

January 12, 2023
Sterling Board of Health Meeting
Butterick Building, Lower Level Conference Room
1 Park Street, Sterling, MA 01564

Meeting Minutes

6:00 PM The meeting was called to order by Chairman Allen Hoffman.

Roll Call: Allen Hoffman, Chairman – present
Anne Marie Catalano, Member – present
Cathie Martin, Member – present
David Favreau, Health Agent – present
Elaine Heller, Administrative Assistant – present

Attendees: Peter Clark, and Mark Elbag

General Business Updates:

Approve Any Available Minutes: December 8, 2022:

After review, a motion to approve minutes, as written, of the December 8, 2022 meeting was made by Martin and seconded by Catalano. Roll call vote: Hoffman - aye; Martin - aye. Catalano abstained as she was not present at that meeting. Motion carried.

Health Agent Report:

Construction activities and soil testing activities are still ongoing during these mild winter months. The condos on Chace Hill Road are in process of construction; the soil absorption system has been constructed.

Bob Moore, the Alternate Health Agent, has been out for approximately one month, due to health problems. He has been reviewing design plans at home as needed.

The new fee structure and revised septic regulations are now posted on the town website.

Signatures Required: Done

DPH - Interagency Updates:

According to Ms. Martin, DPH has announced the annual notice for local internship applications is out. There is continuing support by the state in having COVID test kits available.

Other Items: None

Appointments and Agenda Items:

Variance Request: 86 Maple Street

Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations: Reg. IV.f., Leaching facilities 0-1,499 GPD shall be constructed with the following minimum 4-foot separation distance to estimated seasonal high groundwater (3 feet separation is proposed).

Local Upgrade Request: 310 CMR 15.405(1)(h): Reduction of the required 4-foot separation between the bottom of the leach area and the estimated seasonal high groundwater table (3-foot separation provided between the bottom of the leach area and the estimated seasonal high groundwater table).

310 CMR 15.405(1)(j): Reduction of the requirement of a 12-inch separation between the inlet and outlet tees and high groundwater, provided that all boots or pipe joints are sealed with hydraulic cement or installed with watertight sleeves and the tank is proven watertight.

Plan designer Mark Elbag, of M.A. Elbag Engineering, appeared before the Board on this variance request. This is a 4-bedroom home with wetlands in the backyard. A Presby system is proposed. After review of the plan, Martin made a motion to approve the plan as presented, and Catalano seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Martin - aye; Catalano - aye; Hoffman - aye. Unanimous vote.

Health Agent Review:

Members discussed the uniform performance criteria and completed the review. The Administrative Assistant will enter the information in the online form, which will be reviewed and signed by Board members at the next meeting, which is scheduled for February 9, 2023, at 6:00 PM in the Lower Level Conference Room of the Butterick Building.

Review of Future Agenda Items:

According to the Health Agent, there may be currently one possible variance for the next meeting.

Adjourn:

A motion to adjourn was made by Martin and seconded by Catalano. Roll call vote: Martin - aye; Catalano - aye; Hoffman - aye. With all members in favor, the meeting adjourned at 7:17 PM.