



Chair/James Gmeiner
Vice Chair/Thomas Orcutt
Clerk/Michael Bouchard

Town of Groton Sewer Department
173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: December 19, 2018

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Location: Town Hall/First Floor

Members Present: Chair/James Gmeiner
Vice Chair/Thomas Orcutt
Clerk/Michael Bouchard

Others Present: Ann Livezey/Water & Sewer Assistant, Lauren Crory/Business Manager, Bob Rafferty/EP, Stan Dillis and Judy Anderson

The Meeting was called to order by James Gmeiner at 2:00 PM

546 Main Street – Sewer Capacity

Mr. Dillis came before the BOSC to propose removing one of the dwellings located at 546-548 Main Street. Both properties are assessed at (2) Bedrooms @ 440/GPD and Mr. Dillis would like to increase by 320/GPD, he stated the new proposed dwelling would be a (90) seat temple with a kitchen. Mr. Gmeiner stated that the BOSC would like to look back at what the property started with for usage at the time of connection and double that for the base. Mr. Bouchard asked Mr. Dillis if the two existing houses (546 & 548) would remain and Mr. Dillis replied no that 546 will be going.

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to grant 546/548 Main Street an additional 320/GPD of additional sewer capacity at the current rate for the use of the new proposed temple Mr. Bouchard seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

436 Main Street – Sewer Connection

Nothing new at this time

Dave Moulton - Four Corners Sewer Update

Mr. Orcutt informed the BOSC that there has been nothing new from Mr. Moulton. Mr. Rafferty said he has not seen the design for Hummingbird Way and he would like to see if he has 24 or 26 units because he paid for 24. Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that they are in the process of figuring out the pump station because they would like to go with one.

Four Corners Sewer Takeover

Mr. Orcutt said that he and Mr. Rafferty looked at the dam and they will discuss with Mr. Haddad and Mr. Delaney. Mr. Orcutt said once the BOSC takes over, we will be in charge of the interbasin. Mr. Delaney is in charge of the operation of the dam and once the boards go in and it's modified the town will have to maintain that waterflow and Mr. Orcutt suggested maybe using a small board with a flapper valve. Mr. Rafferty said he would follow up when a plan is in place and he would have to write a letter to the State.

Pepperell IMA

Mr. Gmeiner said at this time he feels we are at a general agreement other than the vac truck. Mr. Gmeiner said he has spoken with Mr. Nephew and informed him that the truck is the issue and told the BOSC that we can buy into it or they will charge us for it. Mr. Orcutt asked if they charge us for it what would they be charging for, when it's in Groton. Mr. Rafferty said the original amount was 25% of the cost of the truck, he also added that the truck is a vac/jetter combo and that cost two times more and Groton would really only benefit from the vac, so you would not get full use of the truck. Mr. Rafferty said there are only 4-5 problematic areas that need cleaning and according to the CMOM program guidelines the State does not require it and most do it on a cycle, therefore you would not be spending \$20K a year.

Mr. Bouchard asked if this is something that can be separate from the IMA agreement and suggested we put a precedent in about future purchases. Mr. Gmeiner stated that according to CMOM, the truck is not required and Mr. Rafferty agreed and said that there are not any old clay pipes in Groton and your system does not need it every year and Pepperell is basing it on 240 hours annually. Mr. Orcutt said this truck was purchased before we started discussing the IMA and said he would be ok with being billed at the \$84/hr. rate. Mr. Gmeiner said when he spoke with Mr. Nephew, he told him we would be willing to kick in some money so we can move forward and he feels after looking at these numbers I don't believe the truck will be used in Groton that much. Mr. Rafferty said there are (6) locations and two pump stations that need attention and feels that can be done in two days. Mr. Gmeiner thinks we should pay the hourly rate and asked Ms. Livezey to review the billing and itemize the time the truck has spent in Groton so far.

Mr. Rafferty said a letter needs to be submitted to the DEP with an update of the I&I plan. The BOSC has agreed to complete an investigation program in the spring 2019 between Main Street and Nod Road to include CCTV inspections of the sewer and laterals. Mr. Rafferty said he would draft a letter and submit to the BOSC for review.

Mr. Gmeiner wanted to discuss the recent spikes in capacity and if there was a need to purchase more capacity. Mr. Rafferty said there is a limit on max flow and if you bought more capacity, the discharge permit for annual average takes 12 months and that's your flow, so now you would have a year of max flow not a month. Mr. Rafferty said there are 15HP pumps at Nod Road now and if we were to increase the flow rate it would require 100HP pumps and that is very expensive, but you can buy bigger pumps. Mr. Rafferty said at this time 155K/GPD can go thru without additional capital costs and if capacity was increased that would require a complete upgrade at Nod Road pump station.

Mr. Orcutt asked what Mr. Rafferty recommendation would be and he replied he would not recommend buying more capacity at this time. Mr. Orcutt then asked what he thinks we should fix and Mr. Rafferty replied the pump station at Nod Road. Mr. Bouchard suggested adding another pump station at Nod Road and Mr. Orcutt thought that would work. Mr. Rafferty said there is a 10" sewer line and we can

push more through the collection system. Mr. Orcutt suggested that Mr. Rafferty do some modeling because this would allow Groton to increase the average daily flows by removing I&I.

Proposed Policy on Expanding District

The BOSC reviewed the proposed Sewer District Expansion Policy written by Mr. Orcutt. Mr. Gmeiner suggested that we add a general notice that informs the other boards and get their comments. Mr. Orcutt said he would add a line that the BOSC will notify all Municipal Boards of the hearing. Mr. Bouchard asked if we should notify abutters. Mr. Gmeiner asked if we want to have an individual mailing to abutters or just put in the local paper. Mr. Orcutt said notifying abutters will be costly and he thinks putting in the paper would be sufficient. Mr. Gmeiner then asked if we do notify abutters would it be just abutters within so many feet or just direct abutters. Mr. Rafferty said the direct impact would be the ones abutting the sewer line. Mr. Gmeiner then asked what is the purpose, to notify people or is it the opportunity to connect or for them to have an opinion. Mr. Gmeiner and Mr. Bouchard were in agreement to notify abutters and Mr. Orcutt asked if we should include that all applicants shall notify all direct abutters via certified mail, return receipt requested and all expenses paid by the applicant. Mr. Orcutt said he would revise the policy and the BOSC can review and vote on it at the next meeting.

Discuss Sewer Collection Fee's

No discussion at this time.

FY20 Budget

No discussion at this time.

Other Business:

Mr. Orcutt informed the BOSC he had an inquiry regarding sewer capacity at 11 Lowell Road/Waters House. The house was previously owned by Lawrence Academy and when the sewer district began accepting wastewater some twenty years ago the PPA charged to all users was based on water consumption. The current charge of sewer capacity is based on Title V; therefore, the current capacity would be 605/GPD.

Mr. Orcutt provided John Amaral of Omni Properties with all the information and the 605/gpd is a baseline and if more capacity was needed for developing, he would need to come before the BOSC for approval.

Next Meeting –January 2, 2019

BILLS SIGNED

One set of Bills were signed at this meeting for FY-19, Expense Warrant (EW-14)

MINUTES:

December 5th, 2018 minutes were approved

ADJOURN –

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 3:45pm, Mr. Bouchard seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant

APPROVED:
