



TOWN OF CHARLTON
37 MAIN STREET
CHARLTON, MA. 01507
508-248-2210

BOARD OF HEALTH

August 25, 2020

Members Present:

Kathleen Walker, Chair
Jon Sanborn, Vice Chair
Matthew Gagner, Member

Also Present:

James Philbrook-Health Director

- Chair Kathleen Walker called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.
- Vice Chair Jon Sanborn made a motion to accept minutes from August 18, 2020. Member Matt Gagner seconded and all in favor.
- Covid-19 updates was first on agenda. Just 2 new cases in Charlton this week. Kathleen attended the Local Board of Health meeting this afternoon.
- Reopening of DCRSD was next on agenda. Superintendent Steven Lamarche was in attendance. He spoke about the teachers returning next week and their training. HVAC systems getting a lot of attention. He would like to report that there were no major issues with the systems going into this year and they are have contracted out Drummey Rosane Anderson, Inc. and Consulting Engineer Services to evaluate air flow in the schools. Filters will be getting changed more frequently and adding an M13 filter as well. He would like to commend the custodial staff for the work that they do.
- Portable well abandonment is a topic that was not known at the time of posting. There are several residents that want to keep their wells even after they are hooked up to municipal water. Exxon/Mobile put in the agreement that if residents want to get tied into municipal water at no cost to them then they must decommission their well. Matt stated that the Board of Health has not mandated any decommission in the past, but they do strongly recommend it. Health Director, James Philbrook believes that we should look at this from a health and safety perspective. They have been allowed to keep wells that are not plumbed into houses for washing cars and watering lawns etc..If the levels of MTBE are higher than state limit that is already higher than other state limits, it is not safe to keep that well. This will be put on the agenda for September 8th to discuss again.
- Kathleen got a letter from a resident about caterpillar infestations killing many trees especially Oak trees. There are lots of limbs that could fall on roads or wires. He would

like to see a study done on these trees and limbs and possibly have them removed and donating the wood for electricity for the power plant. Matt stated that the small amount that we would have would not be of interest to the power plant. Donating wood to people is also a cost since they have to cut it into firewood and many people who say they want it never use it and ask for them to come back and get it. The Highway Department and Tree Warden has a long list of hazardous trees in the town already. This has been an effort for many years. The main issue is funding at this point. National Grid has a funding program that will take care of the trees that are near their lines. It was suggested that the resident speaks to the Tree Warden. There is nothing the Board of Health can do at this time.

- Jim has a meeting with the school nurses on Thursday to talk about protocol if something happens in the school. There will be an inspection of all the schools. Only 6 active Covid-19 cases at this time.
- Jim was asked to pick a charity for the Charlton Sewing Center to donate money that have made from masks. Jim asked to have it donated to the Senior Center, hopefully to offset the cost of meals for the Seniors.
- Next meeting will be September 1st at 6:00 p.m.
- Jon made motion to adjourn, Matt second, all in favor 6:46 p.m.

Matt

Jon