway crossing, Dawn Pinette driveway crossing, and Robert Reid driveway crossing.

During any blockage of route 302 which is parallel, the railbed is not to be used as an alternate route by through traffic. This is to allow emergency service vehicles and highway department vehicles the ability to use the railbed to respond to emergencies during such times.

**B. Parking** is permitted, except in Winter, along the Railroad Bed so long as it does not block or unreasonably restrict movement along the traveled way. Overnight parking along the Railroad Bed is not permitted. Parking is also permitted in the village on Town property which is on the north side of Little Italy Road adjacent to Powder Spring Road. This area is maintained by the town and a sign will be posted to identify it as the Railroad Bed Parking area. It shall be unlawful to park in this municipal parking lot between the hours of midnight and 7:00 A.M. during the winter. It shall be unlawful to park at any time within any Town of Groton parking areas or land with the intent of over night camping without written permission from the Selectboard. It shall be unlawful to park within the Railroad Bed Parking area for a period of more than seven (7) days for any reason without written permission from the Town of Groton Selectboard.

Note: There are state parking areas at both ends of the Groton Railroad Bed: at the east end of the Railroad Bed at the Pine Mountain Wildlife Management Area on the Groton/Ryegate Town Line, and at the west end of the Railroad Bed at the corner of Route 232 and Ricker Mill Road where the Railroad Bed enters the State Forest.

**C. ATVs** are prohibited except when they are used for Railroad Bed maintenance.

**D. Alterations and Modifications:** Abutters and the public are not permitted to enhance or maintain or modify the Railroad Bed in any way unless specific, prior, written permission is obtained from the Selectboard. Such permission shall be limited in time and scope but renewable. Alterations include activities such as the cutting of trees or vegetation, applying fill, draining, grading or plowing. The current "Application for Access/Right of Way Permit" form may be used to gain permission for modifications. Consistent with the intent that it is intended to be a recreational pathway, the Railroad Bed shall be maintained as such by the Town.

The town will continue to look to formal organizations such as VAST and Cross Vermont Trail Association for assistance in maintaining the Railroad Bed under, and subject to, town supervision.

**E. Trapping:** The trapping of animals and the use of any trapping devices is prohibited except when trapping is done to protect the Railroad Bed (e.g. a blocked culvert). In such cases, authorization must be by the selectboard and warning signs must be posted.

**F. Structures** (including mailboxes) and signs of any type (including name or directional signs) are prohibited. Exceptions are town approved traffic control signs, VAST and Cross Vermont Trail signs, and Selectboard approved informational signs.

**G. Speed Regulations:** The speed limit over the length of the Railroad Bed shall be posted as fifteen (15) mph for all vehicles except in Winter as above defined. This speed limit will apply to town vehicles as well. The speed limit may be raised as warranted for different sections or areas by decision of and notice by the selectboard after due consideration of appropriate factors including safety, rail bed condition and times of the year. In the absence of any such decision, during Winter as defined above, the local, VAST affiliated, snowmobile club may raise the posted speed limit to twenty-five (25) mph within that section of the bed within Groton Village and to thirty-five (35) mph within the following sections of the bed: the section between Little Italy Road and the Ryegate town line and the section between Wilson Road and the State Forest. Furthermore the sections subject to the increase in the speed limit to thirty-five (35) mph shall be adjusted so as to be consistent with the snowmobile speed limits established from time to time for the adjoining state forest trails.

**H. Right-of-way priorities:** The VAST groomer, because of its size, shall have the right of way during the winter months. These vehicles are slow moving so negotiating passage with other permitted users should not be a problem. Otherwise pedestrians (including skiers and snowshoers) shall yield to horses; bicycles shall yield to horses and pedestrians; and snowmobiles shall yield to pedestrians, bicycles and horses. Vehicles with four wheels and up, except for emergency vehicles, shall have the lowest priority. Emergency vehicles shall have the highest priority.

**I. Dumping:** There shall be no dumping or disposal of any kind of garbage, trash or refuse on the Rail Bed or from the Rail Bed onto adjacent private property.

## **5. Penalties**

**A. Parking:** Any parking violation shall result in a \$25.00 fine. Any vehicle continually or repeatedly parked in violation of the Parking provisions may be summarily removed at the owner's expense, by order of any law enforcement officer, road commissioner or selectperson.

**B. Winter Violation:** Any person who operates a wheeled or tracked motor vehicle on the Railroad Bed during the winter or who allows another person to operate such motor vehicle on the Railroad Bed shall be fined \$50.00 with a waiver fee of \$35.00. If the owner and the operator of a vehicle being operated are not the same person, the owner and operator shall each be liable for the fine of \$50.00 a waiver fee of \$35.00.

**C. Speeding:** The fine will be \$50.00 with a waiver fee of \$35.00 for each occurrence.

**D. Alterations:** Any person who enhances, maintains or modifies the Railroad Bed property in any way unless specific prior written permission is obtained from the Selectboard shall be fined \$50.00 with a waiver fee of \$35.00. Each day that such violation



continues shall constitute a new violation subject to a new fine. In addition, any person who causes damage to or unlawfully within the Railroad Bed shall be responsible for the cost of restoring the Railroad Bed to its condition prior to the damage. Penalties associated with damage to trees shall be determined in accordance with 13 V.S.A. Chapter 77.

**E. Nuisance:** Repeated violation of any provision(s) of this ordinance shall constitute a public nuisance subject to relief by injunction for the abatement of such violation(s).

**F. Other:** The penalty for any other violation of this ordinance shall be a fine of \$50 for each offense. However, the law enforcement officer consistent with the exercise of discretion may issue a written warning for a first offense.

**G. Notice of Trespass:** The select board may also proceed in accordance with 13 V.S.A. §3705 in order to protect the rail bed.

## 6. Enforcement

Enforcement shall be performed by the Groton Town Constable or by any officer of the Caledonian County Sheriff's Department or by any other Vermont law enforcement officer.

## 7. References

**A.** A survey giving specific location and property dimensions of the Railroad Bed can be seen at the Groton Town Hall. Reference can also be made to the official town tax maps subject to appropriate correction thereof consistent with railroad valuation sheet plans and other reliable maps, plans or surveys of any area in question.

**B.** The deed transferring the Railroad Bed from the State of Vermont to the Town of Groton is recorded in Book 31 at Page 359 of the land records in the Groton Town Clerk's office.

## Effective Date

This ordinance shall become effective 60 days after the adoption date shown below.

Adoption Date: 9.27.18

Wade Johnson 

Deborah Jurist 

Aaron Smith 

## 2018 VITAL RECORDS

		2018 Vital Records *						
Births								
Name	Date of Birth	Mother's Name	Father's Name					
Lucas Gabriel Alexander	January 5, 2018	Brittaney Lynne Underwood	Joel Kenneth Alexander					
Lionel Henry Smith	January 22, 2018	Madison Rose Whiting	Dennis Lee Leslie					
Sierra May Hallock	September 25, 2018	Tamara May Hallock	Matthew Alexander Hallock					
Archer Allen Williams	November 12, 2018	Gracie Loron Preston	Thomas Allen Williams					
Hans Frederic Kowal	November 15, 2018	Emily Ruth Kowal	Kristian Carlisle Kowal					
Danielle Marie Jobin	December 9, 2018	Cayla Marie Jobin	James E Jobin III					
CIVIL MARRIAGES								
	<u>Applicant A</u>		<u>Applicant B</u>					
<u>Applicant A</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Applicant B</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Date</u>				
Alana Beth St George	St Johnsbury, Vermont	Martin Paul Robinson	Groton, VT	May 5, 2018				
Jeffery Francis Rowe	Groton, Vermont	Megan Rae Foy	Groton, Vermont	July 7, 2018				
Mathias Robert Robinson	Groton, Vermont	Kahlee Elizabeth Sargent	Groton, Vermont	July 21, 2018				
Kenneth Darrell Long III	San Francisco, CA	Kaitlin Mae Gaiss	San Francisco, CA	July 28, 2018				
Deaths								
<u>Name</u>	<u>Date of Death</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Residence</u>					
Evelyn Mae Shields	January 5, 2018	82 years	Groton, Vermont					
Edna Irene Blanchard	January 13, 2018	86 years	Groton, Vermont					
Richard Allen Peters	March 23, 2018	78 years	Groton, Vermont					
Lyle Harley Edwards Sr	March 24, 2018	90 years	Groton, Vermont					
Roy Joseph LeBlanc	April 2, 2018	56 years	Groton, Vermont					
Laurie Annette Williams	April 15, 2018	53 years	Groton, Vermont					
Tyler Josiah Curtis	May 6, 2018	17 years	Groton, Vermont					
Lois Helen Lyford	August 24, 2018	76 years	Groton, Vermont					
Craig Richard Smith	October 23, 2018	54 years	Groton, Vermont					
Davan J Ostrover	November 3, 2018	48 years	Cabot, Vermont					
Allen Louis Gandin	November 3, 2018	89 years	Groton, Vermont					
Bradley Earl Houghton Sr	December 17, 2018	81 years	Groton, Vermont					
David Philip Gaskell	December 28, 2018	63 years	Groton, Vermont					
* Note: Not all births, marriages, deaths involving residents of Groton, Vermont are reported here. Events occurring out of state are not reported here, regardless of residence								

# **RABIES CLINIC**

Date: March 20, 2019

Time: 6:00-7:00 PM

Place: Groton Town Garage

The Town Clerk will be in her office at the Groton Community Building for licensing of your animals.

April 1, 2019 all dogs must be licensed!

\$10.00 fine per dog if late.

Rabies Clinic being done by  
Oxbow Veterinary Hospital

## **Dog License Fees**

Intact Male or Female Dogs - \$14.00 by April 1<sup>st</sup>

Altered Male or Female Dogs - \$10.00 by April 1<sup>st</sup>

After April 1<sup>st</sup> additional fees will be added

# **VERMONT STATE LAW**

In accordance with VSA 20 (3581) all Dogs shall be licensed by April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

**Or**

**You will be in violation of this Vermont Statute and of The Town Ordinance.**

Pursuant to 20 V.S.A. § 3621, the Groton Selectboard will issue a warrant to impound or find homes or destroy all unlicensed dogs and wolf hybrids in the town. Pursuant to the warrant and 20 V.S.A. § 3624, the Constable and Animal Control Officer are required by law within 90 days to destroy all such unlicensed dogs and wolf hybrids within the town.

*WE DO NOT WANT TO TAKE YOUR ANIMALS, BUT STATE LAW REQUIRES US TO IMPOUND UNLICENSED DOGS!*

A person who fails to license a dog or wolf-hybrid in the required manner shall be fined up to \$500.00.

**You will need to show a recent rabies certificate and a spayed or neutered certificate if your dog(s) has been altered.**

**If you no longer have this animal please contact the Groton Town Clerk to let her know.**

*Groton Town Clerk's hours - Monday through Thursday 8:30 am –5:00 pm  
Contact the Town Clerk (584-3276) to register your Dog(s).*

**TOWN OF GROTON  
1476 SCOTT HIGHWAY  
GROTON, VT 05046**

**Groton Town Meeting – 10 A.M. Tuesday, March 5, 2019, at the Groton Community Building,  
School Budget voting will be on Tuesday, March 5, 2019, from 10 A.M. to 7 P.M. at the  
Groton Community Building**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR COPY OF THE TOWN REPORT WITH YOU TO  
TOWN MEETING!!!**