

TOWN OF GROVELAND

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**BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, December 16, 2019**

**ATTENDEES: Joan Searl, RN, Chairwoman
Deborah Kadar-Hull, RN, Member
Michael Meagher, Member
Joseph Tevald, Interim Health Agent
Claire Walsh, RN, Public Health Nurse
Lori Bentsen, Administrative Asst.**

Meeting Open: 6:33 PM

AGENDA:

First agenda item is Judi Lafferty, 34 Uptack Rd. to discuss septic system at 38 Uptack Rd. Judi said the main issue that she wants the Board to address is who she can contact to get more information and to be more proactive so she is not waiting to get more information. Judi told the Board that with the previous health agent more than a month would go by without her receiving any updates. Searl said that will no longer be the case, Joe is on top of this situation. Joe said he spoke to the homeowner today and the homeowner has received estimates from three (3) septic system installers and the homeowner has applied with a lender to get financing. Judi said that last May she was in her yard and smelled a foul odor and observed about twenty (20) feet of break out. Judi showed the Board photos of break out. Joe told the Board that on the day he conducted a site visit, he smelled no odor and didn't see any break out. Searl asked Joe if there is an approved septic system plan for 38 Uptack Rd. and if we have received approval from the conservation commission for this property and Joe said yes. Searl said the homeowner is making progress in getting everything in place to install a new system, however, he really has to get moving now before the ground freezes. Joe said if the weather gets bad, the homeowner will be required to have his system pumped every month until a new system can be installed. Joe said the homeowner is waiting to hear on approval of financing which he is hoping to hear next week. Searl said that we will send the homeowner a letter stating that the Board wants a new septic system installed as soon as possible and if that can't be done due to weather conditions or financing, the existing system must be pumped every three (3) weeks until a new system can be installed.

Second agenda item is Nichols Village outdoor grill area. This is a new area that is part of the new addition. The Board reviewed the plans from EGA Architects, One Vernon St., Newburyport, MA. Joe told the Board that the architect is asking

the Board to waive the requirement of an additional exterior hand washing sink within this design. Joe said he conducted a site visit and he does not feel an additional sink needs to be installed. This area is located directly outside from the new casual dining room which includes a bar that has multiple hand washing sinks. The distance from the proposed gas grill is thirty (30) feet to the hand sinks located in the new casual dining room. Joe told the Board food preparation will be done inside and then brought out to the gas grill on carts. Joe told the Board that their intent for the seasonal outdoor grill area is to cook food on the grill only and not have any other type of preparation performed or storage at this location. After reviewing the plans, the Board agreed that an additional sink would not be needed. Searl made a motion that an outdoor sink at the seasonal grill area is not required, Kadar-Hull seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Third item on the agenda is 2021 Budget. Lori told the Board that the finance director installed a new budget software program that all departments are required to use this year. Lori told the Board that she has not been able to access the new budget software. After numerous attempts, Lori said she asked the finance director if she could sit at her computer to see if she could access the budget. Denise was not able to access the budget software after trying several different passwords. Lori said Denise told her she would have to contact the software support technician. The Board asked Lori to keep them apprised and they will continue the budget discussion at the next Board meeting.

Next on the agenda is Vaping Ban Lifted 12/11/19. The Board reviewed and discussed the new state regulations for tobacco and vaping products that were signed into law, An Act Modernizing Tobacco Control which provided the MA Department of Public Health with additional authority to regulate access to tobacco and electronic nicotine delivery systems, including vapes. Effective 12/11/19 the new law places the following restrictions;

1. Retail stores licensed to sell tobacco products, such as convenience stores, gas stations and other retail outlets, are restricted to the sale of non-flavored nicotine products with a nicotine content of 35 milligrams per milliliter or less.
2. The sale of non-flavored nicotine vaping products (with nicotine content over 35 milligrams per milliliter) is restricted to licensed, adult-only retail tobacco stores and smoking bars.
3. The sale and consumption of all flavored nicotine vaping products may only occur within licensed smoking bars.

The Board noted and discussed that this new law provides local Boards of Health guidelines for enforcing penalties for noncompliance. Kadar-Hull and Meagher

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also noted that effective June 1, 2020, the sale of combustible cigarettes and other tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes and flavored chewing tobacco will be restricted to licensed smoking bars where they may be sold only for on-site consumption. Joe told the Board that last Thursday he conducted a compliance check of our three (3) retailers and gave them each a copy of the new regulations.

Next the Board asked the public health nurse for an update. Claire said that per the Board's request she reached out to Chief Gillen for clarification on the rabies issue. Claire gave the Board copies of Municipal Animal Inspector Qualifications and Duties that Chief Gillen downloaded from the state website and sent to her. Claire told the Board that she feels Chief Gillen is more concerned about the paperwork from the state and follow-up. Claire said she and Chief Gillen discussed the payment of rabies invoices and he didn't have an exact amount but didn't think it should be more than \$500 a year. Claire said the invoices are from the veterinary clinics for prep and shipping of the animal to the state rabies laboratory in Jamaica Plain if it is questionable as to rabies. The Board said it is their understanding that the animal control officer position has always been under the purview of the police department. Claire said she would talk to Chief Gillen again for further clarification.

The Board discussed the recent numerous trash and recycle complaints, specifically that residents have stated that trash and recycle is being thrown together into the back of a trash truck. Searl stated that a resident on King St. witnessed this and called Selectman Dunn, who then contacted Lori. Claire told the Board that her husband has seen this occur at their house. Joe told the Board that because we were receiving so many complaints, he has been following the Waste Management truck and saw this occur once. Joe said when he asked the WM driver about this, Joe was told that it will be separated out at their recycle facility in Billerica. The Board agreed that this is not acceptable and if it continues, this issue will be addressed with the finance director who negotiated the trash and recycle contract.

Last on the agenda is review minutes for approval. Searl made a motion to approve meeting minutes of October 7, 2019, Meagher seconded and it was a unanimous vote. Searl made a motion to approve meeting minutes of October 17, 2019, Meagher seconded and it was a unanimous vote. Searl made a motion to approve meeting minutes of October 24, 2019, Kadar-Hull seconded and it was a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned: 7:45 PM

Next Board of Health meeting will be scheduled as needed.

Minutes transcribed by Lori Bentsen, Administrative Asst.

