

TOWN OF GROVELAND

2023 OCT 30 AM 11:40

TOWN CLERK
RECEIVED/POSTED

**BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, August 24, 2023**

ATTENDEES: David Greenbaum, RS, CHO, Chairperson
James Stepanian, Member
Rudianne Collins, Member
Rosemary Decie, RS, Health Agent
Anita Wright, RN, Public Health Nurse (Absent)
Lori Bentsen, Administrative Asst.

This Board of Health meeting was held in the Health Department at town hall.

Meeting Open: 6:30 PM

AGENDA:

First item on the agenda is 188 Seven Star Rd., 1 variance request. Jim Scanlan, PE, Scanlan Engineering, PO Box 906, Georgetown, MA was in attendance to discuss the specifics of the variance with the Board. Jim said this is a three bedroom dwelling and the septic system is in failure. Jim said he is proposing the new system be stone and pipe with a 20 feet by 38 feet leach field and possibly use the existing 1,500 gallon tank provided it passes inspection. Jim said the new system meets the requirement of being 100 feet from the well. Jim said he is requesting a 1 foot variance on ground water so he can avoid a pump. The variance requested is;

REGULATIONS: 310CMR15.212(1), REQUIRED: 4 FT TO ESHGW PERC > 2 MIN/IN, PROVIDED: 3 FT TO ESHGW LOCAL UPGRADE APPROVAL
Greenbaum made a motion to approve 1 variance for 188 Seven Star Rd., Collins seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Second on the agenda is 10 Ashcroft Circle, 1 variance request. John Pettis, III, PE, 15 Cedarcrest Lane, Bradford, MA was in attendance to discuss the variance with the Board. The homeowner, Brad Brooks was also in attendance. Rosemary said the variance that is requested is to the local bylaw which states you have to have a perc within the area of the leach field. Rosemary said everything else was consistent, it was less than a 2 minute perc. John said there is an intermittent stream with a finger of wetlands so I had to move the leach field further to the front of the lot, therefore, the perc test is 7.5 feet from the septic system. The variance requested is;

REQUESTED LOCAL UPGRADE APPROVAL
PERC TEST OUTSIDE PROPOSED SAS (7.5' AWAY)

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2023 – Page 2

Greenbaum made a motion to approve 1 variance for 10 Ashcroft Circle, Stepanian seconded and it was unanimous vote.

Third on the agenda is 20 Rollins St., 1 variance request. Robert Grasso, RLS, Engineering Land Services, PO Box 41, West Newbury, MA was in attendance to discuss the variance with the Board. Bob told the Board that this a 4 bedroom dwelling and the septic system is in failure. Bob said the new system will have a 2,000 gallon combo tank with a 20 feet by 42 feet conventional pipe and stone leach field. Bob said he is asking for a 1 foot reduction to groundwater so he can avoid grading to abutter's property. The variance request is;

REDUCTION IN GROUNDWATER SEPARATION TO BOTTOM BED OF S.A.S. FROM 5' REQUIRED TO 4' PROVIDED. (310 CMR 15.212)

Greenbaum made a motion to approve 1 variance for 20 Rollins St., Collins seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Fourth on the agenda is 789 Salem St., 1 variance request. William Dufresne, SE, Merrimack Engineering Services, 66 Park St., Andover, MA was in attendance to discuss the specifics of the variance with the Board. Also, in attendance were homeowners Todd and Toni LaPorte. Bill told the Board that the existing system is in the rear and he has moved the new system to the front of the house to avoid a pump system which will require a variance to ground water. The variance requested is;

LOCAL UPGRADE APPROVAL REQUESTED FOR OFFSET TO ESWT FROM 4' TO 3'

Greenbaum made a motion to approve 1 variance for 789 Salem St., Collins seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Fifth item on the agenda is 6 Coleman Rd. William Dufresne, SE, Merrimack Engineering Services, 66 Park St., Andover MA was in attendance. Also, in attendance was Paul Wilkinson, P. A. Wilkinson, Inc., 41 Low St., Newbury, MA. Bill told the Board that deviations from the approved septic system design plan occurred during installation. The first deviation is the septic tank is 9 feet from the foundation, without a waiver from the Board to do so, Title 5 mandates that it be 10 feet. Second, the leach field was constructed 0.1 foot lower than proposed. Third, leach pipes vary in slope from S=0.3% to 0.15% where 0.50% was proposed. Stepanian asked Rosemary her opinion on the deviations and Rosemary stated she is not happy on what transpired or the installation. Stepanian said his big concern is will this system function properly for the new homeowners. Collins said that is her concern, as well, and asked Rosemary if 2 out of the 3 problems can be fixed without redoing the entire system. Rosemary said she discussed the septic tank deviation with Bill and told him she could live with that.

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2023 – Page 3

Rosemary said her concern was the leach field was installed lower than the variance to ground water the Board approved at the previous Board meeting. Rosemary told the Board that she wouldn't have a problem with 1 deviation, however, there were 3 deviations from the plan and Rosemary said she felt it should be brought to the Board's attention. Greenbaum said he was very concerned about the Board approving the deviations and then something goes wrong with the system. Bill Dufresne said septic systems fail for a lot of reasons that are out of our control and it depends on how the homeowner takes care of the system. Bill told the Board that in his opinion and years of experience, all of the deviations are within acceptable tolerances of construction. Bill said every town has their tolerances on what is accepted in terms of where everything is relative to the plan and a tenth of a foot is, generally, an acceptable tolerance. Bill said the issue is does the Board think that because we are 2.9 feet from the water table instead of 3 feet, would this be criteria for failure. Greenbaum said more than likely not. Rosemary asked Bill about the erosion problem. Bill said at the rear of this property there has always been a drainage swale due to the slope and with all the heavy rain we have had some of the loam has washed away and Paul will bring in another load of loam. Greenbaum said he wants Bill to inform the new homeowners about the 3 deviations and Greenbaum said he also wants the deviations noted on the as-built. The Board agreed. Greenbaum made a motion to approve 1 variance for 6 Coleman Rd. for the distance of the septic tank from foundation wall from 10 feet to 9 feet, Stepanian seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Sixth on the agenda is review minutes for approval. Greenbaum made a motion to approve meeting minutes of June 15, 2023, Collins seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Next agenda item is Trash & Recycle Committee. Greenbaum said that the Selectmen decided to form a trash and recycle committee to review the current trash contract and look at options moving forward. Greenbaum said we are in the third year of a five (5) year contract with Waste Management and the contract will expire on 6/30/26. Greenbaum said the Selectmen would like a member from the Board of Health to sit on the committee. Greenbaum made a motion that the appointee to the Trash & Recycle Committee will be Board of Health member Jim Stepanian with alternate David Greenbaum and Lori Bentsen will attend meetings as needed, Collins seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Next agenda item is Personnel Evaluations. Greenbaum stated that the Board will not have the evaluations completed by the town administrator's due date of 8/31/23. Greenbaum said the evaluations have to be done individually and

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2023 – Page 4

possibly in executive session and that is going to take time. Greenbaum stated his expectation is to have the evaluations completed at some point in November.

Last on the agenda is other agenda items not anticipated at time of posting. The public health nurse was not present at this meeting and Anita asked Lori to give the Board a covid-19 report that she had drafted. Lori told the Board that Anita would like their approval to present and discuss the covid-19 report with the Selectmen at their next meeting. The Board reviewed the report and said they will take it under advisement and will table to the next Board meeting. The Board stated that they would like the public health nurse to investigate holding a flu clinic in town, the cost of disposal of syringes from a medical waste company, such as New England Medical Waste, Middleton and Stericycle and to hold informational seminars for the residents on topics such as covid-19, shingles, lyme disease, diabetes, etc.

Meeting adjourned: 8:05 PM

Next Board of Health meeting will be scheduled as needed
Meeting minutes transcribed by Lori Bentsen, Administrative Asst
Board of Health approved minutes 10/26/23