

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
September 23, 2021**

OPENING: The regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Health opened at 7:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

Sue Brzoska, Chair

Jean Nilsson, Vice Chair

Mikenzie Cain, Clerk

Ms. Tammy Spencer, Health Director, was also in attendance.

**ATTENDANCE**

Doug Moglin, Select Board Chair, Peter Currier, Westfield Evening News

**MINUTES**

Ms. Brzoska made a motion to table the minutes of August 19, 2021 and approve the minutes of 9/9/2021. Ms. Cain seconded the motion. The vote of the Board was unanimous in favor.

**MS. SPENCER'S REPORT**

**TITLE 5**

Ms. Spencer performed Title 5 soil evaluations at (repairs) 80 South Longyard Rd., 98 Sheep Pasture Rd., 12 Patriots Way, 260 Granville Rd., (new) Lot 15 Noble Steed Crossing, & 370 North Loomis.

Ms. Spencer performed final Title 5 inspections at (repairs) 85 Powder Mill Rd., & 24 Will Palmer Rd.

Ms. Spencer approved septic design plans for (repair) 85 Powder Mill Rd., 10 Reservoir Rd., 51 Tannery Rd., 62 Davis Rd., (new) 3 Noble Steed Crossing, & 81 South Loomis St..

**HOUSING INSPECTIONS**

49 Point Grove Rd.-House fire

The electrical fire started outside the home and did not cause a lot of interior damage other than damage from water infiltration caused by extinguishing the fire. A company has already been hired to repair the damage.

**FOOD SERVICE INSPECTIONS**

Final inspection at Sunflower Smoothie and Cafe

**MEETINGS, TRAININGS, SEMINARS**

- Weekly Public Health Interagency Conference Calls
- FDA Retail Food Protection Seminar
- LEPC Meeting

A flu vaccine will be held outside the senior center on October 6, from 9-12:00. CVS will be administering the vaccine. Pre-registration is available online and with the Council on Aging.

### **COVID-19 DISCUSSION**

Southwick had 23 positive cases and 663 tests in the last 14 days. 5 of the positive cases reported having the vaccine. There are 16 people currently in isolation. Southwick has a 51% vaccination rate.

FDA announced Pfizer is approved for booster vaccines for those 65 and up and at least 6 months after last shot. Ms. Spencer and Ms. Sullivan, Council on Aging, will be planning boosters for this winter.

Ms. Spencer is still waiting for the BinaxNOW test kits. BinaxNOW is a rapid COVID test.

Ms. Spencer is waiting for the Regional Public Health Nurse Grant contract. Once Ms. Spencer receives the contract from the State she will forward it to the Board for review. Once the contract has been signed the Board will begin advertising for the position.

Ms. Brzoska proposed adding general discussion to the agenda in order to be able to discuss something that comes up after the agenda has been posted. The Board agreed to add new/old business to the agenda.

The Board discussed switching from in person only meetings to a hybrid platform. Mr. Moglin, Select Board Clerk, attended the meeting to explain the technology (The Owl) that will be used and to answer any questions the Board may have. Ms. Nilsson stated that The Owl is a great tool but there must be a lap top available in order to use it efficiently. Mr. Moglin explained that they are working on putting kits together that will include The Owl and a laptop. The laptops have been ordered and a contractor has been hired to do the wiring for the screen. Ms. Spencer and the Board agreed that it is a great way to make our meeting more accessible to the public and to encourage more participation. Ms. Brzoska motioned to begin hybrid meetings once the kits are complete. Ms. Brzoska motioned to amend the motion to begin hybrid meetings at our next meeting on October 7, 2021. Ms. Cain seconded the motion. The vote of the Board was unanimous in favor.

Ms. Nilsson requested a discussion about implementing a mask mandate. The Board does not feel it is necessary to impose a mask mandate at this time.

Ms. Nilsson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56. Ms. Cain seconded the motion. The vote of the Board was unanimous in favor.

The next scheduled meeting is October 7, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Jessica Pelley, Secretary

cc:  
Select Board  
Town Clerk

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Sue Brzoska, Chairman

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Tammy Spencer, Health Director

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Jean Nilsson, Vice Chairman

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Mickenzie Cain, Clerk

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Date