



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

Meeting Minutes
March 27, 2023
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING @ 1:30 P.M.
WESTMINSTER TOWN HALL, ROOM 222

In Attendance: Mr. Ed Simoncini, Chair, Dr. Michael Popik, Ms. Abigail Conlin, Health Agent, Ms. Stephanie Wiseman, Administrative Assistant, Mr. Robert Carpenter, Assistant Health Agent

In Attendance via Team Meets: Mr. Matt Pearson

Call to Order

March 27th, 2023 at 1:30 pm in room 222

We are recording for purpose of meeting minutes.

Approvals

➤ Flu Vaccines & MPH N

- Discuss and vote whether to allow MPH N to purchase/hold the flu vaccines

Ms. Conlin explained that MPH N is purchasing enough flu vaccines to run 2 clinics for us. They can purchase, hold, and administer the vaccine. Which means that we would no longer need to purchase through Sanofi, saving approximately \$10,000. Dr. Popik asked if this would be just flu or could it also include the covid vaccine. MPH N will also be receiving state covid vaccines. Mr. Simoncini asked if someone is not insured would they still be vaccinated. Ms. Conlin will ask MPH N. Mr. Simoncini stated that he would like it to continue to be that no one is turned away. Dr. Popik makes a motion to approve going with MPH N for the purchase of our flu vaccine for the 2 flu clinics, on the condition that they will not turn anyone away. Mr. Simoncini seconds the motion.

Mr. Matt Pearson "aye",

Dr. Michael Popik "aye", and

Mr. Simoncini "aye"

All in favor. 3-0 Unanimous. Approved

➤ Public Hearing

- Discuss and vote on whether to hold a public hearing for the continuation of the well moratorium

Mr. Simoncini notes we will be voting on the well moratorium extension during the 2nd meeting in April, he suggests if we think the well moratorium will not be extended we should hold a public hearing, if we think it will be extended there is no need to hold a hearing as it seems 100% of the residents want the extension of the well moratorium. Dr. Popik thinks listening to the public is important and unless there is some scientific data to stop it, he feels it should be extended maybe 6 months. Mr. Pearson would like it



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extended a little bit, maybe 60 to 90 days until we get a procedure in place. He feels if the moratorium goes too long it could open up a legal issues. If there are procedures in place, why continue it. Well drillers can take precautions, installers can do the same. Mr. Simoncini thinks it should be extended as Dr. Popik would like some solid evidence, and town counsel thinks the longer we keep it extended we could end up in legal issues with the "regulatory taking of property". Dr. Popik also believes if we do not extend it we will be just as likely to be in legal issues. Either way we could end up with legal issues.

Mr. Simoncini had a list of people we might want to invite to this hearing if we have one. Mr. Pearson doesn't believe we should be inviting specific people as they will probably not attend. They have had months of meetings to attend, and have not, and does not seem to think we need this hearing. He thinks there aren't a lot of people looking to drill wells, but we need to make some decisions soon. Mr. Simoncini gets the impression that the Board favors the moratorium being extended however the 3 of them, however the amount of time is different across the Board. So making the decision to extend the moratorium should be done at our regular scheduled meeting. Mr. Simoncini moves to make a motion to not have the public hearing. Dr. Popik seconds the motion.

Mr. Simoncini "aye"

Mr. Pearson "aye",

Dr. Popik "aye"

All in favor. 3-0 Unanimous. Approved

Adjournment

Mr. Ed Simoncini moves to adjourn, Dr, Popik seconds the motion.

Mr. Simoncini "aye"

Mr. Pearson "aye"

Dr. Popik "aye"

All in favor. 3-0 Unanimous. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 2:06 pm.

Edward Simoncini

Dr. Michael Popik

Matthew Pearson

Date: 4/5/23