



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

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

**Date:** August 5th, 2020

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

**Location:** Virtual Meeting Using Zoom

**Members Virtually Present:** Chair/James Gmeiner  
Clerk/Michael Bouchard

**Not Virtually Present:** Vice Chair/Thomas Orcutt

**Others Virtually Present:** Ann Livezey/Water & Sewer Assistant, Lauren Crory/Business Manager,  
Susan Bryan and Judy Anderson

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

**108 Pleasant Street – Possible Sewer Connection**

Ms. Bryan is the Trustee of her late brother's estate "The Elms" 108 Pleasant Street. Ms. Bryan told the BOSC that she is considering connecting the property to town sewer and would like to know the process, possibility and the steps to do that. Mr. Gmeiner told Ms. Bryan she would need a Town Meeting Vote to extend the sewer district. Ms. Bryan asked if the extension of the sewer district meant the existing sewer line would not reach the property. Mr. Gmeiner explained the property would have to be voted into the district, due to boundaries. Ms. Bryan then asked how she would do that and Mr. Gmeiner replied that there would need to be an article put on the town warrant and a vote would be required at Town Meeting to expand the district. Mr. Bouchard suggested Ms. Bryan to review the Policy and Guidelines for a Submission to Expand the District. Ms. Bryan did tell the BOSC that there would be no change of use to the property. Mr. Bouchard told Ms. Bryan that if the property was accepted into the district, all the mechanical lines would be her responsibility.

Ms. Bryan asked the BOSC how she would get an estimated cost of the extension. Mr. Gmeiner replied that there would be a connection fee and would be based on Title V flow. Ms. Bryan said the main house has five bedrooms and the carriage house has 3 bedrooms, but she would argue that is two bedrooms. She told the BOSC that the bedroom on the first floor has no closet. Mr. Gmeiner told Ms. Bryan for eight bedrooms it would be  $(8 \times 110 \text{gpd} = 880 \div 330 \times \$6,000.00 = \$16,000.00)$  and there would be a fee of \$150.00 for the application. Mr. Gmeiner did tell Ms. Bryan the BOSC is not equipped to give an estimate on getting the sewer line to the house. Mr. Gmeiner told Ms. Bryan if they did a low-pressure line and they can do directional drilling and it would cost less than a gravity run. Mr. Gmeiner also told Ms. Bryan that a few contractors she could reach out to would be Five Oaks or Lagasse Trucking. Mr. Gmeiner also told Ms. Bryan if she did use low pressure, she would need a grinder pump and an estimated cost would be about \$6,500.00.

Mr. Gmeiner asked Ms. Bryan when she was planning on doing this work and if she wanted to get this on for the fall town meeting. If so, she would need to get an article on the warrant. Mr. Gmeiner also told Ms. Bryan we do not have unlimited capacity and we have limited capacity at the plant. He said the concern would be that we are using up capacity for your property and the septic is not in failure. Mr. Gmeiner said in most cases we use the capacity when a septic system is in failure.

Mr. Bouchard told Ms. Bryan that this is a mandatory sewer connection and if we go through with the process and you do get accepted into the district then you would be required to connect. Ms. Bryan asked to plan she would need to speak to an engineer and get an estimate. Mr. Gmeiner told Ms. Bryan that the installers may be able to give you an idea of how many feet and you may not need an engineer. Ms. Bryan asked if she were to go forward with the fall town meeting and get the vote on it, she then could speak with an engineer or Mr. Orcutt for rough estimate and if she did not, she would have to wait until the spring. Ms. Bryan asked what would be the advantage to wait until the spring. Mr. Bouchard replied that this would give her time to get some numbers. He also reminded Ms. Bryan that if she was approved at town meeting she would be required to connect and it may be at a price she does not like. Mr. Bouchard told Ms. Bryan he personally would take the time and get the data and know what the costs would be rather than it being open ended. Mr. Bouchard said the fall time seems rushed and if Ms. Bryan was to speak to an engineer and cost comes in and you don't like it, you still would be obligated to connect.

Mr. Gmeiner asked if a portion of the parcel has a conservation restriction and Ms. Bryan replied "yes" part of the parcel is part of a conservation restriction. Mr. Gmeiner asked Ms. Bryan what there is now for septic and she replied "not sure". Mr. Gmeiner asked Mr. Bouchard if Ms. Bryan wanted to put on the warrant would he have an issue and he replied "no". Mr. Gmeiner told Ms. Bryan the Assessors could provide her with a map if she was looking for the plans of the land. Ms. Bryan told the BOSC that she has the Deed and the conservation trust. Mr. Gmeiner told Ms. Bryan that we would send over the Policy and Guidelines and would like Ms. Bryan to let the BOSC know by 12:00 p.m. tomorrow if she would like to move forward.

### **Indian Hill - Sewer**

Nothing new at this time

### **Shaw's - Sewer Connection**

Mr. Gmeiner said when Mr. Rafferty did the calculation, he had 68,200 sq. ft and the application has 64,226. Mr. Gmeiner said the Assessors have a total living area 65,242 and a loading platform 260 sq. ft and an open porch 340 sq. ft. Mr. Bouchard said when calculating sewer, we would not include open porch space and Mr. Gmeiner replied its usually considered retail space if they sell stuff out there. He said a lot of places use the open porch areas to sell plants and shovels in the winter. Mr. Gmeiner said it is a 4k sq. ft difference what Mr. Rafferty has compared to what Shaw's has. The Assessors is closer to what Mr. Rafferty has. Mr. Gmeiner said for the supermarket it would be  $(4 \times 97 \text{ gpd} = 388)$  which fits under one ERU under The Four Corners calculation and Ayer does 330 gpd. Mr. Bouchard said he feels it is reasonable to use the Assessors numbers. Mr. Gmeiner asked Mr. Bouchard if we should exclude the open porch area and he was in agreement to use 65,242 plus 260 sq. ft = 65,502 sq. ft. Mr. Gmeiner asked for an invoice to be prepared.

**227 Boston Road – Sewer Connection**

Nothing new at this time

**Reserve Funds for both Districts**

Nothing new at this time

**Moulton Sewer Extension – Oriole Drive**

Nothing new at this time

**436 Main Street**

Nothing new at this time

**Town Meeting Articles**

The BOSCO confirmed Mr. Orcutt put in the place holders

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

**BILLS SIGNED** - No bills were signed at this meeting

**MINUTES**: - No minutes were approved at this meeting

**ADJOURN** – *Mr. Bouchard made a motion to adjourn at 3:42PM, Mr. Gmeiner seconded the motion. Roll Call: Gmeiner – Aye and Bouchard - Aye*

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey  
Water & Sewer Assistant