

Town of Heath - Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2020

By conference call

PRESENT on Conference Call: Betsy Kovacs-Chair of Board, Henry Godek, Susan Gruen, John Palmer, Armand Clavette.

ALSO PRESENT: Mary Sumner- BoH Clerk, Randy Crochier-FRCOG Regional Health Agent, Jenny Hamilton-President, Mohawk Estates Property Owners Association.

Absent: Gene Garland, ex officio Board of Health member.

Presiding: Betsy Kovacs, Chairman

Meeting was **called to order** at 5:32 pm by Betsy Kovacs. Betsy noted that Randy Crochier can only attend tonight's meeting until 6:00 pm and, therefor, moved to items on agenda requiring Randy to the beginning of the agenda.

612 Route 8A: Randy and Mary noted the letter to owner has been mailed requesting cleaning holding tank by date certain. Will wait to hear back from owner.

Municipal Police Enforcement Order: Betsy made a motion that the BoH adopt the order to appoint Heath Chief of police as an enforcement agent of BoH per the draft letter sent to all BoH members (Draft attached to minutes), seconded by Susan.

Kovacs-Aye, Gruen-Aye, Godek-Aye, Palmer-Aye, Clavette-Aye

3 Ledge Road: Review of Order to Correct. Randy spoke with owners. They are not able to make progress on finding new housing due to most offices they need to work with being closed and working remotely. The deadline for the existing order is midnight May 6th. Randy reviewed the options Board had in March are the options we have tonight and that he recommends extending the existing order for 30 days.

Susan made a motion to condemn the building; seconded by Armand.

Susan asked to read a letter she had written explaining her reasoning which is attached. She noted long history at property and her feeling that by condemning the house it will move the owners higher on the housing lists and help them in the long run.

Betsy asked Randy to clarify what happens if the house is condemned. Randy could not confirm it would help moving up higher on housing list, but noted that once condemned, the house must be emptied and plaquered within 48 hours.

Board members expressed concern for length of time this situation has taken, but that due to Covid-19 it would be cold-hearted to have to make them move within 48 hours. Susan asked and Randy confirmed that owners could appeal the order to condemn.

Betsy asked for a vote on the motion: Palmer-Nay, Godek-Nay, Kovacs-Nay, Clavette-Nay, Gruen-Abstained.

Motion to condemn failed.

Henry made a motion to continue the current order for one month. Seconded by John.

No Discussion.

Palmer-Aye, Godek-Aye, Clavette-Aye, Kovacs-Aye, Gruen-Abstained.

Randy will draft and send a continuation of the Order and communicate with owner.

675 Route 8A: Mary researched files and gave Title V info and owner info to Randy. Randy is trying to contact owner. No one is living there so there is nothing BoH can enforce unless someone moves in.

391 Route 8A/ 405 Route 8A: Neither property is sold so a Title V has not been triggered. Randy will forward complaint we have on to Building Inspector.

Randy suggested to move all the dates forward until we are through with the crisis for other properties on the BoH '**Ongoing or Suspended List**' unless Board notes a change at property.

Randy left the meeting at 6:04 pm.

Reviewed **minutes** of April 29, 2020 meeting. Motion by Susan to accept minutes as written, seconded by John; Kovacs-Aye, Palmer-Aye, Gruen-Aye, Godek-Aye, Clavette-Aye.

Minutes for April 22, 2020 and May 4, 2020 meetings were not available for review.

Chairman's report: Betsy briefly reviewed the EDS, EMT and DPH meetings from this week and the need to continue social distancing with new cases of Covid-19 still occurring. Noted the discussion among EDS on guidance for flu clinics. Betsy will follow up with Claire about need for additional flu vaccine for Fall clinics.

Budget: Mary reviewed bills that needed authorization to pay.

TOP postage: Susan made a motion to reimburse Mary \$42 for postage used to mail TOP permits. seconded by Armand. Kovacs-Aye, Palmer-Aye, Gruen-Aye, Godek-Aye, Clavette-Aye

Nurse update: No new update. Susan noted concern as weather becomes nicer and summer residents return to Heath, there may be a new wave of people with masks not being consistently worn in Town Center

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) legislation: Reviewed the latest correspondence from Carolyn Schoors Ness. Currently there is legislation before the Senate that would allow preventive activities such as spring larviciding to be conducted in Towns that were EEE hot spots and may be high-critical risk but are not members of a Mosquito Control District. Carolyn is asking the Heath BoH to write a letter supporting the Bill.

Susan made a motion for the BoH to write letters to support the pending legislation to Adam Hinds and Paul Marks and Jo Comerford. Seconded by Henry.

Gruen-Aye, Godek-Aye, Palmer-Aye, Clavette-Aye, Kovacs-Aye

Betsy will draft and send the letters.

Betsy reported that she is in discussions with Carolyn about the possibility of having trapping and testing of mosquitos in Heath prior to the STM vote to join the District.

Covid- 19 issues:

- Message will go out Thursday this week and contain a reminder about Town Meeting not occurring this weekend (May 9 would have been date)
- 911- reverse call system: keep up the good work, need to wear a face covering, info on CTC numbers, absentee ballots. Betsy will draft and distribute to BoH members to edit.

Mary briefly reviewed the new **Pumping reports, Title V requests** received.

- 23 Colrain Stage Road- perc test to repair system
- 10 Hosmer Road East- perc and septic design for new dwelling
- 43 Avery Brook Road- Title V inspection – passed.

Next meeting was set for May 13, 2020 at 5:00 pm in case Board needs to meet due to pandemic.

Motion to **adjourn** at 6:30 pm made by Susan; seconded by Armand. All were in favor. Kovacs-Aye; Gruen-Aye; Palmer- Aye, Godek-Aye, Clavette- Aye.

Minutes for conference call meeting written by Mary Sumner, BoH Clerk.