

2019
GROTON, VERMONT
TOWN REPORT



REPORT OF THE TOWN OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR
ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2019

BRENT SMITH

For all the years of past service to Groton, and the many years ahead....

The Citizens of Groton say - **Thank You!**



1970 - Present	Fire Fighter	50 years	1993 - 2019	Road Commissioner	25 years
1972 - 1973	Civil Defense Director	1 year	1994 - Present	911 Coordinator	26 years
1980 - 1988	Highway Laborer	10 years	1997 - 1997	Select Board – appointed	1 year
1983 - 1983	2nd Constable	1 year	2004 - Present	Emergency Mgmt Coordinator	16 years
1983 - 2007	Cemetery Sexton	24 years	2004 - Present	Republican Caucus	16 years
1988 - 1992	NEK Solid Waste District		2008 - 2014	Asst. Fire Chief	6 years
	Commissioner & Manager	5 years	2008 - Present	Justice of the Peace	11 years
1989 - 1994	Cemetery Commissioner	5 years	2011 - 2018	Moderator BMU	7 years
1990 - 1993	Select Board - resigned to be Road Commissioner	4 years	2015 - 2020	Small Town Rep VT Local Roads	5 years
1991 - 2001	Fire Chief	10 years	2018 - 2020	Clean Waterway Committee	2 years
			2004 - Present	NVDA Representative	15 years
			2019 - Present	Temporary Highway	

Brent has been voted into office at least 50 times.

These are only the documented services Brent has provided the town of Groton. He has donated his time for countless hours and has helped Groton residents in need, so many times and in so many ways, it is immeasurable.

Brent Smith is the epitome of the good citizen we all strive to be.

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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Select Board Chair	Wade Johnson, Sr.	584-3628	wjohnson@grotonvt.com
Select Board	Deborah Jurist	584-3049	djurist@grotonvt.com
Select Board	Aaron Smith	584-3308	asmith@grotonvt.com
Select Board Secretary	Debra Johnson	584-3628	secretary@grotonvt.com
Town Clerk	Linda Nunn	584-3276	townclerk@grotonvt.com
Assistant Town Clerk	Carrie Peters		
Town Treasurer	Lisa Hart	584-3131	treasurer@grotonvt.com
Assist. Town Treas.	Carrie Peters		assistanttreasurer@grotonvt.com
Highway Department	Harold Hatch Phillip Palmer	584-3209	grotonhwy@fairpoint.net
First Constable	Jim Downing	584-3211	
Second Constable	Shaun Stetson	584-3204	
Fire Chief	Wade Johnson, Sr.	584-3628	grotonfire@fairpoint.net
Asst. Fire Chief	Shaun Stetson	584-3204	
Fire Station		584-3855	
Forest Fire Warden	Wade Johnson, Sr.	584-3628	
Forest Fire Warden Deputy	Justin Carle	584-4288	
Zoning Admin.	Daniel Webster	584-4108	
Asst. Zoning Admin.	Bradley Houghton, Jr.	584-4284	
Health Officer	Dan Webster	584-4108	
Animal Control Officer & Pound Keeper	Michelle Boyer	802-439-5827	
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Carrie Peters	584-3004	cdt@grotonvt.com
Listers	Carolyn Diggins	584-3155	lister1@grotonvt.com
	Dorothy Knott	584-3155	lister2@grotonvt.com
Librarian	Jodi Fleurie-Wohlleb	584-3358	grotonlibraryvt@gmail.com
NEK Waste Supervisor	Timothy Dailey, Sr.	584-3876	
NEK Waste Alternate	Caroline Diggins	584-3589	
NVDA Representative	Brent Smith	584-3765	
NVDA Alternate	Mark Gleicher	584-3049	

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Zoning Board of Adjustment	Aaron Smith	584-3308	
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	584-3310	
	Mark Gleicher	584-3049	
Planning Commission	Carrie Peters	584-3341	planning@grotonvt.com
	Steve Hart	584-3936	
	Brent Smith	584-3765	
	Emily Pratt		
	Michael Nahmais		
	Ruth Meteer		
Cemetery Commissioner	Aaron Smith	584-3308	
Tree Warden	Steve Murray	802-535-5643	
Emergency Mngmt. Coordinator	Brent Smith	584-3765	
Justice of the Peace	Linda Nunn	584-3881	
	Tirone Dyer	584-3730	
	Timothy Dailey, Sr.	584-3876	
	Brent Smith	584-3765	
	Dorothy Knott	584-3243	
	Deborah Jurist	584-3049	
	Carrie Peters	584-3341	
Green Up Coordinator	Alissa Smith	584-3308	
Town Grand Juror	Gary Lamberton	584-3917	
Fence Viewers	Wayne Dyer	584-3730	
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	584-3310	
	Mark Gleicher	584-3049	
Inspectors of Wood, Lumber & Shingles	Robert Dorr	584-3359	
	Kenneth Ricker	584-3241	
Weigher of Coal	Frank Lapham	802-249-4887	
Webmaster	Gary Lamberton	584-3917	
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Deborah Jurist	584-3049	

WARNING: NOTICE OF GROTON, VERMONT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2020

The Legal Voters of the Town of Groton, are hereby warned and notified to meet at the Groton Community Building in the Groton Village on Tuesday, March 3, 2020, at 10 o'clock in the morning, to transact the following business from the floor:

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, 2019.

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 Select Board to appoint a Road Commissioner.

ARTICLE 4 Shall the voters authorize the elimination of the office of Town Lister in accordance with 17 V.S.A. §2651c(b)(1) and replace it with a professionally qualified assessor 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? And to authorize the Select Board to appoint an assistant to the Assessor?

ARTICLE 5 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 have the Select board fix their compensations:

Road Commissioner	One year
Selectperson	Three years
Town Clerk	Three years
Lister	Three years
1 st Constable	Two years
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Three Years
Library Trustee	Three Years
Cemetery Commissioner	Three Year
Cemetery Commissioner	One Year
Town Grand Juror	One year
Town Agent	One year
Town Agent to Convey Real Estate	One year

ARTICLE 6 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 3, 2020

- ARTICLE 7** Shall the Town of Groton establish a reserve fund called the General Fund Surplus Reserve Fund in accordance with 24 V.S.A 2804 and deposit \$203,557.93 (this amount is currently in a CD listed on the Balance Sheet) from the General Fund Balance Surplus to fund the account?
- ARTICLE 8** Shall the Town of Groton fund the Highway Equipment Reserve account (\$64,189) and the Highway Infrastructure Reserve account (\$10,000) from the Highway Fund Balance Surplus and fund the General Fund Reserve accounts (10 accounts listed in Town Report Budget, \$76,745) from the General Fund Balance Surplus? A total of \$150,934.
- ARTICLE 9** Shall the Town of Groton appropriate \$50,000, from the General Fund Balance Surplus to tear down, remove and fill in the Cilley House and to pay for the engineering costs of updating and improving the drainage around the Community Building and Emergency Services Building?
- ARTICLE 10** Shall the Town of Groton establish a reserve fund to be called the Constable Durable Equipment Reserve Fund to be used for the purchase and replacement of durable equipment associated with the performance of Constable duties in accordance with 24 V.S.A. § 2804? And appropriate \$4950 to fund this Reserve account?
- ARTICLE 11** Shall the Town of Groton enter into a communications union district (CUD) to be known as NEK Community Broadband, under the provisions of 30 V.S.A Ch82?
- ARTICLE 12** Shall the Town of Groton set the due date of Friday, November 6, 2020, by 5:00 PM est. as the deadline for the payment of taxes? (Postmarks are not accepted as a timely payment)
- ARTICLE 13** Shall the voters authorize total fund expenditures for operating expenses of \$1,120,438 of which \$661,513 shall be raised by taxes and \$458,925 by non-tax revenues?
- ARTICLE 14** 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 30th day of January 2020 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 2 & March 3, 2020

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 2, 2020 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 3, 2020.

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

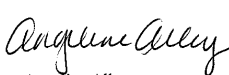
On Tuesday, March 3, 2020 between 10:00 in the morning and 7:00 in the evening there will be a vote by Australian Ballot on the following question:

Article #1:

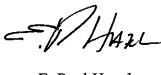
Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 approve the school board to expend \$8,313,839, which is the amount the school board has determined to be necessary for the ensuing fiscal year? It is estimated that this proposed budget, if approved, will result in education spending of \$17,009.00 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 1.5% more than spending for the current year.

Signed by the Board of School Directors this 15th day of January, 2020 at Wells River, Vermont.

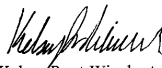
Blue Mountain Union School District #21



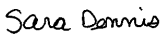
Angeline Alley



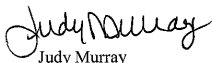
E. Paul Hazel



Kelsey Root-Winchester



Sara Dennis



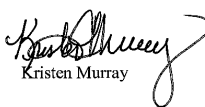
Judy Murray



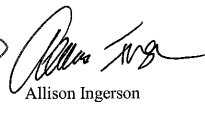
Julie Oliver



Wade Parker



Kristen Murray



Allison Ingerson

The foregoing has been duly recorded before posting.



Janet Page
Clerk

BLUE MOUNTAIN UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT #21

BALLOT

March 3, 2020

Instruction to Voters: Mark an (X) in the appropriate square

Article #1:

Shall the voters of the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 approve the school board to expend \$8,313,839, 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 \$17,009.00 per equalized pupil. This projected spending per equalized pupil is 1.5 % more than spending for the current year.

☐

YES

☐

NO

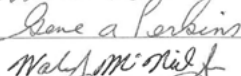

WARNING

NEK WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BUDGET VOTE

MARCH 3, 2020

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 3, 2020 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 \$794,823?

	
Preston Smith	David Jones
	
Danielle Poirier	Rebecca Hill-Louise
	
Rene A. Perkins	Ben Pichall
	
Wally McNeil	Marvin Spence
	
John McNeil	Peter Jones
	
Elizabeth Dullin	Otis McKinstry
	
Kevin Flanders	Dan Dayene
	
Timothy R. Vail	Tim Batchelder
	
John Sweeney	Kenneth R. Whitton
	
Robert Sandberg	
	
Mike R. Spodola	
Claude W. Phipps	
John S. Sade	
Yves Dangle	

NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

2020 BALLOT

Instructions: **Make an X in one box only**

ARTICLE 1. Shall the voters authorize the Northeast Kingdom Waste Management District to appropriate and expend a budget of \$794,823?

_____ YES

_____ NO

Executive Committee Report

The NEKWMD finished 2019 by processing less recycling compared to 2018 – 2615 tons in 2019 compared to 2750 tons in 2018. Significant drops in mixed paper, cardboard, and glass were responsible for most of the decline. A few items, including compostable materials, batteries, and metal saw increases in tonnage. E-Waste, tires, and plastics tonnages were approximately the same as 2018. Recycling markets remained low throughout all of 2019.

The District ended 2019 with a deficit of \$16,116.38. The District ended 2018 with a deficit of \$41,069.02. Revenues in 2019 were 1% above projections. While budgeted expenses were 3% above projections. The catastrophic failure of our baler on September 24, 2018 was the largest reason for the deficit. Even though the baler was replaced in February of 2019, we incurred significant costs for the first quarter of 2019 that were directly associated with having limited or no processing capacity.

There were no additions or subtractions to the District membership in 2019. We continue to serve the largest geographical area and largest number of towns (49) in the State. Our population served is 3rd in the state behind only Chittenden Solid Waste District and the Central Vermont Solid Waste Management District.

The NEKWMD is entering 2020 with a proposed budget of \$794,823 – a decrease of 3.6% compared to 2019. The decrease reflects the continued poor markets for recyclables. The surcharge rate of \$24.75 will remain unchanged for 2020. Our surcharge on trash remains below the State average of \$26.59. The NEKWMD will be raising hauling fees by \$10 for facilities and schools. The new rates for 2020 are \$45 for facilities and \$30 for schools.

The NEKWMD was staffed by nine full-time and two part-time employees in 2019. 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 57,000 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

Groton & Ryegate Recycling and Waste Disposal Guide

269 School St., East Ryegate. Fridays, 3:00pm - 6:00pm & Saturdays, 8:00am - 12:00pm

↓ SORT ITEMS ↓	
<p><u>MIXED PAPER</u></p> <p>Newspapers, catalogs, telephone books, glossy inserts, paperback books, colored & white paper, wrapping paper and junk mail. Any color or type of paper except:</p> <p><i>NO brown Kraft bags, boxboard, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or metallic wrapping paper.</i></p>	<p><u>CORRUGATED CARDBOARD, BOXBOARD, & BROWN KRAFT BAGS</u></p> <p>All Cardboard and Boxboard food packaging. Remove excess tape. Staples are OK.</p> <p><i>NO wax-coated cardboard, cardboard soiled with food waste, coffee cups, ice cream cartons, or Styrofoam.</i></p> <p><i>*BOXES MUST BE FLATTENED*</i></p>
<p><u>TIN CANS</u></p> <p>Labels are OK. Flattening not required. Separate from aluminum cans. Tin is magnetic.</p> <p><i>*MUST BE RINSED*</i></p>	<p><u>ALUMINUM CANS, FOIL AND FOOD TRAYS</u></p> <p>Labels OK. Flattening not required.</p> <p><i>Snack bags and candy wrappers are trash.</i></p> <p><i>*MUST BE RINSED*</i></p>
<p><u>GLASS BOTTLES & JARS</u></p> <p><i>*Rinse, Remove Lids (recycle with tin)*</i></p> <p><i>NO porcelain, Pyrex, windows, crystal, light bulbs, lids, metal or wood.</i></p>	<p><u>PLASTIC BAGS</u></p> <p>Any plastic bag or packaging labelled #2, #4, or #5. Any color accepted. Includes bubble wrap.</p>
<p><u>PLASTIC CONTAINERS #1 – #4 & #5 Food Containers</u></p> <p><u>Max size 2 Gallons / NO BLACK PLASTIC / *MUST BE RINSED*</u></p> <p>Includes food containers, cleaner containers. #5 accepted <i>if it's a food container.</i></p> <p><i>DISPOSE OF THESE PLASTIC ITEMS IN THE TRASH: Any black plastic, Screw-top caps, automotive fluid bottles, pesticide bottles, vinyl siding, toys, CD cases, VHS tapes, Styrofoam, syringes, or medical devices.</i></p>	
<p>NO...</p> <p><u>DIRTY OR UNRINSED ITEMS</u></p> <p><u>Black Plastic containers</u></p> <p><u>Plastic Containers larger than 2 Gallons</u></p>	



ADDITIONAL ACCEPTED MATERIALS:

FOOD SCRAPS: All food scraps, including meat, bones, dairy. Remove PLU stickers. No plastics, metals, paper.

HOUSEHOLD TRASH: Trash disposal available at transfer station, \$3.00/15 gallon bag, \$4.00/30 gallon bag, \$5.00/contractor bag. Other fees apply for Bulky Wastes. Fees subject to change, contact the Town Office for most current prices. Residents may contract with private haulers for curbside collection services, find our Licensed Hauler List at <http://www.nekwm.org/pdf/haulerlist.pdf>

SPECIAL WASTES: Oil, Oil Filters, Automotive Batteries, Rechargeable & Alkaline batteries, 1# Propane Tanks, Aerosols, Hard covered Books, Cellular Phones, Agricultural Bale Wrap, Scrap Metal, Fluorescent Bulbs and Electronics.

STUMP DUMP: Clean, unpainted, untreated wood and yard debris only.

SWAP SHOP: Pick-up or drop-off any small, clean household item in good working condition.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE – BY APPOINTMENT ONLY, Monday – Friday, May to October in Lyndonville, and special events throughout the District June – September. Call for details.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS – CONTACT THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT AT (802) 626-3532 or (800) 734-4602. www.nekwm.org, e-mail outreach@nekwm.org



Updated 1/2020

List of Items NOT ACCEPTED for Recycling
Please put the following items in your trash unless otherwise stated

Unacceptable Plastics Include:

Any **black** plastic containers
Screw-top Caps
Motor oil, gas containers
Pesticide containers
Styrofoam of any kind
Planting pots and trays
Plastic furniture
Plastic Toys
Coffee Makers
Coat hangers
Vinyl Siding
Maple Tubing
CDs, DVDs, VHS, and cases
Water line pipes and plastic tubing of any size
Hard, rigid plastic (if it shatters, it's not accepted)

Unacceptable Plastic Bags and Films

Any films with food residue

Unacceptable Aluminum

Chip Bags, Snack Wrappers, Pop tart Wrappers
Aluminum Flashing (recycle with scrap metal)
Coffee Bags

Unacceptable Tin

Recycle these with Scrap Metal

Frying Pans
Large Pieces of Metal
Nails, Screws, Fasteners
Any tin that is a non-food container

Unacceptable Cardboard

Pringles containers
Milk and Juice Cartons of any kind
Ice cream and waxy or plastic frozen food boxes
Cardboard with metallic interior
Single-use coffee cups
Soiled Cardboard
Waxy Cardboard

Unacceptable Paper

Kraft brown paper bags (recycle with cardboard)
White or Brown Boxboard (recycle with cardboard)
Shiny, glossy, or metallic papers
Paper plates, cups, bowls
Single-use cups
Napkins, paper towels, tissue paper

Unacceptable Glass

Crystal
Incandescent light bulbs
Automotive lights
Pyrex
Porcelain

Unacceptable Food Scraps

PLU Stickers (sticks on fruits, vegetables)
"Biodegradable" cutlery, bowls, plates, utensils
Food utensils
Plates, bowls, cups
Plastic bags
Styrofoam
Keurig cups

MINUTES OF GROTON, VT 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 along with casting their ballots for the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 budget and the NEK Waste Management District Budget.

Prior to calling the meeting to order, the Moderator, Brent Abare, read administrative announcements and community service messages. The Moderator informed the voters there is voting in the back for the Blue Mountain Union School District #21 budget and the NEK Waste Management District Budget. The information is on the back table for the non-profit appropriations request that are listed on page 20.

The Blue Mountain Union School class of 2022 are selling refreshments and the Girl Scouts are selling cookies.

Words of encouragement or prayers were given by Alissa Smith, Peter Lyon and Mark Gleicher.

Peter Lyon and Brent Abare recognized William (Bill) Kane for all he does for the Town.

Aaron Smith spoke on behalf of the Selectboard recognizing the wonderful husband and wife team of Wayne and Dorothy Knott for the many years of dedicated service given to the town. For over 40 years Wayne and Dorothy have served the Groton Fire Department. With their consistent presence both for the dept. and in the station, offering a level of continuity over many decades that have been a tremendous asset to the fire dept. Nearly every single chicken BBQ, coin drop, fireman's auction and any other fund raising event held by the dept. has been attended by them (you could tack on a few more hours than a thousand). Over those 40 years Wayne has stepped up to serve the town as chief three separate times. Most recently serving ten years from 2008 to 2018. As chief, Wayne brought an excellent level of training to the dept. Wayne was one of the founding members of the Groton/Ryegate FAST Squad, being one of the first medically licensed responders in town. Dorothy has done everything Wayne has done, then some. She has done all the fire training, climbing ladders, slinging hose, pulling tools off trucks, performing CPR to making sure the dept. stayed on budget along with making sure the paper work way done and in on time. Thank you from the Selectboard and town. A round of applause and a standing ovation followed.

Representative Chip Conquest spoke on the list of unclaimed property, repaving of highways, teachers retirement fund, High speed internet and Mary Grant's retirement from RCT.

Moderator Brent Abare read Instructions to the Assembly from the Vermont Moderator's Guide according the Roberts Rules of Order.

The Girl Scouts lead the Flag Salute.

Moderator Brent Abare called the Town Meeting to order at 10:35 AM. The first action of business was to elect a Moderator for the ensuing year. Deborah Jurist, Selectboard asked if there were any nominations for moderator for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 1: To elect a moderator for the ensuing year. Peter Lyon nominated Brent Abare. Roberta Dana seconded the motion.

Julie Oliver nominated Brent Smith. Kelly Emerson seconded the motion. Brent Smith declined the nomination. 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, 2018. Jean Denson made the motion to accept the Town Report as written with the corrections by Roberta Dana. Stan Pierce seconded the motion. Passed by voice vote.

Roberta Dana stated on page 24 the collector of current taxes shouldn't be listed as it was combined With the Treasurer's position. This was an article in 2015. The term should follow the Treasurer's term.

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. Brent Smith made the Motion to elect a Road Commissioner. Wayne Dyer 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: Brent Smith nominated Harold Hatch for Road Commissioner for one year. Sue Gordon seconded the motion. Phillip Palmer nominated Brent Smith for Road Commissioner. John Gordon seconded the motion. Brent Smith declined the nomination. Harold Hatch was elected road commissioner by voice vote.

Phillip Palmer spoke saying he felt Brent Smith deserved a round of applause as He has been a Road Commissioner for twenty six plus years. A round of applause and a standing ovation followed.

Peter Lyon nominated Stan Pierce for Selectperson for three years. Seconded by Richard Partington. Shaun Stetson nominated Wade Johnson Sr. for Selectperson for three years. Jean Denson seconded the motion. Hearing no other nominations a paper ballot vote was done with a ballot count result of Stan Pierce with 30 votes. Wade Johnson Sr. with 59 votes. Total number of votes 89. Wade Johnson Sr. was re-elected for three years.

There were no nominations for the vacant Lister position. Wayne Dyer moved that the Selectboard appoint the Lister. Viola Emerson seconded the motion. Hearing no objections from the voters the motion passed.

Alissa Smith nominated Debra Tinkham as Library Trustee for one year. Susan Gordon seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote. Debra Tinkham was elected as Library Trustee for one year.

Susan Gordon nominated Torie Peters as Library Trustee for two years. Alissa Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote. Torie Peters was elected as Library Trustee for two years.

Alissa Smith nominated Wade Johnson Jr. as Library Trustee for two years. Viola Emerson seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote. Wade Johnson Jr. was elected as Library Trustee for two years.

Susan Gordon nominated Alissa Smith as Library Trustee for three years. Jean Denson seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote. Alissa Smith was elected as Library Trustee for three years.

Derek Curtis nominated Tony Dennis as Cemetery Commissioner for three years. Shaun Stetson seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote. Tony Dennis was elected as Cemetery Commissioner for three years.

Derek Curtis nominated Shaun Stetson as Second Constable for two years. Alissa Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote. Shaun Stetson was re-elected Second Constable for two years.

Derek Curtis nominated Gary Lamberton for Town Grand Juror for one year. Olin Gay seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote. Gary Lamberton was elected Town Grand Juror for one year.

Jean Denson made the motion to have the Selectboard appoint the Town Agent for one year. Stan Piece seconded the motion. Hearing no objections. Motion passed by voice vote.

Jean Denson made the motion to elect Deborah Jurist to be the Town Agent to Convey Real Estate for one year. Stan Pierce seconded the motion. Hearing no objections. Motion passed by voice vote.

Brent Smith made the motion to have the Selectboard set their compensations. John Gordon seconded the motion. Hearing no objections. Motion passed by voice vote.

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. Lise Shallberg nominated Brent Abare to be elected as School Director to serve on the Board of Unified Union School District #21, for a three (3) year term. Sharon York seconded the motion.

Kelly Emerson nominated Allison Ingerson to be elected as School Director to serve on the Board of Unified Union School District #21, for a three (3) year term. Olin Gay seconded the motion. Hearing no other nominations a paper ballot vote was done with a ballot count result of Brent Abare with 42 votes. Allison Ingerson with 45 votes. Total number of votes 87. Allison Ingerson was elected for three years.

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? Derek Curtis spoke on why they needed the reserve fund to be set up. Shaun Stetson made the motion to establish a reserve fund to be called the Emergency Services Durable Equipment Fund. Tracy Puffer seconded the motion. Hearing no objection the motion passed.

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". There was much discussion concerning if the taxes would go up, also a few people discussed why they did not agree with having reserve funds. At one point it was mentioned to look at page 29 which shows the current balances in the reserve funds. John Gordon made the motion to appropriate \$1. Wayne Dyer seconded the motion. Shaun Stetson motioned to amend the main motion to increase the appropriation to \$18,000 and then withdrew the motion. During discussion it was stated that we should pay the bills as they come due and not pay in advance. Voters ultimately rejected the one dollar appropriation. Motion failed.

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? Stan Pierce made the motion for the town to appropriate a line item in the budget of \$3,500, in order to compensate the Second Constable for time during training, and for a background check. Jean Denson seconded the motion. Deborah Jurist explained that this is just part of the cost as it would take two years for training. Stan Pierce stated why would we want a Constable that isn't trained? Shaun Stetson explained he would be using his two week vacation from his full time job to do the training. Chris Stock made the motion to move the question. Hearing no objection the motion passed.

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?"

Wayne Dyer made the motion to approve the change of the description from (the Emergency Reserve Funds, "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. Hearing no objection the motion passed.

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)

Wayne Dyer moved the question to 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) Jean Denson seconded the motion. Hearing no objection the motion passed. Roberta Dana suggested splitting the tax bill and sending it out as two installments, and changing from calendar year to Fiscal year.

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. Treasurer, Lisa Hart confirmed the sum of money required at \$976,478. Wayne Dyer moved the question. Stan Pierce seconded the motion. Roberta Dana brought up the funding of the Recreation Committee and if this should be funded by the town. Roberta Dana made the motion to reduce the budget by \$1,000. John Gordon seconded the motion. Anne Hatch discussed the benefits of the Free Recreation Programs that are offered. The town had a voice vote and this did not pass. Shaun Stetson made the motion to amend the motion to add \$18,000. Ruth Meter amended the motion to add to Article 7. The Moderator, Brent Abare, would not accept the motion on the basis that the Article had already failed but explained to the Assembly the process to Challenge the Ruling of the Moderator. The Decision of the Moderator was not sustained by the Assembly. Joseph Lourenco questioned what sum of money was to be budgeted to article 7. Joseph Lourenco Motioned to amendment the motion to add \$18,000 to the General Fund to establish the Emergency Durable Equipment Fund. Motion was seconded and after discussion was approved. After discussion, the main motion to approve the amount of \$994,478 was approved.

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. Thanked Brent Smith for all the years of service to the Town.

Linda Nunn thanked the students, parents, teachers and Tracy Puffer for providing refreshment's.

Linda Nunn also thanked Lee Flint, her son and other students for providing child care down stairs during Town meeting.

Phillip Palmer thanked the snowmobile club and Diane Kreis for the donation of the AED for the upstairs gym area. '

Jean Denson spoke about "Groton's Lunch with Friends Program"

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM



Linda L. Nunn, Town Clerk



Brent Abare, Moderator



Election Official

Respectfully submitted by Linda L. Nunn, March 7, 2019

Town Elected Officers

Position	Name	Term Expires	Term Length
Moderator	Brent Abare	2020	1 Year
Road Commissioner	Harold Hatch	2020	1 Year
Town Clerk	Linda Nunn	2020	3 Years
Town Treasurer	Lisa Hart	2021	3 Years
Select Board	Wade Johnson Sr	2022	3 Years
	Aaron Smith	2021	3 Years
	Deborah Jurist	2020	3 Years
Lister	Carolyn Diggins	2021	3 Years
	Dorothy Knott	2020	3 Years
BMU District #21 Director	Allison Ingerson	2022	3 Years
	Sara Dennis	2021	3 Years
	Julie Oliver	2020	3 Years
Library Trustee	Alissa Smith	2022	3 Years
	Debra Tinkham	Resigned	1 Year
	Torie Peters	2021	2 Years
	Wade Johnson Jr	2021	2 Years
	Peggy Burgin	2021	3 Years
	Zachary Conaway	2020	1 Year
Cemetery Commissioner	Tony Dennis	2022	3 Years
	Shaun Stetson	2021	3 Years
	Aaron Smith	2020	3 Years
Collector of Delinquent Taxes	Carrie Peters	2020	3 years
First Constable	Jim Downing	2020	2 Years
Second Constable	Shaun Stetson	2021	2 Years
Town Grand Juror	Gary Lamberton	2020	1 Year
Agent to Convey Real Estate	Deborah Jurist	2020	1 Year

Town Officers Appointed by Select Board

Position	Name	Term Expires	Length of Term
Health Officer	Daniel Webster	2021	3 Years
Deputy Health Officer	Mark Shallberg	2021	3 Years
Fire Chief	Wade Johnson, Sr.	2020	1 Year
Forest Fire Warden	Wade Johnson, Sr.	2021	5 Years
911 Coordinator	Brent Smith	2020	1 Year
Emergency Management Coordinator	Brent Smith	2020	1 Year
Fence Viewers	Wayne Dyer	2020	1 year
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	2020	1 Year
	Ken Murray	2020	1 year
Inspectors of Wood, Lumber & Shingles	Kenneth Ricker	2020	1 Year
	Robert Dorr	2020	1 Year
NVDA Representative	Brent Smith	2020	1 Year
NVDA Alternative	Mark Gleicher	2020	1 Year
Zoning Administrator	Daniel Webster	2020	1 Year
Assistant Zoning Administrator	Bradley Houghton	2020	1 Year
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Aaron Smith	2020	1 Year
	E. Charles Frost, Jr.	2020	1 Year
	Mark Gleicher	2020	1 Year
Select Board Secretary	Debra Johnson	2020	1 Year
Town Agent	Donna Russo-Savage	2020	1 year
Town Service Officer	Linda Nunn	2020	1 Year
Animal Control Officer	Michelle Boyer	2020	1 Year
NEK Solid Waste Supervisor	Timothy Dailey, Sr.	2020	1 Year
NEK Solid Waste Alternative	Carolyn Diggins	2020	1 Year

Appointments cont.

Tree Warden	Steve Murray	2020	1 Year
Webmaster	Gary Lamberton	2020	1 Year
Planning Commission	Carrie Peters	2020	1 Year
	Brent Smith	2020	1 Year
	Steve Hart	2020	1 Year
	Emily Pratt	2020	1 Year
	Ruth Meter	2020	1 Year
	Michael Nahmais	2020	1 Year
Green Up Coordinator	Alissa Smith	2020	1 Year
Weigher of Coal	Frank Lapham	2020	1 Year

Board of Civil Authority is made up of:	Select Board Members	Wade Johnson, Sr Deborah Jurist Aaron Smith
	Justices of the Peace	Linda Nunn Brent Smith Tirone Dyer Timothy Dailey, Sr. Deborah Jurist Dorothy Knott Carrie Peters

Board of Abatement is made up of:	Town Clerk	Linda Nunn*
	Town Treasurer	Lisa Hart
	Select Board Members	Wade Johnson, Sr. Deborah Jurist* Aaron Smith
	Listers	Carolyn Diggins Dorothy Knott*
	Justices of the Peace*	Brent Smith Tirone Dyer Timothy Dailey, Sr.
		Carrie Peters

2020 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2019 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2019	Actual FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020	Notes
GENERAL FUND EXPENSES				
SELECTBOARD				
Selectboard & Secretary Wages & All Payroll Taxes	6,882	5,407.13	6,729	
Selectboard Assistant Wages	2,000	0.00	0	
Advertising, Postage, Supplies, Training & Mileage	925	865.80	925	
1. SELECTBOARD TOTAL	9,807	6,272.93	7,654	
TOWN CLERK & TREASURER				
Clerk & Assistants Wages, Vacation & Payroll Taxes	46,869	45,403.68	48,589	
Treasurer & Assistants Wages, Vacation & Payroll Taxes	58,410	55,767.13	53,487	
Retirement Benefits	3,651	3,416.46	3,559	
Health Insurance	6,414	6,550.61	26,073	
Training & Mileage	600	739.62	800	
2. CLERK & TREASURER TOTAL	115,944	111,877.50	132,508	
OFFICE EXPENSES - CLERK & TREAS				
Dues, Postage, Supplies & Advertising	4,725	4,761.67	4,930	
Telephone/Internet	1,900	1,936.55	1,900	
NEMRC Disaster Recovery & Support, IT Services & Equipment	3,684	1,328.02	4,417	
3. OFFICE EXPENSES	10,309	8,026.24	11,247	
DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION				
Del Tax Collector Wages	10,000	8,386.83	10,000	Wages off set by Delinquent Tax Penalty
Payroll Taxes	765	641.55	765	Revenue (wages paid by penalty portion of delinquent tax payments)
Postage, Supplies, Telephone & Advertising	1,065	659.74	1,065	
NEMRC Disaster Recovery	378	365.20	625	
Training & Mileage	170	43.15	110	
4. DELINQUENT TAX COLLECTION TOTAL	12,378	10,096.47	12,565	
TOWN REPORT				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	539	499.50	539	
Postage & Supplies	375	298.69	330	
Printing & Reproduction	1,800	1,320.00	1,315	
Training & Mileage	0	0.00	0	
5. TOWN REPORT TOTAL	2,714	2,118.19	2,184	
ELECTIONS				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	431	300.94	862	
Postage, Supplies & Advertising	975	0.00	1,240	
Training & Mileage	135	60.00	170	
6. ELECTIONS TOTAL	1,541	360.94	2,272	
LISTERS				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	22,837	21,626.01	37,673	
Dues, Postage & Supplies	910	544.59	1,410	
Telephone/Internet	1,100	1,266.04	1,100	
Training & Mileage	1,225	657.70	1,225	
NEMRC, Cards, Disaster Recov & GIS Mapping	6,541	6,407.58	7,162	
7. LISTERS TOTAL	32,613	30,501.92	48,570	

2020 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2019 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2019	Actual FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020	Notes
TOWN GENERAL EXPENSES				
VLCT Pacif, Worker's Comp, Unemp Ins, IT Serv.	12,032	12,086.58	11,951	
8. INSURANCE TOTAL	12,032	12,086.58	11,951	
Professional Audit/Services	1,300	1,318.75	1,300	
Attorney Fees	4,500	2,000.00	3,500	
9. LEGAL & PROF. SERVICES TOTAL	5,800	3,318.75	4,800	
NVDA Dues	767	767.00	767	
VLCT Dues	2,246	2,246.00	2,338	
10. DUES TOTAL	3,013	3,013.00	3,105	
Money Order Fee, Wire Fee & Interest Expense	430	149.86	150	
Caledonia County Tax	14,826	13,521.00	14,000	
11. COUNTY TAX & INTEREST EXP TOTAL	15,256	13,670.86	14,150	
TOWN GENERAL EXPENSES TOTAL	36,101	32,089.19	34,006	
1-11 ADMINISTRATION TOTAL	221,407	201,343.38	251,006	
PLANNING COMMISSION				
Stipend & Payroll Taxes	323	0.00	323	
Postage, Printing & Reproduction	133	0.00	263	
Training & Mileage	85	0.00	85	
PLANNING COMMISSION TOTAL	541	0.00	671	
ZONING				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	1,346	947.32	1,346	
Postage, Supplies & Advertising	158	18.98	100	
Training & Mileage	200	85.92	200	
ZONING TOTAL	1,704	1,052.22	1,646	
12. PLANNING AND ZONING TOTAL	2,245	1,052.22	2,317	
TRANSFERS TO OTHER FUNDS	0	0.00	0	
PUBLIC WORKS				
13. TOWN CLOCK TOTAL	450	450.00	450	
Ryegate/Groton Recycling	8,000	8,335.07	8,000	
NEKWMD-Assessment	0	919.80	920	
Green Up Day	250	180.00	200	
14. SOLID WASTE TOTAL	8,250	9,434.87	9,120	
15. STREETLIGHTS TOTAL	7,550	7,581.57	7,550	
COMMUNITY BUILDING				
Building Repairs & Maintenance	6,000	3,722.83	4,000	
Rubbish Removal & Supplies	1,900	2,129.87	2,200	
Electricity & Fuel Oil	8,800	9,968.86	8,800	
16. COMMUNITY BUILDING TOTAL	16,700	15,821.56	15,000	
TOWN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	15,071	9,399.70	15,071	
Cleaning	6,500	6,500.00	6,500	
Park Electricity	0	301.65	300	
Gasoline			500	
Property Upkeep	8,000	7,571.23	10,000	
Supplies, Equipment & Mileage	550	331.88	1,000	
17. TOWN PROPERTY MAINTENANCE TOTAL	30,121	24,104.46	33,371	
18. TREE WARDEN TOTAL	770	569.06	470	
Cilley Property Expense	0	0.00	50,000	If article #9 passes
Cilley Property Purchase	73,000	73,204.67	0	
Miscellaneous Expenses	0	1,601.24	0	
19. MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES TOTAL	73,000	74,805.91	50,000	
13-19 PUBLIC WORKS TOTAL	136,841.00	132,767.43	115,961.00	

2020 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2019 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2019	Actual FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020	Notes
COMMITTEES				
Community & Economic Development	330	0.00	0	
Recreation Committee	1,875	1,955.42	1,875	
COMMITTEES TOTAL	2,205	1,955.42	1,875	
PUBLIC SAFETY				
20. ANIMAL CONTROL TOTAL	600	209.02	600	
21. HEALTH OFFICER TOTAL	964	538.25	699	
22. EMER SERVS INSURANCE TOTAL	13,333	13,110.00	11,741	
EMER SERVS GENERAL EXPENSES				
Ambulance Contract	19,754	19,753.50	22,959	
Repairs-ES Building	1,000	848.46	1,000	
Rubbish Removal & Supplies	1,000	667.56	1,150	
Telephone/Internet	1,800	1,699.40	1,900	
Electricity, Fuel Oil, Propane	4,400	4,259.79	4,200	
Dispatch Fees, Radios & Pagers	3,500	3,165.95	2,750	
23. EMER SERVS GENERAL EXP TOTAL	31,454	30,394.66	33,959	
FAST				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	17,225	12,534.40	17,225	
Supplies & Equipment	7,110	1,545.64	5,550	
Training & Mileage	6,500	4,044.80	8,000	
24. FAST EXPENSES TOTAL	30,835	18,124.84	30,775	
FIRE DEPT				
Wages, Stipend & Taxes	12,111	6,926.27	12,111	
Dues	1,300	1,959.00	2,000	
Gasoline & Diesel	1,200	1,062.35	1,150	
Tanker Loan Payment	20,321	20,320.59	20,321	
Repairs & Maintenance	7,800	9,239.22	10,950	
Supplies	4,500	2,497.98	3,200	
Training & Mileage	6,500	2,270.83	5,200	
Equipment-General	3,500	459.50	3,000	
25. FIRE DEPT EXPENSES TOTAL	57,232	44,735.74	57,932	
26. FOREST FIRE EXPENSES TOTAL	1,808	471.60	1,808	
FIRST CONSTABLE				
Wages, Payroll Taxes, Dues	11,703	11,251.07	13,666	
Supplies & Training	675	611.58	725	
Dispatch Fees, Radios & Pagers, Equip	2,900	3,320.99	2,700	
FIRST CONSTABLE TOTAL	15,278	15,183.64	17,091	
SECOND CONSTABLE				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	2,153	92.84	2,153	
Training	1,347	174.08	1,347	
SECOND CONSTABLE TOTAL	3,500	266.92	3,500	
CRUISER EXPENSES				
Gasoline, Repairs, Maint, & Supplies	3,000	1,233.50	2,900	
Equipment-Cruiser	50	0.00	50	
CRUISER EXPENSES TOTAL	3,050	1,233.50	2,950	
CONSTABLE & CRUISER INSURANCE TOTAL	3,903	3,982.08	4,018	
27. LAW ENFORCEMENT TOTAL	25,731	20,666.14	27,559	
20-27 PUBLIC SAFETY TOTAL	161,957	128,250.25	165,073	

2020 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2019 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2019	Actual FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020	Notes
CEMETERY				
Contracted Work, Riverside Cemetery	900	970.00	900.00	
Mowing	7,938	7,938.00	7,938	
Dues & Supplies	640	449.98	640	
CEMETERY EXPENSES TOTAL	9,478	9,357.98	9,478	
LIBRARY				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	19,089	18,957.69	22,168	
VLCT PACIF-Insurance	1,092	1,098.59	1,198	
Postage & Delivery & Training	720	701.32	700	
Building Rent	6,000	5,700.00	5,700	
Books & Periodicals	6,000	5,887.09	5,000	
Supplies	1,200	1,469.26	2,000	
Furnishings & Equipment	800	750.87	200	
Telephone/Internet	1,500	1,783.01	1,800	
Software/Support, Computer Repairs & Fees	1,400	1,103.45	900	
LIBRARY EXPENSES TOTAL	37,801	37,451.28	39,666	
AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS				
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	2,400	2,400.00	2,400	
Green Up Vermont	100	100.00	100	
Umbrella	650	650.00	650	
AGENCY APPROPRIATIONS TOTAL	9,570	9,570.00	9,570	
RESERVE FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS				
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	21,888	21,888.00	22,545	
Emer Servs Durable Equip Fund	18,000	18,000.00	18,000	
Reappraisal & Tax Maps Fund	1,200	1,200.00	1,200	
Recreation Fund	1,000	1,000.00	1,000	
Professional Services Fund	7,000	7,000.00	7,000	
Town Emergency Fund	2,000	2,000.00	2,000	
RESERVE FUNDS APPROPRIATIONS TOTAL	76,088	76,088.00	76,745	
GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$ 657,592	\$ 597,835.96	\$ 671,691	

2020 PROPOSED Town & Highway Budget & 2019 Budget vs Actual	Budget FY - 2019	Actual FY - 2019	Budget FY - 2020	Notes
HIGHWAY FUND EXPENSES				
HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES				
HWY LABOR				
Wages, OT, Temp. Wages, Vacation & Payroll				
Taxes	110,292	114,192.37	119,996	
Health Insurance	27,000	21,387.29	51,410	
Retirement	4,247	4,650.64	4,504	
HWY LABOR TOTAL	141,539	140,230.30	175,910	
HWY PACIF, WC INSURANCE TOTAL	22,789	20,981.38	19,982	
HWY CONTRACTED WORK				
Roadside Mowing	6,300	5,500.00	6,300	
Boulder Beach plowing	4,000	5,141.38	4,000	
Misc Contracted work	900	0.00	900	
HWY CONTRACTED WORK TOTAL	11,200	10,641.38	11,200	
HWY INFRASTRUCTURE				
Culverts	4,500	712.18	4,500	
Paving	0	455.00	0	
Signs	1,800	474.26	1,800	
Buildings	3,800	1,434.61	0	
HWY INFRASTRUCTURE TOTAL	10,100	3,076.05	6,300	
HWY MATERIALS				
Sand	14,000	3,556.50	14,000	
Salt	10,836	9,400.70	10,836	
Chloride	12,000	11,530.00	12,000	
Gravel	30,000	23,698.03	30,000	
HWY MATERIALS TOTAL	66,836	48,185.23	66,836	
HWY OPERATING EXPENSES				
Gasoline & Diesel	14,500	19,707.67	16,500	
Rental Equipment	1,000	0.00	500	
Supplies	4,150	5,074.14	6,000	
Training	100	60.00	100	
Radios & Pagers	500	427.90	500	
HWY OPERATING EXP TOTAL	20,250	25,269.71	23,600	
HWY EQUIPMENT REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE TOTAL	25,000	9,782.34	25,000	State Grants helped offset these expenses
HWY GARAGE REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE TOTAL	6,250	7,758.38	10,950	
SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE				
Wages & Payroll Taxes	2,153	1,706.06	3,230	
Gasoline	250	130.65	250	
Propane	700	882.58	800	
Bldg-Tractor Garage	100	0.00	100	
Repairs-Tractor (2004 John Deere)	400	107.21	400	
SIDEWALK MAINTENANCE TOTAL	3,603	2,826.50	4,780	
HIGHWAY EXPENDITURES TOTAL	307,567	268,751.27	344,558	
HWY RESERVE APPROPRIATION				
Hwy Equipment Reserve	62,319	62,319.00	64,189	
Hwy Infrastructure Reserve	10,000	10,000.00	10,000	
Hwy Paving Reserve	30,000	30,000.00	30,000	
Hwy Surplus to Hwy Equip Reserve Fund	64,598	64,598.00	0	
HWY RESERVE APPROPRIATION TOTAL	166,917	166,917.00	104,189	
HIGHWAY BUDGET TOTAL	474,484	435,668.27	448,747	
GENERAL FUND AND HIGHWAY BUDGET TOTALS	1,132,076	1,033,504.23	\$ 1,120,438	These actual figures include Cilley purchase, Hwy surplus, & articles from 2019 Town meeting

2019 Actual Revenues & 2020 Estimated Revenues				
	2019 Anticipated Revenues	2019 Actual Revenues	2020 Estimated Revenues	
TOWN REVENUES				
TAX REVENUES (no education taxes)				
Current Taxes	385,911.00	383,314.54	352,955.00	
DELINQUENT TAX REVENUES				
Delinquent Tax Interest	9,000.00	9,783.22	9,000.00	
Delinquent Tax Penalty Revenue	10,000.00	8,386.83	10,000.00	
TOTAL TOWN TAX REVENUES	404,911.00	401,484.59	371,955.00	
STATE OF VERMONT REVENUES				
Current Use	48,000.00	54,254.00	52,000.00	
PILOT(Payment in lieu of taxes) & Leaseland Revenue	80,001.00	98,372.20	90,001.00	
TOTAL STATE OF VERMONT REVENUES	128,001.00	152,626.20	142,001.00	
MISCELLANEOUS REVENUES				
Interest Earned	200.00	4,798.34	2,000.00	
Misc Revenue	0.00	1,567.20	0.00	
Cemetery Interest into GF	0.00	3.25	0.00	
TOTAL MISC REVENUES	200.00	6,368.79	2,000.00	
TOWN CLERK REVENUES				
Recordings, Vault Revenue	4,500.00	7,963.00	5,500.00	
Marriage & Dog Licenses	2,250.00	2,316.00	2,250.00	
Liquor/Tobacco Licenses	280.00	140.00	140.00	
Copies & Faxes Revenue	2,300.00	2,236.10	2,300.00	
Motor Vehicle Renewals	150.00	138.00	150.00	
TOTAL TOWN CLERK REVENUE	9,480.00	12,793.10	10,340.00	
LISTER REVENUE	800.00	805.00	800.00	
ZONING REVENUE	800.00	600.00	800.00	
COMMUNITY BLDG REVENUE	2,900.00	3,820.50	3,050.00	
FAST REVENUE(from Town of Ryegate)	12,000.00	10,409.25	10,000.00	
CONSTABLE REVENUE	4,000.00	6,130.48	4,000.00	
TOTAL TOWN REVENUES (Not including tax revenue)	177,181.00	211,723.37	191,991.00	
Proposed 2020 Town Budget				
Use of Fund Balance			671,691.00	
2020 Anticipated Revenues			126,745.00	
Difference to be raised by 2020 TOWN Taxes			352,955.00	
HIGHWAY REVENUES				
Hwy Current Tax Revenue	345,886.00	281,288.00	308,558.00	
State Hwy Aid	64,000.00	65,442.03	64,000.00	
Seyon Road Plowing	0.00	3,241.53	2,000.00	
Hwy Miscellaneous Revenue	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL HIGHWAY REVENUES(Not including tax revenue)	64,000.00	68,683.56	66,000.00	
Proposed 2020 Highway Budget				
Use of HWY Fund Balance			448,747.00	
2020 Anticipated HWY Revenues			74,189.00	
Difference to be raised by 2020 HWY Taxes			308,558.00	
TOTAL Estimated Tax Revenue needed for 2020			661,513.00	

2019 - RESERVE FUND ACTIVITY & BALANCES			
Town Emergency Fund		Restoration Fund	
Bank balance on 12/31/18	7,690.64	Bank balance on 12/31/18	31,511.70
Revenues:		Revenues:	
Interest received on account	27.25	Interest received on account	107.45
2019 Budget appropriation	2,000.00	Funds received from the State of VT	3,343.00
Disbursements:	0.00	Disbursements:	
Bank balance on 12/31/19	9,717.89	Land Record Books	730.00
		Bank balance on 12/31/19	34,232.15
Community Building Improvement Fund		Professional Services Fund	
Bank balance on 12/31/18	55,485.00	Bank balance on 12/31/18	8,098.00
Revenues:		Revenues:	
Interest received on account	187.87	Interest received on account	16.30
2019 Budget appropriations	20,000.00	2019 Budget appropriation	7,000.00
Donation	60.00	Disbursements:	
Disbursements:		Town audit- Fothergill Segale & Valley	9,500.00
Rowden Brothers-Fabricate & Install B-Boards	3,500.00	Bank balance on 12/31/19	5,614.30
Bank balance on 12/31/19	72,232.87		
Emergency Service Building Improvement Fund		Highway Equipment Fund	
Bank balance on 12/31/18	30,614.85	Bank balance on 12/31/18	129,444.24
Revenues:		Revenues:	
Interest received on account	106.68	Interest received on account	373.42
2019 Budget appropriations	5,000.00	2019 Budget appropriation	62,319.00
Disbursements:		Recycle metal	357.60
Building Repairs-CED Twinstare	423.73	Hwy 2018 Surplus	64,598.00
Bank balance on 12/31/19	35,297.80	Disbursements:	
		Rental / Purchase of Excavator- Nortrax	87,365.00
Emergency Service Vehicle Fund		Calcium Spray Unit / Gorman Group	3,034.25
Bank balance on 12/31/18	24,248.88	Sander for 1 Ton Truck- Ash Supply	4,365.00
Revenues:		Bank balance on 12/31/19	162,328.01
Interest received on account	95.18		
Sold Tires	200.00	Highway Paving Fund	
2019 Budget appropriations	21,888.00	Bank balance on 12/31/18	-3,169.56
Disbursements:	0	Revenues:	
Bank balance on 12/31/19	46,432.06	Interest received on account	53.61
Emergency Service Durable Equipment Fund		2019 Budget appropriation	30,000.00
New Account in 2019	18,000.00	Transfer from Hwy Infrastructure acct	3,200.00
Interest received on account	8.74	Grant money received	12,403.96
Disbursements:		Disbursements:	0.00
Equipment- Reynolds & Sons Equipment	4,500.00	Bank balance on 12/31/19	42,488.01
Bank balance on 12/31/19	13,508.74		
Reappraisal & Tax Mapping Fund		Highway Infrastructure Fund	
Bank balance on 12/31/18	73,607.81	Bank balance on 12/31/18	58,767.83
Revenues:		Revenues:	
Interest received on account	160.34	Interest received on account	194.43
2019 budget appropriation	1,200.00	2019 Budget appropriation	10,000.00
Disbursements:		Disbursements:	
Town wide Re-Appraisal-VT Appraisal Co	34,650.00	Transfer to Hwy Paving acct	3,200.00
Supplies for Re-Appraisal	398.63	Bank balance on 12/31/19	65,762.26
Postage for Re-Appraisal	781.88		
Bank balance on 12/31/19	39,137.64	Sidewalk Fund	
		Bank balance on 12/31/18	2,473.84
Recreation Committee Fund		Interest received on account	8.41
Bank balance on 12/31/18	12,301.76	Bank balance on 12/31/19	2,482.25
Revenues:			
Interest received on account	42.54		
Donations	80.00		
2019 appropriations	1,000.00		
Bank balance on 12/31/2019	13,424.30	Total of all Reserve Bank balances as of 12/31/19	542,658.28

**Reserve fund Articles as voted by year with description of purpose and balance as of
December 31, 2019**

Reappraisal & Tax Mapping 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 \$39,137.64**

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 \$72,232.87**

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 \$35,297.80

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 \$46,432.06

Restoration and Preservation Reserve Funds

March 7, 2006 (1st 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 (2nd 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 \$34,232.15**

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 \$13,424.30**

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 \$9,717.89**

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 \$ 2,482.25

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 \$ 5,614.30

Emergency Service Durable Equipment Fund

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?

March 5, 2019: 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."

Balance \$ 13,508.74

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 \$162,328.01**

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 Class 3 paved highways while maintaining a stable annual cost. **Balance \$ 42,488.01**

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 \$65,762.26**

TOWN OF GROTON
BALANCE SHEET BY FUND-2019

ASSET	General	Highway	Cemetery Restricted	Library Restricted	Reserve Funds Restricted	Grant Fund	Food Shelf Restricted	FAST Restricted	Total
CASH ACCOUNTS									
MB-General Fund	290,108.11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	290,108.11
MB-Customer ACH Deposits	0.32	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.32
MB-HRA acct	677.90	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	677.90
TD-General Fund CD	203,557.93	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	203,557.93
WRSB-Del Tax Acct	245.68	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	245.68
Petty Cash	56.38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56.38
MB-Perpetual Care	-	-	90,031.97	-	-	-	-	-	90,031.97
MB-H.Hosmer Trust	-	-	3,291.53	-	-	-	-	-	3,291.53
WRSB-Development Funds	-	-	11,470.89	-	-	-	-	-	11,470.89
WRSB-Cemetery Lot Fund	-	-	6,693.74	-	-	-	-	-	6,693.74
WRSB MJ Ricker Hall Trust	-	-	1,063.28	-	-	-	-	-	1,063.28
TD Roosevelt Carter Trust	-	-	6,196.56	-	-	-	-	-	6,196.56
Library Funds	-	-	-	14,722.87	-	-	-	-	14,722.87
Library Endowment Fund	-	-	-	51,222.70	-	-	-	-	51,222.70
Library Capital Improvement	-	-	-	31,379.82	-	-	-	-	31,379.82
Library ACH Account	-	-	-	9.00	-	-	-	-	9.00
Library American Fund Stock	-	-	-	21,535.53	-	-	-	-	21,535.53
Reserve Fund	-	-	-	-	542,398.28	-	-	-	542,398.28
Grant Fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Food Shelf	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,374.87	-	10,374.87
FAST	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	503.89	503.89
Total CASH ACCOUNTS	494,646.32	0	118,747.97	118,869.92	542,398.28	0	10,374.87	503.89	1,285,541.25
Receivables									
Del Tax Interest/Other Re	8,672.59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8,672.59
Del Tax Receivable	130,678.67	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	130,678.67
Penalty Receivable	9,316.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,316.08
Accounts Receivable	1.00	3,241.53	-	-	-	-	-	-	3242.53
Grant Receivable	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gilman Note Receivable	610,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	610,000.00
Total Receivables	758,668.34	3,241.53	0	0	0	0	0	0	761,909.87
Highway Inventory									
Prepaid Expenses	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Due To/From Acct	(34,136.17)	60,452.67	173.02	(4,358.34)	(21,118.58)	(1,012.60)	0	0	(0.00)
TOTAL ASSETS	1,219,178.49	81,757.20	118,920.99	114,511.58	521,279.70	(1,012.60)	10,374.87	503.89	2,065,514.12

Balance sheet cont.

	General	Highway	Cemetery Restricted	Library Restricted	Reserve Funds Restricted	Grant Fund	Food Shelf Restricted	FAST Restricted	Total
Liability									
Dental Insurance Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
AFLAC Payable	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Health Ins Payable	263.71	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	263.71
Prepaid Health Ins - HRA	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
Accounts Payable	16,254.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,254.08
Deferred Grant Revenue	-	-	-	-	-	357.12	-	-	357.12
Prepaid Taxes	768.70	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	768.70
Deferred Tax Revenue	138,238.24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	138,238.24
Tax Clearing Account	(100.00)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(100.00)
Gilman Housing Grant Liab	610,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	610,000.00
Fees Due the State of VT	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0

Total Liability 765,424.73 0 0 0 0 357.12 0 0 765,781.85

Fund Balance	General	Highway	Cemetery	Library	Reserves	Grants	Food Shelf	FAST	
Fund Balance General Fund	1,437.03	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,437.03
Fund Balance Highway	-	(85,696.71)	-	-	-	-	-	-	(85,696.71)
Fund Balance Cemetery	-	-	19,792.50	-	-	-	-	-	19,792.50
Non-spendable Perpetual Care	-	-	85,036.25	-	-	-	-	-	85,036.25
Restricted-Cart/Hosm/Hall	-	-	10,506.58	-	-	-	-	-	10,506.58
Fund Balance Library	-	-	-	22,809.58	-	-	-	-	22,809.58
Library #1 Endowment Fund	-	-	-	56,958.26	-	-	-	-	56,958.26
Library #2-Capital Improv	-	-	-	30,755.87	-	-	-	-	30,755.87
Fund Balance Reserves	-	-	-	-	(131,527.87)	-	-	-	(131,527.87)
Community Bldg Improve	-	-	-	-	72,232.87	-	-	-	72,232.87
Emer Servs Bldg Improve	-	-	-	-	35,297.80	-	-	-	35,297.80
Emer Servs Durable Equip	-	-	-	-	13,508.74	-	-	-	13,508.74
Emer Servs Vehicles	-	-	-	-	46,432.06	-	-	-	46,432.06
Reappraisal/ Tax Maps	-	-	-	-	39,137.64	-	-	-	39,137.64
Recreation	-	-	-	-	13,424.30	-	-	-	13,424.30
Restoration/Preservation	-	-	-	-	34,232.15	-	-	-	34,232.15
Town Emergency Fund	-	-	-	-	9,717.89	-	-	-	9,717.89
Hwy Equipment	-	-	-	-	162,328.01	-	-	-	162,328.01
Highway Infrastructure Fu	-	-	-	-	65,762.26	-	-	-	65,762.26
Sidewalk Reserve Fund	-	-	-	-	2,482.25	-	-	-	2,482.25
Highway Paving	-	-	-	-	42,488.01	-	-	-	42,488.01
Prof. Services Res Fund	-	-	-	-	5,614.30	-	-	-	5,614.30
Food Shelf Fund Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	10,374.87	-	10,374.87
FAST Fund Balance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	503.89	503.89

Total Prior Years Fund Balance 452,316.73 167,453.91 115,335.33 110,523.71 411,130.41 (4,758.89) 9,474.47 1,736.67 1,263,212.34

Fund Balance Current Year 1,437.03 (85,696.71) 3,585.66 3,987.87 110,149.29 3,389.17 900.40 (1,232.78) 36,519.93

Total Fund Balance 453,753.76 81,757.20 118,920.99 114,511.58 521,279.70 (1,369.72) 10,374.87 503.89 1,299,732.27

Total Liability & Fund Balance 1,219,178.49 81,757.20 118,920.99 114,511.58 521,279.70 (1,012.60) 10,374.87 503.89 2,065,514.12

Town of Groton

Employee Wage Summary Report
01/01/19-12/24/19

Employee	Position	Gross	Hourly Rates	Employer Share of Payroll Taxes	Retire- ment	Employer Cost (excluding Insurance)
Achilles Andrew S	EMT	660.00	15.00	50.50		710.50
Achilles Kimberly P	EMT	180.00	15.00	13.77		193.77
Avery Daniel	Fire Fighter	20.36	10.18	1.56		21.92
Bliss Donald F	Mowing/Snow removal	1,132.81	16.00	86.68		1,219.49
Bruleigh Brenda	EMT	1,755.00	15.00	134.26		1,889.26
Bruleigh Charles	Fire Fighter	1,287.50	12.50	98.51		1,386.01
Colby Lillian	EMT	390.00	15.00	29.85		419.85
Curtis Derek J	EMT	2,415.00	15.00	184.75		2,599.75
Diggins Caroline K	Lister/Ballot Clerk	11,768.11	19.73/11.00	900.23		12,668.34
Doscinski Leonard E	EMT/Fire Fighter	180.00	15.00	13.77		193.77
Downing James A Jr	1 st Constable/ Temp Hwy	13,644.35	21.39/25.00	1,043.82		14,688.17
Fleurie-Wohlleb Jodi A	Librarian	17,610.79	15.50	1,346.90		18,957.69
Flint Lee	Ballot Clerk	22.00	11.00	1.68		23.68
Gandin Ben	Snow removal/Temp Hwy	400.00	25.00	30.61		430.61
Hart Lisa JL	Treasurer /Collector taxes/Ballot Clerk	42,170.19	20.77/11.00	3,225.96	1,116.00	46,512.15
Hatch Harold	Temp Hwy/Road Commissioner	47,987.50	25.00/25.00	3,671.06	1,297.35	52,955.91
Houghton Bradley E	Zoning Administrator	80.00	25.00 per permit/40.00 month	6.12		86.12
Johnson Carla R	Ballot Clerk	66.00	11.00	5.05		71.05
Johnson Debra E	Select Board Secretary/Town Report Preparer	2,707.50	65.00 per meeting/16.50	207.11		2,914.61
Johnson, Wade A JR	Fire Fighter/Maintenance	2,514.02	10.18/10.96	192.31		2,706.33
Johnson Wade A Sr	Select Board member/Fire Chief/Fire Fighter	2,912.50	Stipend 1250.00/1250.00/12.50	222.82		3,135.32
Joy Carol B	Fire Fighter	180.00	15	13.77		193.77
Knott Dorothy L	Lister/Fire Fighter/Fast/Ballot Clerk/Asst Clerk	16,792.28	16.00/12.50/18.94/11.00/18.00	1,284.70		18,076.98
Knott Henry C	EMT	1,695.00	15.00/ 18.94	129.69		1,824.69
Knott Wayne C	Fire Fighter	1,850.00	12.50/18.94	141.54		1,991.54
Lamberton Gary F	IT Person	1,250.00	Stipend 1250.00	95.63		1,345.63
Lapham Frank	Fire Fighter	450.00	12.50/18.94	34.43		484.43
Lavertu Scott	Fire Fighter	435.00	15.00/18.94	33.29		468.29
Lourenco Joseph M	Fire Fighter	25.00	12.50/18.94	1.91		26.91
Murray Steven	Tree Warden	250.00	Stipend 250.00	19.13		269.13
Nunn Linda L	Town Clerk/Asst Treasurer	39,561.72	20.77	3,026.48	1,046.18	43,634.38
Palmer Phillip E	HWY Equipment Operator	47,947.15	21.00	3,668.00	1,266.02	52,881.17
Peters Carrie A	Assistant Treasurer/Asst Clerk/Ballot [CDT Wages are not paid by Town]	14,066.60	19.00/18.54/11.00	1,717.70		15,784.30
Peters Torie	Ballot Clerk	55.00	11.00	4.21		59.21
Shallberg Mark	Maintenance Person	774.00	18.00	59.21		833.21
Smith Aaron J	SelectBoard/EMT	2,870.00	Stipend 1250.00/15.00/18.94	219.56		3,089.56
Smith Brent D	Hwy Road Commissioner / Temp Hwy	15,275.19	20.77/25.00	1,168.60	375.03	16,818.82
Stetson Shaun T	2nd Constable/Fire Fighter	596.24	10.78/15.00	35.63		631.87
Walls Joshua	EMT	150.00	15.00	11.48		161.48
Webster Daniel	Health Officer/Zoning Administrator	1,300.00	Stipend 500.00/25.00 a permit/ 40 a month	99.45		1,399.45
Totals- Employees Reported: 39		295,426.81		23,231.73	5,100.58	323,759.12
Total Health Care Costs						27,937.90
Total Cost of Employee's including benefits						351,697.02

Policy for Collection of Delinquent Taxes
Town of Groton, Vermont
Adopted January 2020

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 1st 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 1st 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 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, or by visiting our Town website at 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

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 1st 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.

Respectfully,
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 12/31/2019

Name	Tax Year	Name	Tax Year
ADAMS, MICHAEL	2019	MERRYFIELD, MICHELLE	2018/2019
BATCHELDER, BARBARA	2019	NAUGHTON, BRIAN	2019
BATSAKIS, ANDREW	2019	NURSE, STEFAN	2019
BLISS, DONALD	2019	PHILLIPS, PAMELA	2019
BONE, JENNIFER	2019	QUINTAINE, MARIE	2017/2018/2019
BOURDEAU, DONALD	2019	ROOD, RODNEY	2019
BOYCE, DAVID	2019	SANVILLE, ARNOLD	2019
BOYCE, DOUGLAS	2018/2019	SANVILLE, CHARLOTTE	2018/2019
CALVELLO, NICHOLAS	2018/2019	SULLIVAN, LINDA	2019
CAMP MUFFET LLC	2019	WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND	2019
CAREY, JANNEL	2019	WOOD, ROSE MARIE	2019
CORBETT MARY	2019	YEAGER, KARL	2019
CORREIRA DAVID	2019		
CROWN, SHAWN	2018/2019		
CROWN, SHAWN	2018/2019		
DARLING, HENRY	2018/2019		
DARLING, HENRY	2018/2019		
DARLING, SHAWN	2018/2019		
DICKEY, CHRISTY	2018/2019		
ELLISON, DAVID	2016/2017/2018/2019		
FARR, BRADLEY	2019		
FEDERAL NATIONAL MOR	2019		
FIFIELD, JASON	2019	Total Principal Outstanding	
FORTUNATI, ARTHUR	2019		
FULFORD, HEIDI	2019	Tax Year 2015	\$3,134.40
GOODRICH, ROBERT	2015/2017		
GRANT, JEFFREY	2019	Tax Year 2016	\$2,037.46
GROTON COMMERCIAL	2018/2019		
HERBERT, CHRISTOPHER	2019	Tax Year 2017	\$6,128.68
KENNEDY, MICHAEL	2019		
LAKIN, JAMES SR	2018/2019	Tax Year 2018	\$21,629.22
LASELL, HORACE	2018/2019		
LEPENVEN, LARRY	2019	Tax Year 2019	\$96,726.63
LESIEUR, KELLY	2018/2019		
LORD, NELSON	2019	TOTAL	\$129,656.39

Property Transfers January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019

Grantor	Grantee	Arces	Location
Sanford, Rebecca L	Dufresne, Ronald A	12.30+/-	232 Old County Rd
Leach, Francis J Estate	Park Forestry NY, LLC	59.80+/-	off Seyon Pond Rd
Kane, Christopher D & William P	Groton Hospitality Group, LLC	1.40+/-	2967 Scott Hwy
Houghton, Jeanette T	MidFirst Bank	2.90+/-	760 Scott Hwy
Crown, Russell B & Shawn R	Streeter, James L & Irma J	9.40+/-	Great Rd
Concannon, Irene M	Ehrgood, Thomas A & Missy V Rev Trust	0.44+/-	50 Pond View Lane
DuBois, Mary Ann Estate	Smith, Stevie E	1.00+/-	567 Lakeside Dr
DuBois, Mary Ann Estate	Darling, Donna J & John H	6.56+/-	Lakeside Dr
Wilmington Savings Fund Society FSB	Hand, Sarkis & Erinleigh	0.31+/-	43 Mill St
Leininger, Tina M	Page, Keith & Lauren M	24.00+/-	802 Levi Pond Rd
US Bank National Assoc	High, Katherine M	0.54+/-	1644 Scott Hwy
High, Katherine M	High, Katherine M & Semmel, Brian L	0.54+/-	1644 Scott Hwy
Town of Groton	Puffer, Nathan H & Meredith K	ROW	Goodfellow Rd
Puffer, Nathan H & Meredith K	Town of Groton	ROW	Goodfellow Rd
Uttero, Peter J	Quintin, Steve	75.0+/-	Uttero Lane
Uttero, Peter J	Oliver, Logan	42.5+/-	Robinson Rd
Midfirst Bank	Secretary of Veterans Affairs	2.90+/-	760 Scott Hwy
Johns, Mary Ellen	Boyce, David	9.53+/-	109 Welton Rd
Murray, Steven A & Suzette M	Robbins, John W & Patricia J	33.60+/-	412 North County Rd
Herbert, James & Mabel	Webster, Daniel A	trailer	130 Railroad St
Gibney, Kristene T & Phillip R	CitiMortgage Inc	0.66+/-	1518 Scott Hwy
Federal National Mortgage Assoc	Palmer, Jayme & John	12.40+/-	5491 Scott Hwy
Wellman, Sylvia	Braman, Fred L & Signa E	11.20+/-	250 Goodfellow Rd
Green, Anne & Grant, Laurine	Dole, Jessie C	0.34+/-	1448 Scott Hwy
Alexander, Amy	Bush Living Trust	1.60+/-	1408 Scott Hwy
Eastman, Gene R	Lucas, Connor	1.40+/-	39 Pine St
Meeachern, Robert E & Phyllis M Trustee	Reid, Robert S & Eileen V	19.10+/-	1350 Seyon Pond Rd
Desilets, Jon E & Ruth L	Lamberti, Ronald F	0.50+/-	556 Sunset Trail
Gale, Phyllis L Estate	Northrup, Jade Gale	0.71+/-	0 South Sunrise Dr
Fuentes, Edward G	Hall, Pearl A	4.37+/-	163 Moose Run Dr
Farquharson, Kirk P & Ellen	DeRoo, Paul D & Donna M	0.29+/-	524 Sunset Trail
Page, Brian S & Courtney M	Auger, Kristopher M & Nancy	24.00+/-	7055 Scott Hwy
Puffer, Matthew J & Tracy	Figura, Jeremy J & Robbin K	12.11+/-	266 Goodfellow Rd
Kvam, Matthew W Estate	Corbett, Mary E	0.11+/-	52 Welton Rd
Secretary of Veterans Affairs	Puffer, Tracy & Matthew	2.90+/-	760 Scott Hwy
Thomas, Raymond E & Polly P	Loomis, Emily & Petrou, Stephen	28.40+/-	00A Scott Hwy
Reichard, Carol	Ryan, Christine B & Reichard, Winfield	0.98+/-	71 Lord Dr
Orelup, Deborah R	Lundel, LLC	50.60+/-	410 Hooper Hill Rd
Utton, Paul W	Hannigan, John & Mary	4.0+/-	504 Branch Brook Rd
Coutu, Philip & Volk, Erik	Tierney, David	10.50+/-	152 Hooper Hill Rd
Pitts, David E Sr Estate	Smith, Ronson	0.76+/-	1177 Scott Hwy
Cilley, Ernest Estate	Groton, Town of	2.68+/-	1494 Scott Hwy
Connolly, Michael & Deborah	Levine, Jeremy	13.80+/-	690 Great Rd
Morris, Steven Jr & Lorraine A	SLM Properties LLC sec C	0.65+/-	24 Boulder Beach Rd
Morris, Steven Jr & Lorraine A	SLM Properties LLC sec D	0.65+/-	24 Boulder Beach Rd
Fontes, Patricia J	Marchant, Todd & Caroline	4.90+/-	Lakeside Dr

TOWN PROPERTY VALUES AS OF 12/31/2019

Date Acquired	Description	Value	
	Buildings		
7/3/1996	Boy Scout Camp	\$6,368	
	Community Bldg/vault	\$1,205,960	
	Fire Station	\$334,789	
7/3/1996	Hwy Garage (2)	\$645,835	
	Gazebo	\$13,809	
7/3/1996	Tractor Garage	\$10,586	
11/19/2019	Property 1494 Scott Hwy	\$22,550	
TOTAL VALUE OF BUILDINGS			\$2,239,897
	Contents		
12/14/1998	Chairs, table, etc. upstairs		
12/14/1998	Furnaces (2)		
12/14/1998	Kitchen contents		
	All Office Equipment		
Contents of Community Bldg.			\$110,250
Contents of Library			\$230,000
Contents of Fire Station			\$198,000
	Equipment		
12/31/2002	1st Constable	\$2,500	
	2nd Constable	\$300	
	2012 Chevy Impala Cruiser	\$5,500	
Constable Total			\$8,300
3/30/2004	JD Tractor/Mower/Snowblower	\$5,500	
10/20/2011	Makita String Trimmer	\$250	
	Misc.	\$500	
Property Maintenance Total			\$6,250
	Equipment	\$225,000	
7/4/2005	40' Container for training	\$3,200	
1/25/2013	Repeater	\$10,600	
	2006 Carr 6X12 Utility Trailer	\$1,000	
	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	
Fire/FAST Dept Total			\$582,100

TOWN PROPERTY VALUES AS OF 12/31/2019 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		\$100	
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	
11/1/2019	2004 20 Ton Equipment Trailer		\$10,000	
7/25/2019	2019 John Deere Excavator		\$87,000	
10/16/2019	2019 V-Box Sander		\$4,365	
7/23/2019	2019 Chloride Spray Tank		\$3,035	
6/5/2019	Ipad		\$500	
7/7/2017	Daktech Lap Top		\$800	
Highway Total				\$529,791
Recreation Equipment Total				\$2,500
TOTAL VALUE OF EQUIPMENT				\$1,667,191
	Town Land	Acres		
1/25/1997	Boy Scout Camp	17.35	\$52,600	
	RR Bed-Depot Flat	0.42	\$9,000	
	Parking Lakeside Dr.	0.11	\$12,800	
1/25/1997	Village Cemeteries	16.43	\$28,200	
	Town Garage	3.31	\$32,600	
1/25/1997	Puffer Memorial Ball Field	3.8	\$23,700	
	William Scott Cemetery	0.48	\$12,600	
	Old Cemetery-Great Rd.	0.24	\$17,000	
	Old Cemetery-Glover Rd.	0.37	\$14,400	
	Old Cemetery-Dominicus Grey-Glover Rd.	0.11	\$12,800	
	Gravel Pit- Welton Rd.	67	\$71,800	
1/25/1997	Tractor Garage-Mill St.	0.04	\$1,700	
	RR Bed-Park St. to Ricker Pond	25.4	\$17,100	
	Old Stump Dump-Little Italy Rd.	8.5	\$24,400	
2/14/1997	RR Bed-Little Italy Rd. to Ryegate Town Line	9.4	\$7,900	
1/25/1997	Old Dump-Goodfellow Rd.	9.1	\$21,900	
	Community Building Land	0.47	\$18,000	
	Fire Station Land	0.59	\$19,000	
1/25/1997	Veterans Memorial Park	0.73	\$22,600	
	RR Bed-Powder Spring Rd. (near Welch Block)	1.2	\$12,000	
1/25/1997	Frost Memorial Ball Field	1.7	\$20,000	
7/3/2003	Future Cemetery- Park St.	6	\$27,000	
LAND TOTAL AS OF 3/31/19				\$479,100
TOTAL VALUE OF ALL TOWN PROPERTY				\$4,386,188

2019 List of Land in Groton owned by the State of Vermont, Agency of Natural Resources

Ref ID	Property Description	Acres	Fair Market	
			Value	FY2020 PILOT*
EC1	Groton Lake Dam Site	3.00	\$63,100	\$378.60
FP1	Groton State Forest-Seyon Pond	26.00	\$106,700	\$640.20
FP2	Ricker Pond Campsite & Frontage	39.00	\$175,100	\$1,050.60
FP3	Lake Groton Cottage Lots	2.07	\$3,000	\$18.00
FP4	Stillwater Campground	42.00	\$136,100	\$816.60
FP5	Big Deer Campground	25.00	\$28,600	\$171.60
FP6	Boulder Beach	25.00	\$109,900	\$659.40
FP7	Kettle Pond Campground	20.00	\$86,000	\$516.00
FP8	Natural Woodlands Area	149.00	\$105,300	\$631.80
FP9	Forest Land	11,702.00	\$13,207,200	\$79,243.20
FP10	Ricker Pond Damsite	13.00	\$12,500	\$75.00
FP11	TNC/Moffatt Acquisition	329.00	\$250,000	\$1,500.00
FP12	Lyon Acquisition Seyon Block	42.00	\$29,700	\$178.20
FP13	Page Acquisition	25.70	\$24,300	\$145.80
FW1	Pine Mountain WMA	372.00	\$372,800	\$2,236.80
FW2	Levi Pond WMA	259.20	\$78,800	\$472.80
FW3	St. Hilaire Parcel	100.00	\$80,100	\$480.60
	Buffer Reduction			-\$3,000.00

Groton Total	13,173.97	\$14,869,200	\$86,215.20
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*Is payment from
the State of VT to
the town of Groton
in lieu of taxes

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.

2019 USE VALUES

Agricultural Land	\$362/acre
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Forest Land & Conservation Land	\$145/acre
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Forest Land & Conservation Land Greater than one mile from a Class 1, 2, or 3 Road	\$109/acre
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Properties in Current Use Program 2019						
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	\$ 112,800.00	\$ 73,900.00	\$ 38,900.00	\$ 1,492.41
Beck, Darren D.	49.00	49.00	\$ 88,300.00	\$ 80,800.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 1,631.76
Blandford-Berlejung, Mary & Paul (homestead)	74.00	59.00	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 64,100.00	\$ 210,900.00	\$ 1,352.83
Berry, Russell & Cecile	219.00	219.00	\$ 287,900.00	\$ 257,400.00	\$ 30,500.00	\$ 5,198.19
Bruckner, William C. & Dawn	390.00	382.00	\$ 337,700.00	\$ 240,600.00	\$ 97,100.00	\$ 4,858.92
Cassani Robert E & Shirley J	178.50	178.50	\$ 194,000.00	\$ 167,700.00	\$ 26,300.00	\$ 3,366.70
Chandler, Harry & Judith (homestead)	269.08	267.08	\$ 462,100.00	\$ 282,900.00	\$ 179,200.00	\$ 5,970.60
Clough, Rick & Kelly	49.00	45.70	\$ 217,800.00	\$ 91,100.00	\$ 126,700.00	\$ 1,839.76
Crum, Nicole	126.76	124.76	\$ 190,100.00	\$ 134,100.00	\$ 56,000.00	\$ 2,708.15
Cutone,Richard J & Victoria (homestead)	131.00	129.00	\$ 431,500.00	\$ 116,400.00	\$ 315,100.00	\$ 2,456.62
Daniels, Lawrence, Sr. & Alice	141.50	131.50	\$ 303,900.00	\$ 131,900.00	\$ 172,000.00	\$ 2,783.75
DeMartino, Paul	93.08	84.34	\$ 155,100.00	\$ 116,800.00	\$ 38,300.00	\$ 2,358.78
Doscinski, Leonard & Patricia (homestead)	104.70	102.70	\$ 457,800.00	\$ 128,400.00	\$ 329,400.00	\$ 2,709.88
Ducharme, Helen	69.69	69.69	\$ 80,700.00	\$ 70,400.00	\$ 10,300.00	\$ 1,421.73
Eaton, Maureen & Henry (homestead)	57.50	55.50	\$ 397,700.00	\$ 74,700.00	\$ 323,000.00	\$ 1,576.54
Edwards, Leslie (homestead)	41.10	33.00	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 36,100.00	\$ 188,900.00	\$ 761.89
Emerson Chris W	75.00	71.00	\$ 122,200.00	\$ 91,500.00	\$ 30,700.00	\$ 1,847.84
Engle, Stephen	775.00	773.00	\$ 948,600.00	\$ 572,500.00	\$ 376,100.00	\$ 11,561.64
Engle, Stephen	147.00	147.00	\$ 149,200.00	\$ 127,600.00	\$ 21,600.00	\$ 2,576.88
Foster-Jerry Lund Mountain Trust	692.43	688.43	\$ 443,600.00	\$ 292,600.00	\$ 151,000.00	\$ 5,909.06
Frost, Barbara J. & Earl	35.60	30.20	\$ 60,700.00	\$ 32,300.00	\$ 28,400.00	\$ 652.30
Goodine, Allen	95.00	87.00	\$ 160,900.00	\$ 93,700.00	\$ 67,200.00	\$ 1,892.27
Gosselin, Edmund	37.50	33.00	\$ 72,000.00	\$ 51,500.00	\$ 20,500.00	\$ 1,040.04
Greenough, Bradley	124.00	122.00	\$ 250,900.00	\$ 85,700.00	\$ 165,200.00	\$ 1,730.71
Grimes & Nolan Revocable Trust	121.00	107.00	\$ 169,300.00	\$ 130,200.00	\$ 39,100.00	\$ 2,629.39
Hart, Steven & Lisa	55.00	55.00	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 18,700.00	\$ 8,800.00	\$ 377.65
Hersey, Mark	125.00	123.00	\$ 100,700.00	\$ 72,100.00	\$ 28,600.00	\$ 1,456.06
Kersaken Ventures LLC	646.85	633.85	\$ 695,400.00	\$ 303,900.00	\$ 391,500.00	\$ 6,137.26
Klein, Martin	97.40	93.40	\$ 307,500.00	\$ 115,200.00	\$ 192,300.00	\$ 2,326.46
Lafamme, Kimberly	167.00	165.00	\$ 229,600.00	\$ 190,300.00	\$ 39,300.00	\$ 3,843.11
Martell, Robert E. & Lori A.	339.12	334.02	\$ 882,000.00	\$ 190,700.00	\$ 691,300.00	\$ 3,851.19
Moore, Donald F JR	28.40	28.40	\$ 59,100.00	\$ 54,900.00	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 1,108.71
Meadowsend Timberlands LTD	128.00	128.00	\$ 135,000.00	\$ 116,200.00	\$ 18,800.00	\$ 2,346.66
Morse, Norman (homestead)	144.00	134.50	\$ 396,800.00	\$ 140,900.00	\$ 255,900.00	\$ 2,973.69
Niemaszyk Walter	378.50	366.17	\$ 492,300.00	\$ 372,800.00	\$ 119,500.00	\$ 7,867.94
Oliver Troy A	47.00	45.00	\$ 162,500.00	\$ 42,800.00	\$ 119,700.00	\$ 864.35
Page, Keith R	39.00	35.00	\$ 87,800.00	\$ 36,700.00	\$ 51,100.00	\$ 741.16
Park Forestry NY LLC	935.60	935.60	\$ 658,600.00	\$ 428,100.00	\$ 230,500.00	\$ 8,645.48
Pigeon Pond LLC (Bailey & Gable)	1,080.00	1,072.00	\$ 2,401,000.00	\$ 922,800.00	\$ 1,478,200.00	\$ 18,635.95
Powers, Craig & Brenda (homestead)	35.70	32.47	\$ 316,000.00	\$ 46,600.00	\$ 269,400.00	\$ 983.49
Puffer, Mathew	222.00	201.00	\$ 473,200.00	\$ 66,900.00	\$ 406,300.00	\$ 1,351.05
Ruggles, Patricia A (homestead)	45.00	43.00	\$ 268,500.00	\$ 60,200.00	\$ 218,100.00	\$ 1,062.26
Simakaski, Mark R. & Wolfgang, Nichole C.	38.00	36.00	\$ 323,800.00	\$ 115,900.00	\$ 210,800.00	\$ 2,446.07
Smith, Brent & Pamela (homestead)	41.00	39.00	\$ 196,800.00	\$ 44,500.00	\$ 152,300.00	\$ 939.17
Smith, Sara	46.00	42.70	\$ 192,400.00	\$ 54,900.00	\$ 137,500.00	\$ 1,158.66
Starr, Timothy	43.00	35.80	\$ 143,500.00	\$ 53,800.00	\$ 89,700.00	\$ 1,231.00
Sweet Tree Holdings 1, LLC	760.00	760.00	\$ 770,700.00	\$ 685,700.00	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 13,847.71
Thomas, Bryce	90.00	90.00	\$ 66,300.00	\$ 53,100.00	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 1,154.45
Thomas, F. Bryce (1997 Trust)	163.00	160.50	\$ 269,600.00	\$ 181,800.00	\$ 87,800.00	\$ 3,671.45
Thomas, Paul A	126.00	109.50	\$ 208,900.00	\$ 125,400.00	\$ 83,500.00	\$ 2,532.45
Thomas, Paul A	65.10	63.10	\$ 81,000.00	\$ 56,700.00	\$ 24,300.00	\$ 1,145.06
Timbervest Partners III Vermont LLC	237.00	224.80	\$ 198,100.00	\$ 162,200.00	\$ 35,900.00	\$ 3,275.63
Uttero, Peter J.	353.00	347.00	\$ 433,000.00	\$ 242,700.00	\$ 190,300.00	\$ 4,901.33
Vaughn, Tristan	46.00	44.00	\$ 95,100.00	\$ 61,000.00	\$ 34,100.00	\$ 1,231.90
Waterhouse, Cindy & Lee	113.50	111.50	\$ 350,300.00	\$ 138,100.00	\$ 212,200.00	\$ 2,788.93
Wosko, Walter & Diane	39.00	32.00	\$ 267,600.00	\$ 37,300.00	\$ 230,300.00	\$ 753.27
TOTALS	10,876.61	10,611.71	\$ 17,885,400.00	\$ 8,737,800.00	\$ 9,160,300.00	\$ 177,998.18

SELECT BOARD REPORT

The Groton Select Board had another busy year working on an ongoing list of issues and projects some of which we are glad to report have been completed.

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 taxpayers 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 2019:

Financials and Budget Updates

This year was our second year in a 3-year contract for the town audit. The audit went well and the Select Board appreciates the great job the Town Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer and Delinquent Tax Collector have been doing in keeping our town budget in line and up-to-date and working with the Select Board with possible grants, contracts, training and policies that the Select Board needs to be informed about.

Town Clerk

The town clerk was very instrumental this year in getting us a ballot tabulator which will be a big asset to the town when it comes to election years which should end the long nights counting ballots by hand. The town clerk also was very helpful in directing the BCA (Board of Civil Authority) with many grievances and setting up on spot visitation of those with grievances.

Listers/Reappraisal

This year there was a reappraisal done on the whole Town of Groton. It was something that needed to be done and thanks to the Listers for all the hours and hard work they put into it to make it a success.

Cilley Property

The Town of Groton now owns the Cilley Property as of Nov. 19, 2019, a project finally completed and now the next step of demolition of the house to make use of the property. The Select Board worked very hard and long to bring this to completion.

Highway Department

The Select Board welcomed Harold Hatch as our new elected Road Commissioner. The Highway Crew has done a good job and has been busy in getting some of the "Better Roads" projects done with work that needed to be done on "Red Brook" and "Great Road". There was also a grant to replace a huge culvert on Heath Brook Road that was completed also. These projects were completed in a timely fashion with the new Excavator that the town purchased this past spring.

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 our military veterans who have served and those presently serving in our military.

The Groton Select Board would like to say a special thanks to express our sincere gratitude for Linda Nunn, the Town Clerk, for the many years of her service to the Town of Groton.

Respectfully submitted,
Wade Johnson, SR, Chair
Deborah Jurist
Aaron Smith

Groton Fund Balance

The second year of our three year contract with audit firm Fothergill, Segale and Valley, covered the year 2018 and was completed in Sept. of 2019. It showed a continuing growth of surplus in Groton's Fund Balance.

The reasons Groton has this surplus:

1. For many years funds were raised through taxes to cover anticipated delinquent taxes. In recent years the town has been very successful at collecting delinquent taxes, so this revenue is not needed. This approach is no longer being used.
2. Frugal spending by departments produced surpluses
3. Revenues received were higher than anticipated

Although this surplus was not anticipated, it puts Groton in a great financial situation. The Select Board is proposing Articles 7 through 9 to address the Surplus Fund Balance.

Article #7 Asks the voters to approve the retention of a Certificate of Deposit. The original \$200,000 has already earned \$3557.00 in interest. Under Statute VSA 24 2804, this money would be spent with voter approval at a regular Town Meeting or a Special Town Meeting.

Article #8 Asks the voters to approve the use of the Surplus to fund the specific Reserve Accounts defined for one year only. This will reduce the amount raised through taxes for the year 2020.

Article #9 Specifies the amount the Select Board anticipates will be needed to take the next big steps towards resolving the drainage problems that originate in the hill behind the Community Building and were the underlying reasons for the purchase of the Cilley property.

Wade Johnson Sr, Deborah Jurist, Aaron Smith, Lisa Hart

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.

Groton Highway Report

- This year the Town Of Groton bought an excavator which allowed us to do ditching and culvert replacement more efficiently.
- This summer we did one "Better Roads" Grant on Heath Brook Road, we did all the work ourselves and were under the estimate so the state approved us doing stone lined ditches up the road with the remainder of the grant money .We also did a "Pilot and Aid" grant on Red Brook road, where we installed a new culvert and cleaned and stone lined ditches.
- We worked with other departments on their projects, supplying labor and equipment time, saving them money.
- We also received a donation of a 20 ton beaver tail trailer from Rodney Rood, it needs a little work to be ready to use but we are hoping to have it ready for spring.
- Phillip and I try our best to control cost while maintaining a level of service that keeps up with the needed maintenance of the roads. With it being my first year in this position, I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity and input I have received. If you have any ideas or concerns please let us know.

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

Harold Hatch home 584-3816 or stop by the garage

Lister's Report

The Town Wide Reappraisal was completed in 2019. Thank you to all the property owners who met with the appraisers at your property or during the Grievance Hearings.

The Town receives re-appraisal money from the State of Vermont annually and in 2019 this money was used to offset the Lister's wages.

We have received the Reappraisal Evaluation from Vermont Dept. of Taxes and the reappraisal met their requirements.

We have printed the Reappraisal Evaluation and Equalization Study reports in this year's Town Report. These are important documents and reflect the work that has been done in the past year. Both impact the Tax Rate for the Town of Groton.

For the past two years the Selectboard and Listers have been exploring the option of having an Assessor and Assistant Assessor instead of a Board of Listers. Many towns in Vermont have made this transition. The Assessor would work a few hours each week, as needed. The Assistant would be in the Office on a regular basis.

In the past few years it has become harder to find residents to fill the position of Lister. The requirements of the job have greatly increased and there is a higher level of training involved.

Kitty Diggins

Dorothy Knott

Listers Town of Groton



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

Agency of Administration

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

December 20, 2019

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

2019 Equalization Study Results

This letter serves as notification of the results of Property Valuation and Review (PVR)'s 2019 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 nonhomestead education tax rates.

Education Grand List (from 411):	\$1,276,710
Equalized Education Grand List (EEGL):	\$125,562,921
Common Level of Appraisal (CLA):	101.68 % or 1.0168
Coefficient of Dispersion (COD):	11.85 %

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

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

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 85% or over 115% necessitates a reappraisal (32 V.S.A. § 4041a). The homestead and nonhomestead tax rates in your town will be adjusted by your town's CLA (32 V.S.A. § 5402). The nonhomestead rate in your town will be the statewide nonhomestead 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

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



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

Agency of Administration

December 19, 2019

Town Clerk, Selectboard, Lister
Town of Groton
1476 Scott Hwy
Groton, VT 05046

Re: Reappraisal Evaluation – 2019

Enclosed are the results of the Vermont Department of Tax, Property Valuation and Review Division's (PVR) evaluation of your 2019 reappraisal for the Town of Groton. The evaluation is performed as part of the Equalization Study of the 2019 grand list. The evaluation checks your town's new listed values with three equity measures described in the document *Reappraisal Activity Evaluation for the Equalization Study* found at <http://tax.vermont.gov/municipal-officials/listers-and-assessors/reappraisals>. This is also known as the "three-pronged test". Based on the evaluation of your reappraisal, PVR found **SATISFACTORY results with regard to all measures.**

Equity Measure	Desired Result	Result
1. Percentage of parcels changed for a full reappraisal.	Nearly 100% of properties on the Grand List saw their listed values change due to the reappraisal.	SATISFACTORY
2. Equal treatment of (recently) sold properties copared to unsold properties.	Approximately equal percentage change in listed value for both sold and unsold.	SATISFACTORY
3. Equal treatment of homestead and nonresidential properties.	Approximately equal level of appraisal for both homestead and nonresidential properties based on the sales validated for the current year's sales sample.	SATISFACTORY

The result of our evaluation of your reappraisal is detailed in the enclosed document entitled *Groton 2019 Reappraisal Evaluation Results*.

Sincerely,

Jill Remick, Director
Property Valuation and Review
Vermont Department of Taxes

Enclosure: Groton 2019 Reappraisal Evaluation Results



Groton 2019 Reappraisal Evaluation Results

The following are your municipality's results based on the three evaluation measures.

Test 1: Reappraisal coverage (percent of parcels with changed value).

Criterion for full reappraisals and statistical updates, at least 95 percent of all parcels show a change in listed value. No test of statistical significance is required for this measure.

Total taxable parcels	743
Taxable parcels changed	740
Percent parcels changed	99.60

Difference from 100 percent parcel change is: .4 %
Is the resulting measure satisfactory? Yes

Test 2: Equal treatment of sold and unsold properties.

Criterion is no more than a ten-percentage point difference between the average change in value of the two groups. This is based on the difference between the median values of the two groups. Measurement of the difference must also be statistically significant. *

Parcels Sold:		Parcels Unsold:	
Number sold	47.00	Number unsold	664.00
Median change	0.33	Median change	3.65
Absolute difference sold and unsold is:		3.33	
Is the difference statistically significant?*		Yes	
Is the resulting measure satisfactory?		Yes	

Test 3: Equal treatment of homestead and nonresidential property.

Criterion is no more than a ten-percentage point difference between the average level of assessment of the sold properties in the two groups. This is based on the difference between the median values of the two groups. Measurement of the difference must also be statistically significant. *

Homestead parcels:		Nonresidential parcels:	
Number homestead	6.00	Number nonresident	43.00
Median ratio	104.16	Median ratio	103.72
Absolute difference homestead and nonresidential:		0.44	
Is the difference statistically significant?*		No	
Is the resulting measure satisfactory?		Yes	

OVERALL EVALUATION: SATISFACTORY result with regard to all three measures.

If the Overall Evaluation above states that your results are satisfactory, then the evaluation of your reappraisal is finished, the reappraisal appears to have met a reasonable standard in terms of the three equity measures subject to the evaluation, and the new listed values will be used in the 2018 equalization study. This does not mean that the results of the reappraisal are necessarily satisfactory with regard to other legal and statutory issues. For example, a satisfactory result on this evaluation does not mean that a reappraisal COD (as measured by PVR's equalization study) in excess of 20% will not result in a reappraisal order.

If the Overall Evaluation states that the results are unsatisfactory (i.e., Unsatisfactory to any of the three measures), PVR staff need to understand why there appears to be a lack of equity in your reappraisal.

The explanation should provide a reasoned and empirically supported basis for why the unsatisfactory equity measurement(s) is not a valid indication of the appraisal practices employed in the reappraisal.

Possible reasons could include:

- Error by PVR in its evaluation (e.g., inappropriate SPAN matches);
- Inappropriate identification of appraisal activity by town (e.g., town indicated a full reappraisal but conducted a partial reappraisal);
- Limitations of the sales sample used in the evaluation (e.g., the sample is not representative of the grand list).

It is important to emphasize that to be persuasive the explanation should include actual sales and / or grand list information that supports the explanation. To help you in this process, PVR can provide you with an electronic file with all the data used by PVR in the evaluation for each of the measures.

Your District Advisor has been notified of the results of the evaluation. You are encouraged to talk with your District Advisor or other Tax Department staff while you are in the process of compiling your explanation. It would also be helpful to refer to the referenced document, *Reappraisal Activity Evaluation for the Equalization Study*.

In the case of an apparent inequity, PVR will determine how the reappraisal will be handled within the context of the equalization study. This determination is subject to appeal as part of the general appeals process for the equalization study under 32 V.S.A. §5408.

* Statistical significance is the probability that the measure is a true indication of your entire grand list. Because it is possible that the sample information from which the measure is calculated is not a reliable indication of your entire grand list, the test of significance is used to identify unreliable results. For example, in cases where the percent difference between sold and unsold properties exceeds 10 percentage points, if the results are not statistically significant then the difference may be the result of too small a sample. In this case, we will assume that the reappraisal is satisfactory in terms of treatment of sold and unsold properties. For more information on significance calculation, please refer to Appendix 3 (Statistical Notes) in *Reappraisal Activity Evaluation for the Equalization Study*.



GROTON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Welcome to your Library! As your Librarian my goal for 2019 was to create enthusiasm in the community around our Library!

We have worked hard to achieve this goal through increased visibility, expanded programming and outreach to meet the needs of our Community! People from Groton and surrounding towns come to our Library each day on a quest of one sort or another. Some are looking for a recent article, to download a book, finish an application, meet with friends at a program, play a game, grab a new book, or attend their first story time with their toddler! The needs of our patrons serve as our directives and we strive to provide the resources, assistance, and information they seek! All free, under one roof!

All this yet, we still have more to achieve! We are continually looking forward to finding ways to make a difference for our patrons and community. In 2020 we will add two more computers, offer STEAM kits for checkout, increase the number and diversity of programs being offered, update our non-fiction books, create a permanent makers space, and update our current website!

The Friends of the Library continue to be dynamic support in working to supplement funding for our Programs. Their ongoing book sale and Fall Foliage Sale have provided opportunities to give children free books during community events, purchase a ski pass for families, pass for the Fairbanks Museum, planters, and so much more!

Funding for our Library comes from you the taxpayers, the support of our annual appeal, donations, grants and volunteers from our community. We are thankful for all these avenues of funding as we continue to grow and offer more to our patrons and community!

The Groton Free Public Library is open Monday 2:30-7:00, Wednesday 10:00-4:00, Friday 2:30-7:00 and Saturday 10:00-12:00. Come visit and see how the Library can open new possibilities for you! You can find us on Facebook, our website www.grotonlibraryvt.org or call us at 802-584-3358.

Cheers,

Jodi Fleurie-Wohlleb, Librarian

Board of Trustees:

Alissa Smith
Torie Peters
Peggy Burgin
Wade Johnson Jr.
Zachary Conaway

2019 Library Budget vs. 2019 Actual Spent
Expenses paid from Town General Fund

	2019 Budget	Actual	2020 Budget
Librarian wages	17,732	17,610.79	20,592
Payroll taxes	1,357	1,346.90	1,576
VLCT PACIF-Insurance	1,092	1,098.59	1,198
Postage & delivery	720	701.32	700
Building rent	6,000	5,700.00	5,700
Supplies-Library	200	149.38	1,000
Books & periodicals-	6,000	5,887.09	5,000
Office supplies	1,000	1,319.88	1,000
Telephone/internet	1,500	1,783.01	1,800
Training	0	0	0
Software/support	1000	808.12	500
Computer Repairs & Legal Fees	400	295.33	400
Furnishings & Equipment	800	750.87	200
TOTAL	\$37,801	\$37,451.28	\$39,666

Library Budget vs. Expenses

Expenses paid by Library Fund	2019 Budget	Actual	2020 Budget
Transfers Out	0	0	0
Programs Expense	1,500	1,330.56	2,000
Postage	0	41.40	0
Building Operations	0	0	0
Books & Periodicals	1,000	16.99	500
Training & Mileage	500	510.60	250
Technology Services/Soft	0	200	0
Computer Maintenance	0	0	0
Computers	2,500	2500	0
Investment Loss	0	-	0
Furnishings	0	0	300
TOTAL	\$5,500.00	\$4,599.55	\$3,050.00

Library Fund Revenue

Funds are entered into Library Fund	Actual
Books & Copy revenue	0
Dividends American Funds	448.89
Donations/Annual Appeal	5,054.85
Fundraising revenue	0
Grant revenue	0
Interest income	256.55
Program revenue	0
Gains - Investments	2,827.13
Transfers In	0
PayPal Revenue/Donations	0
TOTAL	\$8,587.42

Library Fund Balances as of 12/31/2019

Library Fund	14,722.87
Endowment	51,222.70
Capital Improvement	31,379.82
ACH Account	9.00
American Fund Stock	21,535.53
Total	\$118,869.92

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?

2019- LIBRARY ACCOUNTS

Operating Fund

Operating expense account funded by annual appeal donations, memorial funds, interest from Endowment and dividends from American Funds. **Balance \$15,374.05**

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 \$51,222.70**

Capital Fund Certificate of Deposit

Anonymous gift restricted to capital improvements or non-budgeted items at the discretion of the Library Trustees. **Balance \$31,379.82**

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 \$21,535.53**

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 interment 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 interment hole.

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

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 Report 2019

There were 13 burials in the Town of Groton this year. Six full burials and 7 cremations.

Annual upkeep to the cemeteries was ongoing with Tom Gandin cleaning another sizable chunk of the stones in the old cemetery, and Chris Knudson of CK Lawn Care mowing and trimming for us again this year.

Respectfully submitted
Aaron Smith
Tony Dennis
Shaun Stetson

CEMETERY LOT PRICES and FEES for 2019

SIZE	# of traditional burial sites	# of cremation sites	LOT PRICE	PERPETUAL CARE	FEES	SETTING OF CORNER STONES	TOTAL FOR RESIDENTS	TOTAL FOR NON-RESIDENTS
12'X4'	1	4	\$100.00	\$200.00	\$115.00	\$60.00	\$475.00	\$1,875.00
12'X8	2	8	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$115.00	\$60.00	\$575.00	\$3,375.00
12'X12'	3	12	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$115.00	\$60.00	\$775.00	\$4,975.00
12'X16'	4	16	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$115.00	\$60.00	\$975.00	\$6,575.00
12'X20'	5	20	\$500.00	\$500.00	\$115.00	\$60.00	\$1,175.00	\$8,175.00

FEE EXPLANATION: RECORDING COST: \$30.00 AND CORNER POSTS: \$85.00

Lots must be paid 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.

2019 Cemetery Budget vs. 2019 Actual Spent

Expenses paid from Town General Fund

	2019 Budget	Actual	2020 Budget
Contracted Work	700.00	790.00	\$ 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
Supplies	615.00	449.98	\$ 615.00
TOTAL	9,478.00	9,357.98	\$ 9,478.00

Revenues paid To Cemetery Accounts

Cemetery Lot Sales	575.00
Corner stone revenue	105.00
Recording fee income	20.00
Corner stone setting fees income	50.00
Development Funds (non-resident lot sale)	2,800.00
Perpetual Care income (lot sales)	500.00
Interest Revenue	65.66

Total Revenue**4,115.66****Expenditures paid From Cemetery Accounts**

Deposited to Development Funds	2,800.00
Deposited to Perpetual Care Fund	500.00
Recording fees (Groton Town Clerk)	60.00
Corner stones expense	470.00
Restoration of Old Stones	0.00
Misc Exp	0.00

3,830.00**Cemetery Funds Balances 12/31/19****Balances**

TD Bank-Roosevelt Carter Trust	6,196.56
WGSB H. Hosmer	3,291.53
WRSB Development Funds	11,470.89
WRSB Cemetery Lot Expenses	6,693.74
WRSB Mary Jane Ricker Hall Trust	1,063.28
MB Perpetual Care	90,031.97
TOTAL	118,747.97

GROTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT – 2019

Introduction

It's been a busy year on the Fire Department. Our success is due to a dedicated group of fire fighters and their commitment and sacrifice in training and going to fire calls in all hours of the night and day as well as in all types of weather. I want to take this time to say thanks to all our Fire Department members for the work they have done.

If you are interested to see what we do, you are invited to see your tax dollars at work. Our monthly activities are as follows:

- 1st Tuesday – Business Meeting
- 2nd Tuesday – Work Detail
- 3rd Tuesday – Drill
- 4th Tuesday – Officer Meeting
- 5th Tuesday – when months have a fifth Tuesday, we either have special speakers or extra drills.

Business Meeting

We go over a lot of business in our Fire Department. We go over the training schedule, past months fire/FAST calls, maintenance on vehicles, and concerns with fire fighters, recruitment and retention issues, and discuss finances with the Fire Dept. budget and also moneys that are used by the Corporation for some of our fire gear and donations which we would like to share what our department went over and above what is asked:

Purchases:

AED for engine \$1755

NVFC memberships \$360

FWMSF Raffle tickets \$200 (any \$ won goes back into fund)

SCBA's Air Pack - \$1492 from Coin Drop, \$1000 from Jordan Smith Fund, \$1000 from other Corp Funds

SCBA's – Total for shared cost \$3492 to cover part of the purchase of the SCBA

Donations/In Memory of:

NHFD/Donnie Hammond \$100

Gordon Page/Church \$100

Bill palmer/Church \$200

Scott Palmer/Shriners Hospital \$100

Widows Sons Vet Ride 2019 (to veterans at VA hospital) \$100

Work Detail

On this Tuesday, we maintain and operate the equipment and keep everything up to date. This also includes inspection of vital life-saving equipment such as SCBA's.

Drills

A time to focus are drills on areas to protect our community such as:

Motor Vehicle Accidents	Chimney Fires
CO Activations/Smoke	Structure Fires
Cold Water Rescue	Snow Machine Accidents
Search and Rescue for those lost in woods	Hazmat

We also have training courses which we obtain without cost to the town from the Vermont Fire Academy:

Level 1 & 2	Hazmat
PADO (Pumper Apparatus Driver Operations)	Other Training
CPR	Flagger Training

Officer Meeting

Currently, we have a time where the chief and officers go over ideas concerns and challenges of the Department which also, we prepare for agenda items of the monthly business meeting.

Other Activities

Coin Drops
Dick Page Ride-In (Snowmobile) with chicken barbecue
Muster Games in Peacham and Woodsville

Fire Calls for the Year

29

Conclusion

As you can see, putting out fires is not all we do. We are a close fire department family and we care the community we serve. If you would like to be part of the team, come in and join us. WE are looking for a few good men and women.

We have 911 signs which you can purchase and if you need CO and Smoke Detectors for your home, please contact us which we install and give for free.

Respectfully submitted,
Wade A Johnson, SR
GVFD Chief

FOREST FIRE WARDEN REPORT

This year fire season, there were no brush fires this year.

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 2019 Town Report

How Did 2019 Go?

Involvement on community events and outreach continue, including the addition of checking on our vulnerable populations during severe weather events, such as the heat wave that we experienced this past summer. Although delayed into 2020 due to weather, participating with the Fire Department in Firesafe 802 to help identify and rectify other hazards, such as trip/fall hazards, while ensuring residents' fire safety equipment is installed and functional. We also participated in the Ryegate Summer Festival, Groton Fall Foliage Day, Groton Winter Solstice Event and the second annual Groton Forest Trail Run.

Unfortunately, we still are not seeing enough interest in regularly hosting community CPR courses. We are not giving up, though, and will continue to offer at least one course when there is enough interest. Remember, CPR for bystanders today can be as simple as "hands-only," meaning only chest compressions are delivered, no need for mouth to mouth breathing. In a cardiac arrest event, studies show that compressions (and early defibrillation) are the best thing we can do for someone.

Our call volume ended the year at approximately 170, staying well within our 5-year average. These calls were handled with 6 licensed providers. In December we added another licensed provider, bringing us to 7. We are always looking for volunteers willing to help their fellow community members. If you are interested in serving your community, please reach out to us.

What is the Plan for 2020?

As always, we remain strongly focused on supporting our community, be it through emergency response, community outreach, or supporting community events. We are continuing to explore different options to engage with the community.

To enhance and raise the effectiveness of our monthly department training, we are joining with Newbury EMS and Woodsville Ambulance (our transport provider) to hold our trainings together. This will provide more variety in the training we receive, as well as higher quality (more people to run simulations with). Also, we are working very closely with Vermont EMS District 5 (the EMS district we belong to) to enhance the training opportunities they provide, both in quality as well as additional locations (so our providers do not have to travel to St. Johnsbury or further for every training). Vermont D5 training is offered in addition to our regular monthly training.

Along with tactical and operational focus, along with Groton Volunteer Fire Department, we are working on a 3 to 5-year strategy. The strategy will use information about the future direction of rural EMS as input to help shape where we want to take our department in the future. This strategy will be the guideposts for our planning and decision making.

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.fastsqad.1>) Facebook pages.

Respectfully Submitted,

Derek Curtis

Head of Service, Groton / Ryegate FAST Squad

grotonryegatefast@gmail.com

802-745-7598

Facebook:

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

<https://www.facebook.com/grotonryegate.fastsqad.1>

FAST - GROTON RYEGATE FAST SQUAD ACCOUNT**2019**

NOTE: 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.

FAST Squad Account

Bank account balance on 12/31/18	1,736.67
Interest received	0.16
Donations	952.43
Expenses	-2,175.37
Fees	-10.00
Bank account balance on 12/31/19	503.89

The Buckaroos of 302

The Buckaroos of 302 continue to set new records in membership as we had 700 memberships last winter. Currently, as of December, we stand at 500 memberships as we look to match or hopefully improve upon last year's membership. Our volunteer crews did not have any major trail projects this year as we focused on clearing out sections of trails from 5 Corners up to Peacham/Cabot area. 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/rain 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 & Trailmaster - Gary Lamberton; Media Coordinator - Suzanne Pare

Independent Audit Report

Fothergill, Segale & Valley, the Town of Groton's independent auditors performed the Town Audit and provided a report on September 9, 2019 to the Select Board for year ending 2018.

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

Planning Commission Report

The Planning Commission has sprung back to life with new members this year. We have met 3 times this Fall and are beginning the process of applying for Village Center Designation. The Commission has the much needed help and guidance from Alison Low of the Northeastern Vermont Development Association (NVDA). Once the Village Center Designation is complete we will tackle the Zoning By-Laws. For more information on Village Center Designation please see:

<https://accd.vermont.gov/community-development/designation-programs/village-centers>
<https://accd.vermont.gov/sites/accdnew/files/documents/CD/CPR/CPR-VC-Designation-Benefits.pdf>

Respectfully Submitted,

Carrie Peters
Brent Smith
Emily Pratt
Steve Hart
Michael Nahmias
Ruth Meteer

Zoning Report 2019

In 2019 there were 16 successful Building permits issued. It is important to receive your building Permits Prior to the start of the Building process. If you don't apply for a permit prior to building, you may be subject to a daily fines by both the state of Vermont and the Town of Groton. Any structure larger than 100 square feet or changes the footprint of an existing structure needs to be permitted. Anyone applying for a Building Permit at one of the local lakes or Ponds needs to check to see if you need a State of Vermont Shoreline Protection Act Permit. Most building projects at Groton Pond require this prior to applying for a Town Building Permit. Also, if you are building a new home or changing your waste water discharge, you will need a State of Vermont Waste Water Discharge Permit. These can be obtained for the Agency of Natural Resources in ST. Johnsbury VT.

The State of Vermont increased the Building Permit Fee in 2019 to \$55.00 per permit. If you are applying for a Building Permit, you may not START construction until after the Permit is issued. This includes an on-site visit where pictures will be taken of the site and then the 15 day waiting period starts from the day of the inspection. The Permit will be displayed at the Construction Site until the project is completed. At that time, you will receive another visit to confirm the project is complete and more pictures may be taken.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions regarding you Building Permits or Zoning Regulations for the Town of Groton. You may also visit the Town of Groton website at:

www.grotonvt.com

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the Town of Groton as your Zoning Administrator.

Dan Webster

Town of Groton Zoning Administrator

1st Constable Report

In 2019, I provided the following Law Enforcement services as Groton's First Constable:

Patrol	351.25 hours
Training	76.00 hours
Court	8.25 hours
Miscellaneous	45.00 hours
Serving Papers	5.00 hours
Total	485.50 hours

During Patrol work, I issued:

Tickets	76
Written Warnings	205
VIN checks	45

As of, December 31 2019, the Town of Groton has received \$ 6130.48 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

1st Constable

GROTON COMMUNITY CLUB 2019

The Groton Community Club is open to all Groton residents and there are no dues. We try to meet twice a year. 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 1st Saturday of October under the direction of Peter Lyon. Next October we will celebrate the 65th 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. This year we had 7 graduating seniors in Groton. We also provided funding to the library for programs and planted flowers thru out the town.

This year the Community Club worked on behalf of the Doug Duckett family to establish a scholarship fund in honor of the late Doug "Ducky" Duckett. As a result we were able to give our graduating seniors an extra check from this fund to help with their college expenses. We now have established a Memory Fund that is in place for Doug Duckett and Pauline Oliver as well as others if someone so desires.

In addition we also sponsored the Groton High School Reunion. This is the first time we attempted this and it was very successful. Eighty Nine people attended. We will revisit this when reunion time comes around again in 3 years.

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

GROTON COMMUNITY CLUB**TREASURER'S REPORT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019**

Submitted by Roberta Dana, Community Club Treasurer

Income:		See note below:
Chicken Pie Supper Tickets	10,996.00	(1)
Donations	25.00	
Interest earned on checking account	9.03	
Total of Club Income	11,030.03	
Expenses:		
Awards Expense	57.75	
Chicken Pie Supper Expenses	5,850.02	
Flowers for Town	500.00	
Postage	110.00	
Reunion Expenses	1,756.30	(1)
Scholarships for 2019 Groton Graduates	1,200.00	
Total of Club expenses	9,474.07	
Net Income	1,555.96	
General Checking Account balance as of 12/31/19	11,748.49	(2)
Outstanding checks:	400.00	
Outstanding unpaid invoices	50.00	
Memorial Fund Donations:		(3)
Doug Duckett Memorial	300.00	
Pauline Oliver Memorial	60.00	
interest earned on Memorial Fund account	0.39	
Total of Memorial Funds Income	360.39	
Memorial Fund account balance per Bank	867.58	(3)

Notes:

(1) I believe some of the chicken pie income was reunion income but I never received any information from anyone so I cannot make an adjustment.

Without any notification to the Treasurer another signer was added to this checking account and I will not take any responsibility for their actions.

(3) This Memorial Fund account was opened by some club members without any notification to the Treasurer. The account does not even have the Treasurer as a signer on the account therefore I can only report information that I can get from the bank.

I do not take any responsibility for the Memorial Fund account!

Recreation Committee Report 2019

The Groton Recreation Committee has been very active in our Community in 2019!

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.

Village Banners have been replaced (for Free) due to discoloration. It appears that these banners will be the ones that will hold up in our climate. It would be wonderful if any committee, individual, or a group of people are interested in sponsoring seasonal banners. If interested, please contact someone on the recreation committee ... the cost for 1 banner is approximately \$100.00.

Recreation Activities and Community Events in 2019

January-March- Sixth season of Ladies (and Co-Ed) Beginner Floor Hockey. Approximately 23 men & women played throughout the season.

May 4th, 2019 – Green Up Day- Ice cream (sponsored by the Recreation Committee) was enjoyed by those returning bags filled with trash to the community building.

4 Thursdays July 11th – August 1st – Music in the Park – Our community was entertained by local musicians. These four events were co-sponsored by the recreation committee in conjunction with Artesano Meadery. Attendance was from 20 – 40 people each evening.

September 7th – Groton Forest Trail Run with Cross Vermont Trail. 6.5 and 15 mile trail runs in the Groton Forest. 125 people participated.

October 28th -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. There were over 50 children in attendance.

Oct. 12 – Nov. 23- Six Saturday mornings of group exercise instruction called "Bootcamp" by local trainer, Stephanie Bennett. Approximately 23 people attended, ages 8 to 80.

November – Four Saturday sessions of "Move Camp" were added due to popular demand for a lower impact group exercise program. Trainer Stephanie Bennett taught the class of about 5 regular attendees.

December 21st – Winter Solstice Celebration

The SD Ireland Holiday Cement Mixer returned on Saturday, at the community building. Children and families got to see Santa, enjoy a bounce house (sponsored by the Groton Recreation Committee), enjoy soups, and receive free children's books. Approximately 150 people attended.

Jan 5th 2020 - Community Christmas Tree Bonfire at Puffer field.

Committee Members:

Anne Hatch, Lisa Hart and Janet Page.

Groton Lunches w/ Friends

On Thursday, December 5, 2019, Groton Lunches w/ Friends celebrated the completion of its first year of service to the Groton Community.

We are an approved senior meal site, recognized by the state and sponsored by the Northeast Kingdom Council on Aging (NEKCOA). We serve lunch every Thursday at noon, and deliver Meals on Wheels to 11 qualified area residents.

Our monthly menus are advertised in the Bridge Weekly, and our local radio station, 101.3 WYKR.

We are fortunate to have a small but very dedicated volunteer staff who clocks over 300 hours of volunteer time each month. We are always appreciative of everything our volunteers offer our program and are open to including new volunteers at any time. 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.

Our weekly meals are served in the dining hall of the Groton United Methodist Church, accessible by chair lift if needed, and our doors are open from 10:00 AM until 2:00 for anyone who would like to come and socialize or enjoy any of the many activities that are available on site. We always have a puzzle going, along with cards, board games, cribbage, and even a Wii station with a variety of sports activities. There is also a book exchange which is supplemented by our local Groton Public Library.

The suggested donation for our meals is just \$3 for those who are 60 years of age or older and \$5 for all others. We have been blessed by the financial support from our town and from others in the community who believe in and continue to support what we are doing.

We are especially grateful to the 20 - 25 regular attendees who have supported us over this past year. We would love to see the number of community members attending our weekly meals increase, so please help us spread the word.

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

Jean Denson Pierce
GLWF Volunteer Coordinator

Groton Historical Society 2019 Report

In 2019 we hosted 5 historical programs, including A Walking Tour of Groton, Antique Tools and Toys, Genealogy, Noyes/Seyon Pond, and Native Americans in the Groton Area. Each program brought new folks to the Peter Paul House for refreshments and a chance to meet other people who enjoy local history.

One of those people was new member, Allen Goodine, who shared memories of his childhood in Groton. He grew up in the building which now houses Groton's Free Public Library. He also brought a copy of a Memoir written in 1954 by Johnny White. This wonderful collection of stories and events beginning in 1904, was transcribed and printed as a small booklet by the GHS.

Many new members were welcomed into the Society. Amongst the new members are Lise and Mark Shallberg. Lise now shares the secretary position with Phyllis Burke. Susan Pelkey Smith is the treasurer. With Dwaine Smith's expert help we are now accepting credit card payments for memberships, donations, and purchases.

While putting on the programs we realized that folks were having such a hard time getting into the Peter Paul House that they were just not coming! Consequently, we made our first big purchase in decades: a portable handicap accessible ramp!

All summer long, the Peter Paul House was treated to cleaning and reorganizing with tender loving care, spear-headed by Lise Shallberg. The kitchen cupboards are tidy and both bedrooms were vacuumed and dusted for the first time in years. The clothing collection was taken out of storage and photographed for documentation. Mark Shallberg updated the closets with new poles and the precious clothes were returned on padded hangers.

A lovely collection of Victorian ladies; undergarments was donated by Kelly Gaffney and her mother, Delores Hamlett. Phyllis Burke laundered, pressed and labeled them, and included other choice items from our existing collection, for a unique and beautiful exhibit on Fall Foliage Day.

Please become a member of the GHS. As a member you will receive, the unique cherished Newsletter, which is written by John Benzie, who grew up in Groton in the 1940's. You will also receive a discount on books and the calendar.

We are very proud of the GHS, self published, 2020 calendar. It contains images of the work of Groton artists, GHS founding members as well as historical photos of Groton and the Peter Paul House.

The biggest undertaking for the society will be the repair and painting of the Peter Paul House which is scheduled to begin in the spring of 2020.

The projected cost is \$12,000 and the work will be done over a 2 year period.

Approximately 10% of the total has been raised. We are asking for your help to accomplish this important task.

Item	Member price	Non member price	qty	total
Annual individual membership	\$15.00			
Annual family membership	\$35.00			
Lifetime membership	\$150.00			
Mr. Glover's Groton	\$30.00	\$35.00		
Mr. Glover's Childhood	\$15.00	\$20.00		
Seth Eastman Civil War Journal	\$15.00	\$20.00		
Johnny White 1900's Memoir	\$5.00	\$5.00		
2020 Calendar	\$12.00	\$15.00		
Shipping for each order shipped to a single address. Please add \$7.00 for additional addresses	\$7.00			
Total				

We're pleased to announce that we have a new billing solution that allows you to securely pay for dues, materials or donations using all major credit cards or directly from your bank account.

Please send us your order and/or donation pledge amount via email grotonvthistory@gmail.com

We will email invoice to you with a link to click and pay via the method of your choosing.

Or send a check payable to GHS, PO Box 89, Groton, VT 05046

We hope to hear from you soon and meet you at the Peter Paul House someday,

Deborah Jurist – President

Groton Food Shelf

A special heart felt thank you to all that gave donations and their time in 2019 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 distributed Thanksgiving meal baskets and Christmas meal baskets with all the fixings right through dessert for completing holiday meals.

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

There were donations made in memory of Norman & Marion Murray by Judith Thrasher.

Donations were received from:

Harry and Judith Chandler
Paul Clark
Judy Gandin
Fred Olsen
Logan Oliver & Harley Davis
Diane Kreis
Juelle Lamberton
Alan Massey & Kirsten Murch
Nicholas & Holly McLure
Linda and Nicholas Smith
Nicole Wolfgang and family

Ryegate Church Groups
The Red Hat Ladies
Groton Methodist Church
Groton Baptist Church
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 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

Groton Food Shelf Report- 2019

NOTE: This account is not funded by taxpayer dollars
These funds are from donations only
This account is under the Town Federal Tax Id #

Food Shelf Account

Bank account balance 12/31/18	9,474.47
Revenues:	
Interest received on bank account	5.28
Donations received (cash & checks)*	
*(does not include value of food/toys/clothes donated)	2,669.00
Total Donations	2,674.28
Disbursements:	
Groceries and Misc items	1,773.88
Total Disbursements	
Bank account balance 12/31/19	10,374.87

Groton Food Shelf Funds

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. **Balance \$10,374.87**

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.

NEK Community Broadband - Commonly Asked Questions

- **What is a CUD?**
 - CUD is a Communications Union District, allowing two or more towns to bond together as a municipal entity for a means of building communication infrastructure together. For more see Title 30: Public Service, Chapter 82: Communications Union Districts in Vermont state statutes.
- **When do selectboards need to vote to add the CUD question to town meeting 2020 ballot?**
 - We would encourage selectboards to make a decision on whether to add the CUD question to the ballot by/during the December 2019 select board meeting.
- **What is the cost to the taxpayer and town?**
 - The taxpayer and town are not required to pay anything to be a part of the communications union district. A CUD may ask the town to provide space for a communications plant used to store fiber optic cable, electronics and other assets required to operate the towns network.
- **Is the taxpayer or town liable if the CUD goes belly up?**
 - The state statute (specifically - § 3056. Limitations; taxes; indebtedness and § 3083. Dissolution) make it quite clear that the taxpayer and towns may not be held liable in anyway for the debts of the CUD.
 - All fiber assets and built infrastructure of the CUD are liable to seizure.
- **How does a town join the CUD?**
 - A town can join a CUD in two ways:
 - The initial CUD must be established through a town meeting day vote, where all initial member towns vote to form municipality.
 - After initial CUD is formed a member town can be added through a selectboard vote or another town meeting day vote
- **Can a town withdraw from the CUD?**
 - A town can withdraw through the same means in which they joined the CUD (i.e a town meeting day vote or selectboard vote if the town joined after the CUD was initially formed.).
 - All assets in town that are built by the CUD remain an asset of the CUD though customers within that town can still receive internet services.
- **Where can I learn more about the CUD?**
 - The full text of the state statute is available here:
<https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/chapter/30/082>
- **How many towns are in the NEK Community Broadband CUD?**
 - As of January 13th, 2020 there were 27 towns in the NEK planning to vote to join the CUD. Additional towns may be added after the initial CUD creation.

For more information about the NEK Community Broadband Project contact:

evan@hjalmarcarlson.com
katherine@nekcollaborative.org

HOMESTEAD DECLARATION

Overview

By Vermont law, property owners whose homes meet the *definition of a Vermont homestead must file* a Homestead Declaration annually by the April filing deadline. If eligible, it is important that you file so that you are correctly assessed the homestead tax rate on your property. Here is the information you as the property owner need to know about the Vermont Homestead Declaration.

In Vermont, all property is subject to education property tax to pay for the state's schools. For this purpose, property is categorized as either nonhomestead or homestead. A homestead is the principal dwelling and parcel of land surrounding the dwelling, owned and occupied by the resident as the person's *domicile*.

All property is considered nonhomestead (formerly "nonresidential"), unless it is declared as a homestead. The education property tax rate levied on nonhomestead property differs from the rate levied on homestead property. It is your responsibility as the property owner to claim the property as a homestead if you meet, or expect to meet, the following requirements:

- You are a Vermont resident
- You own and occupy a homestead as your domicile as of April 1, **2020**

Please note: If you meet these requirements, except that your homestead is leased to a tenant on April 1, **2020**, **you** may still claim it as a homestead if it is not leased for more than 182 days in the **2020** calendar year.

Nonhomestead Property

Property is considered nonhomestead if one of the following applies:

- Your property is leased for more than 182 days out of the calendar year.
- The property is used exclusively for a commercial, including rental, purpose.
- The property is used for a second home, camp, vacation, or summer cottage.

How to File

Online

Taxpayers may file returns using myVTax, a free, secure, online filing site.

Paper Returns

If you cannot file and pay through myVTax, you may still use the paper forms. The Homestead Declaration is filed using Form HS-122, the Homestead Declaration and Property Tax Credit.

Veterans Exemption

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 the Town Clerks office or go to www.veterans.vt.gov for more information.

VOTERS ONLINE REGISTRATION

Beginning January 1, 2017, eligible persons may register to vote on any day up to and including the day of the election.

Registration is available during all normal business hours of your town or city clerk's office on day's preceding the election and during polling hours on Election Day. 17 V.S.A. § 2144

The Elections Division will forward applications (and early or absentee ballot requests) to the appropriate town or city clerk for action, but we recommend submitting applications directly to your town or city clerk.

We encourage voters to log into their My Voter Page: <https://mvp.sec.state.vt.us/>

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

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

VT Department of Health

Changes to birth and death certificates in Vermont as of July 2019

Effective July 1, 2019 changes to the Vermont statutes will enhance the safety and security of birth and death certificates. These changes protect against misuse of these legal documents and reduce the potential for identity theft. Additionally, the changes streamline the statewide system for creating, storing and tracking birth and death certificates.

What You Need to Know

- Only family members, legal guardians, certain court-appointed parties or their legal representatives can apply for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate. For death certificates, a funeral home or crematorium may apply for a certified copy.
- Applicants must show valid identification when applying for a certified copy of a birth or death certificate.
- Certified copies of birth and death certificates can be ordered from any town in Vermont.
- No changes to ordering system for copies of marriage, civil union, divorce or dissolution certificates, but minor changes to what you need to do to obtain a marriage license.

Where you can apply for certified copies of birth and death certificates:

- Any Vermont Town or City Clerk's office
- Online at secure.vermont.gov/VSARA/vitalrecords
- Vermont State Archives and Records Administration (VSARA)
- Vermont Health Department's Vital Records Office

Some vital record information is available online. If you are doing genealogy or family research, visit the Secretary of State's Vital Records page.

2019 VITAL RECORDS

BIRTHS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Father's Name</u>	<u>Mother's Name</u>
Carpenter, Caroline Jean	Anthony Leon Carpenter	Britany Lynn Carpenter
Cochran, Brooklyn Nanatta	Travis Charles Cochran	Crystal Dawn Daniels
Robinson, Harper Jean-Everly	Mathhias Robert Robinson	Kahlee Elizabeth Sargent
Fulford, Hadley Grace	Mason Allen Fulford	Emily Jeanne Russo
Edson, Aubree Elaine		Katelyn Marie Edson
Rowe, Jackson Francis	Jeffery Francis Rowe	Megan Rae Foy
Rogers, Alayna Yvonne	Cary James Rogers	Jennifer Anne Rogers

CIVIL MARRIAGES

<u>Applicant A</u>	<u>Applicant B</u>	<u>Date</u>
Webb, Brittany A	Williams, Brett S	February 3, 2019
Fullerton, Chelsea Marie	Lizotte, Lewis Edward	June 9, 2019
Lyman, Amanda Mae	Woodworth, Devyn Aaron-James	June 28, 2019
White, Hanna Mae	Crum, Gregory Ryan	July 7, 2019
Reader, Oreste Shawn	Barton, Brandie Lee	July 27, 2019
Winget, Samantha Jo	Page, Willis Deane	September 14, 2019
Colby, Curtis Richard	Wilcox, Michelle Dawn	December 28, 2019

DEATHS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>
Haskell, Kent Hawthorne	87 Yrs
Bloom, Arthur William	91 Yrs
Oliver, Pauline Mae	74 Yrs
Darling, Louise M	70 yrs
Wilson, Albert Gene	78 Yrs
Robinson, Alana Beth	64 Yrs
Webster, Betty Jean	86 Yrs
Sanville, Rosalie Francina	68 Yrs
LaRosa, Elaine	85 Yrs
Ruiter, Marilyn Ginnette Hatch	81 Yrs
Boucher, William Patrick	64 Yrs
Bailey, Norman John	78 Yrs
Darling, Sheila Agnes	93 Yrs
Page, Georgiana	79 Yrs

RABIES CLINIC

Date: March 18, 2020

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, 2020 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 1st

Altered Male or Female Dogs - \$10.00 by April 1st

After April 1st additional fees will be added

VERMONT STATE LAW

In accordance with VSA 20 (3581) all Dogs shall be licensed by April 1st 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–3:00 pm

Contact the Town Clerk (584-3276) to register your Dog(s).