#### NOTICE OF SALE

# TOWN OF GROTON, CONNECTICUT \$11,200,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES BOOK-ENTRY-ONLY

NOTICE IS GIVEN that ELECTRONIC BIDS via *PARITY*® (as described herein) will be received by the TOWN OF GROTON, CONNECTICUT (the "Issuer"), until 11:30 A.M. (EASTERN TIME) on THURSDAY,

#### APRIL 11, 2024

(the "Sale Date") for the purchase of the Issuer's \$11,200,000 General Obligation Bond Anticipation Notes (the "Notes"). Electronic bids must be submitted via *PARITY*® (see "Electronic Bidding Procedures").

#### The Notes

The Notes are expected to be dated April 25, 2024 and will mature and be payable to the registered owner on April 24, 2025 as further described in the Preliminary Official Statement (as hereinafter defined). The Notes will bear interest (which interest shall be calculated on the basis of a 360-day year consisting of twelve 30-day months) payable at maturity at the rate or rates per annum fixed in the proposal or proposals accepted for their purchase, which rates shall be in multiples of 1/100 of 1% per annum.

#### **Nature of Obligation**

The Notes will constitute general obligations of the Issuer, and the Issuer will pledge its full faith and credit to pay the principal of and interest on the Notes when due. Unless paid from other sources, the Notes are payable from ad valorem taxes which may be levied on all taxable property subject to taxation by the Issuer without limit as to rate or amount except as to classified property such as certified forest lands taxable at a limited rate and dwelling houses of qualified elderly persons of low income or of qualified disabled persons taxable at limited amounts pursuant to provisions of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended. The information in this Notice of Sale is only a brief summary of certain provisions of the Notes. For further information about the Notes, reference is hereby made to the Preliminary Official Statement.

#### **Bank Qualification**

The Notes SHALL NOT be designated by the Issuer as qualified tax exempt obligations under the provisions of Section 265(b)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 for purposes of the deduction by financial institutions for interest expense allocable to the Notes.

#### Registration

The Notes will be issued by means of a book-entry system with no physical distribution of note certificates made to the public. The Notes will be issued in registered form and one note certificate for each interest rate will be issued to The Depository Trust Company ("DTC"), New York, New York, registered in the name of its nominee, Cede & Co., and immobilized in its custody. A book-entry system will be employed, evidencing ownership of the Notes in principal amounts of \$5,000 or any integral multiple thereof, with transfers of ownership effected on the records of DTC and its participants pursuant to rules and procedures adopted by DTC and its participants. The purchaser(s), as a condition to delivery of the Notes, will be required to deposit the Note certificates with DTC, registered in the name of Cede & Co. Principal of and interest on the Notes will be payable by the Issuer or its agent to DTC or its nominee as registered owner of the Notes. Principal and interest payments by DTC to participants of DTC will be the responsibility of DTC; principal and interest payments to beneficial owners by participants of DTC will be the responsibility of such participants and other nominees of beneficial owners. The Issuer will not be responsible or liable for payments by DTC to its participants or by DTC participants or indirect participants to beneficial owners or for maintaining, supervising or reviewing the records maintained by DTC, its participants or persons acting through such participants. Upon receipt from the Issuer, the Paying Agent will pay principal of and interest on the Notes directly to DTC so long as DTC or its nominee, Cede & Co, is the Noteholder.

# Bid Specifications; Basis of Award; Right to Reject Proposals; Waiver; Postponement; Change of Terms

Each bid for the purchase of the Notes must be in accordance with the requirements prescribed herein. A proposal may be for all or any part of the Notes but any proposal for a part must be for at least \$100,000, or a whole multiple thereof, and a separate proposal will be required for each part of the Notes for which a separate interest rate is bid. Unless all bids are rejected, the Notes will be awarded to the bidder or bidders offering to purchase the Notes at the lowest <u>net interest cost</u> ("NIC"), computed as to each interest rate stated by adding the total interest which will be paid at such rate and deducting therefrom the premium offered, if any. As between proposals resulting in the same lowest net interest cost to the Issuer, the award will be made on the basis of the highest principal amount of the Notes specified. No bid for less than par and accrued interest, if any, will be considered and the Issuer reserves the right to award to any bidder all or any part of the Notes bid for in its proposal. If a bidder is awarded only a part of the Notes bid for in its proposal, any premium offered in such proposal will be proportionately reduced so that the resulting net interest cost to the Issuer with respect to the Notes awarded is the same as that contained in the bidder's proposal with respect to the entire amount bid, carried to six decimal places. The purchase price must be paid in immediately available federal funds.

The right is reserved to reject any and all proposals and to reject any proposal not complying with this Notice of Sale and to waive any irregularity or informality with respect to any proposal.

The Issuer further reserves the right to postpone the sale to another time and date in its sole discretion for any reason, including Internet difficulties. The Issuer will use its best efforts

to notify prospective bidders in a timely manner of any need for a postponement. Upon the establishment of an alternative sale date, any bidder may submit proposals for the purchase of the Notes in accordance with the provisions of this Notice of Sale.

# **Electronic Bidding Procedures**

Any prospective bidder intending to submit an electronic bid must submit its electronic bid through the facilities of  $PARITY^{(B)}$ . Subscription to i-Deal LLC's BiDCOMP Competitive Bidding System is required in order to submit an electronic bid and the Issuer will neither confirm any subscription nor be responsible for the failure of any prospective bidder to subscribe.

An electronic bid made through the facilities of **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> shall be deemed an irrevocable offer to purchase the Notes on the terms provided in this Notice of Sale, and shall be binding upon the bidder as if made by a signed, sealed bid delivered to the Issuer. By submitting a bid for the Notes via **PARITY**<sup>®</sup>, the bidder represents and warrants to the Issuer that such bidder's bid for the purchase of the Notes is submitted for and on behalf of such prospective bidder by an officer or agent who is duly authorized to bind the prospective bidder by an irrevocable offer and that acceptance of such bid by the Issuer will bind the bidder by a legal, valid and enforceable contract, for the purchase of the Notes on the terms described in this Notice of Sale. **The Issuer shall not be responsible for any malfunction or mistake made by, or as a result of the use of the facilities of PARITY**<sup>®</sup>, the use of **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> facilities being the sole risk of the prospective bidder. Each Bidder is solely responsible for knowing the terms of the sale as set forth herein.

If any provisions of this Notice of Sale shall conflict with information provided by **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> as the approved provider of electronic bidding services, this Notice of Sale shall control. Further information about **PARITY**<sup>®</sup>, including any fee charged, may be obtained from **PARITY**<sup>®</sup>, 1359 Broadway, 36<sup>th</sup> Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10018, Attention: Customer Service Department (telephone: (212) 849-5021 - email notice: <u>www.parity@i-deal.com</u>.

For purposes of the electronic bidding process, the time as maintained by *PARITY*<sup>®</sup> shall constitute the official time. For information purposes only, bidders are requested to state in their bids the net interest cost to the Issuer, as described under "Bid Specifications; Basis of Award; Right to Reject Proposals; Waiver; Postponement; Change of Terms" above. All electronic bids shall be deemed to incorporate the provisions of this Notice of Sale.

**Disclaimer.** Each **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> prospective electronic bidder shall be solely responsible to make necessary arrangements to access **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> for the purposes of submitting its bid in a timely manner and in compliance with the requirements of this Notice of Sale. Neither the Issuer nor **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> shall have any duty or obligation to undertake such arrangements to bid for any prospective bidder or to provide or assure such access to any prospective bidder, and neither the Issuer nor **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> shall be responsible for a bidder's failure to make a bid or for proper operation of, or have any liability for any delays or interruptions of, or any damages caused by, **PARITY**<sup>®</sup>. The Issuer is using **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> as a communication mechanism, and not as the Issuer's

agent, to conduct the electronic bidding for the Notes. The Issuer is not bound by any advice and determination of **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> to the effect that any particular bid complies with the terms of this Notice of Sale and in particular the bid requirements herein set forth. All costs and expenses incurred by prospective bidders in connection with their subscription to, arrangements with and submission of bids via **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> are the sole responsibility of the bidders; and the Issuer is not responsible, directly or indirectly, for any such costs or expenses. If a prospective bidder encounters any difficulty in arranging to bid or submitting, modifying or withdrawing a bid for the Notes, the prospective bidder should telephone **PARITY**<sup>®</sup> at (212) 849-5021.

## **CUSIP** Numbers

The deposit of the Notes with DTC under a book-entry system requires the assignment of CUSIP numbers prior to delivery. It shall be the responsibility of the purchaser to apply for CUSIP numbers for the Notes prior to delivery. Neither the failure to print such CUSIP number on any note, nor any error with respect thereto, shall constitute cause for a failure or refusal by the purchaser thereof to accept delivery of and pay for the Notes. All expenses in relation to the printing of CUSIP numbers on the Notes shall be paid for by the Issuer; provided, however, that the Issuer assumes no responsibility for any CUSIP Service Bureau charge or other charge that may be imposed for the assignment of such numbers, which charges shall be the responsibility of and shall be paid for by the purchaser.

# Certifying Agent, Registrar, Paying Agent and Transfer Agent

The Notes will be authenticated by U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, Hartford, Connecticut. U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association will also act as Registrar, Paying Agent and Transfer Agent.

# **Delivery, Payment and Closing Requirements**

At or prior to the delivery of the Notes the winning bidder shall be furnished, without cost, with (a) the approving opinion of Pullman & Comley, LLC of Hartford, Connecticut, Bond Counsel ("Bond Counsel"); (b) a signature and no litigation certificate, in form satisfactory to said firm, dated as of the date of delivery of the Notes, and stating that there is no litigation pending, or to the knowledge of the signer or signers thereof threatened, affecting the validity of the Notes or the power of the Issuer to levy and collect taxes to pay them; (c) a copy of the Official Statement prepared for this note issue; (d) a certificate of Issuer Officials relating to the accuracy and completeness of the Official Statement; (e) a Continuing Disclosure Agreement; and (f) a receipt of payment for the Notes.

The Notes will be delivered against payment in immediately available federal funds through the facilities of DTC, New York, New York or its agent via Fast Automated Securities Transfer ("FAST") on or about April 25, 2024 (the "Closing Date").

The Issuer will have no responsibility to pay for any expenses of the purchaser except to the extent specifically stated in this Notice of Sale. The purchaser will have no responsibility to pay for any of the Issuer's costs of issuance except to the extent specifically stated in this Notice of Sale. The purchaser will be responsible for the clearance or exemption with respect to the status of the Notes for sale under securities or "Blue Sky" laws and the preparation of any surveys or memoranda in connection with such sale. The Issuer shall have no responsibility for such clearance, exemption or preparation.

## **Bond Counsel Opinion**

The legality of the issue will be passed upon by Pullman & Comley, LLC of Hartford, Connecticut, Bond Counsel, and the purchaser will be furnished with its opinion, without charge, substantially in the form set forth in Appendix B to the Official Statement. The opinion will state that the Notes are valid and binding obligations of the Issuer. Bond Counsel will require as a precondition to release of its opinion that the purchaser of such Notes deliver to it a completed "issue price" certificate, or similar certificate, regarding expectations or public offering prices, as applicable, with respect to the Notes awarded to such bidder, as described below under "Establishment of Issue Price". In rendering such legal opinion, Pullman & Comley, LLC will rely upon and assume the material accuracy of the representations and statements of expectation contained in the Tax Regulatory Agreement entered into by the Issuer for the benefit of the owners of the Notes, and further, will assume compliance by the Issuer with the covenants and procedures set forth in such Tax Regulatory Agreement.

## **Establishment of Issue Price**

In order to provide the Issuer with information that enables it to comply with certain requirements of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (the "Code") relating to the exclusion of interest on the Notes from the gross income of their owners, the winning bidder will be required to complete, execute, and deliver to the Issuer at or prior to the delivery of the Notes an "issue price" or similar certificate setting forth the reasonably expected initial offering price to the Public (the "Initial Offering Price") or the actual sales price or prices of the Notes, as circumstances may determine, together with the supporting pricing wires or equivalent communications, with such modifications as may be appropriate or necessary, in the reasonable judgment of Bond Counsel. Communications relating to this "Establishment of Issue Price" section, the completed certificate(s) and any supporting information shall be delivered to (1) Bond Counsel at Glenn G. Rybacki, Esq., Pullman & Comley, LLC, 90 State House Square, Hartford, CT 06103, Telephone: (860) 424-4391, E-mail: grybacki@pullcom.com and (2) the Municipal Advisor at William Lindsay, Munistat Services, Inc., 129 Samson Rock Drive, Suite A, Madison, CT 06443, Telephone: (203) 421-2880, E-mail: Bill.Lindsay@munistat.com (the "Municipal Advisor"). Questions related to this "Establishment of Issue Price" section should be directed to Bond Counsel or the Municipal Advisor. For purposes of this "Establishment of Issue Price" section, Bond Counsel may act on behalf of the Issuer and the Municipal Advisor may act on behalf of the Issuer.

By submitting a bid, each bidder is certifying that its bid is a firm offer to purchase the Notes, is a good faith offer which the bidder believes reflects current market conditions, and is not a "courtesy bid" being submitted for the purpose of assisting in meeting the competitive sale requirements relating to the establishment of the "issue price" of the Notes pursuant to Section 148 of the Code, including the requirement that bids be received from at least three (3)

underwriters of municipal bonds or notes who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds or notes.

By submitting a bid, a bidder represents to the Issuer that it has an established industry reputation for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds or notes such as the Notes, represents that such bidder's bid is submitted for or on behalf of such bidder by an officer or agent who is duly authorized to bind the bidder to a legal, valid and enforceable contract for the purchase of the Notes, and understands that upon award by the Issuer that this Notice of Sale constitutes a written contract between such bidder, as winning bidder, and the Issuer.

By submitting a bid, the bidder agrees that if the Competitive Sale Rule (as set forth below) is not met, it will satisfy either the Actual Sales Rule (as set forth below) or the Hold-the-Offering-Price Rule (as set forth below).

Bids will not be subject to cancellation in the event that the competitive sale requirements are not satisfied.

*Notification of Contact Information of Winning Bidder*. Promptly upon award, the winning bidder shall notify the Municipal Advisor and Bond Counsel of the contact name, telephone number and e-mail address of the person(s) of the winning bidder for purposes of communications concerning this "Establishment of Issue Price" section.

**Competitive Sale Rule**. The Issuer intends that the provisions of Treasury Regulations Section 1.148-1(f)(3)(i) (defining "competitive sale" for purposes of establishing the issue price of the Notes) will apply to the initial sale of the Notes (the "Competitive Sale Rule") because:

- (1) the Issuer shall disseminate, or have disseminated on its behalf, this Notice of Sale to potential bidders in a manner that is reasonably designed to reach potential bidders;
- (2) all bidders shall have an equal opportunity to bid;
- (3) the Issuer anticipates receiving bids from at least three underwriters of municipal bonds or notes who have established industry reputations for underwriting new issuances of municipal bonds or notes; and
- (4) the Issuer anticipates awarding the sale of the Notes to the bidder who submits a firm offer to purchase the Notes at the lowest <u>net interest cost</u>, as set forth in this Notice of Sale.

*Competitive Sale Rule Met*. The Issuer, or the Municipal Advisor on behalf of the Issuer, shall at the time of award advise the winning bidder if the Competitive Sale Rule has been met. The winning bidder will be required to deliver to Bond Counsel on behalf of the Issuer prior to the delivery of the Notes a completed "Certificate as to Issue Price" (in form satisfactory to Bond Counsel) for such Notes, setting forth the Initial Offering Price.

**Competitive Sale Rule Not Met.** In the event that the Competitive Sale Rule is not satisfied, the Issuer, or the Municipal Advisor on behalf of the Issuer, shall at the time of award advise the winning bidder. The Issuer may determine to treat (i) the first price at which ten percent (10%) of a Maturity of the Notes (the "Actual Sales Rule") is sold to the Public as the issue price of that Maturity, and/or (ii) the Initial Offering Price to the Public as of the Sale Date of any Maturity of the Notes as the issue price of that Maturity (the "Hold-the-Offering-Price Rule"), in each case applied on a Maturity-by-Maturity basis. In the event that the Competitive Sale Rule is not satisfied, the winning bidder, by 4:30 p.m. (EASTERN TIME) on the Sale Date, shall notify and provide, via e-mail, Bond Counsel and the Municipal Advisor (I) of the first price at which ten percent (10%) of each Maturity has been sold to the Public and (II) reasonable supporting documentation or certifications of such price the form of which is acceptable to Bond Counsel; i.e., those Maturities that satisfy the Actual Sales Rule as of the Sale Date. After such receipt, the Issuer, or Bond Counsel on behalf of the Issuer, shall promptly confirm with the winning bidder, via e-mail, which Maturities of the Notes shall be subject to the Actual Sales Rule and which Maturities shall be subject to the Hold-the-Offering-Price Rule.

For those Maturities of Notes subject to the Hold-the-Offering-Price Rule, the winning bidder shall (i) provide Bond Counsel (via e-mail) a copy of pricing wire or equivalent communication for the Notes (ii) confirm that each Underwriter (as defined below) has offered or will offer all of the Notes to the Public on or before the date of award at the Initial Offering Prices and (ii) agree, on behalf of each Underwriter participating in the purchase of the Notes, that each Underwriter will neither offer nor sell unsold Notes of any Maturity to which the Hold-the-Offering-Price Rule shall apply to any person at a price that is higher than the Initial Offering Price for such Maturity during the period starting on the Sale Date and ending on the earlier of the following:

- (1) the close of the fifth (5th) business day after the Sale Date; or
- (2) the date on which the Underwriters have sold at least ten percent (10%) of that Maturity of the Notes to the Public at a price that is no higher than the Initial Offering Price.

The winning bidder shall promptly advise Bond Counsel and the Municipal Advisor, via e-mail, when the Underwriters have sold ten percent (10%) of that Maturity of the Notes to the Public at a price that is no higher than the Initial Offering Price, if that occurs prior to the close of the fifth (5th) business day after the Sale Date.

By submitting a bid, each bidder confirms that: (i) any agreement among underwriters, any selling group agreement and each third-party distribution agreement (to which the bidder is a party) relating to the initial sale of the Notes to the Public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each Underwriter, each dealer who is a member of the selling group, and each broker-dealer that is a party to such third-party distribution agreement, as applicable, to (A) report the prices at which it sells to the Public the unsold Notes of each Maturity allotted to it until it is notified by the winning bidder that either the Actual Sales Rule has been satisfied as to the Notes of that Maturity or all Notes of that Maturity have been sold to the Public and (B) comply with the Hold-the-Offering-Price Rule, if

applicable, in each case if and for so long as directed by the winning bidder and as set forth in the related pricing wires, and (ii) any agreement among underwriters relating to the initial sale of the Notes to the Public, together with the related pricing wires, contains or will contain language obligating each Underwriter that is a party to a third-party distribution agreement to be employed in connection with the initial sale of the Notes to the Public to require each broker-dealer that is a party to such third-party distribution agreement to (A) report the prices at which it sells to the Public the unsold Notes of each Maturity allotted to it until it is notified by the winning bidder or such Underwriter that either the Actual Sales Rule has been satisfied as to the Notes of that Maturity or all Notes of that Maturity have been sold to the Public and (B) comply with the Hold-the-Offering-Price Rule, if applicable, in each case if and for so long as directed by the winning bidder or such Underwriter and as set forth in the related pricing wires.

Sales of any Notes to any person that is a Related Party (as defined below) to an Underwriter shall not constitute sales to the Public for purposes of this Notice of Sale.

*Definitions*. For purposes of this "Establishment of Issue Price" section:

- (1) "Maturity" means Notes with the same credit and payment terms. Notes with the same maturity date but different stated interest rates, are treated as separate Maturities.
- (2) "Public" means any person (including an individual, trust, estate, partnership, association, company, or corporation) other than an Underwriter or a Related Party to an Underwriter.
- (3) "Related Party" generally means any two or more persons who have greater than 50% common ownership, directly or indirectly.
- (4) "Underwriter" means (i) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract with the Issuer (or with the lead Underwriter to form an underwriting syndicate) to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public, and (ii) any person that agrees pursuant to a written contract directly or indirectly with a person described in clause (i) of this definition to participate in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public (including a member of a selling group or a party to a third-party distribution agreement participating in the initial sale of the Notes to the Public).

# **Official Statement**

For more information regarding the Notes or the Issuer, reference is made to the Preliminary Official Statement dated April 4, 2024 (the "Official Statement") describing the Notes and the financial condition of the Issuer. The Preliminary Official Statement is available in electronic format at <u>www.i-dealprospectus.com</u> and <u>www.munistat.com</u>, and such electronic access is being provided as a matter of convenience only. Copies of the Preliminary Official Statement may be obtained from William Lindsay, Munistat Services, Inc., 129 Samson Rock Drive, Suite A, Madison, CT 06443, Telephone: (203) 421-2880, E-mail:

Bill.Lindsay@munistat.com. The Issuer deems such Official Statement to be a final official statement for purposes of complying with Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-12 (the "Rule"), but such Official Statement is subject to revision or amendment as appropriate. The Issuer will make available to the purchaser a reasonable number of copies of the final Official Statement at the Issuer's expense, and the final Official Statement will be made available to the purchaser by no later than the earlier of the delivery of the Notes or by the seventh (7th) business day after the day bids on the Notes are received. If the Issuer's Municipal Advisor, is provided with the necessary information from the purchaser by 12:00 o'clock noon on the day after the Sale Date, the copies of the final Official Statement will include an additional cover page and other pages, if necessary, indicating the interest rates, rating(s), yields or reoffering prices and the name of the managing underwriter of the Notes, and any corrections. The purchaser shall arrange with the Municipal Advisor the method of delivery of the copies of the final Official Statement to the purchaser. Additional copies of the final Official Statement may be obtained by the purchaser at its own expense by arrangement with the printer.

# **Continuing Disclosure Agreement**

As required by the Rule, the Issuer will undertake, pursuant to a Continuing Disclosure Agreement (the "Agreement"), to provide notice of the occurrence of certain events with respect to the Notes within ten (10) business days of such event. A form of the Agreement is attached to the Official Statement as <u>Appendix C</u>. The purchaser's obligation to purchase the Notes shall be conditioned upon its receiving, at or prior to delivery of the Notes, an executed Agreement.

# TOWN OF GROTON, CONNECTICUT

JOHN M. BURT Town Manager

DELIA E. MORRISON Director of Finance

April 4, 2024