

TOWN OF STURBRIDGE, MA
BOARD OF HEALTH
June 13, 2023

Meeting Called to Order: 1:00 PM

Quorum Check: Confirmed

Members Present: Linda Cocalis (LC), Richard Volpe (RV)

Members Absent: Dr. Louis Fazen (LF)

Others Present:

Kenneth B. Lacey, Jr. (KL) Health Agent

Laura Sherris (LS) Health Department Administrative Assistant

Mark Farrell (MF) Engineer, 53 Bennetts Road

Ryan Stanley (RS) Property owner, 70 Brookfield Road

1:00 PM – Meeting called to order.

1:00 PM – Review Minutes – Minutes from the May 9, 2023 and May 23, 2023 Board of Health (BOH) meetings are reviewed.

1:02 PM – RV motions to accept the May 9, 2023 minutes as drafted; LC 2nd. AIF: LC, RV; unanimous.

1:03 PM – RV motions to accept the May 23, 2023 minutes as drafted; LC 2nd. AIF: LC, RV; unanimous.

1:04 PM – New Business – Agent Annual Review – KL, LC, and RV evaluated KL's annual review.

1:05 PM – LC motions to award KL 100% of his annual incentive bonus; RV 2nd. AIF: LC, RV; unanimous.

1:06 PM – New Business – Landfill leachate contract discussion – KL states that there has been no completed contract for leachate hauling for several years; he walks the Board through the general bidding process to be completed; LC and RV state their understanding and have no objections with moving forward.

1:09 PM – Charlton Coalition for Public Health (CCPH) updates – KL states he would like to have Health Department contractor Tricia Valiton perform a full-day hotel inspection training for the Town of Sturbridge Health Inspector and CCPH Health Inspector; LC and RV agree to the contractor utilization. KL states that the department has been utilizing the CCPH inspector regularly; he plans to have the CCPH Outreach Coordinator attend the July 2023 BOH meeting to meet and be appointed by the Board.

1:21 PM – New Business – 2023 budget update – KL states he met with the Finance Director regarding Landfill expenses and the department will be able to use Pay-As-You-Throw revolving

account funds to pay for cover material and equipment repairs; this will prevent the need for a reserve fund transfer request for the payments. LC and RV suggest reaching out to the Finance Committee regarding the matter as the ability to use existing funds to cover an overage may be of interest to them.

1:30 PM – Hearing: 53 Bennetts Road well and septic variances – LC opens the hearing for the well and septic variance requests. MF states that variances are being sought due to the size and limitations of the property. The variances requested are as follows:

1. Variance to locate the proposed drilled well 25' from the owner's proposed holding tank.
2. Variance to locate the proposed drilled well 35' from the abutter's existing holding tank.
3. Variance to locate the proposed holding tank 8' from the owner's foundation.

All review and discuss the proposed plan and requested variances.

1:36 PM – LC closes the public hearing. LC motions to grant the requested variances for the property at 53 Bennetts Road: variance to locate the proposed drilled well 25' from the owner's proposed holding tank; variance to locate the proposed drilled well 35' from the abutter's existing holding tank; variance to locate the proposed holding tank 8' from the owner's foundation. RV 2nd; AIF: unanimous.

1:44 PM – Old Business – Walker Pond well pollution updates – all state no updates.

1:45 PM – Old Business – South Shore Drive updates – all state no updates.

1:50 PM – New Business – 70 Brookfield Road well discussion – KL states that the property at 70 Brookfield Road has an existing dug well that the property owner would like to replace with a drilled well; town water is available but due to a pond on the property an easement would be necessary to connect to town water. KL states that the matter is being raised with the Board to ensure they would not have an issue with a private well being drilled as the Board standardly prefers people to connect to town water when available. RV asks if there are any issues with wetlands on the property; RS states he is currently working with the Conservation department regarding any needed measures. LC and RV state that they agree to a private well being installed on the property. KL states that the existing dug well will need to be decommissioned and will work with RS to coordinate the well destruction and construction processes when the time comes.

2:01 PM – Set Next Meeting – KL states that the next meeting is proposed for July 18, 2023 at 1:00 PM. LC and RV state that 1:00 PM is not compatible with their upcoming schedules; all agree to meet July 18, 2023 at 2:00 PM.

2:03 PM – RV motions to adjourn the meeting; LC 2nd. AIF: LC RV; unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Sherris
Health Department Administrative Assistant