

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m., by Chairman, Sherry Berger. Also in attendance were; Member, Richard Desjardins and Asst. Public Health Supervisor, Diane Tiernan.

Richard Robinson was present.

Motion One – Richard Desjardins made a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the previous meeting dated March 7, 2013 with changes. Sherry seconded the motion. Minutes were approved with changes.

Vouchers were reviewed and signed.

Large animal permits were reviewed and signed for William Knott of 80 Mechanic Street, and Cynthia Ramsey of 13 Grove Street.

An installer's permit was reviewed and signed for Paul Kuczinski Excavating, Upton.

A septic repair design was reviewed for 6 River Street, Jeff Laclair.

Motion two - Richard made a motion to approve of the septic design for 6 River Street. Sherry seconded the motion. Permit was approved.

A well permit application was reviewed for lot 2 Prospect Street. Permit was not approved at this time as there is a question of lot lines on the submitted plan. Richard wants to see the correct version before signing the permit.

An application for appointment of animal inspector from the Dept. of Agriculture was submitted for Kate Hawkins.

Motion three - Richard made a motion to re-appoint Kate Hawkins as Animal Control Officer for another year. Sherry seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Board discussed a letter recently submitted by the owner of the railroad, Jon Deli Prescoli. Richard stated that during a recent meeting held at the rail yard with Jon, the Board observed the changes that were made to try and reduce the noise levels. So far they have insulated the lift elevators with the same material as was used on the evacuation piping. They have also started with a rubber neoprene on the conveyor belt. Sherry stated she noted a small difference in the noise levels. No sound readings have been taken recently due to weather conditions, so we have no basis to determine if the changes have been effective. Jon has also hired the services of a sound engineer, Cappacio Engineering, to determine if the plan in place is adequate or more needs to be done. Plans to enclose the vacuum pumps with concrete blocks are also being made. The only problem right now is the weather; they need it to be above 40 degrees to continue with soundproofing the pumps.

Board agreed that the written commitment from the G/U Railroad Company to reduce the noise levels is acceptable, but we are still requesting completion of the work by the original agreed upon deadline of April 15th. Diane will send a letter/email to Jon Deli Prescoli and Michael Poselli of Dana Corp., and advise them of this information.

7:32 p.m. Doreen Cialdea of 63 Glen Avenue arrived to discuss the noise being emitted from the pellet plant at the G/U rail yard. Doreen stated that she has been bothered by the noise coming from the pellet plant for almost a year now. The noise now has a higher pitch, but is not always the same; it depends upon the

weather, season, and wind. She has a clear shot across the water from the pellet plant. She feels a lot of people are having a problem with the noise; they're just not coming forward. The noise just won't go away, even with her doors and windows shut. The plant runs all day and is very aggravating. She notices the sound changes depending upon what they are doing at the plant. Doreen stated she is happy to hear that it will be resolved by April 15th.

Sherry stated that the offloading of the pellets is a different sound than the one the pumps make. The noise got better after the pipes were insulated, it dropped significantly. If Jon brings himself into compliance and lowers the sound level within an acceptable range, technically he doesn't have to complete all the steps he agreed to do. He has tried to have a working relationship with the Board.

Richard stated the railroad is not going away any time soon. It's a long term relationship.

Doreen stated she is not complaining about the railroad. He has certain legal rights and she understands that. She wants to know why we are not doing anything about the readings that were over the allowed limit.

Richard stated we have taken several readings adjacent to the rail yard and all were within acceptable limits except for the most recent two. The noise from the plant did not get louder, but the ambient noise level dropped, causing a bigger span between the two levels. We have not tested the noise level recently due to the weather conditions, but Jon is cooperating with our requests to make changes.

Robert Groth of 109 Glen Avenue stated he feels the Board should wait to assess the noise levels again until all agreed upon work has been completed by the rail yard, reassuring its completion. Board agreed to wait until the 15th to perform further testing, Richard stated he would try to take some readings at Doreen's house as well as inside the home with the doors and windows shut.

7:56 p.m., Doreen and Robert left.

Board discussed the proposed nuisance law once again. Richard stated he has problems with this proposal; he does not feel that anyone should arbitrarily go out and enforce these regulations. Diane stated she needed to get back to the town manager with some response, and asked that Sherry and Richard notify her with comments that she can forward to Blythe.

8:04 p.m., Al Holman arrived.

Board discussed the railroad issues with Al.

Motion four – Richard made a motion to adjourn and Al seconded the motion. Sherry made the motion unanimous and the meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Tiernan, Asst. Public Health Supervisor