

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, February 20, 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: January 2019.

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

Director's Report: January 2019.

January 2019 Highlights:

- 19 Sherman Drive: There are ongoing issues with the property owner; Wayne Chapin is collecting all sorts of metal such as clothes dryers, refrigerators, anything that could be salvageable and sellable. The home is in the NB – Neighborhood Business zoning district so he is in violation of the Zoning Bylaws. Christopher Rice, Building inspector has done an Order to Correct and consulted with both Gina McNeely and Town Counsel.
- 1 Millers Falls Road: Gina received a call from the Fire Department at 8:30 PM for burst pipes at the two-family home. The first floor residents (2 adults and 3 kids) were displaced due to the upstairs tenants who left the scene they created. Gina worked on trying to reach the landlord who lives out of the country during the winter months. After making contact the first floor residents were put up at a local hotel till the issue could be resolved.
- 22 West Main Street: This property was on the list for receivership, but Bayview Properties bought the house at auction and plans now to demolish it. The Town does not want the property demolished due to its historic value and restrictive rebuilding and zoning concerns. The property is on the docket for Housing Court on March 15, 2019 with Attorney General, Kara Cunha
- Laurel Trailer Park: Several calls have been received at the Board of Health office by resident Francis Nielson, who believes there is strychnine in his water and that there is insulation installed in his radio which is preventing him from bringing out his trash. Mr. Nielson wanted to be sure the water was safe to drink which Gina confirmed for him. This situation is very troubling, and Gina is going to touch base with Triad services to see what might be available to Mr. Nielson.
- Billie McKerchie is investigating opening a restaurant (serving coffee and baked goods) at 112 Avenue A. Gina McNeely had a joint meeting with Christopher Rice - Building Inspector, John Zellmann – Turners Falls Fire Chief, and Oliver Miller – Property Owner. Gina McNeely informed Mr. McKerchie what would be needed from him on the food service end as it pertained to the Montague Board of Health Department.

The Town of Montague is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

- Bill Doyle and Gina McNeely met to discuss the septic system needs of the proposed Wendell Road Duplex he wants to build in the future.

Michael Nelson **motioned** to accept the January 2019 Director's Report. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Local Upgrade Approval for 369 Old Greenfield Road, Montague, MA.:

- There was an Emergency Certificate issued through the Montague Conservation Commission last month. More discussion surrounding this request will happen at the March BOH Meeting.

Discussion regarding staffing in the Board of Health:

- Gina gave the board a brief overview that the Health Director position has run in several print and electronic locations and we have received some applications to review and set up interviews for. Gina would like to continue to concentrate on filling the Director position so that there will be some overlap with the new hire and her desired time line to retire.

Draft/Explore interview questions for the Health Director Candidates:

- Gina informed the board that the Health Director job has been advertised with a deadline of March 4, 2019 or until the position is filled. Gina is working on interview questions and asked for input from both the Board of Health members and the Board of Health Clerk - Anne Stuart. Gina would like to do a combination of straight interview questions, situational questions and then some sort of quiz-like questions for the interviews.

Updates regarding the Board of Health Duties:

- Gina McNeely still strongly states that the Health Director position is an inspectional and in the field position and believes that both the Health Inspector and Nurse positions are crucial for department support and bring added value to the department and should be looked at in the near future for funding and the filling of those positions. The shared BOH Clerk position and the Inspector of Animals and Barns, and the sharing of the Maven reporting with the Greenfield, MA. Nurse will remain in place.

Michael Nelson **Motioned** to adjourn the Montague Board of Health meeting at 6:25 PM. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.**

Meeting adjourned: 6:25 PM

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

List of documents used at this meeting:

- January 2019 Minutes
- Director's Report January
- 369 Old Greenfield Road File
- Proposed Interview Questions