**Wellfleet Board of Health**

Hybrid Meeting: Zoom/ 715 Old Kings Highway

Wednesday, February 8th, 2023 at 5:30 pm

**Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Nick Picariello (Chair), Janet Drohan, Ken Granlaund, Debbie Freeman

**Others Present:** Hillary Greenberg-Lemos, Health Agent, Stephanie Sequin (Engineer), Kathleen Bacon (Select Board), Tom Desmond (Virtually)

Chair Picariello called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

**Variances:**

**3064 Baker Ave., Map 20, Parcel 54; Septic System Upgrade- Steve and Shirley Blanchard**

The Blanchards are requesting approval for BOH approval to upgrade a converted cesspool to a title V compliant septic system. There is an existing 3 bedroom dwelling on an 11,400 sq ft. The property is on a steeply flowing lot with the house located on the downward end of the property. To maximize the distance between the SAS and the existing well they are requesting a multitude of variances to the setbacks from lot line, cellar wall and well as well as a reduction in the Soil Absorption System (SAS). The groundwater flows down gradient away from the SAS and away from the well.

The Board asked about how the system addresses nitrogen mitigation. This type of system does not do anything additionally to reduce nitrogen. Stephanie Sequin brought additional plans utilizing a MicroFast 0.5 denitrification tank instead of the stand septic tank to result in a reduction of 35 mg/L of nitrogen to 19 mg/L of nitrogen. Chair Picariello moved to approve the plan with the additional condition that the Well Water be tested annually. Deborah Freeman seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

**49 and 57 Tecumseh Rd Map 28, Parcel 166 and 165; Well Relocation**

Tom Desmond is requesting a variance to have the well servicing the dwelling at Map 28, Parcel 165, be relocated to an abutting lot Map 28, Parcel 166. The current well at Map 28, Parcel 165 is high in tannins and sodium. The current homeowner bought the abutting lot (map 28, Parcel 166) to provide better water to the dwelling. The owner has no intention of building on the undeveloped lot. The existing well is to be abandoned at Map 29, Parcel 165 is to be abandoned.

Chair Picariello moved to accept the relocation of the well and Ken Grandlaud seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

**Request for Board of Health Review**

**New Business:**

**Review of Departmental Fees**

The Board reviewed the list of proposed fees and it was identified that the fees go into the general fund. The Board inquired if the fees are labeled as coming from the Board of Health. The Board feels as though the fees should be increased to represent the number of hours that go into permit review and other services associated with the fee. There was discussion that the board would like the fees to be ear marked so that they can be used to fund future Public Health programming needs instead of it going to one big pot. There was discussion that the fees be reviewed every 5 years so that there isn’t such a great jump, for example the last fee schedule was revised in 2008. It was noted that the fees were reviewed since then and it was determined that they were in line with surrounding towns. It was suggested that some research should be conducted before the next meeting to propose a new fee schedule that is in line with surrounding towns. The septic review and septic reinspection, food permitting, and recreational camps and pools were identified as being the most labor intensive. It was suggested that all the fees be increased by 13.8% for inflation across the board. It was indicated that the select board was encouraging each department to reassess if their fee schedule should be raised.

Agent Lemos shared with the board that the department was applying for a state funded grant to install a community fridge as well as 2 hand pump wells to increase resiliency in the Wellfleet Community.

The board expressed concern about homes that are being rented out and advertised well past the capacity of their existing septic tank. It was discussed you could possibly track where those people are staying based off the beach sticker sales.

The Board discussed having a rental occupancy program based off the capacity of the septic tank and Agent Lemos expressed concern about the current capacity of the staff in the department and not having the time to properly inspect and permit without more staff.

Ken Granlaud motioned to adjourn at 5:50, Janet Drohan seconded, 4-0