



Commissioners:
James Gmeiner/Chair
Eric A. Berg/Vice Chair
Darius A. Budrys/Clerk

Town of Groton Sewer Department
173 Main Street
Groton MA 01450

Date: July 23rd, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM

Members Virtually Present: James Gmeiner/Chair
Eric Berg/Vice Chair
Darius Budrys/Clerk

Others Virtually Present: Ann Livezey/Assistant and Al Chamberlain/Resident

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

139 Hollis Street – Sewer Connection

Mr. Chamberlain said he has lived in Groton since 1981 and the septic system has been fine and he has maintained it over the years. He told the BOSC that he has a 4-bedroom home and they would like to connect to the town sewer. He said he recalls that 20 years ago they came down Hollis Street and up Champney Street and back then he did not think to connect because he was told he was not in the district. Then someone on Hollis Street needed to replace their septic, but wanted to connect to the town sewer so there was a petition to get the line extended. He told the BOSC he remembers paying the \$250.00 fee for the sewer connection commitment, but no longer has the receipt.

Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Budrys this predates his time on the commission. He said that he was aware that various properties had not hooked up at that time and also if you couldn't hook up by gravity you were exempt from the mandatory hook up bylaw. He said the Chamberlains was one of those properties and before Mr. Gmeiner was on the wastewater committee the fee to secure a connection was \$250.00 and shortly after that it jumped to \$600.00 and then maybe a year or two later it was \$2500.00 for the connection fee.

Mr. Gmeiner said he had been under the impression Mr. Chamberlain paid the \$250.00 because the properties were divided into properties that couldn't hook up and those that would not and some that wouldn't hook up eventually had a lien of \$2500.00 on their taxes. He said there is no file on this property and there are no records of the fee being paid. Mr. Gmeiner told the BOSC that the question becomes whether or not Mr. Chamberlain paid the \$250.00 connection fee 30 years ago or is he responsible for the current fee for connecting the house only.

Mr. Berg joined the meeting and Mr. Budrys brought him up to speed and he asked if he had some sort of documentation showing the payment was made and asked Mr. Chamberlain why he wanted to connect now. Mr.

Chamberlain replied he and his wife are retired now and would like hook up and modernize into the new century. He said he is unable to provide proof of payment because it was over 30-years ago and he does not have a record of it.

Mr. Gmeiner made a motion that Mr. Chamberlain paid the \$250.00 connection fee for the sewer connection to the house only and Mr. Budrys seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye, Berg - Aye and Budrys-Aye.

Mr. Gmeiner told Mr. Chamberlain if he was to connect the cottage at a later date, he would be responsible to pay the current connection fee. Mr. Gmeiner also told him that the he would not be able to use the toilet in the cottage after the new sewer connection is made and that the septic tank would need to be abandoned according to the BOH, which means the tank gets crushed and it would be filled in.

FY25 & FY26 Budget

No update on the Budget at this time.

Other Business: Bills, Minutes, etc.

Next Meeting – August 7th, 2025

BILLS SIGNED: No bills signed

MINUTES: Mr. Budrys made a motion to approve the minutes of June 11th, 2025 as written Mr. Gmeiner seconded. Roll Call: Gmeiner–Aye, Berg–Aye and Budrys-Aye

ADJOURN: Mr. Berg made a motion to adjourn at 3:00 PM. Mr. Gmeiner seconded. Roll Call: Gmeiner–Aye, Berg – Aye and Budrys-Aye

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant