

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
July 2, 2020**

OPENING: The regular scheduled meeting of the Board of Health opened at 6:00 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

Dr. Jerome Azia, Chairman

Sue Brzoska, Vice Chairman

Jean Nilsson, Clerk

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

This meeting is being held via Zoom.

Dr. Azia read the Virtual Opening of Meeting statement pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order suspending certain provisions to the open meeting law.

Dr. Azia congratulated Ms. Brzoska on her reelection to the Board of Health. Ms. Brzoska and Ms. Nillson declined the opportunity to be Chairperson. Ms. Brzoska made a motion to appoint Dr. Azia as Chairman of the Board of Health. Ms. Nillson seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska – yes

Ms. Nillson – yes

MINUTES

Ms. Brzoska made a motion to accept the minutes of June 18, 2020. Dr. Azia seconded the motion. Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska – yes

Ms. Nillson – yes

ATTENDANCE

Select Board Vice Chairman, Doug Moglin, Select Board Clerk, Joe Deedy,
Peter Courier, Westfield Evening News

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

Dr. Azia inquired with Mr. Moglin about the discussion at our last meeting regarding organized activities such as scrimmages and captains practices at Whalley Park. Beginning Monday organized activities will be allowed. Mr. Moglin asked if the playground at Whalley Park is open, Ms. Spencer verified that it is open and is directing any question to Cara Cartello, Park and Rec.

MS. SPENCER'S REPORT

TITLE 5

Ms. Spencer will be inspecting and approving new septic plans as time allows.

Ms. Spencer witnessed Soil Suitability Tests at 299 North Loomis, 12 Deer Run and 5 Rising Corner.

Ms. Spencer performed final Title 5 inspections at 12 Point Grove Road, and 11 Jered Lane.

Ms. Spencer approved septic design plans for 12 Point Grove Road

BEAVER TRAPPING INSPECTIONS

Arnold Farm, and Case Farm

RECREATION CAMP INSPECTIONS

Wilderness Experience, and Nutmeg School of Dance

POOL INSPECTIONS

Wilderness Experience

Ms. Spencer received a complaint regarding trash at 26 Point Grove Road.

Ms. Spencer received a complaint regarding overgrowth and abandoned properties at 61/63 Hasting Road. Ms. Spencer has looked into the past history of the properties and has issued letters to the owners of record requesting them to abate the public health nuisance of unmanaged vegetation.

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

Ms. Spencer still receives a number of phone calls from businesses asking questions about reopening guidelines. Ms. Spencer continues to work with local businesses on operating safely. Governor Baker announced today that phase 3 will begin Monday July 6, 2020 and has given more clarification on phase 4. Ms. Brzoska asked if public pools can be open and if our Town Beach will be open. Ms. Spencer stated that semi-public outdoor pools have been allowed to be open since phase 2, however Wilderness Experience's indoor pool is allowed to be open because they are a recreational camp. Our Town Beach will be closed for the 2020 season.

Ms. Spencer attended the Hampden County Health Coalition meeting and was voted in as co-chair. The main focus of the Hampden County Health Coalition is emergency preparedness. The Coalition has been discussing the upcoming flu season and safely administering mass prophylaxis within emergency dispensing sites. They also discussed allowing music at restaurants and bars. Other town's have developed COVID-19 related inspection reports for businesses.

The Board along with Ms. Spencer and Dr. Kate Johnson discussed the current Emergency Dispensing Site Plan and changes that need to be made in anticipation of a vaccine becoming available for COVID-19. There was also much discussion regarding the upcoming flu season and the potential reopening of schools. A significant amount of thermometers have been obtained for the use in schools. Ms. Spencer will inquire about obtaining additional PPE for school use.

Southwick has a total of 59 positive cases, 1 active case and 2 deaths as of the date of this meeting.

Ms. Spencer's 6 month probationary period ended July 1, 2020. The Board and Select Board Vice Chair, Mr. Doug Moglin would like to congratulate Ms. Spencer on doing a remarkable job. Dr. Azia will be working on an evaluation form for the Board to fill out and put in Ms. Spencer's file.

Dr. Azia asked Mr. Moglin about the tax revenue for The Town. Mr. Moglin stated that the information is not available at this time.

Ms. Nilsson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:56. Dr. Azia seconded the motion.

Roll call vote is as follows:

Dr. Azia – yes

Ms. Brzoska – yes

Ms. Nillson - yes

The next scheduled meeting is July 16, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Pelley, Secretary

cc:
Select Board
Town Clerk

Dr. Jerome Azia, Chairman

Tammy Spencer, Health Director

Sue Brzoska

Jean Nilsson

Date