# Inspection Report Reviews

1. 2 Gregory Island Lane, Lipman, Map 155, Lot 53\*

I have reviewed the report for the official Title 5 inspection conducted at this property by Peter Nardone on October 7, 2022. The inspector noted that the system does not meet the failure criteria and therefore passes the official inspection; however, he neglected to show the location of the private drinking water well or municipal water line serving this dwelling, and did not include the $50 review fee with his report.

*Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner requesting that his inspector revise the sketch to include all relevant features – specifically the private well or municipal water line – and that the report be resubmitted to the Board of Health with the required $50 review fee.*

# Septic Plan Reviews

(1) 0 Horsestable & Emerson Lane, Bruce, Map 142, Lot 22\*

I have reviewed the design for the proposed septic system for this property, designed by John Judd and dated October 13, 2022. During my review, I noted that the proposed reserve area was sited less than the required 10’ from the property line; that the engineer failed to show an observation port in the SAS; and there was a discrepancy between the impervious barrier elevation shown in the system profile versus the elevation shown in the system details. The designer has since revised the plan, and it is now fully compliant with local and state regulations.

*Recommendations: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating that the proposed septic system designed by John Judd and with a final revision date of November 10, 2022 is approved. The system is designed to serve a maximum of 4 bedrooms or 440 gallons per day, and is not designed to be used with a garbage grinder.*

# Private Wells

None.

# Other Permit Applications and Requests

1. 26 John Wise Lane, Hines, Map 101, Lot 32\*

This property transferred on October 23, 2020 with an acknowledgement that the existing septic system fails as well as a design for a tight tank approved by the Board of Health on June 30, 2020. Title 5 requires a system be brought into compliance within 2 years of date of failure (or, as in this case, date of transfer). Mr. Hines is requesting the Board of Health grant an extension of this deadline due to the property currently having no water source (and therefore no flow to the existing failed system, and no public health impact).

*Recommendation: Discussion, and possible vote to grant an extension of the 2-year deadline to upgrade a failed septic system. If the Board of Health votes to grant a variance, I recommend setting a definitive deadline rather than leaving it open-ended.*

1. 12 Robbins Island Road, Liberti, Map 110, Lot 36

I reviewed and signed the demolition permit application for a shed on this property, after receiving acknowledgement the structure was not harboring rodents and did not have any asbestos-containing material.

1. 117 Western Avenue, Ross, Map 142, Lot 38

I reviewed and signed the building permit application for the construction of a 2-bay garage with overhead storage at this location. The property is connected to municipal sewer.

1. 1 Martin Street, Martin One LLC, Map 128, Lot 60

I reviewed and signed the building permit application for the construction of an addition to the second story of this commercial building. The addition will have no impact on the permitted food service establishment at this location.

# Septic Inspections and Other Field Work

1. 111 Belcher Street, Hickey, Map 115, Lot 4.1

I witnessed the vacuum test of the septic tank and confirmed the elevations of the bottom of the SAS for the new septic system serving this property.

1. 194 Southern Avenue, McPherson, Map 209, Lot 1

I witnessed the vacuum test of the septic tank and confirmed the elevations of the bottom of the SAS for the new septic system serving this property.

1. 84 Choate Street, Stone, Map 115, Lot 25

I witnessed the vacuum test of the septic tank for the new garage/apartment at this property. The tank/pump chamber combo will be connected to the existing SAS at a later date.

1. 4 and 6 Low Land Farm Road, Brown Dog Properties, Map 141, Lots 2.1 & 2.2

I observed the pump tests for the new septic systems serving these dwellings. This was scheduled to be a final inspection; however, there were deficiencies in the installation that prevented final sign-off, including insufficient cover over the distribution boxes and outdoor showers that do not meet criteria outlined by MA DEP to allow discharge directly to the ground.

1. 0 Lufkin Point Road, Pepe, Map 110, Lot 63

I witnessed soil testing at this property to determine if the site would meet Title 5 standards for new construction.

1. 37 Choate, Stone, Map 105, Lot 14

I conducted a semi-final inspection of the new septic system serving this dwelling. All system components have been installed with the exception of one section of the building sewer which requires ledge removal prior to final connection.

# Complaints and Other Updates

1. Share Table, Chartwells (MERSD Food Service)\*

We received correspondence from Carin Grimes, Dining Services Team Leader at Chartwells, (the organization that provides food services to the school district) regarding food waste and a possibly setting up a food sharing program. If approved, this program would allow Chartwells to designate a table/area in the cafeteria where children could return whole, unopened food items they choose not to eat, rather than throwing them away. In turn, students who are still hungry after finishing their meal could take advantage of these “extras”.

The handout distributed on October 24, 2022 outlines possible requirements and restrictions, includes which foods are permitted for and prohibited from the share table, as well as information on how to address allergies.

*Recommendation: Discussion, and possible vote, to recommend MERSD/Chartwells have a “share table” in the Essex Elementary School cafeteria.*

1. 10 Coral Hill Road, Turnage, Map 154, Lot 32

I conducted a housing inspection at this location after receiving notification of possible violations from the occupant. Violations observed/noted during the inspection included a lack of heat in the bathroom, missing outlet covers, missing smoke/CO detectors, missing/torn screens, window(s) that don’t open/close, and rotten exterior panels on the porch. The property owner was issued an Order to Correct and is still within the timeline provided in the Housing Code and in the Order. The occupant has since moved out and the owner will grant access to re-inspect at a later date.

*Recommendation: None at this time.*

1. Vaccine Clinics and COVID information

We held our traditional annual flu clinic during Clam Fest and continue to do home visits for residents upon request. This year we have administered ~130 flu shots. In addition, we will be resuming our covid vaccine clinics in the Town Hall auditorium on November 18, 2022 for anyone age 6 months and up. Lastly, we still have a supply of masks and iHealth rapid test kits available upon request.

**Essex Confirmed Case Counts**

October 2021: 10

November 2021: 55

December 2021: 116

January 2022: 87

February 2022: 16

March 2022: 13

April 2022: 23

May 2022: 39

June 2022: 16

July 2022: 21

August 2022: 13

September 2022: 16

October 2022: 10

November 2022: 6

(to date)