

Town of Sturbridge
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
January 6, 2014 6pm
MINUTES

Members present: Linda Cocalis, and Dan Chaput and Health Agent Alyssa Rusiecki.

The meeting is called to order at 6:00 pm.

Recycling Center assistant 2nd round – interviews

Scott Tremblay - When asked what he has been doing at the center since beginning work there, Scott replied that he had been collecting and helping out wherever he could. Chairman Cocalis asked Mr. Tremblay about his long term goals mentioning the some possibilities. Mr. Tremblay assured her that he was open to doing whatever it takes to succeed and progress. He also, in answer to Ms. Cocalis' questions, stated that he does not have other employment at this time and really needs to work. Mr. Chaput then asked how long Mr. Tremblay had been working at the center and learned that Mr. Tremblay had been employed for about two years. Mr. Tremblay stated that he had been doing HAZMAT related duties among others. It was established that Mr. Tremblay had a good work record and no disputes with either co-workers or the residents had occurred. Chairman Cocalis asked about future aspirations and whether he would accept continued part time hours, possibly shared with others. Mr. Tremblay said that he would accept limited hours and that his future long term plans would be dependent upon saving money for furthering education and possibly working in the animation field. Mr. Tremblay was thanked for his time and assured of a call from Ms. Rusiecki in regard to outcome of this hiring process.

Old business started and then put in abeyance.

Interview continued – Ray Girard – After greeting Mr. Girard, Chairman Cocalis inquired about his current working status. She learned that Mr. Girard is not working after having injured his knee (a torn ACL). He stated that his knee is completely healed now. A discussion of Mr. Girard's past work history was explored. He detailed working with automated baler. He then stated that his family obligations which include assisting elderly and challenged individuals is a priority for him. He showed concern that since a need on their part would elicit an immediate departure by him from work, that this might be viewed negatively for him as a job aspirant. Chairman Cocalis assured Mr. Girard that everyone has family emergencies from time to time and was then assured that he did not anticipate this to be frequent. Mr. Girard went on to speak of his work with separating materials, the dangers inherent – being cut, stabbed etc. He went on to say that all the work of his life has been hard and tough and that he is used to such conditions. In reply to Mr. Chaput's inquiry, Mr. Girard stated that he was, indeed, familiar with basic vehicle maintenance and is used to working with his hands. He has done grease work for cars. When hours were discussed Mr. Girard stated that he would prefer two day's work but would take one day definitely. Mr. Girard corrected a misunderstanding concerning CDL licensing. He does not possess one. Mr. Girard was thanked and assured of follow up.

Interview continued – David Teixeira – Chairman Cocalis learned from the applicant that he has been working on the family farm for three years and that he is available for work due to the flexibility of his current schedule. Specific hours were discussed and Mr. Teixeira was agreeable for all potentialities. Past work history was next explored detailing jobs Affinion Group (Cendant) among them. He dealt with tech support, customer service and working in the president's office. Website training was a specialty. High end clients were dealt with. He left this company because of family illness and his responsibilities in that regard. He is now obligated to run the family farm and is grateful for sufficient help there. He is now available to work outside the farm. He possesses no special licensing. He is capable of repairing equipment on a basic level and is certainly willing. Mr. Teixeira is aware of varied duties, shoveling, trash pickup, etc. Restaurant/food inspection position was discussed and Mr. Teixeira assured everyone that he is willing to explore all possibilities. The family farm was discussed, 73 acres total. The hayfield is rented out and pumpkins are big business in the fall. References were obtained from Mr. Teixeira including several "Employee of the Month" awards from his previous employment. He discussed making 100 of quotas at all times. Mr. Teixeira departed with thanks and assurance of follow up.

Chairman Cocalis and Mr. Chaput discussed filling the hours in various ways. 23 hours are available and splitting them was proposed. Discussion of applicant's needs was held in juxtaposition to hours available. Possibility of giving partial

hours and learning which person works best was proposed. It was agreed that further discussion would be needed. Ms. Rusiecki states that the matter of the interviews is held in abeyance

Agent's Report:

Chairman Cocalis asked if all permitting requests had gone out and was told by Ms. Rusiecki that they had not. Incomplete responses and intricacies have made this process very cumbersome. The new applicant, Jimmy D's (413 Main St) at the site of the old Le Petite Bakery, is in a long process which is ongoing; plans still need to be submitted.

Food -Information concerning smoke detectors not functioning at Sam's was provided by the Police Department. Matter determined not to be a health issue. Smokers at BT Smokehouse ran all night and triggered the alarms.

Pools – Host Hotel re-opened because standards for combined chlorine is at maximum allowable level. Regular inspections required from this point forward.

Comfort Inn did not contact us for required chlorine re-testing.

181 Shepard Road - DEP email and BOH letter presented to Ms. Cocalis and Mr. Chaput.

Letter must be rewritten concerning Title 5 inspection, no response to registered letter sent in November 2013. Does the Board wish, at this time to issue a formal complaint? Mr. Chaput poses the question of whether the DEP can witness a Title 5 or not. Ms. Cocalis supposes that they will not perform this service unless forced. She urges doing an inspection with Town funds as a possibility. Last inspection was 2009 owner failed to bring conditions into compliance. Complete response was not received. Ms. Rusiecki has informed the attorney of this situation. The attorney has found receivers for this property. Possible non-profit organization can clean up the property and receive payment from the property owner until satisfied. Various solutions were discussed. Home and property are owned outright so the owner could, ostensibly obtain loans to fix the septic system.

If owner refuses to comply a joint meeting with Selectmen should be entertained to discuss. Lien placed on property, septic installed under nuisance law; was another suggestion. Complaint would be made to David Boyer, Wastewater Chief, if this action is desired. Judge must approve any action taken on the property (bringing in equipment and beginning work). Final thoughts – filing complaint may cause negative feelings on the owner's part. The owners have been notified. Attorney must go back to the Judge and ask that the BOH witness the Title 5 inspection.

214 Charlton Rd. – conversion from a single family home to commercial use. It would be a multi-specialty physician's office. There is a private well; checking with DEP on status. There is municipal sewer.

Hylands Orchards septic plan, (195 – 199 Arnold Rd.) Frozen soil and stone conditions has project on hold. Sand sample and sieve test needed. Details of installation required. Contractor David Kaitbinski questioned decision to halt because of frozen conditions. Ms. Rusiecki explained the danger of continuing with ground in frozen state. Contractor upset about delays and being paid for the job. It is believed that owner is willing to pay this contractor up front for the entire job (\$130K). However, no pre-construction documents or tests have been received from Kaitbinski Construction.

20 Finlay Rd., septic installation by Kaitbinski in non-compliance. Perc tests done, demo permit given, house now demolished. Septic construction started. There is now a large open excavation area, 20ft x 60ft area and 6 ft deep, no trenching permit needed from Building Department but there are safety concerns about an open area that large and deep. Title 5 sand has not been brought in. Ms. Cocalis suggested "Caution" tape be used around the open area. A memo was sent to Kaitbinski Construction on December 24th about this issue and no response has been received. Dec. 30th the Building Inspector also visited the site and found conditions unchanged. The site engineer, Jalbert, agrees that safety issues should be addressed by the contractor. The Board of Health states that a letter should be sent to Jalbert Engineering and Kaitbinski Construction stating unchanged conditions are an ongoing safety concerns; need for Title 5 sand and tarping. Permits will be withheld until compliance is achieved.

3 Cherrybrook Cir - Title 5 sand and tarping have been placed as of December 24th. System work will continue with weather improvement.

136 & 138 Podunk Rd. – Spoke to septic designer, who is working on plans and he asks that we await them prior to

enforcement action.

49 Bennett's Rd – Tanks were leaking because of small hole in bottom of tank (weep hole). Holes were supposedly plugged. Vacuum test needed. Owner agreed to do this since houses are not occupied. Agent must witness in the spring.

55 Bennett's Rd – owner states that property has no water or sewer. It is being used for storage only.

Drinking regulations - pending, revised an application and certificate, (not in use yet).

Title 5 local regulations - notes will be discussed at next Board meeting and possible hearings in February/March.

17 Glendale Rd – still awaiting plans.

29 Putnam Rd – still awaiting plans.

94 McGargle Rd – attorney has not filed deed restriction – tight tank 2BR property.

Region2 - January 23rd meeting scheduled.

Landfill/Recycling Center – John Booth states that contactors need replacing at the Pump Station. Electrician states that it will cost approx. \$1100. He was given the go ahead by Ms. Rusiecki. There is sufficient money in the budget.

Ms. Cocalis asked about bids for the paper compactor. Compactor is to be included in cost for the new budget. Only one bid has been received for budget. \$17K

Administration: Schedule - upcoming workshop January 22, 2014 and Agent will be out in the afternoon on January 10th. Personnel board meeting postponed to January 14th.

Fees in abeyance along with Title 5 regs.

Positions – going forward with 2nd round of clerk testing and inspector position as well.

Special Town Meeting - requesting budget allowances for conclusion of FY 2014. Memo submitted to Shaun requesting 5.5 hours for a total of 19.5 for inspector through FY14. Discussion of fee generation.

Hyland Orchards. BoH dictates that no outdoor events take place at Hyland Orchards until septic issues are resolved. Letter is being sent to Hyland Orchards stating that no permits will be issued until both septic and bathrooms have been remediated or upgraded to the BoH's satisfaction. Motion seconded.

Pioneer – 20 seat permit with no food prep. Until 4-15-14. Septic should be complete at that time. Revisit status. Motion for temp permit for 20 seats only Jan 1st through Apr. 15th or until septic installation has been approved. Motion seconded. Amended to add “no food preparation”.

Mr. Chaput did not visit the event “music, food and beer Winterfest” that was advertised for the first weekend in January 2014. They are not permitted for events beyond their twenty seats/occupant capacity per Board of Health limited permit.

Well regulations review: Mr. Chaput passes out some handouts describing EPA primary and secondary drinking water standards. The Agent states there are specifics in the local regulations that needs to be addressed, such as sale of property testing, abutter notification, water certificates, and the terms of Appendix A. We will continue to review these regulations and come up with an existing version and a strike-out version to compare.

Follow-up: 31 So Shore Dr. Lengthy discussion regarding that Mr. Allard has not followed the Order of the Board of Health, only a small notch was cut into the dam and the dam has not been removed. Ms. Cocalis asks Mr. Chaput if he has been to the site recently, he respond that he hasn't. Ms. Cocalis recommends that the Board of Health and

Conservation Commission hold a joint meeting to follow up on enforcement. She will review potential dates.

Recycling Center/Landfill, applicant follow-up discussion: Lengthy discussion, Mr. Chaput makes a motion to hire Mr. Teixeira for 23 hours with benefits, (maintaining the same conditions of the existing position). Ms. Cocalis seconds, and that Mr. Girard can be trained for Hazmat and that Mr. Tremblay can continue to backfill and work at Hazmat APPROVED (2 - 0).

No further business, meeting is adjourned.

Adjourned 8:45pm