

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 23, 2004**  
**Town Hall, Groton, Massachusetts**

Board of Health Members Present:

Dr. Susan Horowitz, Chairman; Jodi Deuger, Matthew Waterman

Others Present:

Debra Butcher, Ben Cutone, R.S. (arrived at 7:00pm)

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Horowitz called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Minutes: Regular session minutes of January 26, 2004 & February 9, 2004 were approved.

Bills Approved/Signed:

- \*Fleet Pride-\$22.88
- \*Dr. Susan Sundstrom-\$2,200.00
- \*Barnes Distribution-\$57.93
- \*CTC Communications (BOH)-\$58.97
- \*CTC Communications (SW)-\$32.08
- \*Liberty Supply Inc. -\$202.90
- \*Reliable Office Products-\$54.46
- \*Airgas-\$145.46
- \*Shattuck Oil-\$73.30
- \*Shattuck Oil-\$156.35

Permits Approved/Signed:

- \*38 Fitch Bridge Road; Margie Mitchell
- \*147 Hill Road; Paul Killian

Covanta Contract Present: Bruce Dubey, Transfer Station Supervisor; Tessa David & Michael Brady, Recycling Committee; Selectman Virginia Wood

Mr. Dubey stated that the current contract between Covanta and the Town of Groton will expire in June of 2005. He stated it was necessary to begin discussions on a new contract. He informed the Board that he has a scheduled meeting with Covanta Thursday (February 26, 2004) and it was his intent to begin preliminary discussions on an extension.

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Chairman Horowitz asked what the going rate was on tipping fees. Mr. Dubey stated that it was around \$85 per ton and that the Town of Groton was currently paying \$54 per ton. Mr. Dubey stated that the current contract has been in existence for 20 years.

Selectman Virginia Wood suggested that Mr. Dubey call neighboring towns to see what their contract involved and to share resources. The Board of Health agreed that we could use another town's

contract as a model.

The Board agreed that Mr. Dubey should contact surrounding towns to see if we can obtain a copy of their contract and to compare our tipping fees and specifications. The Board took no further action and agreed to reconvene in April after more information is received.

147 Hill Road Present: Daniel Wolfe, P.E., Ross Associates; Paul Killian, owner; Rich Peterson, abutter at 141 Hill Road

Mr. Wolfe presented the upgrade design for this existing four bedroom dwelling that failed a Title 5 inspection. He stated that when soil testing was conducted, ledge was observed in the backyard where the existing system was currently located which created a need to design the system closer to the roadway. He stated that the property has an existing pool.

The following variances were requested:

Local Upgrade Approval:

310 CMR 15.405(1) - Reduction of the required offset from groundwater from four feet. Applicant is proposing three feet.

Town of Groton's Local Regulation:

Section I.A.5 - Minimum groundwater offset from four feet. Applicant is proposing three feet.

Section I.E.6 - Minimum offset of thirty-five feet must be available between the edge of any street, passageway or road line and the entire exterior perimeter of any proposed leach areas. Applicant is proposing 16 feet.

Section I.E.9 - Minimum of 15 feet must be available between the edge of a soil absorption system and an adjacent side slope, measured from the top of the peastone elevation in the soil absorption system. The finished side slope is not to be steeper than 3:1. Walls and impervious barriers are not allowed to adjust the side slope requirement and offset. Applicant is proposing polyethylene barrier and retaining wall.

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Chairman Horowitz asked if the system were placed in the front yard, would it be a "mountain". Mr. Wolfe stated that the plan called for a bolder retaining wall to support the system.

Discussion continued regarding possible runoff and standing water concerns. Dr. Horowitz asked if the new system could be placed in the original area. Mr. Wolfe stated that the best alternative for the upgrade is in the front because of the ledge.

*Member Matthew Waterman left the meeting at 7:40pm.*

Member Jodi Deuger made a motion to approve the requested variances. The motion carried unanimously (Dr. Horowitz and Ms. Deuger voting).

323 Martins Pond Road: Present: Stan Dillis, Dillis & Mische

Mr. Dillis stated that due to the existing topography and the slope of the lot, the system as designed would need the following variances:

Town of Groton's Local Regulation

- Section I.A.5 - Minimum of five feet of pervious material between the bottom of the leaching facility and the groundwater elevation and/or any impervious layer. Applicant is proposing four feet of material.

Section I.E.9 - Minimum of 15 feet must be available between the edge of a soil absorption system and an adjacent side slope, measured from the top of the peastone elevation in the soil absorption system. The finished side slope is not to be steeper than 3:1. Walls and impervious barriers are not allowed to adjust the side slope requirement and offset. Applicant is proposing to use a 2:1 slope with an impervious barrier.

310 CMR 15.404(2)(d) Size reduction of up to 25%. Applicant is proposing 18% reduction.

Mr. Dillis stated that the Title 5 failed and the house was for sale.

The Board had no further questions after the presentation. Member Jodi Deuger made a motion to approve the variances. The motion carried unanimously (Dr. Horowitz & Ms. Deuger voting).

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169 Broadmeadow Road: Present: Stan Dillis, Robert Collins

Mr. Dillis presented the upgrade design requiring the following variance:

Town of Groton's Local Regulation

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Section I.A.5 - Minimum of five feet of pervious material between the bottom of the leaching facility and the groundwater elevation and/or any impervious layer. The offset above groundwater may be increased depending upon climatic and/or site conditions. Applicant is proposing four feet of material due to size constraints.

Attorney Collins stated that the system was placed where the land was the most flat and prevent trees from being taken down.

Member Deuger made a motion to approve the variance as written. The motion carried unanimously (Dr. Horowitz and Ms. Deuger voting).

OTHER BUSINESS

1. 36 Willowdale Road – Health Agent Ben Cutone requested approval to send the owners an order letter to requesting the removal of all garbage and rubbish from the property. He stated that on a recent inspection, there was rubbish items dispersed on the property including a toilet and trash. Member Deuger made a motion to send the letter. The motion carried unanimously.
2. Community Septic Systems – The Board discussed the concept of community septic systems in areas such as the Lost Lake area. The Board supported the idea as long if he need arose.
3. Groton Gardens – Comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals – It was the Board's understanding that the property was being served by town water and sewer. They requested that the memo include that historical information on the commercial and agricultural use be known at the time of application.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.

GROTON BOARD OF HEALTH

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Dr. Susan Horowitz  
Chairman

Jodi Deuger

Matthew Waterman

Debra A. Butcher  
Administrator