



TOWN OF NORWELL

345 MAIN STREET
NORWELL, MA 02061

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

January 29, 2024

OFFICE OF
BOARD OF HEALTH
(781) 659-8016

Present:

Peter Dillon, Chair
John Carpenter, Vice Chair
Natalya Davis, Clerk
R. Benjamin Margro, Health Agent
Tori Koch, Board of Health Administrator

Meeting began at 5:00 PM

Approval of Agenda

-Clerk, Natalya Davis, motioned to approve the Agenda; revised to include Chair Peter Dillon's resignation. Vice Chair, John Carpenter, seconded and all approved.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

-Clerk, Natalya Davis, motioned to approve the October 30, 2023, November 27, 2023 & December 21, 2023 meeting minutes. Vice Chair, John Carpenter, seconded and all approved.

246 Circuit Street-Grady Consulting

-This property was previously approved for a sieve; therefore, no representative from Grady Consulting, LLC attended the meeting.

-Following the prior approval the homeowner requested the system be moved to the front of her house.

-The prior plan, approved in 2022, called for an environmental system. The new plan is for a conventional system. The new plan requires approval for a reduction from 4' to 3' between the groundwater and the bottom of the SAS.

-A sieve was needed for the new location, even though ones were done prior. Health Agent, R. Benjamin Margro, recommended the Board vote on the sieve again as well as the reduction request.

-The Board asked that the resident be informed that the system will need to be larger if an additional bedroom is being planned. No new approvals will be needed as the local upgrades will remain the same. The resident will need to notify the Health Department if the system is enlarged.

-Clerk, Natalya Davis, motioned to approve the request for a reduction between the groundwater and the bottom of the SAS from 4' to 3' and approval of the sieve analysis. Vice Chair, John Carpenter, seconded and all approved.

General Discussion-BOH Fee Schedule

-The fee schedule has not been updated since 2003 when the fees were doubled. Health Agent, R. Benjamin Margro, has begun working on an updated fee schedule.

-A stable/barn permit fee was discussed in 2003 but never decided upon leaving it TBD.

-Clerk, Natalya Davis, feels that we should look into inspecting barns that hold public events but not barns that are for private use only.

-Previously massage therapy was licensed by the local authority but is now controlled by the State. Chair, Peter Dillon, and ND commented that if a regulation for this remains in our by-laws it should be removed.

-RBM recommended making sure that all of the smoking bylaws were removed, i.e., smoking in public places and sale of tobacco.

- RBM plans on simplifying the perc test fee schedule by not separating commercial and residential.
- RBM feels most of our fees are in line with other towns.

General Discussion-Recycling Center Fee Schedule

- Health Agent, R. Benjamin Margro, compared our fees with comparable recycle centers only. He did not include towns with transfer stations.
- RBM reviewed the fees, costs to the town for disposing of items and broke down what we currently charge and what he is proposing.

General Discussion-Motel Regulations

- Health Agent, R. Benjamin Margro, reviewed the motel regulations and explained the definitions and differences between a guest unit, a motel and a hotel.
- Chair, Peter Dillon, asked for clarification of what RBM is asking for from the Board. He suggested they review the regulations and revisit the topic at the next meeting.
- RBM explained that one of the motels is operating as a motel; the other is not following the requirements of a motel.
- RBM's goal is to draft better by-laws to better regulate the motels.

Clerk, Natalya Davis, motioned to adjourn. Vice Chair, John Carpenter, seconded and all approved.

Adjournment @ 6:25 p.m.

Signed: 
Natalya Davis, Clerk

Dated: 3/25/24