



Chair/James Gmeiner
Vice Chair/Eric Berg

Town of Groton Sewer Department

173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: May 7, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM

Members Virtually Present: Chair/James Gmeiner
Vice Chair/Eric Berg

Others Present: Lauren Crory/Business Manager and Ann Livezey/Assistant

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

Betterment Contribution

Mr. Gmeiner asked Ms. Livezey to reach out to Mr. Ursprung to see if he obtained a copy of the document for the betterment contribution.

Abatement Request – 1 Chicopee Row

Ms. Crory said she received an abatement request for a toilet leak. The Customer received a bill for (2) qtrs. that was double the normal usage units and after doing some investigating, he realized he had a leaky toilet. He has since had the issue fixed by a plumber and has submitted receipts and he has also been signed up for leak alerts. Ms. Crory said the total abatement for both qtrs. would be \$596.91.

Mr. Berg made a motion to abate \$327.28 for the first qtr. and \$269.63 for the 2nd qtr. for a total amount of \$596.91. Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Ayer and Berg-Aye

GDRHS True Up

Ms. Crory said the GDRHS is currently being charged \$7,277.00 which was increased from \$5,455.00 so she is hoping when we get the true up from Pepperell, they may not owe anything. Ms. Crory asked if it turns out there is an increase when we get the true up from Pepperell should we start calculating that now. Mr. Gmeiner replied that maybe we look at how many months are left in the year and if they do owe more, we just bump it up for the remaining months.

What Not to Flush Insert

The BOSC was in agreement to accept the revised "What Not to Flush Flyer". The Water Department will split the cost of this flyer and they are working on their design.

Mr. Berg made a motion to accept the design for the "What Not to Flush Flyer" Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Ayer and Berg-Aye.

Discuss Rate Hearing Points

Mr. Gmeiner asked Ms. Crory to run the rates at a 5%, 7.5% and 10% increase for the rate hearing. They will hold the rate hearing on June 4th to discuss a potential increase. Mr. Gmeiner said we also may want to discuss application fees and maybe consider restructuring. Mr. Berg suggested that maybe we charge the application fee upfront and if they do follow through with the work, they get a credit.

Ms. Crory brought up the minimum sewer charge on the bills which is \$8.86 and suggested removing this line from the bills. She said she will work on running a report to see how many users this would affect.

Ms. Crory told the BOSC that there will be a slight increase in the rates we pay to Ayer and she will review the numbers for the next meeting.

FY25 & FY26 Budget

Ms. Crory told the BOSC we need to do a transfer from General Expenses for Old Ayer Road Betterments due to a shortfall of \$7,430.01. This is due to discrepancies in estimated funds and early payoffs.

Mr. Gmeiner asked that Ms. Crory get a debt service balance update from Ms. Dufresne.

Mr. Berg made a motion to transfer \$7,430.01 from General Expenses for Old Ayer Road Betterments Mr. Gmeiner seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye and Berg-Aye

Other Business: Bills, Minutes, etc.

Next Meeting – May 21st, 2025

BILLS SIGNED – No bills signed

MINUTES: No minutes approved

ADJOURN – *Mr. Berg made a motion to adjourn at 3:05 PM. Mr. Gmeiner seconded. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye and, Berg - Aye*

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant