



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

**Town of Groton Sewer Department**

173 Main Street  
Groton MA 01450

**Date:** January 18th, 2023  
**Time:** 2:00 PM

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

**Others Virtually Present:** Ann Livezey, Lauren Crory, Judy Anderson, Attorney Robert Anctil, John Amaral and Amy Collins

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The Meeting was called to order by James Gmeiner at 2:00 PM

**500 Main Street – Groton Farms**

Mr. Anctil told the BOSC they are trying to calculate the sewer connection fees and wanted to know how the BOSC is at calculating that. He said they would like to have the history on NEBS/Deluxe and what they paid when they occupied the space. Mr. Gmeiner said he is happy to share that information but it would not be relevant to the connection fees. He said under our Regulations the fees are based on Title V associated with the current use and that there would be the credit for the NEBS/Deluxe capacity allocation. Mr. Gmeiner said we would need to know how many dwelling units there will be and the hard starting point would be what the square footage for NEBS/Deluxe had for the factory, office space and cafeteria. Mr. Anctil said they did look at that, but not confident with the number they came up with. Mr. Gmeiner said in the past Dufresne-Henry said there was 10K gpd expected flow and 200gpd semi photographic chemicals and we can provide you with a copy of that. Mr. Gmeiner did say that the Title V flows are double than what actual flows are on an annual basis. Mr. Anctil asked if we have records of usage that was assigned to each property. Mr. Gmeiner said there are issues with records showing what was paid by LA and NEBS to the point that we cannot figure out what figures were assigned. Mr. Gmeiner said the flows associated with it at the time was 150% of what was available at the plant and they paid \$300K of the \$4.5 million that the rate payers paid.

Mr. Gmeiner said the numbers don't make sense and trying to figure out the water usage is not easy because there was a series of subtracting/master meters and whatever numbers were generated are not accurate. Mr. Anctil asked how much historical data we have and Mr. Orcutt said we have some data because we changed billing companies and it only goes back so far.

Mr. Orcutt said if using the square footage then dividing into the 3 spaces that is how the regulations read and that would come up with a more generous number for Title V flows. Mr. Anctil said they did that and they did that based on the tax assessor data and he was hoping the BOSC would be able to provide that figure.

Mr. Gmeiner said regarding the regulations we use the current use design flow and not what it was at the time of connection and this is how we have been figuring the regulations since we adopted them. Mr. Anctil asked if this was used on the Groton Inn and Mr. Gmeiner said "No" that was done before we adopted these new regulations. Mr. Gmeiner said we have used them at the old Donelans location, the old bank, with some homeowners and the Oral Surgeon at Mill Run. He said under the new regulations we are not using what was the original flow associated, we use Title V.

Mr. Gmeiner said he knows there was a cafeteria and has no idea of seat count. Mr. Amaral told the BOSC he has a floor plan and it shows the use that split the call center, cafeteria and the new addition shipping/receiving. Mr. Amaral said the peak was about 800 people on different shifts and operated 24/7. Mr. Gmeiner said we will send the figures we have and just note that the data has been switched over and only goes back so far.

Mr. Anctil asked if they should send us a letter showing how they calculated their numbers and Mr. Gmeiner asked if they officially submitted and he said not yet, hopefully by the end of the month. Mr. Amaral said when they first came, we talked about needing 75K gpd and the calculation for the 40B is 200 units and mix 1-2-3 bedrooms and we will share that information. He said the bed count was tweaked because studios do not make sense, so that number changed. Mr. Amaral said this would mean they are coming in well below now for total gpd requested and would be about half the 75K gpd they requested for the whole site.

### **Pepperell MA**

Mr. Gmeiner said he has not reviewed the IMA yet. He told the BOSC that he would like Mr. Rafferty to attend the next meeting to discuss.

### **201 Boston Road/Lindemer New House**

Ms. Livezey told the BOSC that the sewer connection letter has been sent out regarding the connection of the existing house and the BOH has been notified.

### **Review I&I Study**

No discussion

### **Review Nod Road Pump Station and Flow Evaluation**

Mr. Orcutt told the BOSC that we are looking at least 17-18 months to get the whole facility completed with Scada, pumps and electrical. Mr. Gmeiner said the new Sewer Superintendent for Pepperell is uncomfortable with the condition of the existing pumps and strongly feels that they need to be replaced now. Mr. Gmeiner suggested we have the pumps replaced now before they fail and the BOSC was in agreement.

**Mr. Orcutt made a motion to have Pepperell replace (2) pumps at Nod Road. Mr. Bouchard seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call Gmeiner -Aye, Orcutt-Aye and Bouchard-Aye**

**220 Main Street (Parish House) – Capacity**

No discussion

**Expansion Limits**

Mr. Orcutt will continue working on this

**Groton Farms Application**

No discussion

**FY22 & FY23 Budget**

Ms. Crory told the BOSC she has not heard back from Ayer yet on the connection fees.

**Commission Reorganization**

No discussion

**Other Business: Bills, Minutes, etc.**

Mr. Bouchard said he is waiting on the annual flows for Pepperell to finish up the annual report. Mr. Bouchard also asked Ms. Crory to provide the flow numbers for Four Corners.

**Next Meeting** – February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023

**BILLS SIGNED** – No bills signed

**MINUTES:**

**Mr. Bouchard made a motion to accept the minutes of December 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 as amended & January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as written, Mr. Orcutt seconded and the motion passed unanimously.** Roll Call Gmeiner- Aye. Mr. Orcutt-Aye and Bouchard-Aye

**ADJOURN** – Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 3:05 P.M. Mr. Bouchard seconded the motion. Roll Call Gmeiner –Aye, Orcutt-Aye and Bouchard-Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey  
Water & Sewer Assistant