

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, December 19, 2018 – 5:30 pm

First Floor Montague Town Hall

Turners Falls, MA

Meeting Minutes

Present: Al Cummings, Chair, Christopher Boutwell and Michael Nelson

Staff: Gina McNeely – Health Director and Anne Stuart – Health Clerk

Meeting being recorded.

Al Cummings opened the meeting.

Minutes: November, 2018.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the November 21, 2018 Minutes. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell.

Motion passes.

Director's Report: November 2018.

November 2018 Highlights:

- Gina McNeely informed the board members that her time has been taken up considerably with many Title 5 inspections and existing system failures in 2018. This work included: a repair perc and soil evaluation at 85 Taylor Hill Road which needed a soil sample sent into UMass due to the percolation hole repeatedly filling with water. Also, there was a final installation inspection of a septic system at 271 Federal Street.
- Leah Caldieri from Charon Arts (Tattoo and Piercing Shop) called and emailed several times concerned that the “Skin Anatomy Course” formerly offered by the Quincy Health Department is no longer available due to Ruth Jones (Quincy Health Department) retiring. Leah offered to have the course taught by an employee of hers who is a registered nurse. Gina suggested this would be a conflict of interest; having our local body art establishment actually teaching a course the Board of Health requires as a condition of issuing a body art tattoo artist permit. Montague’s Body Art Regulations state an either or situation so applicants can take one college level course in Anatomy & Physiology instead of the Skin Anatomy Course. No one will be denied a practitioner permit because a viable alternative is available to applicants.
- Gina informed the Board that the ad ran for the part time Health Inspector in the Daily Hampshire Gazette, reasoning the Greenfield area has probably been tapped out as it has vacancies in all positions within their Health Department. Michael Nelson expressed interest in being part of the hiring process which includes Steve Ellis, Town Administrator, Christopher Boutwell, Secretary and Al Cummings, Chair of the Board of Health.
- The receivership program through the Attorney General’s office continues to help with the rehabilitation of properties throughout Montague. Currently 111L Street and 97 Second Street are in the receivership program. 78 J Street is in the pipeline for the receivership program and Gina is currently in the process of putting a case together for the Attorney General.

The Town of Montague is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

- 22 West Main Street has been inspected and reinspected several times and is currently bank owned. The Assistant Attorney General, Kara Cunha will be in court on December 21, 2018 regarding this property and she has stipulated the property has to be sold to a person or other entity who has the financial ability to bring the building fully up to code.
- Michael Nelson inquired regarding the possibility of mandating the Town to have Town Counsel at court appearances. The Court will continue to allow the Director of Health or Health Inspector to bring cases to court and to make and sign Agreements of the Parties but Town Counsel will be required for case review hearings, civil cases and trials. This new policy will be a financial expense to the BOH budget going forward.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the November 2018 Director's Report. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

2019 Board of Health Schedule:

- The Montague Board of Health will continue to meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5:30 PM in the downstairs meeting room at Town Hall. Anne will post the schedule in the Town Clerk's office on December 20, 2018.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the Montague Board of Health schedule as presented. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Michael Nelson **motioned** to adjourn the Montague Board of Health meeting at 6:02 PM. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Meeting adjourned: 6:02 PM

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

List of documents used at this meeting:

- November 2018 Minutes
- Director's Report November
- Proposed 2019 Board of Health Schedule