

**Town of Becket
Board of Health
557 Main Street
Becket, Massachusetts 01223
(413) 623-8934 ext. 122 fax (413) 623-6036**

Meeting Minutes for November 25, 2020

Board Members Present: Gale LaBelle, Robert Ronzio, Laurel Burgwardt

Board Members Absent: none

Clerk of Committee: Tess Lundberg

Public Present: Ed Fahey as Health Agent for Becket, John Murray

Items will be kept in the order of the agenda for easier reference.

1. Call to order:

Gale LaBelle calls the meeting to order at 9:05 AM. Ms. LaBelle introduces the Board members present and reads the rules of the meeting.

2. 345 Friar Tuck

Board discussed well setback issues on submitted plans. Mr. Fahey states that although Berkshire Engineering's plan meets state regulations it does not meet the Town of Becket regulations. Mr. Fahey states that if the well is moved away from the road/property line it encroaches on the septic system setback. From a public health standpoint the setback from the septic system takes precedence over the setbacks from the road/property line or the driveway.

Mr. Ronzio makes a motion to grant a variance for the road/property line setback for the well, as recorded in the Berkshire Engineering plan, and accept the septic system design. Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio votes in favor. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**

Ms. LaBelle makes a motion to grant a variance for the driveway setback for the well, with the condition that it will be adjusted to meet Town of Becket regulations if feasible. Mr. Ronzio seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio votes in favor. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Ronzio wants to make sure that Berkshire Engineering is aware of the Town of Becket regulations. Mr. Fahey contact Berkshire Engineering to discuss the feasibility of moving the driveway/parking area to be in compliance with the Becket 2017 regulations.

3. 612 Main Street/Berkshire Engineering/Berkshire Pittsfield Septic

Board discussed that plan was approved on November 6, 2019 with the condition that the Estimated Seasonal High Groundwater be provided before a construction permit would be issued. There appears to be no record that the ESHG was supplied. Mr. Fahey reported that work was being done on the system. Board discussed a concern that bedrooms had been added

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to the residence, exceeding the design of the system. The board also questioned if the Conservation Commission had approved work at the property.

Board decided that at this time they will not issue any construction permits, conduct any inspections on the work done, or issue any Certificates of Compliance, Board directed that a copy of the plans will be sent to Mr. Fahey, and that the Conservation Commission be contacted to confirm their approvals.

4. 33 Beach Rd/ Murray Excavating & Landscaping

John Murray of Murray Landscaping and Excavation discussed the repairs he made at 33 Beach Road. Mr. Murray stated that he had called Berkshire Engineering to notify them he would be doing the install. Mr. Murray said that the homeowner stated that a construction permit had been issued. Mr. Murray stated that Berkshire Engineering inspected the system after repair and before it was covered over. Mr. Fahey stated that it would be impossible for him to inspect the repairs now as the system has been covered over. Mr. Murray stated that Berkshire Engineering had told him it was okay to cover the system.

Board advised Mr. Murray that he had previous incidents of doing work without a permit and it would not be tolerated again. As an installer he needs to confirm that a construction permit has been issued, not just applied for. Board also advised Mr. Murray that a system should not be covered over until both the engineers and a Board of Health inspection have been done. Mr. Murray apologized to the board and said the errors would not be repeated.

Mr. Fahey noted that the house is a 2 bedroom design and a deed restriction should be recorded with the Registry of Deeds.

Ms. LaBelle makes a motion that a Certificate of Compliance will be issued for 33 Beach Road when proof of a recorded deed restriction at the Registry of Deeds is provided and Mr. Fahey inspects the system. Mr. Ronzio seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio votes in favor. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**

5. 451 Brooker Hill Road/Cooper Excavation

Mr. Fahey states that the septic system design by Kelly, Granger Parsons Associate was installed by Cooper Excavation. Mr. Cooper called for an inspection of the installed system. The Kelly Granger Parsons engineer determined that the system had been installed too low and was oriented incorrectly on the site. Sand used in the install was sent for lab analysis and was determined to be inferior, Mr. Fahey stated that the system should be completely removed and re-installed. Mr. Fahey recommends that an order be issued to Cooper Excavation to replace the system and that only Kelly Granger Parsons may sign off the engineer inspection.

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Mr. Ronzio makes a motion that Mr. Fahey issue an order to Cooper Excavation to replace the system according to the design by Kelly Granger Parsons, and only Kelly Granger Parsons may sign off the engineer inspection. Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio votes in favor. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Ronzio makes a motion that once the septic system at 451 Brooker Hill Road is correctly installed and fully inspected that Mr. Fahey issue a letter to Cooper Excavation revoking his installer permit privileges in the Town of Becket, with the option that he can appeal to the board. Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio votes in favor. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**

Board approves that the fees paid by Cooper Excavation, subsequent to the faulty installation, for a Title 5 inspection and a Soil Percolation Witness fee, may be refunded.

6. Other Business

- a. **588 Leonhardt Rd-** Mr. Fahey reports that after reviewing the original septic system design it can accommodate the 3rd bedroom that was added to the home. Ms. LaBelle makes a motion to accept the existing design for the septic system at 588 Leonhardt Road as adequate for a 3 bedroom home. Ms. Burgwardt seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio votes in favor. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**

b. **29 Chester Rd- Becket Motel**

Mr. Fahey reports that he did the final inspection of the installed septic system. The field needed to be covered, graded, and hay applied to protect from erosion until groundcover can be applied in the Spring. The alarm box on the exterior motel wall still needed to be connected. Mr. Fahey recommends withholding issuing a Certificate of Completion until they are 100% ready.

c. **39 Becket West**

Mr. Fahey states that the system was installed in the spring. The contractor stated that it was inspected by Laurel Burgwardt. Ms. Burgwardt does not recall inspecting the installation. Ms. Burgwardt makes a motion to approve the Certificate of Compliance with the condition that the design engineer has signed off on their inspection of the installation. Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio abstains. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**

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d. 156 Sir Walter Court

Mr. Fahey states that the design approved showed replacement of both the tank and pump chamber. His inspection showed the pump chamber is ok and does not need to be replaced. He recommends that they should be allowed to install without replacing the pump chamber. Ms. LaBelle makes a motion to accept the installation without the pump chamber replacement. Ms. Burgwardt seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio votes in favor. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**

7. Adjournment : Next Board meeting will be on December 2, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Mr. Ronzio makes a motion to adjourn. Ms. LaBelle seconds the motion. Ms. LaBelle votes in favor. Mr. Ronzio votes in favor. Ms. Burgwardt votes in favor. **Motion passes.**
Meeting is adjourned at 10:03 AM.

Meeting Minutes reviewed and approved on December 02, 2020 by:


Gale LaBelle, Chair


Robert Ronzio


Laurel Burgwardt, Vice Chair