

Acton Board of Health

August 13, 2007

Members Present: William McInnis, Chairman, Joanne Bissetta, Member, Pamela Harting-Barrat, Member, and Phillip Alvarez, Associate Member

Staff Present: Doug Halley and Brent Reagor

Others Present: Doug Wilkins, Steve Graham, Jay Peabody, Kevin Klein, John Sloan, Charles Torielli, Paula Torielli

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Show Cause Hearing – Quail Ridge Country Club, Skyline Drive

Refer to Court Reporter's Official Record

DEP Sustainability Grant Program

Ms. Bissetta presented a MassDEP grant program designed to assist municipalities with creating sustainable environmental management systems. In the past, Acton had declined to participate because of the contract with NESWC. The grant provides funding for a variety of initiatives, including anti-idling and public-area recycling programs. To apply for the grant, the Town would have to adopt a "buy recycled" policy. Mr. Halley stated that this program would fit within the Board of Selectmen's goals to promote a "green culture" within the Town. On a motion by Mr. Alvarez, seconded by Dr. Harting-Barrat, the Board unanimously voted to recommend that the Board of Selectmen pursue this grant program and adopt a "buy recycled" policy within the fiscal constraints of the Town.

Irrigation Well Variance Requests – 48 and 51 Harris Street

Kevin Kline appeared before the Board representing Equity, owners of Spring Hill Commons, located on Harris and Great Road. Equity on behalf of the owners of 48 Harris Street (Sloans) and 51 Harris Street (Torrellis) was requesting variances from Article 9. Construction of a

Wastewater Treatment Plant for Spring Hill Commons is in process as required by a Consent Decree issued by DEP. During the design process it was noted at a Board of Health meeting that the existing private water wells at 48 & 51 Harris Street were within 100' of the proposed subsurface discharge area for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Based on that determination Equity negotiated agreements with the Sloans and the Torrellis to abandon their wells for drinking water purposes. As part of that agreement Equity accepted the responsibility of requesting that the Board of Health allow the conversion of these two private drinking water wells to irrigation wells.

The Board of Health noted that each of the wells will be used for only irrigation purposes, that the wells were deep bedrock wells without direct access to the surficial groundwater and that the Treatment Plant will be removing nitrates prior to the effluent being discharged. The consensus of the Board was that these three factors in total would provide equal environmental protection.

On a motion made by Ms Harting-Barrett and seconded by Ms Bissetta the Board of Health unanimously approved a variance from Article 9 to allow irrigation wells at 48 & 51 Harris Street to be maintained within 100' of a wastewater discharge area with the following conditions:

1. There shall be no cross connection between the irrigation well and the public water supply.
2. Water from the irrigation wells shall only be used on the lot where the irrigation well is sited.
3. The irrigation wells shall be maintained in accordance with the requirements of Board of Health regulation Article 9.

Minutes – July 23, 2007

On a motion by Ms. Bissetta, seconded by Mr. Alvarez, the Board unanimously accepted the minutes of July 23, 2007 as written and corrected at the meeting.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Mr. Alvarez, seconded by Dr. Harting-Barrat, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brent Reagor, Deputy Director
Acton Board of Health

William McInnis, Chairman
Acton Board of Health