

HAMILTON BOARD OF HEALTH

TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012

Members Present: Lindle Willnow, Susan Wilfahrt and Karen Zagorski. Health Agent Leslie Whelan and BOH Administrative Assistant Nancy Stevens also present.

Meeting Opened: 7:35 p.m. at Hamilton Town Hall

Adopt Proposed Regulation regarding the Flood Plain District

Health Department had received document from Town Counsel Donna Brewer relative to adopting proposed regulation for Flood Plain District and National Flood Plain Insurance program. As a result, Board of Health discussed whether or not impermeable barrier would be required around septic systems especially within 200' of riverfront. Chair Lindle Willnow said that the proposed regulation was related to FEMA requirement. Administrative Assistant Nancy Stevens said if Board adopts the regulation a legal notice would be placed in local newspaper.

Willnow moved that the Board approve the proposed regulation pertaining to the Flood Plain District. Karen Zagorski seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Nomination of Inspector and Assistant Inspector of Animals – Dyan Katz and Anne Jackman

Willnow moved that the Board nominate Dyan Katz as Inspector of Animals. Susan Wilfahrt seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Willnow moved that the Board nominate Anne Jackman as Assistant Inspector of Animals. Zagorski seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Status of Resident at 494 Essex Street – Keeping of Animal Permit

Stevens explained that she had sent a letter in January 2012 to resident Michelle Stecyk at 494 Essex Street notifying her that she was in violation of regulation Chapter 8 of the Minimum Standard Keeping of Animals, and that the resident was suppose to submit payment for \$35 permit fee plus a \$50 late fee. The letter mailed to Stecyk was received back by the Health Department unopened.

Discussion ensued about how the Board of Health should address the issue of the resident not paying the outstanding bill for \$85 for Keeping of Animal permit. Stevens described how she had telephoned Stecyk numerous times since July 1, 2011 regarding the matter and had also sent a certified letter to Stecyk. Stevens has not received any response from the resident.

Discussion about how the resident is not elderly so it is unlikely she has been intimidated by the Health Department correspondence regarding the two horses and barn she owns that are supposed to be permitted with the Town.

Also mentioned was whether or not any Town officials could take action on the matter. Or if correspondence from the Town could be done via email to the resident. Stevens noted that a similar situation occurred last year with Stecyk, however, the resident finally paid the bill. Stevens offered to speak to Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena and Assistant to the Town Manager Christine Lindberg to understand the Town's options to resolve the violation, possibly discussing the matter at a Selectmen's meeting. Discussion ensued about how the Town could only charge up to \$200 for the violation.

Review – Board of Health Minutes dated February 15, 2012

Board members presented amendments to minutes. Willnow moved that the Board approve the February 15, 2012 regular session minutes as amended. Wilfahrt seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Health Agent Leslie Whelan updated Board about her discussion with Finance Director Deborah Nippes-Mena regarding the Septic Loan program. It would primarily be used for residents who could not get loans and did not plan on moving but had failed septic systems that needed to be upgraded to be Title 5 compliant.

Whelan thought Health Department personnel could focus on the program during the winter months when the Health Department is not as busy as it is during other times of the year. Stevens explained that one of the outstanding program loans is going to be paid off and that there are two other outstanding loans remaining.

Other business

Discussion about letter sent to resident at 251 Bridge Street regarding feeding of animals causing health nuisance and that the resident has decided to remove all bird feeders on his property.

Mention that Conservation Commission Coordinator Jim Hankin has been working with Homestead Circle and other area residents as well as New England Biolabs personnel on beaver and high water issues in the Miles and Ipswich Rivers.

Discussion was about signed Mutual Aid Agreement and that Food Inspector Roberta Cody should be involved if food is going to be served at an Emergency Shelter so shelter staff and volunteers from Hamilton could be advised of food safety measures.

Meeting Adjourned:

Willnow moved at 8:20 p.m. to adjourn. Wilfahrt seconded motion. VOTE: Unanimous. The Board's next meeting is on Wednesday, May 16 at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

cc: Selectmen, Planning Board, Town Clerk, Conservation