

**Scituate Board of Health Meeting
Monday, July 16, 2018
Selectman Hearing Room
6:00 P.M.**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Doug Whyte, Chairman
Mr. Russell Clark, BOH Member
Wendy Oleksiak, BOH Member

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Jennifer Keefe, Director, Public Health
Ms. Joan Schmid, Administrative Assistant

6:00 MEETING CALLED TO ORDER/ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Mr. Whyte called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Acceptance of the Agenda - A motion was made and seconded with all in favor of accepting the agenda and opening the meeting.

Ms. Keefe welcomed newly appointed member of the Board, Wendy Oleksiak, and thanked Steve Pansey for his years of service on the Board. Ms. Oleksiak gave the Board her background as a registered nurse, and real estate broker. She has lived in Scituate for twenty years. The other Board members welcomed Ms. Oleksiak.

SCHEDULED ITEMS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The Board discussed the election of Board of Health Chairman. There was a motion made and seconded with all in favor of electing Douglas Whyte as the Board of Health Chairman for current fiscal year, FY 19 effective July 16, 2018.

Director's Report

Ms. Keefe gave the Directors Report:

Permitting for recreational camps with two camp applications received within the past two weeks. One camp is starting this week and one next week. Ms. Keefe will be conducting inspections to permit in accordance with the new State regulations.

The Beach season is ongoing with lab results received every Wednesday after sampling on Tuesdays. Lighthouse beach was closed last Wednesday with no swimming signs posted. The beach was reopened Friday afternoon after retesting was performed on Thursday. All beaches are sampled every week on Tuesdays and the results are posted on the Scituate website.

All of the public and semi-public pools are permitted and opened. They are required to submit laboratory results to the office monthly while they are open throughout the season.

There are two active nuisance cases which is one less from the last meeting.

The office has received multiple food temporary permit applications. The applications for Heritage Days were due on July 1st and there are currently twenty-six permit applications in process for this one event.

Ms. Keefe is currently working on two yearend reporting grants for emergency preparedness and hoarding.

There are four new septic plans received for review from July 3rd to date. Ms. Keefe issued four septic permits today, and sent comments on three newly reviewed plans. She is reviewing Title V inspection reports received daily, and there were three as-builts received for certificate of compliance.

There are four operation and maintenance outstanding contracts. Three of them are new since the last meeting. There is one outstanding operation and maintenance repair which is one less than the last meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Discuss: Septic Betterment Program

Ms. Keefe said at the previous meeting she passed out to the Board materials including the State guidance with several examples of other Towns betterment programs so the Board could review and give opinions. Ms. Keefe said she received Steve's comments before he left the Board and now providing the materials to Wendy for discussion. Ms. Keefe said the Board will continue to discuss the betterment program until the Board reaches an agreement and votes on the betterment program.

At the last meeting, Ms. Keefe said she would create a working document for the Board with their thoughts and input. Ms. Keefe created a bullet summary with decisions the Board needs to make from the ninety three page of the Massachusetts DEP guidelines for Town Betterment Program. The program includes participation with a number of Town departments. The Board asked if the Town needs to get the money from the State and have it in place before the program begins. Ms. Keefe said the treasurer/collector office borrows the funds for the program from the State and she is actively working on this piece of the program. The Town provides the loans based on the amount. Ms. Keefe said the Town approved \$200,000.00 to the betterment program. The Board asked what happens if the Town does not use all of the funds in one year. Ms. Keefe said the loan will be a 5% interest to resident and paid through their property tax bill. She also said depending on the loan amounts, it may only help eight residents, so there may not be funds left. The 5% interest goes to the program and eventually, hopefully, becomes a self-sustaining fund. Ms. Oleksiak said there are residents in dire need of the betterment program who are retiring and have no idea the cost to upgrade their septic systems. Ms. Keefe said there is a State requirement for the betterment program that the septic system needs to be in failure and if it is discharging to the groundwater it becomes a priority. Ms. Oleksiak said it would be also helpful for the seller if the betterment loan can be rolled over to the new buyer.

Ms. Keefe said there is a State requirement that the resident needs to be living in the home and it is their primary residence. The Board noted that the program is for someone who lives in a home and runs into problem with the septic system in failure and has a financial strain. This program allows them a low interest loan. Ms. Oleksiak said residents don't know the cost of a septic system until it fails.

Ms. Keefe said in the Scituate 1995 betterment program there was a ranking system with the expectation of a lot of applicants. The Board discussed taking applications a couple of times of year. Ms. Keefe said the two months of August and February would make more sense to stay away from permitting season. The Board discussed an application fee for the betterment program application process and did not think this needed. The also discussed an early payoff fee on the betterment loan. Ms. Keefe will ask Treasurer these questions.

The Board asked if anyone attending the meeting had any comments. Mr. Olesciak, Wendy Olesciak's husband, of 616 Hatherly Road attended the meeting. He said with a 20 year term loans the Town would want to get

funds yearly to help more people. The Board asked Mr. McDonough who attended the meeting if he had anything he wanted to ask the Board. Mr. McDonough said he had nothing to add.

Ms. Keefe asked the Board to go through the materials and if they have any additional questions she will include with the questions for the State and Town departments. Ms. Keefe will come up with a ranking sheet for the application and the Board will continue to discuss until they come to the point they can vote on the betterment program

OTHER BUSINESS

The administrative invoices were reviewed and approved.

Meeting Minutes, May 30, 2018 were not finalized and tabled.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made and seconded with all in favor at 6:59pm.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS PRESENTED:

Ms. Keefe's summary of the State Betterment Program Guidance Document

The Community Septic Management Program- Department of Environmental Protection/Division of Municipal Services- Guidance Manual of Board of Health

Board of Health -May 30, 2018 meeting minutes