

**MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**  
**Wednesday, December 16, 2015 – 5:30 PM – Downstairs Meeting Room**  
Town Hall, One Avenue A, Turners Falls, MA

**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Albert (Al) Cummings-Chair, Michael Nelson (late 5:39 PM), Christopher Boutwell, and Gina McNeely, Director.

Al Cummings called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM

- Minutes for November 18, 2015.

*Christopher Boutwell motioned to accept the November 18, 2015 minutes as presented. Seconded by, Al Cummings. Motion passes*

- Director's Report for October 2015.
  - Were not approved in November as stated on the recorder

*Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the Health Director's report for October 2015. Seconded by, Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

- Director's Report for November 2015
  - A lot of Septic System work due to the weather being seasonably warm.
  - 36 Green Pond Road property that was previously been condemned was sold at auction. The new owner will be doing a new septic system and house at the site.
  - Been out on many food inspections but that will get busier when the weather gets colder and septic systems are not the priority
  - At some point in the future it will be brought to the Board of Selectmen to site a new Town of Montague Cemetery maybe on Federal Street. Gina will be working with the new Cemetery Commissioner – Judith Lorei

*Christopher Boutwell **motioned** to accept the Health Director's report for November 2015. Seconded by, Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

- Health Inspector's Report for November 2015.
  - 32 High Street – Re-inspection of the property as it is reverting back to what it was.
  - Certified letters went out to 38 East Main St to the occupants announcing an inspection next week.

*Christopher Boutwell **motioned** to accept the Health Inspector's report for November 2015. Seconded by, Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

- Nurse's Report for October 2015 and November 2015.
  - Tabled till next meeting
- **Discussion:** BOH Meeting Schedule for 2016
  - Boards of Health Members were given copies of the proposed 2016 meeting schedule.

*Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept BOH Meeting Schedule for 2016. Seconded by, Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes***

- **Discussion:** BOH Fee Schedule for 2016 to be effective January 1, 2016.
  - After discussion with the Board there were no proposed changes to the fee schedule for 2016.

*Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the BOH Fee Schedule for 2016 to be effective January 1, 2016. Seconded by, Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes***

- 286 Montague City Road and the school bus located there; this topic requires a reexamination.
 

**Guests:** Pioneer Valley Cooperative – Millie Augusto and Jennifer Caruso, and Occupant and owner of the bus Andrew Huckins.

  - Pioneer Valley Cooperative’s Attorney wrote a letter to the board of health objecting to the fact that the Coop had not been informed of the hearing requested by bus owner Andrew Huckins of 286 Montague City Rd. Gina put together a timeline regarding this situation:
    - Oct. 26, 2015 a complaint regarding a bus at 286 Montague City Rd. came in from the Pioneer Cooperative to the BOH with the possibility of someone living in the bus. The Coop was actually complaining to the board of health on itself since they own the property and have authority over their tenants and their property. The Coop called the board of health because they were apparently having trouble renewing their liability insurance due to the bus.
    - Nov. 4, 2015 the BOH did an exterior inspection of the bus and wrote an order to cease and desist stating no one can live inside the bus. If needed a permit for the wood stove shall be sought.
    - Nov. 11, 2015 a written letter came in from Mr. Huckins to request a hearing regarding the situation at 286 Montague City Rd.
    - At the hearing the cease and desist order was rescinded and it was understood that if the wood stove was staying a permit would be needed.
    - The board also forbade anyone living in the bus.
    - Nov. 30, 2015 a letter arrived from the Atty. of the Pioneer Cooperative that they should have been invited to the November hearing and that the issue with the bus is in violation of a shareholders lease agreement. If that is the case why has the Pioneer Cooperative not taken action to remove the bus from their premises? It is not the BOH job to enforce lease agreements.
    - The lawyer brought up that they (The Pioneer Cooperative) was basically calling regarding a complaint against themselves. Given this situation they were not invited as they were aware of the situation as they brought it to the BOH attention.
    - Gina suggested that if the Pioneer Cooperative feels this way and that the bus continues to be an issue along with reasonable cause that they go to court and get an administrative search warrant to allow them access to the bus.

- **Discussion:** Request from tattoo artist to amend the Body Art Regulations

Leah Calderi – Charon Art requested to amend the Body Art Regulations. There was some research done by the department regarding what the policies and age limits are in the surrounding towns. Amherst is the only surrounding town that allows individuals of 16 to be tattooed.

*Christopher Boutwell **motioned** to deny the request by Leah Calderi to amend the Montague Body Art Regulations Seconded by, Michael Nelson. **Motion passes***

- **Discussion:** TGP/Kinder Morgan Gas Pipeline

The individual that requested this be on the agenda was not present.

Gina said that there was an article in the paper a few weeks ago regarding the pipeline going through the Montague Plains and near Green Pond which sparked this being brought up again.

The Water Department is involved and has the right to research their options regarding TGP/Kinder Morgan Gas Pipeline and the Montague BOH has no authority over this.

*Michael Nelson **motioned** to reaffirm the Montague Board of Health's position on the TGP/Kinder Morgan Gas Pipeline. Seconded by, Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

*Al Cummings **motioned** to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by, Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

Meeting adjourned: 6:08 PM

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_