



Accepted as Ammended

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

September 28, 2022

Present: Richard Taylor, Alex Constan, Heather Forand, Kendell Longo, Kristin Kwiatek

Absent: Richard Fahrner, Rhonda Hodge

Meeting called to order at 6:30 by D. Taylor

Announcements: D. Taylor commented on the great job that the Board of health did during COVID on implementation on masking, social distancing, information sharing on all the state mandates, and plans for all town organizations to have safe meetings and functions. **D. Taylor** and **K. Longo** were on 24 hours per day.

Emergency Well Variance 13 Holmes Road

Greg Hochmuth from Williams & Sparages was present to request a variance for an emergency well.

Boxford BOH Regulation 201-9 (A)(2) The leaching facility or subsurface absorption system in those cases where the percolation rate is less than five minutes per inch shall be installed at least 150 feet from a private well used as a potable water supply. Specifically, the Board voted to allow the new well to be no less than 100 feet from the leaching facility. A **motion** was made **A. Constan** that for 13 Holmes Road the Board of Health approved a variance for a new well location greater than 100 feet from the current leach field and no less than 40 feet from the right of way, **Seconded** by **H. Forand**. Approved **unanimously**.

Announcements:

The Recycling Center is no longer accepting oil until further notice.

Bills: Bills were signed.

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed from the August 16, 2022 meeting. **Motion** by **A. Constan** to accept minutes, **seconded** by **H. Forand**. Approved **unanimously**.

Executive session minutes were reviewed from the August 16, 2022 meeting. **Motion** by **A. Constan** to accept the executive session minutes, **seconded** by **H. Forand**. Approved **unanimously**.

Stiles Pond Update

Testing on Stiles Pond has been completed with over 20 tests 19 of which were negative and 1 was equivocal. **D. Taylor** still has another box of tests and the standard which can be used for next year. **D. Taylor** said that the cost of the tests should be a new budget line item.

Andrews Farm Water Update

DEP is after the water Company and the Selectmen are dealing with it in executive session only. The Town does not want to take on the water problem but as residents the Town has an obligation. They are currently on Topsfield's water. The Board of Health's recourse by state law is to tell them to get water or condemn all the houses. The well could be used but it would have to be treated. **A. Constan** said he believed that Topsfield offered to provide water permanently if they would accept one bill and that Topsfield would not be responsible for the hookup to each house. **D. Taylor** to write a letter to the Selectman asking for any information that they can share with the Board of Health.

Waste Oil, Recycling Center

The Board felt it was a good idea to no longer accept oil at the Recycling Center. **D. Taylor** would like an answer from Clean Harbors because he could not find an EPA regulation that has them standing on firm ground. They stated 1,000 ppm's of Chloride was found in the oil that would then make it contaminated needing a special waiver to dump. Clean Harbors can pin point what is there costing \$200.00. Another suggestion was that the Town would empty the tank into 55 gallon drums and they would then dispose of it as hazardous waste. The board agreed to have an analytical test on the oil.

Trash/Recycling Update

A. Constan spoke on the trash task force meeting and the changes that are being considered such as getting rid of stickers, having one free barrel per house and purchasing bags in addition, and possibly adding compost. **A. Constan** said there is a state wide work group that are working with towns that are putting out bids so contracts are being reviewed and shared to negotiate the best prices. **A. Constan** said that it might take longer to complete the process so they might look into an extension of one year on the current contract. **D. Taylor** would like to discuss with a full board. **D. Taylor** stated that it needs to be clear that the Board of Health will make the decision of any changes that take place. **D. Taylor** stated he would like a preliminary plan in front of the board no later than the November meeting.

Select Board: Goal Setting

The Select Board would like to see town wide goals to support and expand opportunities for residents and the aging community. **D. Taylor** said that the completion of 10 Elm will be the focal point of expanding opportunities. The Select Board would like feedback from all the boards and directors. **D. Taylor** told the board if they have ideas to email him. **K. Longo** suggested mental health resources from COVID. **H. Forand** said that Masconomet is providing counseling sessions for students.

Change for Reg. 205-2, Definition of Earth

D. Taylor said that for some reason contractors at 10 Elm and the Willows do not consider stone, gravel, and rocks as earth. In both cases they started dumping before it was caught and stopped. **D. Taylor** proposed to add to the definition. A **motion** was made by **H. Forand** to accept the addition to the definition of earth to our regulation 205-2, **seconded** by **A. Constan**. Approved **unanimously**.

COVID Update

July, August, and September were steady. **D. Taylor** believed there is a little bit of a lull and hopefully it will not increase during the holidays. The new booster is out but it is not getting much attention. **D. Taylor** asked the board if they still wanted weekly COVID updates? **H. Forand** does not feel it is necessary anymore. **A. Constan** did not oppose if it continued but also did not think it was necessary.

Director's Update

K. Longo spoke about the latest Tri-Town meeting with the nurses and Tri-Town Director's. The nurse said there was only one spike which was at Spofford School that was 10 out of 17 children. The nurse brought up Monkey Pox and that there was one case in the Boston Public School system. It was mentioned that the same protocol would be used as COVID but the quarantine for Monkey Pox is 3-4 weeks.

K. Longo said there will be a COVID clinic at Four Mile Village on October 5th and a Flu Clinic on October 19. The goal would be to have a Tri-Town clinic but the budget would have to be increased. **D. Taylor** suggested that **K. Longo** check to see if CVS would like to have a clinic.

Adjourn 8:00pm

The next meeting date to be determined and with no further business there was a **motion** made by **H. Forand**, **seconded** by **A. Constan** the Board voted **unanimously** to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin Kwiatek
Minutes Secretary

