

**GROTON SEWER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF February 18, 2015 MEETING
2:30 PM – TOWN HALL**

MINUTES

Commission Chair James Gmeiner called the meeting of the Sewer Commission to order at 2:35 P.M. Also present were the Clerk, Thomas Hartnett and Business Manager, April Iannacone. Vice Chairman, Thomas Orcutt was unable to attend. Minutes were taken by Ruth Stevens, Water/Sewer Assistant.

Discussion of Town Meeting Article for E& D Transfer/Financials

Ms. Iannacone presented the BOSC with a Sewer Operations Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual Sheet representing the first 7 months of FY15 (see attached). She noted that there was a surplus of \$56,467.29, but also stated that the estimated projected income of \$200,000.00 for Sewer Rates (see attached) was “being hopeful,” since last year’s actual income was only \$169,000. She also mentioned that part of the reason Rate Income could turn out to be lower than projected was due to the fact of loss of business from the Groton Inn, which will eventually be recouped. Also, she said the return of business at 134 Main Street should help increase Rate Income as units are sold going forward. Due to these rate projections as well as high Pepperell Treatment bills with Spring I&I, she believes there will most likely be a deficit at the end of the fiscal year. Overall, Ms. Iannacone recommended the sum of \$75,000 to be transferred from E&D into the Operating Budget, just to be safe. Mr. Gmeiner requested that Ms. Iannacone contact Carmen from Pepperell and get the last couple of years’ Spring flow rates where the groundwater was known to be higher than normal. This would give us a better handle on treatment cost due to large amounts of snowmelt this coming Spring.

Other Business

The BOSC received a letter (see attached) from a Mr. Frank Brockelman of 93 Mill Street in response to the BOSC’s letter to him, regarding connecting to the Sewer District. In his letter, Mr. Brockelman stated that he has decided to decline the request to be included in the Sewer District. Mr. Brockelman’s letter gave a brief history of the small sliver of land that he received from the Canterbury Lane developer, and stated that he had done his research and believes it would be cheaper for him to put in a new septic system when needed. Mr. Gmeiner asked that Ms. Iannacone draft a letter in response to Mr. Brockelman making it clear that he understands that by signing a waiver that his property not be included in the Sewer District, he will also be waiving his rights to any benefit of the Sewer District in the future. Mr. Gmeiner also requested that the drafted letter be sent to him for his review.

Reminders

Ms. Iannacone will give a copy of Mr. Brockelman’s letter of 2/12/15 to the Board of Health to inform them that we are working with him to formalize his not being included in the Sewer District.

BILLS SIGNED

EW-18 Bills and/or Invoices were signed for payment at this meeting.

Minutes:

2 Sets of minutes were approved as drafted at this meeting: One set for 1/7/2015 and another set for 1/22/2015.

ADJOURN

Mr. Hartnett made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 P.M. Mr. Gmeiner seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Stevens
Assistant
Water and Sewer Departments