

**TOWN OF STURBRIDGE, MA
BOARD OF HEALTH**

**Monday May 11, 2020
Town Hall – Veteran’s Hall**

Meeting Called to Order: 6:00 pm

Quorum Check: Confirmed

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

Members Absent: George DeBusk

Others Present:

Ken Lacey (KL) Health Agent
Dr. Louis Fazen (DF) Resident
Jeff Bridges (JB) Town Administrator
Mark Farrell (MF) Green Hill Engineering

6:01 pm – LC read the following into the record: “Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting law, G.L. c. 30A Section 18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Sturbridge Board of Health will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation can be found on the Town’s website at <https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtual-meeting>. For this meeting, members of the public who wish to listen and or watch the meeting either online via the Town’s on demand video broadcast, on cable television on channel 191, or dial into the meeting at 774-304-1455, enter 1428# for the meeting number and 12345 for the access code. (This phone number is only active for the public during public meetings). No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted, but every effort will be made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings in real time, via technological means. In the event that we are unable to do so, despite best efforts, we will post of the Town’s website an audio or video recording, transcript, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as possible after the meeting.”

6:03 pm – April 13th minutes. RV made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. LC seconded the motion. Roll call vote: LC- aye; RV- aye

6:05 pm - COVID-19 Updates

KL- Discussed the Health Department involvement with a variety of groups in town: working with the Town Clerk on polling requirements and preliminary discussions on the Town Meeting; still working closely with Leslie Wong at the Senior Center on their offerings and long term look at reopening; discussion with Tantasqua High School about graduation ceremony, field use, and other topics. Our office will continue to put out information when we receive updates from the State. We are updating current COVID cases on the Town website on a weekly basis, or sooner if needed. The State is now posting total case counts by town every Wednesday evening. Discussed Governor's Orders and reopening businesses. Discussion about the new testing policies through MAVEN and recommendations from the MDPH.

Dr. Fazen attended tonight's meeting to hear the BOH update on COVID19 and to offer suggestions. He suggested we move forward with Health Department letters to recommend testing for case contacts. DF applauded our efforts with new nurse staff, case tracing, and general preparedness for this event.

6:26 pm

KL- Presented the signature authority update. LC & RV discussion on the signature authorization from last year. RV made a motion to grant Kenneth B. Lacey, Jr, the current Health Agent, signature authority for the Board of Health effective immediately. LC- second the motion. Roll call vote: LC – aye; RV - aye

6:28 pm

Percolation testing discussion. KL asked the Board to officially vote to begin percolation testing on May 18th to mirror the Governor's Order on nonessential workers. RV made a motion to extend the cease of percolation testing through May 18th. LC seconded the motion. Roll call vote: LC- aye; RV- aye

6:30 pm – Public Hearing for 6 Cormack Road

MF- made a presentation about the 6 Cormack Road project. Explained the need for the new well location and the variance requested to allow the well be installed 36 feet from the proposed tight tank. He also discussed the tight tank application in regards to the small lot, the proximity to Leadmine Pond.

RV – motion to approve the variance for the installation of the well 6 feet from the property line, 15 feet from the roadway, and 36 feet from the tight tank. LC – second the motion. Roll call vote: LC – aye; RV – aye

6:38 pm

Revisit the grease trap pumping discussion from the April 13th meeting. KL presented the research done by the Health Department on how many in ground grease traps are permitted on the Town sewer system. LC – motion to grant a variance to allow 24 separate establishments to not have to pump in the 2nd quarter of the year (2020). RV – second the motion. Roll call vote: LC – aye; RV – aye.

6:43 pm

Discussion on beach testing and fees for the 2020 season. KL presented the updated testing schedule. The Health Department is going to sample the beach water with the Health Inspector and Health Agent this season. KL also presented reasoning for the Town Beach to have reduced fees this season.

LC – motion to charge the Recreation Department \$40 per test for the bathing season, and to keep the rest of the beaches at \$75 per test for the same bathing season. RV – second the motion. Roll call vote: LC – aye; RV – aye.

6:45 pm – Public Hearing for 264 Big Alum Road

MF- made a presentation about the 264 Big Alum Road project. Explained the need for the new well location and the variance requested to allow the well be installed 6 feet from the property line. He also discussed the well location in regards to the small lot and the proximity to Big Alum Lake.

RV – motion to approve the variance for the installation of the well 6 feet from the property line, 15 feet from the roadway, and 36 feet from the tight tank. LC – second the motion. Roll call vote: LC – aye; RV – aye

Old Business:**6:50 pm**

KL – asked the Board for an extension on updates to the local well regulations. LC & RV agreed and asked to pass on this until the public health emergency is abated.

Next Meeting: June 8, 2020

Adjournment: Motion to Adjourn at 6:53 pm by RV, 2nd: LC, roll call vote RV – aye; LC - aye, AIF