

Acton Board of Health

April 28, 2008

Members Present: William Taylor, Chairman, Joanne Bissetta, Vice Chairman, Pam Harting-Barrat, Member, Phil Alvarez, Associate voting for William McInnis and Joseph Ianelli, Associate.

Staff Present: Doug Halley, Health Director and Sheryl Ball.

Others Present: Peggy Mikkola, representative for league of women voters.

The meeting was called to order at 7:34 p.m.

Minutes

On a motion made by, seconded by, the Board unanimously voted to approve the Board of Health minutes dated March 10, 2008 as amended.

Public Hearing – Deletion of Article 13 – Massage Regulations

Mr. Taylor opened the public hearing. In 2006, Massachusetts General Laws were amended to take the direct oversight of massage therapists, massage facilities and massage schools away from the municipalities. The State has developed a licensing and permitting system and the Health Department has received notification that we are no longer the permitting authority. Mr. Halley recommends that the existing regulation be deleted. The new State regulations do not address “body work” practitioners, including some of the asian techniques, however, Mr. Halley stated that it is the Health Departments opinion that these types of practitioners have a minimal impact on the public health. The Board of Health has had these regulations in place since the 70’s. On a motion made by Dr. Harting-Barrat, amend the Acton Board of Health Rules and Regulations to delete Article 13, seconded by Ms. Bissetta...Close the public hearing.

Idling Reduction Policy

Mr. Halley presented the Board with a Idling Reduction Policy recommended by the State for Board review and adoption. This policy is part of the grant program that Joanne Bissetta applied for. Some items have been received thus far and we are awaiting additional items. This would restrict idling of vehicles. Given the price of gas, Mr. Iannelli feels that this will be the best program.. Ms. Bissetta questioned whether the schools have been notified of this policy. Dr. Taylor asked if other towns were participating and they are. The Board commended Joanne on her hard work. On a motion made by Ms. Bissetta, seconded by Dr. Harting-Barrat, move to support this policy.

Title 5 Waiver

The Health Department received a request from Laurel Perkins for a title 5 waiver as allowed under 310 CMR 15.301(4)(b), for the property located at 8 Abel Jones Place. 8 Abel Jones Place is part of the Mill Corner detached single family homes which shares a septic system with all the other condominium owners. The Board previously granted Mill Corner the right to try to fix their septic issues conditioned upon them connecting if there was another problem. The 34 homes are looking at approximately \$3,000 per unit. The Health Department has met with representatives from Mill Corner and they are in the process of planning the sewer connection. However, the connection to the Town's sewer will not be complete prior to this unit being sold. This home could transfer hands with a failed Title 5, however, the lenders of the potential buyers would require this waiver to change hands. The Health Department recommends approval of this request. On a motion made by Dr. Harting-Barrat, seconded by JB, grant a title 5 waiver for 8 abel jones place with the following conditions:

1. The property in question will connect to the Town of Acton Middle Fort Pond Brook Sanitary Sewer System within 120 days from the date of the waiver letter.
2. The onsite sewage disposal system will be serviced as necessary and an enforcement letter from the Acton Board of Health or the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Agency may shorten this waiver period, should the system endanger the public health or the environment.

3. The waiver, along with these conditions, shall be communicated in writing to the purchaser and any other subsequent owners until the property at 8 Abel Jones Place is connected to the Town of Acton Middle Fort Pond Brook Sanitary Sewer System.

Emergency Beaver Trapping Permit – 421 Great Road

The Health Department is in receipt of a request to allow for an emergency beaver trapping permit for the property located behind 421 Great Road. The Health Department has conducted an inspection and has determined that flooding is endangering the parking lot and a public health threat exists. The Health Department recommends that the Board grant a 10 day emergency trapping permit. Approximately 20 different dams in Acton. First time. Legislation was enacted approximately 10 years ago...and they were caught and then shot...Fish and Wildlife...we have the power to give 10 day permit and we can extend it 10 days...and if they need more...they would need to seek approval from fish and wildlife. Very troublesome as the beavers are out of control. On a motion made by JB, seconded by Dr. Harting Barrat for 421 Great Road,

Emergency Beaver Trapping Permit – 22 Cowdrey Lane

The Health Department is in receipt of a request to allow for an emergency beaver trapping permit for the property located behind 22 Cowdrey Lane. The Health Department has conducted an inspection and has determined that flooding is endangering the septic system and a public health threat exists. The Health Department recommends that the Board grant a 10 day emergency trapping permit. This property has received a trapping permit 4 or 5 times in the past 5 years. On a motion made by PHB, Seconded by JB, 2

Emergency Beaver Trapping Permit – 92 Arlington Street

The Health Department is in receipt of a request to allow for an emergency beaver trapping permit for the property located behind 92 Arlington Street. The Health Department has conducted an inspection and has determined that flooding is endangering the septic system and a public health threat exists. The Health Department recommends that the Board grant a 10 day emergency trapping permit. This property has received a trapping permit 2 or 3 times in the past years. On a motion made by JB, seconded by PHB, .

Other –

W U – went very well....thanked Bill Taylor for manning the table...and Joanne and her son to help clean up...heather wanted to thank them..80-90 people..seminar well attended people enjoyed them...worked out very well.

Town meeting – social services coordinator approved. Tm formed a committee to interview other people who have these types of jobs in other communities to get this is place. Task force created this.

Haz waste day...helf the community...very well attended.

Will tuffin has brought his antenna admissions(cell towers) to the Board attention.. Hopes to talk about this with the board at some point.

Adjournment

On a motion made by Dr. harting-Barrat, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheryl Ball, Health Secretary
Acton Board of Health

William Taylor, Chairman
Acton Board of Health