



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

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

**Date:** October 28th, 2020

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

**Location:** Virtual Meeting Using Zoom

**Members Virtually Present:** Chair/James Gmeiner  
Vice Chair/Thomas Orcutt

**Not Virtually Present:** Clerk/Michael Bouchard

**Others Virtually Present:** Ann Livezey/Water & Sewer Assistant, Lauren Crory/Business Manager,  
Judy Anderson, Kevin Lindemer/227 Boston Rd & Frank McPartlan/Ducharme & Dillis

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

**227 Boston Road**

Mr. McPartlan told the BOSC that the 1.25 in diameter force mains are short runs within the limits of the property. Zone 1 would be from the Barn and Zone 3 would be from the new proposed house. He told the BOSC they should stay at 1.25 because they will not flow fast enough. He said he can make Zone 2 & 4 2" and still be above the minimum velocity. He told the BOSC the inline flushing manhole would be at the junction of zone 2 & 4, so he feels changing those zones to 2" will address Mr. Rafferty's concern about sewer fitting size. Mr. Rafferty's concern is the main low-pressure line is 2" and he recommends it stays 2". He said the new proposed is 1.25 inch and would be ok if there is no function hall.

Mr. Orcutt told Mr. McPartlan that Mr. Rafferty replied in an email that in regards to cleanouts they need to be installed no more than 500 feet apart. He did say this should be waived because a cleanout would be located in the off road (wet) area. He did say in regards to Google earth it is appearing the high point is near where the service exits the property at the bend in the road. Mr. Rafferty also said it would be helpful if the air release manhole in Boston Road was shifted to this location if the elevation is correct.

Mr. Gmeiner asked if everything else has been resolved. Mr. Orcutt told said he would need Mr. McPartlan to submit a MassDOT road opening and a sketch of the right of way. Mr. Gmeiner asked if he was getting an easement from the country club property. Mr. McPartlan said "Yes" he would like to avoid the right of way as much as possible. Mr. Lindemer said he thought they would avoid the easement and that which require them to go back to town meeting. Mr. McPartlan said MassDOT wants it not within the right of way. Mr. Orcutt told them that MassDOT can tell you where to put it. Mr. Gmeiner said because its private they have the right to tell you it can't go thru Route#119. He told Mr. Lindemer this would be a private sewer line and it is all his.

**Mr. Orcutt made a motion to approve the revised plans as presented for 227 Boston Road, Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call: Orcutt – Aye and Gmeiner – Aye.**

### **1-3 Forge Village – Sewer Connection**

Mr. Orcutt said nothing new at this time, he is just waiting on drawings. Ms. Crory told the BOSC that Mr. Grossman/BOH inquired about this connection and the Shaw's connection too. Mr. Orcutt said he would reach out to him and follow up.

### **Shaw's – Sewer Connection**

Mr. Orcutt said things are underway and did tell the BOSC that there was an issue with the contractor/site inspector scheduling, we want continuous days. Mr. Orcutt asked if payment was received yet and Ms. Crory replied "no".

### **436 Main Street**

Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that he spoke to Mr. Rafferty about contractors with OSHA Requirements and he will also reach out to the owners of Honeywell.

### **Four Corners Sewer Regulations**

The BOSC will discuss at the next meeting when Mr. Bouchard is present.

### **Discuss Developing a Policy Regarding Abatements**

The BOSC will discuss at the next meeting when Mr. Bouchard is present.

### **FY21 Budget**

Ms. Crory told the BOSC that last year at this time we were at 48% of the rates budget and this year we are at 28%. She said last year at this time we were at \$293K and this year so far, we are at \$193K. She told the BOSC that expenses are down we are at 10% now and last year at this time we were 17%. Mr. Orcutt asked if we have to include Upgrade #2 and she replied "yes" we budgeted \$22K for the Pepperell Upgrade. Mr. Orcutt asked if the \$15.00 Capital charges is included in the current rates. Ms. Crory replied "yes" and Mr. Orcutt asked that those monies be pulled out of rates and be tracked separate. He also asked that be done for last year, so that money is not used.

Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC we need to review the GDRHS bill and reconsider increasing rates or adding an administrative charge. He told the BOSC we are currently just passing thru the bill for what Pepperell charges and we have administrative costs. Mr. Orcutt asked if we should go ahead and include an administrative cost. Mr. Gmeiner suggested we wait until Mr. Bouchard is present and think about maybe a 10% administrative fee.

Mr. Gmeiner asked Mr. Orcutt if we would be making a pitch to the Town regarding the cost of the new Pepperell Upgrade we are facing. Mr. Gmeiner said he feels that we would be doing the rate payers a disservice if we do not ask. Mr. Orcutt asked that we get the debt numbers from Mr. Jordan so we can review.

**Next Meeting** – November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

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

**MINUTES**: - September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 & September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 were approved

**ADJOURN** – *Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 3:10 P.M. Mr. Gmeiner seconded the motion. Roll Call Gmeiner – Aye and Orcutt - Aye*

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey  
Water & Sewer Assistant