



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department
173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: September 20th, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM

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

Others Present: Don Black/Construction Supervisor, Kevin Lindemer/Resident, Mike McAndrew/Resident, Ann Livezey/Assistant, Lauren Crory/Business Manager and Judy Anderson/Resident

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

142 Main Street

Mr. McAndrew told the BOSC that he recently purchased 142 Main Street and his main focus is the front part of the house for his wife's business (Hair Salon) and they will do something with the carriage house at a later date. He said the front part has been used as office space and has three bathrooms. He said it is a total of 2800 sq. ft. and has unfinished attic space in the back. Mr. McAndrew said eventually for the carriage house they are thinking first floor office space with a two-bedroom apartment upstairs. Mr. Orcutt said the conversion would be office space to hair salon using Title V. Mr. Gmeiner said the calculation using Title V would be $2800 \div 1000 = 2.80 \times 75 = 210$, Beauty Salon is 100/gpd per chair and Mr. McAndrew said maybe 6-7 chairs. $700 - 210 = 490$
 $(490 \div 330 = 1.48 \times \$7,500.00 = \$11,136.00)$ so that ends up being 1.5 connection fee for change of use for (7) chairs. Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. McAndrew that payment would be due at the time the building permit is issued.

201 Boston Road

Mr. Black told the BOSC he has been in touch with Mr. Brinkman and discussed the AWWA C600 and C603 and pressure testing must provide 1.25 normal pressure in the line. Mr. Black said the average pressure max is 15lbs and the pressure test is 18.5 lbs. He said they went from a 2.5' pipe to a 1 1/2" pipe, due to the mishap and it holding a tremendous amount of pressure he was wondering if the BOSC would consider foregoing the pressure test. Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Black that would be up to Mr. Brinkman to make that decision and the BOSC would need confirmation from Mr. Brinkman. Mr. Orcutt asked what Overall Construction said and Mr. Black said they confirmed they installed it correctly. Mr. Gmeiner asked if they mentioned the pressure testing and anything about doing the test. Mr. Black said that the installer and (2) men from Pepperell were on site and Mr. Brinkman stopped by and nobody mentioned a pressure test needing to be done. Mr. Lindemer asked if there is any bylaw procedure or check list that tells us we need a pressure test. Mr. Gmeiner said that it is in the design requirements and Mr. Lindemer said it held 15 psi and if operating normal why is pressure test required. Mr. Gmeiner said its to check to see if any leaks anywhere and if it does not hold there would be an issue.

Mr. Lindemer said this test will take time and after fact, a regulation he was unaware of will disrupt his living and he will have to pay for it because the pressure was too strong and blew out. Mr. Gmeiner said the valve was closed

because it was supposed to be pressure tested and the installer is responsible for that. Mr. Black said the day of the explosion he called Pepperell and Mr. Brinkman said we would be charged time and a half. They came out and inspected the home and pumped out the manhole and they went back to turn on the valve. Mr. Lindemer said that he feels the process went smooth with all other departments and feels this is a procedural problem. He said he was unaware as a homeowner and has been put out and had a catastrophic event and feels the BOSC thinks its his fault. Mr. Gmeiner said the issue is, you used it before it was tested/inspected. Mr. Gmeiner said if Mr. Lindemer had applied for an occupancy permit the BOSC would have never signed off on it.

Mr. Lindemer feels there was miscommunication with Mr. Orcutt when he said we were all set. Mr. Orcutt replied he was at the home once and it was to inspect the water meter only and he told Mr. Lindemer that the licensed drainlayer knows the policy and procedures.

Mr. Gmeiner added that the connection was made and the application was not filled out, so he feels feels Mr. Lindemer is at fault. Mr. Gmeiner asked that the pressure test be done, submit the as built plan and he also asked Mr. Lindemer to provide the BOSC with documentation on expenses. Mr. Gmeiner said he would vote to pay the cost of the \$2K and would request a release be signed of claiming any other damages. Mr. Lindemer said he would he will submit something and he will present a cost for Mr. Black and his basement. He told the BOSC that the process and procedures are not up to standard and he would like to offer his help in making some revisions so this does not happen to someone else.

Mr. Gmeiner said the original plan showed the grinder pump outside and if we saw that showing it inside, we would have told you we do not recommend it. He said last week the BOSC took a vote to have grinder pumps installed outside and this will be an exception to Pepperell's regulations.

Procedures:

Mr. Lindemer suggested that the procedures be written based on who/what/why. Mr. Bouchard said the installer coordinates with Pepperell, they install/inspect and Groton gets notified. Mr. Lindemer told the BOSC that adding water/sewer sign off to the physical occupancy permit would be helpful.

Permitting:

Mr. Orcutt said this is all done electronically now. Mr. Lindemer suggested a permit process would be helpful too and suggested that when you file a permit a breakdown of inspections is given. Mr. Black said it should be clear that the room count is based on Title V standards and accurate with the BOH.

Abatement – 217 Main Street

No Discussion

Pepperell IMA

No Discussion

Discuss regulations regarding change of use

No Discussion

Review Sewer Application

Mr. Orcutt said we should add that a State/Local Road opening is required. Mr. Lindemer suggested having the contractor who is doing the work apply and pay for the permit and inspection fees, having them all included would simplify. He said that would make it consistent with all the other departments

Indoor Grinder Pumps

No Discussion

500 Main Street – Groton Farms

No Discussion

Review I&I

No Discussion

Review Nod Road Pump Station and Flow evaluation

No Discussion

Expansion Limits

No Discussion

FY23 & FY24 Budget

No Discussion

Other Business: Bills, Minutes, etc.

Next Meeting – September 28th, 2023

BILLS SIGNED – No bills signed

MINUTES:

ADJOURN – Mr. Bouchard made a motion to adjourn at 3:49 P.M. Mr. Orcutt seconded the motion. Roll Call Gmeiner – Aye, Orcutt – Aye and Bouchard - Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant