

Town of Heath  
Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes from 4/16/14

BOH members present: Becky Allen (chair), Karen Brooks (entered at 6:09), John Doherty (entered at 6:30 pm), Charlie Cornish, and Jenna Day. Also present Glen Ayers (Health Agent)

Others present: citizens; Debbie Cavalier and Richard Brooksbank (left at 6:47 pm); Mary Kersell (6:23-7:29 pm)

Meeting called to order at 6:01 pm.

Public Hearing opened at 6:02 pm.

Glen Ayers summarized the draft Septic regulations: testing of tanks with vacuum testing or hydraulic method, witnessing of all Title V inspections, all components must be on the same lot, also the process for Title V's inspections of unoccupied homes.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Glen Ayers also summarized the draft private well water regulations: he discussed the permit and the certificate as required in the new regulations. The regulations list proper procedure for well construction and conducting pumping tests. Glen also discussed the chlorination for testing. Decommissioning requirements were reviewed.

NO PUBLIC COMMENT

Becky Allen presented the proposed Temporary Occupancy Regulations. We added new definitions and made changes to reflect current town bylaws. We opened up these regulations to allow the Board of Health to regulate platform tents, camper/trailers, and all other temporary dwellings.

Debbie Cavalier asked a question regarding visiting camper/trailers. The question was answered with the fact that it cannot remain on the property for more than 30 days.

Debbie Cavalier would like to have the same wording that is in the town's bylaws stating that you cannot use temporary dwellings for more than 150 days per calendar year. She also asked about having the dates Mid-May until Mid-October put on them as well. The issue that was brought up pertains to when MEPOA dumping station is available for use.

It was discussed duplicating the Zoning Bylaw and also that if we used those dates they would only pertain to District B (Mohawk Estates).

Debbie Cavalier worries that new property owners in MEPOA are not getting sufficient information from the town and the different boards. The Board of Health stated that we have thought of different ways to communicate information but nothing that has been tested and worked yet.

The public hearing was adjourned at 6:46 pm.

The Board of Health will be accepting written comments on the proposed regulations until May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2014. They will be reviewed at our next meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

We approved the minutes from April 2, 2014, with corrections. Passed unanimously.

The Board of Health was then formally introduced to Mary Kersell. Mary Kersell attended the meeting to go over the proposal of tobacco regulations for the Town of Heath.

Mary Kersell explained how the regulations would affect smoking outside of restaurants and described that this would also cover smoking in smoking bars. Mary stated that other member towns have already passed these regulations. The Board of Health had a discussion on banning smoking outside of food and beverage establishments. Also discussed was the fact that some Western Massachusetts towns are considering increasing the smoking age to 21 years old. The coalition will be considering the increase in age at their next meeting. Non-criminal disposition tickets will be issued for non-compliance with this proposed regulation. Mary also discussed the ramifications to businesses that sell to minors. There will be new regulations passed down to cover different "flavors", e-cigarettes, single sale cigars, self-serve displays, and blunts. The cheap prices are a draw for minors.

The Board of Health also received and reviewed 2 insurance claims.

Margaret Freeman sent an e-mail regarding the history of Whitmore Springs and mentioned that there is no longer a sign posting that the water is not potable. Becky will bring sign ideas to the next meeting.

The Board of Health Received and issued a septic installer's permit for Robert Deane.

The Town of Heath has funding to pay for 100 ticks to be tested. There will be more information at the next meeting and discussion on how to get the word out to all residents.

The Board of Health received an e-mail to schedule a tight tank measurement at MEPOA. Karen Brooks and Charlie Cornish will witness on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014. They bring their findings to the next meeting.

The Board of Health received and read the nurse's report for January- March 2014.

The Board of Health received a housing complaint by a resident at 143 Number Nine Road. This resident requested an inspection. Glen Ayers went out to inspect. Mold was the reason for the request. It is in a rental and the tenant is moving out but the landlord lives upstairs. Glen provided information on security deposits and will send the same information to the landlord. The landlord has had someone come in to look at the problem and how to fix it. Glen will keep us updated.

A motion was made by John Doherty that Rebecca Allen continue on as the Board of Health clerk. Seconded by Jenna Day. John, Jenna, and Charlie Cornish voted Aye with both Karen Brooks and Rebecca Allen abstaining.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca L. Allen

Documents:

Proposed Private well regulations

Proposed Septic regulations

Proposed Temporary Occupancy regulations

Septic Installers Permit

Nurse's Report

BOH complaint Log

E-mail from MEPOA

Proposed Tobacco Regulations

2 insurance loss claims