

LUNENBURG BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
Monday, August 21, 2023

OCT 05 2023

LUNENBURG TOWN
CLERK OFFICE

The Board of Health met at 7:00 pm at the Ritter Memorial Building

Members Present: George Emond, Perry Jewell, Paul Fortin, Evan Watters and Lisa Normandin

MINUTES

July 17, 2023

Motion by Jewell, second by Fortin, to approved above minutes. All in favor.

222 HOLLIS ROAD

Chris MacKenzie met with the board on behalf of the owner. This is a rehearing of this matter due to the fact that Mr. MacKenzie had not notified the abutter prior to the hearing in July.

Abutter notification was turned in. The abutter did not attend the meeting. There is no change to the plan that was reviewed and approved in July.

After discussion and on motion by Jewell and second by Normandin, the variances were again approved. All in favor.

60 ELM STREET

Joe Rameau met with the board regarding this building permit. This house as reached the maximum number of room allowed with the current septic system. Plumbing for a basement bathroom is already installed. What is being proposed is finishing the interior of the exterior walls with insulation and sheetrock.

After discussion and on motion by Jewell and second by Normandin, the board approved one open room in the basement with the condition of a deed restriction limiting the house to 4 bedrooms and 10 rooms total and no additional living space.

Emond	Approve
Jewell	Approve
Fortin	Approve
Normandin	Approve
Watters	Deny

PFAS DISCUSSION

The Selectboard has invited members of the Board of Health to attend their upcoming meeting to discuss possible PFAS funding for private wells. The funding would come from ARPA funds the town currently has.

Research done by Admin Assistant Andrea Schnepf determined that ARPA funds could be used to test private wells and could also be used to remediate contaminated wells. The Selectboard is only looking at testing. Further research determined that there are approximately 1,888 private drinking water wells in Lunenburg. This was determined by obtaining the total number of residential structures in Lunenburg and subtracting the total number connected to public water.

The Selectboard is considering utilizing ARPA funds be distributed to homeowners with wells to assist in testing for PFAS. Questions raised by the Selectboard is could the information obtained from testing not be reported to the Board of Health and where would the results be reported, who would conduct the testing, how would it be utilized, would homeowners have to put filtration on wells at homeowners cost, etc.

In addition, both the Commonwealth of MA and the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) have indicated that they will be addressing PFAS after the first of the year. What is being circulated is that the acceptable level of PFAS will be cut dramatically and there will be an extended time frame to comply.

Perry Jewell stated that he is not presently in favor of using ARPA funds for the testing of private wells. PFAS has been around for a long time and is present in many everyday products. The use of PFAS compounds is to be phased out over a very long period of time. He is not in agreement with bypassing Board of Health on this issue. Members were in agreement that testing should not bypass Board of Health.

In addition, there are questions as to whether this would be voluntary testing, and a true understanding by residents of the ramifications of finding PFAS in wells and what the cost of remediation would be.

After discussion, it was decided that the instant issue of using ARPA funds for private well testing is not something that the board would favor at this time and would wait until after the first of the year to see what the both the State and EPA propose.

Collectively, the board is willing to looking at currently well regulations and possibly include well testing on conveyance, similar to what is done with Title 5 on septic systems,

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Perry Jewell nominated for following:

Chairman	George Emond
Vice-Chairman	Evan Watters
Secretary	Lisa Normandin

There were no other nominations. On motion by Fortin and second by Jewell the above were elected. All in favor.

Having no further matters before the board and on motion by Fortin and seconded by Watters, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm, all in favor.