

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH
August 10, 2016

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Health was held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, August 10, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was duly posted. Board members present: Jeannine Lopes, Lindsay Gordon and Peter DeTerra. Also present: Patricia Fowle, Health Agent.

Chairwoman Lopes called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 20, 2016.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. DeTerra; seconded by Ms. Gordon. The vote was unanimous.

Before the Board:

Mr. DeTerra recused himself from discussion and review as he has worked on this property in the past. Before the Board was Rick Charon of Charon Associates, Inc., Rochester, MA engineer for a proposed repair septic plan for 21 Silver Shell Beach Road. Mr. Charon presented a returned certified mail receipt from 23 Silver Shell Beach Road as proof of delivery to an immediate abutter with notice of this meeting. Mr. Charon presented the proposed plan for a new 2000 gallon monolithic combination septic tank and dosing tank and a new Eljen Geotextile Sand Filter (GSF) leaching facility for the two-bedroom dwelling to replace the existing cesspool. The GSF is an approved DEP remedial use leaching facility which is in keeping with the requirements for use. The design required the following variances from DEP's Title 5: (1) 15.212-groundwater separation less than 4', (2) 15.211-leaching facility less than 10' from the south property line, (3) 15.255-overdig less than 5' on all sides, (4) 15.227-tank inlets are less than 12" above high groundwater elevation, (5) 15.104-a sieve analysis was performed in place of a percolation test due to high groundwater and (6) Board of Health Regulations, Chapter 5, Sec. 14-leaching facility is 52' from a BVW. A deed restriction noting the use of the GSF and that the dwelling is a two bedroom dwelling will be provided to the Board after construction. Mr. Charon stated that the proposed repair constitutes the maximum feasible compliance with current Title 5 and will provide a significant benefit to groundwater without undue inconvenience and expense to the owners and neighborhood. Discussion ensued. Motion to approve the plan with the requested variances was made by Ms. Gordon; seconded by Ms. Lopes. The vote was unanimous.

The Board reviewed a septic system inspection report for 28 Scott Street, performed by Ronald Arruda, Fairhaven Honeywagon, Fairhaven, on June 10, 2016. The system is a 2,500 gallon sewage holding tank installed in 2008. The inspection passed. The health agent was present at the time of inspection. The Board concurs with the findings of the report.

Motion to accept the septic system inspection report was made by Mr. DeTerra; seconded by Ms. Gordon. The vote was unanimous.

The Board was informed of a septic system inspection for 896 Sconticut Neck Road, performed by Ronald Arruda, Fairhaven Honeywagon, Fairhaven, on August 2, 2016. Though the written report has not yet been received, the health agent was present at the time of inspection as was Mr. DeTerra and the inspection passed. The health agent would like to accept the report when received in the office as long as it is consistent with the observed findings. The Board concurred.

Motion to accept the septic system inspection report when received in the office as long as it is consistent with the observed findings was made by Mr. DeTerra; seconded by Ms. Gordon. The vote was unanimous.

Health Agent's report:

The health agent informed the Board that due to Clerical Union contract requirements, the job description and advertisement posted for the Board of Health Administrative Assistant position cannot be altered to create two separate positions with one for the Building Department and one for the Board of Health. The single applicant for the position was interviewed and has accepted the position. She is Paula Medeiros currently working in the Assessor's Office. The job will be split by hours with Ms. Medeiros working in the Building Department from 8:30 am to Noon and in the Board of Health office 1:00 to 4:30 pm. Ms. Medeiros is highly qualified and very organized and will be a good complement to both offices. She started today, August 10. Discussion ensued. The Board acknowledged the restrictions placed through the Clerical Union. However, the Board unanimously hopes to secure its own Administrative Assistant in the near future in order to work with the health agent and implement the responsibilities of the Board office.

The Household Hazardous Waste Day (HWD), Saturday, August 6, 2016, from 9:00-Noon at the Board of Public Works yard was very well attended. The usual household count is 120-130 and this year 185 households were served. The vehicles entering the site were non-stop. Thankfully Mr. DeTerra was present and was able to direct traffic while the health agent did the intake forms. The invoice will be coming soon. Future HWD planning should include the effect of social media in its advertising and attendance.

A DPH/Bristol Mosquito Control southcoast regional meeting was held today to discuss the recent finding of the Aedes albopictus mosquito, a/k/a Asian Tiger Mosquito. This mosquito is at present infrequent in trappings but its presence has been increasing since first observed in 2008 in traps throughout the southcoast region. Fall River and New Bedford have requested spraying in small specific areas to combat specifically this mosquito which can carry Zika, Dengue Fever and Chikungunya. It was noted none of these diseases have been reported in the local population. However, the DPH and Mosquito Control want to make area towns aware of the findings and to assist in mosquito source reduction and standardizing risk communication messaging. An overview of the Aedes albopictus mosquito was reviewed along with messaging that the State and local Boards of Health will be using to inform local residents on how to better combat and control not only the albopictus but mosquitoes in general. Further information and printed materials will be forthcoming.

The Board reviewed and signed invoices.

The date of the next regular meeting of the Board will be Wednesday, September 14, 2016, at 6:30 pm at which time Paula Medeiros will begin attending.

There being no other business before the Board, Ms. Lopes motioned to adjourn; Ms. Gordon seconded. The vote was unanimous at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Fowle, Health Agent