

Essex Conservation Commission

March 16, 1999 - Minutes

Present: Edwin Perkins, Chairman, Robert Brophy, Edith Messersmith, Peter Perrigo, Thomas Prentiss.

Meeting called to order at 7:35 p.m.

A public hearing was held at 7:35 p.m. under the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, on a Notice of Intent filed by William Liberti covering the installation of a septic system, raising the floor level 3'-4' on the existing foundation, and the addition of a deck to the front of the dwelling at 8 Robbins Island Road.

Liberti told the Board that all the cottages were tested for high ground water, so he is now having to install a tight tank. He would like to add a deck to the front of the dwelling with a maximum of seven sonotubes for support. He would also like to raise the floor of the house three to four feet. This would be accomplished by adding four more concrete block layers to that which already exist for the foundation. Liberti added that the foundation is in good shape, but wants to raise the floor level because of standing water in the basement and to also gravity feed the tight tank. The floor level will be raised from within the basement. The size of the tight tank is 3500 gallons, and will be installed in two sections on six inches of stone. The Board questioned the benchmark on the septic plan, an assumed elevation of 100 at the top of the deck, and requested that a true elevation be submitted. The Board also questioned whether soil testing had been performed to indicate whether the soil would be able to support the tight tank.

With no further questions from the the public or the Board, Perrigo moved to close the public hearing for William Libert, 8 Robbins island Road, seconded by Messersmith, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

A public hearing was held at 7:55 p.m. under the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, on a Notice of Intent filed by Jonathan Matson covering the upgrade of a septic system at 63 Harlow Street.

Matson told the Board that he is having to do a septic system upgrade as his present system does not meet Title V requirements. The system upgrade has been approved by the Board of Health. The level of the backyard will be raised by three

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feet to accommodate the system. The system will have a stone retaining wall with a rubber membrane. The Board reviewed the plan.

With no further questions from the Board or the public, Brophy moved to close the public hearing for Jonathan Matson, 63 Harlow Street, seconded by Perrigo, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

A public hearing was held at 8:10 p.m. under the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, on a Notice of Intent filed by Beverly Coose for the installation of a 2,000 gallon tight tank at 6 Eastern Avenue.

William Perkins of Saneco represented Coose. He told the Board that there is no groundwater problem on site. The test pit was dug where the tank will go. The tank will be a monolithic 2,000 gallon tank. Although the site passed for an on-site system - sandy loam down about 120 inches - it required so many variances that the Board of Health and the owner felt they should go with a tight tank. Perkins indicated that the lot area was just too small for the upgrade of the system.

With no further questions from the Board or the public, Prentiss moved to close the public hearing for Beverly Coose, 6 Eastern Avenue, seconded by Messersmith, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

A public hearing was held at 8:20 p.m. under the Wetlands Protection Act, M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, on a Notice of Intent filed by Ernest T. Nieberle covering the installation of a 2,500 gallon tight tank at 8 Main Street.

William Perkins of Saneco represented Nieberle. Perkins told the Board that the proposal is to install a 2,500 gallon tank at 8 Main Street. No test pits were dug in the area, but other excavations that were done in the yard showed some 'pretty good soil.' The level of the water is one and one half feet below the tank. The tank will be subjected to a tightness test by the Board of Health. There is no existing system there. The location of the bathroom will be changed to make a straight run into the tank.

With no further questions from the Board or the public, Brophy moved to close the public hearing for Ernest Nieberle, 8 Main

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Street, seconded by Perrigo, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

Michael Pallazola met with the Board to discuss Lot 2A, 105 Choate Street. He said he wanted to show them a plan of the siting of a residential dwelling on the lot in order to receive their input. He had changed the house siting from that originally drawn on the plan, because he preferred the house to be on the upland area to avoid cutting the trees. Perkins said he preferred the new siting to the existing one because less damage was incurred to the environment. The dwelling has four bedrooms, with garage and in-law apartment. Pallazola was advised to file a Notice of Intent for the project.

Chuck Holden of Holden Gas met with the Board because he wishes to change his permit for gas storage on Scot's Way. He would like to add the storage of empty tanks to the permit. Perkins was concerned that run-off from the area would flow into the wetlands. Holden told him that it runs down the lot in an easterly direction.

Perrigo moved that the Conservation Commission does not have an issue with the storage of empty tanks on the site of Holden Gas on Scot's Way, seconded by Messersmith, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

The Board reviewed the building permit application submitted by the Essex Housing Authority, Winthrop Street, for the construction of a shed.

Prrentiss moved to approve the building permit application for the Essex Housing Authority, Winthrop Street, seconded by Perrigo, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

The Order of Conditions was written for William Liberti, 8 Robbins Island Road.

Perrigo moved to approve the project for William Liberti, 8 Robbins Island Road, as submitted in the Notice of Intent, seconded by Prentiss, with the Board voting unanimously in favor. The Board required that 1) the actual elevations be submitted, and 2) when the digging for the tight tank takes place that a member of the Commission meet with the engineer on site to determine if the soil is suitable to prevent the tank from sinking.

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The Order of Conditions was written for Jonathan Matson, 63 Harlow Street.

Perrigo moved to approve the upgrade of an existing septic system for Jonathan Matson, 63 Harlow Street, as submitted with the Notice of Intent, seconded by Messersmith, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

The Order of Conditions was written for Beverly Coose, 6 Eastern Avenue.

Prentiss moved to approve the installation of a tight tank for Beverly Coose, 6 Eastern Avenue, as submitted in the Notice of Intent, seconded by Messersmith, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

The Order of Conditions was written for Ernest Nieberle, 8 Main Street.

Prentiss moved to approve the installation of a tight tank for Ernest Nieberle at 8 Main Street, as submitted in the Notice of Intent, seconded by Perrigo, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

Messersmith moved to approve the Minutes of January 19, 1999, as read, seconded by Perrigo, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

The Board reviewed the correspondence.

Messersmith moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Perrigo, with the Board voting unanimously in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Prepared by:



Gillian B. Palumbo
Administrative Clerk

Attest: