

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

JULY 20, 2021, 6:00 P.M.

LOCATION: REMOTE

PRESENT:

Acting Chairperson Renee D'Argento, Member Stephen Themelis, Member Margie LaFleur, Health Agent Kalene Gendron, Interim: Assistant Trish DeLorey, and Resident Margaret Searsdale

Acting Chairperson Renee D'Argento opened the Meeting at 6:00 p.m. She announced that the meeting was remote participation only; meeting was being cablecast live and recorded by Pepperell Community Media.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD:

Stephen Themelis shared that he thought it was a great process how every Board member gets an opportunity to become Chairperson as members move in rotation annually. He felt that Renee D'Argento has done a great job as Acting Chairperson. However, he felt that at this time, both he and Ms. D'Argento would learn a lot from Margie LaFleur's knowledge and involvement noting her six years' experience as a Board of Health Member.

Mr. Themelis nominated Margie LaFleur as Chairperson of the Board of Health term to expire April 2022. Renee D'Argento seconded the nomination and stated that she did enjoy her role as Interim Chairperson and looks forward to being the next Chairperson when Ms. LaFleur's term expires. Margie LaFleur accepted the nomination and thanked the Board for their support.

Ms. LaFleur noted the Local Public Health Institute of Massachusetts offers a class for all those new to local public health. She found it a valuable resource when she was new to the Board of Health and she recommended that all Board Members attend. Both Mr. Themelis and Ms. D'Argento acknowledged receipt of the link to this website and hope to schedule a time in the near future to attend this class.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

Stephen Themelis made a motion to accept the meeting minutes of May 18, 2021 as written; motion was seconded by Renee D'Argento; it was voted all in favor to approve the meeting minutes of May 18, 2021 as written.

Stephen Themelis motioned to accept the meeting minutes of June 8, 2021 as written; motion was seconded by Renee D'Argento; it was voted all in favor to approve the meeting minutes of June 8, 2021 as written.

Discussion ensued between Board members questioning if it was necessary for the Board to initial or sign meeting minutes and bill warrants. It was the consensus of the Board to continue with the tradition of initialing. Renee D'Argento questioned if it was necessary for the Board to initial or sign the meeting minutes and sign bill warrants. Chairperson LaFleur indicated that traditionally the Chairperson initialed the meeting minutes to confirm that the minutes were reviewed and approved.

APPROVE BILL WARRANT

FY21 Bill Warrant of July 2, 2021

Animal Inspector mileage and W B Mason totaling \$4,082.86.

A Motion was made by D'Argento to approve the \$4,082.86 for FY21, Seconded by Themelis, Motion Moved.

FY Bill Warrant of July 1 and July 2, 2021

Nursing Services \$3,902.30 and Environmental Services \$8,551.09 totaling \$12,453.39.

A Motion was made by D'Argento to approve the \$12,453.39, Seconded by Themelis, Motion Moved.

PERMITS / LICENSES

McGaffigan Funeral Homes, LLC

The permit for McGaffigan Funeral Home, LLC was presented. Everything was in order.

A Motion was made by Themelis to approve the permit for McGaffigan Funeral Homes, LLC, Seconded by D'Argento, Motion Moved.

ACTION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS

5 Reed Road – Ground Water Request

This request is from Civil Solutions to reduce the groundwater from 4 to 2 feet using the Presby Enviro-Septic waste water treatment system for 5 Reed Road. The Board asked the Health Agent Kalene Gendron for her input. Gendron said that they were compliant and she had no problem with this request.

A Motion was made by Themelis to approve this Ground Water Request, Seconded by D'Argento, Motion Moved.

CORRESPONDENCE

Approve Letter to Region 2 HMCC Program Manager

The Board reviewed a letter from the Pepperell Board of Health to Worcester Division of Public Health designating Kalene Gendron, R.S and Health Agent as the voting agent representative for Region II PHEP Steering Committee for Fiscal Year 2022. Themelis asked if it was Federal Money. The answer was yes.

A MOTION was made by D'Argento to approve this letter as written, Seconded by Themelis, Motion Moved.

Town of Pepperell Demographics and Vaccine Data – June 2021

Health Agent Kalene Gendron spoke on behalf of this, stating that 92% of individuals age 75 plus and 65-74 in Pepperell have received the vaccine. This means that the community has effectively reached this senior high risk age demographic. Gendron will get the data for the month of July for the Board.

HEALTH AGENTS COMMENTS

Health Agent Gendron spoke of the grant money received by NABOH and they have hired a part-time Food Inspector and are looking for a Health Inspector.

The housing complaints are on the rise and they are testing mosquitos.

MATTERS THAT MAY BE RAISED THAT THE CHAIRPERSON DID NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATE

Themelis asked what the situation was with the hiring of the Admin. Assistant. DeLorey said that they had hired someone and she was starting July 26th.

D'Argento spoke of the vaping and tobacco regulations. The town is looking at the tobacco regulations. They will be discuss at the next meeting.

D'Argento said that the wells look good.

FUTURE MEETING

The Board was in agreement that the next meeting will be held on August 10, 2021.

ADJORNEMENT

A Motion was made by Themelis to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by D'Argento, Motion Moved.

Respectfully submitted by Laurie Lessard, Admin. Assistant to the Board of Health.