

Acton Board of Health

Room 9, Acton Town Hall  
Acton, MA 01720  
August 7, 2017

Members Present: Chairman, Joanne Bissetta, William Taylor, Michael Kreuze, Rekha Singh and Thomas Jacoby

Staff Present: Sheryl Ball - Health Inspector  
Weiyuan Sun-Administration

Other Present: Jill Gregory, Molly Obendorf and Peggy Mikkola

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m.

**Minutes**

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board of Health minutes dated June 19, 2017 with corrections.

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board of Health minutes dated June 26, 2017 with correction.

**Variance- 57 Alcott Street**

The Health Department received a request from Stamski and McNary for a variance from Article 16-6, Figure 1: to allow for a reduction to groundwater with 2 minutes per inch soil in Groundwater Protection Zone 3 (requested separation three (3) feet.) for the property located at 57 Alcott Street. The Health Department recommends approving this variance based on the DEP remedial use approval as follows: Adding a pump to obtain 3” groundwater separation as per 16.6.2.5 would allow for the same leach field which is currently designed, but the system would be pumping downhill. If possible, gravity distribution is preferred to avoid additional cost, power outage issues, and pump replacement. The Presby AES system is designed to distribute effluent evenly by retaining the effluent for a period of time before it is wicked away by surrounding system sand. The bio- accelerator fabric which is a part of the AES system further helps uniform distribution. The difference between pressure dosed and gravity is minimal when compared to a conventional system.

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to approve the variance with the following conditions:

1. The septic shall, at all the times, be maintained in compliance with the most recent Remedial Use Approval issued by MADEP for Presby Enviro- Septic System.
2. The septic tank shall be pumped a minimum of once every two years.
3. The system shall be constructed in accordance with the above listed conditions and the plan stamped by George Dimakarakos dated July 24, 2017.

### **Variance- 9 Highland Road**

The Health Department received a request from the owners to allow for a basement remodel of an existing bathroom located at 9 Highland Road. The basement bathroom requires an ejector pump for the wastewater as well as a 1500 gallon septic tank. The homeowner has requested a variance from Title 5- 310 CMR 15.229 to allow the use of his existing 1000 gal septic tank. The Health Department does not recommend this approval as there is concerns that solids will be pumped into the SAS. On a motion made by Dr. Taylor, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to not approve this variance without the minimum 1,500 gallon septic tank for an ejector pump in the basement bathroom of 9 Highland Road.

### **Variance- 78 Central Street**

The Health Department received a request from the homeowner of 78 Central Street to replace a failing SAS. The property is restricted by excessive fill on the right side of the property as well as the wetlands located in the near of the property. The applicant has proposed variances from the following:

1. Article 11-6.1.1- No sewage disposal system with a capacity of less than 2,000 gallons per day shall constructed with 75 feet of any wetland (requested 50 feet).
2. 310 CMR 15.405- To allow the SAS to less than 10 feet from slab as requested under 310 CMR 15.211 (requested 50 feet).

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to approve the variance from Article 11-6.1.1 and 310 CMR 15.405 for the property located at 78 Central Street with the following conditions:

1. A poly liner shall be installed between the SAS and the slab/foundation wall.
2. The septic tank shall be pumped a minimum of once of every two years.
3. The existing septic tank and pump chamber must pass inspection to be retained.
4. The system shall be constructed in accordance with the above listed conditions and the plan stamped by Steve Calichman, dated July 27, 2017.

### **Variance-49 Maple Street**

The Health Department received a request from the homeowner, Jill Gregory of 49 Maple Street to allow for a reduction in the setbacks from a deck to the SAS system. The as-built of the septic system shows the edge of the leach field to be 8 feet away from the closest portion of the house. The proposed deck appears to extended to the corner of the leach field. An exact distance from the edge of the field to the sonotube location was not given.

A variance as Article 11-6.1.3.1- Pier or sonotube type foundations may not locate a minimum of five (5) feet from a septic tank and ten (10) feet from the soil adsorption system..." (requested separation: roughly 2-4 feet from SAS based on as-built and proposed desk size). The Board discussed this request and determined that the deck will be too close to the SAS. It was also stated that this property has Town sewer available and if connection where to occur this concern would not exist. Ms. Jill Gregory withdrew the request.


### **Adjournment**

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Weiyuan Sun, Administrator  
Acton Board of Health



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Joanne Bissetta, Chairman  
Acton Board of Health