



Brookfield Board of Health

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday August 25, 2021, AT 6:00 PM
BANQUET HALL 6 CENTRAL ST. BROOKFIELD MA

Members Present

Michael P. Seery – Chairman
Ronald Wassmer – Vice Chairman
George Hirtle – Member

Also present:

Clerk- Brianna Dunn
Health Agent- Tricia Valiton

Chairman Seery called meeting to order at 6:10 PM

Review & Approve Minutes

- July 28, 2021

Review & Approve Septic Designs

Board of Health Engineer, Mr. John Thomasian, reviewed and approved the following septic designs prior to the meeting:

- 102 MOLASSES HILL RD - REPAIRMENT OR REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM
- 2 HIGH ST – REPAIRMENT OR REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING ON-SITE SEWAGE DISPOSAL SYSTEM

Sanitary Code Issues/Follow up

- Mr. Seery begins discussion about open burning regarding complaints about residents having fires. DEP has said that outdoor burning is not allowed during certain times of the year without a special permit. Mr. Seery has spoken with FD and Police about the issue, upon their investigation of residents burning trash it did not appear that trash was being burned. Mr. Wassmer is concerned that if the BOH begins to enforce open burning and small fire pits on one household then they will need to be enforced on all households and at what point is that taking away from a person's freedom, after all open burning is



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allowed for cooking purposes. Ms. Valiton adds that if the BOH does begin siting one case of opening burning all opening burning without cooking purposes would need to be cited. Cindy Rendell, a resident of Brookfield concerned with opening burning is concerned that the air quality produced from open burning is bad for her health. Ms. Valiton suggests that going forward she will draft a standardized letter for the Board to approve and send out to all residents of Brookfield quoting the Massachusetts Regulation regarding open burning. She also suggests that if the air quality is bad for Cindy Rendell's health then she should be providing parameters and proof of what conditions are appropriate for her health by means of a doctor's note, etc. The Board of Health cannot define "unhealthy" in terms of her chronic condition and the Board also cannot request information from her doctor due to HIPPA.

Mr. Wassmer motions for Ms. Valiton to draft the letter as she described for use by the Board, Mr. Hirtle seconds – AIF

- Mr. Seery motions to close the town beach South Pond after Labor Day – Mr. Wassmer seconds – AIF
- Mr. Seery informs Ms. Valiton that Suellyn Grimes from the Brookfield Rod and Gun Club may be looking for direction
- Mr. Seery informs the Board members that the Planning Board has granted Oakholm Farm a special permit for a farmers market
- Mr. Wassmer requests that sand slips are provided to the Board of Health when there is construction for Sewage Disposal Systems
- Ms. Valiton updates the Board on DESE's new mask requirements for children over 5. She also discusses that Pfizer will hopefully have a booster available by the fall, right now there is a 3rd dose of the MRNA vaccine for severely immunocompromised people.

100K-200K Program- Applications

- 8 Grove St. pursued application with PVP, they have been tentatively approved

Payroll and expense reports

- JAMES MILNER - \$10.43 MONTH OF JULY TRANSFER STATION M/O
- GEORGE HIRTLE - \$5.96 MONTH OF JULY TRANSFER STATION M/O
- SLIMS AND BERTHIAME SEWER SERVICES INC - \$105.00 ; 7/23/2021
- NATIONAL GRID - \$49.43 ; 7/26/2021



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- GEORGE HIRTLE – W/E 8/5/2021 \$134.34 W/E 8/19/2021 \$352.28
- BRIANNA DUNN – W/E 8/5/2021 \$153.00 W/E 8/19/2021 \$144.50
- MIKE SEERY – W/E 8/5/2021 \$55.17
- JAMES MILNER- W/E 8/5/2021 \$595.28 W/E 8/19/2021 \$595.28
- TRICIA VALITON – INSPECTION SERVICES 7/22/2021-8/10/2021
- JOHN THOMASIAN – PERC & SEPTIC REVIEW PLANS \$1,050.00
- QUABBIN ANALYTICAL LABORATORY- MONTH OF JULY - \$150.00
- CASELLA – 8/1/2021 \$8,674.01
- EAST COAST ELECTRONICS RECYCLING – 8/6/2021 \$1,375.00

6:02 PM - Mr. Seery motions to approve expenses and payroll presented at this time, Mr. Wassmer seconds – AIF

Transfer Station Issues

- Leaking Roof

7:44 PM- Adjourn

Mr. Wassmer motions to adjourn, Mr. Seery seconds, AIF