

Minutes
Northfield Board of Health
October 25, 2023
6:00 PM
Northfield Town Hall
69 Main Street, Northfield, MA
Board of Health Office 2nd Floor

Call to Order: 6:01

Quorum Established: David Balk, Kathie Bridges, Ali Wahlstrom, Karen Boudreau, Ruth Potee
Also in attendance - Pam Veith, Board Secretary, Sarah Kerns, Jinx and Howard Hastings,

Jim Holloway

Business:

- Employee Job Descriptions: Board members raised some questions about duties noted in employee job descriptions. There are some duties assigned to certain employee positions that are incorrect. Corrections and more discussion with Bob to be invited to November 8, 2023 meeting.
- Employee evaluations – tabled until next meeting
- Campground: Fee paid for septic permit. Conditions set forth on septic permit have not all been met. Board received Conservation Commission applications that were only signed by applicant. Board received maps of Wetlands Delineations and those were reviewed.
- Invoices:
 - Vet bill for bat testing reviewed and approved
 - Eversource – reviewed and approved
 - Recycling – reviewed and approved
- Date for Phoebe Walker to attend the Board meeting is set for November 8, 2023.
- Ruth reported that the Opiate Settlement Money is being placed in an escrow account by the town. As payment is over a 20 year span it will gradually build up. Spending any of this money will need to be presented at Town Meeting and be voted on.
- Ruth suggested asking victims or victim's families for ideas on how this money might be best spent. Ruth also noted that towns are allowed to combine their Settlement money.
- Covid tests are available at the Senior Center with expiration dates of end of November. More Covid tests have been ordered – it is unclear how many new tests will be received by the town. Discussion by Board members about additional places to make new Covid tests available included the possibility of the Library. Vaccination clinics are also being scheduled and held locally.
- Ruth is working on a survey with Amy Donovan from Franklin County Solid Waste Management regarding the Transfer Station. Ali volunteered to work with Ruth on this also.
- Karen reported that the sewerage upgrade for 74 Highland Avenue is moving along. New manholes are scheduled to be installed. A grant has been obtained by the town for sidewalks in this area. While the roadways are open for that project some of the sewer lines will be straightened and/or replaced. The 74 Highland Avenue sewerage connection is on track to be completed by mid week.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

- October 19, 2023 Minutes- approved

Citizen's Concerns:

- Jinx and Howard Hastings questioned how the Public Water Supply well would be supervised. Kathie explained that DEP has an extensive application for such a well and would be overseeing the installation and the maintenance.

Permit Applications:

- Well permit – Pierson Road Campground – denied. Campground submitted an application for a regular residential well to service campground guests. The water department did approved hookup to their system but has required the Campground upgrade the size of the water pipe to accommodate this hookup.
 - A. Board to be given a copy of the Water Department's hookup requirements as well as an estimate of cost to accomplish the upgrade

- B. If a well installation is approved, it would fall under the requirements of the DEP for a Public Water Supply along with all of the requirements DEP has in place (CMR 22 Public Water Supply).
- C. Public Water Supply wells have different setback requirements (greater distance required) from septic systems than residential wells.
- D. Motion made by Ruth to reject the Well Application submitted by the Campground. Seconded by Kathie. Vote unanimously carried to reject Well Application in hand.
- Food Truck permit – tabled as the owner needs to have an inspection by the Board's Agent prior to granting – Applicant notified by phone message prior to meeting.
- Food Permit – Residential Kitchen – Tabled as the applicant needs to have an inspection by the Board's Agent prior to granting – Pam notified applicant by phone conversation prior to meeting.
- Emergency Beaver Resolution Permit – approved
- Tight tank installation permit – 18 West Lane – reviewed and approved

Reports:

- Septic pumping reports – reviewed
- Title V Inspection Report – 237 North Lane – Requires further inspection in the form of a water test – Pam provided resident with three names and phone numbers to have this test done by phone message.
- Pioneer Valley Regional High School's system's regular inspection report - reviewed

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair within 48 Hours:

- Sarah Kerns from the Northfield Conservation Commission asked that the Board look into a trailer at a Northfield residence. Board to review the complaint sent to Conservation Commission as soon as the Board receives it and determine if the inspecting agent should be sent out.

Adjourn: 7:21 pm

Next Meeting November 8, 2023

Kathie S. Bridges

John D. Walsh

Laura Deedman 11/8/23

David C. Buel 11/8/23