

HAMILTON BOARD OF HEALTH

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2010

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

Meeting Opened: 7:31 p.m. at Hamilton Town Hall

Peter Britton – 466 Highland Street – Application regarding two proposed wells

Discussion was with Peter Britton of 466 Highland Street who has submitted an application to Board of Health for permit approval to install two wells on his 100-acre farm property. He hopes wells would generate 10 to 15-gallons per minute of water flow. Britton wants wells for potable water to be used with a portable greenhouse on his farm to irrigate, provide drinking water for workers and wash vegetables.

Britton wanted one of two wells for future use on an area of his property that doesn't fall under Conservation Restriction from Essex County Greenbelt Association for potential development as two house lots. Health Agent Leslie Whelan reviewed Hamilton's Board of Health regulations and said the appropriate time to submit an application for a well for this use was if and when two houses were built at the site.

In response, Britton said the two wells could be used solely for greenhouse at this time. He also said he could take reference to build-able lots out of his well permit application. Whelan said application could be amended to specify what Britton wants the wells for.

Britton is preparing for the next growing season but has time for the Board of Health to research information before making a decision about whether or not to grant him the permit for his wells.

Discussion was on compliance with BOH regulations where the location of wells has to be 100' from any septic system's leaching field and that a well has to be situated 25' from all streets and property lines.

There is a proposal in the works for a 44-unit senior housing development at Canterbrook Farms that abuts Britton's Brick Ends Farm property. The proposed development's septic system leaching field would be within 100' of where Britton would like to locate a well. Canterbrook Farms has not officially submitted an

application for the senior housing development although there has been discussion with the Planning Board.

If a variance were considered for the development's septic system requirements (i.e., less than 100' to closest well), consideration and approval would have to go through both the Department of Environmental Protection and local Board of Health since this would be new construction.

Britton is interested in locating the wells near the Asbury Street end of the Brick Ends Farm property close to a right of way where half of this easement is owned by Canterbrook Farms. The easement or right of way is thought to be 20' wide.

The location where Britton wants to situate one of the new wells is 12' to 15' feet from the easement to prevent well from becoming an obstacle in middle of an agricultural field where portable greenhouse would be moved and work would be done in field.

Apparently in deed paperwork, right of way has been referred to as formerly Cross Street. Whelan said if right of way were not a street according to Assessor's records, Board of Health regulations would allow well permit to be granted for a well location that is less than 25' from right of way. Also, Board of Health could grant a variance.

Whelan will contact Assessor's office to get an opinion on status of right of way regarding whether or not it is a street before going to Town counsel for a ruling. Britton will provide Board of Health with deed language on this issue.

Lindle Willnow moved that Board of Health table it's decision on well permit application until next Board of Health meeting when it will have a ruling as to whether or not right of way is a street. Susan Wilfahrt seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Discussion – Vaccine Reimbursement – Contractual Agreement

The Board of Health signed a billing contract from Commonwealth Medicine, an affiliate of UMass Medical Center that will assist with receiving reimbursement from insurance companies for Hamilton flu shot recipients that are under 65.

The Town could get a \$13.76 reimbursement for each flu shot and the money will go into Hamilton's general fund.

Wenham will do separate billing for any Wenham residents that participate in flu clinics organized by the Town of Hamilton.

At the flu clinic held on October 18, 110 people received shots. Anyone participating in the flu clinics will receive a shot regardless of potential for insurance reimbursement.

Discussion – “Emergency Shelter” plan

Karen Zagorski, Whelan, and Board Administrative Assistant Nancy Stevens met recently with Town’s public safety officials and Town Manager Michael Lombardo to discuss an emergency shelter plan.

Discussion on Red Cross typically leading set up of emergency shelters in school buildings. In an emergency, Hamilton’s public safety departments would be too busy to man an emergency shelter so many volunteers would be needed. Partners Healthcare would not help Hamilton in an emergency.

Board members agreed that the Board of Health is not capable of leading a shelter operation but would be involved in an emergency dispensing site. Willnow suggested research be done on Red Cross policy for setting up shelters. Lombardo is driving the emergency shelter plan process.

Review – Board of Health Minutes dated 9/21/10

Willnow moved that the Board approve the September 21, 2010 minutes as amended. Wilfahrt seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous.

Other business

Whelan said there had been three requests for local upgrade approval in September: variances with a 1’ reduction to groundwater were granted for properties located at 17 Bradford Road, 66 Old Cart Road and 37 Beech Street extension.

The Beech Street site also received two other variances since it crossed a sewer line and the bottom of the pipes that go in and out of the septic tank were not the full 1’ above groundwater because the groundwater in that area is so high.

Discussion was on three versions of health department budget (for existing, optimum, and level-funded services) that have to be completed by November 5 to meet Town’s FY2012 budget preparation and schedule requirements.

Meeting Adjourned:

Willnow moved at 9:03 p.m. to adjourn. Wilfahrt seconded the motion. VOTE: Unanimous. The Board's next meeting is on Tuesday, November 30 at 7:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

cc: Selectmen, Planning Board, Town Clerk, Conservation