

**CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Board of Health
Minutes of the Meeting
May 5th, 2016
5:30 p.m.
City Hall Annex
3 Pond Road
Gloucester, MA 01930**

Board members present: Chairperson: Dr. Richard Sagall; Frederick Cowan; Joe Rosa and Claudia Schweitzer. Present from the Health Department: Assistant Director: Max Schenk; Public Health Nurse: Kelly Ries. Absent: Vice–Chairperson: Robert Harris.

This meeting is being recorded by audio in accordance with State Open Meeting Law.

PUBLIC ORAL COMMUNICATION

There was no “Public Oral Communication”.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. Schweitzer to approve the Gloucester Board of Health minutes of the meeting of April 7th, 2016 as written. **Seconded** by Mr. Rosa. **CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS

1 Pilot’s Hill Road (Map 60/Lot 6)

Condemnation: Order to Vacate Property’s Owners of Record – ARO STEPHEN P ARO ANDREA T-

*Requested appearance before the Board of Health pursuant to:
State Sanitary Code section 410.831 Dwellings Unfit for Human Habitation; Hearing; Condemnation;
Order to Vacate; Demolition; - (A) Finding that a dwelling or portion thereof is unfit for human habitation.*

In relation to the following violations at the above referenced property:

Violations of State Sanitary Code

410.180 - Portable Water

410.602 – Maintenance of Areas Free from Garbage and Rubbish

410.750 – Conditions Deemed to Endanger or Impair Health or Safety

(A) failure to provide a supply of water sufficient in quantity, pressure and temperature, both hot and cold, to meet the ordinary needs of the occupant in accordance with 105 CMR 410.180 and 410.190 for a period of 24 hours longer.

(C) Shutoff and/or failure to restore electricity, gas or water

(E) Failure to provide a safe supply of water.

Mr. Schenk gave the board a brief background of the situation at 1 Pilot’s Hill Road. He stated that the Health Department received complaints about the owner of the property using his outdoor property as a bathroom, as well there being an overwhelming amount of trash on the property. He stated that he followed up with the Department of Public Works and there is no record of any water being used at the property. He stated that no water service makes the property uninhabitable and condemnable by the Health Department.

Chairperson Sagall asked if there was anyone that would like to speak for or against the proposed Order.

Stephen Aro owner of 1 Pilot’s Hill Road appeared before the board. He stated that his parents bought

the house years ago as a summer house. He stated that the property does not have any running water and hasn't had any for several years. He stated that there is a block on his connection to the City sewer. He stated that he is in the process of putting in a sewer line and wants to convert from oil to gas and replace the half inch feed to the water meter. He stated that he would like to do that all at once to conserve money and hopes to have it all complete by the end of the summer. He stated that the rubbish is an on-going process. The board suggested that Mr. Aro rent a dumpster or bring the trash to Hiltz for removal. The board asked Mr. Aro if he had other living arrangements he could make. *Mr. Aro* responded that he could stay with his brother-in-law.

Ms. Schweitzer asked if Mr. Aro was aware he is in violation of State sanitary codes. *Mr. Aro* responded that he read that in the letter sent from the Health Department.

Chairperson Sagall stated that Mr. Aro cannot live in the building until the three issues of water, sewer, and trash removal are remedied and an inspection by the Health Department is completed.

MOTION by Ms. Schweitzer that the Board of Health deem the property at 1 Pilot's Hill Road uninhabitable and that the owner, Mr. Aro is directed to remedy the issues before it can be re-inhabited and the areas of concern for habitability would be water and sewer and secondary to those is the condition of the exterior of the building. **Seconded** by Mr. Cowan. **CARRIED.**

Mr. Schenk stated that the Health Department will work with Mr. Aro to monitor compliance.

OLD BUSINESS

Updates: Susan Coviello, North Shore Health Project's Harm Reduction Program Update-

Susan Gould Coviello Executive Director of the North Shore Health Project appeared before the board. She stated that they have landed on a location with cooperation from the Mayor's Office and with the landlord.

Don Maier Board President of the North Shore Health Project appeared before the board. He stated that he attended a meeting in Boston regarding Hepatitis C and harm reduction programs came up as the main thing that was important in terms of stopping the spread of the disease. He stated that the State of Massachusetts has a limit on the amount of harm reduction programs and the limit is ten. He stated that the last time he was here the number of programs was six and there are now seven, so one of the issues they have is getting their proposal to the State in a timely manner.

MOTION by Mr. Cowan that the Board of Health affirm their support of this effort and recommends to the Mayor to approve The North Shore Health Project's Harm Reduction Program. **Seconded** by Ms. Schweitzer. **CARRIED.**

Sunny Robinson of 20 Harvard Street appeared before the board. She complimented the board for all the first steps they have taken over the years.

Report of Board of Health – Health Director Search Committee-

Mr. Cowan stated that they have interviews scheduled within the next week.

MONTHLY REPORTS

Presented by Max Schenk

Mr. Schenk submitted the following "Monthly Report" to Board members.



Mr. Schenk discussed an email to the mayor regarding the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative partnering with their coalition partners in a Pilot Safe Space for Recovery. He stated that this will provide to those who are in treatment and recovery programs to have a place one day a week at the Saint John's church on Middle Street from 8:30 to 5.

Mr. Schenk stated that they have approached the Tower Foundation for a grant to help support the Healthy Gloucester Collaborative's regional work.

Ms. Ries stated that on June 8th at 6pm, in partnership with the American Liver Foundation, there will be a forum held at the Rose Baker Senior Center to educate people on Hepatitis C. She stated that there will be a testing day in July. In answer to Dr. Sagall's inquiry she stated that if you give blood with the American Red Cross they screen the blood, and if Hepatitis C is found they do call people to alert them of those results.

Ms. Schweitzer stated she attended the Take Back the Night event which was to support efforts against domestic violence. She stated that it was great to see Ms. Ries there.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

77 Eastern Point Road- *Mr. Cowan* stated that he did a site visit at 77 Eastern Point Road and the amount of erosion that is threatening the security of the holding tanks is astounding. He stated that there seems to be some confusion with the engineer on how to secure the holding tanks. He asked the Health Department to check into the issue. *Mr. Schenk* stated that he will check with Mr. Ackerley on the issue.

Next Regular Monthly Meeting Board of Health- The next Board of Health monthly meeting will be on June 2nd, 2016 at the CATA Training Room at 5:30 p.m.

MOTION by Mr. Rosa to adjourn.
Seconded by Mr. Cowan. **CARRIED.**
MEETING ADJOURNED – 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by:

Richard Sagall, Chairperson

Documents Referenced:
May 5th, 2016 Board of Health Agenda

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May 2016 Monthly Department Reports