

# MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 – 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:** December 2018.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the December 2018 Minutes. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell.  
**Motion passes.**

**Director's Report:** December 2018.

December 2018 Highlights:

- 78 J Street was reinspected based on the BOH (2014) inspection report. This property was once slated for receivership but the owners, in 2014, pulled building permits and started to rehab this multi-family building. Unfortunately since 2015-2015 it appears there has been no change and the building remains unoccupied. . Gina will speak to Chris Rice to see if he's been called out to look sign off on any work accomplished inside the building.
- 35 Federal Street, Millers Falls Peter Cymzinski is the current owner of what used to Felton Paving. This is a commercial property and Peter wanted to expand the building without upgrading the septic system. The septic system previously failed and when it did Peter removed the toilet from the property. The proposed addition to the building will be used for truck maintenance and repair. However now with a proposed addition to the building, expressly being used for truck maintenance and repair, the Board of Health cannot allow this without the addition of a toilet and sink.
- G Street a complaint was received that two couches were left on the tree belt. Gina contacted Tom Bergeron of the Montague DPW to pick them up given that the location is on the tree belt and between the two properties.
- Discussions and brainstorming continues with Judith Lorei, from the Cemetery Commission to think about possible locations for a new town cemetery. Montague is running out of burial space and towns are required by state law to provide plots for their residents. The thought is that a new cemetery would combine traditional burial plots along with green burials plots.
- 19 Sherman Drive continues to generate complaints regarding running a business from this location, burning of trash, carports and sheds set up, and chickens. The yard items and debris are also now showing up across the road on another parcel which is owned by the same individual. There have been various site visits and conversations with both the Fire Department and the Building Department regarding the zoning (Neighborhood Business) and violations that need to be addressed.

The Town of Montague is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

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

**Discuss advertisement language, strategy and time frame for hiring a new director:**

- Gina informed the board that the Health Inspector job ran on December 21, 2018 in the Amherst Bulletin with no applicants.
- After some discussion regarding Board of Health staffing; Gina letting the Board know that she will be retiring in June. The Board then instructed Gina to advertise for a Director of Public Health as soon as possible. The idea being the newly hired Health Director can shadow Gina for a period of time to acclimate to the position before Gina leaves. Filling the Health Inspector position will be the next priority. In terms of a much needed Town Nurse, Gina is exploring the possibility of Montague sharing a nurse with one or two other towns.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to adjourn the Montague Board of Health meeting at 6:15 PM. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Meeting adjourned: 6:15 PM

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

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

**List of documents used at this meeting:**

- December 2018 Minutes
- Director's Report December