

**GROTON SEWER COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF January 22, 2015 MEETING  
2:30 PM – TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

Commission Chair James Gmeiner called the meeting of the Sewer Commission to order at 2:30 P.M. Also present were the Vice Chairman, Thomas Orcutt and Clerk, Thomas Hartnett. Minutes were taken by Ruth Stevens, Water/Sewer Assistant.

**Letter Request Review – Board of Health Ch. 190**

Mr. Orcutt updated the BOSC with regards to an email (see attached) that was received from the Groton Board of Health requesting that a letter (see attached) to all applicable CHP 190 properties be sent out by the Sewer Department on their behalf in order to remind those residents of their obligation in connecting to the municipal sewer system. The Commissioners discussed the low response, thus far, from the original letter that was mailed out back in September of 2014, which was in accordance with the Mandatory Sewer Connection Bylaw. Mr. Hartnett commented that he did not believe that the BOSC is the “enforcing authority” in this matter. Mr. Orcutt questioned as to why the BOH would want another letter sent out with only 3 weeks left for the Chapter 190 property owners to comply. After further discussion by the Board, Mr. Gmeiner suggested that Mr. Orcutt would respond to Ms. Beausoleil and Mr. Grossman and the GBOH in an e-mail stating the BOSC feels that they have already met their obligations in this matter. The entire BOSC was in agreement.

**Pepperell Plant Modifications @ Partridgeberry Woods**

Mr. Orcutt notified the board that he had received a proposal from Woodard and Curran (see attached) involving the pricing for the purchase of a Pressure Transducer to be installed at Partridgeberry Woods so that Pepperell Treatment could remotely monitor the site. Mr. Gmeiner was agreeable to getting the technology there if it was going to reduce the number of visits from Pepperell which would save the BOSC money. He thought it was a good idea to look into it further. Mr. Orcutt agreed and said that he would further investigate the matter and get other pricing.

**Annual Town Report Submission Review**

The BOSC reviewed it's submission for the 2014 Annual Town Report and unanimously voted to forward it to the Town Manager's Assistant, Dawn Dunbar.

**Reminders**

Mr. Gmeiner reminded the BOSC that he would most likely be speaking regarding the Pepperell Upgrade at the Finance Committee Meeting this Saturday, January 24, 2015. He requested that April Iannacone provide him with a debt schedule for a Dollar Amount so that he could address the 50/50 split for capacity issue with the Town of Groton at the meeting.

**Other Business**

The Commissioners reviewed an application for abatement of sewer use charges (see attached) that was submitted by Anthony Koitman of 102 Nod Road. The reason Mr. Koitman requested the

abatement was due to the fact that he has Sewer service and had filled his swimming pool for the summer. This resulted in his sewer charges being unusually high, since they are based on the water consumption. He felt he was entitled to an abatement due to the fact that the water used for filling the pool was never drained through the sewer. The BOSC discussed this issue and Mr. Gmeiner mentioned that there needs to be some kind of formal compliance going forward in this regard. He suggested that a note be added to the Water/Sewer bills before the summer months stating that if you have Sewer Service *and* a pool, call the office and get a meter reading before filling the pool or they will have to install a second meter. Mr. Hartnett made a motion to approve the abatement. The board voted unanimously to approve the abatement, under the stipulation that a letter accompany it stating that "this letter will serve as a *one-time-abatement* and in the future, they must follow the above mentioned procedure."

#### **BILLS SIGNED**

EW-16 Bills and/or Invoices were signed for payment at this meeting.

#### **Minutes:**

There were no minutes approved at this meeting.

#### **ADJOURN**

Mr. Hartnett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 P.M. Mr. Orcutt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Stevens  
Assistant  
Water and Sewer Departments