

Administrator's Report
Board of Health Meeting of January 11, 2018

Report covers from 12/14/17 – 01/10/18

Items requiring Board vote are noted with an asterisk ()*

A. Inspection Report Reviews

None.

B. Soil Evaluations / Waiver Explorations – information only

None.

C. Septic System Design Plan Reviews

None.

D. Septic System Installations/Abandonments (informational only)

(1) 26 Choate Street, Savory, Map 105, Lot 4

I inspected the installation of the septic system (septic tank, distribution box, leaching area) serving this property.

E. Well Water Supply

None.

F. Building Permit Requests

(1) 69 Choate Street, McLeod, Map 105, Lot 6

I signed the building permit application for the barn renovation project at this property. The application was signed contingent on the requirement that the septic system be installed prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Occupancy, as well as limiting the daily total flow for the property to 895 gallons per day due to public water supply concerns.

(2) 50 Lakeshore Drive, Tarkinson, Map 155, Lot 5

I signed the building permit application to finish the basement at this property. There is already a deed restriction recorded at the registry limiting the property to 2 bedrooms, and the renovation of the basement to include a family room will result in no increase in daily flow.

(3) 93 Choate Street, Rubin, Map 116, Lot 11

I signed the building permit application to finish the basement at this property. While there will be no increase in the number of bedrooms, the dwelling has more than 8 total rooms, requiring the septic flow to be calculated by dividing the total number of rooms by 2. As such, I have asked the property owners to file a deed restriction at the Registry of Deeds limiting the number of bedrooms to 4.

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G. Concerns/Updates

(1) 139 Eastern Avenue, Runsala, Map 137, Lot 16

I received a phone call on 12/22/17 from Officer Dan Bruce from the Essex P.D. regarding a lack of heat at this property. Officer Bruce had limited information on the property, other than the owner has died and the tenant was paying rent to the attorney for the estate. Officer Bruce stated the occupant at this property told him the electricity had been turned off the day prior, and he slept in his vehicle due to the cold. I left multiple messages for the occupant, but never received a return phone call. I spoke with a representative from National Grid on Wednesday, December 27th, and confirmed that the electricity was restored at this property the day prior.

Recommendation: None – informational only.

(2) 158 Eastern Ave, Danskin, Map 138, Lot 6

I received a complaint on 12/28/17 from the Fire Department regarding conditions deemed to endanger at this property. The Fire Department responded to this property during a medical call, and noted significant clutter inside the dwelling, as well as the use of space heaters rather than the use of any type of central heating system. I attempted to visit the property with Chief Dan Doucette but no one was home and we were unable to complete an inspection. I left my business card and received a phone call from a family member of the owner, stating the individual was still hospitalized and no one was staying at the home. This family member agreed to contact me when the dwelling would be available for inspection.

Recommendation: None – informational only.

(3) Shea's Riverside, 122 Main Street, Map 136, Lot 3

I conducted an inspection at this restaurant on 1/8/18 in response to a complaint received about standing water in the dining area and lack of fully-functioning restrooms. During my inspection, I spoke with head chef Justin Napier and owner Dave Brown regarding some of the issues the business experienced during and after the recent storm – mainly, the carpeting that was not yet installed in the dining room and a leak in the bartenders' area that was spilling over to the dining room/customer area. After confirming with Bobbie Cody, Food Inspector, I determined that the restaurant should remain closed until these two items are resolved. [Side note: these issues are violations of FDA 2013 Food Code Chapter 6, Physical Facilities]. During discussions with the BoH, it was determined that a variance should be granted to allow the restaurant to be open once the bar area leak is resolved, with a grace period to install proper flooring in the dining room.

Since my initial inspection, the head chef and owner have been working with the Board of Health and the food inspector on correcting these violations. The chef has requested an inspection for 1/12/18 prior to reopening for dinner service on that date.

Recommendation: None – informational only.

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(4) Tobacco Compliance Checks*

North Shore/Cape Ann Tobacco Policy Program completed inspections of all tobacco retailers licensed in town. Inspections conducted on December 5, 2017, found violations in all 3 retailers: Chebacco Market, Fenisha Corporation (Schooners), and Energy North (Richdale's). All retailers were verbally notified of the violation at the completion of the inspection.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to all three tobacco retailers in town notifying them in writing of the violations found during recent tobacco compliance inspections.

(5) 66 Main Street, Essex Shipbuilding Museum, Map 128, Lot 152*

I have visited the property several times since my initial inspection on November 6, 2017. These visits have been conducted both early in the morning, and in the early evening, as well as occasionally throughout the day. While I have not gained entry or attempted to enter the structure, it does not appear that the accessory building mentioned in the letter dated November 6, 2017, is currently being occupied as housing.

Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health vote to dismiss this housing issue, as it appears to have resolved itself. It should be noted that any accessory building on this property is not suited for or implied to be housing.

H. Meetings Attended

- (1) Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (Gloucester)
- (2) Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition (Peabody)
- (3) M-E Cares (Essex)