Belchertown Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
Monday January 4, 2016 at 7:30 PM
Lawrence Memorial Hall

Present: Gary Racicot, Gail Gramarossa, Robert Hutchinson and Roger Bonsall
Absent: Sean Cleary

Robert opened the meeting at 7:33 PM
7:35 PM 505 South Street Richard & Charleen Socha Owners; John Kopinsky Engineer; LUA request reduction in separation between SAS and high groundwater 2'. John Kopinsky addressed the Board, explained his design. A 4’ offset would require the homeowner to have a pump chamber and an electrical box installed. Soils were better in the back of the property. Roger motioned to grant Richard & Charleen Socha at 505 South Street a 2’ reduction in separation between SAS and high groundwater due to lot constraints and total area available for the new system. Gary seconded. All in Favor. Judy asked Mr. Kopinsky to remind his clients that by installing a Presby System it is a requirement before a certificate of compliance can be issued they need to register the Presby paperwork with their Deed.

7:40 PM 171 Boardman Road David & Cynthia Hamel Owner Alan Weiss Designer. LUA request (1) 1’ offset to seasonal high groundwater (3’ instead of the required 4’) (2) use of a sieve analysis instead of standard perc test and a local variance request for leach field 73’ from bordering wetland and septic tank to be 43’ from bordering wetland. Alan Weiss was present and addressed the Board. There is a swale in the southwest corner of the property and high groundwater table. Asking to use a sieve analysis because property was too wet to perc. Conservation Commission has accepted an NOI on the property. Installed will be a monolithic tank (no seams). Gail motioned to grant local variance to David & Cynthia Hamel at 171 Boardman Road to have septic tank no less than 43’ from bordering vegetated wetland and SAS to be no less than 73’ from bordering vegetated wetland due to lot constraints; granted also is a 1’ offset to seasonal high groundwater (3’ instead of the required 4’) and the use of a sieve analysis instead of a perc due to the high groundwater table. Roger seconded. All in Favor.

7:50 PM R. Levesque Associates, Inc.; requesting out of season perc test at North Washington Street Map 256 Lot 21 Leon Bernache Owner. Mr. Bernache was present and explained that he has the property sold and was unable to secure a perc test at the end of November. Roger asked Judy if there would be a problem with scheduling. Judy said this would be able to get on Matt’s schedule but would be contingent on the weather. Gary moved to grant Leon Bernache request to schedule a perc test out of season pursuant to scheduling and weather conditions. Roger seconded. All in Favor.

8:00 PM Oasis Drive Lot M Katherine Lupah Owner; Sherman & Frydryk Engineer: Request Variance from town regulations that a leach facility to be 100' from any watercourse or way. Proposed plans provide 75’ between the limit of the reserve areas and a solid drainage pipe. Keith Terry of Sherman & Frydryk was present and addressed the Board. The local Board of Health regulation is for system to be 100’ from any open water or surface water. His design has 75’ between reserve area and a solid drainage pipe. Roger moved to approve the request for reserve to be 75’ from the solid drainage pipe instead of Town regulations which requires 100’ and State regulations which require 50’. The Board feels 75’ will be enough to safeguard the system. Gail seconded. All in Favor.

Board asked Judy what her thoughts were on the existing fee schedule. Judy said the current fees were in line with other area towns. Perc fee was a little on the low side. Board decided to take no action on the fee schedule. 2015 fees will remain the same in 2016.

Judy explained to the Board the sharps disposal unit that is in the Ware, MA town hall. The sharps are placed in a coffee can etc., the unit opens like a mailbox and sharps get dropped in. The cost is $1,500.00 for the unit and can cost approximately $400.00 for each pick up. The Ware schedule is around four times a year. Studies have found that there is no
change in the area parks etc. from littered needles. Gail said that grants may be available and will check with local hospitals. Problem will be where to place it where people feel comfortable using it. Outdoor units would need to be monitored. It may be a good idea to write something up for the newspapers regarding community education tips and suggestions for sharps disposal.

Gary motioned to accept the November 2, 2015 meeting minutes as written. Roger seconded. All in Favor. December 2015 meeting was canceled.

Board signed warrant.

There are 57 APA towns/cities that have raised their minimum age to purchase tobacco and tobacco products to 21 yrs. The State legislation is considering a bill that would raise the age to 21 (twenty-one) statewide. Gail believes it is still worthwhile for the Board to look into changing their regulations. She has obtained some recommended language that would address e-cigs, and vapors. She will get that information to Judy.

Gary moved to adjourn at 8:55 PM Roger seconded. All in Favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Grenier, Senior Clerk

Robert Hutchinson 2-1-2016

Gary Rapicot 2-1-16

Gail Gramarossa 3/11/16

Roger Bonsall