



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

Town of Groton Sewer Department
173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: December 6th, 2023

Time: 2:00 PM

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

Others Present: Russ Ursprung, Deb Ursprung, Lauren Crory/Business Manager and Ann Livezey/Assistant

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

6 Fairway Drive – Sewer Connection

Mr. Ursprung said his septic was installed in 1966 and with all the rain the tank overflows into the yard and has had to have it pumped and they do not think it would pass inspection. He also said the pipe leading from house to tank is collapsing. He said he did have Mr. Lagasse come out to price out a new system and when walking the property he said his neighbor had a very similar situation. After looking at the property he did not think it was feasible to replace the septic because of the water table. Mr. Lagasse suggested that he reach out to the Sewer Department to discuss this in further detail.

Mr. Gmeiner said he is familiar with the property and the property is not in the district so it would require a Town Meeting vote. Mr. Gmeiner said we will provide the policy and guidelines to review and we will need to have a public hearing to take a position on the proposal to extend the district. Mr. Gmeiner also told them that if you are accepted into the district, it is mandatory that the sewer connection is done.

Mr. Gmeiner said after you think about it, we will need to get an article together for the spring Town Meeting. It would be helpful if you have a Title V inspection showing that it is in failure. We will send you a copy of the Sewer Allocation Policy that shows we are not in favor of extending the district, but since you are in failure it would be considered. Mr. Gmeiner asked that a written estimate of the cost of replacing the system is provided. Mr. Gmeiner also said that since the neighbor did the initial extension more than five years ago, she would not be owed money because she installed the line.

Some other fees included would be the cost of the grinder pump \$5,000.00 est., connection fee of \$7,500.00, inspection fee of \$500.00 and application fee of \$150.00. Mr. Gmeiner said we require the grinder pump installed outside; we do not want installed in the basement.

Review Sewer Commission Applicants

No update

797 Boston Road – Sewer Capacity

Mr. Gmeiner said he will crunch some numbers so we can get back to them. Mr. Orcutt said they are doing this both ways they are designing an onsite septic and going to town meeting.

Discuss Regulations Regarding Change of Use

Mr. Gmeiner is still working on this.

201 Boston Road

No Update

Pepperell IMA

Mr. Gmeiner will reach out and see what is going on.

Review I&I

No update

Review Nod Road Pump Station and Flow evaluation

Mr. Gmeiner said they did get some numbers on the bypass work, the flow meter and the fence. He will reach out to Mr. Rafferty to discuss.

FY24 & FY25 Budget

Ms. Crory said Four Corners for FY25, we got the Ayer Sewer Bill for \$10K and looked into it and looks like we did not estimate enough. Due to Shaw's fluctuation, she used a conservative number and should have carried a higher number. She said we budgeted \$30K and feels we will be short, she said we could do a transfer later. Mr. Gmeiner said he would rather have it adjusted now than do a transfer. Mr. Orcutt said revise as necessary and submit to Mr. Hadad.

Mr. Gmeiner asked if the number for Nod Road was added to the Center Sewer budget and Ms. Crory said yes that \$250K pump upgrade and adjusted the transfer for another \$150K.

Other Business: Bills, Minutes, etc.

Next Meeting – December 20th, 2023

BILLS SIGNED – No bills signed

MINUTES: Mr. Orcutt made a motion to approve the minutes of November 14th, 2023 and November 15th, 2023 as written Mr. Gmeiner seconded. *Roll Call Gmeiner–Aye and Orcutt–Aye*

ADJOURN – Mr. Orcutt made a motion to adjourn at 2:40 P.M. Mr. Gmeiner seconded. Roll Call Gmeiner–Aye and Orcutt–Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant