

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN**  
**Board of Health Minutes for April 3, 2019**

**Present at meeting:**

Bridget Sweet, Chairman  
Donald Ranieri, Vice Chairman

David McKearney, Health Director  
Virginia McNeil, Health Agent  
Leeanne Kerwin, Secretary

**Not Present:** Ciera Maffei, Clerk

The Board members reviewed the meeting minutes from their March 6, 2019 meeting. Mr. Ranieri made a motion to accept the minutes; Bridget Sweet seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Nomination of Cindy Souza and Tracey Taddeo for Inspector of Animals.** Nomination accepted, received and filed with the Health Department.
- **Preliminary subdivision plan, Maple Hill – Maple Street, Carroll Construction.** This is the 58-lot subdivision and comments are needed prior to April 22<sup>nd</sup> per protocol. The Health Director explains that the entire project will use septic systems. The company came in for tech review three weeks ago and apparently they are leaning towards a more open space type subdivision. Bridget is concerned as to how this project will impact the Health Department budget. The Health Director explains that it depends on how aggressive they are in their timeline for completion of the 58 units. If it is aggressive, quite a bit of money will be spent having Wade out doing perc tests. If they phase it, it shouldn't have a huge impact on the budget. Bridget asks if a note should be made to the Town Administrator now as opposed to waiting and David explains that he has had informal discussions on the topic with administration. The feeling is that they would bring in the fees to cover, so it wouldn't be a huge hit to the general budget. The biggest issue is allocation of resources. Bridget asks what the history process has been in the past. Don Ranieri thinks it'll take three to four months to start the process. David recommends compliance with Title 5 for septic system installation. Mr. Ranieri makes a motion to accept the subdivision plan as long as it complies with Title 5. Bridget Sweet seconds the motion.
- **Preliminary Subdivision Plan, Highland Village, 278, 280, 300 West Central Street, Joel D'Errico.** Health Director explains that it is all on public sewer and water and will not impact the department. The Chair recommends to receive and file.
- **Special Permit & Site Plan Modification, 79 Grove Street, Grove Street Towing.** Health Director explains they are expanding the building for auto repair. It is all town sewer. The Chair recommends to receive and file.

**HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- The Health Director and Health Agent provided details to the Board regarding activities of the Health Department during the month of March.

- Septic inspections, as of April 1<sup>st</sup> the Health Department is getting a lot of activity again from realtors, etc.
- Chairperson requests an update on the food trucks coming in to town. The Health Director explains that it would be helpful if the organizers of the events that are requesting the food trucks would have at least met with the Health Department so that they could articulate with them what the requirements are and make some recommendations to streamline the process. Town Administration doesn't understand what is involved in vetting these food vendors. The Chair offers to share the paperwork that she has seen in other towns so that the Health Department can tailor it to their specific needs. The Health Director explains that, when the vendors hear what is required for the process, they get angry and call upstairs to administration. Vendors are shocked that they need an inspection prior to an event. The Health Director's main concern is that he is basically being told to bypass the regulation and he feels he has no support. The recommendation early on in this process was that everyone should be on the same page before the event begins, that they try to recruit people that are already licensed locally. The Franklin Cultural Council has not tried to contact the Health Department at all. The Health Department is not anti-food truck, but it has to be done the right way with consideration of what is best for the health of the public. The Chair asks how many applications for food trucks there are currently. The Health Agent explains that there are four applications with one inspection so far, and she is concerned that the only way she has found out any information about this food truck event has been through Facebook - there has been no outreach at all and this event is taking place on April 27<sup>th</sup>.
- The Health Department is also concerned with the recent zoning changes for 'Keeping of Animals' that is now down to 25' for setbacks. The Health Department regulations for setbacks are 50' and 100'. The Health Director went to the out-going administrator and explained that he felt there is a direct conflict between the two. The Health Director then went to the Town Attorney and asked him to re-visit the language of 193-4 relative to setbacks to see if his interpretation was correct. The attorney agreed that the interpretation is clear that the setbacks are 100' to adjacent dwelling and 50' to a public way and that the zoning change should not trump the Board of Health regulation in any form or fashion. The outgoing Town Administrator suggested that the Board of Health re-visit their regulation and make it conform to the new zoning changes and the Health Director disagrees with this. The Health Director is looking for guidance from the Board as to how to proceed with this issue. The Chair recommends that surrounding comparable towns be contacted to see what their regulations are as far as Keeping of Animals and that it should be put as further discussion on the next meeting Agenda.

The Chairperson opens the floor for any new business and there is none.

Mr. Ranieri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bridget Sweet and the meeting was voted unanimously to adjourn.

The next Board of Health Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2019 at 5:00 pm in Room 106.

Transcribed by: Leeanne Kerwin, Secretary