

**Scituate Board of Health Meeting
Monday, November 27, 2017, 2017
Scituate Selectman Hearing Room
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Doug Whyte, Chairman
Mr. Steve Pansey, BOH Member
Mr. Russell Clark, BOH Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Jennifer Keefe, Director, Public Health
Ms. Joan Schmid, Administrative Assistant

6:00 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Mr. Whyte called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda- A motion was made and seconded with all in favor of accepting the agenda.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

Discuss/Vote: Septic System Design Hearing – 7 Milton Street – EET Engineering, Inc, representing homeowner request for installation of a septic system requiring local upgrades/variances.

Mr. Robert Crawford from EET Engineering attended the meeting representing the home owner of 7 Milton Street. Mr. Russell Clark noted that his father is a co-owner of the home and he wanted to disclose it for the meeting. He noted that he will recuse himself from voting if the Board felt it was needed. The Board noted he did not need to recuse himself since this is a repair for a failed septic system.

Mr. Crawford stated that the home has an existing failed cesspool and the proposed septic system design plan includes a 1,000 gallon septic tank because of the small property lot size. The leaching system consists of a bed of chambers with a 24.8% reduction from the required size due to limited space. It is in the FEMA elevation zone of 13 feet and the entire lot elevation is 13 feet. Mr. Crawford noted that the property owners are requesting a variance from 15.102, instead of two deep observation test holes to have one test hole because of the limited area for the septic system. He indicated that there was another test hole but it could not perc because it filled up with water. Mr. Crawford also requested a variance for 15.23 from the required 1,500 gallon septic tank to a 1,000 gallon septic tank, and a three reductions in setbacks distances; from the 10 foot minimum between a property line to 3 foot minimum on the east side and a 5 foot minimum on the north side, and a reduction from the required 10 feet to a slab foundation to 6.75 feet. Mr. Crawford also requested a 24.8% reduction in the required leaching area. The Board asked how many bedrooms and Mr. Crawford noted it is a four bedroom home. The Board asked if the lot line would be staked for contractors to stay on the correct side. Mr. Crawford noted that there are lot line stakes. Ms. Keefe noted that there a few small required administrative changes to the plans. Ms. Keefe confirmed that the Conservation Commission approved the plan on November 20th subject to the Board of Health approval.

There was a motion made and seconded with all in favor of accepting the requested variances: requested one observation and perc hole instead of two holes, a 1,000 gallon septic tank from the required 1,500 gallon septic tank, a reduction of the setback to the property line to 3 feet on the east side and 5 feet on the north side from the required 10 feet, a reduction from the slab foundation from the required 10 foot minimum to 6.75 feet, a 24.8 % reduction for the leaching field area and Ms. Keefe's plan approval of any other outstanding requirements to the plan.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Keefe gave the Director's Report.

The public health nurse gave seventeen flu shots on November 16th, and an additional twenty flu shots on November 20th. There are fifteen flu vaccine doses remaining. The public health nurse is available on Wednesday and Thursday mornings to get a flu shots.

Ms. Keefe noted that the 2018 permitting is ongoing. The funeral director permits and tobacco permits are complete. There are eight pump and haul permits and five rubbish permits complete. The food establishment application packages were due last week and there are still several outstanding. The office is following up with reminders. There are five food establishment application packages not received and required to pay the late fee. There are currently twenty one incomplete packages with outstanding items. The Board asked if there is a fee for incomplete applications. Ms. Keefe noted that there is not; however, when the Board looks at the new fee schedule, this can be included so the fee schedule is very detailed and clear. Ms. Keefe noted that in the 2018 cover letter she identified the required items so it is very clear what is needed. Food establishments cannot open on January 1st if a permit has not been issued and Ms. Keefe needs to notify the police department to enforce the closing of any establishment. Ms. Keefe noted that the application checklist states the documentation required and that it has not changed from last year. Before the applications are mailed the office completes a checklist for each individual food establishment to identify the items needed, such as Serve Safe, choke saver, and/or allergen certificates with the required fee. The office needs to permit 94 food establishments in five weeks. The Board noted that if the application is sent late, the office may not get to it with the volume. Permit holders are reminded in advance of the deadline to save them the late fee and the office follows up after the deadline for pieces needed to complete the application package. Ms. Keefe confirmed that it is discouraging that there are 26 out of 94 food establishments that the office is still chasing for outstanding items. The Board noted that the business owners know the way it has been done in the past unless they are new at it. Ms. Keefe confirmed that the new food establishment owners are more responsive, since they have questions on the permitting process. Ms. Keefe also noted that the office is following up on outstanding re-inspection fees. The new permit cannot be issued with any outstanding fees not paid. The installers and Title 5 inspectors usually wait until their first job to send in their application. There are eight inspector and sixteen septic installer applications received.

Ms. Keefe noted that she is currently in the budgeting process. It started a few weeks ago and will continue until spring Town Meeting. She is looking at budget numbers, calendars, accomplishments, and it needs to be done by Friday.

There are nine open housing cases with no new cases. There are three nuisance cases with one closed.

There are five environmental releases Ms. Keefe is following. There are two septic systems with operation and maintenance repair requirements and now seven properties with operation and maintenance contracts that need to be renewed.

There are sixteen septic systems in failure, with two new septic system plans approved and three with new septic system plans in process.

There has been no new information for the winter's famers market to start in January. There have been two inquiries but no applications received.

There have been twenty-seven food inspections conducted by the food inspector between November 1st and November 17th. Critical violations included food contact with surfaces dirty; dish and glass machine not sanitizing; dirty ice machine; coolers not being maintained at proper temperatures; no soap or towels at hand sink and the hand sink not being used; no sanitizer being used; expired dry goods, food not dated or labeled; and food not held at proper temperatures. All re-inspections were conducted and all violations have been corrected.

OLD BUSINESS

*Discuss: Required Sewer System Connection Non Compliance for Failed Septic System;
490 Hatherly Road*

Ms. Keefe noted that the Board agreed on October 30, 2017 to let Ms. Keefe do some additional research on 490 Hatherly Road. The property is in foreclosure and there are currently three points of contact. Ms. Keefe has been in communication with the management company that maintains and prepares the home for sale and provided them the information necessary to connect to Town sewer and abandon the septic system. Ms. Keefe noted that the sewer betterment has already been paid. This is a septic system that has been in failure since 1999. There is no one living in the home and Ms. Keefe noted that the letter on November 6, 2017, states that the home must remain vacant until the home is connected to Town sewer.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Board reviewed and signed the administrative invoices for approval.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded with all in favor at 6:27pm.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS PRESENTED:

A copy of the letter submitted and abutter green cards for 7 Milton Street.