

BOARD OF HEALTH
April 28, 2020
Minutes
Meeting Conducted on Zoom

PRESENT

Health Agent: Bruce Wilson, Jr.
Chairperson: Vincent Forte, Jr.
Vice Chairperson: Patricia Leclair
Member: Kelly McGovern
Minutes Clerk: Tina Griffin

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Forte called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

MINUTES

Ms. McGovern made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2020 meeting, as submitted.
Ms. Leclair seconded and the motion carried.

CORONA VIRUS UPDATES

Mr. Wilson gave an update on the COVID-19 virus and current number of cases in Town, as well as number of people that have recovered from the virus so far. Mr. Wilson informed everyone that as of yesterday, April 27th, it is mandatory for people over age 5 to wear a mask or some type of face covering when in Public. Store Management and Board members will be monitoring establishments to make sure the proper precautions are being taken.

The Town currently holds a COVID-19 Live Local Emergency Meeting Update at 10:00 am Monday through Friday on the Local Government ABMI Channel. This broadcast is also replayed at 7:00 pm each night. Please check the Town website for news and updates as they become available.

OLD BUSINESS

EARTH DAY CLEAN-UP EVENT

The Earth Day Clean-Up event has been successful so far. Volunteers have been picking up trash / litter on streets and sending pictures to the Board. Originally, the Clean-Up event was scheduled for Saturday, April 25th. Due to the current pandemic and social distancing, this was not an option. Instead, Board members are asking that residents participate in a Clean-Up event during the month of April. Residents are being asked to designate some time to pick up trash / litter on their own streets and sidewalks in Town. T-Shirts were printed and if you call the office to let people know you will be participating and picking up trash on your street and share pictures with the office, they will provide you with a complimentary Earth Day T-Shirt. Ms. McGovern told the Board that she was out delivering T-Shirts this past weekend for supporters that were out there picking up litter. This event is still going on and Ms. McGovern will continue to post information and updates since the weather is finally starting to cooperate.

HEALTH AGENT UPDATES

NEW AND PREVIOUS COMPLAINTS

Mr. Wilson discussed new and previous complaints that have come into the Board of Health office since the last meeting, held on April 21, 2020. A majority of the recent complaints have been due to people not wearing masks in Public places. The Board is hopeful that these complaints will slow down now that the Town mandated masks to be worn in Public.

FOOD INSPECTIONS

Food Inspector, Robert Griffin III, has been working with a company called Food Code Pro in order to get information on the Food Inspection software they sell. Mr. Wilson and Mr. Griffin had a phone conversation with this company before tonight's meeting and Mr. Wilson has talked to other Towns which also use this software. Mr. Wilson said the software has great features and could be very beneficial to the Board when a complaint or Code Violation comes up at an establishment. Mr. Griffin also discussed the possibility of applying for a Grant for this software and will be getting more information about that tomorrow afternoon. More details will be provided at the next Board of Health meeting, scheduled for Tuesday, May 5th.

DISCUSSION

PUBLIC RELATIONS POLICY

Ms. McGovern discussed the possibility of putting a Public Relations Policy into effect by the Board. The Board agreed this would be beneficial to make sure media would only be getting any requested information in writing and not by talking to people individually.

Ms. McGovern said she will have a draft available for the next Board of Health meeting so this can be the media Policy going forward.

HEATING OIL TANKS

Mr. Forte would like to revisit the discussion of having home heating oil tanks checked regularly to make sure they are in good and usable condition. Board members agreed that this should be put on a future meeting agenda for discussion, after the COVID-19 pandemic is over.

BILLS

Ms. McGovern made a motion to pay \$150 to Bruce Wilson, Jr. for Professional Services. Her motion was seconded by Ms. Leclair and carried.

PLANS

5-7 PLAIN STREET

A septic design plan for 5-7 Plain Street was reviewed by the Board.

Ms. McGovern made a motion to approve the plan with the following local upgrade requests that were reviewed and verified by the Health Agent, Mr. Wilson:

- Request a setback to the septic tank and pump chamber to be 2' from the property line where 10' is required per 310 CMR 15.405(1)
- Request a setback from the Soil Absorption System to the foundation slab to be 5' where 10' is required per 310 CMR 15.405(1)(b)
- Request a reduction of setback from the Soil Absorption System to the isolated wetlands to be 35' where 50' is required per 310 CMR 15.405(1)(e)

Ms. Leclair seconded and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. McGovern made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 pm. Her motion was seconded by Ms. Leclair and carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina M. Griffin
Tina M. Griffin

NEXT MEETING IS MAY 5, 2020 AT 7:00 PM