

**TOWN OF GROTON**

Board of Health  
173 Main Street  
Groton, MA 01450

Date: Monday, March 20, 2023

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: 1st Floor Meeting Room, Groton Town Hall

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

Others Present: Sammie Kul; Dan Walsh, Lux Renovations, Ronald Strohsahl, Vinay Vijayadjaran, Peter Playdon, Ronald Hersh, Rick Salon

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Michelle Collette called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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**441 Old Ayer Road – Variance Request to State Sanitary Code 410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets and Discussion of Deed Restriction**

Dan Walsh from Lux Renovations, LLC presented on behalf of their clients, Christopher and Roxanne Darrell and provided a brief overview of the proposed plans to finish the basement.

Ira Grossman said he would be unable to endorse the building permit until an ejector pump for the waste water requirement is met for the toilet facilities.

Mr. Walsh confirmed that the ejector pump was installed and that the proper documents would be submitted later this evening.

**Robert Fleischer moved to grant the variances as presented for 441 Old Ayer Road to the State Sanitary Code 410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets described in the letter dated March 9, 2023 and that the Board of Health Decision Notice be recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deed prior to the issuance of the Building Permits.**

**Michelle Collette seconded and the motion carried.**

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**38 Spaulding Lane – Variance Request to State Sanitary Code 410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets and Discussion of Deed Restriction**

Property owner Ronald Strohsahl was present and provided a brief overview of the proposed plans to add a 10th room to his four bedroom septic system. The previous owner had partially finished the basement without proper permitting. The homeowner installed an ejector pump as advised and installed an ERV System.

Ira Grossman had no objections.

**Robert Fleischer moved to grant the variances as presented for 38 Spaulding Lane to the State Sanitary Code 410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets described in the letter dated March 20, 2023 and that the Board of Health Decision Notice be recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deed prior to the issuance of the Building Permits.**

**Michelle Collette seconded and the motion carried.**

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**92 Robin Hill Road – Variance Request to State Sanitary Code 410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets and Discussion of Deed Restriction**

Property owner Vinay Vijayadjaran was present and provided a brief overview of the proposed plans for the basement.

Ira Grossman had no objections.

**Robert Fleischer moved to grant the variances as presented for 92 Robin Hill Road to the State Sanitary Code 410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets described in the letter dated March 12, 2023 and that the Board of Health Decision Notice be recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deed prior to the issuance of the Building Permits.**

**Michelle Collette seconded and the motion carried.**

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**24 Paugus Trail – Variance Request to State Sanitary Code 410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets and Discussion of Deed Restriction \***

Peter Playdon presented on behalf of his clients, Jon and Julia Kujala, and provided a brief overview of the proposed plan to finish the basement. Mr. Playdon said that an ERV System would be installed and the bulk head would be removed and replaced with a full light door.

Ira Grossman had no objections.

**Robert Fleischer moved to grant the variances as presented for 24 Paugus Trail to the State Sanitary Code 410.250: Habitable Rooms Other than Kitchen -- Natural Light and Electrical Outlets described in the letter dated February 28, 2023 and that the Board of Health Decision Notice be recorded with the Middlesex South Registry of Deed prior to the issuance of the Building Permits.**

**Michelle Collette seconded and the motion carried.**

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**Discuss with Groton Lakes Association Whether Board of Health Can Assist with Paying for Water Quality Testing for Lost Lake / Knops Pond**

Ronald Hersh and Rick Salon were present for the discussion representing the Groton Lakes Association. Mr. Hersh provided a background of the monitoring and treatment that has been performed over the last 50 years at Lost Lake and Knops pond. A grant had been received from CPC funding to conduct a study on preventing storm water from entering the resource area. A 319 grant from the State can be applied to however, there is a matching requirement. Mr. Hersh said in the meantime water quality testing is necessary and was recommended by the consultant to be performed between May and September. Surrounding Towns have been affected by cyanobacteria and the Town of Harvard has been receiving assistance from the Nashoba Associated Board of Health. He questioned if they would be willing to assist them as well. Ms. Collette recommended addressing the question to Ira Grossman directly.

Mr. Grossman commented that there are insufficient funds in the Board of Health's budget to offer any monetary assistance for water quality testing in the ponds. He suggested discussing the matter with the Town Manager for funding through the Finance Committee.

Ms. Collette said that she supports the Lake Association and their work and urged them to explore all opportunities for additional funding. She said that she would reach out to James Garreffo at Nashoba Associated Board of Health for advice.

**OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Collette said that she has been addressing the concerns of utilizing the certified kitchen at the Groton Center with the COA and Bridgette Braley with the Nashoba Associated Board of Health. Council on Aging Director, Ashley Shaheen is preparing a policy statement that will be reviewed and adopted at their next meeting.

**MEETING MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes dated March 6, 2023.

**Robert Fleischer moved to accept the meeting minutes dated March 6, 2023. Michelle Collette seconded and the motion carried.**

**ON-GOING ISSUES**

**COVID UPDATES**

Ms. Collette said that there are two concerns with the State of Emergency that will be expiring on May 11, 2023. SNAP benefits are going to be reduced significantly. Anyone in need of assistance can contact the Commissioners of Trust Funds, Mass Health or Medicaid

will also be changing their benefits and will be requiring members to reapply. There are numerous agencies that are willing to assist in the application process.

#### **PFAS UPDATES**

The School District, Engineers, and Water Commissioners have been holding meetings to explore the best course of action to remedy the PFAS issue at the High School. Surrounding dwellings in close proximity to the High School have also been contaminated. If any residents need any assistance in water testing please contact the Nashoba Associated Board of Health.

#### **NOD ROAD LANDFILL SITE UPDATES**

The Town is hiring a surveyor to delineate the property line between the J. Harry Rich Forest and the Nod Road Landfill Site in relation to an application submitted by the Trail Committee.

#### **SQUANNACOOK SPORTSMAN CLUB SITE UPDATES**

The lead contamination is being remedied and the work should be completed by spring/ early summer.

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**Robert Fleischer moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:58pm. Michelle Collette seconded and the motion carried.**

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Minutes by Kristine Fox

Approved June 7, 2023