

**TOWN OF GROTON**

Board of Health

173 Main Street

Groton, MA 01450

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Michelle Collette, Chair

Robert J. Fleischer, Member

Evan Thackaberry, Member

Date: Monday, October 17th, 2022

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room, Groton Town Hall

Members Present: Michelle Collette, Chairperson; Robert J. Fleischer, Member; Evan Thackaberry, Member

Others Present: Christopher MacKenzie, Dillis & Roy Associates, Peter Cunningham

Michelle Collette called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**342 MAIN STREET – Florence Roche Elementary School Update**

Jim Garreffi from the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health office provided the statement below:

*The Nashoba Associated Boards of Health is the Health Agent and Public Health Nurse for the Groton Board of Health and in those roles we have been involved with the matter at the Florence Roche School; here is a summary of our involvement with the school.*

*The Superintendent first contacted me late Thursday night and we spoke early Friday morning to review the situation.  I recommended additional cleaning of the school, directed our Food Inspector to inspect the kitchen and had our Public Health Nurse contact the school Nurse to discuss the situation.*

*Our Food Inspector was on site, inspected the kitchen and reviewed cleaning and sanitizing procedures with the staff.  The Inspector found the kitchen to be clean and well maintained; there was evidence of mice droppings in an adjacent storage area which she addressed the Staff.*

*After speaking with the School Nurse, our Public Health Nurse contacted the MA Department of Public Health to confer on the situation and they were in communication during the day on Friday.*

*As cases continued, the school department decided to dismiss school early and the MA Department of Public Health provided resources and direction for next steps, included cleaning recommendations.*

*During the on-site inspection the Inspector was informed that a food service worker at the Florence Roche had called out sick on Thursday and our office is working the individual to obtain testing prior to their return to work at the school.*

*I spoke with the Superintendent this morning and she informed me the school department has been in the process of cleaning the school in preparation of reopening.  We also discussed monitoring the absences at the other schools; we will stay in contact with the Superintendent for updates on the situation.*

*There were concerns regarding potential plumbing leaks in bathrooms fixtures in the school. I visited the school today and inspected the bathroom facilities for the student with the Facilities Director. My inspection did not reveal any leaking fixtures, there were some toilet facilities which were out of order (clearly marked) and some of the sinks had been disable to encourage social distancing.*

*The Facilities Director informed me they cleaned the school over the weekend and disinfected the rooms as they did during COVID.*

The Board members thanked everyone involved for their efforts and will keep the public informed of any updates.

**14 VALLEY ROAD – Continuation of Septic Design System Variance Request**

Christopher MacKenzie of Dillis & Roy Civil Design Group, Inc. presented on behalf of their client, Tracie Smart and requested the following variances for 14 Valley Road:

**Title 5 Local Upgrade Approvals:**

**1) 310 CMR 15.405(1)(j): Reduction of the required 12-inch minimum separation between the inlet tee of the tank and the Estimated Seasonal High Ground Water Table.**

**(Approximately 10-inches of separation between the tank inlet tee and the Estimated Seasonal High Ground Water Table is proposed)**

Dillis and Roy and sent in a new plan for the tight tank which is stamped by a PLS. The question of a survey plan with a stamp has been resolved.

**Michelle Collette moved to accept the variances as presented for 14 Valley Road in the letter dated September 6th, 2022 subject to a satisfactory review by Town Counsel of an agreement for an escrow in the amount of $1,000.00 on the system and also subject to the BOH Standard Conditions below.**

1. The applicant must submit any proposed change in the above referenced plans to the Board of Health for its review and approval before the change is implemented.
2. The applicant is responsible for obtaining any other permits (including but not limited to) those required by the Select Board, Conservation Commission, Building Inspector, DPW Director, Planning Board, Stormwater Advisory Committee, and Zoning Board of Appeals.
3. Any construction (or related activity) within 100 ft of a wetland or resource protection area requires approval of the Groton Conservation Commission.
4. It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that the contents of this approval are made known to all contractors who perform work at this site.
5. It is the applicant’s responsibility to contact Dig Safe prior to the commencement of any work at the site.
6. For Failed Systems:

Compliance with Title 5 shall be within 2 years from the date of the sewage disposal system failure unless otherwise ordered to “upgrade” at a sooner date. The applicant must comply with the requirements of Title 5 for a “failed” system pursuant to section 15.305.

1. Any change in use or increased sewage flow is not to be made without prior approval of the Board of Health and any other applicable Board or Commission.
2. The existing 2-bedroom house is to remain a 2-bedroom house with no increase in the number of bedrooms, unless expansion plans are reviewed and approved by the Groton Board of Health.
3. This variance shall not be in effect until both the Notice of Board of Health Decision and the License granted by the Town of Groton are recorded at the Middlesex South Registry of Deeds. Evidence of such recording shall be submitted to the Board of Health by the applicant.

**Evan Thackaberry seconded and the motion carried.**

**DISCUSSION OF THE SQUANNACOOK SPORTSMAN’S CLUB SITE TO CONSIDER BOARD’S POSITION ON ARTICLE 11 OF THE 2022 FALL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

Peter Cunningham was present.

Discussion ensued regarding current conditions at Squannacook Sportsman’s Club Site.

Board members agreed this was a hazardous site that required attention.

**Evan Thackaberry moved to support Warrant Article 11 on the 2022 Fall Town Meeting for remediation and demolition of the Squannacook Sportsman’s Club building.**

**Robert Fleischer seconded and the motion carried.**

**OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

**MEETING MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes dated September 19th, 2022.

**Robert Fleischer moved to accept the meeting minutes dated September 19th, 2022. Evan Thackaberry seconded and the motion carried.**

**Robert Fleischer moved to recess the meeting at 7:04pm until 7:15pm when the Board members will reconvene at the Select Board meeting upstairs in the 2nd Floor Meeting Room. Evan Thackaberry seconded and the motion carried.**

Minutes by Sammie Kul.

**APPROVED: March 6, 2023**