

MEETING OF THE FAIRHAVEN BOARD OF HEALTH  
November 29, 2010

A regular meeting of the Board of Health was held at the Town Hall on Monday, November 29, 2010. The meeting was duly posted. Board members present: Peter DeTerra, Dolores Caton and Jeannine Lopes. Also present: Patricia Fowle, Health Agent.

Mr. DeTerra, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM and requested the minutes of the meeting of November 15, 2010 be amended or approved.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Ms. Caton; seconded by Ms. Lopes. Vote was unanimous.

Appearing before the Board was Ms. Susan Dargis, 6 Yankee Lane requesting a permit for the keeping of 14 goats and 12 chickens more or less. She has kept animals on the property for over 10 years but was unaware that permits were required until the Animal Control Officer (ACO) informed her of such. A petition signed by all of the abutters was presented showing support for the request and there was no one attending this meeting in dissent. A letter from the ACO stated the property and animals were well cared for.

Motion to approve the permit for 14 goats and 12 chickens, more or less, was made by Ms. Lopes; seconded by Ms. Caton. Vote was two in favor with Mr. DeTerra abstaining.

A septic system repair plan for 6 Nonquitt Avenue was reviewed. The plan was prepared by Ferreira Engineering, New Bedford and is for a two bedroom cottage. The system is comprised of a 2,000 gallon two-compartment septic tank/pump and an 11'x36' "Quick4 Chamber" leaching bed. A retaining wall with poly-membrane is required along the west and south sides of the bed. Two waivers are required: depth of the bottom of the leaching bed to high ground water at three feet in place of the required four feet and distance of 37 ½' to wetlands in place of the required 100' per Board of Health regulations and 50' per State Title 5 regulations.

Motion to approve the plan with the required waivers was made by Ms. Caton; seconded by Ms. Lopes. Vote was two in favor with Mr. DeTerra abstaining.

A septic system repair plan for 255 Huttleston Avenue was reviewed. The property is owned by Board member Dolores Caton who excused herself from the meeting. The plan was prepared by Charon Associates, Inc., Rochester and is for a four bedroom dwelling. Mr. DeTerra disclosed there is a conflict of interest for him in this situation as he intends to bid on the job. He will file the proper notice with the Town Clerk's Office. In keeping with the ethic commission requirements, upon the disclosure by Mr. DeTerra the review continued. The system is comprised of a 1,500 gallon septic tank and 13'x32' leaching bed. No waivers from State or local codes are required.

Motion to approve the plan was made by Ms. Lopes; seconded by Mr. DeTerra. Vote was two in favor with Ms. Caton abstaining.

A septic system repair plan for 24 Nelson Avenue was to be reviewed but the health agent indicated she needed more time for the review and would be ready at the next Board meeting of December 13, 2010.

Other business to come before the Board:

Mr. Bouvier, 67 Church Street, was present at the meeting to discuss a complaint regarding an outdoor wood-fired boiler in use at 68 Pleasant Street. Photos were presented showing smoke from the boiler stack in various dispersal patterns throughout the neighborhood. The health agent, Ms. Fowle, received a complaint from Mr. Bouvier on Wednesday, November 24 late in the day and did observe smoke flowing downward from the stack and into the neighborhood. Upon speaking with Dan Gavin of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) the health agent was informed that information regarding the use, age and output of the boiler is required before the DEP can help to resolve this matter. The regulations on outdoor wood-fired boilers are State regulations. There are no local regulations on outdoor wood-fired boilers. A letter will be sent to the owner of the boiler requesting the information.

The Board received the information packet from John Roderiques, Chair of the Finance Committee informing all departments that fiscal 2012 budgets would be carefully scrutinized and no increases would be allowed without proper documentation and explanation of need. The office is in the process of putting the budget together now.

Invoices and payroll were reviewed and signed by the Board. Ms. Fowle will be on vacation December 6 to 8.

There being no other business before the Board, motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 PM was made by Ms. Lopes; seconded by Ms. Caton. Vote was unanimous. The next meeting is Monday, December 13, 2010 at 6:30 PM.

Patricia Fowle, Health Agent