



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: September 3rd, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM

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

Others Virtually Present: Lauren Crory/Business Manager, Ann Livezey/Assistant and Judy Anderson/Resident

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

Pepperell

The BOSC discussed concerns about a proposed standalone emergency room plan, including Mr. Brinkman's comments about the lateral being too close to drainage lines and potential issues with a "doghouse" manhole installation. Mr. Brinkman expressed concerns about the difficulty of correctly installing the manhole, which would involve connecting to an active sewer main, and noted that such installations tend to leak. Mr. Brinkman recommending connecting to a manhole on the west side of Mill-Run Plaza entrance instead of the originally proposed location. This alternative route would avoid issues with ledge, water mains, and the need to use smaller 4-inch house laterals instead of the preferred 6-inch commercial pipe. Mr. Brinkman will attend the next meeting to discuss the engineering aspects of this new connection point.

FY25 & FY26 Budget

Ms. Crory reported we are doing fine financially and awaiting the certified cash number. Ms. Crory confirmed Pepperell is billing \$52,000 per month as planned. The group discussed an upcoming true-up review in October, and Mr. Gmeiner mentioned plans for Mr. Brinkman to explain how the true-up process works for the IMA.

Other Business: Bills, Minutes, etc.

The group discussed a proposal from Apex to prepare materials for bidding services at Four Corners, which includes reviewing submissions and issuing recommendations. Mr. Gmeiner explained that Apex's role extends beyond just creating the RFQ, as they will manage the bidding process, handle questions, and potentially modify the project timeline based on bidder input.

They reviewed a plan for on-call services and considered the availability of reserves, which is about \$400,000. They decided to proceed with the current engineering firm, Apex, rather than going out to bid for consulting services, as they have a good working relationship and the process would be time-consuming. They also noted that Apex handles both Four Corners and Center Sewer projects, with Center being more extensive due to Pepperell's involvement.

Mr. Gmeiner discussed their long-standing relationship with Apex Engineering, where Mr. Rafferty was the main contact for over 15 years. Despite Mr. Rafferty's departure, the team decided to continue working with Apex, as Mr. Schimdt is now the main contact and is handling the water PFAS project.

Mr. Berg made a motion to approve the proposal from Apex for engineering services for Four Corners Mr. Budry's seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Roll Call: *Gmeiner-Aye, Berg – Aye and Budrys-Aye*

Next Meeting – September 17th, 2025

BILLS SIGNED: No bills signed

MINUTES: *Mr. Budrys made a motion to approve the minutes of August 20, 2025 as written Mr. Berg Seconded. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye, Berg-Aye and Budrys-Aye*

ADJOURN: *Mr. Berg made a motion to adjourn at 2:55 PM. Mr. Gmeiner seconded. Roll Call: Gmeiner-Aye, Berg – Aye and Budrys-Aye*

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Livezey
Water & Sewer Assistant