

October 14, 2021
Sterling Board of Health Meeting
Butterick Building, Lower Level Conference Room
1 Park Street, Sterling, MA 01564

Meeting Minutes

6:00 PM The meeting was called to order by Chairman Allen Hoffman.

Roll Call: Anne Marie Catalano, Member - present
Allen Hoffman, Member - present
Cathie Martin, Member - present
David Favreau, Health Agent - present
Elaine Heller, Administrative Assistant - present

Attendees: Brian Milisci, Joe Plaisane, Brandy Plaisane, Julian Votruba, Michael Votruba,
Laura Ricci, Chris Knuth, Patrick Healy, and Chris Stoddard

General Business Updates:

Approve Any Available Minutes: September 9, 2021:

A motion to approve revised minutes of the September 9, 2021 meeting was made by Martin and seconded by Catalano. Martin amended her motion to correct a change that had been missed. All in favor, motion carried.

Correspondence: None

Health Agent Report:

Health Agent Favreau commented there were 202 residents vaccinated at the Flu Clinic on October 6, 2021.

Blue green algae has been reported at East Lake Waushacum. The Conservation Commission and Lake Association are working on the problem and will treat the lake in the Spring.

The COVID numbers are coming down in town and the state.

The nitrogen credit for land is back on track for 104-106 Leominster Road. Hoffman and Favreau will meet with Engineer Patrick Healy at the site location for the land credit next week.

Signatures Required: None

Other Items

Discuss Coronavirus: DPH State Updates:

Ms. Martin noted she has received testing site information. A booster vaccination is available for Pfizer recipients only. No EEE has been reported in the state; there are some cases of West Nile Virus.

Appointments and Agenda Items:

241 Redemption Rock Trail Variance Request (CONTINUED):

Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations: Reg. IV.a., Leach beds to be 1000 square feet minimum, with 12" of stone beneath the pipes (456 sq. ft. provided with 6" stone beneath pipes).

Reg. IV.f., Leaching facilities 0-1,499 GPD shall be constructed with the following minimum 5-foot separation distance to estimated seasonal high groundwater (4-feet separation is proposed).

Local Upgrade Request: 310 CMR 15.405(1)(h): Approving authority may reduce the required 5-foot offset from the E.S.H.W.T. to the bottom of the proposed S.A.S. (Provided 4')

Julian Votruba presented to speak on the plan, which he noted requires variance to state code and local Board of Health regulations. The system he designed is for 330 gallons, allowing for 3 bedrooms.

According to Health Agent Favreau, Mr. Votruba can't increase the flow and obtain a variance. If he raises the bed to the 5-foot offset, he then can do a 3-bedroom system with no state variances.

After discussion, Mr. Hoffman observed the only variance would be for the local regulation of 456 s.f. for the leach beds. Martin made a motion in support of the variance, with changes noted, and Catalano seconded the motion. All in favor; motion carried. A permit will be issued once a final plan is received by the BOH.

3 Sterling Avenue Variance Request:

Local Upgrade Request: 310 CMR 15.405(1)(h): Approving authority may reduce the required 4-foot offset from the E.S.H.W.T. to the bottom of the proposed S.A.S. (Provided - 3').

Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations: Reg. IV.a., leach beds to be 1000 square feet minimum, with 12" of stone beneath the pipes (1508 sq. ft. Presby sand bed provided with no stone beneath pipes).

Reg. IV.f., leaching facilities 0-1,499 GPD shall be constructed with the following minimum 4-foot separation distance to estimated seasonal high groundwater (3 feet separating is proposed).

Brian Milisci of Whitman and Bingham represented the homeowners on this property, proposing a Presby-type design.

After discussion by Board members, Martin made a motion to accept the design as written and Catalano seconded. All members in favor, motion carried.

110 Clinton Road Variance Request:

Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations: Reg. IV.f., leaching facilities 0-1,499 GPD shall be constructed with the following minimum 4-foot separation distance to estimated seasonal high groundwater (3-feet separating is proposed).

Local Upgrade Request: 310 CMR 15.405(1)(h): Approving authority may reduce the required 4-foot offset from the E.S.H.W.T. to the bottom of the proposed S.A.S. (Provided - 3').

Engineer Chris Knuth represented Fannie Mae Mortgage Loan Company on this failed septic system, requesting one local upgrade. An item noted on the plan to be added to the permit is to look for parent material during bottom of the S.A.S. Hoffman made a motion to approve the plan and Martin seconded. Unanimous vote.

12 Jewett Road Review of Reserve Area Design:

Engineer Chris Stoddard presented the design for the reserve area. The design meets offsets to the property lines. There must be a 2-bedroom deed restriction on this property. Catalano made a motion to approve the design with bedroom count deed restriction recording and copy of plan recording to ensure the area of reserve is not built on for other uses and Martin seconded the motion. All members in favor; motion carried.

Patrick Healy attended the meeting to speak on the nitrogen reduction system for property located at 104-106 Leominster Road. He has obtained property credit for the system, located at 79 Pratts Junction Road. Mr. Favreau and Mr. Hoffman will meet to check on the property. There was no further discussion as this topic is not on the agenda.

Review of Future Agenda Items and Meeting Date:

Agenda Item: Health Agent Favreau's annual performance review

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10, 2021, at 6:00 PM in the Lower Level Conference Room of the Butterick Building.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Martin and seconded by Catalano. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:14 PM.

Materials: Minutes