

¹Seekonk Board of Health

Meeting Minutes August 16, 2017

Call to order 7:00 pm

A meeting of the Seekonk Board of Health was held at Seekonk Town Hall, Planning Board Meeting Room on August 16 2017.

Attendees Included:

- Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Chairman
- Jonathan Schiller MD, Vice-Chairman
- Guy Boulay, Clerk
- Richard Perry
- Jessica Horsman B.S., R.N., Health Agent

Attendees Absent:

- Kyle Corbin, DC

Consent Calendar

Approval of June 21 2017 Minutes of Meeting.

Motion: By Guy Boulay to, approve the regular session minutes from June 21 2017.

Second: Dr. Jonathan Schiller

In Favor: Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Jonathan Schiller MD, Richard Perry and Guy Boulay.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Approval of July 05, 2017 Minutes of Meeting.

Motion: By Dr. Schiller to, approve the regular session minutes of July 5 2017.

Second: Mr. Boulay

In Favor: Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Jonathan Schiller MD, Richard Perry and Guy Boulay.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

¹ *Approved at the Board of Health meeting of September 13, 2017.*

Unfinished Business

None at this time

New Business

A. Permit Application, Approval to Operate a Piggery – 130 Jacob Street, Seekonk, MA

The Seekonk Board of Health received an application to operate a piggery at 130 Jacob Street. The applicant has submitted both pest and rodent control. We were made aware that 5 pigs were housed on the property by animal control. There was an incident where the pigs were loose.

The following parameters exist:

- Ms. Turkus will have to apply to the state for a license to transport the pigs.
- No rubbish can be transported to the property. If Ms. Turkus wishes to feed anything other than grains, a site assignment will have to obtain from the state.

Dr. Schiller asked if they were planning on raising the pigs.

Ms. Turkus stated they are not planning to have the pigs over the winter. The pigs will arrive in the spring and will be slaughtered in the fall.

Ms. Horsman stated they will have to comply with the animal control checks. It is the duty of the applicant to maintain the animals to ensure destruction to neighbor's property does not occur.

Ms. Kinniburgh stated there will be no slaughtering on the premises. How did they get out?

Ms. Turkus stated when they first received the pigs they were on system of 3 electric strands and doing well with this. They rooted up and buried on part of the line. We now have an electric net system.

Ms. Horsman stated if you were feeding them anything other than grain, then you will have to do a site assessment with DEP. You cannot bring any trash or recycled food on the premises to feed them. Anything else you will have to apply to the state for the site assessment.

Ms. Welch asked where are the pigs are being contained on the property and if they were near the water conservation.

Ms. Turkus stated she had gone over this with the Conservation Board and they are far enough away from any area they are concerned with.

Ms. Horsman stated she confirmed this with the Conservation Board. This was sent to all departments to see if they had any issues that should be brought to our attention. Sara did work with our Conservation Agent and they did lay out a map of where the pigs were going to be and the pigs were set back significantly from the conservation area. They were notified if there were any changes in plans they would have to go back to conservation.

Ms. Welch asked if there was a map of the area to let the neighbors know.

Ms. Horsman stated she has a general map of where the premises are located in relation to where the conservation area is and they were significantly set off.

Ms. Welch asked what is the buffer.

Ms. Horsman stated it is 100 feet.

Ms. Welch asked if they could get a copy of the all the regulations.

Ms. Horsman stated she could email them over to her.

Ms. Welch stated there is noise that comes from that property and there is some concern.

Dr. Schiller stated if there is a problem then we can revisit this. He is more concern with the pigs getting out.

Mr. Boulay asked if we increase it to 8 pigs, then does this create a problem with the manure management given the size of the area the pigs are in.

Ms. Turkus stated if they were to get more pigs, both for our peace of mind and best practices, the area would need to increase for both the pigs and manure.

Mr. Boulay stated we can approve the current number of 5 pigs and if they wish to increase then they could come back to the Board.

Motion: By Dr. Schiller to, approve Sidewalk Farms Piggery application with the condition not to exceed 5 pigs. If they wish to increase to 8, they would have to come back to the Board of Health.

Second: Mr. Boulay

In Favor: Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Jonathan Schiller MD, Richard Perry and Guy Boulay.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

B. Review of Definitive Subdivision Plan – Myles Court, Seekonk, MA

Myles Court is at the end of Jeremiah Street. This is a 3 house subdivision and the percolation testing has been completed with passing results. There are 2 wells on the property that will need to be decommissioned. The houses will have to be attached to town water.

Mr. Boulay made the motion to approve the Definitive Subdivision Plan for Myles Court with the condition the wells be decommissioned and the houses attached to town water, seconded by Dr. Schiller and so voted unanimously.

Motion: By Mr. Boulay, to approve the Definitive Subdivision Plan for Myles Court with the condition that the wells be decommissioned and the houses are attached to town water.

Second: Dr. Schiller

In Favor: Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Jonathan Schiller MD, Richard Perry and Guy Boulay.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

C. Nomination of Animal Inspector – Andrea Russo

Ms. Russo has replaced Ms. Ashley O’Connell, who is now a shelter worker.

Motion: By Mr. Perry to, approve Andrea Russo as Animal Inspector.

Second: Mr. Boulay

In Favor: Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Jonathan Schiller MD, Richard Perry and Guy Boulay.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

D. Approval of Administrative Policy – Percolation Payments.

Ms. Horsman stated that there have been consistent flaws in the billing system for percolation payment. We only bill for percolation test, after they have been completed. This becomes problematic when properties change hands and the bill hasn’t been paid.

I believe that it is in our best interest to require that all percolation test be paid for at the time of application. Once the complete application is received along with payment, the date will be scheduled.

Motion: By Mr. Boulay, to approve the Administrative Policy – Percolation Payment .

Second: Dr. Schiller

In Favor: Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Jonathan Schiller MD, Richard Perry and Guy Boulay.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

E. Approval of Administrative Policy – Payment of Disposal Works Construction Permits.

Plans are submitted to be reviewed and approved. When the Disposal Works Construction Permit is pulled the fee is paid to the Town. We have file cabinet of approved plans that have never been paid for. This would take effect in November 1 2017.

Mr. Boulay made the motion to approve the Administrative Policy – Payment of Disposal Works Construction Permits, seconded by Dr. Schiller and so voted unanimously.

Motion: By Mr. Boulay to, approve the Administrative Policy – Payment of Disposal Works Construction Permits.

Second: Dr. Schiller

In Favor: Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Jonathan Schiller MD, Richard Perry and Guy Boulay.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Community Speaks

None at this time

Health Agent Report

A. Update on RI Save the Bay meeting.

It has been 20 years since the testing on the Runnins River has been completed. Rhode Island is looking to reopen this discussion. The Narragansette Save the Bay Commission would like to see if the bacteria count has changed.

Mr. Matonis stated the Core of Engineers points out the issues related are from possibly East Providence Runnins River. Thirty storm drains in Barrington which should be examined. The Runnins River was a potential contamination site. Fecal coliform does not distinguish between humans and birds. During heavy rains it is not unlikely that this is going down to the 100 acre cove. In 2004, there was a study from Brown University. The low flow and the high flow at the Mobil Dam only shows up when there is a tidal surge.

Ms. Horsman stated the hot spots in which they are looking into are School St, Mink St, and Mead St. Towards the bottom there are a lot of industrial facilities. They are looking into testing at their cost.

B. Update on DEP findings – 102 Pond Street

The Attleboro Sludge Treatment facility will be opening soon. A portion of the facility is in Seekonk. Recently Mass DEP came down; there are wells on Pond Street. These were approved 20 plus years ago as private wells. There are seven individual buildings, which are on individual wells and septic systems. The State is looking to rule these wells as a public water source since they are all under the same ownership. A public water supply will change the setback to the sludge facility. DEP did not recognize the wells as a public water supply when approving the plans.

C. Update on trash violations – 126 Mohawk Drive

We are scheduled to be at Taunton District Court tomorrow morning.

D. Update on zoning violation – 400 Warren Avenue

Ms. Horsman was scheduled to go to court on Tuesday, however it did get postponed. Currently there is a closing on August 30th. As long as the property is sold the case will be closed.

We did have a mosquito that tested positive for West Nile Virus. Mr. Chenevert sent out a press release.

Plaza Azteca was closed for a week. Mr. Chenevert went in on Monday morning for a normal inspection, there was no hot water. The manager stated they lost hot water yesterday. It took three days for them to try and fix the hot water heater to find out it need to be replaced. They did not pull the required plumbing permits. Mr. Chenevert informed them it needed to be inspected prior to him reopening the establishment. The Board wishes them to be at the next meeting.

Dumpster has wrapped up and we granted 125 exemptions, we are only down 10 permits from last year.

Septic Systems Disposal Plans Approved by the Health Agent.

690 Fall River Avenue – St Patrick’s Church
175 Lake Street – Frederick Polk
110 Ferncliffe Road – Eugene Baker
21 Alameda Drive – David Duarte
270 Woodward Avenue – John Whitelaw
17 Leigh Street – Turnkey Properties
390 Read Street – Norma Beaulieu
690 Taunton Avenue – St. Patrick’s Church [re-submittal]
6 Kenwood Court – Kenneth Kazarian [re-submittal]
148 Greenwood Avenue – Mario & Brooke Carreiro

Board Comments and Correspondence

None at this time.

Adjournment

8:05 pm

Motion: By Guy Boulay to adjourn.

Second: Dr. Jonathan Schiller

In Favor: Victoria Kinniburgh RN, Jonathan Schiller MD, Richard Perry and Guy Boulay.

Opposed: None

Abstained: None

Clerk

Date of approval