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BOARD OF HEALTH
November 5, 2019

TOWN OF WILMINGTON, MA

The Board of Health held a meeting in Room 9 at the Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. Present were, Elizabeth Sabounjian, Dr. Daniel King, Dr. Jane Williams and Shelly Newhouse, Director of Public Health. The next regularly scheduled Board of Health meeting will be November 19, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 9 at the Town Hall, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington, MA.

The Board reviewed and approved the minutes from the October 15, 2019.

The Board reviewed the most recent food inspection reports.

New Business

Public hearing 34 Butters Row-application for 9 Chickens

The applicant, Sandra Spencer is applying for 9 Chickens. The Director presented the Board with a plot plan showing the location of the coop and a google map view. No comments from the abutters were submitted, the animal control officer gave a favorable recommendation. Dr. King motioned to approve the permit for 9 chickens, Dr. Williams, seconded, voted 3-0.

Discussion on FOG (fats, oils and grease) control in the sewer system

Fats, oils and grease (FOG) have become a significant problem for wastewater collection and treatment systems in some communities. FOG can coat, congeal, accumulate and cause problematic backups and blockages in sewer pipes and in public sewers. Wilmington is experiencing an increasing problem with FOG in the town system and the Water and Sewer Department has been notified by the MWRA to decrease FOG entering the MWRA system from Wilmington. Therefore, at the request of the Water and Sewer Department, the Director proposed that the Board of Health consider adopting regulations as part of the Town of Wilmington Food Establishment regulations for minimum pretreatment requirements (beyond those already required inside the establishment) for FOG discharge. Currently the State Plumbing Code does have such requirements that most often requires an outside in-line treatment mechanism. The town Plumbing Inspector is responsible for enforcing the State Plumbing Code. The Chairman, Elizabeth Sabounjian, questioned how the regulation of FOG was related (the nexus) to the protection of public health in Wilmington and how the addition of a duplicative set of regulations, and adding the Board of Health as another enforcement authority, was appropriate to the mission of the Board of Health and a necessary additional expenditure of public resources. After a discussion by the members present, it was recognized that requiring the reduction of FOG in the sewer system was an important goal for the town Water and Sewer Department and that it should be a priority of the Plumbing Inspector to enforce the Plumbing Code to achieve that goal. Ms. Sabounjian, Dr. Williams and Dr. King agreed that the Board of Health should not consider adopting regulations for FOG control.

Olin

There was a good turnout at the Informational Meeting. Olin announced that they will be providing a water line to the Cook Avenue area. EPA announce that they have a January target date for a record of decision document.

Flu

The flu clinics were well attended. The nurse is still offering vaccine

Dr. King motioned to adjourn at 6:00 p.m., second by Dr. Williams. Voted 3-0.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Shelly Newhouse", written over a horizontal line.

Recording:
Shelly Newhouse, Director of Public Health