



TOWN OF WESTMINSTER
11 South Street
WESTMINSTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01473
(978) 874-7409 • Fax (978) 874-7460
BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 18, 2015 BOH MEETING

Board of Health Members in Attendance: Andrea Crete Chairman, Edward Simoncini, Peter Munro Health Agent Wibby Swedberg; Assistant Health Agent Rita McConville; Administrative Assistant Joyce Lucander; Dan & Geraldine Mason, 56 Shore Ave; Resident Charles Rountree.

4:35 p.m. Peter announced that the meeting was open and was being recorded by Joyce.

Voucher was approved and signed by the Board for Joyce February gas mileage.

Voucher for Medicare bill for revalidation application was not signed by the Board. They were all in agreement that more information was needed on the fee. Questions the Board had were: does the Town already have an account with Medicare through the Fire Dept. for ambulance fees? Does the Fire Dept. have to pay an additional fee or can they be combined for the town? Did the bill have an envelope to see what agency sent it? Also, why did the Fire Department receive the bill and not the Board of Health? Chief Kevin Nivala stopped in the office last Friday and delivered the letter regarding revalidation. Kevin discussed with Joyce that this was a time sensitive bill and to let Wibby know if she has any questions to call him. The Board asked Wibby to discuss with Kevin and Karen Murphy. The Board would be willing to come in another time to sign the voucher once their questions are answered. Wibby told the Board the payment to pay Medicare would come out of the Revolving Account. The fee is due as part of the revalidation process for Medicare which will happen every 5 years. Medicare reimburses the town for flu vaccine shots that seniors receive at flu clinics.

4:53 Agents update:

1. 21 Harrington Road the family is gone. Rita will be sending a letter to the owner to secure the building.
2. The budget is on track.
3. Selectmen's Quarterly Report from Departments. Wibby had given Selectmen the Minutes with attachments and our monthly inspection reports. The Minutes were given back to us as they already receive the Minutes. Wibby asked for input for future Quarterly Reports.
4. Wibby has been coming in to work between 8:30 & 9:00 due to family responsibilities; and working through the lunch hour; just wanted the Board to know.
5. Next meeting on March 4th Dave Macchia will attend to discuss his company, Mosquito Squad. The following meeting on March 18th the State will come in to discuss the Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project. Wibby asked the Board if they would like the Selectmen invited to attend.
6. Wyman's Automotive follow-up. Wibby spoke with OSHA. If workers are the owners and there are no employees OSHA said they have no jurisdictions. The garage is using a porta john out back and bottled water. The Board asked Wibby to do a site visit for follow-up. See if any running water is on site, and if they have a flushable toilet. A concern the Board has is if someone would get splashed by a chemical such as battery acid how you would get water on the area. Wibby will do a site visit and ask the owner to attend a Board meeting to discuss a timeframe for putting in the tight tank for septic and having well water tested for VOCs.

5:00 p.m. Dan Nason presented to the Board the septic plan designed by Chris Mossman, Trowbridge Engineering for 56 Shore Ave, owner Geraldine Nason. Variance requests for septic system and new well to serve a proposed reconstructed house:

1. Septic setback from neighbors well: 100 feet required, 83 feet proposed.
2. Well setback from wetlands: 100 feet required, 32 feet proposed.
3. Leaching facility setback from the pond: 100 feet required, 72 feet proposed.



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The Board looked over the septic design. Dan explained to the Board there are 2 existing 2 bedroom homes that will be demolished. The new home will be built with a 3 bedroom septic. Ed made a condition to have the neighbor's well water tested. Wibby will let Chris Mossman know to have a Title 5 scan done on the well water. The Board explained having a baseline well water test will protect them in the future. Peter made the motion to approve the variance with Wibby's confirmation. Ed seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The Board reviewed the Massachusetts Cancer Registry's Report for 2006-2010. They discussed the Observed and Expected case counts in Westminster. The two types of cancer that had a statistically significant higher incident rate were Melanoma of the Skin in females: 3.9 expected, 11 cases observed, and Oral Cavity & Pharynx Cancer in females: 1.4 expected, 5 observed. The Board was interested in obtaining data to see if the cancer cases lived in a specific area in town. Wibby looked into this in the past and was told that information was not available to Boards of Health.

5:30 p.m. Boards Concerns:

Ed questioned the septic loan being paid back by the first applicant. He was concerned that this meant they had not really needed the loan. Wibby said the retired couple had contacted a bank to re-finance so they could remain living in town. The bank required a Title 5 inspection be done on their septic as part of the re-financing requirements. The septic system failed the inspection. So they were turned down for re-financing. They used the septic loan to replace their septic system and afterwards re-applied to the bank. This time they were approved and the bank paid off the septic loan to the town as part of the re-financing. That money will now be available to loan out again.

5:34 p.m. Ed made a motion to adjourn. Peter seconded the motion. All were in favor.

5:34 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Andrea Crete

Peter Munro

Edward Simoncini

Andrea Crete, Chairman

Peter Munro

Edward Simoncini

Minutes were signed by Board members on 3/4/2015 Original signatures on file in BOH office.

Attachments:

Management Report BOH Budget 1/31/2015

Westminster Observed & Expected Case Counts, with Standardized Incidence Ratios, 2006-2010