Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
June 6, 1989

Present: Ellen Foberg, George Riggan, Melissa Quinn
Absent: Marion Boggs

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 P.M.

Mrs. Foberg reported that Pete Brown, Highway Superintendent, had informed her that there was an uncovered well with standing water in it behind the Town Library on the property of John Hoffman. There is concern that a child could fall into the well and be injured or killed. Mr. Brown offered the services of the Town Crew to remove the well house and cover or fill the well. William Foster, Building Inspector was called, and he in turn called Mr. Hoffman. Mr. Hoffman agreed to allow the Crew to remove the well house and fill the well.

It was reported that Mrs. Foberg, Mr. Riggan, John Brickett, and Michael Quinn had inspected Mr. Quinn's property on Old Cyrus Stage Road (Map 11, Lot 117). It was determined that the percolation test performed in 1985 was done in good faith and met all the requirements current at the time. Presently, Town By-Law, Article V, Section 7, (A), (b), states that a building lot , "has none of the following qualities ... seasonal surface water present during the year period of 30 days or more, within 100 feet of an area of proposed usage." The Building Inspector must rule that a leach field at that site today would be in violation of Town By-Laws, and direct Mr. Quinn to request a variance from the Conservation Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals.

A septic system inspection was conducted by Mrs. Foberg, Mr. Riggan and Mr. Brickett at the Vaughn Tower property on Leshure Road (Map 11, Lot 37). Mr. Tower was also present. He had uncovered a corner of an existing steel septic tank, but the size of the tank or the make-up of the system (leach field) could not be determined. Mr. Tower was informed that on recommendation of the Sanitarian, Mr. Brickett, the system was approved only in connection with the existing camp structure, providing that the grey water is joined to the present system. He was warned that regular use of the system could result in its failure. In that event, or in the event of a proposed addition to the present structure or a new housing structure, the Board would require construction of an entirely new septic system on the basis of a successful percolation test. A letter was drafted to Mr. Tower confirming these facts.

A bill was received from Filios Enterprises, Inc. for a percolation test done in May of 1988. The Town Accountant was asked to make sure that this has not yet been paid. If it has not been paid, she was directed to inform Filios Enterprises, Inc. that they must make a request in writing for payment, explaining that they were informed at the time of the test as to when the bill was to be submitted for payment and that failure to do so was their responsibility. Only upon receipt of a letter to this effect would the Board consider putting an article on a warrant for a special town meeting for payment of this bill.

The weekly time-sheet for the school nurse was received from Rowe School.

An application for a Disposal Works Construction Permit was received for Lot 72, Map 11 owned by Jonathan Miller for a house being constructed by Terry Estes. It was noted that MacLeay Associates designed the system, based on a percolation test performed by John Brickett in 1986. The application must be signed by Mr. Brickett, and will be sent to him for approval.

Invoices were received from John Brickett for inspections and percolation tests performed in May, 1989. A letter from Mr. Brickett was also received. (see attached)

It was voted unanimously to sign a contract with Industrial Systems Corporation of Springfield, Massachusetts for pressure testing two underground storage tanks at the Town Garage, (one diesel and one gasoline), at $600 per tank or $1200 total.

An underground storage tank survey was received from the Unites States Postal Service regarding the Town Hall. Mrs. Quinn will obtain the necessary information and complete the survey.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa S. Quinn, Clerk

Approved:

Ellen L. Foberg

Ellen L. Foberg, Chairman

George A. Riggan

George A. Riggan

Marion W. Boggs

6/2/89

To: Ellen L. Foberg, Chairman, Board of Health

From: John A. Brickett R.S. Agent, Rowe Board of Health

Subject: Percolation Fees

Date: June 2, 1989

Attached are copies of the tests done 5/13 and 5/30/89.

Attached is a bill for services rendered on those days.

As I recommended, I feel that the by-law should be changed to allow any qualified engineer or sanitarian to do perc tests and bill the customer direct. In most cases, the cost of perc testing a lot will be $150.00 to $200.00. When I say a lot that means as many holes as it takes to succeed or fail on what might be understood as a potential building lot or lots as the owner might want.

If the Town is to pay for the first perc test, it should be at the cost of $150.00. Any additional tests done that day should be at the same cost.

I am expressing my opinion which reflects my charges in other towns that I perform perc tests. However, other engineers may not be anywhere near the prices I have quoted.

I would be happy to discuss this with you.