



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department
173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: December 5, 2018

Time: 1:00 P.M.

Location: Town Hall/First Floor

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

Others Present: Ann Livezey/Water & Sewer Assistant, Lauren Croy/Business Manager & Mark Thibeau

The Meeting was called to order by James Gmeiner at 1:00 PM

436 Main Street – Sewer Connection

Mr. Orcutt said he received a quote from Mr. Rafferty/EP and it includes connection from the street to the property line. Mr. Gmeiner said we are looking at a cost of \$55K and asked the BOSC if they think we should look at a septic system instead. Mr. Orcutt replied that the \$55K is just to get the sewer connection to his property, then they would have additional costs from the property line to the house. Mr. Orcutt said he was unsure they would be satisfied with a septic system. Mr. Bouchard asked what if we did our part and then they did not complete the connection. Mr. Orcutt replied that the BOH might make them connect once the stub is in.

Mr. Thibeau arrived at 1:30 Pm and Mr. Gmeiner asked him if he had any pricing on making the connection. Mr. Thibeau replied yes, he had a rough number of \$10K. Mr. Gmeiner informed Mr. Thibeau that the number from our Engineer came in at \$55K and asked if septic would interest him. Mr. Thibeau said he would talk to Mr. Lagasse and run some numbers. Mr. Thibeau asked if the number we provided was high, due to environmental issues. Mr. Orcutt replied yes and said the quote of \$10K he received would probably increase because of the environmental issues. Mr. Gmeiner included that we have to pay prevailing wages as a Municipality, so its possible Mr. Thibeau could get reduced wages. Mr. Gmeiner also added that the BOH may be able to give you a waiver to get a septic system in the front of your property. Mr. Thibeau asked if the stub would have to be at the Conductor Lab and Mr. Orcutt replied yes, that is where the easement is. Mr. Orcutt asked if it was a four-bedroom home and Mr. Thibeau replied yes. Mr. Gmeiner said he would speak with Mr. Grossman of the BOH.

Dave Moulton – Four Corners Sewer Update

Mr. Orcutt informed the BOSC that the plan is to eliminate the pump station for the starter homes and just have one pump station for everything. Mr. Rafferty needs to review once he gets the as-builts from Mr. Moulton.

Four Corners Sewer Takeover

Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC that any new sewer hook ups other than what was proposed would require permission from Ayer (like Mr. Moulton's starter homes). Mr. Bouchard asked who would approve the additional hook ups and Mr. Gmeiner replied that it would be the Ayer Board of Selectman. Mr. Gmeiner suggested we wait until we are in charge and we can address it, but in the meantime, we could start putting a letter together. Mr. Orcutt asked if we should run it by Mr. Wetzel from Ayer and find out the appropriate process.

Mr. Orcutt announced that there are a few outstanding issues with the Four Corners project that need to be addressed and one is an outstanding construction invoice from April/May for \$2,900.00 that has not been paid. Since the Grant is closed, we need to find out if this is something Mr. Haddad will cover under his budget or will it come out of the BOSC budget. The other issue is that the interbasin transfer to Ayer, the sluice gate was not installed and Mr. Orcutt said he would speak with Mr. Haddad and Mr. Delaney/DPW regarding this issue. Mr. Orcutt said we would not need to use it until we near build out of the system, the other option is to take water out of Lost Lake to offset it. Mr. Gmeiner replied that would upset the residents and cause a public outcry during the summer months when lowering the water. Mr. Orcutt said the cost to install the sluice gate is \$75K and we would be responsible for the cost if it gets turned over to us and it's not installed. Mr. Bouchard asked in terms of timing is there a time (certain month) to get done. Mr. Orcutt said he would ask Mr. Rafferty/EP to look at the interbasin transfer. Mr. Orcutt suggested we go with a lesser alternative rather than pay \$75K, he said since Mr. Delaney controls the dam and he feels it's possible we can implement another plan for this and he will discuss with Mr. Haddad and Mr. Delaney. Mr. Gmeiner stated to the BOSC that he would like all the financials settled before the BOSC takes over.

21 Lovers Lane – Sewer Connection Update

Mr. Orcutt informed the BOSC that there is no street opening at this time and the project will be done in the spring time.

Pepperell IMA

Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC that Mr. Rafferty would be attending the next meeting to discuss the update on the IMA and the issue at hand is the new vacuum/jetter truck. Mr. Bouchard asked if Pepperell was looking for 25% of the cost. Mr. Gmeiner replied that the price may be negotiable, but we need to come up with a number and maybe we could pay it over a few years. Mr. Bouchard asked if their logic is that it's a Capital Item and we owe 25 % of that. Mr. Gmeiner does not feel that the truck would be used enough in Groton to benefit paying 25% of the cost. Mr. Bouchard asked if this truck cleans out manhole connections. Mr. Orcutt said it would pump out the chamber at Partridgeberry Woods, Nod Road and the GDRHS. Mr. Gmeiner added that there is a lot of stuff that is not liquified and it goes to the bottom (rocks,

grit, etc.) and that requires to be vacuumed out. Mr. Bouchard stated since Groton only has a few places that the truck would be used compared to the use in Pepperell can we come to an agreement on a price. Mr. Orcutt said is he opposed to this being included in the IMA, that this truck was purchased before the new IMA was even be discussed and we will not see it 25% of the time. Mr. Gmeiner feels it helps with the general maintenance of the plant.

Mr. Orcutt said he received a memo from Mr. Rafferty regarding sewer capacity and some pinch points, at this time it does not look like we need to purchase more capacity as long as we get the I&I evened out. Mr. Gmeiner said that Pepperell looking at it, if we purchase more capacity, they would be more forgiving on the truck. Mr. Orcutt asked if the formula would still be flow over flow and Mr. Gmeiner replied yes.

Proposed Policy on Expanding District

Mr. Orcutt said he would work on writing up a policy for expanding the District for the BOSC to review.

Discuss Sewer Collection Fee's

No discussion at this time.

FY20 Budget

The Budget was completed and submitted to the Town Manager

Other Business:

Next Meeting –December 19th, 2018

BILLS SIGNED

One set of Bills were signed at this meeting for FY-19, Expense Warrant (EW-13)

MINUTES:

October 17th, 2018 - November 7th, 2018 (amended) and November 13th, 2018 were approved

ADJOURN –

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 3:35pm, Mr. Bouchard seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant

APPROVED:
