

**Becket Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, November 6th, 2013**

Board of Health Members Present: Gale LaBelle, Laurel Burgwardt , Howard Lerner.

Board of Health Members Absent : None.

Public Present: Ed Gibson, Jeanne Pryor.

Meeting opens at: 10: 40 am

Ms. LaBelle calls the meeting to order at 10:40 am and announces that agendas are on the table for anyone who wants one. She advises that this meeting is being held in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws regarding public health and safety , regulations of the Department of Public health and the department of Environmental Protection as well as the By-Laws of the Town of Becket. All decisions require approval of a majority of the quorum of the Board of Health members present. Motions ending in a tie will not be acted upon until such a time as a majority can be achieved. In unusual cases, the rule of necessity may be invoked to reach a decision. Ms. LaBelle further advises that it is her responsibility under the open meeting law, to ask if anyone is making a video or audio recording of the meeting, Heather Hunt advises Ms. LaBelle that she is making an audio recording. Ms. LaBelle introduces herself as well as the other members of the Board to all present.

Review and Approval of October 2nd , 2013 Meeting Minutes- Board members table the review and approval of October 2<sup>nd</sup> , 2013 meeting minutes until November 20th, 2013.

Review and Approval of October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 Meeting Minutes- Board members table the review and acceptance of the October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 meeting minutes until November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

Old Business- Ms.LaBelle reports that she has gone to the location of the proposed pig farm. Gale advises that she was told by the property owner that the pigs are her pets. Mr. Lerner questions whether or not these pigs can be considered pets. Ms. LaBelle further advises that she would like to speak to the Town's Attorney to get a legal opinion. Ms. Jeanne Pryor reminds Ms. LaBelle of the process that needs to be followed before an attorney can be called. Ms. Pryor suggests to the board members present that they should vote to approve Ms. LaBelle to have contact with the attorney. Mr. Lerner makes a motion to allow Chairperson, Gale LaBelle to contact Town Counsel, Ms. Burgwardt seconds motion; Unanimous Approval.

At this time, Ms. Pryor reminds Ms. LaBelle that she still needs to go through the Town Administrator. Ms. Pryor also reminds Ms. LaBelle that she must get something in writing. Ms. LaBelle confirms that she will.

Ms. Pryor also explains to Board members present, that if a complaint is not in writing, than it is not considered a complaint. Mr. Lerner advises that he has a problem with that due to the fact that many times an individual is hesitant to put anything in writing for fear of repercussions. Ms. Pryor also adds that the Board of Health really needs to have rules and regulations put in place.

Ms. LaBelle reads aloud from some State Laws she has recently researched. Mr. Gibson advises that in this case, it should be the Agricultural Regulations that need to be looked into and that the property being discussed would have to be at least 2-5 acres. Mr. Gibson further states that he will follow up with Joel Bard.

Ms. Pryor reads aloud Section 2 of the Right to farm Bylaw.

11:10 am- Ms. LaBelle advises that she needs to leave the meeting; she asks Ms. Burgwardt to please take over the meeting for her at this point, Ms. Burgwardt confirms.

Ms. Burgwardt presents her report to all present, advising that she has visited various properties with Mr. Henshaw. Ms. Burgwardt also advises that she will be doing a kitchen inspection at the Metcalf residence for their Farm stand.

Ms. Burgwardt also advises that she had witnessed a Title V Inspection at 86 Carter Road.

New Business- Systems Control- Establishing protocol. Board members to review Rules and Regulations. Board members decide to table this discussion to a future meeting date when all members can be present.

Public Input- Jeanne presents the Board members present with a handout referencing Local Regulation of Medical Marijuana.

Review of Plans Submitted- Ms. Burgwardt advises that Scott has been to 23 Tecumsah Drive. Board members discuss the fact that they need to have better communications with Scott from this point forward.

Informal Discussion- Abandoned Lots- Map 261 Lot 728.

Board members briefly discuss the abandoned lot as well as the fact that there is a well on the property. Ms. Burgwardt advises Mr. Lerner that they have already contacted Henshaw Well Drilling and that they are scheduled to come to Becket, cap and lock the well on the property discussed. Mr. Lerner expresses concern that the well really should be decommissioned instead of just capped. Mr. Lerner advises that he will speak with the Town Administrator regarding this issue.

Correspondence- Read and Reviewed

Budget- Read and Reviewed. Mr. Lerner asks approximately how much money is currently owed to the Health Alliance for work they have done; Ms. Hunt tells Mr. Lerner that it is approximately \$2137.00 to date. Mr. Lerner states that Scott needs to make sure that he submits a report as well as all invoices to be paid.

Any other business to come before the board-

Schedule next meeting for Wednesday November 20<sup>th</sup> , 2013.

11:27 am –Mr. Lerner makes a motion to adjourn the meeting , Ms. Burgwardt seconds the motion; Meeting is adjourned at 11:27 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Hunt  
Administrative Assistant

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale LaBelle

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Laurel Burgwardt

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Howard Lerner