

ACTON BOARD OF HEALTH



MINUTES

MAY 18, 1992

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jonathan Bosworth (Chairman)

Cordelia Alfaro

James Barbato

Mark Conoby

Bill McInnis (Associate)

Ira Grossman (Associate)

Peter Vallaincourt (Associate)

STAFF PRESENT: Doug Halley

Sheryl Ball

OTHERS PRESENT: Ken Klemmer

E.V. Tear

Dick Tear

Kevin Sweeney

Harry Donahue

Terry Greene

Charlotte Sagoff  
Jack Ormsbee  
Jill Pontias  
Sue Funk  
George Johnston  
Carol Holley  
Heidi Kaiter  
Rita Beddonnette-Clark  
William Dean

The meeting opened at 7:34 P.M.

LOT 1 MAIN STREET - VARIANCE:

Harry Donahue of Acton Survey & Engineering, on behalf of his client Lunn & Sweeney Corporation, seeks a variance from Acton Regulation 11-15.1 and 11-15.10 for the reconstruction of a septic system at 61 Main Street. The proposed system was designed with leaching trenches with 1.8 sq ft of leaching area per gallon. The Board has, in acting upon previous variances, allowed the use of up to 1.3 sq ft per gallon, with the proper showing of exigent circumstances and safeguard of public health. The Board stated that they would like to reevaluate Regulation 11-15.10 due to the number of requests for variances for permit provision. Mr. Halley and the Board also agreed that it was advisable to clarify this regulation.

Mr. Halley stated that information regarding a proposed modification to Regulation 11-15.10 had been presented to the previous Board a few years ago and it was never acted upon. The Board asked Mr. Halley to review and then present this information and a recommendation to the Board. On a motion made by Mr. Barbato, seconded by Mr. Conoby, the Board unanimously voted to grant approval for the proposed system for 61 Main Street on the condition that the system be constructed with leaching trenches that utilize 1.8 sq ft per gallon, and the system be constructed in accordance with the plan stamped by Mr. Donahue of Acton Survey & Engineering and that the system meet all other applicable laws and regulations.

J.S.I. - HEALTH REPORT PRESENTATION:

Ms. Charlotte Sagoff, as a representative of the Health Effects Committee, introduced Dr. Clapp and Ms. Terri Greene of J.S.I. - Center for Environmental Health Studies. Dr. Clapp and Ms. Greene presented the Board with the initial results of the health study their company is performing regarding vinyl chloride contamination of the public wells in Acton during the period 1972-1978. Some of the topics discussed were Analysis of Acton Cancer Mortality Rates, Cancer Incidence Trends, Low Birth Weight Reproductive Outcomes, and Fetal Death Analysis. Ms. Greene stated that several of the studies have been completed and the results show that the data examined do not point to any statistically significant elevated cancer

rate. She noted that it takes years to become apparent due to the long latency period for some forms of cancer. Ms. Greene also stated that further investigations need to be completed and that there preliminary study results will be updated yearly.

**MIDAS MUFFLER - HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CONTROL PERMIT:**

Midas Muffler is applying for a Hazardous Materials Control Permit for their facility located at 125 Great Road. The business will consist of the sale, repair and installation of automotive exhaust systems and brakes. The primary hazardous materials that will be generated are triethylene glycols, phenolics and cashew resins. A tight tank will be installed on the property to hold the waste oil. Mr. Bill Dean, representative of Midas Muffler, stated to the Board that Midas has consulted with safety people and engineers to ensure that environmental health and safety concerns are satisfied. Midas has also contracted Clean Harbors Inc. to conduct annual inspections and to remove all hazardous waste from the site.

Used brake pads will be placed into metal containers, which will be sealed and disposed of pursuant to appropriate laws and regulations.

The Health Department recommends granting this hazardous materials control permit to Midas Muffler. An inspection of the facility will be conducted upon completion of the building.

On a motion made by Mr. Barbato, seconded by Ms. Alfaro, the Board unanimously voted to grant a hazardous materials control permit to Midas Muffler, 125 Great Road with the following conditions:

1. This permit is a temporary permit conditional on the Health Department performing a final inspection, within 90 days after the facility is completed and operational.
2. All hazardous materials must be stored within secondary containment areas which can provide 110% storage greater than the largest quantity of material stored.
3. No hazardous materials shall be discharged into any floor drains, sinks, or any system which discharges into the ground.
4. All material safety data sheets for all hazardous materials shall be stored in the office, on site, in a clearly marked location which is available to all employees upon request and on a regular basis.
5. All dust from any grinding operation shall be vacuumed and not dry broomed.
6. All employees must be properly instructed in the use of emergency spill control measures. Emergency procedures, should a spill occur, shall be posted in full view of all employees.
7. Protective gloves and eyeglasses shall be made available to all employees at all times.

LAMBDA PHYSIK - HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CONTROL PERMIT:

Lambda Physik has applied for a hazardous materials control permit for their facility located at 289 Great Road. The primary hazardous materials stored at this facility are methanol, oil, acetone, laser dyes, ethanol, liquid nitrogen, and other gasses as listed in their application. The Health Department, during an inspection of the facility, noted that lasers are cleaned in the sink with the residue being washed down the sink. The Health Department is extremely concerned with this type of practice and have requested that the residue be tested by an D.E.P. approved testing lab with the results submitted to the Board.

The Board feels that a more detailed application should be submitted along with copies of all the manifests before this hazardous materials permit can be granted. The Board had many questions regarding this request which need to be answered by an owner or manager of the company.

On a motion made by Mr. Barbato, seconded by Ms. Alfaro, the Board unanimously voted to table this request until more information can be submitted.

On a motion made by Ms. Alfaro, seconded by Mr. Barbato, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:31 P.M.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on June 22, 1992 at 7:30 P.M. in Room 126 of the Town Hall. The following meeting will be held on July 13, 1992.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheryl Ball

Signed and Approved,

Jonathan Bosworth  
Jonathan Bosworth, Chairman