



Approved as
amended 3/25/21

Town of Boxford

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

March 16, 2021

NO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE - REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY

6:30PM

Virtual Participation Only

This meeting will be audio and video recorded

To View: FIOS #39; Comcast #22; BCATv website

For Directions to Participate via Zoom Click Here

ZOOM Meeting ID: 992 2391 9878

Passcode: 754592

Present: Richard Taylor, Richard Fahrner, Alex Constan, Heather Forand, Kendell Longo, Kristin Kwiatek, Lance Cluster, Susan Inman, Alan Benson, Barbara Jessel, Charles Costello, Al Vaz, Chris Olbrot, Chris Wakeman, David Conway, Richard O'Brien, Margaret Chow-Menzer, Pam Blaquiere, Liz Murphy, Scott Novack, John Shirley, Michael White, Rick Shaw, Scott Richardson, Bob Hazelwood, Mary Anne Nay

Absent: Hans Jeppesen

Meeting opened at 6:30 PM by D. Taylor

Roll call indicated that the following members of the Board of Health were present remotely: **D. Taylor, R. Fahrner, A. Constan, Heather Forand**

10 Elm Street discussion

D. Taylor stated that his plan for the meeting would be an overview of 10 Elm septic report and other information for the board followed by initial discussion by the Board only. Then it would be opened for comments by the audience and then it would go back to the Board for a possible decision and a vote.

D. Taylor read aloud a history of the proposed project including dates and that the original plan showed errors. DEP cited a flow of 35 gpd. The Board was asked to determine flow based on COA activities which would not be accurate based on statistics and data of the growth of Seniors in Boxford. **D. Taylor** said 10 Elm will be used for many other Town groups not just the COA that will add to the septic flow. **D. Taylor** stated that there are three areas that have to be considered in the flow and there are three flow options that were presented to the Board and the Board could also present another possible option. **A. Constan** and **D. Taylor** discussed their differences in the use of the rooms and such flow demands. **R. Fahrner** mentioned 310 CMR 15.203 under institutions that there are classifications and that if it is not a function room then there is nothing that room falls under so the lowest flow the Board could calculate would be 15 gpd per seat. **A. Constan** stated that DEP said it was a unique situation that would be up to the Board to defend their decision. **A. Constan** said that the seats that room should have a much lower flow than the large room. **D. Taylor** said there is an increase in flow by about 300 gpd from what was proposed and now the Board is in a position to defend what was done. **K. Longo** stated that there was not a large change in the septic system going from 1575 to 1845 gpd and wanted to know if it could slide the system back to the original test pits to avoid re-testing.

D. Taylor opened to comments from the audience.

David Conway of Nitsch engineering commented on the flows and gave a lot of data on other similar facilities and their water usage and stated that the flows are extremely low. He commented that a system does not need to be designed for everyday as a surge. The system needs to be right sized to work. Architect Scott Richardson commented. Selectman Chuck Costello commented that you run a risk with an oversized system and said 15 gpd x 90 and 10 x 31 would be fine. Town Administrator Alan Benson commented on possibly acquiring an easement. Rick Shaw commented on the drawing. Selectwoman Barbara Jessel questioned that the increase of gpd would increase Zone 1 which might be a potential issue with the abutter. **D. Taylor** stated that the priority is for the board to determine a safe flow for the building. Michael White commented that the it will be a great center but does not feel that it would for weddings and large functions. Planning Board Chair Margaret Chow-Menzer commented on the intent on usage of the halls and asked the Board to consider right sizing the system that meet the needs of the facility. **A. Constan** stated that the extra 300 gallons does not need to be added for the other room and would be in favor of 15 gpd x 90 which still gives a buffer of future use. The data from the engineer of other sites does not give him any concern. **D. Taylor** disagreed and said that they need to account for the second function room because it will be used. Selectman Costello commented questioned why the Board was not going by the engineer's proposal. **D. Taylor** called the discussion back to the Board only and stated he would like to see the 1845 gpd but would compromise to what **R. Fahrner** had said about going with 1690 gpd. **R. Fahrner** said he was a little cognizant of over sizing the system and has concern for biomat formation. **A. Constan** said he does not see a big difference between 1690 gpd and 1575 gpd and that he is in favor of 1575 gpd. **A. Constan** stated that she does not have the expertise in the field but after listening to the comments and discussions would be in favor of either 1575 gpd or 1690 gpd. **K. Longo** mentioned a possible valve being installed into the leach field or building both the primary and reserve out. **R. Fahrner** stated that no matter what decision is made with either one of the numbers the Board still does not have enough information about the lot and the facility to know that either one of the numbers would be feasible and thus may end up re-visiting the topic in the future. **D. Taylor** said the Board is deciding on a safe septic system and if a decision is made to go with 1690 gpd then let everything be figured out based on that number. **A. Constan** made a motion that the proposed design flow for 10 Elm street is as originally proposed by the design engineers for 1575 gpd seconded by **R. Fahrner**. Roll call vote **Fahrner** no, **Constan** yes, **Forand** no, **Taylor** no.

R. Fahrner made a **motion** to approve a flow of 1690 gpd for the 10 Elm Street project **A. Constan** **seconded** for discussion and propose to change the 10 gpd for the additional room to 3 gpd. **D. Taylor** stated that there will be food served and will be taken into both function rooms. Roll call vote **Constan** no, **Fahrner** aye, **Forand** aye, **Taylor** aye.

D. Taylor stated that **K. Longo** will send a provisional letter. **D. Taylor** stated that the area will be a Nitrogen sensitive area and the system most likely will have to be designed on where the Zone 2 ends up. DEP suggested a recirculating sand filter.

Adjourn 8:30pm

With no further business, on a **motion** made by **H. Forand**, **seconded** by **A. Constan**, the Board of Health voted **unanimously** with a roll call vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Kwiatek
Minutes Secretary