

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, April 17, 2019 – 5:30 pm
Downstairs Meeting Room – Montague Town Hall
Turners Falls, MA

Meeting Minutes

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

Staff: Gina McNeely, Health Director

Guest: Melina Bourdeau, Reporter for the Greenfield Recorder

Meeting being recorded.

Al Cummings opened the meeting at 5:30 PM.

Minutes: March 20, 2019.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the March 2019 Minutes. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

Director's Report: February 2019:

- When Gina visited Unit 17 at the Laurel Park Manufactured Home Park, she observed that due to accumulated winter snowfall neither entrance to the unit was passable. This caused concern that Mr. Nielsen was not leaving his home and no one was bringing in supplies. Also, passage for emergency responders would be hindered. Therefore, Gina put in a call to Life Path to report and elder at risk and to see if they can do a wellness check on Mr. Nielsen.
- 188 Millers Falls Road a call was received from Turners Falls Water Department stating that when a TFWD employee went to shut the water off for non-payment he reported "*all the doors were missing from the house.*" Gina went to the property to inspect and found only the front door missing due to a rotting door frame. The current owner Dale Ewell was working at the property and brought Gina up to date on his progress. Mr. Ewell is in the process of totally rehabbing the home which previously had been one of the Board of Health's most trying hoarding cases.
- 99 Second Street had a bat in the house that was killed by the owner's cat. The specimen was sent to the State Laboratory Institute for testing, the bat thankfully was negative for rabies. ACO Calin Guirgiu is an invaluable asset to the town of Montague. For years Gina euthanized, packaged and mailed bats to the state lab for testing. Mr. Guirgiu responds very quickly and is a pleasure to work with.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the Director's report from February 2019. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

Director's Report: March 2019:

- 19 Sherman Drive continues to be a property that remains in the state of a solid waste dump. This property is in violation of Massachusetts State Sanitary Code Chapter II: 105 CMR 410.602(A) *Maintenance of Areas Free from Garbage and Rubbish*
- *Land* which states "the owner of any parcel of land, vacant or otherwise, shall be responsible for maintaining such parcel of land in a clean and sanitary condition and free from garbage, rubbish or other refuse.

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This property will be heading to housing court and Gina is scheduled to do a couple of re-inspections including one on Friday, March 22, 2019 to see if the property owner has made any efforts to bring the property into compliance.

- Al Cummings along with Gina inspected the Home Show event on March 16, 2019 which consisted mostly of winter market type foods: frozen meats and syrups. The Smithsonian Caterers doing the bulk of the hot foods to be available for lunch.
- A Montague resident, Nancy Emery bought a food truck and wanted to cook out of her home kitchen and serve the items at local flea markets in the area but not in Montague. Gina informed her that she could not prepare time/temperature control foods in a private kitchen for sale to the public. She will need to contact and prepare foods in a licensed commercial kitchen if she wants to continue with her food truck idea.
- On May 5, 2019 there will be a fund raiser at Sheffield School called *Musica Family Fun Fest*. There will be a couple of food vendors at the event; and the proceeds raised from the event will go to help support the Montague afterschool music programs.
- There is an individual interested in opening a Tattoo shop in Millers Falls at 26 Bridge Street. The individual has been into the BOH a number of times and wants to do things correctly including the need to have a sink for each workstation. The bathroom sink can't be counted as a tattoo artists sink.
- Patricia Tigue, from King Information Systems has been retained by the Montague BOH to do a survey of all the Board of Health files. They then will put together a proposal for the BOH to review and move forward on organizing and restructuring their filing system for all records.

Christopher Boutwell **Motioned** to accept the Director's report from March 2019. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.**

Local Upgrade Approval Request for 85 Taylor Hill Road, Montague, MA:

- Gina shared with the board the septic plan design for 85 Taylor Hill Road the area has a shallow Estimated Seasonal High Water Table.
 - 1. Separation from the bottom of the leaching area from the estimated seasonal high water table from 3 to 4 feet. This will be acceptable at this location due to a Presby septic system being installed which only needs 2 feet of separation to the high water table.
 - 2. When Gina was on site she noted that there was a lot of water running into the perc hole due to the wet conditions. When this happens, it is permitted to send a soil sample into UMASS for sieve analysis. This report and results then has to be approved by the Board of Health. Gina has no concerns with the system and feels that the sieve analysis is conservative in its findings.

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to approve the request for a local upgrade approval for 85 Taylor Hill Road based on the sieve analysis report from UMASS. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Discussion of New Hire:

- Daniel Wasiuk has accepted the position of Health Director for the Town of Montague, MA. He will begin work in Montague on June 3, 2019. He currently is a Health Inspector in Northampton, MA and previously worked for the Town of Greenfield, MA. Gina McNeely is scheduled to retire on June 13, 2019.

- The Board members are sad to see her go but our excited to welcome Daniel to the Town and the position.

Christopher Boutwell **Motioned** to adjourn the Montague Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.**

Meeting adjourned: 5:54 PM

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Documents:

March Minutes

Director's Report February

Director's Report March

85 Taylor Hill Road Septic File & Plan