Town of Heath - Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2019

PRESENT: Betsy Kovacs - Chair, Armand Clavette, Henry Godek, Gene Garland: Ex officio BoH member

ALSO PRESENT: Mary Sumner - BoH Clerk, Randy Crochier- FRCOG Health Agent

ABSENT: Susan Gruen, John Palmer

Meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm

Reviewed agenda.

Reviewed minutes:

Motion/Seconded/Carried (M/S/C) to accept August 14, 2019 minutes as amended: fix spelling of last name “Crochier”.

M/S/C to accept August 27, 2019 minutes as presented.

M/S/C to accept August 29, 2019 minutes as amended: fix spelling of last name ‘Ayers”, change EEE status to critical not high;

M/S/C to accept September 9, 2019 minutes as amended: change EEE status to critical not high; add the phrase Annual Town Meeting before ATM acronym and Special Town Meeting before STM acronym.

M/S/C to accept September 11, 2019 minutes as presented.

Chairman’s Report: Betsy introduced Randy Crochier, the new Health Agent for FRCOG. Randy gave a brief history of his background including his years of experience as Board of Health member in Gill and SERVsafe instructor. Betsy gave a brief update on Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and reviewed letter BoH sent to Town residents recently with updates on EEE. Attached. Betsy reviewed upcoming MAHB meeting and noted Town’s All-Boards meeting to be held on October 29 which will include Open Meeting Law training for all present. All BoH members should review their status of Conflict of Interest certification prior to this meeting. If not current, they should take the course and give proof of certification to Town Clerk. Must be done every two years.

Clerk report: Mary noted Non-Criminal Disposition tickets are available. Will be kept by Town Clerk. Discussed use of tickets and status of unregistered vehicles article. Mary and Betsy will work on getting the wording of Warrant Article to BoS for Special Town Meeting (STM) in November.

Budget: Reviewed expense for postage mailing EEE letters, reviewed seminar fees and reimbursement. All is in order.

Nurses report. Mary reviewed the Nurse’s reports for August and September. Noted upcoming flu clinics and discussed advertising of clinics. Flyers posted. Betsy will check with former Town Coordinator on rules for Reverse 911 to determine if flu clinics can be announced. Gene recommended sending e-mail messages, too.

Health Director Enforcement Issues: Randy reviewed the FRCOG structure and the search for a part-time agent. Briefly reviewed the last CPHS meeting and possibility of joining Mosquito Control District.

Reviewed 7 Flagg Hill Road Extension: Armand reported that he had visited the property on September 21, 2019 with John Palmer and Robert Conner, property owner. See John’s notes from that meeting (attached). Conner agreed to get a dumpster and to start work to at least make one clean area to work from. John, Armand and Connor will meet at property again in a month to review progress. Armand checked property on Monday and
nothing had been done. Discussion. Mary will write to Conner to provide information on Town transfer station and Bulky Waste Day and to confirm October 19 follow up meeting. If no progress has been made by Oct. 19 Randy will follow up on situation.

3 Ledges Road: Randy and Betsy met to review history on property to familiarize Randy with the issues. Both met with property owner before today’s meeting to review progress on finding alternative housing. Reviewed and discussed. Reviewed the Order to Correct Septic by Sept. 11, 2019. Randy noted we can extend to allow them to find housing. Reviewed condemnation procedures. The next step is a letter to vacate. M/S/C for Randy to draft an enforcement order and provide that to owners in person. BoH will mail copy certified return receipt mail.

Reviewed two ongoing trash complaints in Mohawk Estates. Randy will review and advise BoH as to next steps. Discussed that the BoH should deal directly with property owners and not work through Mohawk Estates Association. If trash has not been dealt with then property owner should receive ‘First Letter’ from BoH explaining issue and requesting they come to BoH meeting.

No updates on Building Inspector issues.

Ongoing or Suspended:

Noted that 612 Route 8A is due for a review as permit was issued for one year only. Mary will contact owner/resident and request they come to November BoH meeting to review current situation and consider extension.

Abandoned Houses: Randy reviewed the receivership program available through the Attorney General’s office. BoH would need to adopt the program. The first step is to have the Attorney General do a presentation to the BoH, and to invite BoS, Assessors, Fire, police, Town Clerk and other interested offices. Randy highly recommends the program as it helps get properties fixed by placing the properties into receivership. The State oversees repair of the property and when the property is fixed, a lien for the work is attached to the sale of the property. Current owner can purchase repaired property back if they wish to do so and can pay the lien. Randy will help to set a date for the presentation in April of 2020 possibly with neighboring towns.

New Business:

Mary noted Title V’s requested: 62 Long Hill Road, 324 Rt 8A repaired.

Perc Tests: 25 Groll Road (repair of failing system), 43 Knott Road, new site on Rowe Road.

Mary noted she received an email question regarding a tent and asked if it is a temporary dwelling. Discussed Mohawk Estates (ME), Temporary Occupancy Permit system/regulation and the request to clarify for Randy. Board asked Mary to respond to individual that due to the ME season ending and that the tent is currently removed, the property and TOP need will be reviewed in the Spring. Noted that BoH is to meet with Planning Board in Winter to review and possibly modify the TOP system.

Next BoH meeting was set for November 7, 2019 at 5:30pm

Meeting Adjourned at 7:48 pm

Submitted by Mary Sumner, BoH Clerk