

August 15, 2017

Meeting opened: 7:36 P.M.
Members Present: William Morris, Chairman; Carol Johnson, Clerk; Richard Bringhurst; Stephan Schaub
Member Absent: Richard Beaugard; Mona Bissany

MOTION: made by Richard Bringhurst that the Board of Health accepts the minutes of July 18, 2017 meeting as amended. Seconded by Carol Johnson. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS.

Animal Permit Application – 505 Fisher Street:

Documents/Exhibits – Animal permit application (on file Health Department)

The Board of Health reviewed the Animal Permit application to house a maximum of 15 chickens at 505 Fisher Street. Animal Inspector, John Spillane, found no issues with the request.

MOTION: made by William Morris that regarding the Animal Permit application, 505 Fisher Street, the Board of Health approves the permit application as submitted. Seconded by Richard Bringhurst. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS.

Special Permit Application– Case #19-17, 7 Longwood Lane:

Documents/Exhibits – Special Permit Application (on file Zoning Board of Appeals); Deputy Health Agent’s summary.

The Board of Health reviewed for comment the Special Permit – 7 Longwood Lane, Case #19-17, to allow an existing 3 car garage to be converted into an in-law suite.

MOTION: made by Richard Bringhurst that with respect to request for comment from the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding the Special Permit Application – 7 Longwood Lane, the Board of Health has no concerns. Seconded by William Morris. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS.

Special Permit Application– Case #20-17, 1079 West Street:

Documents/Exhibits – Special Permit Application (on file Zoning Board of Appeals); Deputy Health Agent’s summary.

The Board of Health reviewed for comment the Special Permit – 1079 West Street, Case #20-17, to allow the addition of an in-law suite and a two car garage to an existing home to be larger than the 1,000 square feet allowed. The existing septic system installed in 2012 was designed for a maximum of four bedrooms.

MOTION: made by William Morris that the Board of Health’s comments to the Zoning Board of Appeals regarding the Special Permit Application – 1079 West Street, are that the Board of Health has no concerns with the special permit request, however, it must be noted that when the addition is complete the total number of bedrooms, or rooms that could be used as a bedroom, may not exceed four. Any increase to the number of bedrooms would require that the existing septic system be upgraded to support that increase. Seconded by Carol Johnson. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS.

Request for Determination – 21 Woodruff Road:

Documents/Exhibits – Request for Determination (on file Conservation Commission); Deputy Health Agent’s summary.

The Board of Health reviewed for comment the Request for Determination – 21 Woodruff Road, to replace a failed septic system with an upgraded system installed within the 100 foot buffer zone. Based on perc testing performed on June 27, 2017 the new system will be located 70 feet from the buffer zone.

MOTION: made by Carol Johnson that the Board of Health’s comments to the Conservation Commission regarding the Request for Determination – 21 Woodruff Road, are that the Board fully supports the proposal to upgrade and replace the failed septic system. The Board does note however, that at this time the proposed septic plan has not yet been submitted to the Health Department for review and/or approval. Seconded by Richard Bringhurst. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS.

Definitive Subdivision Plan – 26 Baker Street, 2 Lots:

Documents/Exhibits – Preliminary Subdivision Plan (on file Planning Board);

Deputy Health Agent’s summary.

The Board of Health reviewed for comment the Definitive Subdivision Plan – 26 Baker Street, to subdivide an existing 1.5 acre lot into two residential lots. The proposed road width is 16’ instead of the required 26’ with a dead end and not a cul-de-sac.

MOTION: made by William Morris that regarding the Definitive Subdivision Plan – 26 Baker Street, the Board of Health reiterates comments previously made to the Planning Board at our May 16, 2017 meeting, that the Board is not in favor of granting a waiver for street lights or sidewalks because both are necessary to promote healthy and safe outdoor activities. The Board also has concerns about the proposal to make the roadway 16’ wide, without a cul-de-sac, which would require that trash and recycling be brought out to Baker Street an already narrow and constricted roadway and that any additional barrels along it would only add to the congestion of the road. The Board would urge the developer to construct the road with a proper width that will allow for safe truck access and turn around. Seconded by Richard Bringhurst. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS.

New Business:

2017 Flu Clinic:

The Health Director informed the Board of Health that a flu clinic is scheduled for Tuesday, October 3, 2017, Walpole High School, 4:30 – 7:00 P.M.

Fall Meeting Schedule:

The Board of Health reviewed a memo from Town Clerk, Elizabeth Gaffey, stating that public meetings may not be held on any day a State or Municipal election is being held (MGL, Chapter 40A, Section 11). The Health Director said that this year’s flu clinic, State Primary and State Election fall on the Board’s regularly scheduled meeting dates for the months of September and October.

MOTION: made by William Morris that due to scheduled meeting conflicts because of election and flu clinic activities, the Board of Health will meet Tuesday, September 5th and cancel the September 19th meeting and in October meet Tuesday, October 10th only. Also, because of the Thanksgiving Holiday the Board will meet once in November Tuesday, November 7th. The Board grants to the Health Director the authority to approve all routine matters that may come before her during the abbreviated schedule. Seconded Carol Johnson. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS.

Medical Reserve Corps Fall Newsletter:

Board of Health members reviewed the MRC fall newsletter.

Coalition for Alcohol and Drug Awareness:

The Health Director informed the Board of Health about upcoming Coalition meetings scheduled for September 11th, October 25th, and November 13th.

Letter to Governor Regarding Interstate Gas Pipelines:

Board of Health members reviewed information from Massachusetts Association of Health Boards (MAHB) and the Sierra Club regarding the development of a fracked gas infrastructure (FGI) in Massachusetts and its potential health/environmental risk to communities. MAHB in their letter to the Board asked that they consider joining other Boards of Health in the State and sign a letter to Governor Baker voicing opposition to FGI development, requesting Comprehensive Health Impact Assessments (CHIAs) on any proposed or expanded FGI development and requesting that the Commonwealth invest in more renewable and efficient energy sources.

MOTION: made by Carol Johnson that the Walpole Board of Health joins other Boards of Health in Massachusetts by supporting and signing a letter to Governor Baker voicing our concerns and opposition to FGI development and requesting that the Commonwealth invest in other more renewable and efficient energy sources. Seconded by William Morris. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS.

Correspondence:

Center for Community Counseling and Education

MOTION: made by William Morris to adjourn. Seconded by Carol Johnson. VOTE: 3-0-0 UNANIMOUS. Meeting Closed: 8:05 P.M.