

**Administrator's Report**  
**Board of Health Meeting of March 11, 2021**

*Report covers from 02/26 to 03/10/2021*

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

**A. Inspection Report Reviews**

(1) 80R Eastern Avenue, Dowdell, Map 121, Lot 7\*

I have reviewed the Title 5 report for the inspection conducted at this property on February 3, 2021 by Jonathan Granz. The inspector noted that the system is functioning as intended and passes the official Title 5 inspection. The inspector has noted a guest house on the property and has confirmed via email that the guest house has plumbing which is connected to the existing system; however, this connection is not shown on the drawing and it is not clear from the report whether the components associated with the guest house were inspected.

*Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating we are in receipt of the report for the official Title 5 inspection conducted at this property on February 3, 2021 by Jonathan Granz. While the inspector has indicated that the system passes the official inspection, we need additional information for any components or plumbing connection associated with the guest house on the property in order to accept this report.*

**B. Septic System Installations/Abandonments (informational only)**

(1) 88 Pond Street, Bruce, Map 147, Lot 27

I completed the final inspection and signed the Certificate of Compliance for the septic system serving this property.

(2) 152 Western Avenue, DA Crowley, LLC, Map 143, Lot 21

I inspected the abandoned septic components and signed the Certificate of Compliance for the septic abandonment at this property, as they have connected to municipal sewer.

(3) 28 Cogswell Road, Herold, Map 110, Lot 20

I signed the septic abandonment application for this property, in anticipation of connection to an already approved tight tank.

**C. Septic System Design Plan Reviews**

(4) 111 Belcher Street, Hickey, Map 115, Lot 4.1\*

I have reviewed the plan for the proposed septic system at this recently subdivided property. The plan, designed by John Judd and dated January 11, 2021, meets all requirements for septic systems serving newly developed parcels.

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*Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating the septic system connection for the new proposed dwelling at this location, designed by John Judd with a design date of January 11, 2021, is approved. Prior to the issuance of a building permit, the property owner shall submit the building plans to the Board of Health for review.*

**D. Building Permit Applications**

(5) 65R Pond Street, Tyack, Map 154, Lot 4 \*

I signed the building permit application for the construction of a 4-bedroom, single-family dwelling at this address. The septic design has been previously approved.

**E. COVID-19 Updates**

(1) Case Count

As of March 10, 2021, Essex has had 144 confirmed positive cases and 55 so far this year. Our webpage is updated with current numbers when we receive notification of new cases.

We continue to remind residents of the importance of social distancing, wearing face coverings, and hand washing. Contact tracing continues to be an issue, with positive cases not providing the identifying information for their close contacts or acknowledging the isolation requirements.

(2) Vaccination status

Currently the state is requiring a guarantee of at least 750 doses per day, 5 days per week, in order for a municipality to receive an allotment of vaccine. In addition, any vaccine we receive would then require a registration link be published on the DPH webpage, with registration open to all eligible people in MA. Until this requirement changes, and/or unless we are able to collaborate with the other Cape Ann communities (or have a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor conduct the clinics), this is beyond the scope of what Essex is able to do. We are in continued conversations with our community partners from Cape Ann, as well as Senator Bruce Tarr's office, to find a logical, reasonable way to ensure our residents are able to be vaccinated for covid-19.

As of March 10<sup>th</sup>, 51% of Essex residents age 75 and up have received at least one dose of vaccine; 37% of residents age 65-74 have received at least one dose; and 25% of all residents over the age of 16 have received at least one dose. We continue to provide assistance, both through our office and through the Medical Reserve Corps, to anyone who calls looking for help booking appointments. At this time, new appointments are added to the state vaxfinder webpage on Thursdays, and those fill up in approximately 30 minutes.