

Katie and Patrick Garvey
37 Greenwood Street
Sherborn, MA 01770

January 23, 2024

Dear Sherborn Board of Appeals and Board of Health Members:

We are writing to express our concerns regarding the proposed development on Greenwood Street. We are deeply concerned about the potential environmental and health impacts on abutters and neighbors due to Sherborn's dependence on private well and septic systems.

The property on Greenwood Street has a history of shallow depth to groundwater as well as abundant wetlands, a vernal pool and a significant amount of ledge. We are concerned that because of these conditions, there is considerable potential for septic discharge (nitrogen) into surrounding groundwater and contamination from blasting.

We ask that no variances are granted for this project in issuing a comprehensive permit, that the ground water be tested again (given that water levels are closer to historical norms), and that test holes are drilled around the site for monitoring purposes, should wells be drilled.

As many of our neighbors have already indicated, there is precedent for denying a comprehensive permit to protect the health and safety of residents in the "Reynolds v. Stow Zoning Bd. of Appeals" case. Like Sherborn, Stow has a set of local bylaws that are more restrictive than state laws governing septic systems. As noted, the courts found that the Stow project posed a risk to the health and safety of residents.

In the absence of a public water supply, it falls to our local regulatory boards to protect the health and safety of Sherborn residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Katie and Patrick Garvey