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TOWN OF ACTON  
MINUTES  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
DECEMBER 9, 1986

Present were Daniel Costello, George Emmons, Charlotte Sagoff, and Richard Stephens. Staff present were Deborah Robertson, Edward Wirtanen, and Carol Holley.

The meeting opened at 7:47 p.m. Richard Stephens moved to accept the minutes as corrected for the prior meeting. Mrs. Sagoff seconded, all voted in favor.

7:48 p.m. Priscilla Greene, Nursing Service. Plans for transition of supervisory personnel. Mr. Johnson had met with Mrs. Robertson and Mrs. Greene regarding Julie Stephens and Mrs. Greene sharing the job of Nursing Supervisor, with Mrs. Greene retaining overall responsibility for the nursing operation until June. Mrs. Greene will be resigning as of June, and Mrs. Stephens will be serving in an interim position. The full position will be advertised per normal procedure in the spring. Mrs. Greene has held her job for 7 1/2 years. She stated she was resigning because it was time for new ideas from new people, and time for her to move on professionally.

Correspondence from Simione and Simione regarding their proposal for the Nursing Service was reviewed. Less than enthusiastic responses were noted. Mr. Stephens stated that he felt the Wayland Group proposal showed more concern with business strategy. Mrs. Greene explained that the Wayland Group works primarily with hospitals, and they are not CPA's. She had heard of them because of a project they had done for the Red Cross. Mr. Stephens stated he was impressed with the Wayland Group proposal and credentials. It was decided that the Wayland Group would be asked to come in and present their proposal personally at a future Board of Health meeting.

The Board reviewed the Nursing Service's Department of Public Health survey. Medicare denial procedures, and the improvement regarding noted deficiencies, was reviewed. Mrs. Greene stated that the Nursing Service had lost their Waiver of Liability which means that the Nursing Service is financially liable for making an incorrect call. It was estimated that being off waiver would continue for at least three months.

Mr. Stephens moved that the Plan of Corrections indicated in the Department of Public Health survey be approved by the Board. Mrs. Sagoff seconded, and all voted in favor.

8:06 Bursaw Gas and Oil. George Emmons asked about the diagram regarding the tanks to be installed. The representative from Evergreen Construction stated that it was a tank within a tank, with a reservoir. An outer wrap is welded to the tank so that the space between tanks is totally sealed. It was stated that Capt. Craig has no problems with the subject tanks. It was stated by Evergreen that this was the best tank available. Buffide tanks were discussed. Mrs. Robertson stated that Bursaw was requesting to replace the existing tanks for #2 fuel oil, 2 in number. No new tanks are involved. Per query from Mr. Emmons, checking and monitoring of the tanks is up to Mr. Bursaw, but this is customarily done when new loads of fuel come in.

Mr. Stephens moved that a special permit be granted subject to the following conditions:

1. That the tank be replaced with the proposed tank of the same size of the tank to be removed.
2. The plans for installation must be approved by Board of Health staff prior to construction.
3. The site will fully conform to the Hazardous Materials Control By-Law of the Town of Acton.

Mr. Emmons seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

8:15 Siekel Welding, land off Quarry Road/Ledgerock Way. Mrs. Robertson stated that Mr. Siekel was before the Board requesting guidance regarding the purchase of land off Quarry Road. It is in an Aquifer Protection Area. Testing was done in 1979. More testing will have to be done in an approved groundwater season. More work must be done before the plan comes before the Board. Another consideration was the materials used in a welding operation. This was explored at length with Mr. Siekel. Solvent for paint would have to be in a special storage area in compliance with the Hazardous Material Control By-Law. Mr. Siekel stated that he did very little painting. Mrs. Robertson stated that the Siekels should go back to the engineer for groundwater testing and they should leave the plans with staff for review. Staff would be in touch with them in the future regarding the plan.

8:25 Ali Beyranevand. Condo conversions, buildings on Great Road. Mr. Costello asked about where the toluene in the water at Pine Hill was coming from. Mrs. Sagoff stated that Acton standards were much stricter than State, and what was allowable by DEQE was not by Acton. She stated that the report was not satisfactory to her. Mr. Costello asked what kind of permit was involved. Mrs. Robertson stated that they were coming in for a special permit because the condominium lies within an aquifer protection area. The Selectmen had referred the matter to the Board of Health for review. Mr. Costello stated that it was not clear that Acton Water District standards applied in this matter. Mrs. Robertson stated that this is not a new development, but is a condo conversion and the location on the Lycott map made the appearance before the Board a necessary formality. Mrs. Robertson felt that all her questions on the matter had been resolved. Mrs. Sagoff requested a copy of DEQE standards for volatile organics. Mrs. Robertson felt that the review for condo conversion will become routine for the Board. Mrs. Sagoff made a comment regarding Mr. Kimball's letter and the items tested for in the water. Mr. Beyranevand stated that he had asked staff for guidance, and Steve Calichman had told him that the Board would probably accept DEQE's decision. It was stated that the units have gas heat. Mr. Stephens considered it important to find out why the analysis of the water showed Toluene, and he strongly recommended that retesting be done. Mr. Stephens moved to grant a special permit subject to the following conditions: (1) No underground fuel storage tanks; (2) pumping of septic system every year; (3) compliance with Hazardous Material Control By-Law; (4) septic system subject to staff

approval; (5) water supply for Pine Hill be retested for traces of toluene & other volatile organics per AWD standards, and the final drinking water supply be approved by staff with or without volatile organic controls as deemed necessary. Mrs. Sagoff seconded, all voted in favor.

8:52 AC Chevrolet, Special Permit. They are also in the process of replacing all their underground storage tanks from 1968. They will also be installing tanks for floor drains for a new building and for expansion in a recharge protection area. There is a 2,000 gal fuel oil tank for heating which should be replaced with a double-walled tank; a 500 gallon tank will be replaced with a 1,000 gallon double-walled tank, a 1,000 gallon motor oil tank will be replaced with a 2,000 gallon double-walled tank. Two 6,200 gallon tanks will also be installed. Tanks meet or exceed current requirements for the storage of hazardous materials. Floor drains in the existing building go into an MDC gas trap. Exploratory surgery on the gas trap plumbing is to be done as no records exist. Mrs. Sagoff asked if someone on the staff would be present when the pipe is opened. No septic system work is being done at this time but further work will be done. Mr. Stephens moved that a special permit be granted subject to the following conditions: (1) underground fuel storage tanks for this site will conform as presented by Acton Survey plan #1688 submitted to the Board of Health include tanks with double containment as approved by staff (2) compliance with Hazardous Material Control By-Law (3) the existing MDC gas trap will be investigated and connected to a tight tank, (4) this special permit does not apply to the septic system which will require a separate special permit. All voted in favor of granting the special permit.

9:07 Kevin Sweeney, Special Permit, Ayer Road, Lot 6. Less than 100 feet from wetlands. After an extended philosophical discussion on changing of regulations, prior approvals of subdivisions, and distances between leaching areas and groundwater the Board learned that the closest corner of the primary leaching area is 86 feet from wetlands, and closest reserve area 75 feet. It was decided that changing the lot lines would be burdensome. Mr. Stephens moved to modify the special permit for Lot 6 as follows: the subsurface disposal system will be a minimum of 86 feet from the flood plain for the primary field and 75 feet for the expansion area. Mrs. Sagoff seconded. Mr. Stephens stated that the wetlands involved is not a prominent water source, and the amendment is consistent with the requirements when the subdivision was first approved. Mr. Emmons requested that the record show that this motion was to grant the permit was based on the history of this development. The vote was unanimous in favor of granting the special permit.

9:24 Bob Christmas; groundwater elevations. Mrs. Robertson stated that Mr. Christmas was at the meeting regarding groundwater level recognition. In her opinion, current groundwater levels match or exceed those in previously recognized maximum groundwater seasons. Mrs. Robertson asked that staff continue to monitor groundwater elevations should climatic changes lower the level significantly. The Board agreed to endorse the opening of the maximum groundwater season, subject to later changes if necessary.

9:28 During review of correspondence, a discussion of Mr. Laffery's request for records and the Health Office's responsibilities regarding same ensued. The concern revolved around the magnitude of the request, particularly in relation to current staffing shortages and workload.

A discussion of Temporary Aquifer Protection Regulations and the use of a filter medium was held. It was questioned whether it would be better to describe the filter layer in terms of percentage of fines versus perc rate.

10:02 Sunoco. Mr. Hastings. Mr. Kosmo has stated he can proceed with the design of the system for Sunoco. Mrs. Robertson asked regarding the square footage of the system, and the meaning of the word suitable as used in a letter regarding the system design. Mr. Hastings stated that Mr. Kosmo felt that the system could meet Board of Health regulations. Mrs. Robertson stated she had problems with the 3-island design and the flow figures. A variance from Title 5 will be required. The matter was tabled pending further design work.

10:06 Mr. Costello asked for an estimate of time involved to comply with Lafferty request for records.

10:10 SEA proposal. Mr. Durling has asked for Board of Health reactions.

10:15 Regarding an internal memo on Kelley's Corner study area, Mr. Costello ask that staff determine age of systems involved, types of systems, plans on record (as-built v proposed), and total number of dwellings in the area.

10:22 Review of miscellaneous correspondence.

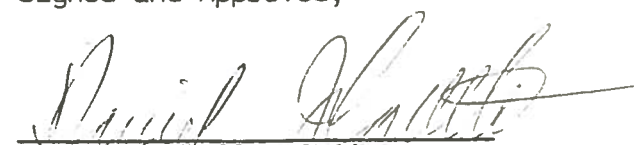
10:26 Discussion of Redstone. Mrs. Robertson stated that Mr. DeFeo and Mr. Costello and she had met at Redstone that morning. The backhoe had gone off the road in Carlisle, so test holes had not been dug. Mr. DeFeo will supply his comments in writing by December 16 concerning recommendations for temporary and longer term solutions to the problem. He will call DEQE regarding the installation of a treatment plant, but doubts it will be approved. The DPW and Selectmen were getting complaints due to freezing runoff, and frequent sanding was required. Mr. DeFeo will address the issue of drainage.

There being no further business, Mr. Stephens moved to adjourn. Mrs. Sagoff seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Carol Holley, Sec'y

Signed and Approved,

  
Daniel Costello, Chairman

0358Z