

**TOWN of HINGHAM
BOARD OF HEALTH**

Board of Health Public Meeting

September 9, 2022

A posted public meeting of the Town of Hingham, Board of Health (the Board) was held in the Central North Hearing Room, Hingham Town Hall, 210 Central Street, Hingham, Massachusetts. Mr. Bickford called the meeting to order at 8:05am.

Members Present

Peter Bickford, Chair
Elizabeth Eldredge, M.D., Member
Rosemary Byrne, N.P., Member

Staff Present

Susan Sarni, Executive Health Officer
Elizabeth Nee, Health Agent

Public Meeting Minutes

The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes of August 19, 2022.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Eldredge seconded by Mrs. Byrne and VOTED (roll call); **to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of August 19, 2022 as amended.**

Members in favor: Eldredge, Byrne and Bickford

Members opposed: none

Action Items

233 South Pleasant, Variance to Potable Well

Terence McSweeney, PE, McSweeney Associates, Representative for the Applicant
Leon Merian, Realtor, Representative for the Applicant

- The variances requested to upgrade the system meet the Title 5 standards for the state but they do not meet the Hingham Supplementary Rules and Regulations (HSRR). The proposed 4 bedrooms system will be a Singulair TNT 500 treatment tank, waterproofed, monolithic and extended base and the Infiltrators will be High Capacity H2O Chambers. This proposed system will be replacing the two existing pits that are 60 feet from the existing potable well and the field is 122 feet from the well.
- Hingham requires the tank and field to be 250 feet from the well. The state is 50 feet for the tank and 100 feet for the field to the well, which this does comply.

- Waste water pipe exiting the house is 42 feet from the well and the well is approximately 35 feet deep.
- Mr. Bickford has concern regarding the pipe exiting the dwelling and confirmed with Mr. McSweeney that it will be sleeved.
- This dwelling is mostly surround by wetlands. The system would met the state regulations, but not the HSRR, as the proposed field is only 64 feet, and it is required to be 100 feet by HSRR.
- Discussed the thickness of naturally occurring soils and asking for a variance to the required 5 feet, as it is existing at 2 feet. The Board historically has allowed this variance as the state allows 2 feet for an IA.
- The upgrading of this system will not change the surface grade.
- The corral on the property does not house any animals at this time.
- This house is for sale and the representatives are not aware of any immediate changes to the dwelling. If new owners decide to make changes, this will be reviewed through the building application process.
- Discussion to test the water 2x a year for coliform.
- There is not an option for town water at this time. There is a road moratorium until the year 2023 so therefore this option would not be addressed until then.
- Mr. McSweeney suggest that he will discuss with Ms. Sarni the economical water treatment system to tailor for the coliform testing.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Eldredge, seconded by Rosemary Byrne and VOTED (roll call); **to approve the applicant's request to upgrade the septic system and grant the following variances from the Hingham Supplementary Rules and Regulations for 233 South Pleasant Street, Hingham, MA and as follows: Section VII.E SDS to wetland setback, Proposed 64' Required 100', Section VII.F(1) SDS to surface water supply Proposed 151' Required 400' Section VII.F(2) SDS to private potable well, Proposed 42' Required 250', Section VII.F(4) SDS to surface water supply Proposed 151' Required 200' Section VII.J Thickness of naturally occurring soils Existing 2.0' Required 5.0'. The well water is to be tested two times a year and to notify the Health Department with results. The recommended conditions outlined by the Executive Health Officer must be met that will be outlined in the approval letter of the upgraded septic system.**

Members in favor: Eldredge, Byrne and Bickford

Members opposed: none

156 Chief Justice Hwy, New Construction Permit Expired

Brendan Sullivan, PE, Merrill Engineering, Representative for the Applicant

- The Disposal System Construction Permit for 156 Chief Justice Highway has expired and Mr. Sullivan is requesting that the application be renewed. This application expired during the Covid-19 pandemic and did not meet the Covid-19 time to have its expiration excused.
- Dr. Eldredge asked Mr. Sullivan to confirm that there have been no changes to the plans for this site from the original application. Last submitted plans revision date is August 11, 2020.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Eldredge, seconded by Rosemary Byrne and VOTED (roll call); **to approve the renewal of the Disposal System Construction Permit Application for 156 Chief Justice Highway, Hingham, MA for construction of a new septic system. No changes to the approved letter dated September 28, 2020 or the landscape have changed since last revisions.**

Members in favor: Eldredge, Byrne and Bickford

Members opposed: none

Discussion

16 Bank Ave, Septic System in Sewer District

- Ms. Sarni informed the Board that there is a single, family dwelling located at this address with a failed Title 5. Title 5, Section 15.004(3) requires that when a system fails and it is feasible for the applicant then it is required to connect to the town sewer system.
- Ms. Sarni states that at this particular site the request to connect to sewer would not be feasible for the following reasons: The sewer line closest to this dwelling is 332 feet from the dwelling, located on North Street. This would cost over \$300,000 to connect because of the distance. Bank Avenue is a private road and they would have to provide an 8" main up the street to provide for the other dwellings on this road. This connection would also require a manhole to be installed in the road.
- Ms. Sarni was present at the perc test and confirmed that the soils were acceptable and setbacks can be met. It has also been mentioned that a proposed Geometric system will

be installed and this requires a deed notice for the applicant. Ms. Sarni requested that the Board approve to install an upgraded system at 16 Bank Avenue for reason presented.

- Mr. Bickford stated that this option is better for the groundwater and that connecting to sewer is not always the answer.
- Dr. Eldredge noted the history with Ship Street and Cottage Street where town sewer was installed even when there were not any notable environmental impacts of the septic systems in that area.

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Eldredge, seconded by Rosemary Byrne and VOTED (roll call); **to approve the installation of an upgraded septic system due to the large financial burden that would be placed on the homeowner if they were required to connect to sewer, and the acceptable environmental factors involved with a septic system upgrade.**

Members in favor: Eldredge, Byrne and Bickford

Members opposed: none

Updating Application Fees

- Ms. Sarni informed the Board that fees for new subdivisions are part of the Board of Health Supplementary Rules and Regulations for Disposal of Sanitary Sewage, IV Application Requirements, Section 12. Therefore, as previously discussed at last Board Meeting, August 19, 2022 an amount was to be decided upon for future subdivision fees.
- Five thousand (\$5,000.00) per proposed dwelling on new subdivisions was agreed upon.
- Other changes to application fees will be updated and were agreed upon:

Farmers Market Application \$75.00 increased to \$200.00 for yearly permit.

Perc Test \$150.00 increased to \$200.00

Well Application \$50.00 increased to \$200.00

Thereafter, a motion was made by Dr. Eldredge, seconded by Rosemary Byrne and VOTED (roll call); **to approve the following updated changes to application fees and is as follows; the fees for new subdivisions will be charged \$5,000.00 per proposed dwelling being developed.**

The Farmer's Market application will increase from \$75.00 to \$200.00 and this will cover the whole year of services. Percolation Test will increase from \$150.00 to \$200.00 and Well Applications will increase from \$50.00 to \$200.00

Members in favor: Eldredge, Byrne and Bickford

Members opposed: none

New Business

No new business brought before the Board.

EHO REPORT

Tobacco Grant

- Ms. Sarni requested the Chairman's signature for Hingham's participation in the proposal for the Municipal Board of Health Tobacco and Public Health Policy Programs RFR.

Consulting Engineer Contract

- Ms. Sarni stated that she is preparing to move forward in the search for not only one but also two consulting engineers to meet the needs of the department.

Community Public Health

- Ms. Sarni discussed with Ms. Bryne.

Scheduling

The next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2022 at 7:30am.

Adjournment

The public meeting of the Hingham Board of Health adjourned at 9:00am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elizabeth Nee, Health Agent

Documents reviewed during the Public Meeting:

- *BOH of Health Meeting Agenda*
- *Board of Health Public Meeting Minutes from August 19, 2022*
- *Memo from Susan Sarni, EHO to Board of Health regarding 233 South Pleasant Street, Proposed Septic Plan*
- *Email dated 8/23/22 from Susan Sarni, EHO to Terence McSweeney, PE, regarding 233 South Pleasant*
- *Email date 8/26/22 from Susan Sarni, EHO to Terence McSweeney, PE, regarding 233 South Pleasant*
- *Memo from Susan Sarni, EHO to Board of Health regarding 16 Bank Avenue*
- *Letter from Sue Henrichsen, for Rosano-Davis Sanitary Pumping, Inc., to Susan Sarni, EHO regarding Title 5 Septic Evaluation for 16 Bank Avenue*
- *Form 12: Title 5 On-Site from completed by Susan Sarni, EHO for 16 Bank Avenue*

- *Copy of Terence McSweeney soil evaluation and perc test for 16 Bank Avenue*
- *One page of the 310 CMR: Department of Environmental Protection for reference for 16 Bank Avenue discussion*
- *A chart showing application fees of surrounding towns to compare to Hingham's application fees.*
- *Copy of the Participating Municipality Agreement, Municipal Tobacco and Public Health Policy Programs RFR #190128*
- *Copy of the Application for Grants and Subsidies (PP Object Class)*
- *Public Health Topic List for Upcoming Months*
- *Town of Hingham Immediate Release, September 8, 2022 informing residents to take precautions against West Nile Virus*
- *Flyer: How to Protect Against Mosquito Bites/Mosquito Bite Prevention*