

**Minutes**  
**Northfield Board of Health**  
**January 10, 2024**  
**6:00 PM**  
**Northfield Town Hall**  
**69 Main Street, Northfield, MA**  
**Board of Health Office 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Call to Order:** 6:01 pm

**Quorum Established:** David Balk, Karen Boudreau, Ruth Potee, Kathie Bridges, Ali Wahlstrom  
Also in attendance – Pam Veith, Board Secretary, Brian Smith, Sarah Kerns,  
Howard and Jinx Hastings, Jim Holloway

**Business:**

- Board reviewed emails from Christian Arnold, Clockwork, Inc. The Board was sent a copy of the letter from the water department which outlined the requirements for the campground to connect to the public water supply. This letter also states costs involved for the campground to connect. David restated to the Board that a well for the Campground will need to be applied for by Clockwork, Inc. through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. The Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection will also require continual monitoring of this well by the Campground. David will draft an email to Christian Arnold restating our requirements that he contact and apply to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and include the contact person and information for doing so. Ali suggested, and the Board agreed, that the email should be followed with a hard copy of the letter sent United States Postal Service.
- Christian Arnold had also emailed the Board a copy of the Conservation Commission Application. This is the same form previously sent to the Board as it has the applicant's signature but is not signed by any member of the Conservation Commission. David will address this in his email to Christian Arnold, again stating that the Board of Health requires a fully signed copy of this form as one of the conditions of approval on the septic system design which was granted. David to copy Bill Llewellyn on this email. David states that keeping all involved parties up to date on communications will work out best.
- The Board received a written complaint concerning a neighbor's chicken/goat pen. Neighbor states that they have seen rats in that area. Board agreed to have the Animal Inspector visit the property and check to see that grain is properly stored for the livestock. David states that we are a "Right to Farm" town. Ruth states that it is nearly impossible when a person has chickens or goats to keep rats entirely at bay even with strict attention paid to the grain storage and shelters. The Board agreed.
- New training class schedules were discussed by the Board members. Claudia does most of the inspections for the Board of Health other than perc tests and septic system inspections. Because of this the Board members are free to pick and choose the classes they would like to take. Karen asked David for clarification: Does only one member of the Board need to take classes along with Claudia. David answered "yes."
- MAPCO (Mohawk Area Public Health Coalition) requested contact information for the Board. David responded that the first contact should always be the Board of Health Office by phone and email in the Town Hall, David Balk, Chairman and second personal contact is Ruth Potee. The other Board members also agreed to have their contact information sent along to this group as only emergencies would necessitate a call. It is noted that Kathie has only a landline.

**Review and Approval of Minutes:**

- December 10, 2023 Minutes- approved

**Citizen's Concerns:**

- Jinx Hastings asked the Board what they were planning to do as far as extending the Special Permit for the Campground on Pierson Road which, she states, expires on May 24, 2024. David told her that the Board of Health doesn't have anything to do with the Special Permit on that project.

**Permit Applications:**

- Septic Hauler 2024 Permit – Bostley Sanitary Service – approved



- Septic Hauler 2024 Permit – Greg's Wastewater - approved
- Septic System Installer's 2024 Permit – Bostley Sanitary Service – approved
- Septic System Installer's 2024 Permit – Renaissance Excavating – approved
- Septic system plan – 35 Penecost Road – approved with additional information being asked of the designer (Kathie to speak with Shawn Kimberley)

#### Reports:

- Septic pumping reports – reviewed
- Title V Water test results - 237 North Lane – Pam to contact Lynde Well Drilling to ask if they can retest for the lead content only
- 33 Lower Farms Road – Board is still waiting on water test – Pam to call Cushing to inquire on the holdup in order to allow the Certificate of Compliance to be released
- Title V Water Test results – 15 South Mountain Road – approved but set aside as the Board has not received the Title V inspection report yet

#### Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair within 48 Hours:

- Town Administrator has sent along additional photos of a problem property on Caldwell Road. The Board cannot see anything that would be classified as health hazard. The Board feels that the Police Department should be notified as to the trespass onto Town Property where the fence was cut and debris pushed onto Town Property.
- David states that early in 2024 the Board should revisit our water/well regulations as well as reviewing our applications.
- Food Trucks that the Board of Health issues permits for in Northfield are not for a specific address. Food Trucks are mobile. As long as the permitted Food Truck is within the borders of the Town of Northfield we have no say in where they park to do business. David states that questions people may have concerning the location of a permitted Food Truck in Northfield should be directed to the Selectboard.
- Brian Smith, Board of Health Erving, spoke to the Board about our current permitting and inspection processes. The State has expressed a desire that our surrounding counties show progress in moving towards all using the same software and tablets in this process. A meeting will be held on January 17, 2024 at the Erving Town Hall at 2 pm to discuss digital permitting and inspections. Kathie and Pam will attend this meeting.

Adjourn: 7:37 pm

Next Meeting January 24, 2024

*Katherine L. Bridges* 24 Jan 24  
*Aileen Bridges* 1/24/2024  
*D. Poter* 1/24/24

*Sh. J. Wahl*  
*David C. Sale* 1/24/24