



TOWN OF GROTON

Board of Health
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

BOARD OF HEALTH

Evan Thackaberry, Chair
Robert J. Fleischer, Member
Michelle Collette, Member

Date: Monday August 19th, 2024
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Town Hall, 173 Main St Groton MA, 1st Floor Meeting Room
Members Present: Michelle Collette, Robert J. Fleischer, Evan Thackaberry via Zoom
Members Not Present:
Others Present: Katie Berry, Matt Waterman, Elizabeth Schoepke, Dan Justicz, Judy Anderson, Stephen DeWinter, Kristine Robinson

Evan Thackaberry called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Brookfield Commons Parcel 137-13, LandTech Consultants, Helena Koch, Local Chapter 315 SDS Variances, Title 5 Variance, and Title 5 Local Upgrade Approval Requests- Matt Waterman of Landtech Consultants, was present to discuss the project, a 12-acre parcel with condominium complex on the Groton/Westford border. The existing system flow is 9200 gallons per day and services the entire complex. Mr. Waterman described the proposed design, which is more substantial than the previous design, additionally describing challenges with paved areas, and areas of fill, determining the best location for installation posed a unique challenge. The proposed design is for a Presby System. Matt Waterman shared that he has been working with feedback from the closest abutter to the system, Mr. Stephen DeWinter of #4 Jessica Circle in Westford, and has opted to move the vents further from their property line. Mr. Waterman described the requests for 3 variances 1. A local upgrade approval is requested in accordance with 15.045(1)(b) to increase allowable depth of system component from 36” to 54” (at proposed septic tank). 2. A variance is requested from 310 CMR 15.224(2) to reduce minimum hydraulic detention time of 48 hours for first component – existing 15,000 gal. tank to be used as first component, where 18,500 gal. tank would be required. 3. A variance is requested from the Town of Groton subsurface sewage disposal regulation 315-6 square footage requirements to allow a 24% reduction from Title V area requirement for the proposed I/A system. Bob Fleischer shared comments submitted by Kalene Gendron, Groton Health Agent, wherein she recommends approval of 2 of the 3 variance requests, suggesting that relief from 310 CMR 15.224(2) to utilize the former primary tank as designed is not advised. Michelle Collette confirmed that the site is on Town water, as is the abutter on Westford town water, and shared her experience and confidence in the Presby system, stating also that the Brookfield Commons project at its inception was done very well. The board discussed a Presby System deed notice for the Homeowners Association. Kristine Robinson of Brookfield Commons asked clarifying questions about the location of the vents, with Stephen DeWinter providing some additional information on areas used by neighbors as a walking paths. Mr. DeWinter asked additional questions of Mr. Waterman regarding tree clearing and erosion controls. Michelle Collette moved to continue the

hearing to Monday September 16th, 2024 at 6:30pm, Evan Thackaberry seconded, a roll call vote was taken Collette aye, Fleischer aye, Thackaberry aye (3-0).

Consider Approval of Water Quality Samplers, Friot's Water Treatment Ayer, MA & SafeWell of Bolton, MA- Dan Justicz was present on behalf of Friot's Water and Elizabeth Schoepke on behalf of SafeWell. Ms. Schoepke spoke on behalf of her organization, as did Mr. Justicz. The board asked questions of the two applicants about the process of water quality sampling and the Town of Groton regulations. Michelle Collette moved to approve Friot's and SafeWell as qualified, following Mass DEP requirements, to collect and deliver water sampling chain of custody to a certified lab, with Evan Thackaberry seconding, and the motion carried unanimously, roll call vote was taken Collette aye, Fleischer aye, Thackaberry aye (3-0).

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

Health Agents Report- Kalene Gendron shared in writing that a notice of mosquito born illness should be posted on the Town website, and that she has ordered 500 covid test kits to be dispersed in Groton. Michelle Collette shared information on the pending closure of the Nashoba Valley Hospital.

Sign permits/ invoices- (1) invoice for Compassionate Care Veterinary was signed by present members.

Minutes- Michelle Collette moved to accept the minutes of 5 August 2024, as submitted, Evan Thackaberry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, roll call vote was taken Collette aye, Fleischer aye, Thackaberry aye (3-0).

Schedule Next Meeting- The Board of Health will meet Monday September 16, 2024 at 6:30pm.

Michelle Collette moved to adjourn at 7:28pm, Evan Thackaberry seconded, and the motion carried unanimously, a roll call vote was taken Collette aye, Fleischer aye, Thackaberry aye (3-0).

Minutes by Katie Berry, Interdepartmental Administrative Assistant.

APPROVED: 9/16/24
