

October 12, 2017
Sterling Board of Health Meeting
Butterick Building, Room 205
1 Park Street, Sterling, MA. 01564

Meeting Minutes

5:32 PM Chairman Donna Clark called the meeting to order.

Roll Call: Donna Clark, Chair - attended by remote connection
Gary Menin, Vice-Chair - present
Allen Hoffman, Clerk - present
David Favreau, Health Agent - present
Elaine Heller, Admin. Asst. - present

Attendees: None

Gary Menin noted he was recording the proceedings of the meeting. David Favreau indicated he was recording the proceedings as well.

Approve Available Minutes:

Gary Menin made a motion to approve revised minutes of the August 10, 2017 meeting and the motion was seconded by Allen Hoffman. All were in favor and the motion carried.

A motion to approve revised minutes of the September 21, 2017 meeting was made by Gary Menin and seconded by Allen Hoffman. With all in favor, the motion carried.

Health Agent Report:

Commonwealth of MA vs. Mike Cove, Cove Septic Corp.

The next court date for this matter is October 27, 2017.

Curbside Trash Pickup - Impounded Load:

Health Agent Favreau commented on a load of curbside trash that was impounded due to high levels of radon caused by the disposal of a water filtration filter. The filter was separated from the trash and transported to a disposal site as this type of filter is not accepted at the five-town recycling center. The fee for this disposal amounted to \$1,000.00. Mr. Menin expressed his lack of understanding as to how Radon – a gas – could be trapped by a water filter.

After discussion, Allen Hoffman made a motion that Mr. Favreau engage in a discussion with Bill Tuttle, the DPW Superintendent, in regard to a policy for disposal of hazardous items. Gary Menin seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Sterling Fair - BOH Update:

Mr. Favreau noted that 38 permits were issued by the Board of Health and there were no issues during the three days of the fair.

28 Sandy Ridge Road, 46 Holden Road and 8 Gates Terrace system upgrades:

The Health Agent advised Board members that all septic systems failed at the addresses noted. These systems had been designed utilizing requirements from the 1995 title 5 code.

Public Records Request for 38 Clinton Road:

The applicant for this public records request paid the fee and all records have been sent. The BOH administrative staff spent 16 hours compiling the BOH records involved in this request, approximately \$387.00 in expense includes materials.

Signatures Required:

Sign and approve variance letter - 75 Redstone Hill Road:

Member Hoffman made a motion to approve Mr. O'Connor's letter as satisfactory to allow the Health Agent to sign the Building Permit. Mr. Menin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous by all board members.

Other Items:

1/25/2018 Presentation before the Sterling Extension Group:

Allen Hoffman will be making a presentation regarding the Board of Health to the Sterling Extension Group.

Public Session:

None

Appointments and Agenda Items:

Donna - Discuss Request of Alternate Inspector Use:

Mrs. Clark noted the BOH created a policy, January 6, 2015 by which request of services from the MPH N are processed. All completed permit applications and permits shall originate through the BOH office; subsequently a request for scheduling an inspectional service shall be solicited to the MPH N or their inspector through the BOH office. Prior to the inspection, a copy of this permit shall be provided to the inspector for purposes of a sign off upon completing the inspection. Upon completion of the inspection and the inspector's sign off, the permit shall be returned to the BOH office or drop box outside the Town Hall building for tracking and accountability for this expense. All BOH members wanted to make sure that the process is followed in order to maintain efficient accounting practice and that certificate of compliance can be issued in a timely manner

Again this process was not followed during a recent inspection performed by the MPH N inspector at 88 Wilder Road. The licensed contractor scheduled this service from the MPH N inspector and did not make a request for the second inspectional visit through the BOH office.

Discussion: In Court Representation for any Summons:

Allen Hoffman presented a motion regarding a summons/formal notice from a Court which reads:

"It is expected that the Health Agent will appear in Court in response to any summons/formal notice from a Court which he/she has received and which involves the Board of Health and/or its Agent in conduct of their official duties. Variation from this policy must be approved in advance by vote of the Board of Health."

After discussion, during which Mr. Menin considered the action redundant, Mr. Hoffman made a motion to accept this statement and it was seconded by Gary Menin. All in favor; motion carried.

Discussion: Town Obligations to Condemnation of Occupied Dwelling Units:

Member Hoffman spoke on this topic. According to state and federal law, the town must pay for moving expenses and rent for the residents when the town takes over condemned buildings.

Member Menin, having another obligation, left the meeting, at 6:32 PM.

Review of Future Agenda Items:

Allen Hoffman requested an update on herbicide applications being done in town by the DPW and the state.

Mr. Hoffman also requested the radon issue be placed on the agenda.

Schedule Next Meeting:

The next Board meeting will be on November 9, 2017, at 5:30 PM in Room 205 of the Butterick Building.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Allen Hoffman and seconded by Donna Clark. The vote was unanimous and the meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM.