

**TOWN OF GROTON  
Groton Board of Health  
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**Office Hours: Monday – Friday 7am- 3pm**

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**MEETING MINUTES  
November 7, 2005  
Town Hall, Groton, Massachusetts**

**Board of Health Members Present:**

Robert Hanninen; Chairman; Dr. Susan Horowitz; Jason Weber

**Others Present:**

Debra Butcher; Ben Cutone, R.S.

**Meeting Called to Order:**

Chairman Hanninen called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

**Minutes Approved:**

The minutes of September 19, 2005; September 26, 2005 & October 3, 2005 were tabled.

**Septic Permits Approved/Signed:**

- \*Forest Drive, Lot B33; Robert Lacombe
- \*65 Boathouse Road; Rob Buonopane
- \*506 Old Dunstable Road; Lot 12; High Oaks Realty
- \*Worthen Drive; Lot 6; David Galvin

**Bills Approved/Signed:**

- \*Container Recycling Alliance-\$1153.26
- \*Ayer Auto Parts-\$94.52
- \*Granite State Concrete-\$240.00
- \*Moore's Lumber-\$458.32
- \*Lamarre & Son-\$4938.12
- \*Airgas-\$24.50
- \*Moison Ace Hardware-\$78.77
- \*Groton Electric Light Department-\$8.97
- \*Groton Electric Light Department-\$55.03
- \*Groton Electric Light Department-\$20.29
- \*ApparelMaster-\$77.28
- \*Covanta-\$4106.45
- \*Advance Security Systems-\$18.33
- \*Levine Fricke-\$2047.00
- \*GeoInsight-\$2802.80
- \*Belmont Springs-\$27.00
- \*Verizon Long Distance (SW)-\$.19
  
- \*Verizon Long Distance (BOH)-(-\$.46)
- \*Verizon (BOH)-\$36.72
- \*Verizon (SW)-\$18.99

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211 Whiley Road:

Property owner Robbin Lawrence was not present for the discussion.

*Member Jason Weber recused himself from discussion.*

Mr. Cutone stated that no Title 5 inspection report has officially be submitted, however, he understood that the inspection was conducted by Robert Lacombe.

Dr. Horowitz questioned whether the Board could issue an enforcement letter to have the Title 5 report submitted to the Board of Health office. Mr. Cutone stated "yes". Dr. Horowitz made a motion to send an enforcement letter to Mr. Lawrence to have the inspection report submitted within (7) days in order to review it at the Board's next meeting. The motion was accepted with (2) in favor and (1) abstention.

366 Lost Lake Drive Present: Lawrence Johnson, owner; Dan Wolfe, abutter; Jeff Huslander, abutter

Chairman Hanninen requested an update from Health Agent Ben Cutone. Mr. Cutone stated that he drove by the property this morning and stated that a small fraction of the debris has been removed but that Mr. Johnson was still in violation of the housing code. He stated that he witnessed a small trailer (8'x12') on the property but that it didn't qualify as an industrial or commercial dumpster. Mr. Johnson disagreed with Mr. Cutone and stated that it was a dumpster.

Chairman Hanninen questioned why Mr. Johnson had not gotten a large dumpster and proceeded to haul items away. Mr. Johnson stated that it has taken longer than he anticipated to sort items that he wanted to keep.

Member Weber asked that Mr. Johnson estimate the volume percentages to complete the job. Mr. Johnson stated that approximately 25 to 30% has been done. He said that the remaining wood would be stacked and used for heating.

Chairman Hanninen asked Mr. Johnson if he recalled that the Board of Health was prepared to fine him. Mr. Johnson acknowledged that he remembered the discussion.

Abutter Dan Wolfe asked the Board to be patient with Mr. Johnson but acknowledged that he had not attended all the meetings the Board has had with Mr. Johnson. He said that he would also like to see the property cleaned but realized that that "one man's rubbish is another man's gold" and that it would take time. He said he was grateful to the Board but would like to see leniency.

Dr. Horowitz requested that Mr. Cutone take more pictures of the property and give Mr. Johnson some guidance on what was needed to be removed by walking the property. She stated that there was a clear fire hazard present with all the wood. Mr. Johnson disagreed.

Abutter Jeff Huslander stated that he was planning on filing for a property abatement through the Assessor's office because of having to look at a dumpster.

Member Horowitz made a motion that at least two loads of materials be removed in a dumpster and receipts submitted to the Board of Health, pictures of the site are taken by the Board's Health Agent and a review is done by the Board at their next meeting on November 21, 2005. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hanninen asked Mr. Johnson if that was a reasonable request. Mr. Johnson stated "yes".

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- Christine Collins, Tax Collector/Treasurer Present: Bruce Dubey, Tessa David

Ms. Collins requested a meeting in order to review and provide recommendations to the accounting process in place for the Pay-As-You-Throw program. Ms. Collins recommended the following changes to the process:

1. Invoices for bags delivered to the store owners be submitted to the Board of Health office on a weekly basis so they can be easily tracked and not monthly.
2. The Transfer Station personnel should use a "four-part invoice" instead of the three-part invoice currently used. She said the extra copy could be used as a remittance copy.
3. Merchants should be paying invoices with checks only.
4. Periodic reviews should be conducted to account for invoices to the store owners.

Ms. Collins thought the spreadsheet that is currently being used was a good one. However, she felt that a more comprehensive spreadsheet solution may want to be explored.

Ms. Collins updated the Board on the uncollected funds for two old invoices from the Groton General Store. She stated that the balance has been rolling over for some time and she was assisting the Board's Administrator in obtaining collection.

Recycling Member Tessa David stated that both Groton General Store and Sherwin Brothers sell trash bags at a low volume and usually pay for them in cash for each delivery. She stated that she would speak with both store owners to see if they want to continue selling trash bags for the town.

Discussion followed concerning cash receipts. Ms. Collins stated that she would like to eliminate all cash receipts above \$5 for the entire town and established a date for implementing that policy by March 1, 2006. She asked for the Board's support of the policy. Member Horowitz made a motion that all recycling/transfer station money above \$5 is collected by checks. The motion carried unanimously.

255 Pepperell Road Present: Jack Visniewski, P.E.; Ted Kosciak

Mr. Visniewski submitted the certified mail returned receipts for the record.

Mr. Visniewski stated that during excavation of the leaching area of the approved septic system, bedrock was discovered in two locations at a depth of approximately 7 feet. He said that ledge was not observed at all in the nearby 10 foot deep observation holes. He said that the installer hit ledge in two different areas while excavating.

Mr. Visniewski stated that the system was redesigned by raising the leaching area to provide at least 5 feet of soil separation. He said that variances were now needed due to the higher elevations. He requested the following variances:

#### Town of Groton's Local Regulations

Section I.C.8 - Minimum of (5) feet of naturally occurring materials must be in place over ledge; fill shall not be used to meet this requirement. *Due to the presence of ledge, there is not a minimum of (5) feet of naturally occurring material beneath the leaching area.*

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. *Request to allow the use of a subsurface plastic barrier to reduce the fill slope to 2:1.*

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Section I.I.3 - All abutters and their abutters must be notified by the applicant of any variance request at least 10 days prior to the hearing date. *Abutters notified less than the required 10 days.*

#### Title 5 Variances

310CMR15.404(2)(c) Minimum of (4) feet of naturally occurring materials must be in place. *Due to the presence of ledge, there is not a minimum of (4) feet of naturally occurring material beneath the leaching area.*

Member Horowitz requested that the house remain the same size. She made a motion to approve the requested variances with the following condition that the footprint of the dwelling and the bedroom count remain the same. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### Crossroads Plaza – Site Plan Review

The Board voted unanimously to send the following comments:

1. Separate primary and reserve leaching facilities will be required for the sewage disposal system.
2. Due to the fact that the site is located within a Zone III Water Resource Protection District, the Board will limit nitrogen loading for this site.
3. Any operation or business which may generate hazardous materials, such as a hair salon, will be

- required to connect all waste outlets to an industrial waste water holding tank.
- 4. The Board would like the applicant to consider employing innovative and alternative pre-treatment for the sewage disposal system.
  - 5. Prior to any fill material being brought to the site, it must be tested for contamination and the results submitted to the Board of Health.
  - 6. The Board of Health believes a 21E site evaluation should be performed for this site. Please submit the results to the Board of Health.
  - 7. If any blasting is to be performed at this site, the blasting materials shall be perchlorate free.

Pineridge Court 40B

Member Horowitz stated that she attended the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on November 2, 2005 and provided an update on the project. She stated that the project requires eleven feet of fill to be brought to the site. Health Agent Ben Cutone stated that no sewage disposal engineering plans have been submitted and that there hasn't been enough testing completed. Dr. Horowitz will continue to monitor the project.

Veteran's Day

Ms. Butcher reminded the Board that Town Hall would be closed on Friday, November 11, 2005 in observance of Veteran's Day.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

GROTON BOARD OF HEALTH

Robert Hanninen, Chairman	Dr. Susan Horowitz	Jason Weber
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Respectfully Submitted,  
Debra A. Butcher