

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

## **Town of Groton Sewer Department**

173 Main Street Groton MA 01450

**Date:** May 19th, 2021 **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 and

Judy Anderson

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

#### 108 Pleasant Street - Sewer Connection

Mr. Gmeiner said Mr. Collins will come to another meeting and that he did confirm the carriage house was separate, but it is attached to the main house (separate & distinct dwelling unit). The house has 5 bedrooms, so that would be 5/3 of a connection fee and Mr. Collins will provide us with a floor plan. Mr. Orcutt said he believes the main house is 5-bedrooms and thought the carriage house may be 3-bedrooms.

Mr. Bouchard asked if it was one big physical unit would we consider it two spaces and Mr. Orcutt stated it would be 2-dwelling units.

### **Ixtapa - Sewer Connection and Fee's**

Mr. Gmeiner asked if we got something in writing from Mr. Grossman/BOH regarding seat count and Ms. Livezey said she did request it and that Mr. Grossman will send out. Mr. Gmeiner said the fee would be based on 96 seats x 35 GPD x \$8,000.00 divided by 330 = \$81,454.00. Mr. Gmeiner said when this was done originally was based on 50 seats, that was part of the original agreement that we paid to Ayer. 46x35 divided by 330 is above and beyond what was earmarked. Should we have to pay Ayer current connection fee on the 46-seats and Mr. Orcutt replied "no", he said we purchased x amount gallons from Ayer for \$210K over five years and if there is an incorrect calculation, I would charge the original amount of \$8K for 330 gallons and anything over the 50 would charge the same amount, once we hit cap on gallons to Ayer there may be an upcharge to Ayer for additional capacity and we would have to charge a higher price for additional capacity and those would get passed on to the pads at Shaw's. Mr. Orcutt does not think we pay any additional until we go over our what was in the IMA. Mr. Bouchard asked if we know what that is and Mr. Orcutt said the document spells out the gallons.

Mr. Gmeiner said we have Mr. Rafferty originally projected numbers and he came up with 74 ERU's. Mr. Gmeiner said 24,407 gpd day was the original calculation and allocated 1,000 for Shaw's, but only 1,750 for Ixtapa.

Ms. Anderson said the original calculation was for the seats inside and then they have expanded and added the outside with a huge patio on the other side, so that the original calculation was for interior seats only. Mr. Bouchard asked if the 1,750 was for the 50-seats and Mr. Gmeiner said "yes". Mr. Bouchard said outside seats seasonal, and asked if that matters. Mr. Gmeiner said under Title V, he would have to read about seasonal flows. The design is done for the maximum flow, so that maximum flow would be the 96 seats. Mr. Bouchard asked the additional 46 seats, does that cover both expansions. Mr. Gmeiner said according to Mr. Grossman the total seats is 96. Mr. Bouchard summarized those 50 seats in the original allocation and the additional 46 seats does include both expansions.

Mr. Gmeiner said we use the Title V numbers in and when we run out of capacity that's when higher fee kicks in and we pay Ayer. Mr. Bouchard asked if this was referring to the customers initially scoped into the system and Mr. Gmeiner said "yes". Mr. Orcutt said the initial commercial base Four Corners and the Moulton "over 55" is part of the initial capacity to Ayer. Ms. Crory said all those properties can be up to 14,450 gpd 15-1 according to the IMA. The total permitted is 40,500 (15-1). MR. Bouchard said the last number is the total we can get to and Mr. Orcutt said "yes".

Mr. Gmeiner asked to get the spread sheet and distribute it to the BOSC. Mr. Gmeiner said looking at spreadsheet that Mr. Rafferty did when we set the fee at 24,407 total gpd, and going through properties clearly more than what Ms. Crory pointed out that it has earmarked 12k GPD for NE Power Property, and knocked off, comes to 12,407. Mr. Gmeiner asked if Moulton's properties Hummingbird/Starter homes were part of the original plan and Mr. Orcutt said only Hummingbird and the starter homes would be pay as we go and when Oriole connects, we would owe Ayer. Mr. Gmeiner asked to have the spread sheet updated and Mr. Orcutt suggested adding another column showing what each property paid for capacity. -Mr. Raffety had an estimate and we should have an actual.

Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC that when we get the letter confirming the 96-seats for Ixtapa to send out the invoice. Mr. Gmeiner asked who is connected. Mr. Orcutt said everyone except Ixtapa and unoccupied pad at Shaw's. Mr. Gmeiner asked what was the gpd we figured in and we want to make sure gpd for the Dollar Tree and figure out 1 & 3 Forge Village and what was allocated and Liquor Store, Dunkin, Bank and medical facility.

# **Main Street Paving**

Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that Mr. Delaney has Chapter 90 funds. It is a specially earmarked appropriation from the Commonwealth and will be used for paving Main Street from Old Ayer Road to Elm St and not under Mass DOT. We need to get Pepperell sewer to access the manhole covers and frames. Mr. Gmeiner asked that we reach out to Mr. Boucher and tell them we need to have manholes accessed. Mr. Bouchard asked if we are paying for this and Mr. Gmeiner said ask Mr. Delaney if he has funds, but he does not believe he would.

## **Shaw's - Sewer Connection**

Mr. Bouchard said we received a memo from Mr. Rafferty pointing out contracting issues and it's about \$3,500.00. Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Orcutt we had a push back from Mr. Irvine in the inspection fees.

Mr. Bouchard made a motion to ask Shaw's to pay \$3,487.89 of the Inspection fees and the remaining amount will be waived Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye, Orcutt-Aye and Bouchard -Aye.

Mr. Gmeiner asked that a letter be sent to Mr. Irvine with the revised amount for inspection fees.

## FY21 & FY22 Budget

Mr. Crory told the BOSC that the rates worst case would be \$150K below, but thinks it may be more like \$80K-\$100K. Mr. Gmeiner asked if this was due to the possibility of an uptick in usage and Ms. Crory said Book One billing will be in July and that includes a lot of the restaurants/schools.

Next Meeting – June 2nd, 2021

**BILLS SIGNED** - No bills were signed at this meeting

MINUTES: - February 3rd, 17th and 23rd as amended

<u>ADJOURN</u> – Mr. Bouchard made a motion to adjourn at 2:55PM. Mr. Gmeiner seconded the motion. Roll Call Gmeiner – Aye, Orcutt – Aye and Bouchard - Aye

Respectfully submitted, Ann Livezey Water & Sewer Assistant