ZBA Groton, MA November, 8, 2023
Heritage Landing 40B on Cow Pond Brook Road, and Land on Hoyts Wharf Road, Groton Ma

ZBA, My name is Thomas Pistorino and I have been a resident of Groton for 45 years. I want to enlighten the members of this board as to what has taken place in this area. When we moved out here they were removing dirt from this area and were digging so deeply they were creating a pond in the aquifer. The town went to the contractor and worked out an agreement to stop digging as the deed stated they needed to fill in when they hit water. They said when we are done digging we will fill it in. They digging and were supposed to fill it back in above the high water table by 4-5 feet, They filled it in only to the existing level of about 3 feet. Also an excavator, while digging, fell in and the operator almost died.

Later on the town wanted to have the big dig from Boston drop off all their polluted soil at our landfill. The neighborhood fought it and the town's people voted it down.

The town provided finances to build the fields and the neighborhood supported this effort as it would clean up the excavation area across from the dump.

Since then, the town:

- Closed the dump and covered it over to help stop the pollution draining into the water table. They also dug wells to take water samples to ensure nothing was getting out.
- Set up a transfer station to recycle as many products as possible and haul everything else away.
- Moved the Highway department down there.
- Approved a compost garbage recycling facility. There is some leakage of rot smell.
- Installed solar panels down there.
- The police department also has a test firing range located there.

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Now with all this going on the traffic on Cow Pond Brook Road has increased significantly. Now they want to build 40 units down there with some being 40B. As the main property cannot support a septic system my understanding is the town would be providing land on Hoyts Wharf Road for their septic system. My understanding is this land is across the street and is wet land. It also could contain endangered animal species. Also could the septic contaminate the ground water? The town also have to run water there.

The proposed Groton Farms (NEBS) apartment construction will address the town's affordable housing requirement and will also be easier for residents to get to and from.

This is too much for this remote area to support. Please consider these comments as you make a decision to support or not support this effort. There are too many unknown problems that could occur.

Thank you,

Thomas Pistorino