



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

MINUTES FOR MARCH 18, 2015 BOH MEETING

Board of Health Members in Attendance: Andrea Crete Chairman, Edward Simoncini, Peter Munro; Health Agent Wibby Swedberg; Tim Deschamps, Central Mass Mosquito; Joe Flanagan & Cindy Vincent, Town Residents; Heather Billings & John Fairbanks, Selectmen; Eric Dawley, Athletic Director Oakmont High School.

4:30 p.m. Andrea announced that the meeting was open and was being recorded by Wibby

4:30 p.m. Minutes were approved and signed for March 4th.

Voucher was approved and signed by the Board for MHOA Annual Winter Seminar & MHOA Membership Renewal.

Agents Update: Nexamp Solar project in Westminster Business Park on 3 parcels. Wibby asked the Board for their input. The Board had no concerns with this project.

Board Members Concerns: None at the moment.

Animal Inspector's nomination: The Board felt it was important to confirm that the 3 inspectors had taken the Ethics training before we nominate them as Animal Inspectors. Wibby will check with the Clerk's office and contact the nominees if needed.

5:00 p.m. Timothy Deschamps, Executive Director Central Mass. Mosquito Control Project (CMMCP), gave an overview of their services. CMMCP is a Massachusetts State Agency that falls under the State Reclamation & Mosquito Control Board, an agency of the Dept. of Agricultural Resources. 40 communities in central Mass. are members with the closest to Westminster being Fitchburg, Leominster, and Lunenburg.

Services include:

1. Larval Mosquito Control. Application of larvicide in wetlands in the spring and in storm drains and catch basins in the summertime.
2. Adult Mosquito Control. Spraying from hand-help and truck mounted sprayers is only done by request only of residents or town officials or as a response to virus confirmations. Residents can request that their property be a no-spray zone. No spraying is done near fish-bearing waters or around bee hives.
3. Ditch Maintenance. In order to eliminate stagnant water maintenance is conducted on ditches, culverts and man-made ponds to increase water flow, restoring historic flow patterns.
4. Mosquito Surveillance. Traps are set out that are monitored and the mosquitos caught are tested for the type of mosquito and if carrying West Nile Virus or EEE.
5. Public Education
6. Tire Recycling Program to eliminate a mosquito habitat from the environment. At no extra cost curb-side tire collections are set up, and tires discarded on the side of the road are collected.
7. Beaver Mitigation where applicable.

Pesticides used do not affect fish or birds or other species. MSDS sheets with specific data on the pesticides used will be available in the Board of Health office.

Cost for a city or town to become a member of the Mosquito Control Project is determined by the Dept. of Revenue and is calculated from a combination of equalized evaluations and the total land area of each town. This amount is withheld from the local aid package sent out (State Cherry Sheet) by the State each year. The approximate assessment for the town of Westminster for FY/16 is \$75,000. This is an annual cost.



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Membership for the town would be by majority vote at an Annual Town Meeting. It is too late to get on the warrant for this year. A School District could not join the Mosquito Control Project- it is set up by the state for cities and towns.

Discussion included starting a dialogue with residents via an information sheet titled "What's this gonna do for me?" available at the Annual Town Meeting, talking to other town Boards and committees, speaking with the new Superintendent of schools, holding information sessions with Timothy Deschamps.

6:30 p.m. Peter made a motion to adjourn. Ed seconded the motion. All were in favor

6:30 p.m. Meeting adjourned.

Andrea Crete

Edward Simoncini

Andrea Crete, Chairman

Peter Munro

Edward Simoncini

Minutes were signed by Board members on 4/15/2015 Original signatures on file in BOH office.

Attachments:

Site plan review 26 Theodore Drive Solar panels covering three lots.

Appendix A Application for site plan approval , Section 5400 of the Westminster Zoning By-Law for 26 Theodore Drive.

Central Mass Mosquito Control Project information packet.

January & February 2015 inspections done by Wibby & Rita.