

Public Meeting

February 21, 2008

Caucus Hall

5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Tom Gaudreau Duane Gregory, and John Livingstone

Members Absent: Jerry Anathan (unexcused) and Ken Janson (excused)

Staff: Jane Evans, Health Agent
Brian Carlson, Health Inspector

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m.

AGENDA

PUBLIC HEARING

Amendments to Local Board of Health Regulations

Title 5 Supplements

Duane Gregory gave an overview on how the hearing would be conducted and explained the gist of the regulations.

Motion: Waive the reading of the regulations

Motion: Duane Gregory Seconded: John Livingstone Vote: 3-0-0.

Jane Evans, the Health Agent, further clarified the updated regulations.

Question Period:

Lee Ash asked how this updated regulation differs from what we agreed to at town meeting years ago? Lee thought that it was different from the checkerboard system and this will affect many people. Jane Evans said that the criteria for failing are not changing, only being further clarified.

Amy Germain asked for clarification on title 5s. She also asked for further information on ACOs.

Dottie Mulcahey from 25 Winthrop Street asked about the criteria for failure of a system. There are many reasons and Jane elaborated on each.

Opponents of changes:

David Nicolau – who raised hypothetical issues - said he had trouble with some of the reasons which would mandate hooking up to the sewer system and he was against changing the regulations.

Lee Ash said that she realizes that some of these definitions may be just housekeeping issues BUT they are expensive issues. She also said that she agreed with BoS chair, Mary Jo Avellar, who said

that it would have been better if the whole town paid into the sewer system.

Amy Germain urged the BoH do damage control for the general public. Also, her comment for the 3 minute allotted time frame for public questions or comments is too short a time period.

Duane Gregory agreed and said the responses will be stretched to 5 minutes.

An e-mail from Cheryl Andrews stating her opposition to changes in the regulations sent to David Nicolau was read into the record.

In conclusion, everyone was thanked for attending the hearing and for their input.

John Livingstone said that he's very much in favor of transparency especially in a complex town such as this. He's personally working toward some public documents that are user friendly and puts everyone on a level playing field.

Tom Gaudreau felt that a book entitled "Sewer Regs for Dummies" was a great idea.

Duane Gregory closed the public hearing at 6:00 p.m. with thanks to all.

Public Comments

Amy Germain felt the public hearing was helpful to her.

New Business

There was none.

Discussion

Jane reported that there had been a meeting of the sewer team comprised of Jane, Ron Gamella, Dana Faris, and David Guertin. They reviewed all the ACOs and EDP applications. They met with Metcalf & Eddy and Brian Dudley. About 5,000 gallons of flow have been added and it was up to this team to make recommendations to the BoS on to whom the gallons would be given. She handed out a list of the businesses and residences that were ultimately approved by the BoS for the extra gallons.

The board worked on wording to describe a repairable septic system. The final decision on wording will be amended to the regulations and presented at our next meeting for final approval and publication.

Approval of Minutes for February 7, 2008

Motion: Approve the minutes as written.

Motion: Duane Gregory Seconded: John Livingstone Vote: 3-0-0.

Health Inspector's Report

Brian Carlson reported that there had been a dog bite to a woman in the Clapps Pond area. The bite broke the skin and neither the dog nor the man was able to be located. Brian will follow up by advising the woman that she has to consider the dog rabid and should seek medical advice immediately.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
E. Rogers Gaudiano

Approved by _____ on _____, 2008.
Duane Gregory, Chair