



Town of Mendon
18 Main Street
Mendon, MA 01756
(508) 634-2656

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday – September 29, 2021 | 7:00 PM

In Attendance: Andy Fiske – BOH Chairman
Alan Greenberg – BOH Vice-Chairman
Tom Fichtner – BOH Member
Missy Kakela-Boisvert – BOH Office Coordinator

MINUTES APPROVED
By Board of Health on 10.05.2022

Not Present: N/A

Meeting Location: [REMOTE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS](#)

At 7:01 PM, BOH Meeting has been called to order by Missy Kakela-Boisvert.

1st Item on Agenda Septic Extension Request at 31 Northbridge Street

Missy reads a letter from the Property Owner:

"Please accept my request for an extension on the Septic System Replacement plans at 31 Northbridge Road. The Covid crisis and this year's rain has made it nearly impossible to source contractors in addition my family have health issues that required much more of my attention than originally planned. I thank you for your time and consideration."

Chairman Fiske asks Missy as to when the Plan was originally approved. Missy responded that 9/24/2018 and that Plans are good for 3 years with a 1-year extension, and that if the system is not in place by September 2022, they would have to resubmit the plans, application and fee.

Chairman Fiske asks BOH Member, Tom Fichtner, if he had any comments on the request. Tom responded that he had no comments, and if fine with approving the extension presented for valid reasons.

Chairman Fiske thanks Tom and asks Vice-Chairman, Alan Greenberg, if he had any comments. Alan asked if the Owner had an idea of when the system was going in and asked the question of there are people living in the house. Missy responded that there are people currently living in the house, but from her understanding, that it is not posing to be a Public Health Hazard and that it is unknown of when the system will actually be put in place. Alan stated that as long as the Homeowner is aware that the Extension is only good for 1 year and hate to seem a time crunch with the extension expiration date, other than that, Alan is good with moving forward.

Missy calls for a Motion:

Tom Fichtner makes the motion to accept the extension as presented by the Owner of 31 Northbridge Street for the Septic System. Second by Alan Greenberg. The motion is passed. **Roll call vote: Fichtner-Aye, Greenberg-Aye.**
Chairman Fiske accepts motion and roll call votes.

2nd Item on Agenda

33 North Avenue Septic Local Upgrade Request

Missy states that this request is for a sieve analysis does not require an Abutters Notification.

Missy calls for a Motion:

Tom Fichtner makes the motion to accept the Septic Local Upgrade request at 33 North Avenue. Second by Alan Greenberg.

The motion is passed. **Roll call vote: Fichtner-Aye, Greenberg-Aye.**

Chairman Fiske accepts motion and roll call votes.

3rd Item on Agenda

106 Millville Street – Update Following Site Visit

Missy has not received anything in writing from Tom Ryder, the BOH Engineer, regarding the 106 Millville Street Site Visit. Missy asks Alan Greenberg is he would like to speak about it, as there are 3 residents from the area in on the Team Meetings Video Call (Kathleen Alexander, Dana Yurach, and Sylvain Cormier) all in attendance.

Alan describes how he met Mr. Comier, Mrs. Alexander, and Tom Ryder at the Site, actually on Mrs. Alexander's property viewing 106 Millville Road. Alan took note of the proximity of Mrs. Alexander's Well to what was going on. Mrs. Alexander and Mr. Comier showed Alan where a pit was dug to catch some of the run-off water, where a pipe was crushed and hasn't been replaced. The pit at one point, Alan was told, was a considerable depth and it is almost filled in at this point. As far as construction debris or signs of anything being buried in the mound of silt, Alan did see a small amount of green, broken, plastic sewer pipe. Alan also saw a plastic band that would be used to ban lumber or some other bulk material. Other than that, Alan did not see any other indication that construction material was being dumped. Mrs. Alexander showed Alan the approximate area where a couple of black construction bags were buried. Tom Ryder was to generate a report. Alan did advise Mrs. Alexander and Mr. Comier to contact the Conservation Department again, for a more recent site visit, so they could handle what comes under their jurisdiction. Alan asks Chairman Fiske if he wanted to add anything.

Chairman Fiske states that it was his understanding that the Conservation Committee had put a Cease-and-Desist order on the project and asks Missy to confirm. Missy replied she was not sure if it was discussed at Conservation's last meeting, but it was discussed at the Planning Board's Meeting and that Daemon Tinio has stated that ConComm had issued a Cease-and-Desist. Chairman Fiske asks the Residents if they had any comments.

Kathleen Alexander (Caller), stated that she did notify Conservation to come out and do a site visit, but has not heard back from them yet, and she did that after her meeting with Alan. Chairman Fiske asks if anyone else would like to respond.

Dana Yurach begins to thank the Board of Health for allowing the residents to address the issue and taking that matter seriously. She states that she is not an expert on how the Town and Boards work, and wants to have an understanding on what the right pathway is and who the right people are and the responsible parties in order to resolve this worrying situation, and asks if the Board of Health the right Board to be speaking with in helping with the situation.

Chairman Fiske responds that it is his understanding that so far seen nothing that is directly handleable by the BOH, but the Conservation Committee and the Planning and Zoning Departments are working on it, but in fact that if it does affect the Well, then

absolutely the BOH is the correct place to handle the situation. Chairman Fiske asks Dana if she had any Well Tests done. Dana refers to Kathleen as her Well is closer. Kathleen said she had scheduled a Well Test and it will be done on October 4th. Chairman Fiske states that it was a great start, but so that everyone understands, that the BOH needs a baseline to prove that the Well is healthy and good, and if it was impacted at this point, it's hard to prove that any impact was done by 106 Millville Road. A Well should always be tested every couple of years anyways, especially if there are neighbors in close proximity to the Well. Missy noted that Mrs. Alexander's Well was tested that Spring and wasn't sure if she needed a copy of the results and a copy of the testing that is done in October, so there would be something on record. Mrs. Alexander said she would provide both Test Results to the Board.

Missy suggests to the BOH, that a multi-Committee be all in one 1 Meeting with the Residents, so all are on the same page for discussions. Tom Fichtner agrees with Missy that a multi-Committee should be formed for this purpose.

Dana asks when the earliest time to convene such a multi-Committee on this issue?

Tom, suggests that there be strong communication between the Boards involved to get the multi-Committee formed, as all Boards have different meeting nights and times for each Board, to address as soon as possible, making it a priority.

Dana also asks if they should call the Central Mass. DEP to see if they should also be on the Committee? Missy suggests it would be a good idea and would try to find the right contact of information and send to Kathleen. Chairman Fiske agrees.

Kathleen mentions that she has a call out to Daemon Tinio from Conservation Committee, but has not heard back from yet.

Missy states to the Board that there is an Executive Session in a few minutes and need to start ending the BOH Meeting, and asks if the Board should adjourn for the evening, or plan on coming back after the Executive Session?

Chairman Fiske states that he not sure how long it will take in Executive Session, so he recommends to adjourn and reschedule remaining conversation to next week, on October 6, 2021 at 7:00 PM for 106 Millville Street. Missy will reach out to Conservation Committee, Select Board, Planning Board for invite to that meeting. Chairman Fiske agrees.

Missy calls for a Motion:

Tom Fichtner makes the motion to adjourn the BOH Meeting and go into Executive Session. Second by Alan Greenberg.

The motion is passed. **Roll call vote: Fiske-Aye, Greenberg-Aye, Fichtner-Aye.**

Meeting is adjourned at 7:29 PM.