



TOWNSEND BOARD OF HEALTH

272 Main Street
Townsend, Massachusetts 01469

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Board of Health Meeting Minutes Monday, January 27, 2020 Meeting Room 2 at 6:00 PM

1. PRELIMINARIES:

- 1.1. Roll Call: Chris Genoter, (CG), Chris Nocella (CN), and Rick Metcalf (RM). CG opened the meeting at 6:04 PM. Linda Johansen (LJ) arrives at 6:10 PM.

2. APPOINTMENTS / HEARINGS:

- 2.1. 42 New Fitchburg Rd – Septic Upgrade w/ LUA: Proposal to upgrade existing failing septic for home. Lot has high groundwater table, ledge, and smaller lot size. Proposing a pumped Presby system. Requesting approval for less than 4' of pervious material, an LUA for use of a sieve analysis, and an LUA to reduce the offset from tank tees to GW. CN motions to accept the requested variances and sign the permit. CG 2nd. Approved unanimously.
- 2.2. Other Septic Permits For Approval: Deleted
- 2.3. Andrew Shepherd: Proposal to regulate the use of Styrofoam in Townsend: BOH clarifies that this is not a public hearing, as it was not listed as such on the posted agenda. This is just to gauge if the BOH should move forward with considering Regulations. Andrew Shepherd presents background on why he brought the potential Regulation to the BOH and provides information he gathered from the polling of potentially affected businesses in Town. It seems the biggest concern from businesses is the increased cost of alternatives vs. Styrofoam. Many businesses are supportive if that's the direction the Town wants to go. Irene Congdon discusses possible alternative materials to be used and offers to speak to Townsend Business Association to discuss alternatives to Styrofoam if Regulations were to be adopted. Other residents speak in favor of the Board adopting Regulations. LJ motions to schedule a public hearing to consider the Regulations. CN 2nd. Approved Unanimously.
- 2.4. Irene Congdon: Discussion regarding Education and Enforcement Coordinator Grant: Irene presents grant and qualifiers that must be met. It appears the Board may need to update their hauler Regulations in order to qualify, but grant seems intriguing. Harvard and Lunenburg are also very interested and Irene discusses pooling of resources, if awarded grant, to share coordinator with these towns. Irene will be putting on webinar with colleagues at MassDEP 2/12 at 11AM to discuss grant and suggests that Board listen if possible. The deadline for application will be June. Board concludes there is some work to do to qualify and asks Irene for any help she can provide to get there.
- 2.5. Review of General Revolving Fund bylaw: Warrant article for fall town meeting to revise current title and purpose to truly reflect intended purpose: Board discusses issue and is confused if there needs to be separate accounts for recycling and solid waste or if a common general fund can be used and the



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wording just needs to be revised to reflect how the general fund is utilized. LJ states she will revisit with Counsel to get clarification on this.

2.6. Recycling of Highway Department Material (tires, furniture, etc.): Continue to a future agenda when more data is available to look at costs of disposal, etc.

2.7. Outstanding Items i. Hoarding Task Force Discussion: Board gives RM direction to arrange meeting with himself, BOH admin, Fire, Police, COA, Town Nurse to discuss hoarding protocol and bring back to Board once that is worked out for their review.

3. WORK SESSION:

3.1. Discussion on Invoices from Shaw's: Deleted.

3.2. Invoices for approval: Continued.

3.3. Minutes 1/13/2020: Continued.

3.4. Future Agenda Items: Board decides to delete Accessory Apartment discussion with Bill Cadogan and provides direction to make ZBA aware they will need to set this up to discuss, if still necessary.

3.5. Adjournment: CN motioned to adjourn at 8:09 PM, LJ 2nd, approved unanimously.