



TOWN OF GROTON

Board of Health
173 Main Street
Groton, MA 01450

BOARD OF HEALTH

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

Date: Monday December 1st, 2025

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Groton Town Hall, 173 West Main St Groton, MA 01450 and Zoom

Members Present: Michelle Collette, Robert Fleischer, Evan Thackaberry

Members Absent:

Others Present: Micaela Moore, Kalene Gendron, Steve Blackburn

Robert Fleischer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.- Robert Fleischer reviewed the agenda.

Installer License, S. Blackburn review- Steve Blackburn informed the board that he is in his second year of holding an installer's license with the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health. Mr. Blackburn has been in the field for twenty years but recently decided to start his own venture. Mr. Blackburn lived in the area when he was younger, so this is where he decided to start a business. Robert Fleischer asked Kalene Gendron to inform the board of the issues. Ms. Gendron stated that Mr. Blackburn has a site in town where it has snowballed. The septic was installed in the well arc, and the system was left exposed in winter weather, which cannot be done. There was a breakdown in communication between Mr. Blackburn and Ms. Gendron. Mr. Blackburn took the blame and stated that he did not wait for the engineer and placed the system in the well arc. He also stated he had gotten sick and hadn't been working, and that is when the system was uncovered. He also admitted fault in not being in contact with Ms. Gendron. Michelle Collette stated that this sounds like a real learning experience for Mr. Blackburn and that he is taking responsibility. Ms. Collette asked if the issues have been resolved. Mr. Blackburn stated that a new drawing has been submitted to mitigate the issue. Mr. Blackburn stated he has covered the system. Mr. Blackburn stated he did the original Title V and that he found a crack after the initial Title V was done, and he did notify everyone right away of this new discovery. Mr. Fleischer asked Ms. Gendron if the site can be rectified. Ms. Gendron stated it could be, but that the site had just spiraled. The board, as the licensing authority, needed to decide if they should revoke the license or put Mr. Blackburn on probation. Evan Thackaberry asked for Ms. Gendron's recommendation. Ms. Gendron recommended probation for six months to a year. Mr. Thackaberry asked what the consequences of probation are. Ms. Gendron stated that if another situation like this occurred, then further action would be taken. Evan Thackaberry made a motion to place Mr. Blackburn on probation for a period of one year due to the issue noted in the letter dated December 11th,

and if there are no further issues, it would lapse. Michelle Collette seconded the motion; it passed with a unanimous vote.

Tobacco Permits- Micaela Moore stated all applications have been submitted and paid. Michelle made a motion to grant tobacco permits to Groton Wine and Spirits, Omaha Realty LLC (Boston Road Market), 786 Mobil Mart Inc., Energy North DBA Haffner's, Country Farms, Groton Prime, and Groton Market. Evan Thackaberry seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous vote.

Trash Hauler Permits- Micaela Moore informed the board that the certificate of liability for Waste Management was not included when the application was submitted. They stated that it was not available until the end of December or the beginning of January, but that it would be mailed to us when it became available. Michelle Collette made a motion to grant a trash hauler permit with the provision that the certificate of insurance be received no later than December 31, 2025, and that the permit be held until it is received. Evan Thackaberry seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous vote. Michelle Collette made a motion to grant trash hauler permits to GW Shaw & Son, Inc., Republic Services, Prime Disposal, LLC, and EL Harvey & Sons Inc. Evan Thackaberry seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous vote.

Affordable Housing Trust Letter of Support Request- Robert Fleischer stated that the Affordable Housing Trust has requested a letter of support for their CPA application. Michelle stated that the housing coordinator, Fran Stanley, does an outstanding job and often provides Kalene Gendron and the Board of Health with assistance on very difficult housing matters, going above and beyond what is required of the position. Ms. Collette stated that she would like to wholeheartedly support this application, as all the work done is vital for providing affordable and rental housing. Mr. Fleischer stated that newer construction must meet the codes so it is compliant. Evan Thackaberry made a motion to provide a letter of support for CPA housing application 2027-07. Michelle Collette seconded the motion, and it passed with a unanimous vote.

OLD / NEW BUSINESS:

Health Agent's Report and Correspondence- Kalene Gendron stated that, with the opioid working group, two residents stepped up to fill the positions and will meet at least two times a year for now. The Nashoba Health Equity Partnership met last week, and an email was sent out with a good summary. They are looking for participants for the breakout groups, which will be virtual, if anyone is interested in serving on one of the committees. Seven towns in the district have started micro groups, and it seems to be led by the fire chiefs. The Nicotine Free Generation initiative is picking up steam. The board discussed how the Nicotine Free Generation works. The board discussed the tobacco regulations. Robert Fleischer asked Ms. Gendron about PHEP and whether the board needs to attend. Ms. Gendron stated that she attends on behalf of the board, and members are welcome to attend if they would like to. The board discussed the emergency communication service.

Sign permits/ invoices- No other permits. The board signed an invoice for the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health.

Minutes- Michelle Collette made a motion to approve the minutes from December 1st, 2025, as written. Evan Thackaberry seconded the motion, and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Schedule Next Meeting- The Board of Health will meet on Monday, January 5th, 2026 at 7 pm at the Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room 173 Main St.

Evan Thackaberry moved to adjourn at 7:08 pm, Michelle Collette seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes by Micaela Moore, Interdepartmental Administrative Assistant.

APPROVED: 2/2/2026
