



TOWN OF WESTMINSTER
11 South Street
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01473
(978) 874-7409 • Fax (978) 874-7462

BOARD OF HEALTH

Board of Health Meeting Minutes – July 20, 2022 – 4:30 pm

Board of Health members in attendance: Ed Simoncini, Chairman, Dr. Michael Popik, Matt Pearson, Abigail Conlin, Assistant Health Agent, Elizabeth Penney, Administrative Assistant

Others in attendance: Heather Billings, Selectboard member, Jerry Powers

Mr. Simoncini called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

Revised minutes for June 1 approved and signed.

New Business:

Revised Residential Kitchen Application – Mr. Simoncini made a motion to accept the revised application with the fee removed from the application. Seconded by Mr. Pearson. Motion passed. Ms. Conlin suggested updating and streamlining the Board of Health fee schedule. Mr. Simoncini noted a food inspection time study was completed several years ago. Review and discussion of the fee schedule will be on agenda for an upcoming Board meeting.

Discussion – Process of review and consideration of updates to current Septic Regulations; process of review and consideration of changes to current Well Regulations; final signature approval on septic and well applications and permit. Mr. Simoncini reviewed with the Board members suggested changes to the Septic and Well regulations as well as a suggestion that all permits to be signed by the Board of Health.

Title 5 Reports - Ms. Conlin noted a back log of Title 5 reports from a few of the Title 5 inspectors. Ms. Conlin has verbally notified the inspectors. Ms. Conlin will draft a letter

Old Business:

PFAS Update – The Board of Health received several letters from MassDEP regarding status Mass Natural Fertilizer Company. MassDEP has suspended the company's permit to operate.

Mr. Simoncini reviewed his draft response to resident Michelle Burt regarding her concerns on the proposed 10 Lot subdivision in the Bean Porridge Hill Road. Heather Billings commented on the hydrogeologist study and gathering information to determine if a possible moratorium on well drilling in the PFAS area could be considered.

Board Concerns – Wells at 6 Rock Maple Lane and 22 Rock Maple Lane have gone dry. An application to drill a new well at 6 Rock Maple has been approved and a new well is scheduled to be drilled on July 21st. Mr. Simoncini reviewed conversations with MassDEP regarding PFAS contaminated soil from the



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drilling of new wells. Mr. Simoncini indicated the well drillers must apply for a UIC permit. Mr. Simoncini does not believe the well drilling can move forward for two reasons: the MassDEP requirements for the UIC permit and the well driller did not provide the correct GPS coordinates. The Interim Health Agent approved and signed the well permit application.

Mr. Pearson made a motion and Dr. Popik amended the motion as follows: to authorize the Interim Health Agent to make a best judgement on whether to move forward with well permits in the PFAS contaminated area after the Health Agent consults with MassDEP and that all regulations and recommendations from the Board of Health and MassDEP be followed including a UIC permit. Mr. Pearson seconded the amended motion. Motion passed.

Interim Health Agent Update - The food permit fee schedule review will be tabled to a future meeting. Ms. Conlin reviewed the Waste Management odor training and will schedule a tour of the landfill in the fall. Ms. Conlin did an inspection of the semi-public pool at Recovery Centers of America. RCA will attend a Board meeting to request a variance for the pool testing frequency.

Public Comment - Mr. Gerry Powers addressed the Board regarding concerns regarding perc tests. Board members explained the process of the perc tests and clarification on perc tests that may be cancelled.

Mr. Powers is requesting information regarding a site visit conducted at 1 Virginia Avenue by the Conservation Agent and the former Health Agent in late May 2022. Mr. Simoncini noted the Health Agent provided an email summary of the site visit. Ms. Penney will forward the email summary to Mr. Powers as requested. Mr. Powers expressed his concern on the proposed development of 1 Virginia Avenue parcel of land. Mr. Simoncini reviewed the current status of the property and noted that the engineer and developer have not submitted any revised plans or requests to come before the Board.

Motion made by Mr. Pearson to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Simoncini. Meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Edward Simoncini

Dr. Michael Popik

Matthew Pearson