

MINUTES
STURBRIDGE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Monday, August 2, 2010 6:30pm

Meeting called to order 6:35pm.

Present: Members; John Degnan and Bob Audet and Health Agent, Alyssa Rusiecki. Ms. Cocalis was absent.

Administrative and Correspondence: July 19th minutes are approved, (2 – 0). The Board reviews the memo written by Mr. Degnan to the Town Administrator regarding the use, functionality and maintenance of the Board of Health truck which was in response to both a vehicle survey request from the Town Administrator and comments from the DPW Director. Despite the vote of the Town for conversion of an acceptable police cruiser to the Board of Health department, no vehicle has been transferred and the truck is still in use. The Agent reports that the truck is still making noise upon turning, the frame is rusting out, and there is a leak that is not water or gasoline. The Board members discuss requesting a new budgetary line item for repair/maintenance of the vehicle.

The Agent reviews routine correspondence: OSV Rebels & Redcoats event, no Health permit needed.

Budgetary Issues: A request was put in to encumber \$350 from last year's pool inspection line to complete the inspections that were begun in May with the State Inspector. Ms. Pollender is conducting substitute food inspections, beyond normal operating hours and should be paid as a sub-contractor from the Revolving Account, the Board members agree.

Pools, revisiting variance requests – Hearings continued:

Pool – Publick House variance request, (continued) – lack of a 2nd main drain in a public or semi-public swimming pool. Dr. Audet provides photographs and a site visit report, and states that the pool is deeper than originally reported; it is twelve feet deep at its deepest location. There is mention of wooden decking being in disrepair and that there are other maintenance issues because the pool is over fifty years old. Dr. Audet does not feel that the variance request can be granted due to the depth of twelve feet, and makes a motion to deny the variance request for a second main drain; Mr. Degnan seconds, (2 – 0) variance denied.

Pool – Motel 6 variance request – lack of a main drain and presentation of quote to install main drain for next year. Motion to put the issue into abeyance until a full quorum is present, seconded and approved, (2 – 0). The hearing will be continued at the next meeting.

Outstanding business regarding H1N1/preparedness: The Agent discusses the completion of the work done by Kate Pollender, RN. Mr. Degnan states that he had completed the EDS plan and the TAR report and submitted it to Region2 on behalf of the Board. He will present it to the Board of Health on a future agenda. The Board approves the Agent's proposal for PHEP grant money relative to food safety and communicable disease. The Board needs to incorporate and work on an All-Hazards plan and COOP plan because any emergency that the Town might face would be natural or transportation related.

New Business: Mr. Audet states that he discussed the Animal Control program with the Charlton Inspector, who is willing to share protocols with Mr. Komar, our Barn Inspector. Mr. Audet will coordinate a meeting time, perhaps at a future meeting.

Interdepartmental reviews: 559 Main Street, Pioneer Brewing. The Board instructs the Agent to write a letter indicating that a new food establishment permit must be obtained as well as clarification about the brewery vat cleaning wastewater. **Long Pond Estates** is a proposed subdivision on on-site septic and well water. The review is under way and comments will be forthcoming. Interdepartmental Review: **173 Main St.** Request by Mr. DeCoulos requesting that the Board of Selectmen re-open the sewer connection hearing. The Board of Health supports this request, (2-0).

Mr. Degnan requests that restaurants cite the nutritional value of their menu items for health effects. The Agent states that the State requires that of chain restaurants and that allergen notification is pending and shall be required of restaurants, by the State, in stages, as of October 2010 and February 2011.

Old Business: Tight tank maintenance and operation follow-up. Two owners were irate at having received the correspondence regarding required monitoring, pumping, and reporting of tight tanks. The Agent reiterated that these are State requirements that are mandated, not local regulations. The Agent called the director of the Title 5 division at DEP to review. Two owners responded that their facility is seasonal. The Board stated that a second enforcement letter should be sent with a timeline for those who have not met the requirements. Due to the lack of time and staffing for follow-up issues such as these, the Board understands that this is the best we can do.

On a related matter, the Board understands that some nuisance issues are low-priority and that the Agent cannot always respond to every one. An example of this is the beaver complaint at Tantasqua Jr. High School, which the Agent will observe next week. Mr. Degnan states that many Massachusetts Boards of Health report not being able to comply with 75% of State mandates due to lack of staffing. Mr. Audet asks if we have ever asked for additional help and it is stated that we have asked for a full-time administrative assistant for the past two years, the Finance Department informs us that the no Department is receiving additional staffing due to budgetary constraints. In the future, we will need a full-time inspector as well as a full-time administrative assistant.

Recycling Center/Landfill: Regarding the Trash Haulers permitting, the Agent will check with the Administrative Assistant to see if she sent letters to all of the trash haulers travelling through Sturbridge. If haulers do not obtain the proper permit, then the Board will send enforcement letters with tickets, however, there is a limit of the time available to spend on enforcement issues as well. The DEP technical assistant, Irene Congden, will re-schedule her meeting with the Board of Health. The Board must schedule hearings for a Pay-As-You-Throw program. The Agent states that a new distribution system must be developed for the Recycling Stickers so that it is less time consuming for everyone; right now we are trying to get the public walk-ins for the recycling stickers during the hours of the Administrative Assistant, daily 9:30 – 12:30.

Motion to adjourn the meeting 9:30pm, seconded, approved (2 – 0).

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