

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2023

Present: Holliston Board of Health (BoH): Jay Leary (*Chairperson*)
Peter Liffiton (*Vice-Chairperson*)
Josh Mann (*member*)

Scott Moles, *Health Director/Agent*
Ann Adams, *Health Department Clerk*

Jay Leary opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.
Scott Moles read the Remote Participation Statement.

Board of Health roll call: Jay Leary – present, Peter Liffiton – present, Josh Mann – present

Public Comment: Erin Mack, 38 Avon Street had questions regarding the final grading of the septic system upgrade at the abutting 22 Avon Street.

Scott explained that the installer Kevin Dorsey is in the process of final grading, and will be bringing in the loam and seed at the beginning of September. The last 2 rain events didn't result in water problems.

Scott will continue to monitor the situation. Once the final paperwork is submitted Scott will do the final inspection prior to signing the Certificate of Compliance. If Erin has any concerns she shouldn't hesitate to contact Scott. Erin appreciated the information.

COVID-19 Update: There is one active case (reported to the State) of COVID-19 in Town. The cumulative total is 3142 cases.

465 Hopping Brook Road – Underground Injection Control:

- The Underground Injection Control (UIC) permit being applied for by Grady Consulting for Pharmacann at 465 Hopping Brook Road was discussed.
- The plan is designed to inject 8,000 gallons per day (GPD) of process water from their marijuana hydroponic growing facility.
- Scott has contacted the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) well hydrogeologist Joe Cerutti regarding this UIC process. Scott will try to get Joe to attend a future Board meeting.
- Scott has enlisted Paul Saulnier, P.E. to assist in the review of this plan.
- The fee still needs to be established. Using the BoH Engineering Fee Schedule for design flow over 1000 GPD, the fee would be \$1,320.
- Scott spoke to several Town Hall Departments regarding Pharmacann's proposed UIC:
 - Karen Sherman, Planning Board, said that Pharmacann was presented as a medical facility so there was no special permit review.
 - Mark Kaferlein, Building and Zoning Inspector, said if it is an in-ground injection, then the BoH could require quarterly testing by an independent agent.
 - Linda Mann, Water Department Office Manager, said there are no limits restricting water use. If Pharmacann wants to use 8,000 GPD they just pay for it.

- Travis Ahern, Town Administrator said that the increased water use and change in the growing process may indicate a change from exclusively medical use to include recreational use. The Select Board may want to look at the Pharmacann permitting.
- Scott will look into whether Pharmacann is still an exclusive medical facility or if they've expanded their distribution to include recreational use.
- Peter said he explored UIC's on the EPA website saying there are 6 classes of injection wells. The deeper injection wells must be located under any water source and under a confining layer. Peter requested a copy of the State UIC requirements. Scott will send the State UIC regulations to the Board.
- Scott explained that there are other UIC's in Town. The Gulf Station, 799 Washington Street, had a UIC prior to 2008. Scott will explore the other UIC's in Town and report back to the Board.
- Peter said that a UIC must be ¼ mile from any drinking water well. Since Holliston well requirements are the same for irrigation or domestic use (potable), a UIC will need to be ¼ from any well, and will restrict any well from being dug in the future within ¼ mile. Scott thought that the irrigation well at Griffin Electric was more than ¼ mile away, but it is the applicant who must show that this ¼ mile distance is possible.
- Scott will keep the Board posted.

40 High Street – fee waiver requested: The First Baptist Church has requested in writing a Form A fee waiver for the Eagle Scout project of building a pergola for shade at the First Baptist Church.

Jay made a motion to approve the requested Form A fee waiver for the pergola at the First Baptist Church. Peter seconded.

Roll Call: Jay Leary-Aye, Peter Liffiton-Aye, Josh Mann-Aye. Passed.

39 Locust Street- septic system upgrade concerns:

- The property encroachment concerns issues are resolved. The abutters will get an as-built plan.
- The septic upgrade will be complete this week, and once the paperwork is submitted, Scott can sign the Certificate of Compliance.

799 Washington Street - Gulf Station:

- Travis Ahern, Town Administrator is in negotiations for transfer of ownership of the property.
- The Health Department provided information about the tight tank removal and the UIC.
- Scott will provide updates as they become available.

90 Brooks Street - Zoning Enforcer Mark Kaferlein is addressing the change of use.

Holliston Woods Septic Odor: Monday the odor at the Holliston Woods shared septic system (25 Monroe Drive) reappeared. A resident notified the Health Department of the odor. The septic system operator and the design engineer were notified of the situation. Scott will visit the site Wednesday to follow up, and will keep the Board informed.

81 Wingate Road owner crushed his 4 year old Eljen soil absorption field not paying attention to its location during backyard construction. The owner has been given the repair plan from Eric Dickinson, designer. The owner needs to submit the repair plan to the Health Department.

Flu Clinic – October 14th

- The flu vaccine at the clinic will not have any COVID-19 component.
- In the past the Town has covered the cost of vaccine for uninsured residents. The cost is \$40 for regular vaccine and \$85 for high-dose vaccine. There have been no uninsured residents the past 2

clinics, but at our largest clinic there were 10 uninsured residents. The Board discussed and agreed it was good for the Town to pay for uninsured residents.

Jay made a motion to approve paying for uninsured residents at the flu clinic. Peter seconded. Roll Call: Jay Leary-Aye, Peter Liffiton-Aye, Josh Mann-Aye. Passed.

COVID-19 Clinic – Scott has reached out to Transformative Health who ran our previous COVID-19 clinics about having a COVID-19 clinic. Scott will keep the Board posted.

Tire Drop-off– Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project will facilitate a Tire Drop-off on Saturday September 30th for Holliston residents. The Highway Department will be present at the Marshall Street Recycling Center to support them. Advertisement for the Tire Drop-off will begin next week.

State of Emergency:

- Governor Healy has declared a State of Emergency in response to the rapidly rising number of migrant families arriving in Massachusetts in need of shelter and services.
- Woburn has received 100 families.
- The impact on the schools is to be determined.
- Federal Emergency Management Agency money is being sought for housing costs.
- There will be state-wide impact on other communities.

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey: Scott has received no new information.

Agricultural Commission (AgCom):

- Scott will be attending the next AgCom meeting on September 7th.
- There was another rooster noise complaint that was sent to the AgCom's Chair, Cherie Hafford. Cherie will get back to Scott.

Downtown Sewer Project:

- Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has requested more soil testing.
- Paul Saulnier, P.E. will do the soil testing with Scott and the DEP witnessing.
- They are trying to expand the soil absorption field.
- Jay asked if they are increasing the project's capacity. Scott replied that this soil testing is needed to explore the feasibility of increasing the project's capacity.

48 Morton Street:

- 48 Morton Street owner is running a spray foam insulation business out of his home.
- Mark Kaferlein, Zoning Enforcer, is in the process of restricting that business use in a residential area.
- Thursday a neighbor provided photos of the business pouring liquid from one 55 gallon drum to another, spilling liquid on the driveway.
- Scott contacted the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- Friday, the DEP and Scott visited 48 Morton Street.
- The DEP determined that the spill volume was below the reportable limits (less than 5 gallons) but took 2 samples to test. They said the liquid is only hazardous when the 2 components are mixed together.
- Scott will keep the Board posted.

Holliston Community Children's Center, 725 Washington Street, had 2 hornets' nests that were treated, requiring Health Department sign-off. The treatment happened on the weekend when the children weren't there and the area was blocked off from the children.

Mosquitoes - Health and Homeland Alert Network (HHAN) sent an alert today having found a West Nile positive mosquito in Milford. Milford being an adjacent community to Holliston will up our Town's mosquito risk factor.

72 Alden Road - Attorney for the previous owner has requested a hardship waiver of the transfer of ownership fee (\$50) for the septic upgrade at 72 Alden. This is particularly difficult situation where the previous owner couldn't afford the septic upgrade.

Jay made a motion to approve the \$50 fee waive for transfer of ownership for 72 Alden Road. Peter seconded. Roll Call: Jay Leary-Aye, Peter Liffiton-Aye, Josh Mann-Aye. Passed.

Water Main Service at Church Street: Linda Mann, Water Department Office Manager notified Scott, and the affected residents and business, of water main service near the Coffee Haven tomorrow for 4 hours. Casey's Public House will be less impacted as they don't open early.

Tobacco Control Manager: Pari Thillaigivindan will be meeting with the Health Department on Thursday. Pari is still in training. Scott will schedule Pari to attend a future meeting to meet the Board.

Minutes: Jay made a motion to approve the BoH meeting minutes from August 8, 2023. Peter seconded. Roll Call: Jay Leary-Aye, Peter Liffiton-Aye, Josh Mann-Aye. Passed.

Bills: The following bill was discussed and approved:

Salmon VNA invoice for July 2023 communicable diseases: Total = \$536.00

Jay made a motion to approve the Salmon VNA bill for \$536.00. Peter seconded.

Roll Call: Jay Leary-Aye, Peter Liffiton-Aye, Josh Mann-Aye. Passed.

Board Comment: The Board commended Scott on a thorough meeting.

Jay made a motion to adjourn the BoH meeting at 7:42 PM. Peter seconded.

Roll Call: Jay Leary-Aye, Peter Liffiton-Aye, Josh Mann-Aye. Passed.

Respectfully:

Ann Adams, Health Department Clerk

Approval Date: 9-12-23