

BELLINGHAM PLANNING BOARD  
TOWN HALL - PLANNING BOARD ROOM  
BELLINGHAM, MASS.

Meeting of June 8, 1967. SUBDIVISION

Members present: Francis J. Prior, Chairman  
Robert M. Chase, Vice-Chairman  
David E. Andrews  
Gerard L. Daigle

Meeting was called to order by the chairman at 8:10 P.M.  
Present at the meeting was Vincent Thayer and five residents of the Brookside Estates Subdivision.

The chairman opened discussion on the Brookside Estates Subdivision by asking Mr. Thayer if had any further plans for the subdivision. Thayer informed the board that he had no immediate plans to finish the development. Although the balance of the land is for sale, he is making no real effort to sell yet. Thayer said that although the road is yet to be resurfaced, the sidewalks and cast iron pipes have been installed as required.

A natural brook is shown on the plan and to alleviate the Spring water problem, his plan was to run the brook into the storm drains. Thayer said he was told by his engineer that Bellingham is the only town that would not allow this to be done. Mr. Tassanari has signed an easement allowing a 24" drain pipe to run thru his land at the rear and Thayer said a mesh screen was installed to keep the children out. He said it was the blocking of this screen with leaves and brush that caused water to run over the land of the home owners.

Although it is being suggested that a trench be dug in the rear of the homes involved, he said he does not feel that the responsibility is his.

Mr. Tassanari said that the flooding was not due to the blockage of the pipe since the back lots were always flooding due to surface drainage running off the hill.

Chairman F. Prior said that after viewing the area with Gerard Daigle, they were of the opinion that there was no abnormal water running off the hill except storm water, only when the screen was blocked.

David Andrews said the Tassanari foundation is beneath the leeching line and questioned if the developer had upheld his part of the bargain.

Thayer then asked whether the Health Agent took the level of the house into consideration when inspecting the size of the tank and leaching areas. He said a leaching area too deep is just as bad as one too high. He was told by the board that the Health Agent judges by Perc Tests.

Gerard Daigle said in looking over the area in question for the past few weeks, finds that the lawn in front of the houses is graded lower than the sidewalk and water is running

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D.E.A.  
G.D.  
T.M.C.  
P.M.B.

down into the back yards of 3 or 4 homes as into a bowl and said he feels the lawns should be built up in front.

Robert Chase informed the residents of the subdivision that the responsibility of the Planning Board lies in the proper installation of streets, drainage and water mains. Leaching fields are the responsibility of the Board of Health or its agent and this board relies on their decision. Chase said Mr. Thayer has always cooperated with the Planning Brd. and wants to help solve the drainage problem in so far as his responsibility lies. The basic problem is a bowl in the rear of the houses which holds the water and this is the responsibility of the builder.

Mr. Morin has been asked a half dozen times to help alleviate the problem without results the residents said.

The board will request Mr. Morin and the Board of Health or its agent to be present at the next meeting of the board which will be June 15.

Vincent Thayer requested release of Lot 29 in the "Brookside Estates" sub. and after discussion, Prior suggested that the board withhold its decision for one week. There were no objections.

On a motion of Daigle and (2) by Chase minutes of the meetings of May 18 and June 1 were approved as read by the clerk.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M.

APPROVED AS READ:

*Frank Prior*

Respectfully submitted,  
*Joan M. Giard*  
Joan M. Giard, Clerk

*Arvid L. Daigle*

*David E. Anderson*

*Robert M. Chase*

*Roland H. Beauregard*