



Town of Boxford

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

July 28, 2014

7:30 PM

Present: Richard Fahrner, Louise Kress, Richard Taylor, Malcolm Kinnaird, Kendell Longo

Absent: Heather Forand

Other Attendees: Molly Sorensen, James Scanlan, Daniel Johnson, James Brown, Marty Jessel

Meeting called to order at 7:33 by Richard Fahrner

Announcements, Minutes Review, and Bill Review:

- Mosquito season safety – wear protective clothing, avoid being outdoors at dusk and dawn, remove standing water from common collection areas. Tick tubes for sale in BOH office.
- **Kress** mentions Tick Talk in Newburyport and a program that Boxford may be interested in participating in to track tick borne disease.
- Review minutes from April 23. **Motion** to accept by **Kinnaird**, seconded by **Kress**, approved **unanimously**. Review minutes from May 1. **Motion** to accept as amended by **Kress**, seconded by **Kinnaird**, approved **unanimously**. Review minutes from June 4. **Motion** to accept as amended by **Kress**, second by **Kinnaird**, approved **unanimously**.

7:51 P.M. – 53 Winding Oaks Way– Dan Johnson

- Dan Johnson presented information to the board regarding the sanitary disposal system upgrade to the failing system at 53 Winding Oaks Way. There is wetland across street and behind property, and two existing wells. This included the following variance requests:
 - To reduce the area of leaching by 50% with the use of alternative technology.
 - To allow 69' and 95' setbacks to each wetland area where 150' is required.
 - To allow 146' and 124' setbacks to owners wells where 150' is required.
- Abutter James Brown wanted to make sure the system will be out of jurisdiction of the vernal pool, which it is. The Waterloo pretreatment system will be put in since it is close to the wetlands.
- On a **motion** by **Kress**, seconded by **Kinnaird**, the board voted **unanimously** to **grant** the following variances to 53 Winding Oaks Way:
 - To allow the Soil Absorption System to be no less than 69' from the wetlands where 150' is required.
 - To allow the SAS to be no less than 120' from the owners well where 150' is required.
 - To allow a 50% reduction of the size of the leaching area with the use of waterloo biofilter under remedial use approval of the DEP.
- The variance is granted upon the conditions that: the wetland delineation shown on the plan is confirmed by the Conservation Commission or the Conservation Administrator and a nitrogen-reducing technology is included in the system design, and that the system will be operated and maintained in compliance with the remedial use approval of the DEP.

Variance granted based on the system as designed being an improvement over the existing system and is the best solution given the physical restrictions of the property.

8:02 P.M. – 310 Ipswich Rd. – James Scanlan

- James Scanlan presented information to the board regarding the sanitary disposal system upgrade to the failing system at 310 Ipswich Rd. which is currently a cesspool with leach pit. The property has wetlands in rear, is near two abutters' wells, a well across the street, owners well. This included the following variance requests:
 - To reduce the area of leaching by 50% with the use of alternative technology
 - To allow 52' setback between soil absorption system where 150' is required
 - To allow 87' setback between SAS and owner well where 150' is required and 120' from abutters well where 150' is required.
- Owners shallow well was tested for coliform and passed.
- On a **motion**, made by **Kress**, seconded by **Taylor**, the board voted **unanimously** to grant the following variances to 310 Ipswich Road:
 - To allow the Soil Absorption System to be placed no less than 87' from the owners well where 150' is required.
 - To allow the SAS to be placed no less than 120' from the abutter's well where 150' is required.
 - To allow the SAS to be placed no less than 52' from the wetland where 150' is required
 - To allow a 50% square footage reduction of the leaching area with the use of a Waterloo biofilter
- The variance is granted upon the conditions that: the wetland delineation shown on the plan is confirmed by the Conservation Commission or the Conservation Administrator and a nitrogen-reducing alternative technology is included in the system design, and that the system will be operated and maintained in compliance with the remedial use approval of the DEP.
- A deed restriction to be added on the property requiring annual testing of the owner's well water for total coliform, nitrate nitrogen, and ammonia nitrogen (310CMR 15.303(1)(C)). Results of this water test will be reported to the Board of Health. Failure of the water to meet drinking water standards will result in BOH action. Full water test to be done prior to installation of the system.

Variance granted based on the system as designed being an improvement over the existing system and is the best solution given the physical restrictions of the property, to require a new well would increase the cost of the system to more than 10% of the value of the property.

8:25 P.M. – New Business

1. A.) Landfill Solar Array Closure:

Contract for solar array panel needs more specifics on accountability. **Taylor** states he was informed that the insurance policy would cover damage to the cap, his primary concern. BOH to take lead on closure – part of that will include solar use. The DEP has asked for a pre-meeting with the solar array engineers and the Sustainability Committee.
- B.) Permanent Building Committee study of land for construction of municipal buildings:

Weston & Sampson have started to look at potential areas for municipal buildings, concerns are access and restrictions on property. There is about 2.7 acres of buildable land, trying to determine access and looking at wetland restrictions.

2. Education Reimbursement Contract – reviewed and signed by Board

3. Opioid Abuse Prevention:

Boxford doesn't have a large problem with overdose, but there is concern about the use of heroin and oxycodone being on the rise among teens as they are more easily accessible. There is a treatment program out of Lawrence that looks beneficial to families who may have an individual with a problem. The family and individual can be trained on what to do in the event of a suspected overdose and on the use of Narcan, a nasal spray that blocks the opioids to restore breathing. Boxford's first responders do carry Narcan.

There is also some concern about seniors overdosing on medication. **Kress** details a pill dispenser product that helps seniors take medication and also alerts a family member or nurse in case of missed doses. Question about attaining a public health nurse instead of the VNA, discussion about benefits of VNA clinics, mention that there is a social worker for Boxford called for serious individual issues.

Kinnaird raises questions about how the board should address other health and wellness concerns in Boxford. Are there issues the board isn't looking at? How do we get the information about the overall health of town and from residents about their concerns?

Discussion and agreement to provide free information about programs and post on website.

4. Radon Testing:

Boxford used to offer radon tests at discounted rates. There are now several available tests on the market. **Taylor** suggests residents use two tests, one long term and short term. Radon spikes over time and comes out of rocks and water. Instead of offering kits, the board would like to remind people to do radon testing through Tri-Town and website.

5. Tick Tube Sales - (Data not available)

6. Medical Marijuana:

Board of Health has voted in the past to not be involved in regulating dispensaries. There is a proposed dispensary for Ward Hill in Haverhill. Planning Board will let moratorium run out.

9:15 P.M. – New Business

1. Mosquito Vector Reports – Nothing to report, clean so far

2. NEMMC Non-Pesticide Work:

They have been looking at Boy Scout park and treating the ditches between park and parking lot with BTI (non-pesticide)

They will look into Melanura crypts around Spofford Pond in fall and winter.

3. Review letter to NEMMC:

Letters drafted by **Kress** and **Taylor**.

Suggestion of two letters, one for non-pesticide work request and the information request.

Longo will update letter to reflect the projects they are currently working on.

DPW has given **Longo** a list of other possible projects to be suggested at a later date.

On a **motion**, made by **Fahrner**, seconded by **Kinnaird**, the board **unanimously** agreed to allow Kendell to send revised letter dated June 16, regarding projects to the NEMMC.

Discussion over wording of second letter for requests of information from May 1 meeting.

Audit request discussed and determined to keep in the letter.

On a motion, made by **Taylor**, seconded by **Kinnaird**, the board agreed to have **Taylor** revise the letter with amendments to send to **Fahrner** for sign off.

Reiteration that Boxford does not spray individual houses for nuisance mosquitos.

9:40 P.M. – Bills reviewed and signed

9:45 P.M. – Adjourn

- The Board agreed to meet again in August and with no further business, on a **motion** made by **Kress**, seconded by **Fahrner**, the BOH voted **unanimously** to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Molly Sorensen
Minutes Secretary

