



Town of Boxford

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

March 25, 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: 916 7375 7733**

Passcode: 671782

Present: Richard Taylor, Richard Fahrner, Alex Constan, Heather Forand, Hans Jeppesen, Kendell Longo, Kristin Kwiatek, Lance Cluster, Pam Blaquiere, Joel Frisch, Scott Cameron, Scott Miccile, Ian Fitch

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, H. Jeppesen, H. Forand**

Minutes

Minutes were reviewed from the February 17, 2021 meeting. A **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** to accept the minutes, **seconded** by **A. Constan**. Approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

Minutes were reviewed from the March 16, 2021 meeting. A **motion** was made by **A. Constan** accept the minutes as amended, **seconded** by **R. Fahrner**. Approved unanimously by a roll call vote.

Bills

D. Taylor reviewed with the Board the current bills payable totaling \$60,261.56. A **motion** was made by **A. Constan** to accept the total bills of \$60,261.56, **seconded** by **H. Jeppesen**. **Approved** unanimously with a roll call vote.

The Willows preliminary WWTP plan

It was left at the last meeting after a good discussion the Board was ready to accept the suggestion by DEP regarding the flow of the club house and pool. **D. Taylor** mentioned the email received by the engineer with details on the pool maintenance. **R. Fahrner** was concerned about the Algaecides but there will be a condition on pool water being trucked in and out. **D. Taylor** explained that if the Board should approve the preliminary plan, they will make a series of conditions that will have to be carried all the way through in order for the Health Director to sign the Certificate of Occupancy. **A. Constan**, as a property abutter commented to the Board about the additional irrigational wells that were proposed.

A **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** to accept the preliminary small package waste water treatment plan for the Willows development **seconded** by **H. Forand**. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote. An official letter of Board acceptance of the preliminary plan will be written and sent by **K. Longo**.

Mosquito spraying opt-out

D. Taylor said that a notice was sent out last week by the Massachusetts Division of Local Services stating that if a town wanted to opt-out of spraying then the Board of Selectmen would have to hold a formal hearing to state that residents could opt-out and then there would have to be an EEA approved plan. Boxford already has a plan but **D. Taylor** expressed concern over resident's option to opt-out becoming void if the Selectmen did not move to opt-out. **D. Taylor** learned that the notice only affected an instance where the whole town would opt-out from spraying by the State. The Board mentioned that the State cannot supersede Boxford's local plan unless they declare a health emergency. **R. Fahrner** stated that the Board should schedule their annual request for tasks by the NEMMC since they are not spraying. **R. Fahrner** mentioned culvert projects. **D. Taylor** said a list should be composed by the Board and Chris Olbrot of areas to be cleaned out. **H. Forand** and **K. Longo** mentioned how informative the NEMMC's annual meeting was when they attended and **H. Forand** said that they could tap into additional services. **D. Taylor** said he would like them and Chris Olbrot to be invited to one of the Board's meetings.

Recycling/Trash issues/communication

A. Constan stated to the Board that the tagging of trash is informative and from that we have learned cardboard is not being collected because people are not putting it in their bins. Some residents through Facebook have been made aware of recycling rules. However, there are still a large number of people that do not know how to properly prepare cardboard for collection. **A. Constan** said that with JRM cardboard could be cut, bundled, and placed next to the bins and Waste Management originally did the same but now they are strictly following the contract which is causing some frustration with residents. **A. Constan** said there needs to somehow be a way to communicate this information. **D. Taylor** mentioned the mailing that the Board had planned on having sent out and paid for by Waste Management but that wouldn't be done until July. **D. Taylor** said the best way to communicate this information would be a town wide mailing. **A. Constan** said that the mailing should include the holiday change and updated recycling rules including the cardboard. **D. Taylor** suggested having a cardboard update on the home page of the Town's website and also to outline the Board's issues and suggestions and see how the Board of Selectmen could help.

Covid-19

D. Taylor said numbers are going down and that clinics are not happening in town but the Governor of Massachusetts mentioned treating homebound people in which Boxford has about a dozen homebound residents.

The Board discussed in-person meetings. **H. Forand** mentioned with the Board spaced apart there would still be a concern for enough space to accommodate attendees. **H. Forand** said she is not opposed to in person meetings but now is not the best time to have them. **D. Taylor** said in-person meeting should not be considered until Town Hall is open. **R. Fahrner** stated that if the counts keep decreasing then it would be at Phase 4 step 2 by mid-April which is almost reopening.

Memorial Day Parade discussion

A. Constan told the Board that Ian Fitch from the local American Legion was looking for the Board's input and approval for having the Memorial Day Parade this year. the plan for the parade was to block off the streets in the East Village similar to the Apple Festival and work with the Police to have social distancing on the sides of the streets. **A. Constan** said they could provide the Board with a proposed plan in order to enforce social distancing as was done in the past with other planned events. **D. Taylor** stated that there should be more updates on musical bands because there is a great deal of aerosol sprayed while using musical instruments.

Director's Report

K. Longo said that regarding the travel order which is now a travel advisory she had been asked by the Boxford Superintendents for the Board to recommend that it remain a travel order until May 7, 2021 due to April vacation. The recommendation would be made to the School Committee. **D. Taylor** said he could go along with the recommendation. **K. Longo** stated that the schools feel that parents might challenge the advisory. A **motion** was made by **A. Constan** that the Board of Health makes a recommendation to the school committee that the previous Massachusetts travel order guidelines for students stay in place until May 7, 2021 **seconded** by **D. Taylor**. **H. Forand** mentioned to the Board that if a student travels during school vacation week and then has to quarantine they do not have a remote learning option. A roll call vote was taken. **Constan no, Forand no, Fahrner no, Taylor yes**. **D. Taylor** said a letter should be written to the Superintendents that the Board had a discussion on the topic and decided to stay with the State's advisory.

Memorial Day Parade discussion continued

Resident Ian Fitch joined the meeting to hear from the Board. **D. Taylor** said that the topic was discussed and that a plan would be needed. **A. Constan** said the only concern would be bands playing instruments. **D. Taylor** said the Board would need to be provided with a written plan that would be circulated to all members to be discussed and then a decision would be made.

Director's Report continued

K. Longo said that Wayne's is requesting a wine and beer license from the Selectmen and all departments are being asked for comments or questions.

K. Longo said there is a Cole School and Spofford Pond School parking lot project and she has been invited to their advisory committee and has attended past zoom meetings along with Weston & Sampson. At the Cole School, elevated Arsenic levels have been found under the pavement which needs to be reported to DEP notifications within 120 days. If the levels reach 41 parts per million in the top 1 foot of soil, then DEP has to be notified within 2 hours. Everything is contained under the pavement but there will be more testing in the ballfields. **K. Longo** said the three causes might be from historic land use with pesticides, fill materials when the school was built, or naturally occurring Arsenic. **K. Longo** said the well had been tested and does not have elevated levels and monitor wells will be installed. A risk assessment was also done. **D. Taylor** requested from **K. Longo** the analysis results from the soil samples.

Adjourn 8:15pm

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