



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

Meeting Minutes for April 3, 2019

Board Members Present: Gale LaBelle, I. David Krawet and Laurel Burgwardt

Board Members Absent: None

Health Agent: Jayne Smith

Administrative Assistant: Jessica Perotti

Public Present: Mike Kulig, Tim Leahy, Diane Magargle, Dom Guglielmo and David Robinson

Call to order

Gale LaBelle calls the meeting to order at 5:04 PM and reads the rules of the meeting.

Board to review meeting minutes for March 6, 2019

Ms. LaBelle tables this to the end of the meeting.

Reports from Jayne Smith, Health Agent:

- a. **133 Brooker Hill Road:** Ms. Smith says this was started last year but was never approved. It is a large system with a tank, pump chamber and the request to put it up on the hill. This will be a perc-rite system. They are looking for a local upgrade approval (LUA) with a three foot (3') separation to estimated seasonal high groundwater (ESHG). Ms. LaBelle **makes a motion** to approve the septic plan for a LUA with a 3' separation to ESHG at 133 Brooker Hill Road. Ms. Burgwardt **seconds the motion**. All in favor.

Motion passes.

- b. **24 Western Avenue:** Ms. Smith introduces Mike Kulig from Berkshire Engineering. Mr. Kulig explains to the Board they would like to install a tight tank at this property. There is a shallow well on the property and a proposed location for a new deep well. The shallow well would need to be decommissioned. Ms. Smith suggests that stone be placed around the new well for protection. There is a discussion regarding where the cars will be parked. The conclusion is that the cars will be parked on the opposite side of the well. This is a seasonal residence so there is no concern for needed protections from snow removal. There is a six (6) month deed restriction for tight tanks. There is another brief discussion on how often the tank should be pumped. Mr. Kulig reports Title V requires it every three (3) months but it really depends on how much it is used. Ms. LaBelle wraps up the discussion detailing the points from the discussion:

- A tight tank to be installed at 24 Western Avenue with a 6 month deed restriction.
- The well will be on one side with cars parked on the other side.
- A required maintenance plan of pumping the tank at least every 3 months or as needed.

Ms. LaBelle **makes a motion** to accept the septic plan for 24 Western Avenue as discussed. Ms. Burgwardt **seconds the motion**. All in favor. **Motion passes.**



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Ms. LaBelle **makes a motion** to decommission the shallow well and to drill a new well. Mr. Krawet **seconds the motion**. Ms. Smith asks that it be required to have some stone placed around the new well for protection. The Board agrees. Ms. LaBelle calls for a vote. All in favor. **Motion passes.**

- c. **5 Tecumseh Drive:** Ms. Perotti reports the application was paid for today. Ms. Smith reviewed the plan submitted by Leslie "Mickey" Spokas. Ms. Smith explains that the lot is very tight and that this is the only place to put the septic system. They are proposing to install a secondary treatment system by Advantex. This system basically cleans the water. They want to install this because the lot is so small, there isn't room to put a traditional leach field. They call it a bottomless sand filter and does just what it sounds like. Ms. Smith describes its appearance explaining a special sand is used, not just regular Title V sand. Ms. Smith says it requires a local upgrade approval (LUA). Ms. Smith says the number of bedrooms is questionable whether it is two (2) or three(3) but Ms. Smith says this system can withstand a third (3rd) bedroom count. Ms. Smith reminds the Board they did ask permission for a 3rd bedroom and were told that as long as they weren't going to ask for the moon, the Board would consider it. Ms. Smith confirms that MassDEP has approved this system allowing only those certified to install it. Ms. Smith says that it needs to be confirmed by sieve analysis that the proper sand was used for the installation; this should be put on the permit. Ms. Perotti confirms she has listed on the permit that it is for a LUA, a sieve analysis is required to determine the correct sand is used, and that a maintenance agreement as per plan. Ms. Smith says the LUA doesn't need to be listed as a condition. Ms. LaBelle **makes a motion** to approve the septic plan for 5 Tecumseh Drive for a LUA, a sieve analysis to be done to determine the correct sand is used, and the maintenance agreement is in place. Ms. Smith adds that the temporary benchmark needs to be set by the designer. Mr. Krawet **seconds the motion**. All in favor. **Motion passes.**
- d. **375 Long Bow Lane East:** Ms. Perotti reminds the Board that this application has still not been paid yet. The Board decides to table this until it is paid.

Old Business

- a. **3071 Main Street:** Ms. Smith reminds the Board the problems reported by the tenant which include some extreme plumbing and septic issues. Ms. Smith says that all repairs will need to be done or they will be brought to housing court. She says she is in contact with the homeowner's representative and will be going out after the meeting for another follow-up inspection. She has every expectation that the repairs will be made.

New Business



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- a. **Informal discussion with Dominick Guglielmo regarding a Title V inspection done at 139 Little John Drive:** The Board recognizes Dominick Guglielmo. Mr. Guglielmo presents the Board with a Title V inspection from 2008. Mr. Guglielmo bought the property a two (2) years later. He planned on using the property on the weekend only. Shortly after, he had some health problems which in turn changed his plans for the property. He would like it to be a place he can retire and wants to know what he needs to do to fix it. The Board and Ms. Smith review the Title V inspection from 2008 submitted by Mr. Guglielmo. Ms. Smith says the septic system failed in 2008 because there was evidence of hydraulic failure and there was a clogged pipe. The tank was also leaking.

Ms. Smith explains that when a Title V inspection fails, the current owner has two (2) years to fix it. Ms. Smith suggests that a new Title V inspection is done or a percolation (perc) test. Ms. Smith explains that it depending why it was clogged, it may be a waste to do a Title V inspection. She feels that the system is most likely in ground water. Ms. Burgwardt agrees that a perc should be done rather than a Title V. Mr. Guglielmo is concerned that he would have to put in a new septic system and he won't be able to afford that. Ms. Smith says if he wants to explore the thought of saving the current system, she suggests that he does have a Title V inspection done. She says it would be an added expense and it would be a gamble. Mr. Guglielmo is looking for the most inexpensive way to bring the septic up to code. Ms. Smith recommends that he have a Title V inspection done but to be aware that if the tank is in groundwater, it will be an automatic fail and a new system would be required. If it fails because it is just clogged, there are remedies to fix the system. Ms. Smith refers to the Board for their thoughts. Ms. Burgwardt suggests that an informal inspection be done on the system. If it fails, a soil evaluation would be needed. Ms. Smith explains what to expect to be done at a Title V inspection. Mr. Guglielmo asks the Board to tell him what he needs to ask for when he calls an inspector. Ms. Smith says he needs to ask for an informal Title V but they would still require a witness to be there. Ms. Smith recommends that he find an inspector that is also a soil evaluator because if it fails, he can do the soil evaluation on the spot.

- b. **Informal discussion regarding choke saver requirements for dinners held at the church:** Tabled.
- c. **Choke saver class to be scheduled:** There is a brief discussion regarding where and when a choke saver class can be held. Ms. LaBelle says she will be in touch with a nurse from Berkshire Public Health Alliance (BPHA) to coordinate a date.
- d. **Papa Bob's: informal discussion regarding the addition of a food truck onsite:** Ms. Smith says she and Ms. Burgwardt went out to look at the condition of a food truck they



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recently acquired. Providing they get approval from the Planning Board, they would like to serve ice cream out of during the summer. Ms. Smith that should they get approval, she is quite satisfied with it as the truck is in good working order.

e. Infomal discussion regarding the addition of a farm stand at Robinson Farm, 2299

Main Street: The Board recognizes David Robinson and asks him to explain what he would like to do at his farm. Mr. Robinson says his farm is under Chapter 61A which allows him to have a farm stand. He says he has a building that he currently uses as an office. He would like to install a bathroom there as a convenience so he doesn't have to keep going all the way back to the house. Mr. Robinson explains that instead of installing an additional septic system for the proposed bathroom in his office, he would like to tie into the existing system for the house. Mr. Robinson says he won't be adding any additional living space. Mr. Robinson explains that he would also like to operate a farm stand from this building. He proposes to have another sink on the other side of the bathroom for the purposes needed to run the farm stand. He would like to have ice cream at the farm stand and maybe hamburgers too from the cows raised at the farm for next year.

Ms. Smith explains that using the building for an office and a farm stand is a little bit of a jump. Ms. Smith says that the sink Mr. Robinson is proposing to install will not handle what needs to be rinsed and sterilized in it. Mr. Robinson says the ice cream won't use any water. Ms. Smith says that while the ice cream machine itself may not require water for the ice cream to be made, it does require a lot of water for the cleaning and sterilization of the components of the machine itself. Following a brief discussion about how the ice cream machine is run, Ms. Smith discovers that water is used to make the ice cream. She says that depending on how many customers are served here, the farm stand could be considered a public water supply (PWS). All PWSs are approved by the state and would require monthly testing.

Mr. Robinson says he could take the components of the ice cream machine and wash them in the house. Ms. Smith says that is not allowed under the Massachusetts Food Code.

Ms. Smith suggests to Mr. Robinson that he come back to the Board with a written plan of what he proposes to do at his farm. There is a brief discussion about him serving hard ice cream instead to get away from the required water use. Ms. Smith addresses the needed requirements if Mr. Robinson were to serve hard ice cream instead of soft ice cream. The scoop used for the ice cream would need to be placed in a water circulator but would use far less water needed for a soft serve machine.



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Mr. Robinson explains that he plans on expanding the stand next year to include pumpkins and flower plants grown at the farm. He would also like to sell canned sodas and to offer french fries. Ms. Smith says the french fries may pose another problem for him since he will need to add a grease trap. Mr. Robinson says he wants to get the first step done now. Mr. Robinson says he will probably start with the hard scoop ice cream since it will be the easiest and next year to include hotdogs and hamburgers, cooked on an electric grill, along with some bottled beverages.

Ms. Smith asks the Board if they would require a Title V inspection to determine if the septic system is not in failure and will be able to take the additional flow. Ms. LaBelle asks Mr. Robinson to come back with a written proposal, including a plan that shows where everything will be, and from there, the Board will determine what will need to be done. There is a brief discussion of why a septic inspection is important. Mr. Robinson says he will do a Title V inspection if he needs to. The Board agrees that a Title V inspection needs to be done.

f. Recreational Camp permit renewals:

- i. Camp Becket**
- ii. Becket Day Camp**
- iii. Chimney Corners Camp YMCA:** Ms. Smith lets the Board know she has been sending notices out to all the camps about the new camp regulations. Ms. Smith says she would like to hold off on issuing permits until she is satisfied that all new requirements have been met. Ms. Perotti confirms that only these camps have submitted applications this year.

Public Input

Ms. LaBelle lets the Board know that a complaint came in regarding 50 Dawn Drive. An inspection has been scheduled for the end of the month.

Correspondence

Ms. Perotti shows the Board a request for a letter of support from Meredyth Babcock on the Conservation Commission as they are submitting an application for the climate change **Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness (MVP)** Program. She included a template that could be edited at the Board's discretion. Following a brief discussion, the Board agrees to send a letter of support to them. Ms. LaBelle **makes a motion** to send a letter of support to the



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Conservation Commission regarding the climate change MVP Program. Ms. Burgwardt **seconds the motion**. All in favor. **Motion passes**.

Budget

Eighty-two percent (82%) of the budget has been spent.

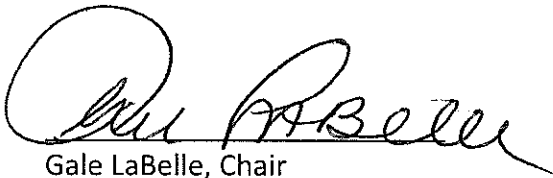
Board to review meeting minutes for March 6, 2019, con't.

Following their review of the meeting minutes for March 6, 2019, Ms. LaBelle **makes a motion** to approve them. Ms. Burgwardt **seconds the motion**. All in favor. **Motion passes**.

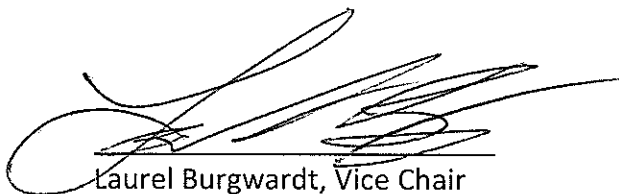
Adjournment

Ms. LaBelle **makes a motion** to adjourn. Ms. Burgwardt **seconds the motion**. All in favor. **Motion passes**. Meeting is adjourned at 6:54 PM.

Meeting Minutes to be reviewed and approved on June 5, 2019 by:


Gale LaBelle, Chair

I. David Krawet, Clerk


Laurel Burgwardt, Vice Chair