



TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE
BOARD OF HEALTH

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The Northbridge Board of Health approved these minutes at a meeting held March 9, 2010.

MEETING MINUTES - FEBRUARY 9, 2010

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mr. Paul McKeon, Chairman. Other members present were Mr. Steven Garabedian, Ms. Ann Marie Thompson, Mr. Chris Cella and Mr. Scott Chase. Also present was Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrator.

Minutes: A motion was made by Mr. Garabedian to accept the minutes of January 5, 2010. Motion seconded by Ms. Thompson; the vote was 3-0 in favor; Mr. Chase and Mr. Cella abstained.

Permit to Stable – 334 Benson Road: Present for this meeting was Steve Ferrucci, applicant for a stabling permit at 334 Benson Road. The Board reviewed the application and noted that Mr. Ferrucci has two horses and the parcel of property is 10.6 acres. Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that Mr. Ed Mansfield, Inspector of Animals, had inspected this barn and found it to be suitable for stabling of horses.

Motion to grant stable permit was made by Ms. Thompson. Motion seconded by Mr. Chase; the vote was all in favor.

Permit to Stable – 1961 Quaker Street: Present for this meeting was Christine Taylor of 1961 Quaker Street, Northbridge. The Board reviewed the opinion from Town Counsel Attorney David Doneski regarding the proposal of Ms. Taylor to lease a portion of land from an abutting owner to satisfy the one acre minimum requirement for the stabling of one horse.

Attorney Doneski indicated that the Board does have the discretion to allow such an arrangement however he recommended that the Board establish guidelines for such use so that it may be applied to instances in which such a request is made so that all applications will be treated on the same basis. Attorney Doneski further recommended that the Board be provided a copy of the lease and a signed statement from the owner of the land confirming consent to the lease. Attorney Doneski also recommended that the Board hold a public hearing so that neighborhood concerns can be voiced.

Ms. Taylor argued that a public hearing had already been held four years ago. Mr. McKeon informed her that that was a meeting of the Board only, not a public hearing. She was informed that she would need to pay for the costs associated with the legal advertisement of the public hearing as well as the cost of mailing by certified/return receipt to all abutters to her property a notice of the hearing.

Mr. Cella questioned the distance to the well noting that the Board discussed it previously and that it was believed to be 77-feet from the stable – well regulations require a 100-foot setback. Ms. Taylor stated that Mr. Mansfield instructed her to measure the distance to the rear of the facility where the horses will be and that measurement is 102-feet. Mr. Chase will confirm this measurement.

Mr. McKeon stated his concern that by allowing this the Board will be setting a precedent which could allow for a lot within a subdivision to lease land from its neighbor for the stabling of horses and that this could create a problem with neighbors that would not expect the allowance of a horse in such a tight residential area along with complaints of manure odors and flies. He thought the Board should proceed with caution on this.

Motion made by Ms. Thompson to hold a Public Hearing as recommended by Town Counsel to allow neighborhood concerns to be raised with regard to the proposal to lease land from a neighbor to meet the one acre requirement for the purpose of stabling a horse at 1961 Quaker Street. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian; the vote was all in favor.

The Public Hearing will be held on March 9, 2010 at 7:00 PM at the Town Hall. A Public Hearing Notice will be placed in the Blackstone Valley Tribune and abutters will be notified at the expense of the applicant.

Title 5 – 382 Pollard Road – Acceptance of Deed Restriction: The Board of Health reviewed a recorded deed restriction for property located at 382 Pollard Road. The owners recorded the deed restriction to allow for the renovation of a room over the garage which could have been construed as a fourth bedroom – this deed restriction limits the property to three bedrooms.

Motion to accept the three (3) bedroom deed restriction for 382 Pollard Road was made by Ms. Thompson. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian; the vote was all in favor.

Title 5 – 1498 Quaker Street – Well Water Tests: The Board reviewed minutes from their April 27, 2005 meeting at which time a local upgrade for the replacement of the septic system at 1498 Quaker Street was approved with the condition that the private well water for 1498 Quaker Street and 1510 Quaker Street be tested for coliform, nitrates, and ammonia in five years.

Mr. Cella motioned to send letters to each of these property owners to remind them of the vote taken and to request that they have their well water tested. Motion seconded by Ms. Thompson; the vote was all in favor.

Quaker Street Landfill – January Monitoring: January monitoring not yet completed.

Quaker Street Landfill – Form SW22: Board reviewed the draft submittal of the Form SW-22 to reduce monitoring at the Quaker Street landfill. She stated that she is working with BETA Group to complete the document. She noted that municipalities are exempt from application fees.

H1N1 Vaccine Update: Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that the next clinic is scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2010 at the Northbridge High School and that this clinic is open to the public. Residents and non-residents of any age are able to attend.

H1N1 – PHER Funds – Allowable Costs: Ms. Thompson requested that the Board compensate Ms. Gniadek for the hours worked beyond her work day at the H1N1 clinics that have been held. She noted that all staff are being paid and that over-time pay for staff is an allowable expense under the PHER (Public Health Emergency Response) grant funds. Additionally, Ms. Gniadek has seen to it that the vaccine cold storage has been monitored on weekends and holidays – again, for no compensation.

Motion made by Ms. Thompson to compensate Ms. Gniadek at her over-time rate of pay for hours worked beyond her scheduled work day for administration and supervision of H1N1 clinics and to further compensate Ms. Gniadek at a rate of \$50 per month for vaccine cold storage monitoring. Motion seconded by Mr. Garabedian; the vote was all in favor.

Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that a total of \$16,079.72 has been received in PHER fund grant funds with an additional \$8,496.88 expected to be received. Current balance is \$3,738.44.

Riverdale Water Company: The Board reviewed correspondence from the Riverdale Water Company (RWC), a public water supply system being permitted by the DEP and the proposed Zone II protection area. Ms. Gniadek stated that it is her understanding that RWC must make a “best effort” to have Northbridge adopt this Zone II protection area. A meeting with the Northbridge Planning Board and RWC was being held this evening to discuss this matter in greater detail.

760 Providence Road – Private/Public Water Supply: The Board reviewed the well water quality test results for the private water supply at 760 Providence Road. No further action necessary.

2010 Rabies Vaccination Clinic: Ms. Gniadek informed the Board that Dr. Patrick Lawrence of Agape Animal Hospital has agreed to administer rabies vaccine at our clinic which has been scheduled for Saturday, April 3, 2010 from Noon to 2PM at the Whitinsville Fire Station. Hills Science Diet has once again generously donated miscellaneous items for this event including cat food, dog treats, grooming gloves and tote bags.

Health Inspector Position: The Board reviewed the resignation letter of Ed Mansfield from his position as Health Inspector and Inspector of Animals for the Town of Northbridge.

Motion to accept Mr. Mansfield’s resignation was made by Mr. Chase. Motion seconded by Ms. Thompson; the vote was all in favor.

Ms. Gniadek provided the Board with advertisements for these two positions and noted that they have been placed on cable, are posted at Town Hall, and are being circulated by email through her Region 2 contacts. The Board requested that these positions be posted on the Northbridge web site and that they be advertised in the Telegram & Gazette.

Correspondence: The following correspondence was distributed to the Board:

- Town of Northbridge Sexual Harassment Policy
- Stormwater Advisory Committee Memorandum – this memorandum from the Town Manager requested that the Board of Health select a designated member of the Board to serve on this advisory committee. **Motion made by Mr. Cella to have Mr. McKeon serve as the designee. Motion seconded by Ms. Thompson; the vote was all in favor.**
- Massachusetts Department of Agriculture – report on site visit of Szerlag Farms in response to the Board’s request for assistance with elevated nitrate levels in the Pollard Road area
- Memorandum – 2010 Spring Annual Town Meeting
- 2010 “draft” Newsletter to Food Establishments

There being no further business, motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM was made by Ms. Thompson and seconded by Mr. Garabedian – all in favor.

Attested by,

Jeanne M. Gniadek, Administrative Assistant