



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

2/1/2023

Members Present: Mr. Ed Simoncini, Chairman, Dr. Michael Popik, Mr. Matthew Pearson (via Team Meets), Ms. Abigail Conlin, Health Agent, and Ms. Stephanie Wiseman, Administrative Assistant.

Others Present: Mr. Sean Morrison/Ms. Christine Gentry- 61B Old Oak Ave, Mr. Kevin Quinn, engineer, Quinn Engineering; Mr. Jerry Powers- 3 Virginia Ave., Attorney George Hailer/ Mass Naturals, Heather Billings, 29 Bacon Street., Mr. Larry Lessard, LSP

Call to Order

4:30 pm meeting is called to order by Mr. Ed Simoncini, Chair.
No other recording are taking place.

Sign Minutes

No minutes to sign

Hearings

➤ **61B Old Oak Ave**

- Request to lift seasonal deed restriction on tight tank.
- Permit issued for tight tank 2020

Ms. Abigail Conlin notes tight tank was done in 2020. Owners would like to lift the seasonal use restriction on this property. The owners registered the bedroom restriction and the tight tank restriction. They had not yet done the seasonal restriction. Mr. Simoncini notes that there is a 2 bedroom home based on the assessors report. There was much back and forth regarding the property. Mr. Simoncini would like the property be brought to title 5 regulations. Mr. Kevin Quinn, engineer states that there is no way that there could be a regular septic system on this plot of land. It was noted that the property is seasonal because of the tight tank. Under the best circumstances- you would need more land. 2 issues- need to prove it will not hold a regular system, and an inspection that it is only 1 bedroom. Move to next meeting on February 15- 2023.

➤ **6 Lake Drive West**

- Request for extension of Septic Permit issued, no work has begun since approval.

Owner would like a year's extension. Mr. Simoncini makes a motion to approve the extension, Mr. Pearson (roll call vote) seconds the vote, all in favor. 3-0 Unanimous

Approvals

➤ **Well and Septic Regulations / Public Hearing**

- Set new date for public hearing

Mr. Ed Simoncini has a conflict with the date of the hearing, he suggested Mr. Matt Pearson, and Dr. Michael Popik move forward without him. Dr. Michael Popik believes that it should be continued instead. They will open the meeting and continue it, with a new date. It needs to be clearly noted on the agenda that it will be moved to February 22, 2023 at 4:30 pm.

New Business

➤ **Opening of Emergency shelter**

- Discussion and review of call list and checklists.

Ms. Abigail Conlin asks Dr. Michael Popik for any feedback on the shelter that was opened last week. Dr. Popik states that it was very lax upon arrival. Only one person showed up and then left. They were planning a meeting to open a warming center. Ms. Conlin noted that moving forward there will be a better line of communication.

Other Business

➤ **PFAS updates**

- LSP of Record, Larry Lessard and Attorney George Hailer from Mass Natural for questions/discussions



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Mr. Ed Simoncini was questioning if after the moratorium and PFAS is found, will it be the Town's responsibility of Mass Naturals. It will be done on a case by case. There was much discussion on the well moratorium and what will happen, and how should we proceed with applications once it's over. Moratorium ends May 3, 2023. Atty George Hailer stated that there are 170 poeT systems that have been installed and hopes for more to be installed soon. They are working on the long term goal of getting the water lines for homes on Bean Porridge or Potatoe Hill. It's the best way to say, they are in process of working on it. Once the moratorium is over how do we move forward? We have 3 months to come up with a process for each part of the PFAS zones. Attorney Hailer has some questions regarding water tests of the homes before the PFAS was detected or the POET systems were installed. It was suggested that they put in Records request with the Town Clerks Office in order to get the data in a timely fashion. Mr. Ed Simoncii stated that there has been some hold up with SoilX turning things in to the office. Ms. Abigail Conlin stated there is a difference in the newer spreadsheets, than the older ones. There is a well that was drilled on the last sheets but it is no longer named or on the spreadsheet now. Just looking for some direction on how to proceed with then. The board has asked for some help with getting them in compliance. Mr. Larry Lessard stated he would be more than happy to try and fix the kink in the system. The board ended that discussing by thanking Mr. Larry Lessard, and Atty. George Hailer for their time.

➤ Unipay and fee schedule

- Discuss edits and possibly vote to recommend fee changes to Select Board

Ms. Abby Conlin states she will update the pay schedule for our next meeting.

➤ Short Term Rentals- updates from Town Counsel/Town Administrator

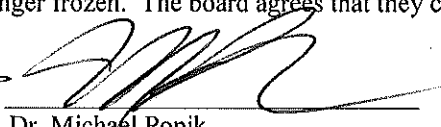
Dr. Popik sent out some information to look over. Should be just look over them, and let them follow state regulations. Is it easier to allow the state to do it? There are too many things to regulate, in too many categories, things need to be thought about. Will table to next meeting.


Board Concerns- no concerns from the board.

Health Agent and Assistant Health Agent Updates

Ms. Abby Conlin received a response regarding trash in the back of a truck. The land owner states they will fix it in the spring when it is no longer frozen. The board agrees that they can work on it in the spring.


Edward Simoncini


Dr. Michael Popik


Matthew Pearson

Date: 2/15/2023

Attachments:

61 Old Oak Ave
6 Lake Drive West
Wells/Septic
Emergency Shelter