

KINGSTON BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
June 5, 2023

Present: Chairman Joe Casna, Vice Chairman Bill Kavol. Members Dennis Randall, Janet Wade and Heidi Whipple, Health Agent Joyce Krystofolski, Assistant Town Administrator Gloria Mitchell, and Arthur Boyle.

Joe Casna introduced the new Health Agent, Joyce Krystofolski.

6:08 p.m. Kingston Board of Health Meeting was called to order by Joe Casna.

APPOINTMENTS:

Continuation of the Public Hearing on the Keeping of Non-Commercial Farm Animals.

John Wheble of Jones River Drive. John stated that some changes have been made to the regulations. He had spoken to Matt Panella, the Conservation Agent concerning the Wetlands article. JW read all the changes that were made. Dennis suggests an amendment to be made "The Animal Control Officer upon receiving the complaint of livestock loose and off the owner's property shall investigate the complaint **and upon verification of the complaint**, take the following actions." JW doesn't have a problem with it, but it is up to Joe Casna. Don Alcombright of 218 Indian Pond Road, via Zoom, for the details regarding the 50-foot boundary language. He would like that struck out. Zoning is in place for a reason and this language puts some residents in a weird position. DA had sent an email to the Board regarding this. Heidi read the email concerning Part 1 Section G. Joe Casna stated a building permit would be needed anyway. JW thinks it is fine and they can strike that sentence. JW stated that DA offered changes on the rooster complaints. Could we carve this section out and discuss this at another meeting? DA explained #3 and #4 are open ended that would be a he said, she said situation. If a rooster owner is complying with #1 and #2 and the neighbor is still complaining, it gives the ACO, Health Agent, inspector, etc. the ability to say they are complying, and it is a hard stop. If they are not, they can remove the animal. He doesn't like it open ended. It needs to be dictated exactly how it comes about. Joe stated there will be discretion. It will not be perfect. Heidi agrees with Don's suggestions. If we strike #3 and #4, we can deal with this at another meeting as it will take the grey area out. Dennis states that it is up to the Board to make that decision if necessary.

Joe asked if anyone else in the public would like to speak about this. Rui Santos, Pembroke Street, is hoping this meeting tonight will come up with a set of guidelines. Sheryl Antoine, Nottingham Drive, said that the agent won't be the one deciding if the rooster goes, it will be the Board. She thanks everyone's hard work. Joe asked Joyce Krystofolski for her opinion.

Joyce stated she read the regulations and understands both sides. What is written is fair. The regulations will put people on notice. She does not see them as unreasonable.

Joe requested a motion to close the Public Hearing. Bill asked DA if anything can be done about roosters. Can they be put away during certain hours, etc. DA said if there is a complaint, they will need to be put inside. Another complaint, the need a no-crow collar. If a person is complying, the regulation protects the rooster owner. They should be safe to keep the rooster if they are complying. JW stated that at the last meeting a woman did everything in her power to satisfy the complaints and did what she needed to do. The neighbor still isn't satisfied. DA feels it is a change that can be incorporated tonight or done at a later date. Jeanne Landis-Naumann, Wolf Pond Road, reiterates what she said before. There will be complaints. The Board of Health needs guidelines to go by. The Agricultural Commission has gone above and beyond to give a finished product.

6:28 pm Motion to close the Public Hearing by Dennis Randall.

Second: Heidi Whipple

5-0-0

Joe asked the Board what they would like to do. Heidi would like to remove 3 and 4. She would like to accept the regulations as presented with the changes striking from them Part 2 Section B, #3 and #4 to be determined at a later date. Janet made a comment but was not clear on audio.

6:30 pm Motion made by Dennis Randall to Amend and take the items out for now and discuss at a later date.

Second: Heidi Whipple

5-0-0

Dennis clarified his motion.

6:35 pm Dennis made an Amendment to his Motion to amend the Parts 1 and 2 to read "The Animal Control Officer upon receiving the complaint of livestock loose and off the owner's property shall investigate the complaint and upon verification of the complaint, take the following actions." and to include the zoning change.

Second: Heidi Whipple

5-0-0

Joe stated that the Board has approved the regulations with the changes that will be made. Any further changes to the draft that we voted tonight, Joyce will handle it.

DISCUSSION:

Susan Aniolowski, 15 Pine Brook Drive. She stated that she called the Health Department last week with a question and spoke with Arthur. He suggested she come and ask the Board of Health. She has been in her home 40 years and has seen rats in the backyard. She went online and researched and called the BOH to see if they had recommendations on companies that took care of rats outside of the house. None of them did. She asked Arthur if the BOH could do a mailing to the surrounding neighborhoods to inform them that rats have been seen and information on how to “sanitize your yard.” It could be helpful. Birdseed, food for chickens, dog feces, for example, attract rats. She is concerned about the children in her neighborhood. Concerned neighbors may use poisons. Heidi will follow up with this to see if there is something that can be put up on the website. Joyce stated she has something.

BILLS:

- Bills from May 15, 2023, reviewed.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

6:45 pm Motion made by Heidi Whipple to accept the meeting minutes of May 15, 2023.

Second: Dennis Randall

5-0-0

VARIANCE REQUEST:

- 1 Sequoia Dr. - Due to the lot size, they cannot maintain the 125 feet from the septic system. They would like a variance for 75 feet. Application made for irrigation well. Arthur does not see the harm in granting it as they have others in the neighborhood and throughout the town that are within 125 or 100 feet. As long as they continue to test them. It is not a requirement to test them. They only need to test it once. A posting on or near the outside spigot to not drink directly from faucet, would be best. Joe would like to look into this moving forward. He asked Arthur to talk to John Barengo at West End Drilling. Moving forward to come up with some type of a warning sign that can be put on any outlet from that well that will warn people not to drink the water – for irrigation only. This variance is fine. We will look at this for a future meeting to get some control over this.

6:50 pm Motion made by Dennis Randall to approve the variance with the provision of proper signage “not for human consumption.”

Second: Joe Casna

5-0-0

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT REPORT:

Approved Septic Plans:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • 6 Autumn Lane | Permit expires 8/31/25 |
| • 41 Brookdale | Permit expires 12/20/24 |
| • 7 Charles Drive | Permit expires 3/16/26 |
| • 15 Charles Drive | Permit expires 3/16/26 |
| • 23 Charles Drive | Permit expires 3/16/26 |

- 2 Cooper's Run Permit expires 5/19/25
- 55 Longwood Circle Permit expires 12/19/25
- 3 Nava Landing Permit expires 2/17/25
- 6 Nava Landing Permit expires 5/3/25
- 112 Parting Ways Permit expires 3/23/26
- 9 School Street Permit expires 2/21/26
- 20 Sequoia Drive Permit expires 2/28/26
- 8 Smelt Pond Road Permit expires 3/6/26
- 123 Wapping Road w/ conditions

Pending Construction Permits

- 234 Brookdale Street
- 6 Charles Drive
- 22 Charles Drive
- 26 Charles Drive
- 31 Charles Drive
- 34 Charles Drive
- 35 Charles Drive
- 38 Charles Drive
- 39 Charles Drive
- 42 Charles Drive
- 43 Charles Drive
- 46 Charles Drive
- 47 Charles Drive
- 51 Charles Drive
- 54 Charles Drive
- 55 Charles Drive
- 60 Country Club Way
- 21 Kennedy Road
- 165 Pembroke Street
- 6 Sequoia Drive
- 49 Winthrop

Wells

- 4 permits

Variance Requests

- 1 Sequoia Dr.

Retail Permits

- 1 Motel permit outstanding.

Retail Inspections

- 1 Retail Inspection

Complaints

- A voicemail came in on the health nurse line. It was from a pediatrician's office regarding a child that had high lead levels and was thinking it is from the soil on the property. The voicemail mentioned doing a soil test. I tried calling back but the nurse that called was on vacation. I left a message on May 18th.
- A resident called regarding poor electrical issue and living conditions. Arthur has been speaking with her.

Department

- Plastic Bag Ban final letter was mailed on May 18th.
- Having the Sr. Volunteers scan the septic permits from the 2006/2007 sewer tie ins.
- Arthur notified by KFD about a hoarding situation. Inspection done by Arthur and Captain Sue Hussey on May 16th. An eviction letter was sent certified mail on May 16th for violation of MA State Sanitary Code.
- Joyce Krystofolski started as Health Agent of May 30th!
- We began Smartgov training for online permitting on May 30th.

Joyce mentioned that for the 5 days she has been with the department, she has printed out the new housing code that has come out that is effective April 2023 and an updated food code. She has been going through what is currently on the books such as complaints.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED:

Posting of Public Health Nurse position:

6:52 pm Motion made by Heidi Whipple to repost the Public Health Nurse position using the previous job description.

5-0-0

HEALTHY KINGSTON UPDATE:

- The intro format was changed by PAC TV. It is more upbeat. They would like short vignettes. They feel people don't have the concentration span for a 20-minute program. Bud Loring came in and talked about the water management in the Town. Jean Naumann talked about the Swap Shop and a couple of other topics. PAC stated a lot more people watched because it is shorter. There will be two or three in a half hour span. Janet will give Lori a list of topics to post on the website. She would like to have Joyce, Lori, and the new Public Health Nurse on Healthy Kingston perhaps in September. During the summer, she will do topics on bicycle safety, healthy skin, and water safety. The purpose of Healthy Kingston is to promote health and wellness in the community and bring up topics of interest. Janet is going to restart Healthy Kingston Kids. She will speak with the new children's librarian.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED:

Supplies for Public Health Nurse:

- Janet mentioned she wants to come into the Health Department and look in the PHN cabinet. She stated that the Fire Department has some things in a cabinet there. She will find out exactly what they have. Heidi offered her assistance.

Sunblock Dispensers:

- Dennis said putting them at Pottle Street and ball fields and wherever people congregate. It doesn't cost much but may prevent sunburn and skin cancer down the road. Heidi asked if he looked into the cost. He did not see information on dispensers. Janet stated that in a perfect world it is a great idea but doesn't think it is realistic. Trying to keep the dispensers filled will be challenging. Who will do it? Who will pay for it? There are other things we can put time and money into. Joe asked Dennis if he would like to put a proposal together for a later date, he can do that. Dennis said it is \$20 a dispenser and the Recreation Department could do this. Heidi supports Dennis to look into it further. He will report next meeting.

Janet spoke regarding personal accountability for people's own health and about being neighborly.

Health Kingston Kids:

- Janet discussed this with her Healthy Kingston update. She asked Joyce to contact the library and transportation about putting information on their signs and on the Town website.

Shared Excellence Grant Committee:

- Joe stated there is a meeting on Wednesday, June 7th. He asked Arthur to go to the meeting with Joyce, in his absence. Joe stated we would be willing to stay on as host community for another year. Keith Hickey has not heard back regarding this.

Water Department:

- Bill stated that documents were sent out regarding water quality.

Public Health Nurse position:

- Janet asked about vetting process. Joe stated that the Health Agent will be doing that with the help of the Grant Committee's Public Health Nurse, if she chooses to use her. When she chooses one, the Board will vote to hire. Heidi offered Joyce her assistance, if needed. Janet feels a registered nurse to be in on this process. Joe stated that is why the Grant Public Health nurse will be available. Janet feels a nurse who knows the Town is important. The new Grant nurse is new. Joe told Janet to have a conversation with Joyce. Joyce said she will ask for help if she needs it, and we should wait until we have applications. She will take them up on their offer when the time comes.

NEXT MEETING:

- Tentatively scheduled for June 26, 2023

7:16 pm Motion made by Heidi Whipple to tentatively schedule next Board of Health meeting for June 26th, July 10th, and July 24th due to upcoming holidays and pending room availability.

Second: Dennis Randall

5-0-0

ADJOURN

7:17 p.m. Motion to Adjourn made by Dennis Randall

Second: Heidi Whipple

5-0-0

Lori Jones, Administrative Assistant
Kingston Board of Health

Approved: June 26, 2023