



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department
173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: December 5th, 2019

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Location: Town Hall/First Floor

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

Others Present: Ann Livezey/Water & Sewer Assistant, Lauren Croy/Business Manager, Ken Kolodziej and Judy Anderson

The Meeting was called to order by James Gmeiner at 2:00P.M.

Filho's Grease Trap

Mr. Bouchard asked if Mr. Filho has been contacted regarding the recent issue with the grease. Mr. Orcutt replied that Ms. Livezey has reached out to him, but he was unable to attend this meeting. Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that Pepperell usually comes out in the Fall each year to jet vac the grease and this year the work was a lot more extensive. They jetted and did a camera inspection from Pleasant Street & the connecting line to Main on the Rail Trail and he feels that Mr. Filho should not be responsible for the whole bill. Mr. Bouchard asked if it had been 10-years since the full length was done and could there be houses along the way contributing to this or is it due to deferred maintenance. Mr. Gmeiner said that Filho's is on the corner of Pleasant and Main and the first manhole on Pleasant flows to the Rail Trail. He stated Joy Avenue is a dead end and flows to only one end to the Rail Trail and out in the front on Main, nothing is connected to Main Street pipe. Mr. Gmeiner added that there may be additional households contributing, but chances are over 10-15 years the grease made its way down further. Mr. Gmeiner said he thinks the grease trap for the restaurant may be undersized and asked that we have Mr. Grossman's input on it.

Mr. Bouchard asked if there is a way to see that Filho's is the primary cause or should there be more maintenance on the line. Mr. Gmeiner suggested we have Pepperell do it once a year and he is uncertain if there would be a way of determining if it is all Filho's grease. Mr. Orcutt thought we should have him pursue a large outdoor grease trap. Mr. Gmeiner replied that he thinks the inside trap may be undersized and I think we should consult Mr. Grossman. Mr. Gmeiner also asked that we reach out to Pepperell and have them send us the reports and pictures on the jetting and maybe we can determine where it gets worse along the line.

Groton Community School Capacity

Mr. Gmeiner asked the BOSC if they have heard anything on this and Mr. Orcutt replied he has not heard back from Mr. Amaral yet.

Groton Public Library – Billing

Ms. Crory told the BOSC that she has sent out the abatement form and a revised bill with a credit of 25 units along with an estimate for the irrigation meter. Mr. Bouchard stated that this would be the last abatement approved by the BOSC and a vote was taken.

186 Main Street – Billing Review

Ms. Crory provided copies of the letters to be sent out for the sewer connection fee for the Main House, which there will be no additional charge and the letter for the Carriage House was for one ERU for \$6,000.00. The BOSC reviewed the letters and Mr. Bouchard wanted to confirm there will no charge for the Main House, but (1) ERU for the Carriage House and Mr. Gmeiner replied Yes.

44 Farmers Row – Sewer Connection

Mr. Kolodziej said he received a quote from Mr. Lagasse going to the manhole under the Police Station going across the road and he feels if they went from the Fire Station line it may be cheaper. Mr. Gmeiner informed Mr. Kolodziej that the BOSC has reviewed the original plans and the line was placed where it is to avoid having sewer available to the other properties in the area. Mr. Gmeiner also said that if Mr. Kolodziej would like to move forward, we would have to have a meeting with the planning board and look at the towns master plan. He also added that the question would be whether you want to spend a lot of time and energy on this and that one of the board members is opposed to it.

Mr. Kolodziej told the BOSC not knowing the legality of it, but being a resident of the town for 10-years, he feels this is a disservice to a long-time tax paying resident. He said being faced with a huge septic bill, he would like to pursue connecting to the town sewer and feels it's worth the time and energy. Mr. Orcutt told Mr. Kolodziej that he was the one who brought it to the boards attention and feels that when they talked about the Lawrence House in the past, they determined the property was large enough to have its own septic system, therefore he cannot support at the Town Meeting. The BOSC is responsible to look at the best locations for sewer and its for smaller parcels in failure and also for future development and capacity could be an issue too. Mr. Kolodziej told the BOSC that the variable here is that the Lawrence's have not changed their mind to connect, that they are new owners of the property and would like to consider connecting to town sewer. Mr. Orcutt asked how many septic quotes he has received and Mr. Kolodziej replied (3). Mr. Kolodziej said he would like to work with the BOSC amicably and that they are new owners and it's not the Lawrence family coming back to say they want to connect.

Mr. Orcutt asked if there is an accessory project like a garage and Mr. Kolodziej replied yes there would be a garage for cars, not living space. Mr. Orcutt also asked if there was a plan to sell a lot and Mr. Kolodziej said "no". Mr. Orcutt suggested that Mr. Kolodziej put it on the agenda, but know the BOSC may not support it. Mr. Kolodziej told the BOSC he feels he needs to do some more exploring and does feel its not unreasonable. Mr. Bouchard added that when you start extending the sewer district more

people become interested and the rules are for such properties in failure etc. He told Mr. Kolodzieg that he just wanted to make that point and that the BOSC is amicable, but not sure where he stands on it.

Mr. Gmeiner said that maybe Mr. Kolodzieg look into an easement and see if he can tie into that line. Mr. Gmeiner asked that we locate the records on the easement. Mr. Bouchard asked if Mr. Rafferty was involved at the time and Mr. Orcutt replied "Yes". Mr. Kolodzieg told the BOSC if they had any information readily available that would be helpful and asked if this meant it could be a physical or mechanical issue. Mr. Gmeiner replied it could be a mechanical issue and the town might have to grant an easement and that would require two votes, one to expand the district and one to grant the easement. Mr. Bouchard also added the design and if it could handle both Mr. Kolodzieg property and the Police Department. Mr. Gmeiner said he does not remember any grinder pumps for that project and thinks it may be all gravity. Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Kolodzieg that the BOSC will try to get him the necessary information discussed today and that the meeting today was to inform him where the BOSC stands. Mr. Gmeiner also asked Mr. Kolodzieg to find the deed restriction for the property so the BOSC can review.

436 Main Street

Nothing new at this time

Pepperell IMA

Mr. Bouchard told the BOSC that the October billing showing flows for the GDRHS caught his eye because it was significantly higher. Mr. Gmeiner asked that we call Pepperell and ask for the November flows for a comparison. Mr. Bouchard asked how we determine the flow calculations at the GDRHS and Mr. Gmeiner replied that there is a wastewater flow meter.

Other Business:

Mr. Bouchard told the BOSC that Mr. Haddad has two budgets of level of service and needs to come up with a balanced budget. At this time all reviews point to not spend the towns money on sewer debt.

Next Meeting – December 18th, 2019

BILLS SIGNED

One set of bills were signed at this meeting for FY20, Expense Warrant (EW-13)

MINUTES: October 28th, 2019 and November 7th, 2019

ADJOURN –

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 3:30 PM, Mr. Bouchard seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant