



Approved as Amended

2/16/2022

Town of Boxford

Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

January 19, 2022

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; BCAT Tv website

For Directions to Participate via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82492650465?pwd=cy9rTkJ4R1p6MFRzU2VIWGVIZ0hoZz09>

ID: 824 9265 0465

Passcode: 531929

Present: Dick Taylor, Richard Fahrner, Alex Constan, Heather Forand, Rhonda Hodge, Kendell Longo, Lance Cluster, Kristin Kwiitek, Matt Coogan, Paula Fitzsimmons, Pam Blaquiire, Elizabeth Murphy, James Scanlan, Scott Cameron, Joel Frisch, George O' Neill, Ted Merchant, Lori Christensen, Bob Hazelwood, Greg Kokorda

Meeting Opened at 6:30 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. Forand, R. Hodge

Announcements

The Tri-Town Health Departments are offering pediatric and teen Pfizer COVID-19 first and second doses for (5-11 year olds) and first, second, and booster doses for (12-18 year olds) at Masconomet Regional High School in the cafeteria on 20 Endicott Road. Dates to be held are January 22nd 9AM-12PM and Saturday February 12th 9AM-12PM.

Rapid COVID Test Kits Available to Boxford Residents at the Boxford Police Station 285 Ipswich Road. Residents may purchase two kits for \$10.00 by calling the Communications Department at (978)887-8136 between the hours of 8AM-4PM Monday through Friday

An important announcement regarding trash and recycling pickup has been posted on the homepage of the Town's website explaining reasons for possible delays and instructions for when trash is not collected.

Minutes

Minutes were reviewed from the December 15, 2021 meeting. A **motion** was made by A. Constan to accept the minutes, seconded by R. Fahrner. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

Bills

D. Taylor reviewed with the Board the December bills payable totaling \$68,808.08. A **motion** was made by R. Fahrner to accept the total bills of \$68,808.08 **seconded** by A. Constan. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

Variance 503 Main Street-Scanlan Engineering

James Scanlan of Scanlan Engineering was present to request a variance for 503 Main Street. A **motion** was made by R. Fahrner to permit no less than 101 feet to the wetlands where 150 feet is required to approve this variance based on the condition that it is the best solution given the lot parameters. In addition, this variance is approved based on inclusion of a Presby system and

delineation of the wetlands by the Conservation Commission if not already done **seconded** by A. Constan. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

The Willows Discussion

Scott Cameron of The Morin-Cameron group was present as civil engineer consultant for the waste water treatment system application that was before the board. Also present was Ted Merchant from Toll. Bros. and engineer Joel Frisch from Northeast Geo Science who prepared the hydrogeological report. Scott Cameron gave a brief presentation to the Board. A preliminary system design was submitted and on April 6, 2021 there was a preliminary design approval with some outlined conditions that were discussed. It was mentioned that adjustments on elevations and measurements were being worked on based on the peer review completed by engineer James Scanlan. Scott Cameron mentioned items provided to the Board such as well permits, hydrogeological evaluation, Zone 1 and 2 of the public water supply and the earth moving permit application soon to be submitted. The proposed clubhouse concept was presented and its restrictions and also the proposed pool. Jim Scanlan summarized his peer review to the Board. As a piloting alternative it would require more testing but with all alternatives there needs to be some certifications from the designer and the company Biomicrobics and the owner. Jim Scanlan stated that it was a well thought out design that met Boxford's regulations as well as Title 5. **R. Fahrner** asked what approvals does the bio membrane currently have in which Scott Cameron responded that it is approved under the State's piloting program. The Board discussed the importance of a generator and a barrier for protection **R. Fahrner** asked that the engineers check the regulation and consider the feedback. **D. Taylor** asked the Board to vote on a preliminary approval that will depend on the final letter. A **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** to conditionally approve the Sanitary Disposal System Design for the Willows at Boxford **seconded** by **R. Hodge**. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote with the exception of **A. Constan** who recused himself from the vote.

New Utility Pole Treatment

The Board discussed that National Grid will be treating their new utility poles with Copper Arsenate. **D. Taylor** asked the Board if they wanted to leave the current regulation as is which reads new poles cannot be placed within 50 feet of a public or private water supply or should an increase in the setbacks be considered. **A. Constan** questioned whether the Copper Arsenate was approved with or without any leaching or extractable data from the poles. The Board discussed requiring a 100 feet setback to a well and if not able to be met then an untreated pole would have to be placed. **H. Forand** said it was a reasonable recommendation. **R. Hodge** recommended a 100 feet setback if it would be a push for untreated utility poles. **D. Taylor** proposed by the next meeting to have a modification to the regulation and to find some scientific supporting documentation to have on record.

COVID Update and Discussion

The Board discussed the COVID numbers in which **D. Taylor** said are mostly PCR tested and reported by the DPH and do not include positive numbers from home testing. The first two weeks of January there were 209 Covid cases in Boxford. The Board then began a discussion on being required to show proof of vaccination upon entering the Boxford Community Center 4 Middleton Road. Liz Murphy of the Council on Aging commented that the order might be a way to not have to shut down the center. Pam Blaquiere the Director of the COA commented that she needs to know the Senior residents feel safer attending the center. **D. Taylor** asked the COA staff if the order was something they wanted and if they did the Board would discuss it. Matt Coogan was present and commented that all the information and the draft order was given to the Select Board and Town Counsel. An action was not taken by the Select Board but it was agreed upon that the Senior population are more susceptible to becoming seriously ill due to Covid. The COA director told the Board that currently there aren't any programs for the seniors that need it the most. Meals are not being served and multiple events have been canceled including van trips. **R. Hodge** offered her help with a support group. Pam Blaquiere said she has seen a decline in the seniors with dementia. **D. Taylor** said the order is going to exclude people who do not meet the order and the Board must realize that if they pass it. A **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** to approve the proposed Board of Health Emergency Order requiring proof of Covid 19 vaccination prior to entry to the Boxford Community Center with the modifications of the typo in the header as well as changing proof of vaccination doesn't necessarily need to be a card **seconded** by **A. Constan**. **Approved** by a roll call vote. **Fahrner** aye, **Hodge** aye, **Forand** abstain, **Constan** aye, **Taylor** aye.

Other Business

D. Taylor informed the Board that a decision should be made on the water system at 10 Elm Street. After reviewing the summary of the tests, it appears that a water treatment system is not needed but the Board should consider a reverse osmosis system to be installed for the water being used for the kitchen due to the high levels of Sodium. After discussion a **motion** was made by **R. Fahrner** that the Board of Health recommend the use of a reverse osmosis system to remove dissolved metals from the potable water supply at 10 Elm Street **seconded** by **A. Constan**. **Approved unanimously** by a roll call vote.

Budget FY2023 Discussion

The Board discussed the proposed budget. **K. Longo** believed that the additional salary costs should be added and that the VNA budget line should remain unchanged. **R. Fahrner** wanted to know if other Town departments have a salary augmentation to cover after hour and weekend needs. **D. Taylor** stated he would look into it.

Other Business (continued)

The Board discussed the variance request process. The Board in the past temporarily changed the process of notifying abutters from certified mail to proof of mailing. A motion was made by **H.**

Forand to move from certified mailing to proof of mailing for variances seconded by R. Fahrner. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

Director's Report

K. Longo updated the Board on the roll out of the Covid testing kits provided at the Police Station.

Adjourn 8:35pm

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