

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Meeting Minutes
November 3, 2020 at 7:00 pm
Remote Meeting via Zoom Video

PRESENT

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

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Leclair called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

MINUTES

Ms. McGovern made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2020 meeting, as submitted. Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

CORONA VIRUS UPDATES

Health Agent, Bruce Wilson, Jr. gave an update on the COVID-19 cases in Town. The number of active cases has been on a slow incline over the past few weeks. As of last week, the Town was considered “high risk” due to the number of new positive cases that have been confirmed. Mr. Wilson told Board members that if the Town stays in “high risk” status, they will have to consider scaling back on the number of customers allowed inside restaurants and establishments to a lesser number.

The Governor’s new orders go into effect this coming Friday, November 6th and include the following:

- All Massachusetts residents are advised to stay home between the hours of 10:00 pm and 5:00 am
- Size limit for gatherings at private residences: indoor gatherings at private residences are limited to 10 people and outdoor gatherings at private residences are limited to 25 people. The limit on gatherings held in public spaces and at event venues remains the same. All gatherings (regardless of size or location) must end and disperse by 9:30 pm.
- Face masks or cloth face coverings are required in all public places, even where they are able to maintain 6 feet of distance from others.

For more information and updates on COVID-19, please check the State website at [Mass.gov](https://www.mass.gov) and the Town website at [BellinghamMA.org](https://www.bellinghamma.org).

In addition, Bellingham Town officials will be providing a COVID-19 Live update on Comcast Access Channel 8 and Verizon channel 47 each Monday at 10:00 am.

NEW BUSINESS

ANNUAL REVIEW – HEALTH AGENT

Board members will complete their employee review forms for Health Agent, Bruce Wilson, Jr. and will email or drop off their completed forms to the office by the end of the week.

OLD BUSINESS

BODY ART LICENSE – ARIEL ROBINSON

Ms. Robinson had previously addressed the Board to ask if they would consider amending the Body Art Regulations, to allow one additional business permit in Town. Mr. Wilson told Board members that he has been reaching out to the current permit holders to see if they will be renewing their permits. So far, the businesses that he spoke to, do intend to renew their permits. Ms. McGovern told Board members that she would like Mr. Wilson to contact the couple establishments he has not heard back from before discussing this further. If one of these establishments do not renew their permit, it would be offered to Ms. Robinson and the Board would not have to consider amending the current Regulations. The Board hopes to have an update for Ms. Robinson at the next meeting, scheduled for November 17, 2020.

CBD PRODUCTS

Mr. Griffin told the Board that he is still trying to get all the information from the CCC (Cannabis Control Commission), regarding some of the questions he had about Hemp and CBD product sales. The CCC said that because these products do contain traces of Hemp and THC, they do fall under the marijuana Regulations in regard to enforcement. The Town can enforce the same fines that are currently carried with the Tobacco products. However, this would need to be discussed further, as these products usually also require a food permit since they are mostly edibles. This discussion will be continued to a future meeting, after Mr. Griffin gets more information.

TOBACCO AGENT UPDATES

Mr. Griffin told Board members that he will be going out to Tobacco retailers at the end of this week to conduct compliance checks and get updates on State license statuses. All State licenses must normally be renewed by September 30th. However, due to Covid-19, a one-month extension was put into place this year and State licenses have expired on October 31st. Mr. Griffin will be visiting retailers to make sure their licenses have been renewed by the deadline and will update the Board at the next meeting, scheduled for November 17, 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE

EMPLOYEE CALENDARS

Board members reviewed a copy of the employee calendar for the month of November.

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 October 20, 2020.

BILLS

Ms. McGovern made a motion to pay \$351.46 to W.B. Mason for office supplies. Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

BETTERMENT BILLS

Ms. McGovern made a motion to approve the Betterment Bill to Civil Site Engineering, Inc. and Jennifer Carter in the amount of \$2,250.00 for the septic system design, plans and perc testing at 41 Roy Street. Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

Ms. McGovern made a motion to approve the Betterment Bill to Colonial Engineering and Marco Mendez in the amount of \$3,750.00 for the septic system design and as-built plan at 9 Janet Street. Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

Ms. McGovern made a motion to approve the Betterment Bill to Land Planning, Inc. and Gerard Dubois in the amount of \$2,590.00 for the septic system soil test and design at 101 Westminster Avenue. Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

BETTERMENT LOANS

Chief Financial Officer, Mary MacKinnon provided Board members with information on the recent request of Betterment Loan funds. Ms. MacKinnon told the Board that as soon as she has the signed commitment, she will let them know so the Board can start approving new projects.

PLANS

96 JEANNINE ROAD

A septic design plan for 6 Jeannine Road 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:

- Allow 4'3" offset to the slab foundation from the system trenches where 10' is required per 310 CMR 15.405(1)(b)

Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

101 WESTMINSTER AVENUE

A septic design plan for 101 Westminster Avenue 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:

- Allow 9' to the slab foundation where 10' is required to the system leaching bed per 310 CMR 15.405(1)(b)
- Allow the system to be installed with a groundwater separation of 3' where 4' is required per 310 CMR 15.405(1)(h)

Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

988 SOUTH MAIN STREET

A septic design plan for 988 South Main 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:

- Allow the system to be installed with a groundwater separation of 3' where 4' is required per 310 CMR 15.405(1)(h)

Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

763 SOUTH MAIN STREET

A septic design plan for 763 South Main 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:

- Allow greater than 3' of cover over the system but less than 6'. The system will be vented, in order to supply oxygen to the leaching bed per 310 CMR 15.405 (1)(b)

Mr. Forte seconded and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Forte made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 pm. Ms. McGovern seconded and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina M. Griffin
Tina M. Griffin

The next Board of Health Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2020