



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

**Town of Groton Sewer Department**

173 Main Street  
Groton MA 01450

**Date:** February 5th, 2020

**Time:** 2:00 P.M.

**Location:** Town Hall/First Floor

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

**Others Present:** Ann Livezey/Water & Sewer Assistant, Lauren Croy/Business Manager and Judy Anderson, John Amaral/Omni Properties, Jon Cocker/Maugel Architects, Lisa Stafford/Assistant Director-GCS and Osvaldo Filho/Filho's

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

**FY2021 Operating Budget**

Mr. Orcutt informed the BOSC that the funds have been restored by the Town of Groton for their portion of the Pepperell Debt for FY21.

**Filho's Grease Trap**

Mr. Gmeiner asked Mr. Filho how the grease trap is at the restaurant and he replied that it is clean and he had it replaced three years ago. Mr. Filho stated that he has regular scheduled maintenance on it and its cleaned twice a week. Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Filho that Pepperell was out jetting the lines in October from the manhole at Filho's all the way down to the Rail Trail and there was a lot of grease blockage towards the end. Mr. Gmeiner did tell Mr. Filho that the first section was clean, so maybe the new grease trap is working. Mr. Bouchard asked if Pepperell normally goes all the way down and Mr. Gmeiner replied "no" this is the first time they did the whole length. Mr. Filho told the BOSC that from experience he does a lot of cooking with grease and he feels nobody disposes of the grease in the trash. He also told the BOSC that he is surrounded by a lot of residents and he stated that a lot of people now fry turkeys at home and dispose of the grease down the sink and that could cause the excessive grease buildup.

Mr. Orcutt said the grease that was found in the pipes was probably an accumulation overtime and we can't determine where the grease came from. Mr. Gmeiner added that maybe the new grease trap that was installed is working because the first part was clean and it was the end of the line that was concerning and that could be from years of buildup. Mr. Filho suggested maybe having Pepperell coming back in three months to check the line to see if it's still clean and that will ensure that his new grease trap

is working properly and being maintained. Mr. Bouchard added that maybe we send a letter regarding grease disposal to all our homeowners.

### **Groton Community School Capacity – Grease Interceptor Discussion**

Mr. Amaral told the BOSC that he went over the numbers from 2006 with Mr. Collins and it showed they had higher numbers for enrollment/teacher-staff. Mr. Amaral said the numbers he recently submitted are much more accurate (teacher/staff (12) and students (108). Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Amaral he thought they would be ok, but needed to be certain. He said back then they were assessing betterments and we could not reserve capacity. Mr. Amaral said they also went back what was allocated and said they actually paid for more than what they will actually be using.

Mr. Amaral told the BOSC that they had all the plans stamped, reviewed and approved then the plumbing inspector said we needed a grease interceptor. Mr. Amaral said he thought they should come before the BOSC to explain what the exact use would be for the small stoves and sinks that are in each classroom. He said these ovens will not be used for planned meals, they may be used occasionally for the extended day children to heat a snack or a classroom demonstration. He said all the children who attend the GSC bring their own lunch. Ms. Stafford went on to explain that the use would be for hands on learning, creative art and occasional cooking such as muffins or cookies. The ovens would be used for heating up snacks when necessary or for teaching process not to prepare meals. Mr. Amaral added that nothing will be drained and there will be no grease and he also said there is one dishwasher on site. The dishwasher would be used for sanitizing cups etc. and they have no desire for a commercial kitchen. Mr. Amaral said he met with Mr. Grossman of the BOH and he suggested we meet with the BOSC. Mr. Amaral told the BOSC that a grease trap would be more than they need and asked the BOSC that they waive this request. Mr. Bouchard asked Mr. Amaral if the plumbing inspector was the one to make this request and Mr. Cocker said he has not seen an actual letter yet regarding this. He explained that they may have seen the stove and assumed we would be cooking, but it will not be used for daily food prep. In a larger facility with more extensive use we would put in a grease trap. Mr. Amaral said the fire department came in for their inspection and told us we needed to have Ansul Systems on the stoves, once we explained our use for the they no longer required it.

Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that he feels the grease trap should not be required, due to the explanation given by Mr. Amaral and Ms. Stafford and he would be in favor to waive the requirement. Mr. Bouchard was in agreement, but asked if they do decide to change use moving forward a grease trap may be required. Mr. Amaral told the BOSC that he has the codes from Pepperell showing the requirements for a grease trap. Mr. Gmeiner stated that we are concerned with what goes down the drain into the sewer system, but if you send a letter stating what the use will be for and if meal prep does come into play you would be required to install a grease trap. Mr. Amaral said part of their mission is to support local businesses and when required we use them to prepare bag lunches. Mr. Orcutt also advised Mr. Amaral to be aware of what does go down the line, no wipes and suggested single ply toilet paper because the GCS will have their own grinder pump.

**Mr. Orcutt made a motion to waive the requirement for a grease interceptor at Groton Community School subject to receiving the letter regarding use, Mr. Bouchard seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **44 Farmers Row – Sewer Connection**

Nothing new at this time.

#### **436 Main Street**

Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that Mr. Rafferty is preparing the work plan and Mr. Gmeiner asked for a complete document before we send to Town Counsel. Mr. Orcutt suggested we ask Mr. Rafferty to attend the next BOSC meeting to discuss and told the BOSC that we have the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting with Honeywell and the Conductor Lab on March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Gmeiner also suggested we ask Mr. Haddad who we should send the agreement to for review.

#### **Pepperell IMA**

Mr. Gmeiner said he spoke with Mr. Nephew of Pepperell and said that the Town Administrator made mention that we are paying the highest tier to Ayer and he feels that Groton should be a revenue source to Pepperell. Mr. Bouchard asked if he did not like our proposal of flow over flow and Mr. Gmeiner said they are requesting to see most recent I&I and want to see our budget for the last two years. Mr. Bouchard suggested we show them our rates, if he thinks our rate payers are getting off cheap. Mr. Gmeiner asked Ms. Crory to run a report to see what we billed in cubic feet for the last two years. Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC that billing us at the highest rate and paying debt service is not happening.

#### **Chapter 396 Review and Organization**

The BOSC continued to review Chapter 396 and made some wording edits and will continue to review at the next meeting.

#### **Web Design**

Nothing new at this time

#### **Other Business:**

**Next Meeting** – February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020

#### **BILLS SIGNED**

One set of bills were signed at this meeting for FY20, Expense Warrant (EW-17)

**MINUTES:** No minutes were approved

**ADJOURN** –

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 4:00PM, Mr. Bouchard seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey  
Water & Sewer Assistant