

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 10, 2021

LOCATION: REMOTE

PRESENT:

Chairperson Margie LaFleur, Member Renee D'Argento, Member Stephen Themelis, Health Agent Kalene Gendron, Assistant Laurie Lessard. Resident Sherrill Rosoff

Chairperson LaFleur opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. She announced that the meeting was remote participation only; meeting is being cablecast live and recorded by Pepperell Community Media.

Chairperson LaFleur began the meeting by offering condolences for Police Officer Alan Lessier who has passed away.

ACCEPTANCES OF MINUTES:

Ms. LaFleur presented the meeting minutes of June 15, 2021 to the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Themelis to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. D'Argento, motion moved.

Ms. LaFleur presented the meeting minutes of June 24, 2021 to the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Themelis to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. D'Argento, motion moved.

ACTION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:

7 Bancroft Street – Septic Review

Ms. LaFleur said that they are requesting reduction of a 5 ft. separation between bed bottom of the soil absorption system and high groundwater, also a request of a 2 ft. reduction resulting in the sand bed bottom to be 36 inches above high ground water. Ms. LaFleur asked Health Agent Gendron to speak to this. Ms. Gendron said she reviewed this plan and recommends the Board to grant this request. Mr. Themelis questioned the high water table and Ms. Gendron stated that it was all gravity and this can be achieved. After discussion a motion was made by Ms. D'Argento to approve this request; seconded by Mr. Themelis, motion moved.

151 Townsend Street Septic Review

Ms. LaFleur said that they are requesting a reduction in the 4 ft. separation required between the bottom of the soil absorption system and high groundwater, also requesting a reduction in the soil absorption system being 24 inches above high groundwater. Ms. LaFleur asked Health Agent Gendron to speak to this. Ms. Gendron said it was a similar situation as Bancroft Street and she would recommend

the Board to approve. After discussion, a motion was made by Ms. D'Argento to approve this plan; seconded by Mr. Themelis, motion moved.

64 Nashua Road – Request for Extension

Health Agent Gendron gave a brief background on this request. Ms. Gendron said that the Title V had been done and the owner became ill and subsequently passed away. Family was straightening out his affairs to be able to sell the home. Ms. Gendron stated that Title V dictates that you can have a 1 year extension on a passing involved in a new septic system.

After discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Themelis to grant the extension requested, seconded by Ms. D'Argento, motion moved.

Tobacco Regulations – Review

Ms. D'Argento requested that this agenda item be tabled, stating she did not have enough time to review. Ms. LaFleur stated that the regulations were in the packet but she asked Ms. Lessard to resend regulations yesterday. Ms. D'Argento thought that yesterday was the first time sent. Ms. LaFleur said that they weren't looking for a motion to pass these regulations tonight, they were just sent for discussion.

Health Agents Comments

Covid-19 Update

Health Agent Gendron asked the Board if they had any questions. They asked where they would go on the states website to find the monthly chart. Ms. Gendron said that Andrew MacLean the Town Administrator sent that information out a while ago.

Ms. Gendron said that she pulled data from July 8th and compared them to today and there is probably only a 2% change which is a small percentage. There have been no excessive calls in the office.

Sherrill Rosoff, a Pepperell resident was in attendance for this discussion. Ms. Rosoff said she was reading the Town Administrator's report last night and only 6% of children have been effected by the virus. She said she is seeing that a larger part of the population is not vaccinated. There has been 20% of children that have been infected by the Delta variant, and the sickness is more serious. Schools are going to open with no mask mandate and the parents are spreading virus to the children. Ms. D'Argento asked Health Agent Gendron what as a town should they mandate. Ms. Gendron said she couldn't answer that and she would need more information. After a brief discussion, Ms. Rosoff thanked the Board and asked them to please keep track of trend lines if they appear. Health Agent Gendron said to protect yourself and family.

Matters That May Be Raised That The Chairperson Did Not Reasonably Anticipate

Health Agent Gendron said that she had none.

Future Meeting

The next meeting will be held remotely on August 24, 2021.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Themelis; seconded by Ms. D'Argento, motion moved.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:09 p.m.

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