



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

**MEETING MINUTES
October 6, 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:

Member Fleischer called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Town Hall.

61 Ridgewood Avenue – Bob Collins, Esq., Thomas Doyle, Homeowner

Attorney Collins was before the Board to request variances for a septic design located at 61 Ridgewood Avenue on behalf of Carol Quinn. He explained the property had pre-existing offset issues due to the topography. Mr. Grossman asked Attorney Collins if one of the requested variances (to run a line under the roadway) was an easy fix for Tom Delaney the Highway Surveyor. Attorney Collins stated that he had dealt with this issue previously and that it was resolved by Mr. Delaney issuing a temporary license. Member Fleischer asked if there were any abutting wells. Attorney Collins stated the homeowners well is more than 68 feet and that any abutters are several hundreds of feet away. Chairman Weber asked Mr. Grossman if there were any way to improve upon this system. Mr. Grossman stated this was as good as it was going to get.

Member Horowitz made a motion to accept the variances as requested in the September 17, 2014 variance request letter submitted by Attorney Collins. Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

28 Townsend Road – Stan Dillis, Engineer, Chris Broughton, Homeowner, Carol Ward, Abutter

Mr. Dillis was before the board to request a variance from setback to a cellar wall on behalf of homeowner Chris Broughton for the property located at 28 Townsend Road. Member Fleischer asked if the footprint of the property was getting any bigger. Mr. Grossman stated this was

basically creating an additional variance that wasn't needed before at the time of installation. When Mr. Broughton was previously before the board (informally) the proposal was to flip a pipe location. At that time the property owner recognized the need to get Conservation involved. In contrast, this is a formal variance request for less than 10 feet to a cellar wall. Mr. Grossman stated he had no issues with the request. Member Horowitz asked how many bedrooms. Mr. Broughton answered 2 bedrooms.

Member Fleischer made a motion to grant the variance as requested in the Ducharme & Dillis variance request letter dated September 19, 2014. Member Horowitz seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Baddacook Memo

In a memo dated September 23, 2014 submitted to the Board of Health along with other various boards by the Groton Board of Water Commissioners (BoWC) it was outlined the BoWC had voted not to support a CPC application submitted by the Great Ponds Advisory Committee to seek funds for the application of Sonar. It went on further to outline specific actions the BoWC was requesting the GPAC to complete in order to possibly obtain the support of the GPAC for this effort in the future.

Member Horowitz stated she had been in contact with Susan Sundstrom to do a risk assessment, and Ms. Sundstrom stated she couldn't do one because she said there was no risk. Member Horowitz felt this was the only way to treat Baddacook and keep it from turning into a swamp. She explained that everything save for dredging has been explored.

54 Old Ayer Road – Paul Kiefner, Homeowner

Mr. Kiefner was before the Board requesting a variance to the CHP 190 enforcement bylaw for sewer connection. Mr. Kiefner is proposing an August 2015 deadline as opposed to the originally sanctioned February 2015 deadline.

Member Horowitz made a motion to accept the request as outlined in the September 9, 2014 variance request letter submitted by Paul and Johann Kiefner for property located at 54 Old Ayer Road. Member Horowitz stated the date should be August 31, 2015 and Mr. Kiefner agreed. Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Mosquito Control – Mary Metzger, Marion Stoddart

Ms. Metzger was before the Board to ask questions and raise concerns in regards to the upcoming article for Mosquito control at Fall Town Meeting.

Ms. Metzger explained her nursing background and explained how she did not agree with the spraying of nuisance mosquitos. She wondered if there were any funds available for this effort from the state. Member Horowitz stated that we (Groton) had asked for funds and nothing came out of it. At one point she stated a friend of a friend was asked to come in and help. Ms. Metzger stated her feeling was that the State wanted the Towns to fund this. She went on to ask if it was possible to opt out of certain services offered such as spraying but to keep the education

component intact. She was very concerned because she couldn't find any evidence that nuisance spraying reduced risk. Member Horowitz stated that the Board agreed to join the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Program (MCM MCP) in part because residents would be able to opt out of spraying. More of the request was to spray the (town) fields for recreation purposes. Chairman Weber asked Ms. Metzger what her ideal outcome would be. She stated more testing, more research. The Board agreed to send Ms. Metzgers questions and concerns to Tim Deschamps, Director of Central Mass Mosquito Control Project for answers by Town Meeting.

96 Mill Street – Matt Waterman, LandTech Consultants, Erin Blodgett, Homeowner

Mr. Waterman stated that he was back before the board on a due process issue. Specifically, he had identified a missed notification to an abutter due to having been provided with an outdated list of abutters.

Chairman Weber made a motion to recognize the original deficiencies regarding the design and site have been addressed and to grant the variance as requested in the variance request letter dated July 9, 2014 submitted by Adam Hunt of LandTech Consultants on behalf of Erin Blodgett, pending Ira Grossmans final approval and adherence to Groton Board of Health's standard conditions. There shall also be a 3-bedroom deed notice recorded at the Registry of Deeds. Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

162 Shelters Road – James Morey, Skillings and Son, Ann Griffin White and Steve White, Homeowners

Mr. Grossman said that he believed a well could be successfully drilled in a different way than was presented. Member Fleischer asked if there was any reason why they couldn't move (the well) down (slope) a bit. Mr. Morey stated the site was difficult due to the slope of the hill and that it was not possible to get a rig down to the existing well site. Mr. Morey went on to state that if the variances weren't granted it would significantly change the cost of the project. He said that "serious amounts" of excavation and grading would otherwise be needed. Mr. Grossman stated that the distances Mr. Morey was requesting were concerning and that he would be willing to walk the site with him to see if there were any better alternatives. Mr. Grossman suggested the Board do an approval contingent upon a final site walk and agreement between Mr. Grossman and Skillings.

The Board agreed to meet back on 10/20 and await Mr. Grossmans recommendations based on an upcoming site walk.

Member Horowitz made a motion to empower Mr. Grossman to judge the best scenario for 162 Shelters Road on the Board behalf. Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Raw Milk – Helen Cahen, Helens Stables

Member Horowitz made a motion to hold a public meeting at its next regularly scheduled meeting on November 13, 2014, to discuss the modification of the Sale of Raw Milk Regulation. This is to be posted as a regular Agenda Item.

Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Ms. Cahen stated she has opened up a case with the State and they will coach her step-by-step through the process. She submitted a letter to the Board Dated October 6, 2014 requesting a variance from the existing local Raw Milk Regulation.

Member Horowitz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Fleischer seconded the motion and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted

Regina Beausoleil
Interdepartmental Assistant