



TOWN OF WESTBOROUGH MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF HEALTH

FORBES MUNICIPAL BUILDING
45 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 25
WESTBOROUGH, MA 01581-1916

BOARD OF HEALTH MONTHLY MEETING

TEL. (508) 366-3045
FAX (508) 366-3047

Tuesday

September 15, 2009
Forbes Municipal Bldg., Room 24
5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Meeting (7/21/09)
2. Director's Reports (7/09 & 8/09)
3. Sanitarian's Reports (7/09 & 8/09)
4. Health Inspector's Reports (7/09 & 8/09)

New Business

- A. Geothermo Well Fees - 5:45 p.m.
- B. Dump Sticker Fee Report
5. Director's Issues
6. Adjourn



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Minutes of Board of Health Meeting
September 15, 2009

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The regular Board of Health meeting was held on Tuesday, September 15, 2009, in room 24 in the Forbes Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Reh. Those present were Members Ehrlich and Federici, Director McNulty, Sanitarian Baccari, and Inspector Gilchrist. Bills and payroll were signed.

Minutes of meeting held on July 21, 2009, were reviewed and approved.

Director's reports (July and August 2009) were discussed and approved. An update was given on 11 Bowman Street. A motion was filed in housing court today and there is a court date of September 25th. A constable will serve papers to the homeowner tomorrow (the homeowner is still in Westboro Health Care Center). The Town will pursue three quotes for the clean up of the property.

Sanitarian's reports (July and August 2009) were discussed and approved. The closure of the pool at the Courtyard by Marriott was discussed. The pool's drain did not comply with the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool and Spa Safety Act that was passed in December. A pool company that Courtyard has hired is trying to fix the problem and the work is still in progress.

Health Inspector's reports (July and August 2009) were discussed and approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Geothermal Well Fees - 5:45 p.m. - Mr. and Mrs. McGee

The Board met with Shaun and Barbara McGee, 9 Hundreds Rd. Mr. and Mrs. McGee are building a new home on Mt. Pleasant Street and are installing a geothermal heating and cooling system. Three bore holes to operate the system have to be drilled. Each bore hole will be approximately 400 feet deep. Since the holes won't contain water or provide water, the McGee's are seeking an exemption from the Town's fees and permits. The Board considers bore holes as wells. A fee of \$200.00 is currently required for each well.

Mr. McGee described the project. The geothermal system they are installing is known as a "closed loop system". The system requires three holes and each hole will be approximately 420 feet deep. The theory behind the system is to allow the earth to appropriately to heat or cool the fluid that is in the closed loops to bring it into the house to utilize the geothermal system properly. Each bore hole will be filled with gravel; the holes will not produce any water. The top of each loop will be five feet below the surface level and each hole will be covered. He stated that they also plan to install an irrigation well and they understand there will be a \$200 permit fee for that well and they do not have an issue with that. Because the bore holes are not wells (they will not contain water or provide water), they should be exempt from the fees and permits pertaining to wells. Mrs. McGee added that according to the contractor, bore holes are not wells.

Director McNulty referenced a DCR memo that the BOH recently received. In the memo, the state agency considers geothermal wells (both open and closed loop) as "wells" and requires the contractor/driller to register the geothermal wells with the State.

Director McNulty said the plans for geothermal systems should be reviewed just like plans are reviewed for irrigation wells. Setbacks for property lines, the driveway, sewer lines, etc. have to be considered. Regulations and fees specific to geothermal wells will have to be formulated.

Chairman Reh asked if someone submitted plans for an irrigation well and a drinking water well, would that require two fees? Director McNulty answered yes; \$200 for each hole.

In response to a question from Member Federici, Director McNulty said the review process for this particular type of geothermal system would not be as extensive as a review for an irrigation well or drinking water well.

Mrs. McGee explained that the loops are contained in tubing that is guaranteed to last for many years.

Director McNulty said there should be a permit process for the geothermal systems. The Board could consider a fee either based on the system or the number of holes. These types of systems are new to him. He expects to see more geothermal systems installed in the future.

In response to a question from Chairman Reh, Mrs. McGee said the project is just getting started.

Member Ehrlich said the Board can set a fee tonight; a policy will be an issue for another meeting. He proposed a fee for the system be equal to the fee for one well.

Chairman Reh agreed with the proposal, in lieu of not having a policy in place at this time.

Member Ehrlich made a motion to reduce the fee for the geothermal system from \$600 for three holes to \$200 for one. Member Federici seconded the motion; the vote was unanimous.

Chairman Reh commented he would like to see some benchmarking against other towns to see how they manage the geothermal systems. He would like to formulate a policy because he feels the Board will be seeing more of these systems. It promotes green technology.

The Dump Sticker Fee Report will be discussed at next month's meeting.

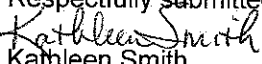
Directors' Issues

According to reports he has received, Director McNulty said shipments of the H1N1 vaccine are suppose to arrive sometime next month. Students in the Westborough school system will be the first to receive the vaccine. A clinic will then be held for Westborough residents.

A seasonal flu clinic has been scheduled for October 26th at the Senior Center from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be October 13, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Smith
Administrative Assistant