



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 November 20, 2023
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: 1ST Floor Meeting Room, Groton Town Hall
Members Present: Michelle Collette, Evan Thackaberry, Robert J. Fleischer
Members Not Present:
Others Present: Katie Berry, Ira Grossman, Danny Griffin, Jack Maloney

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

95 West Main Street, Blood property, Condemnation Hearing- Ira Grossman shared with the board that the Groton Police Department had contacted the board of health regarding the conditions at this property. A letter was sent to the property owner on 10/05/23, after which the violations had not been corrected, there are both 24-hour and 30-day violations. This being the case, Ira Grossman shared that it is a priority for the board to confirm that there are no longer any residents at the property. Danny Griffin, family member for Mr. Blood, addressed the board to share that one tenant has been out since October, and the second tenant left last week. Mr. Griffin shared that the tenant had lived there for 40 years and that he and Mr. Blood hadn't been into the premises in many years. Danny Griffin shared that the owner hopes to rehab the home and tear down the garage at this parcel, assures that the home is vacant, and that notice has been given to the Water Dept and GELD to turn off the utilities. Michelle Collette reiterated that the violations are quite serious, that securing the property, and keeping it vacant are important. Mr. Griffin shared that the home's interior that was soiled has been removed and bleached. Evan Thackaberry confirmed that the home is being secured, as the front door had been previously unlocked, it needs to remain locked except to those performing work on the property. Ira Grossman stated a Title 5 will need to be done. Mr. Griffin stated that the home is in solid condition and so he would prefer to rehab the home and not tear it down. Mrs. Collette mentioned that in other condemnation hearings, the board has accepted not condemning and having the responsible party check in with the board every 3 months, confirming that the home is both vacant and secured. Bob Fleischer moved to continue this hearing to Monday March 4, 2024, with the owner keeping the home secured and making sure that there are no occupants, also having a septic review and Title 5 done, Evan Thackaberry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

48 West Main Street, Carolyn Bissell SDS Permit Variances- Jack Maloney, of Dillis and Roy Civil Engineers, presented on behalf of his client Carolyn Bissell, a plan of the home and its proposed Presby septic disposal system. The local variances requested are 315-1(A), 315-1(b), 315-5(a), 315-5(e), 315-5(f), 315-6. Michelle Collette confirmed that the abutters have all been notified, as the property and proposed system are very close to the neighboring properties, including the West Groton Fire Station. Ira Grossman remarked that the assessor's records for the property did not match the home's design, though the proposed system will suit the correct layout. Mr. Grossman mentions that the site is complicated, as it is a narrow lot, and is within the wetland buffer zone. Mr. Maloney stated that he has

received approval through the Conservation Commission through the use of an RDA. Michelle Collette clarified that the back building has a separate septic system, and that back building sewage system has not been located. Evan Thackaberry moved to grant the requested local and title 5 upgrade approvals for this property, with the standard conditions, using today as the system failure date, as a 3-bedroom house, Bob Fleischer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously. Michelle Collette confirmed with Mr. Grossman that the standard conditions should be states as a 3-bedroom house and not a 3-bedroom 2-unit house.

Health Agent's report- Ira Grossman shared with the board that an Order to Correct was issued to the property owner of 66 Amelia Way due to a piece of construction equipment leaking hydraulic fluid into the soil, he states that he will be returning to the site to confirm its removal and check for the amounts spilled. Michelle Collette noted that the site is in zone 2 of the West Groton water supply district. Ira Grossman will inform the West Groton Water supply district for potential testing. Another issue that has come up through the Nashoba Board of Health is that some of the farmers market vendors that participate in events in Groton, have not been completing the necessary farmers market vendor permitting paperwork. Michelle Collette suggests putting this topic on the agenda for the upcoming meeting so that we can review the policy and work to make sure the appropriate processes are being followed, putting a plan in place for the 2024 farmers market season. The permit that is needed, covers vendors when participating in events throughout the whole Nashoba Associated Boards of Health district. Ira Grossman made clear that we want to support vendors, the board is hoping to be aware of upcoming events and assist in monitoring this process.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

Sign permits/ invoices- The board signed all permits and invoices.

Minutes- Evan Thackaberry moved to accept the 11/06/23 Board of Health meeting minutes as submitted approved, Bob Fleischer seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Schedule Next Meeting

Next meeting will be December 4th, 2023 at 6:30pm.

ON-GOING ISSUES

- A. **PFAS Updates-** Michelle Collette mentioned that the PFAS ballot question passed by 47 votes, also by a unanimous vote in Dunstable. Though there has not been a determination on the debt exclusion as of yet.
- A. **Squannacook Sportsmen's Club Site Updates** – Michelle Collette shared that there is a working group meeting in December to determine use of the site. Waiting to get sign offs from DEP and other various agencies.

Bob Fleischer moved to adjourn at 7:20pm, Evan Thackaberry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes by Katie Berry.

APPROVED: 12/04/2023
