

**Scituate Board of Health Meeting  
January 23, 2017  
WPA Building – North Scituate  
6:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Steve Pansey, Chairman  
Mr. Russell Clark, Member  
Mr. Douglas Whyte, Member

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ms. Jennifer Keefe, Director, Public Health  
Mr. Jeffrey Hassett, Morse Engineering  
Ms. Kara Tondorf and Mr. Michael Tondorf, Owners of The Rivershed

**Mr. Pansey called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm**

**Acceptance of the agenda** – A motion was made and seconded with all in favor of accepting the agenda

**Scheduled Items**

*Discuss/Vote: Request for Approval of the Septic Repair Plan for 101 Booth Hill Road in Accordance with 310 CMR 15.000 The State Environmental Code, Title 5*

Mr. Jeffrey Hassett of Morse Engineering represented the homeowner requesting septic system repair design approval with four local upgrades. Mr. Hassett described the property and the conditions, stating that dwelling was an existing three bedroom dwelling located on a small lot with wetlands in the back yard. The house has a fieldstone foundation with a full basement. Morse Engineering was proposing to pump and remove the existing cesspool and replace it with a gravity system comprised of chambers that did not need a breakout barrier. Mr. Hassett stated that the percolation rate was 9 minutes per inch. He showed the Board the proposed location on the plan and requested the following local upgrades:

- 1) reduced setback between septic components and the water line
- 2) reduced setback between the SAS and cellar wall
- 3) reduced separation between SAS and high groundwater from 4 feet to 3 feet
- 4) reduced number of deep holes in the proposed SAS from 1 to 2

The Board reviewed the plan and a motion was made to approve the septic repair plan with the local upgrades requested by Morse Engineering. The motion was seconded and approved with all in favor.

*Discuss/Vote: Fats, Oils and Grease Hearing -- Grease Causing Blockages in Town Sewer Line on Driftway and at Herring Pond Pump Station, Rivershed*

Ms. Keefe reported to the Board that earlier in the day she accompanied Kevin Cafferty, the DPW Director; Sean McCarthy, the Engineering Supervisor; Rick Mosca, the Acting Sewer Division Supervisor; Ms. Tondorf, owner of Rivershed; and representative from Araco Sewer & Drain Service, Inc., a contractor to inspect the current level of grease, if any, in the sewer lines in the vicinity of the Rivershed. Grease was present in the wet well and in the manhole located just before the wet well. There was grease in the manhole that is on the line only servicing CP's Woodfired Pizza and the Rivershed. Grease was not present in the manhole associated with the sewer line servicing Country Way and Ford Place.

Ms. Tondorf stated that she believed that the level of grease looked better than it had six weeks ago but agreed with the description of the inspection provided by Ms. Keefe. She further stated that she wanted to be part of the solution but was concerned that they would install the external grease trap and the problem would not be resolved. The Board indicated that the goal was for there to not be grease in the line from any source and it was the Board's responsibility to work towards improving the situation. Mr. Tondorf indicated that they were having a hard time identifying where the grease could be coming from within the building. Ms. Tondorf noted that their drain and sewer contractors were telling them that the capacity of their internal grease trap was sufficient for their establishment. Mr. Tondorf stated that he was concerned about the age of the Town infrastructure, the history of backups and quality of the sewer line. He agreed that he wanted to be part of the solution but was also concerned about future "what-ifs" in that if they installed the external grease trap and there was no improvement in the volume of grease being identified in the sewer line, then what? Ms. Tondorf stated that the grease trap was a huge consideration in their purchasing the business two years ago, which is why the variance was requested at that time. Mr. Tondorf told the Board that he believed that the Rivershed was doing what was needed to retain the variance granted and that they were meeting the variance requirements, with the internal grease trap and cleaning they conducted. Ms. Keefe reminded the Tondorfs and the Board that this was only one step in the process to identify and address the source or sources of grease entering the pump station. She confirmed that the investigation will continue in the future to determine if there are additional sources of grease entering the sewer system and impacting this pump station. Ms. Tondorf stated that she would like to receive three professional opinions regarding the installation of the external grease trap, with considerations for the bathroom and floor drain system. She believes that it is going to be a difficult process because the restaurant is built on a slab.

The time frame for installation was discussed and the Tondorfs indicated that the fall was their slow season. The Tondorfs will submit a design plan to the Board of Health and the plumbing inspector for review. A motion was made and seconded to revoke the variance. The Board of Health voted 3-0 to revoke the variance and required installation of an external grease trap at the Rivershed.

## **New Business**

### *Director's Report*

Ms. Keefe provided an update on the following items:

- There were 23 food establishment inspections conducted to date in 2017, including 17 routine inspections, 5 re-inspections and 1 as a result of a complaint. The critical violations observed included: expired food, equipment not maintaining necessary temperatures, food not being stored at required temperatures, dirty food contact surfaces, improper handwashing techniques, and bare hand contact with ready-to-eat foods.
- There are currently 7 food establishments that still needed their 2017 annual food permit.
- There are currently 11 open housing cases and 5 open nuisance cases.
- There are 10 septic systems in failure.

## **Other Business**

Administrative invoices were approved.

## **Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded with all in favor and the meeting was adjourned.

**Documents**

Meeting Agenda

Sketch of the sewer line at the Rivershed

Email from Health Agent to Board of Health members with summary of January 23, 2017 inspection

DPW memo dated January 23, 2017

Araco Sewer & Drain Service, Inc. invoice dated December 14, 2016