



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department

173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: March 2nd, 2022

Time: 2:00PM

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

Others Virtually Present: Ann Livezey, Judy Anderson & Halsey Plat

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

Halsey Plat – Court Street/Adams Avenue

Mr. Plat shared a drawing of the new 9,000 sq. ft manufacturing space that will be for cabinet making and a show room. Mr. Plat said he reviewed the usage and it was a total of 9 units/qtr., which is 36 units/yr. and $36 \times 748 = 27,000$ gallons per year divided by 365 is 73/gpd. Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Plat the BOSC follows the Title V guidelines and this would be considered a change of use.

- Office Space 1,000 sq ft. @ 75/gpd with a minimum 200
- Retail Space 1,000 sq ft. @ 50/gpd with a minimum 200
- Manufacturing 15/gpd per person

Mr. Plat said they based it on (1) person per 1,000 sq. ft and would be a total of (9) people. Ms. Crory said (9) people at 15/gpd each would be a total of 135/gpd which is under the ERU 330. Mr. Bouchard asked how that relates to (9) people and Mr. Halsey replied (6) shop employees and (3) administrative. Mr. Bouchard asked if this will be a retail business and Mr. Halsey said there would be a showroom and no walk-in traffic, they have scheduled visits only.

Mr. Gmeiner asked the BOSC if we would consider the office/showroom all one space. Mr. Bouchard said he feels it will not be heavily used and would consider it to be a conference room would. Mr. Gmeiner said for a factory (9) people $\times 15/\text{gpd} = 135$ and 200/gpd for the office would be a total of 335. Mr. Orcutt said that would be considered (1) ERU and the BOSC was in agreement on that. Mr. Orcutt asked how they were planning on connecting to the sewer and Mr. Plat said through Court Street and shared a drawing of the sewer line.

Mr. Plat asked if there was a sewer betterment and Mr. Gmeiner said for the sewer hookup, we use Title V and that is maximum possible flows. Mr. Orcutt said it would be (1) ERU minimum and we cannot do a $\frac{1}{2}$ ERU, that would only be possible, for example a 3-bedroom house adding a 4th bedroom then we could do

a 1/3. Ms. Crory said the Connection Fee for(1) ERU for the Center Sewer District is \$6,000.00 with a \$400.00 application fee and possible inspection fees. Mr. Halsey asked if there would be capacity for this and Mr. Orcutt said we do have some reserves for Station Avenue, but told Mr. Plat not to wait too long to make a decision because something else may come along. Mr. Orcutt asked if this has been through the Planning Board and Mr. Plat said “yes”.

Mr. Gmeiner wanted to confirm there would be no hazardous waste or flammable liquids entering the system and Mr. Plat replies “no” all hazardous waste is collected and picked up.

Kilborn Place

Waiting for the Planning Board to finish the Hearing

Potential Mass Works Grant

Mr. Bouchard told the BOSOC that the Select Board announced there are more issues with the MBTA zoning. Its more than they thought for an overlay district and it would require 50 acres with 750 units to be built. He also told the BOSOC that they have run into an environmental issue with the Nod Road land fill and there may not be ARPA funds for the Nod Road pump station as discussed.

436 Main Street - Pump

Mr. Orcutt will check on the delivery of the pump

Review I&I Study

Mr. Rafferty said there are two parts:

1. (18) Manholes to be inspected before Mr. Delaney paves
2. Manhole inspections & need a CCTV contractor. He said some manholes are on the State Road and would require a Mass Dot permit.

Mr. Gmeiner asked Mr. Rafferty to check with Pepperell, he said they have a truck to do the CCTV work and there have been discussions of these services being provided to Groton under the IMA. Mr. Rafferty suggested maybe doing a pilot program and see how that goes.

Mr. Gmeiner said we need to know if we will be getting ARPA funds towards this and Mr. Bouchard said he thinks that depends on what happens with the land fill at Nod Road. Mr. Orcutt said we need to know about the I&I and about moving forward. He said there are two pieces, Identifying I&I and then about going in and making the repairs and also the manhole inspections. Mr. Rafferty said that would include the manholes on Main Street and there is another (85) that need to be done. Mr. Orcutt said at least we need to fix the manholes from Rt #40 to Elm Street where Mr. Delaney will be paving. He said we either use the ARPA funds if available or we do a transfer from reserves. Mr. Orcutt suggested a spring transfer of \$75K for I&I repairs and if we get the ARPA funds, we need to make sure we can spend this fiscal year.

Mr. Rafferty suggested we start with the manholes where Mr. Delaney will be paving and Mr. Bouchard said he would clarify with Mr. Haddad about the ARPA funds.

Pepperell IMA

Mr. Gmeiner asked Ms. Crory to send Mr. Rafferty the spreadsheet on the payments made to Pepperell.

Pepperell Procedure Questions

No update at this time

Review Nod Road Pump Station and Evaluation

Mr. Gmeiner suggested this be put on hold

Groton Hill Music – Plan Review/Construction Discussion

Mr. Rafferty told the BOSC they are getting ready to test the force main and he will not be present, but he will get the report. Mr. Gmeiner asked that a copy of that report be sent to Pepperell when he gets it.

227 Boston Road/Lindemer – Sewer Connection Update

Work is in progress and no updates at this time

Discussion of Proposed Sewer Commission Web Site

No discussion at this time

Sewer Abatement Policy

Mr. Gmeiner said he made a few edits to the policy that Mr. Bouchard sent for review. One of those edits was the maximum dollar amount of \$500 and asked the BOSC their thoughts on that. Mr. Orcutt said he feels there should be no dollar limit and that way it will be the BOSC decision and Mr. Bouchard agreed.

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to accept the revised Sewer Abatement Policy as written and Mr. Bouchard seconded and the motion passed unanimously; Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye, Orcutt-Aye and Bouchard-Aye

Center Sewer District Application – Vested Rights to Capacity

Mr. Bouchard made some wording edits to section 396-1 (C, D, E, F & G) and incorporated some language from Town Counsel.

Mr. Bouchard told the BOSC he added a section stating that the application does not establish vested rights to available capacity, the permit expires 180 days from the date of issuance.

Mr. Bouchard made a motion to accept the revised Sewer Application for the Center Sewer District & the Four Corners Sewer District as written and Mr. Orcutt seconded and the motion passed unanimously; Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye, Orcutt-Aye and Bouchard-Aye

FY22 & FY23 Budget

Ms. Crory told the BOSC that we have had a few inflated bills for Four Corners and we still have two more for this fiscal year, so we will need a transfer of \$12K.

For the Center Sewer District, she said the transfers needed would be \$10K for meters and \$60K for treatment to Pepperell and \$75K for manholes for a total of \$145K. She also told the BOSC at the end of last year we had a rate deficit of \$80K and it seems to be trending the same this year.

Other Business: Bills Minutes Etc.

29 Champney Street Abatement:

Ms. Crory told the BOSC we received a sewer abatement for 29 Champney Street for a burst pipe and they were billed for 174 sewer units for a total of \$3,282.20. The BOSC asked for more information regarding the burst pipe and how the water was actually removed from the basement and they will continue discussing at the next meeting.

Virtual Meetings:

Mr. Gmeiner made a motion to continue hold virtual meetings until July 15th, 2022 Mr. Orcutt seconded and the motion passed unanimously Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye, Orcutt-Aye and Bouchard-Aye

Next Meeting – March 16th, 2022

BILLS SIGNED – No bills signed

MINUTES: - January 10th, 2022

ADJOURN – *Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 4:10 PM Mr. Bouchard seconded the motion. Roll Call Gmeiner –Aye, Orcutt- Aye and Bouchard-Aye*

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant