

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

Approved
May 21, 2007

Board of Health Members Present:

Jason Weber, Chairman; Dr. Susan Horowitz; Robert Hanninen

Others Present:

Ben Cutone, R.S.; Debra Butcher

Meeting Called to Order:

Chairman Weber called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

Septic Permits Approved/Signed:

- *15 Sunset Road; James Monahan
- *Skyfields Drive, Lot 8; Jeffrey & Anne Larsen
- *15 Hoyts Wharf Road; David & Pam McMullen
- *158 Hill Road; Todd & Jennifer Washburn

Bills Approved/Signed:

- *Unifirst (3 invoices @ \$13.12 each)-\$39.36

124 Mill Street Present: Mr. & Mrs. Theron Truax Jr.

Mr. Truax received a certified letter from Health Agent Ben Cutone concerning a site inspection about the condition of his property. Mr. Truax was present in dispute of the complaint.

Health Agent Ben Cutone stated that a Notice of Non-Compliance was sent to Mr. Truax as follow-up to a complaint he received from the Board of Assessors' office concerning refuse and wooden pallets located on the site. Mr. Cutone stated that the site inspection was conducted on April 9, 2007 and he validated the complaint.

Chairman Weber thanked Mr. Truax for meeting with the Board and requested comments from him. Mr. Truax stated that his property contained no trash and the wooden pallets were his livelihood because he receives money for them.

Chairman Weber questioned what the area was zoned for. Health Agent Ben Cutone stated that the area was "residential-agricultural" and that he checked with the Building Department on whether Mr. Truax had a permit and he did not.

Member Hanninen stated that he drove by the property and he agreed with Mr. Truax that there was no visible trash located from the roadside. He stated that he felt there was "no Board of Health issue present" on the property.

Mr. Truax added that there were at least 400 pallets ready to be removed from the property via a truck soon.

Member Horowitz questioned how long Mr. Truax was doing this. Mr. Truax stated that it has been about two years working with these types of pallets. Member Horowitz questioned where the complaint came from. Mr. Cutone stated that he received a written complaint from the Board of Assessor's office. Debra Butcher submitted a copy of the Board of Assessors' memo for the record.

Chairman Weber concurred with Member Hanninen's assessment. He requested that Mr. Cutone

inspect the property and report back to the Board of Health, Board of Assessors' and Zoning Officer of his finding. He asked Mr. Truax if Mr. Cutone could inspect the property. Mr. Truax stated "yes".

Mr. Cutone and Mr. Truax agreed to have the site inspection on Friday, May 25, 2007 at 10:00am. Member Hanninen made a motion to continue the hearing until June 4, 2007 at 7:45pm. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Kenneth Gikas, Massachusetts Region II Public Health Emergency Preparedness
Present: William Shute

Mr. Gikas introduced himself to the Board and provided a brief introduction of what he can do for the Town of Groton for emergency preparedness. He explained the need for the Board to successfully complete additional Incident Command training mandated by the State.

Mr. Gikas provided the town with a "Go Kit" for our emergency dispensing site and explained how the Town should enroll in the Health and Homeland Alert Network.

Member Horowitz felt that the Town's Local Emergency Planning Committee was already working towards these issues and that there was redundancy with the Town.

Discussion continued regarding training requirements and which Board member completed what training. Mr. Gikas stated that he would like to meet with the Board's Health Agent and draft a template for a COOP/COG procedure for the Board of Health related items and for EDS. Health Agent Ben Cutone will set up a meeting to draft a template for the Board.

Monarch Path: Present: Mr. David Buhlman, P.E.; John Robillard, abutter

The meeting was continued from May 14, 2007 in order to provide historical land use data.

Mr. Buhlman stated that he would be meeting with the well driller today to abandon the existing well on the property. Health Agent Ben Cutone reminded Mr. Buhlman that a permit was needed from his office in order to abandon the well.

Discussion continued on the land use data provided. Member Horowitz thanked him for the information provided but requested that more research be done through the Assessors' office.

Member Hanninen stated that the Board would like them to follow all State and Local regulations for the sewage disposal system and well. The Board voted unanimously that the next steps be followed and correspondence be sent to the Planning Board:

1. Submit a completed report on the abandonment of the well.
2. Conduct more research on the historical use of the land through the Assessor's office.

The Board stated that if they had any further questions on the information submitted, they would request that Mr. Buhlman meet with them again.

OTHER BUSINESS

Outdoor Wood Burning and Refuse Regulations

The Board voted unanimously to conduct a public hearing on July 16, 2007. Debra Butcher will submit a legal notice in the newspaper.

Sewage Disposal Regulations

The Board voted unanimously to conduct a public hearing on June 18, 2007 at 7:30pm for proposed amendments.

- Summer Meeting Schedule

The Board voted unanimously to conduct meetings on the following dates during the summer months: July 16, 2007, August 20, 2007 & September 4, 2007. All meetings will begin at 7:30pm.

Town Election – May 22, 2007

Debra Butcher reminded the Board that the Town’s local election was May 22, 2007 and that Board member Robert Hanninen was seeking another three year term on the Board so “remember to vote”.

HEALTH AGENT UPDATE

105 Lost Lake Drive

Health Agent Ben Cutone stated he received a written complaint (with pictures) of this property that was also sent to the Building Department and Board of Assessors. The complaint stated that there has been a lack of progress in building the proposed structure (residence) obtained several years ago and that the site has several deteriorating tarps over building materials.

Mr. Cutone stated that it was his opinion that it was not a Board of Health issue and that it was a building department matter.

The Board voted unanimously that Mr. Cutone inspect the property from a distance and if a Board of Health issue was determined, a notice should be sent to the homeowners.

366 Lost Lake Drive

Chairman Weber will contact Town Counsel for an update on the court case.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

GROTON BOARD OF HEALTH

_____ Jason Weber, Chairman	_____ Dr. Susan Horowitz	_____ Robert Hanninen
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Respectfully submitted,
Debra A. Butcher