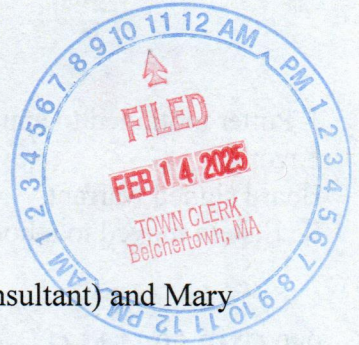


Belchertown Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2024



Present: Jim Potter, Colleen DuroShea, Ken Elstein, LeeAnne Connolly

Absent: David Gottsegen, MD

In-Attendance: Andrea Crete (Public Health Director), Roger Bacon (QHD Title V Consultant) and Mary Grenier (Recording Secretary) Gail Gramarossa and BCTV

Remote Participants: Jeff Smith R Street; Merridith O'Leary Pioneer Valley Tobacco Control Program (PVTCP) Coordinator; BCTV; Lisa Stevens-Goodnight MA Municipal Association, Anthony Ishak, PharmD. BCPS and Kris Hoag Program Director DFC/BOAT

L. Connolly opened the meeting at 6:31 PM

6:30 PM appointment: Neil Jackson, Designer of septic repair at 319 Chauncey Walker Street was present to ask the Board for a 2' reduction in separation between the SAS and high groundwater. The new SAS is an Eljen system. R. Bacon has reviewed the design and believes this is the best solution for the repair at this property. K. Elstein motioned to approve the 2' reduction needed for septic repair at 319 Chauncey Walker Street. J. Potter seconded. All in Favor.

6:35 PM appointment: N. Jackson was also representing 15 Shea Avenue septic repair. An Eljen system will be installed. They are asking for a variance in the reduction in setback from the well 75' instead of the required 100'. This property currently has a cesspool and Owner is doing a voluntary upgrade. R. Bacon explained that this is a very small lot and as designed is maximum feasible compliance. L. Connolly said it is the best for the resident and the environment. A. Crete said that the homeowner should have his well water tested. K. Elstein motioned to approve this variance at 15 Shea Avenue for new septic system be 75' from the well instead of the required 100'. J. Potter seconded. All in Favor.

A. Crete explained to the Board that the Animal Inspector is paid per visit. Janet Lipscomb is new to this position and was appointed in April 2024. The job description requires that the Animal Inspector do Barn inspections in the fall and submit the data to the State. J. Lipscomb received a list of Belchertown barns from the State. This list was very outdated and J. Lipscomb needed to do a lot of research and many phone calls to correct the barn list. Will the Board approve a one-time payment of \$270.00 for thirteen and a half hours of administration time to Animal Inspector J. Lipscomb? K. Elstein motioned to approve a \$270.00 payment to J. Lipscomb for administrative work. C. DuroShea seconded. All in Favor.

During the Belchertown Board of Health meeting on October 9, 2024, the board discussed proposed updates to tobacco sales regulations, including the definition of bona fide purchasers and the inclusion of oral nicotine pouches in the regulations. The board considered the implications of a nicotine-free generation policy, which would prohibit the sale of tobacco products to individuals born on or after January 1, 2004. The discussion also covered the challenges of regulating flavored products and the need for further clarification on the language used in the regulations. A. Crete addressed the Board; "Before you is your current regulations with the proposed updates and how I had it laid out as anything that's highlighted in yellow like on page one in the statement of purpose, that could change. Because the model Board of Health Regulations for 2024 had updated statistics and data, it changed some of the statement of purpose language in references. Yellow highlighted sections are the latest MA Department of Public Health (MDPH) regulations. Green highlighted sections are uniquely local policy decisions". After the discussion, the Board agreed to hold a public hearing at their next meeting December 11, 2024. A. Crete will coordinate with Lisa Stevens-Goodnight MA Municipal Association and Merridith O'Leary Pioneer Valley Tobacco Control Program (PVTCP) Coordinator to finalize the draft for the next board meeting.

J. Potter motioned to approve the October 9, 2024 meeting minutes as written. K. Elstein seconded. All in Favor.

Board signed warrant.

K. Elstein moved to adjourn at 7:43 PM. C. DuroShea seconded. All in Favor.

940 CMR 29.11 M.G.L. c. 30A, §22(a). List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:

Agenda:

Form 9A Local Upgrade Approval 319 Chauncey Walker

Form 9A Local Upgrade Approval 15 Shea Avenue

Draft Belchertown Tobacco Sales Regulations

Email(s) *Say no to NFG regulations*

Email from Cody Carden statement of opposition –generational tobacco ban

Letter from Cigar rights of America

Letter from New England Convenience Store & Energy Marketers Association, Inc.

Letter from Debra Keefe M.ED., BSN, RN, NCSN

October 9, 2024 meeting minutes