



**TOWN OF GROTON  
Board of Health  
173 Main Street  
Groton, Massachusetts 01450**

**MEETING MINUTES  
June 2, 2014**

Board of Health Members Present:

Jason Weber, Chairman  
Robert Fleischer, Member  
Susan Horowitz, Member

Others Present:

Ira Grossman, Health Agent  
Regina Beausoleil, Interdepartmental Assistant

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Weber called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

**11 Cedar Road** – Frank and Beth Wotjas

Ira Grossman explained to the board the reason for the Wotjas' appearance before the Board. The Wotjas septic system was in failure by definition due to the well on the property being too close to the septic system. This has resulted in (observed) water quality issues. It was suggested they hook up to Town water and then the system would no longer be considered in failure. However, there would be a cost associated with the hook up.

Neighbor, John Scira asked if they had received any quotes from the Water Department. Mr. Wotjas stated they had received quotes between 10 and 30K. 3 out of 4 quotes did come in around \$12K.

Chairman Weber asked Mr. Grossman what the property owner's options would be. Mr. Grossman stated the water is safe to drink at the moment, but if the system is replaced that may change. At least there is a potable baseline now.

Chairman Weber asked how the property was able to be transferred given the failure. Mr. Grossman stated it was a conditional pass and that the previous Health Agent, Ben Cutone sent a letter outlining the deficiencies. Mr. Grossman summed up the conversation by saying in his opinion it was clear the best option is to bring in town water to the property. The property owners could gamble on replacing the septic system, but may have to hook up anyway.

*Member Horowitz made a motion to continue the matter to the June 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in order to give Mr. Wotjas time to make a decision. Member Flesicher seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.*

**31 Maplewood Avenue** – Rob Oliva, David E. Ross Associates, Inc.

Mr. Rob Oliva was before the Board to present a variance request for Mr. Kevin Hibbert of 31 Maplewood Avenue. Mr. Grossman stated this was the only spot available on the property for the system.

*Member Horowitz made a motion to accept the variances as requested in the letter dated May 7, 2014:*

- *310-15.212 5' Depth to groundwater. Proposed: reduction to a 4'-5" groundwater offset for the installed system.*

*Member Fleischer seconded the motion and Chairman Weber abstained.*

**GPAC letter of Support from the Groton Board of Health**

*Member Horowitz made a motion for the Board to send a letter of support to the Great Ponds Advisory Committee.*

*Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.*

**86 Gratuity Road** – John and Linda Tarlach, Rose Land Survey

Mr. Grossman presented to the board the variance request for 86 Gratuity Road in a letter dated March 25, 2015.

*Member Horowitz made a motion to accept the variance request as outlined in a letter dated March 25, 2015*

- *315-1(E) There must be a 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 encountered. Proposed: 4' groundwater offset.*
- *315-1(B) Deep observation holes for the determination of groundwater elevations may be performed during the months of March and April. Use of holes conducted in months other than March and April will be limited to Class II and Class III soils, with a percolation rate of greater than five minutes/inch. Observation holes in March and April may be required by the Board of Health or its*

***agent at their discretion on all sites. Proposed: Out of season testing based on the existing seasonal High groundwater being well marked by mottling.***

***Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.***

*\*Mr. Grossman noted the Tarlach's purchased this property without a Title 5 inspection. A Failure date will need to be determined.*

**Whitewood Road** – John Scira, Homeowner

Mr. Scira stated the Groton Water Superintendent, Tom Orcutt, told him (Mr. Scira) that the GWD Connection Fees would be waived (for Mr. Scira). Mr. Grossman stated he had not heard that message from Mr. Orcutt.

Mr. Grossman asked Mr. Scira why he (Mr. Scira) was appearing before the Board without an appointment on the Agenda. Mr. Scira stated he requested the Water Department to try to help him out by spreading out any fees associated with the project over 12 months. He is now asking the Board (of Health) to help by supporting that request.

The Board of Health is currently a party in active litigation involving this property and the town. As a result, the Board could not offer any comment to Mr. Scira.

***Member Horowitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:24PM. Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.***

Respectfully submitted,

Regina Beausoleil

Approved 1/4/16