



**Town of Boxford
Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health**

November 20, 2023

Present: Richard Fahrner, Alex Constan, Heather Forand, Mark Mitsch, Kendell Longo, Jim Taggart

Absent:

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Richard Fahrner

Announcements: There will be a Flu Clinic held at Masco on Friday, Dec 1st from 3-5. The clinic will be offering flu, COVID, RSV, shingles, pneumonia and TDAP in the small cafeteria. R. Fahrner stated to be aware that the shingles vaccine can make you feel a bit sick afterwards.

Bills: Bills were signed. Motion by A. Constan to approve bills for November in the amount of \$360,222.91, seconded by J. Taggart

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed from the November 20 2023 meeting. Motion by A. Constan to accept minutes as amended, seconded by J. Taggart. Approved unanimously.

43 King George Drive:

Boxford Board of Health Regulation: 1-S.A.S. Setback from wetland resource area from 150' required with a <5MPI percolation rate to 100' provided with 40Mil poly-liner and presby enviro treatment system. (Local 201-9(E))

2- S.A.S. Setback from private well from 150' required with a < 5MPI percolation rate to 119' provided with presby enviro treatment system. (Local 201-9(D))

The Board granted this variance based on the condition that wetland delineation shown on the plan is

confirmed by the Conservation Commission or the Conservation Administrator the system as designed is an improvement over the existing system and as designed is the best solution given the physical restrictions of the property.

A. Constan motioned to approve the requested variances, seconded by **H. Forand**. Approved Unanimously

Director's Update: **K. Longo** states that an email was received from Chris Olbrot requesting a Beaver permit at Wild Meadow Rd. That area has a very high-water table and was originally going to be a golf course but became a neighborhood instead. **R. Fahrner** brought up a map of the area to show the spillway and area ponds.

H. Forand motioned to approve an emergency beaver permit along the Wild Meadow Rd to Middleton Rd, seconded by **M. Mitsch**. Approved Unanimously

A. Constan noticed that the Town of Topsfield was distributing NARCAN as asked if Boxford would be distributing as well. **K. Longo** shared that Boxford is also apart of the program and we currently have two boxes of NARCAN to hand out and that it's available for residents. **H. Forand** asked for an overview of how this program came about. **K. Longo** stated that the public health nurse, Julia Lobel enrolled Boxford in the state's NARCAN program and they took an hour course to learn about NARCAN at no cost to the town. Chief Riter and Chief Geiger are on board with the program. There are already a few kits at the schools but Chief Riter is requested a couple more in additional locations. **H. Forand** asked if **K. Longo** knew the expiration date for the NARCAN kits. **K. Longo** will find out tomorrow and let them know. **K. Longo** stated that the town also has COVID test kits available to residents. **A. Constan** gave a quick update about the waste stream task force. He shared that their next meeting is scheduled for the first week of December. The waste stream task force put out a survey to see what size barrel the residents would want and will be able to provide two different barrel sizes. They plan to move forward with automated collection and that will save a lot of money. The task force reached out to four vendors: Mello, Waste Management, Republic and Casella and received some quotes back. **A. Constan** is hoping the Board of Health meeting could be after the Waste stream task force meeting but before the holidays so they could get things moving. **H. Forand** mentioned that there's some conflict about what size barrel to use to they need to make that decision. **H. Forand** stated that elderly in town don't want heavy barrels but some families need more than just one barrel. **R. Fahrner** asked if they are forwarded the RFP before it goes out. **A. Constan** said their plan is to come to the board and maybe recommend we pursue individual discussion with vendors or propose the details for an RFP that then the board could put out. **R. Fahrner** stated maybe this is a topic for the RFP so they might be able to solve the problem for us. **A. Constan** mentioned that from the survey and attending earth day, he learned that a lot of people put their trash out every two weeks. WM stated that there would be no cost difference in every week or every other but Mello said bi weekly recycling would save \$200K. Something to consider is that curbside recycling will probably increase because starting in January, the Boxford transfer station will start charging for cardboard recycling because of the cost of the haul aways. **H. Forand** stated that in her experience, the RFP process requires more leadership which typically requires more cost. **A. Constan** stated that Mello's quote wouldn't change if they went through RFP but Waste management's quote could increase by \$170K - \$250K if

sent to RFP. A. Constan said they will bring it to the four companies one on one and they can negotiate with them or do a public RFP. Either way, the company they narrow down to will come in person and answer questions. R. Fahrner mentioned that a performance bond should be looked into so that if they don't do their job, they surrender a bond so we can use that money to find another vendor. A. Constan is confident that the new contract will be better for the town and a service that is better than what we have now and the service will be competitive, cost wise.

A. Constan and R. Fahrner met with Weston and Sampson. The rec committee is trying to rework the playground area near the police station but it's over a landfill so you need to keep a certain criterion so you don't dig up the landfill. W&S proposed that they will dig a test pit in the four corners to see if there's any trash in the area. W&S will be present when the DEP digs the test pits. K. Longo stated she can be available if needed. R. Fahrner suggested that someone from the BOH should be present.

R. Fahrner also mentioned that when he was talking to the DEP, he brought up the DPW potential garage and they said it's pretty much the same thing but just at a larger scale. R. Fahrner will forward the info the building committee.

K. Longo mentioned that replacing the well at the Police department and DPW will be coming along soon. A. Constan asked if it was failing and K. Longo confirmed that it's failing and we lose water at the Town Hall multiple times a year.

K. Longo asked if we should schedule the December meeting and it was agreed that the meeting would take place on Wednesday, December 13th in person at 7:00PM.

Any new business arising in the past 48 hours: NONE

Adjourn 8:15PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Yoonjin Lee