

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
TOWN BUILDING
July, 11 2022

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. In person were; Gigi Anand MD (GA), John Schuler MD (JS), and Robert Eyre MD (RE). Also present were Julia Junghanns (JJ) Director of Public Health, Michael Bearman (MB)

JS: Roll Call . GA - here, RE - here, JS - here,

6:30 pm Public Comment

No public comment

6:35 pm Covid 19 updates and free rapid test kits from the state

JJ: The state has changed the way they report. They announced they are going to be reporting weekly instead of what they were doing before (more frequent). Dashboard will be updated once a week on Thursdays. We have a report that shows we have gone down from 34 to 24 in the past few weeks, and then to 15 on last report which closes on July 7th. If needed, we have regional epidemiologist who can help us put together some of the data/reports while we're in transition with our public health nurse. JS: How is search going? JJ: We have posted the position and hopefully we'll have some applicants, we'll be working with the HR manager and Town Manager to go through resumes. RE: How much board involvement is there? JJ: We will introduce the awarded candidate later on. RE: Salary Range? JJ: It is a union position, so there is a range that was posted in the Town Website. JS: School Nurses? JJ: Currently fully staffed. We have not been able to find someone to fill the part time nurse leader position. The school department has approached us regarding the Children's Way being brought under the umbrella of the Wayland school system and becoming DESE certified by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. For TCW to become certified and be under the umbrella of the school department they need a nurse. So, after lengthy discussions with town and school administration, the plan is to increase the hours of the nurse leader to make it a full time position so someone will apply, then it will be a dual role with nurse leader, and Children's Way nurse. JS: How many children? GA: At least 40 or 50, but they don't come every day. We have had meetings with the town and school administration about this, they are agreeing to use enrollment fees to pay for that portion of the position. Other portion is in our budget already. But budget for this year has already been approved by Town Meeting so we don't have the money to fund the rest of the hours. We were not aware of this need until after town meeting. JJ: If we don't have this set by September they'll have to hire a contracted worker. JS: If no one is found for the school nurse in Children's Way, who will be responsible? JJ: I believe it will just continue to operate as is. We have met with the town manager about both BOH and School Department budgets paying for the position. I have already updated the job description to include the community health nurse aspect, it just needs to be approved by the Personnel Board, then we can get it posted so that hopefully someone over the summer wants to apply. JS: We just don't have extra money in our budget to fund that position. JJ:

And we have spent a lot of time to improve and streamline our nursing program, which still needs more work, and I don't want it to be dismantled. So we're working on a plan to provide what they've asked for. It would maintain the current system of nurses under the Health Department. RE: Wasn't Ruth assuming the position of Nurse Leader basically? JJ: Yes, but it was not sustainable for the increased needs of staff and it became too much. We had a nurse in house who was able (and good at) doing some of the work in the Nurse Leader position, but she was not interested in taking the job permanently. GA: Remote? JJ: A lot of it could be remote except the Children's Way aspect.

JJ: We have our new regional public health nurse (through the covid grant) who works here now. She works for the Town of Wayland, but she's covering the whole region, using MAVEN and taking care of cases. She works for all seven towns in the regional collaborative. JS: But not doing Ruth's job? JJ: No, she is not doing Ruth's job but she is helping with transition. Her work is currently focused on Covid-19. But as we transition in the pandemic to a different focus of prevention, at the state level they are aware that the pandemic has changed since creating the position. As long as she does COVID-19 work, we can fold in additional public health nursing work. JS: How long is the grant for? JJ: Technically until 2023, but we have been told that the grant can be rolled into 2024.

6:55 pm 36 Barney Hill Road, request to transfer Animal Keeping permit to keep 12 chickens to new Owner Michael Bearman

MB: I inherited the chickens and the coop from the previous owner so there was no change to where they are staying or the number of chickens. I had a letter and sent it in and was told this was not the typical procedure so I'm coming in to ask if we can have that permit transferred to my ownership. JS: all the same as far as coop, run, and disposal of waste? MB: Yes. JS: Do we need to get consent from the neighbors again? JJ: Unsure. Regulations don't allow for a transfer to be completed by the staff, I'm sure the board could if they wanted and maybe in our new Regulations we can adjust language. But this is the first time this has happened. I have not received any complaints about the property. JS: I don't know if any of the neighbors are new, I would feel better making sure that the neighbors all agreed. JJ: That would mean going through the whole process. JS: Not necessarily. Would you have to inspect the areas again? JJ: I can do a site visit. Would a letter from the neighbors suffice? I think since we've never done it before, maybe we shouldn't do it. But we should follow through on the way we would normally approve, by making sure abutters are okay with it. JJ: Suggestion? JS: how many abutters? MB: People on either side of me, and probably another person. JJ: we can look on the GIS map to see which abutters need to be contacted. RE: So maybe a provisional approval based on sending a letter to abutters. JS: Yes, just showing that abutters agree that they are okay with you keeping the chickens.

JS: Motion that we continue the animal keeping permit of the chickens on 36 Barney Hill Road under new Owner Michael Bearman, pending receipt of letters from abutters. RE: Second. JS vote RE - yes, GA - yes, JS - yes. Approved 3-0.

7:00pm Review suggested edits/comments from WWMDC on new Septic/Wastewater Treatment Facility Regulations- - possible vote to accept non-substantive changes, reconsider new effective date, possible vote

JJ: We went through our hearing process and the Wastewater District Commission had reached out to us during the night of our hearing via email and we agreed to consider their comments. JS: Who is primarily responsible for the Wastewater Treatment Facility? JJ: The Wastewater District Commissioner oversees certain Wastewater Treatment Facilities in town (Town Center, and High School). JS: If there are other apartments built with a WWTF, would that be us or do they supervise? JJ: If there is a private development, they would not be involved there, but it would need to comply with our regulations. They were originally going to have a WWTF at Rivers Edge, then they decided they would pump the waste to Town Center, and pump it back. Additionally, if the treated wastewater could go into the river up to a certain flow. My understanding is that the WWC is overseeing/managing that part. However the town is responsible for maintaining and taking care of the leaching area and components to the facility. The Zoning Board will be talking about some of those things tomorrow night. These regulations would be in place for future developments.

JJ: The changes suggested by the commission are primarily not substantive changes. I had Town Counsel review them as well. If we had substantive changes we would need to restart the process. But based on our perception (and town counsel's) most of the revisions are non-substantive. EPA references are inconsequential and the board can accept or reject them. Basically just approving new language. JS: What is the BOH involvement in the facilities? JJ: If there is a breakout we would get involved, from a public health responsibility, to make sure things are fixed, but for daily operations we are not involved. There is a Wastewater Facility Operator who would handle much of that. JS: This is how we handled the High School facility but it's been out of operation and just being pumped for a number of years. Sounds like the exceptions for this are going to be the Town Facilities.

Discussion of permitting process between state permitting and town permitting of treatment facilities regarding supervision of facilities and involvement in their designs. JJ: If we didn't have regulations we would have nothing to do with the design of facilities (if state is the only entity handling permitting). JJ: The BOH will be involved with the regulations worded as they are now. General consensus that the new regulations should remain as-is with Town Counsel additions. RE noted some spelling errors to request.

JS: Motion to accept changes except the section K, and correcting the typo. Motion to accept the revised WasteWater Treatment Facilities Applications and Regulations as printed with corrections in its revised form and to add "Protect Human health and/or the environment" in Section K. JJ: Also, with revised effective date. RE: Second. Vote RE - Yes, GA - Yes, JS - Yes. Motion Passes 3-0.

7:35 pm Vote on BoH Chair for the next Year

RE: Motion that RD remain as chair. JS: Second. RE - Yes, JS - Yes, GA - Yes. 3-0 Passed. Robert Defrancesco remains as BoH Chair.

7:40pm Review Draft Department goals for the next year, possible endorsement

JJ: 5 Goals. Some are simple things but some are not (like the IT goal). JS: Do we get help on that? JJ: Yes, but right now they are working on MUNIS upgrades. We had a few meetings with the department, Ruth, the town manager, and talked about all the things we had been working on and some things the department staff had agreed are important. Some of the permitting processes can be draining on the department if we don't have appropriate materials for the public to help them understand things like the new regulations. GA: We could put a lot more on the website. JJ: True, the more we put on the website, the less foot traffic we need to handle at the office. For Title 5 Reports, anytime you get a system inspected a report is generated. Everyone wants to see the report and has questions. We would love to have all those managed in a much more streamlined, accessible way. GA: Do you have funding to have someone input all that data? JJ: We had already started with getting older Title 5s onto the town website with help from IT but it's not completed yet.

RE: I rewrote the Animal Keeping Regulations. I could add two items. We could specify a maximum number of chickens. And also we can make a comment about transfer of permit saying it has to be pending approval of abutters. Other than that I think I've written it to make Health Department staff more responsible in approving permits. GA: CDC has recommendations about chickens and health. We could send a link to the CDC webpages to all chicken owners. General agreement that a notice should be sent out to chicken owners. A closer look and formal review/discussion is needed but this sounds good is the consensus.

RE: Question on 3A "Continue to work on interdepartmental permitting program." JJ: We are using a new program OpenGov for our interdepartmental permitting (Landuse Departments) and individual department permits. RE: Would you like a formal approval of these goals? JJ: If the board is willing to do that.

RE: Motion that we endorse the Final draft goals for the Health Department. GA: second. Roll Call Vote RE - Yes, GA- yes, JS - yes. Motion passes 3-0.

7:55 pm Update on fluoride and PFAS treatment from Water Dept. Department activity, search for new Public Health Nurse, grant staff activity, housing violations, pool and beach inspection

JJ: The Water Superintendent has advised us that he can't get fluoride to add to the town water. He is working on what our next steps would be to advise Town Residents if we no longer have the ability to add fluoride. JS: Do they expect that to get better? JJ: I had asked but unclear. JS: Should we suggest someone at the school level carry this information to children's parents? RE: There was a recommendation that you get a toothpaste with higher fluoride levels. GA: Or fluoride drops which are by prescription but not sure that's still available. Children can discuss with their pediatricians or dentist. JJ: from what I have seen, our responsibility is related to the notification piece. When the Water superintendent returns from vacation we will discuss this. JS: I would ask for RD expertise.

JJ: Generally speaking the PFAS levels are now below the MCL threshold. RE: There was just one at the Happy Hollow well over 20 ng/L in May. JJ: Yes, I'm not sure if there are still results they are waiting for to release a press release. GA: How does public get notified of this? JJ: the Water Department provides regular updates/press releases.

JJ: Also had heard from Planning Board that they are moving forward with the next step with 60 Shaw Drive. There was a revised plan that was submitted, but was told their vote was not based on the revised plan. They may go a different direction, like a shared septic system or conservation cluster but its unclear. JS: Limit on how many can be on the septic system? JJ: Depends on flow, total bedrooms, or soil. JS: Who is responsible for that? JJ: Usually an agreement with homeowners on how to take care of the system.

JJ: Already mentioned Planning Board will be hearing from Applicant for Rivers Edge tomorrow, discussing setup of Wastewater. JS: When are they supposed to open up? JJ: That's what they will discuss. Discussion on occupancy. Just not sure when the first person will be moving in. I know they are anxious to get started. LSP that represents the town, will be going to that meeting as well. Ben Gould from CMG to help explain the Town Side public comments that he has provided regarding the cleanup. RE: Wastewater is going to Town Center for processing and then back to River's Edge? JJ: I believe in the beginning, with small occupancy they won't need to pump it back. Initially will discharge into the river, until their capacity reaches a certain point, and then will pump back to River's Edge to discharge. Either way the wastewater is treated at the facility before discharge at the river or the leaching fields.

JS brought up a discussion of Loker Field contaminants JS: They found a lot of contamination from a chemical plant, so much so that they will excavate all the soil and refill it at Loker Field. But that's not in their budget.

Discussion of the 64 School Street housing violations. JS: Why is it us dealing with this? How was it found out? JJ: The tenants called to complain, its within the BoH/Health Dept jurisdiction through the housing code. Also the owner has a 3 bedroom deed restriction. Had previously claimed to have put a media room in his garage which is now apparently an apartment, and another additional apartment. We are involved but also the Building Department is involved. RE: What is the septic? JJ: 3 Bedrooms. There is also another housing situation where we may need to go to court. It is a situation where needed home repairs have not been done, there is a leaky roof, damage inside the apartment. There is a legal battle between a son and a mother. We have been working with Town Counsel on this issue also.

JJ: I did all the annual pool inspections. And we have been testing the water at the Town Beach. One thing I would like to ensure you are aware of is that the Community Pool needs some improvements. The pool is nice, but the building itself is old, showing age and has issues. I'm hoping they will give us a timeline on doing some updates to the building. Because of humidity, certain things/benches/lockers, etc in the changing rooms have rusted.

JJ: The FDA ruled that JUUL products cease manufacturing. Courts granted JUUL a stay to appeal the decision. If that happens, the state will probably reach out to us and say to make sure they are all pulled.

JJ: Mosquito control, did usual press releases regarding cleaning up backyards of any containers that hold water, how to protect yards from mosquitoes, use bug sprays, etc. But we also finished the catch basin treatment.

RE: Motion to Adjourn. JS: Second. Roll Call Vote. RE - Yes, GA - yes, JS - Yes. 3-0 Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Zachary Jonas

Senior Clerk

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