



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department

173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: May 4th, 2022
Time: 2:00 PM

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

Others Virtually Present: Ann Livezey, Lauren Crory and Jean Nordine

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

491 Main Unit "G" - Grease Trap

Ms. Nordine told the BOSC that she is looking to move unit 491 G Main Street to 495 Main Street and was wondering if this is a possibility and what would need to be done and what size grease trap would be needed. Mr. Gmeiner said it is possible and the size of the grease trap would depend on the number of seats and the calculation according to Title V for a grease trap is 15/gpd per seat. He told Ms. Nordine that there would be connection fee's due because this would be considered a change of use. Mr. Gmeiner said the BOSC would need to know how many tables/new seats there would be and a restaurant according to Title V is 35/gpd per seat (example: 10 seats would equal 350/gpd which is about 1 ERU and the connection fee would be \$7,500.00).

Mr. Orcutt asked if the grease trap would be on the exterior and Mr. Gmeiner said those units are all slabs with no basements. Ms. Nordine said the grease trap for Groton Wellness is in the front on the small section of land located at 491/493 Main. Mr. Orcutt suggested Ms. Nordine contact an engineer to help located the current utilities to size the grease trap. Ms. Nordine asked what determines the seating capacity and how many they can have. Mr. Gmeiner said that is determined by the amount of floor space and the building code. Ms. Nordine said she would reach out to an engineer and Mr. Gmeiner told Ms. Nordine that we are getting close to limiting flows, so do not wait too long to make a decision.

Potential Mass Works Grant

No new information at this time

436 Main Street - Pump

No new information at this time

Review I&I Study

Mr. Gmeiner said the manholes need to be redone with new grout/brickwork, he said he spoke with Mr. Brinkman and they are all set to go, but then he found out Mr. Delaney is willing to get it done. Mr. Orcutt feels Mr. Delaney should just do it because it will go along with his scheduled work being done. Mr. Gmeiner asked that an email be sent to Mr. Delaney requesting that all brickwork needs to be removed and repaired.

Pepperell IMA

Mr. Gmeiner asked the BOSC if anyone has had time to review the list that Mr. Rafferty sent over. He said he made some edits and Mr. Bouchard said he is ok with the list and just feels like it may need some structure. Mr. Gmeiner said he would send the list over to Pepperell for discussion.

Mr. Bouchard asked if we are paying top rate to Pepperell and Mr. Gmeiner said “no” we are to Ayer. He said we are responsible for 25% of the WWTP and Mr. Bouchard said with the most recent rate increase he would like to keep the rate payers in mind.

Mr. Gmeiner suggested we add to have the air valves/gate valves inspected and maintained to the IMA. Mr. Orcutt asked if we don't add any low-pressure service mains, if we have an issue it needs to be flushed would we would have to pay extra for them to flush. Mr. Rafferty said the low-pressure lines were not included in the collection system O&M costs. Mr. Gmeiner said Mr. Brinkman did not add because he said there is no need to maintenance and it seems we beg to differ. Mr. Gmeiner said his concern is in the total length of pipe being used whether he included the low-pressure lines and not the force mains, so we need to find out what pipe are included in the calculations. Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC if we were not including the force main and the low-pressure lines then our percentage of pipe being used would change. If we do include, we are increasing the pipes in Groton and Mr. Rafferty shows about a 1% difference in cost, but we would need to confirm this.

Mr. Orcutt said they need to be included because if there is an issue, we need to be able to call Pepperell to handle because we do not have anyone in Groton. Mr. Gmeiner said this may be an increase in cost and Mr. Bouchard said that it would issue, increase allocation of pipe but we would get maintenance on them.

Mr. Gmeiner said we should review the difficulty factor and possibly consider getting this lowered. He also feels we need to see the staffing plan for 12-months and overhead costs. Mr. Gmeiner said he would make some edits as discussed and send out to the BOSC for review. Mr. Bouchard suggested adding a section for review once the IMA gets going, we have a 6-month review then maybe annual after that.

Review Nod Road Pump Station and Flow Evaluations

No updates at this time

Groton Hill Music – Plan-Review/Construction Discussion

No updates at this time

227 Boston Road/Lindemer – Sewer Connection Update

No updates at this time

FY22 & FY23 Budget

Ms. Crory said she is waiting on a few more bills and payments and should have an update for the next meeting. Mr. Gmeiner asked if we have manhole monies set aside and Mr. Orcutt said we encumbered that money.

Other Business: Bills, Minutes, etc.

Seven Hills: Mr. Gmeiner said they are knocking down (2) houses and putting up (1). Mr. Orcutt said it will be (7) rooms and (9) beds and staff. Mr. Gmeiner said it would be based on the bed count under Title V, which is 150/gpd per bed. Mr. Gmeiner asked how many beds were being removed from those (2) buildings and Mr. Orcutt said he would check the files.

Town Meeting: Mr. Orcutt said at Town Meeting we included the additional parcel into the district for (5) Dwelling units for Mr. Brem and the zoning change he mentioned was 30 units and up to 55 Dwellings Units. Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that the inter basin transfer issue that he is dealing with the Water Department is really a sewer issue. He said we have to deal with it and if we seek additional capacity to Pepperell for more development in the sewer district that will trigger an environmental issue. If we need more efficient pumps at Nod Road and we don't exceed current allocation of 275K a day that's ok and if we want 300K a day and want the 4 million upgrade that is a new issue and it could be a costly issue for the environmental impact report.

Mr. Gmeiner said if we are looking to increase the 275K that may be an issue. Mr. Gmeiner said we have approval to send 275K and did not have to do a whole town assessment, but we did spend \$600K in studies to get to that number. Mr. Gmeiner said the 275K is our upper limit and there would be a substantial cost to go above and beyond that number.

Next Meeting – May 18th, 2022

BILLS SIGNED – No bills signed

MINUTES: - March 30th, 2022

ADJOURN – *Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 3:40P.M. Mr. Bouchard seconded the motion. Roll Call Gmeiner –Aye, Orcutt- Aye and Bouchard-Aye*

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant