

**MINUTES
BOARD OF HEALTH
April 16, 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

Sue Brzoska

Jean Nilsson

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.

MINUTES

Ms. Brzoska made a motion to approve the minutes of April 9 as ammended. 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

MS. SPENCER'S REPORT

TITLE 5

Ms. Spencer is continuing to limit septic system inspections to repairs on occupied homes only.

Ms. Spencer has approved 4 septic design plans at the following locations: 43/45 Sawmill Park, 7 Falcon Crest, 249 South Longyard Road, 9 Noble Steed Crossing.

Ms. Spencer has witnessed Soil Suitability Tests at 62 Miller Road and 11 Jared Lane.

COVID-19 DISCUSSION

Ms. Spencer had issued a letter to Body Fit Warehouse last week regarding patrons using their facilities. This week police officers observed patrons using the facilities twice in one day. Ms. Spencer issued a Cease and Desist order to Body Fit Warehouse via certified mail. As of the date of this meeting Ms. Spencer has not received a response. Mr. Joe Deedy stated that Chief Bishop had more than one conversation with the owner of the facility in reference to their obligations under the Essential Services Order. Ms. Spencer informed the Board that the Massachusetts Health Board is providing legal guidance for issues with businesses that are not following the guidelines under the Essential Services Order.

Ms. Brzoska questioned Ms. Spencer about the current availability of PPE and sanitizing supplies within town hall. Ms. Spencer stated that there is a supply of gloves and sanitizing wipes, but masks are not available. Ms. Spencer has put in an order for surgical masks with Mass Medical. An exact delivery date is not available at this time.

Ms. Spencer has been in discussion with the Town's Chief Administrative Officer, Mr. Karl Steinhart, to prepare for the future reopening of town hall as well as what we can do now in order to be prepared if there is a resurgence of the virus in the fall.

The Board of Health has received their second check from the Department of Public Health in the amount of \$7052.00. The funds are to be used to aid local public health in paying for services and supplies related to COVID-19 response.

Ms. Spencer met with the owners of Meadow View Farm and Coward Farm, with Lieutenant Landis of the Southwick Police Department being present at Meadow View Farm. Both businesses have plans in place to control traffic, modify the way customers pay for their purchases, and ensure social distancing and proper sanitizing throughout the premises. Ms. Spencer feels very confident with the plans both businesses have put together to ensure the safety of their employees and the public. Ms. Spencer will be visiting with the remaining farm stands and green houses in town to ensure they too are operating in accordance to the Essential Services Order and have plans in place to continue to do so.

Ms. Spencer routinely visits essential businesses in need of assistance in supporting their ability to uphold Governor Baker's Essential Services Order and will continue to do so.

Ms. Spencer will contact Health Nurse, Dr. Kate Johnson for an update and will post the update on the Town of Southwick website Friday April 17, 2020. In addition, a link to the State website will be posted for anyone interested in accessing daily case counts generated by the State and listed by individual cities and towns.

Ms. Nillson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:32. 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 April 23, 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 6:32 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