

**TOWN OF GROTON**

Board of Health

173 Main Street

Groton, MA 01450

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Robert J. Fleischer, Chairman

Jason Weber, Member

Michelle Collette, Member

Date: Monday, June 21st, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room, Groton Town Hall

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

Others Present: Scott Caswell, Brian and Melissa Abrams, John Saywell

Robert Fleischer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**6 WINDING WAY – Discussion of Deed Restriction Notice and Variance Request to Board of Health Code *410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets***

Scott Caswell, property owner of 6 Winding Way was present and requested a variance to Board of Health Code *410.250 Habitable Rooms Other Than Kitchen-Natural Light and Electrical Outlets*.

Mr. Caswell provided an overview of the proposed plans to their attic. They are looking to finish two separate rooms in their attic for office and storage purposes.

Ira Grossman has no objections.

**Michelle Collette moved to accept the variances and Deed Restriction Notice as presented for 6 Winding Way to the Board of Health Code *410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets* as described in the letter dated June 14th, 2021.**

**Jason Weber seconded and the motion carried.**

**25 ARBOR WAY – Variance Request to Board of Health Code *410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets***

Brian and Melissa Abrams, property owners of 25 Arbor Way were present and requested a variance to Board of Health Code *410.250 Habitable Rooms Other Than Kitchen-Natural Light and Electrical Outlets*.

Mr. Abrams provided an overview of the proposed plans to their basement. They are looking to finish their basement to be utilized as an entertainment area for their children.

Ira Grossman has no objections.

**Michelle Collette moved to accept the variances as presented for 25 Arbor Way to the Board of Health Code *410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets* as described in the letter dated June 16th, 2021.**

**Jason Weber seconded and the motion carried.**

**35 OXBOW LANE – Discussion of Number of Approved Bedrooms for Septic System**

John Saywell was present and was looking to seek clarification on the number of bedrooms approved for his septic system.

Mr. Saywell provided overview of the following documents:

1) Title V Report stating that the soil absorption system (leach pits) is fine (see pages 14 and 15)

2) A copy of the 35 Oxbow Lane assessment from 4/21/1987 showing that the house is assessed with four bedrooms.

3) A copy of the 1987 realtor's property description stating that the house has four bedrooms ("master bedroom", "smallest bedroom", and "other bedrooms")

4) Seller's 1987 description of the property stating that there are four occupants and that the septic system has no reported issues.

5) 2021 assessment of 35 Oxbow Lane showing it has four bedrooms

6) 1st Floor Plan for 35 Oxbow Lane

7) 2nd Floor plan for 35 Oxbow Lane

Mr. Saywell explained that in 1987 the house was marketed to us by the realtor as a four-bedroom house (see attached documentation.) Any real estate search for 35 Oxbow Lane will show it as a four-bedroom house. The attached documentation all point to our house as being a four-bedroom house, and we have been using it as such for the past 34 years with no septic problems. We were quite surprised to learn during our Title V inspection process that the septic system is only sized for three bedrooms. Ira (Nashoba Board of Health) suggested that we could petition the Groton Board of Health to seek approval to sell our house as a four-bedroom house without having to replace the soil absorption system (note we are already replacing the septic tank and distribution box.)

Mr. Saywell is looking to:

1) seek approval of their permit to replace our distribution box and 1000-gallon septic tank with a new 1500-gallon tank

2) update the assessment of their septic system to state that it will support a 4-bedroom house, without having to replace the soil absorption system (leach pits.)

Ira Grossman explained that the septic system has to be in full compliance with the current regulations along with Title 5 therefore if Mr. Saywell would like to upgrade his septic system, he will need to submit the proper documentation and go through the regular application process.

Mr. Saywell said that he will work with an engineer to begin the application process.

**OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

**PROVIDE RECOMMENDATION TO SELECT BOARD ON WHETHER OR NOT THE TOWN SHOULD REQUIRE THAT EMPLOYEES BE VACCINATED**

Brief discussion ensued regarding this matter.

Board members agreed that it was important for all employees to be fully vaccinated as they are dealing with the public on a regular basis and this is a step in ensuring and protecting the safety and health of all employees.

**Michelle Collette moved to recommend to the Select Board that Town employees should be required to be fully vaccinated for COVID 19 with consideration for medical and / or religious exemptions and that those details should be worked out administratively with the HR Department as necessary.**

**Jason Weber seconded and the motion carried.**

**MEETING MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes dated April 5th, 2021.

**Michelle Collette moved to accept the meeting minutes dated April 5th, 2021. Robert Fleischer seconded and the motion carried.**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes dated June 7th, 2021.

**Michelle Collette moved to accept the meeting minutes dated June 7th, 2021. Robert Fleischer seconded and the motion carried.**

**INVOICES**

Board members reviewed and signed invoices.

**Jason Weber moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m. Robert Fleischer seconded and the motion carried.**

Minutes by Sammie Kul.