

# BOARD OF HEALTH February 2, 2021

The Board of Health held a virtual meeting and was conducted via remote participation. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. Present were, Elizabeth Sabounjian, Dr. Jane Williams, Dr. Daniel King and Shelly Newhouse, Director of Public Health.

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes from the January 5, 2021. Our next regularly scheduled meeting is on February 16, 2021.

## Public Hearing 401 Pouliot Place application for 10 chickens

Cuiling Wang is applying for 10 chickens. Mr. Wang previously had chickens living under his deck with inadequate water source. He was ordered to remove the chickens and apply for a permit. 401 Pouliot Place is in Shawsheen Commons which is a 40B project. There are zero lot lines and lots are under 5000 sq ft. 5 Abutters sent in comments, all are against the chickens due to concerns such as rodents, smell, fencing and area. The animal inspector recommended against the chickens, and the Director of Public Health also recommended against the chickens. Dr. Williams expressed that backyard chickens are important to families and the environment and she is proponent for residences acquiring chickens, however, in this case it is not the right area. Dr. King motioned to deny the request for 10 chickens, Dr. Williams seconded, application denied, voted 3-0.

## Public Hearing 34 Mill Road application for 6 chickens

Dominika Hudcova is applying for 6 chickens. A plan was presented showing the lot and area for chickens. This is a large lot with heavy forest behind the house. No comments from abutters and no concerns from animal inspector or Director. Dr. Williams motioned to approve the application for 6 chickens, Dr. King, seconded, application approved, voted 3-0.

#### 3 Hilltop Lane failed septic system update

The Director is waiting for a housing court date. Due to COVID-19, dates have been limited at the housing courts. Mr. Lyman, resident/owner has not done anything to upgrade or repair his failed septic system. The Director will visit Mr. Lyman this week and provide an update to the Board at the next meeting.

#### **Coronavirus Update**

The Director updated the Board on the current situation in Town. Currently, there are 86 active positives and over 300 in quarantine. There has been a steady decline in cases in the Town and throughout the Commonwealth. This is good news. The local boards of health in Massachusetts are only receiving 100 doses of the Moderna Vaccine every week. Most of the vaccine is going towards the Mass Vaccination Sites such as Gillette, Fenway and soon to local pharmacies. First responders in Wilmington have received their first dose of the Moderna vaccine. The next clinics for remaining groups in Phase 1 and starting with those in the 75+ age group will begin on February 4, 2021. Weekly phased clinics will continue as vaccine gets shipped. Right now the Health Department staff have been extremely busy with calls regarding vaccine availability and still conducting contact tracing. Most cases are still coming from household spread.

Dr. King motioned to adjourn at 6:10 p.m., voted 3-0.

Recording: Shelly Newhouse, Director of Public Health