



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

**Town of Groton Sewer Department**  
173 Main Street  
Groton MA 01450

**DATE:** May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019

**Time:** 2:00 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 and Bob Rafferty

---

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

**Bob Rafferty - Update**

Mr. Gmeiner asked Mr. Rafferty what the status of the CCTV work is and Mr. Rafferty replied that the crew starts May 7<sup>th</sup> and the work will begin at 9:00 PM and go until 5:00 AM. Mr. Rafferty asked if there was a location for a filler station in the event, they need water. Mr. Orcutt replied they could use the hydrants on Station Avenue. Mr. Rafferty then asked if parking for the vehicles has been secured and Mr. Orcutt replied that they could use the area at the end of Station Avenue and Mr. Gmeiner also suggested the Nod Road pump station.

Mr. Rafferty said they developed a sewer model including the pump stations and there was not much change. He said the pipe from Main to Mill going to Nod Road is flat and he suggested maybe increasing the pitch in the pipe. He also said that we could upgrade the pump station for gravity flow and that would require over 30HP pumps and currently we have 15HP. Mr. Gmeiner asked how much flow would increase and Mr. Rafferty replied 560 gallons per minute and that would increase 212K a day average flow ( $560 \times 3.8 = 2,128$ ). Mr. Gmeiner asked if 200K/gpd would leave room for I&I and Mr. Rafferty replied yes and said if I&I was knocked out that would allow for a buffer.

Mr. Rafferty provided a chart showing peak hour flow from 2014 the Metering Program and it shows a lot of space above average and when they looked for sump pumps, they did not find one. Mr. Rafferty asked the BOSC if they had any ideas where the water could be coming from and Mr. Gmeiner mentioned possibly the Lawrence Academy area and Mr. Orcutt added the cross drains across the ball fields. Mr. Orcutt asked how much time is allotted for the current I&I work being done and Mr. Rafferty replied (5) eight-hour days and if there is any time left, they can check the field area. Mr. Rafferty told the BOSC that

it is worth checking out the field area as well as the Rail Trail area. Mr. Rafferty also suggested we look at the pump station and Mr. Orcutt asked if he thought we are in need of a bigger wet well or pumps and Mr. Rafferty replied pumps.

### **Indian Hill Sewer Line Discussion:**

Mr. Orcutt asked what we needed to be done for the inspection? Mr. Rafferty replied that it would be directional drilling and they would watch.

### **Rate Hearing/Usage Fee Regulations & Wastewater System Costs Continued.**

Mr. Gmeiner suggested we no longer use the look back method and maybe consider doing the EDU x new connection fee. Mr. Orcutt asked if we should base it on what Ayer charges and if that is the case the only issue, he feels is the adding of a bedroom. Currently using the Center District calculation, it would be  $110/\text{GPD} \times \$6.58$  (capacity fee) = \$724.00 and according to Ayers method it would be  $110/330 = .3333 \times \$8,000 = \$2,666.40$ . Mr. Gmeiner suggested that maybe we keep the capacity fee and change the connection fee or consider lowering the connection fee and keep capacity component.

### **Mr. Orcutt made a motion to continue the Rate Hearing/Usage Fee Regulations and Wastewater Systems Cost on May 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM Mr. Bouchard Seconded and the Motion Passed Unanimously**

Mr. Gmeiner asked if the wording in the Ayer IMA stated if the connection was per parcel not per building and asked that the wording be checked. Mr. Gmeiner also asked if the connection fee is per building and say there are (4) units in one building, you collect (1) connection fee? He stated that Cravens is (2) buildings sitting on one parcel and asked if Ayer would charge us for (2) buildings or for the connection to the property. Mr. Gmeiner asked that the Ayer IMA be reviewed and we will discuss at the next meeting. Mr. Gmeiner also asked Ms. Crory to run some scenarios running the connection fee numbers with an increase.

### **Pepperell IMA**

Mr. Rafferty has no new information at this time

### **Mandatory Sewer Connection Bylaw**

Ms. Crory informed the BOSC that the sewer connection letters went out certified mail to the following businesses (Cravens Package Store, Ixtapa Restaurant, Shaws and Catalano Companies) for the Four Corners Sewer District along with the Mandatory Sewer Connection Bylaw Letter. The BOSC will continue discussing the process and fees at the next meeting.

### **GDRHS Pumps**

Mr. Orcutt asked Mr. Rafferty where we are for the redesign. Mr. Rafferty replied that the pumps will not fit and it would require a new hatch. Mr. Gmeiner asked what kind of hatch are you considering and Mr. Rafferty said with the pumps on rails they cannot get past the 30" and it will require 36" and the price for the hatch would be \$20K. Mr. Rafferty said they need to find a hatch available and it would require a pre-caster to cut a hole to fit. the Mr. Rafferty said this would bring the number to \$32K and told the BOSC he thought anything over \$25K you would need a bid and formal plans and specs. Mr. Bouchard asked if this

would be a town bid or a school bid and Mr. Orcutt replied town bid. Mr. Orcutt reached out to Ms. Dunbar and she said this would fall under Chapter 30B anything from \$10K-\$50K requires (3) quotes and anything over \$50K requires a sealed bid. Mr. Orcutt asked Mr. Rafferty to provide him with the new total cost, so he can inform the GDRHS. Mr. Orcutt also asked when he thought the work would be performed and Mr. Rafferty said during the summer and that would allow for better pricing and avoid any Saturdays.

**Other Business**

**Sewer Bank Regulations:**

Mr. Gmeiner asked that the regulations be reviewed and suggested Section 396-36 Sewer Bank section be rewritten in more general way.

**Next Meeting** – May 13th, 2019

**BILLS SIGNED**

One set of bills were signed at this meeting for FY19, Expense Warrant (EW-23)

**MINUTES:**

January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 as amended

**ADJOURN** –

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 3:50 P.M., Mr. Bouchard seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey  
Water & Sewer Assistant

**APPROVED:**

---