



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department

173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: October 13th, 2021
Time: 2:00 P.M.

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

Others Virtually Present: Ann Livezey/Water & Sewer Assistant and Lauren Crory/Business Manager

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

Review I&I Study

Mr. Gmeiner said Mr. Rafferty submitted a proposal for the I&I study and Mr. Bouchard asked if the proposals identify private laterals that might be dumping into the system. Mr. Gmeiner thought there was a part that included lateral launching and Mr. Bouchard said there is (3) days under 4 (D) and that would answer his question. Mr. Bouchard also asked about the section that mentioned looking at the manholes that go to Main Street from Champney to Nod Road and are we ok with all the ones before that. Mr. Orcutt feels we should do all of Main Street especially where Mr. Delaney will be paving. Mr. Gmeiner said we have a list of manholes that were done from previous inspections and we need to make sure we are not duplicating. Mr. Orcutt said he feels there is two parts of the proposal, investigative work and design bidding work and feels they should be broken out.

Mr. Gmeiner said he was wondering what comes out at the middle/elementary school and if we should look at now or after construction. Mr. Bouchard asked about the video and asked if that was 436 Main and Mr. Gmeiner said "yes" that amount of stuff was from the Rail Trail. Mr. Gmeiner the manhole at 436 mains did need to be repaired and with these studies, you are better off having an enough work all at once to have someone do it.

Mr. Bouchard said the \$145K would be for the study and bid documents. Mr. Gmeiner suggested we schedule a meeting with Mr. Rafferty to review the proposal. Mr. Orcutt said if repairs are over \$50K it would need to go out to bid.

Review Nod Road Pump Station and Flow Evaluation

Mr. Bouchard said the way he read the proposal it was to go from a 2 pump to a 3 pump and it would be a 50gpm improvement. Mr. Gmeiner said he was wondering what the 50 gpm translates into and asked the BOSC if that is worth the cost and if the \$777K to replace the pumping system would do it or would we need the \$1.4 million to replace the pumping station.

Mr. Bouchard explained he thought if we went with the 3-pumps it would be tight fit for the existing station and they proposed a new station due to the potential damage installing them and then we would potentially need the 1.4 million upgrades. Mr. Bouchard said if it fits in the existing station and if the roof was not damaged while pulling off it would be ok.

Mr. Bouchard asked what we would be allowed to pump through with the new pumps. Mr. Gmeiner said with all this done we will not exceed our current 275k allocation. Mr. Orcutt said with the upgrade we would go from 275k-386k and Mr. Gmeiner agreed that would be maximum monthly flow and if we were on a rolling twelve month, we would not go over 275k and we will have to check with Mr. Rafferty. Mr. Orcutt said we need to know if we do the upgrade what would be the top amount we can get through and can we physically get it through the pipe. Mr. Bouchard asked if the 211gpd was the average flow we do now. Mr. Gmeiner said we need to look at average daily flow in August we were under 110K gpd with no schools in session and we used to run 120k-125k gpd. He said it's the GPM we need to know what it translates to and what will the pipes handle and what fits under the IMA.

Mr. Bouchard asked about the load from 500 Main Street and Mr. Gmeiner said he has been invited to a meeting next week with Mr. Haddad and the owner to discuss. Mr. Gmeiner said with the prior study for \$250K he was talking about 500 gpm and that would be able to handle our current flow and some we would expect from Indian Hill. He said with the current high monthly flow average it calculated to 500 gpm which does not translate to the 275k gpd under the IMA.

Mr. Bouchard asked what the 4 million option was and Mr. Gmeiner replied if we want to get to the 275K that would require a massive upgrade to the pipes and pump station and that would get us to the Pepperell line and does not include the work in Pepperell.

500 Main Street

Mr. Gmeiner said he would be meeting with Mr. Haddad and the owner next week. Mr. Orcutt said a few issues would be capacity limitation and we did not expect large scale project for the sewer system and take the balance of capacity. The pump station limitation and the two infrastructure issues on the collection system, I&I and capacity into Pepperell and those are concerning and big decision for the BOSCO. We would need to work out capacity with Pepperell and can they take more from Groton & what would the cost be. Mr. Orcutt said we may not be able to expand the sewer district any further and then they question may come to develop on top of what's been developed.

Mr. Bouchard asked if there is a way to figure out what max daily flow is non covid history. Mr. Gmeiner said Mr. Rafferty grabbed historic flows and determined whatever he came up with was what our high historic flows were. He did tell us that we could maybe handle this, but there would be no room for anything else. Mr. Gmeiner said he thought could be been when we reached a certain number around 200k gpd that would require the pipe upgrades.

Mr. Gmeiner said the way he figures it we would have to do some upgrades to handle this with nothing else coming in and if we are successful with I&I that would allow for some growth in the district, but would be tight. Mr. Orcutt said the I&I does not go away and only gets worse and we need a tight system. This will free up some capacity and for years Groton did, but time has taken a toll and we need to get fixed. The pump station we will need to maximize and 3-pumps seems to be it, but then we need to know what we can push to Pepperell.

Other Business: Bills Minutes Etc.

Next Meeting – October 20th, 2021

BILLS SIGNED – No bills were signed

MINUTES: - No minutes were approved

ADJOURN – *Mr. Bouchard made a motion to adjourn at 3:09P.M. Mr. Gmeiner seconded the motion. Roll Call Gmeiner –Aye, Orcutt – Aye & Bouchard-Aye*

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant