



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department
173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: October 18th, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM

Members Virtually Present: Chair/James Gmeiner
Clerk/Thomas Orcutt

Others Present: Melissa Robbins/Westford Law, Katie Enright/Howard, Stein & Hudson, Donald Vandyne, Ann Livezey/Assistant and Lauren Crory/Business Manager

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

797 Boston Road – Sewer Capacity

Ms. Robbins said the proposed plan is for a 24 Unit -Age Restricted Development and it is 100% within regulations for 55 and over. Ms. Enright said due to the pickle ball proposal being defeated, they are proposing a two-building property with (12) 2-Bedroom units and (12) 1-bed units and the parcel is just under 3-acres. Ms. Robbins pointed out that the Town Manager thought this would be a great site for this project and she estimated needing 3,120/gpd. Ms. Robbins said she understands if they get approved for the capacity requested, they would have to go back to Town Meeting. She said that Mr. Grossman has approved the designed septic and suggested we have the town sewer option approved. Ms. Enright said this is a nitrogen sensitive area and connecting to the town sewer would be a better option.

Mr. Gmeiner said this parcel is not in the district and was intentionally left out because the grant was for mixed business and mixed housing. He also said the BOSC recently voted to eliminate the extension of the district. This was due to the approved amount of the interbasin and we cannot go back to Ayer for more capacity. He said there is some extra capacity set aside, but that would take away from other parcels in the district.

Mr. Orcutt asked what was the break out for the project and Ms. Enwright said (12) 2-Bedrooms @ 150/gpd and (12) 1-Bedrooms @ 110/gpd. Mr. Orcutt said we did vote a restriction a few months ago, but that was more for the Center Sewer District and capacity allotment with Pepperell. He said we did relinquish some back to the State with the interbasin transfer so we do have a limit with Ayer. Therefore, he is not sure we can expand the district to take away from what's in the district.

Mr. Gmeiner told Ms. Robbins they can still take this to town meeting without the BOSC approval. Mr. Orcutt suggested we take a closer look at the numbers and the other parcels not in the nitrogen sensitive zone. Mr. Gmeiner agreed and told Ms. Robbins the BOSC will review and get back to her. Ms. Robbins also mentioned that if this was approved, they could enter into an agreement that is contingent for this project.

Abatement – 217 Main Street

Ms. Crory said she received an abatement request for 217 Main Street, due to an outside water tap leaking and has been fixed. The average quarterly use is 18 units (\$188.55) and they were charged for 53 units (\$896.98). Mr. Orcutt suggested that we bill the sewer units at Tier 1 since they have determined where the leak was and have resolved the issue.

Mr. Orcutt made a motion to abate the sewer charges for the 2nd quarter and bill them at the Tier 1 sewer rate for a total of \$469.00 Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye and Orcutt-Aye

Discuss Regulations regarding Change of Use

No update

201 Boston Road

No Update

Pepperell IMA

Still Working on it

500 Main Street – Groton Farms

No Update

Review I&I

Waiting on an update from Pepperell

Review Nod Road Pump Station and Flow evaluation

Mr. Gmeiner said that Mr. Rafferty and Mr. Brinkman are still working on the by-pass and they will get us a proposal for the flow meter too.

FY23 & FY24 Budget

Ms. Crory said that the rate income is trending as it should and the final numbers for Center Sewer District is \$658K and Four Corners is \$422K.

Mr. Gmeiner asked Mr. Orcutt if Mr. Haddad still had ARPA Money and Mr. Orcutt said he did not think so. Mr. Gmeiner said he will check because he thought there was ARPA Money reserved for I&I.

Other Business: Bills, Minutes, etc.

Next Meeting – November 1st, 2023

BILLS SIGNED – No bills signed

MINUTES: Mr. Orcutt made a motion to approve the minutes of September 28th, 2023 and October 3rd, 2023 as amended Mr. Gmeiner seconded. *Roll Call Gmeiner–Aye and Orcutt–Aye*

ADJOURN – *Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 2:45 P.M. Mr. Orcutt seconded. Roll Call Gmeiner–Aye and Orcutt–Aye*

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant