

**GROTON SEWER COMMISSION
MINUTES OF MAY 4, 2016 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.

37 Longley Road – Discussion- Potential Sewer Connection

Ms. Kristyn MacInnis, Owner for 13 years, requested to meet with the BOSC to see the feasibility of possibly connecting her property to Sewer. She explained that she was in the process of putting on an addition to her house, for 3-4 bedrooms. She told the BOSC that a Perc Test had been done by Ross & Associates at the beginning of April and the findings were that the soil was “not good,” as the water level was higher than the BOH would like it to be. She added that she had purchased a section of Mrs. Moyle’s land and now owns approximately 2 acres, but said that land contained the same type of soil. Mrs. MacInnis mentioned that one of her options is to put in a new septic system, but that would only allow for a 3 bedroom and she would like a 4 bedroom house. Mr. Gmeiner asked if her current septic system was in failure. She responded that it was the original septic which is located 10ft from the house and knows she would eventually have to replace it as they have to have it pumped 1-2 times per year and that it is also close to the well. Mr. Orcutt asked the age of the house. Mrs. MacInnis said that it was built in 1920. Mr. Gmeiner explained that it would require a Town Meeting vote for her property to be accepted into the Sewer District. He suggested that if any abutters are interested in connecting, they could help in sharing the cost of doing so. He also told her that it would require having a grinder pump. He said he typically doesn’t like to have gaps in the district, but would not be opposed to having this property included if they really needed it to be. Mr. Orcutt was concerned with the shale ledge that he believed would be a factor and wasn’t sure if it would allow directional drilling. Mr. Orcutt asked Mrs. MacInnis if she was planning to hook up to Town Water. She said that she doesn’t want to be double paying for Town Water *and* a new septic system. The BOSC suggested she check with Ross & Associates as to the cost of a 4 Bedroom Septic System if she hooked up to Town Water. Mrs. MacInnis mentioned that she knew a 3 Bedroom would cost a minimum of \$30-40K. She also mentioned the possibility of at least one neighbor being interested in hooking up. Mr. Gmeiner stated that if she decided to go the Sewer route, she would need to pay \$6500 for PPA, and Ms. Iannacone figured Capacity costs to be \$2,895.20 to buy in, plus a grinder pump of \$4500. Mr. Gmeiner mentioned that the construction costs would need to be determined due to changes in methodology due to shale ledge issues which increases costs, and for required paving over roads. He also told her that there is currently no resident on a well who is connected to Sewer, that they have both Town Water *and* Sewer, so she might as well figure on that. He said they would have to crunch the numbers and figure cost of directional drilling. The line would go by 2 other houses and she would be charged a betterment to be paid over 10 years. Mr. Hartnett added that should

she hook up to Sewer and the 2 other homes decide to sell and want to hook up due to a failing septic system, she needs to make sure that there is some documentation that says that "she owns the line". Mr. Gmeiner further explained that if a line is "private", it remains "their line", and down the road they can let others hook in and instead of paying a betterment to the Town, they would have to pay her. In another scenario, if the BOSC takes on the extension, then the construction costs get apportioned at 1/3 to each of those properties. Mr. Gmeiner reiterated that if directional drilling could be done, hooking up to Water & Sewer would be the way to go. Mrs. MacInnis asked if the BOSC would figure it out and let her know ASAP as she is in the Architectural stages. Mr. Gmeiner advised that she talk with her neighbors/abutters and inform them of the costs and that it would require a Fall Town Meeting Vote. He said that the BOSC would check on soil issues and whether or not directional drilling could actually be done in that area. They will also figure out some real numbers and email her the info. @ Kristynmacinnis@gmail.com

Grinder Pump Discussion

Mr. Gmeiner questioned as to whether or not the Grinder Pump information being mailed out to the customers who owned them included an explanation of "How to Change a Grinder Pump Battery." Ms. Iannacone and Ms. Stevens did not recall if it did or not. Mr. Gmeiner said that if it wasn't included in the information, then instructions should be part of the Sewer Website. He asked if the Grinder Pump information was mailed out. They told him it was mailed out that day.

Other Business – Mr. Gmeiner mentioned putting the Intermunicipal Agreement on the Agenda for the next BOSC Meeting and requested that Mr. Rafferty's information with regard to such be U.S. mailed to his home and that other board members be given a copy to prepare for next BOSC meeting. He also requested another item to be put on the next Agenda with regard to grease at Partridge Berry Woods.

Next Meeting – The next meeting of the BOSC will be held on **Wednesday, May 18, 2016 @ 2:30 PM.**

BILLS SIGNED

One set of Bills were signed at this meeting for FY-16, Expense Warrants (EW-23).

MINUTES of April 20, 2016 – Mr. Hartnett made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes, Mr. Orcutt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN – Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:35 PM. Mr. Hartnett seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Stevens,
Water & Sewer Assistant

GSC Minutes 05/04/2016