

EMERGENCY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes of Meeting
March 26, 2020

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK

2020 APR 29 P 12: 23

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Health was held via Zoom on Thursday, March 26, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. The meeting was duly posted. Board members present: Chairwoman Jeannine Lopes, Michael Silvia and Peter DeTerra. Also present: Mary Freire-Kellogg, Health Agent and Amanda Blais, Administrative Assistant.

Before the Board:

The Health Agent read aloud the phone number and meeting ID information for anyone wishing to join the meeting via Zoom.

Chairwoman Lopes asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of February 24, 2020. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Silvia; seconded by Mr. DeTerra. The motion passed unanimously.

Chairwoman Lopes asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the emergency meeting of March 19, 2020. Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Silvia; seconded by Mr. DeTerra. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed septic system repair plans for 97 Tootle Lane. The Health Agent read the variance request and had previously confirmed with the Conservation Agent for approval. The Health Agent reiterated this is a septic system repair, not a new construction. Chairwoman Lopes asked other Board members if they had anything to add and Mr. DeTerra stated he had already reviewed the plans. Motion to approve the septic system repair plans for 97 Tootle Lane was made by Mr. Silvia; seconded by Mr. DeTerra. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board reviewed septic system repair plans for 5 Wamsutta Street. The Health Agent read the variance request and stated this was a septic repair. Mr. DeTerra stated he had reviewed the plans. Motion to approve the septic system repair plans for 5 Wamsutta Street was made by Mr. Silvia; seconded by Mr. DeTerra. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing:

None.

Health Agent's Report:

Ms. Freire-Kellogg discussed updates related to the coronavirus (COVID-19). The Health Agent finished a PSA with the Government Access Director and demonstrated how to access updated information on the Health Department town website; information is updated on the website as information becomes available through the State. The Health Agent reiterated the following points:

- Visit [Mass.gov/covid19](https://www.mass.gov/covid19) for complete details.
- Contact your physician for testing. If you don't have a physician, you must contact an Urgent Care Center or Emergency Department first; you cannot visit a location without having contacted first.

- Facilities cannot have more than 10 patrons getting tested at a time. Many facilities have moved to curbside testing.
- Governor Baker issued a list of essential personnel that can be open during this time. To be put on this list, you must contact the Governor's Office.
- Positive cases are quarantined and are being monitored daily by our Public Health Nurse.
- Residents have been maintaining separation and are limiting outside contacts to help prevent spreading the virus.

Chairwoman Lopes stated that Governor Baker has asked the President to list Massachusetts as a State of Disaster due to the number of positive cases continuing to increase. The Health Agent responded that this is only happening because facilities and organizations need this in order to receive funding and extra supplies and materials. The Health Agent continued to reiterate the same guidelines we should be following from the beginning:

- Social distancing
- Clean and sanitize areas
- Sneeze/cough into a tissue and immediately dispose in the trash
- Wash hands constantly

The Health Agent urged residents to continuously check the Health Department website (www.Fairhaven-MA.gov/board-health) and social media page (Facebook – Fairhaven Health Department) as information is consistently updated.

- Governor Baker issued a ban on reusable shopping bags
- Governor Baker extended school closures until May 4th
- Governor Baker is regulating grocery stores to have designated shopping hours for elderly

The Health Agent will continue to send updates as she received them and she is in constant contact with Todd Correia, Deputy Fire Chief. Chairwoman Lopes asks that residents continue to follow guidelines and be diligent.

Invoices/Other Business:

There being no other business before the Board, Mr. Silvia made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Mr. DeTerra. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda L. Blais

Amanda L. Blais
Recording Secretary/Administrative Assistant