



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department
173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: May 20th, 2020

Time: 2:00 P.M.

Location: Virtual Meeting Using Zoom

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

Others Virtually Present: Ann Livezey/Water & Sewer Assistant, Lauren Crory/Business Manager,
John Giger/Select Board, Gary Shepherd and Judy Anderson

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

Public Hearing to Adopt the Groton Center Sewer District Rules & Regulations as Amended

Mr. Gmeiner asked if anyone has reviewed the regulations. Mr. Gmeiner said he went onto to the Pepperell site and he will look a few other places in regards to the reference to the older regulations that Harlan Fitch had kept. Mr. Bouchard told the BOSC that he needs the definition of terms to complete. Mr. Gmeiner said he would see what he could find and if not, we would have to come up with our own definitions because we do not want these things put down the sewer (radioactive, flammables etc.). Mr. Orcutt asked if Pepperell has any of these and Mr. Gmeiner replied not radioactive or flammable, but they do list toxic waste. Mr. Bouchard told the BOSC that he would renumber the Articles, that it was a clerical thing.

Indian Hill - Sewer

Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that they have located the old water main from Peabody to Old Ayer Road and that they did install some pipe to private property. They got the sleeve up Old Ayer Road and are ready to go. Mr. Orcutt told Mr. Shepherd a few things we need are an approved plan and we would need Pepperell and Mr. Rafferty to review. Also, the connection points up Boston Road is showing low pressure connection to manholes in the Common and you would also need permission from the Parks Department to access for excavation. The clean outs on Old Ayer Road would be up to Pepperell and the consultants to decide. The Plan was an on-site holding tank and grinder pumps at Indian Hill and we also talked about a storage facility to pump on off hours.

Mr. Shepherd replied that he thought they already had permission to go thru the Park and he would check on that. Mr. Shepherd told the BOSC that Mr. Delaney/DPW wants to do some work on Old Ayer Road and he would like this work to be done before he starts his road work. Mr. Gmeiner suggested Mr. Shepard take care of what needs to be done on Old Ayer Road to allow Mr. Delaney to get his work done.

He told Mr. Shepherd he is not sure what needs to be done with the pump station and holding tank, but that could come after. Mr. Orcutt replied that he thinks we need a plan to see if the pipe needs a cleaned out. He would like Pepperell's opinion along with Mr. Rafferty because we do not want to install a clean out after the fact. Mr. Gmeiner was in agreement and said he would like to see that done. Mr. Gmeiner asked about inspections and if Environmental Partners would be doing them and Mr. Orcutt replied "yes" because he would be too busy. Mr. Gmeiner suggested having a 3rd party to observe and told the BOSC that we could see if Pepperell had someone available. Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Shepherd to get us the plans and he would have our engineers review. Mr. Shepherd said he would like the BOSC to come up and take a look for themselves and Mr. Orcutt said he would come. Mr. Bouchard asked Mr. Shepherd for a date he would like to get this done and he replied as soon as Mr. Delaney wants it done, so he can pave. Mr. Shepherd said that they have a neat tool that they would be able to feed without interrupting the Park. Mr. Giger added that he was not sure what Mr. Delaney was planning to do, so he was not sure it would. Mr. Shepherd said they have some flexibility on that, but they would not be taking away from Prescott Park. Mr. Giger replied that he has some documents showing the engineering studies and a diagram they all agreed on and what would be done in a visual sense. Mr. Shepherd replied that they have worked with Mr. Delaney on this. Mr. Giger added that he just does not want to get into a situation that we get the paving work done and we need to tear it up again. Mr. Orcutt asked when the intersection would be done and Mr. Shepherd replied 2021, they would like to get Peabody and Old Ayer Road done, less impact on Prescott Park the better we all will be. Ms. Anderson told Mr. Shepherd that if he needs to go before the Parks Department, they are meeting on June 2nd.

24 Hollis Street – Abatement

Ms. Crory told the BOSC that Ms. Parent had filed for an abatement, due to a pipe bursting and the water was discharged into the living room and did not go down the drain. She was billed for 41 units and normal usage is around 23 units. Mr. Gmeiner said after reviewing the bill, it was clear it was higher and he is fine with it.

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to approve the abatement in the amount of \$322.07 for 24 Hollis Street, Mr. Bouchard seconded the motion. Roll Call: Orcutt - Aye, Bouchard - Aye & Gmeiner - Aye

227 Boston Road – Sewer Connection

A question had arisen as to whether the BOSC had given any numbers for connection costs at the time the project was first proposed. Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC after reviewing the minutes of the past meetings he did not see any quotes in numbers. He said the way it would have been done was a PPA for each house/dwelling unit plus \$6.58 per gallon and the question was the barn facility and how it would be used. Mr. Orcutt said he recalled we were not in agreement about the event capacity and we were going to access Title V. Mr. Gmeiner added that according to the old regulations, we would do a look back, that the figures using Title V would put him at a higher number than now. Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that we did not give him an amount, due to the uncertainty of the use of the property. He also added that until we have permits in hand, we cannot access. Mr. Bouchard said this all makes sense to him and he thought under the new regulations, it would be when the permit is pulled.

FY2020 Budget – Expenses and Receivables for Both Enterprises

Ms. Cory told the BOSC that the forecast has stayed the same, but she did add the \$100K to net income and that brings it to \$252K with a net profit of \$81K. Ms. Crory as far as expenses, she did not add 436

Main Street. Mr. Gmeiner suggested we think about encumbering the money for 436 Main Street assuming we have enough to encumber. She did tell the BOSC that a transfer would be needed from general expenses to salaries/wages and feels \$1,000.00 should do it.

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to transfer \$1K from general expenses to salaries, Mr. Bouchard seconded the motion. Roll Call: Gmeiner – Aye, Orcutt – Aye and Bouchard - Aye

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to transfer \$1K from general expenses to wages, Mr. Bouchard seconded the motion. Roll Call: Gmeiner – Aye, Orcutt – Aye and Bouchard – Aye

Mr. Gmeiner said he feels the Pepperell bills seem ok, but he thinks that the GDRHS seems off and seems like there was a lot running thru there in April and asked if someone can call Pepperell to find out. Mr. Orcutt said he could reach out to Mr. Brackett, that they may be running water to keep the lines clean. Mr. Giger added that there has been on going meal prep being done for the students, so that may be the cause.

FY2021 Budget

Ms. Crory told the BOSC that she is still waiting in the information regarding the 1/12th budget. Mr. Gmeiner asked if Mr. Haddad has come to any decisions on that. Mr. Giger replied that they had a meeting with the school and the last update was no committed plan with Dunstable. Mr. Orcutt added that if we were not able to have a town meeting, then the town would go into the 1/12th budget. If the budget passes at town meeting then we are good.

Reserve Funds for Both Districts

No changes to the Reserve Fund Balance's

Town Meeting Appropriations for FY2020

Ms. Crory stated there are no changes to the Town Meeting Appropriations for FY2020. Mr. Gmeiner asked if this would be part of the consent agenda. Mr. Giger replied that instead of going over each budget they would offer to do as consent if a particular department. Mr. Bouchard added that Sewer/Water are an Enterprise Fund and not part of the town budget, so they are part of the consent. Mr. Giger said he had copies of the articles and confirmed they are part of the consent agenda.

Moulton Sewer Extension – Oriole Drive

Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that Mr. Moulton is getting ready to lay the sewer line to Oriole Drive. He also said that he would be leaving off the sewer stub to the house lot that the sewer main is on private property. Mr. Gmeiner suggested that resident be informed that they would need a town meeting vote to get in the district if wanting to connect in the future. Mr. Giger asked where is the requirement that they would have to go before town meeting to connect. Mr. Orcutt replied that it is in the bylaws and explained that there are boundaries along property lines and this lot is not within the boundaries. Mr. Gmeiner added that during the time the bylaws for the Center Sewer District were done, we did not want to run all over the place so the district set boundaries. He also stated there is a statue that if the pipe is in front of your property you can connect. Mr. Gmeiner also added that we are a combined district because

we do pump to Pepperell, so if you want to expand and control development it would take a town meeting vote to extend the district.

436 Main Street

Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC he has spoken with town counsel and has decided to go forward. He told the BOSC that the insurance requirements are higher than what the town offers and there is no coverage for toxic waste. Mr. Gmeiner suggested that we go back to Honeywell and tell them we cannot work with this and we stay at the \$100K and we cannot take responsibility for the toxic waste. He told the BOSC that the GC probably will not be able to come up with these insurance requirements and is inclined to bump to town counsel. Mr. Bouchard asked if the hang up was with the insurance requirements and Mr. Gmeiner replied "yes". He told the BOSC because we have to enter the property, they require the insurance to enter and our policy does not cover 2 million for toxic waste. Therefore, we cannot meet the contract requirements and we should not be responsible for some of these. Mr. Bouchard asked Mr. Gmeiner if he was willing to write a letter to Honeywell and see what they say and he replied "yes" he would tell them the insurance requirements are raising concern.

Next Meeting – June 3rd, 2020

BILLS SIGNED - No Bills Signed

MINUTES: - February 5th, 2020 and February 20th were approved

ADJOURN – *Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 3:20PM, Mr. Bouchard seconded the motion. Roll Call: Gmeiner – Aye, Orcutt – Aye and Bouchard - Aye*

Respectfully submitted.

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant