

**GROTON SEWER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 16, 2015 MEETING
2:30 PM – TOWN HALL**

MINUTES

Commission Chair James Gmeiner called the meeting of the Sewer Commission to order at 2:30 PM. Also present were Vice Chair, Thomas Orcutt, Clerk, Thomas Hartnett and Business Manager, April Iannacone. Minutes were taken by Ruth Stevens, Water/Sewer Assistant.

Discussion of Pepperell and Sewer Agreement

Mr. Gmeiner asked what the status was on the signatures for the finalization of the Pepperell & Groton Sewer agreement. Ms. Iannacone offered that, according to Ms. Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant to the Town Manager, that they were still waiting on signatures from Town Counsel. It was suggested that perhaps the agreement could be scanned to Town Counsel to expedite the process. Ms. Stevens later checked with Ms. Dunbar on the status, and she told her that she had already scanned them to Town Counsel and was waiting for them to come back. Mr. Gmeiner said that he would like to get that issue finalized.

Grinder Pump Service Contract

The discussion began with Mr. Gmeiner asking the BOSC if they thought obtaining a spare “core” to keep on-hand in the case of a failed grinder pump would be a good idea. He mentioned the cost to be around \$3K at the most. Mr. Hartnett and Mr. Orcutt were amenable to the idea and Mr. Orcutt questioned the size of it for storage purposes. Mr. Gmeiner thought it should be easily accessed by Pepperell. The discussion continued regarding where the spare core would be stored and the Town Hall Basement and Nod Road were 2 locations that were suggested and would require permission and an access key. Mr. Orcutt made a motion to purchase 1 spare core for emergency purposes to be stored in Groton. Mr. Hartnett seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Orcutt reminded the group that they need to start to create a “policy” so that customers and others could be informed on this issue. Mr. Gmeiner agreed and questioned the BOSC if they thought the policy should go beyond providing phone numbers for coverage to the point of initially paying, and then having the ratepayers pay the BOSC back. He said the spare core would be used temporarily until the homeowner could get a new one put in. Further discussion included the possibility of the BOSC helping to finance a replacement core for customers who might need assistance. Mr. Orcutt suggested sending out an annual flyer to customers with grinder pumps, giving them the information about grinder pump failure procedures, a list of phone numbers for 3 local plumbers and payment options. Mr. Gmeiner added that Henry Albro should be copied on the flyer idea. He also mentioned getting the costs for the core, installation, labor and materials. He suggested the BOSC cover the core initially and then arrange financing; Henry Albro could bill the BOSC initially, and the rest would be up to the ratepayer to cover the cost of the plumber, installation, labor and materials. He asked that the Water/Sewer Dept. research the cost of cores, work on the flyer; and contact local plumbers/contractors who might want to get on the list.

120 Boston Road Capacity

Ms. Iannacone reported that Mr. Amaral of Omni Properties no longer needs the initial 8K capacity which had been held aside for the proposed medical building (Pediatrics West) on 120 Boston Road, but rather needs 3K. She told the BOSC that the building will house 12 Doctors in a two story building with 6 Doctors on each floor = (12 Drs. @ 250 gpd) or 3000 gpd – 440 (property allocation) = 2,560 gpd needed. She then costed out the dollar amount to be 2560 gpd x \$6.58 (cost per gallon) = \$16,844.80 to be invoiced to Omni Properties. Mr. Orcutt asked that Ms. Iannacone send them the bill.

Other Business

Mr. Orcutt mentioned that 116 Boston Road will be tying in to sewer with the next week or so. The residents are being assessed a betterment as a result, and are currently complying with the Board of Health.

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the BOSC will be held on **Wednesday January 6, 2016 @ 2:30 PM.**

BILLS SIGNED

One set of Bills were signed at this meeting for FY-16, Expense Warrant (EW-13).

MINUTES of December 2, 2015 – Mr. Orcutt made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes Mr. Hartnett seconded, and the vote carried unanimously.

ADJOURN – Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:10 PM. Mr. Orcutt seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Stevens, Water & Sewer Assistant