

**TOWN OF GROTON**

Board of Health

173 Main Street

Groton, MA 01450

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Jason Weber, Chairman

Susan Horowitz, Member

Robert J. Fleischer, Member

Date: Monday, November 16th, 2020

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members Present: Jason Weber, Chairman; Robert J. Fleischer, Member; Ira Grossman, Nashoba Associated Board of Health Agent

Others Present:

Jason Weber called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

13 West Main St – West Main Street / Pepperell Rd.

Jack presented; frank home owner

Originally the library for west Groton; got converted to 2 apts.; 2 bedrooms downstairs & 2 bedrooms upstairs

2 bedrooms upstairs – system in the rear

Tim b. did testing in the back a couple of years ago

Jack took over this year – upstairs back, downstairs front – keep the same; due to size and area, very small

CHECK AUDIO

2 INCH rate

…

2 separate lines in 2 different areas

To get one bigger system in one spot is not feasible

Put in Singular tank with a pump chamber to a geomat – will handle the downstairs

Another one in the back for the upstairs

2 singular tanks

IG – very difficult site to put in a conventional system; even w/innovative and alternative still a difficult thing

“singular” and “geo map”

Singulair – mini waste water treatment plant that gets advanced treatment

Geomat – different method for sewage disposal

IG went into details of how a Presby system is built; geomat is essentially the same thing but only compressed, smaller profile

Small profile; newer technology; innovative technology

Jack provided overview of system details

Microfast units – introduce air / oxygen into the tank.

3 compartment tanks; chamber layout

Pressure dose system which meets TOG regs; mat for proposed is 39 inches wide

Described how system works

Michelle – no questions; brief disclosure statement – a year and a half ago, d&d did install for her property – how close to groundwater are you? Jack – 3ft. offset; why we’re using this low profile system; both areas we’re working w/is very tight

Geomet system & treatment

Bob – no questions; details are quite good and appreciate the explanation

2 systems here but independent? Correct

4-bedroom house altogether; 2 bedrooms for each system

Jason – does this represent 150% we typically apply? CHECK AUDIO Ig – one of the variances

Ig – this is totally outside of that

Bob – is this modified from the alternative standard?

IG – doesn’t even meet 150% of the reduced size – CHECK AUDIO

This is basically the minimum you can get; will meet the state requirements; check audio

Jack went through vars being requested

Jason – is there a better way to do this? If current approach was infeasible…what are the choices here?

Ig – this is the highest choice for it to fit on here; while it is expensive and complicated good system overall

CHECK AUDIO

Bob asked what the maintenance requirements are?

Ig – maintenance required; find operator that services these things in a timely manner

Michelle – any abutter questions? No

Plan B here is a tight tank which is a non-starter since if there’s anything else they can do would need to do that – jason

Bob moved that we grant letter 7/31 for 13 west main st. as submitted by Ducharme & dillis; subject to standard terms & conditions

Michelle seconded.

All in favor

Bob read standard conditions

Date of failure: failed title 5 inspection – probably approaching 2 years at this point

2 years from that date – date of failure

Jason – is there a particular date when you can have this in by? Frank – no idea; surprised other boards are required to give approval; jack – would have had to file w/conservation but we’re far enough away; stormwater is not involved in this for an upgrade; you’re all set. Can go out and hire a contractor after notice of decision has been filed at registry of deeds

Frank asked whether he needs approval from other boards or commissions? Jack said no

Date of failure this past spring – CHECK WITH IG

Jack will call frank tomorrow to talk about it

**1 & 3 FORGE VILLAGE ROAD**

**IG – have contracted w/indiv to begin the work and scheduled to start**

**Jason – push to next meeting?**

**IG – YES, PUT ON THE AGENDA AS A PLACEHOLDER**

**Bob move that we continue this matter to next meeting; michelle seconded; all in favor**

**MEETING MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes dated November 2nd, 2020.

Michelle abstaining

**Robert Fleischer moved to accept the meeting minutes dated November 2nd, 2020. Jason Weber seconded and the motion carried.**

BOARD MEMBERS REVIEWED SEPTIC PERMIT FOR 177 GAY RD.

Michelle moved to approve; Bob seconded; all in favor

TEMPLE

Paul Glavey – public health nuisance

Having a real effect on people

Pg unhappy

Jason – look into steps on our own and get back to you

Jason – disagree with paul g that zip code is a factor

Video

This isn’t going to be the wild west where we’re lacking in meaningful content

Bob – 2 noise issues; 1) that we’ve been discussing in the past; 2nd noise issue in the recording

RUSS – noise from vent system; this was just another event that took all day; just another thing to add –

Invited board on numerous occasions to come over on a sat or Sunday to listen to this

Pretty difficult to make a decision /

Starts 6:30 -7am Friday, sat Sunday morning, sometimes Thursday – CHECK AUDIO

Stephen gentile – sound and odor

Jason – any progress?

Stephen – try to find some other solution; our half

Dan o’boyle – cs installations

CHECK AUDIO

Dan believes those 2 things would alleviate 95% of the noise and odor

Have tried; have not find any resources; funding is just not one of those things

Temple has agreed to pay half; would like them to spend all of it

Wind turbine noise all weekend long

Jason – recap

Temple last heard it as 50/50 – current situation

Paul – inappropriate to ask Littleton to fund it

Louise Nichols – investigation done for noise?

IG - Jim – no violation to the noise

Has not been cited as a violation; not greater than 10 decibels

Jim – numerous site visits on various different days

Jason has gone on a weekend

CHECK AUDIO

Personal investigation; half a dozen months

Happy to pick it up again

11am – 3pm on Saturdays; personal experience – in one case can smell food being prepared

5 out of 6; can’t detect odor or fan; could be the timing?

Happy to resume weekend visits at unspecified times

Louise – what has Groton done? Our agent has done the testing

Stephen gentile – come down to ernie’s drive; 15 or 17; feel free to come up the driveway

Massive exhaust system at the top of the building; try it from there

Noise ordinance

We’re downhill from the top of the building

Come around Gilson and come up the driveway

Michelle – first of hearing what the concerns are

Has empathy for what the concerns are; wonder if BOH members would be willing to do a site walk during peak time; go to ernie’s drive

See if there is some way to come up with a solution

Mitigate solution; agree w/paul that the honus is not on Littleton

Jason – we have been trying to get to a solution; can ask jim to remeasure?

BOB – have no doubt that the neighborhood is experiencing what they’re experiencing; don’t need proof

Does not violate the terms of service? Or permit? Can play role of mediator or negotiator; not equipped to do that

Better way to handle this?

Jason – if jim found 15 db it would have been open and shut;

RUSS – majority 9:30 and 10:30am on a Sunday morning; the exhaust fan is in direct line w/master bedroom and backyard – even more pronounced there

No one has ever taken us up on this

Michelle came up on numerous occasions

At least the PB was very helpful

During planning stages, didn’t know this would happen

IG – order would have been issued if over 10

If does not operate outside…

CHECK AUDIO

RN no documentation that the temple is operating outside

The temple is in full compliance; equipment working properly w/in standards and requirements

Jason – happy to do a couple of site visits; 9:30 10:30am is fine – randomize the Saturday a little bit; no way to game it

Stephen – what if jim got a series of readings; how is it different – CHECK AUDIO

Has jim’s notes; at least one reading that’s over 10

IG – over 10? Would be addressed – CHECK AUDIO

Jim has gone out numerous times; ig has gone out numerous times

Stephen – jim came out once with the more advanced equipment; specialized sensitive equipment one time; prior to that came out one time with a smaller piece of equipment; not as sensitive; had to borrow some other equipment

Ig will check w/jim – ig disagrees

JASON – 15 AND 17 ERNIE’S DRIVE

ASKING IG TO RESAMPLE AT BOTH WITH SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

Russ – balcony and backyard

Jim or designee to follow up on that point

MICHELLE – do it as a group? Need to know base findings first

Weekend morning may be different during the week?

Review process – honus would’ve been put entirely on the applicant

CHECK AUDIO

Michelle thoroughly involved in the approval process

Do believe the temple wants to be a good neighbor; optimistic we can find a solution

Follow up with time to meet

BOB – sounds like we have a solution; problem is who pays? Don’t think we are capable of doing that UNLESS there’s a violation

Jason – how things are supposed to go

Trying to find a way to move this fwd to avoid the court; everyone loses

Who needs to pay?

WILL REACH OUT REGARD SCHEDULING

Michelle -

**Robert Fleischer moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m. michelle seconded and the motion carried.**

Minutes by Sammie Kul.