



## TOWN OF WESTMINSTER

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

### BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes for May 19, 2021

Board of Health Meeting, Room 205, 4:30 p.m.

**In Attendance:** Board of Health members Dr. Michael Popik, Chairman, Mr. Ed Simoncini, Ms. Ann Loree, Health Agent, Elizabeth Penney, Administrative Assistant, Mike Kunce, Waste Management, Peter Richer, Waste Management, Thomas Murray, Waste Management, Mark Archibald, Ryan Laliberte, Cynthia Laliberte, Dr. Todd Stuart, Superintendent, Ashburnham/Westminster School District, Ally Law, Nurse Manager, Ashburnham/Westminster School District

Dr. Popik called meeting to order at 4:30 pm.

#### New Business:

##### **24 Bourgeois Lane – Mr. Mark Archibald -**

Mr. Archibald is requesting to add three rooms to the basement. Ms. Loree reviewed the request and provided a summary of current room count, proposed room count and the septic system capacity. Currently has a four bedroom septic system with a total of seven rooms in the house. Proposed plan includes common area, kitchenette, and office in the basement. Board members reviewed the room layout. It was determined the addition would set room count at nine and bedroom count at five. Mr. Simoncini stated a four bedroom Deed restriction will resolve the issue. Ms. Loree will send Mr. Archibald the deed restriction template. Mr. Archibald will review the two options to either submit a new plan revising the basement layout or filing a Deed Restriction and will inform Ms. Loree of his decision.

##### **Waste Management – Site Assignment/Site Suitability – Mr. Thomas C. Murry, District Manager, Central/Western MA Transfer Stations and Landfills**

Waste Management representatives reviewed and explained the process of providing a letter to the Board of Health outlining the payment of Site Assignment Technical and Public Hearing fees. Mr. Murray noted Waste Management is required to include a letter outlining the costs with the Site Assignment application. Estimated costs for technical fees and Public Hearing fees were reviewed.

Mr. Simoncini provided a summary of the process in which Waste Management arranges the logistics for the Public Hearing. The Board of Health agrees to the Public Hearing date and time. Board of Health agrees to be present at the Public Hearing.

Mr. Simoncini made a motion to approve Dr. Popik to sign the letter as presented by Waste Management pertaining to payment of Site Assignment technical and Public Hearing fees. Dr. Popik seconded the motion. Motion passed.



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#### **Discussion - Tick Infestation – Ms. Cynthia Laliberte and Mr. Ryan Laliberte**

Ms. Laliberte explained concern regarding tick infestation at the baseball field, hiking trails and trails to the fields at the various schools. Ms. Laliberte would like the fields at the schools sprayed for ticks. Dr. Popik noted at the Town Meeting several years ago that the town was not in favor of spraying for mosquitos.

Dr. Todd Stuart, Superintendent, Ashburnham/Westminster School District addressed the Board regarding the current tick infestation. Mr. Stuart noted the administration is aware of the issue; the facilities department will work to ensure the grass in the fields is kept short. On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, Mosquito Squad will do a peppermint oil based spray, non-toxic treatment at all five schools. Dr. Stuart noted the spraying is a short-term solution as the school year will end in a few weeks. The administration will pursue a longer term solution over the summer. Dr. Stuart noted the administration takes the health and safety of students seriously. Dr. Stuart expressed sincere thanks to the Board of Health members and staff for their communication and efforts in working together during the past year. Nurse Allie Law commented on the collaborative effort and thanked Board members and staff for their assistance.

#### **Health Agents Update:**

**COVID Updates –** Ms. Loree reviewed Governor Baker's order dated May 17<sup>th</sup> to lift COVID restrictions effective May 29<sup>th</sup> and end the State of Emergency as of June 15<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Loree reviewed the decrease in hospitalizations and deaths in the State.

Ms. Loree noted one case in town.

Ms. Loree and Ms. Conlin, Assistant Health Agent will visit restaurants to inform of changes to the COVID restrictions.

**Recovery Centers of America –** Ms. Loree provided update regarding request for state to follow up on COVID protocol issues and complaints. The State will not go on site at the facility; however, the response received did confirm that State will implement disciplinary action for RCA supervisors not

**Rubbish complaint –** A complaint was received regarding Waste Management trucks spilling rubbish on Route 31.



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**Crocker Pond Beach Testing** - Riley Billings has been hired as the beach sampler for Crocker Pond.

**Intern update** – Sarah Dubois has been hired to continue work on the well project that was started in 2019. Mr. Simoncini reviewed the procedures outlined by the former intern for the well project. Mr. Simoncini discussed deliverables and timeframe for project. Sarah Dubois will start week of May 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Online Software Programs** – Ms. Loree reviewed Health Space software program features and set costs to include \$18,000 for set up and custodial fee of \$6,000. Ms. Loree will follow up with Health Space to set up a presentation for the Board members.

**White Pine Drive** – Ms. Loree provided overview of water run off issue between 24 White Pine Drive and Lot 13 White Pine Drive. Ms. Loree was on site to view the issue. The storm drains are not connected yet. The well for Lot 13 was approved in 2019 by the former Health Agent. Ms. Loree is communicating with Mr. Carlson regarding the issue.

**New Desk** – Ms. Loree notified the Board of new desk was ordered by Mr. Hawke. The \$1,230 will be coming out of BOH budget.

**Complaint** - Ms. Loree reviewed complaint from a Lake Drive East resident regarding dog excrement near his well from a neighbor's dog. Ms. Loree suggested to the resident to test well for contaminants.

**Board Concerns** – Mr. Simoncini addressed concern regarding communication of issues that will be discussed at a Board meeting. Board members reviewed and discussed with staff the communication process, procedure for developing agenda items, time management of discussion at meetings, and inclusion of unresolved topics on the agenda. Motion made by Dr. Popik to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Simoncini.

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 pm.

Dr. Michael Popik

Edward Simoncini

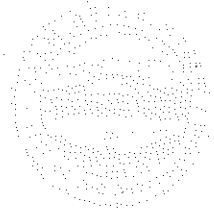
**Attachments:**

24 Bourgeois Terrace letter of request, proposed plans

Waste Management Letter – Payment Site Assignment Technical and Public Hearing Fees

Letter of Request to Address the BOH – Cynthia Laliberte

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