Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
January 7, 1997

Present: Ellen Foberg, Leonard Laffond, Melissa Quinn
Absent: Jeffrey Taskey

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM. Also present were Dot Page and Doug MacLeay, P.E.

Dot and Doug came in to discuss efforts to upgrade the septic system on the Dorothy Caldwell property on Pond Road (Map 2, Lot 16). (This is where Dot resides but it is owned by her mother, Mrs. Caldwell.) Chairman Foberg asked if a Title V inspection had been performed. Doug stated that he did not have a formal report but he has inspected the system and determined that it fails due to the close proximity of the well and the cesspool, only about 20 to 25 feet apart. The Chairman requested a formal report and Doug promised to submit one to the Board. It was noted that the lot is very small, approximately 100' x100', with a lot of fill material and ledge and not much naturally occurring soil, in other words, no place to locate a standard system. One solution would be a tight tank, but Chairman Foberg made it clear that it was the policy of Board to not allow a tight tank for a full time residence. A second solution would be an alternative system, such as a composting toilet combined with a greenhouse for handling greywater. Such a system is designed by Sustainable Strategies. This company's systems do not yet have full state approval, but are approved on a case-by-case basis. Doug looked at one of the systems in Wellesley that has been in operation for 12 years and has functioned quite satisfactorily. The Chairman asked how big a greenhouse would need to be for the house in question, and Doug said approximately 10'x20' or 200' square. He said there is some maintenance of the plants, as there would be in any greenhouse and that the temperature must be maintained at a certain level. The greenhouse would either have a separate heating system or share one with the house. Ellen stated that issuance of a building permit for the additional work proposed on the house is contingent upon approval of the alternative sewage disposal system from the Department of Environmental Protection. It was noted that Christos Demetriorus of DEP in Boston is the approving authority. Doug will keep the Board informed as to the progress of the approval.

In receipt of a check in the sum of $25.00, the Board voted unanimously to issue a 1997 septic pumpers/haulers license to Bostley Sanitary Services of Colrain, MA.

A soils evaluation form and percolation test results were received from Mike Lavigne of Environmental Field Services for the Fagnoni property on Stone Road (Map 11, Lots 9 & 92). The percolation test was successful with a rate of 4 minutes to the inch. No inspection report was received. Lenny noted that they could not locate the existing system and Mr. Lavigne will determine where the old system is and prepare an inspection report when they install the new system.

A list of Massachusetts approved well drillers was received from the Department of Environmental Management for file.

A notice was received from the Department of Public Health regarding the availability of hepatitis B vaccine (6 doses) for Rowe for immunization of high-risk employees. Ms. Quinn was directed to make the necessary arrangements for pick-up of the vaccine and administration of the injections.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM.

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Respectfully submitted,
Melissa S. Quinn, Administrative Assistant

Approved:

Ellen Foberg

Ellen L. Foberg, Chairman

Leonard J. Lafford

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_____Absent_____
Jeffrey A. Taskey