

Town of Foxborough Board of Health
Regular Meeting
Meeting Minutes - September 12, 2022

Members Present: Betsy Allo, MPH, Chair, Paul Steeves, Vice-Chair, Sophia C. Manos, Clerk
Members Absent: None

Health Department Staff Present: Matthew Brennan, R.S., Director of Public Health, Diane Passafaro, Public Health Coordinator and Recorder.

Others Present: Paul Gilpin, David Oberlander, Meghan Zwolenski

B. Allo opened the regular meeting of the Foxborough Board of Health, under the Open Meeting Laws of the State of Massachusetts, at 7:00 p.m. on September 12, 2022. Meeting took place in the Andrew A. Gala, Jr. meeting room inside the Foxborough Town Hall, 40 South Street, Foxborough, MA.

Quorum was established.

7:02 p.m. David Oberlander, P.E., BDO Engineering – 4 Oak Street
Septic variance request from Title 5 (310 CMR 15.000) for the property located at 4 Oak Street and discussion and possible vote to remove the current bedroom deed restriction on the property

Representing the property of 4 Oak Street, Foxborough was David Oberlander, P.E. with BDO Engineering and the homeowner, Meghan Zwolenski.

D. Oberlander provided the Board with a brief septic history of the property. He explained the 15,500 square foot lot has an existing two-bedroom house with a conventional type septic system designed for a three-bedroom. Due to the property being in a nitrogen sensitive area however, a deed restriction was placed on the property at the time of the most recent install, limiting the dwelling to a two-bedroom home only. D. Oberlander continued stating, the homeowner was not aware of the deed restriction when she purchased the home and was only informed when she went to apply for a loan for an addition. In order for there to be an increase in flow to the septic system in a nitrogen sensitive area, D. Oberlander proposed the use of a denitrification system. The install would involve the replacement of the existing conventional tank with a Massachusetts Department of Environment Protection (MA DEP) approved alternative technology, which involves the installation and use of a Singulair septic tank. He further explained to the Board that the use of this type of system is considered secondary treatment which treats the effluent to a higher standard than a conventional one, thus allowing for the removal of the current deed restriction on the property.

M. Brennan stated Kevin Duquette, septic inspector, reviewed the plans and found no issues.

P. Steeves inquired about the monitoring requirements of this type of system. D. Oberlander confirmed there is a monitoring protocol associated with this type of system and an operation and maintenance contract will need to be established.

M. Brennan also informed the Board that a deed restriction will need to be filed due to the property having an innovative/alternative system. This deed restriction will allow all subsequent owners to be aware of the system on the property and the maintenance that is required.

P. Steeves made a motion to approve the proposed septic upgrade at the property located at 4 Oak Street, Foxborough, and to amend the current deed restriction from a two-bedroom dwelling to a three-bedroom dwelling, contingent upon the installation of a denitrification system on the property. The motion was seconded by S. Manos. B. Allo called for discussion. Hearing no discussion, B. Allo called for a vote.

S. Manos: Aye P. Steeves: Aye B. Allo: Aye
Motion passed, 3-0-0

Hearing no further discussion relative to 4 Oak Street, B. Allo closed the matter at 7:14 p.m.

7:13 p.m.

Introduction – Paul Gilpin, Food Inspector, Bristol Norfolk Public Health Partners (BNPHP)

Introduction of Paul Gilpin, Food Inspector for the BNPHP, and an overview of potential new regulations associated with additional certified food manager requirements for food establishments.

Paul Gilpin introduced himself as the new Food Inspector for the recently formed Bristol Norfolk Public Health Partners (BNPHP) collaborative. He provided a brief summary of his education and work experience, which included graduating from Johnson and Wales and his 10 years work experience in food service both in New England and California.

P. Gilpin presented to the Board a draft regulation entitled “Regulation Pertaining to Certification of Managers in Food Safety” and explained the main objective of the regulations being, to have a certified food manager onsite at the establishment location during all hours of operation.

P. Steeves asked the frequency of non-compliance associated with an establishment not having a certified food manager onsite. M. Brennan stated it happens quite a bit. He further explained that if the individual onsite does not hold a food manager certificate, there are a series of food safety related questions that the person in charge needs to answer correctly, in order for the inspector to note compliance with the Code. M. Brennan added that many other Towns currently have regulations they’ve adopted, similar to the one proposed.

Hearing no further discussion, the Board thanked P. Gilpin for coming and the matter was closed at 7:26 p.m.

7:26 p.m. Department Updates

- M. Brennan explained he was developing a single document that incorporated every Board of Health regulation currently on the books. He explained that having this one document will provide a more standardized and concise document for future Health Directors to refer to and for the residents of Town to follow. Upon finalizing the draft document, the Board can discuss each regulation and provide comment and changes as needed. The adoption of this single document will allow the Board to rescind all former Board of Health regulations and adopt one single regulation document during a future public hearing. Following a brief discussion, M. Brennan clarified questions from the Board and stated that the regulation anticipated to be reviewed during a particular Board of Health meeting can be placed as an agenda item and the fee schedule is included as part of the single document and can be reviewed and changed as well.
- M. Brennan solicited comments from the Board on the number of Board of Health meetings to be scheduled for the 2023 calendar year. Following a quick discussion, the consensus was to keep with the every other Monday schedule when possible, to allow the Board more flexibility to hold or cancel meetings.
- Information surrounding drip bars was provided. M. Brennan explained that within these types of establishments, on-site activities are typically conducted by a registered nurse, and the location as a whole is under the direction of a medical director. M. Brennan offered that Foxborough's public health nurse, Tom Kenvin could come to a future Board of Health meeting, to provide further information on the matter. M. Brennan stated the Board of Health could develop and adopt local regulations that focus on proper sanitation measures the should be followed within an establishment of this type.
- Mansfield is currently under a boil water order due to the presence of E-coli. A small portion of Foxborough receives their water from Mansfield, information on those affected is on the Town's website.
- Mansfield is scheduled to begin wastewater sampling for Covid. Twenty percent of Foxborough's wastewater goes to Mansfield, so this data may be beneficial to the Town.
- The Residential Swimming Pool questionnaire was developed. This questionnaire can be made available to the residents of Foxborough during upcoming wellness classes and other Town events.
- The Health Department will be participating in a Community Information Night on September 28 and will be offering information relative to Emergency Preparedness.
- The next National Drug Take Back Day is Saturday, October 29 from 9am – 1pm at which time the Foxborough Health Department will be providing a sharps collection in conjunction with the national event. Sophia Manos stated should would be available to volunteer and be present to oversee the collection.

8:08 p.m. S. Manos made a motion to pay the following bills.

W.B. Mason (Miscellaneous Office Supplies)

\$8.95

D.P. (August Communications)	\$50.00
M.B. (August Communications)	\$50.00
C.S. (August Communications)	\$50.00
Verizon Wireless (Data Usage for Inspection Tablets)	\$75.98

The motion was seconded by P. Steeves. Hearing no discussion, B. Allo called for a vote.

S. Manos: Aye P. Steeves: Aye B. Allo: Aye
Motion passed, 3-0-0

8:10 p.m. S. Manos made a motion to approve the minutes of August 15, 2022 as written. The motion was seconded by P. Steeves. B. Allo called for discussion.

P. Steeves requested the minutes reflect him recusing himself from the discussion of 68 Neponset Heights Avenue.

S. Manos moved to amend the motion by inserting the sentence “P. Steeves recused himself from the discussion of 68 Neponset Heights Avenue” under the 68 Neponset Heights Avenue agenda item. The motion was seconded by P. Steeves.

Hearing no further discussion, B. Allo called for a vote on the amended motion.

P. Steeves: Aye S. Manos: Aye B. Allo: Aye
Motion passed, 3-0-0

8:12 p.m. P. Steeves made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by S. Manos. B. Allo called for a vote.

P. Steeves: Aye S. Manos: Aye B. Allo: Aye
Motion passed, 3-0-0

The next meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2022

Sophia C. Manos, Clerk