

**Scituate Board of Health Meeting**  
**July 18, 2016**  
**Scituate Town Hall – Selectman’s Hearing Room**  
**6:00pm**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mr. Steven Pansey, Chairman  
Mr. Russell Clark, BOH Member

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Ms. Jennifer Keefe, Director, Public Health  
Ms. Susan Tice, Health Department

**Mr. Pansey opened the meeting at 6:00 PM**

**Acceptance of the Agenda**

**Mr. Clark made a motion to accept the agenda for July 18, 2016. All in favor. Unanimous vote (2-0)**

**Scheduled Items:**

**Discussion: Draft Private Well Regulations**

Ms. Keefe directed the Board members to the packet she supplied them and referred to the email from the Massachusetts Groundwater Association. She explained that they indicated MassDEP would continue the revision of their Private Well Guidelines at the end of July or sometime in August. Ms. Keefe said at this point in time she would like the Board members determine whether they wanted to finalize the regulations or wait until MassDEP makes a decision on their guidelines. Mr. Clark wanted to know if Ms. Keefe had heard when MassDEP would be finished with the revised private well guidelines. She explained that MassDEP has experienced many retirements and are trying to rebuild their staff; therefore, it is taking a longer to revise them. Mr. Pansey said the question he wanted answered before he could agree on local private well regulations would be a concise answer on where the water is coming from when drilling a private well. He said he needed to know whether the well driller was correct when he explained that private wells do not draw from the Town’s water supply. Ms. Keefe said she left a message for a hydrologist from MassDEP to give us guidance on whether there was a website or other resource that would provide a map to guide us on water sources and aquifer locations. She said she could also reach out to the LSPA, who have hydrogeologists within their group. The third way and probably the most expedient way would be to contact the Groundwater Association which is in the process of providing guidance to towns with their local private well regulations. She could inquire whether they could provide information on local water sources. The Board members discussed the pros and cons of water bans including private wells. Ms. Keefe said one of the options would be to have the Water Department control when a ban would affect everyone including private well owners. Ms. Keefe said she thought the level of the reservoir determines the status of a ban. Mr. Pansey would like to put basic private well guidelines in effect in the

interim because he is worried that some well drillers are installing wells without guidelines. Mr. Pansey asked again about the assistance from the Groundwater Association and Ms. Keefe explained they would be willing to help health departments write regulations. She explained that the department would need to finalize a draft for their review. The Board members and Ms. Keefe discussed the issue of Zones and that it would be a good question for the Groundwater Association. Ms. Keefe also discussed whether all wells should be tested the same as drinking water and the Board indicated they wanted all wells to meet drinking standards. The Board members and Ms. Keefe decided that they would not wait for MassDEP to revise their private well guidelines. Mr. Pansey asked how many private well applications the department had received. Ms. Keefe indicated that currently there were ten and that the department has had a number of inquiries. Ms. Keefe indicated she would reach out to the Groundwater Association to find out aquifer location, use, and maps in order to aid in the process of finalizing the private well regulations.

**Mr. Clark made a motion to have the draft well regulations reviewed by the Massachusetts Groundwater Association in order to finalize them within a month's time.**

**All in favor. Unanimous (2-0)**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**March 28, 2016 Meeting Minutes Approval**

**Mr. Clark made motion to approve meeting minutes from March 28, 2016**

**All in favor, unanimous (2-0)**

Ms. Keefe said that the beaches have all been open and will be tested again tomorrow, she further noted that the Knights of Columbus Carnival will be opening tomorrow night with 5 food vendors that will be inspected before opening.

**Motion to adjourn**

**All in favor. Unanimous (2-0)**

**List of Documents:**

Meeting Agenda