**Brimfield Board of Health**

**Meeting of October 17th, 2019**

Board Members Present: Chair Richard Costa, M. Polack and M. Koprowski

Present: Health Agent Jamie Terry

Guest: 37 East Hill Road Andy Truax, 29 East Hill Road Joseph Venezia 19 Lyman Barn Roger Parker

The meeting was called to order at 6:32PM

* **60 St Clair- Septic**

The Board of Health discussed at length the facts of this property, as this office knows them. The house and well were installed on this new construction in 2017. The house location was not installed as it was proposed and approved by the BOH Agent under the septic plan in 2017. There is no evidence that the Board of Health was ever notified of this change and therefore it wasn’t until the house and well were completed that the health department came to find out about this change. The placement of the well on the lot does not leave a lot of options for the septic tank placement. Additionally, the plumbing is already set out the driveway side of the house and the entire house is built and finished.

The Health Agent repeatedly expressed concerns over the proposed septic tank placement. The engineer recently revised the plan and proposed to move the tank closer to the house, but provide a T-Y cleanout

at a rounded 90 degree bend in the sewer line leaving the house (containing solids). This would not offer protection from backup with solids in a long bendy line and does not satisfy the code requirement of sewer line shall run in a straight line into the septic tank whenever possible.

The Board of Health was requested this evening (at the recommendation of the Health Agent) to consider issuing a variance to the property line offset for this tank location. The proposed location would allow for the sewer line carrying solids to maintain a straight run into the septic tank. The septic tank was proposed to be 5’ off the property line. The neighbor was notified of the BOH meeting and did not attend the meeting.

An extremely long discussion ensued where the BOH members expressed concerns that the relocation of the dwelling should have been brought before the BOH office for review to prevent from scenarios such as these needing variances on new construction.

Ultimately the BOH did not feel comfortable issuing a variance for new construction that had yet to be installed. M. Polack made a motion to approve Revision 3 of the septic plan for 60 St. Clair Road, dated 9.26.19, which proposed the septic tank with the T-Y cleanout on the downhill driveway side of the lot. M. Koprowski seconded this motion and the vote was unanimous.

* **37 East Hill- Septic**

As the asbuilt drawing was being recorded onto the plan for 37 East Hill Road it was determined that the septic tank and pump chamber were installed 4’ to close to the slab of the garage The Health Agent recommended approval of this variance as it is an existing condition that doesn’t alter the safety of public health.

A long conversation ensued and ultimately it was determined that digging up and relocating these two large tanks would create more site challenges and concerns with weather (very rainy) conditions that were unnecessary to protect the public health.

M. Koprowski made a motion to approve the 4’ variance offset from tank to garage. M.Polack seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

* **19 Lyman Barnes Road- Title 5**

This property presents with a failed Title 5 on record performed by Kenny Moore on 9/11/2019 and a second Conditional pass on record performed by Matt Bianchi on 9/30/2019. During the second Title 5 (performed by M.B.) Jamie Terry, Health Agent was requested to the site for witness. There were 5 holes dug into the leach area as part of the inspection. Jamie Terry reports that the stone was clean and dry. There was no evidence of failure documented in the leach area.

The distribution box was found to be unlevel and there were makeshift speed levelers that had been installed. These speed levelers were removed during the second inspection.

The septic tank was opened at all three covers. Jamie Terry reports witnessing the inlet cover taking 25 minutes with a steel bar to be opened (and eventually the cover was broken upon opening). Jamie Terry states that she is confident that septic tank cover had not been removed during the first inspection, as it was unable to be opened without breaking during the second inspection.

The water level was found to be high in the septic tank. The outlet pipe was installed on a high angle and did not provide the two-inch drop as required across the tank. The second Title 5 inspector (M.B.) noted a new inlet and outlet tee creating the appropriate pitch were required to be installed. (Hence the conditional pass for his inspection).

The Board of Health discussed this site and the unique circumstance of having two Title 5’s at length. Given that Jamie Terry, Health Agent, was onsite to witness the second inspection for over three hours the Board of Health felt confident in her professional opinion that the leach area did not show signs of failure.

M. Koprowski made a motion to accept the conditional passed Title 5 and allow for the property owner to hire a licensed installer to replace the distribution box onsite and replace and repair the inlet tee and outlet tees in the septic tank to create the appropriate pitch across the septic tank. M.Polack seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Metcalf

Administrative Assistant