

Ware Board of Health Meeting

December 15, 2021 Hybrid Meeting / Selectmen's Meeting Room

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84234728702?pwd=K1ZlKzZPeDJoV1JlQ2pBbE1KT2lNQ09>
Meeting ID: 842 3472 8702
Passcode: 115610

Present: John Desmond, Katrina Velle ABSENT: Jennifer McMartin

In Attendance: Stephen Bell, Betty Barlow, Sai Palani,

John called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM and announced the meeting is being audio recorded

APPOINTMENT

6:05 Appointment: Request for local upgrade at 16 Murphy Road for Gene Birk, designed by Paul Campagna with Neil Jackson of J&P Engineering Services. Neil is present via zoom. Neil states the request is for a reduction in offset to groundwater from 5 feet to 4 feet to limit the need of cutting trees and does not want issue with the drain from nearby farm road. Both Sai and Stephen agree 4 feet separation to groundwater is sufficient. John motioned to approve the local upgrade for a reduction to offset groundwater from 5 feet to 4 feet, Katrina seconded all in favor. John and Katrina sing DSCP# 21-36.

Due to next appointment being at 6:15 the Board moved onto discussion item#1 regarding update on housing referrals. Stephen informed the board he has not had chance to meet with Stuart and Building Commissioner Anna Marques however he did talk with someone from the state regarding referrals to other departments. He was told this is basically the same in other smaller towns where the local electrical and plumbing inspectors are paid using permit fees therefore pay is not available for them to handle inspections for referrals. It was suggested he talk to town manager to discuss other options for the inspectors getting paid. John feels Town Manager needs to make the inspectors follow up on these referrals in certain time frames and if they don't then the Board of Health can enforce these items under 105 CMR 410.000. John would like to see these policies in place by the next meeting.

6:15 Appointment: Hearing regarding housing code violations at 22 Aspen Street owned by CEEM Properties LLC with tenants Samantha & Tonya Calkins. Elbert Searles of CEEM is present via zoom. Elbert says he hasn't been able to reach tenants Samantha or Tonya. Whenever he goes there, other people that are not on the lease are in the unit. He did replace all the smoke detectors in both units of house and has contacted Lt Martinez. He is already in the eviction process due to tenants violating their Tenancy at Will contract. Elbert states he will reach out to tenants to make arrangements for access to correct the repairs. Mr. Desmond told him to make sure he documents all efforts such as certified mail, text, email to have proof he has been trying to make repairs and provide this office with copies of these documents which Elbert agreed to. Elbert states he will start working on this in the morning and provide Sai with copies of all documents. John recommends board puts all action into abeyance pending outcome of Elbert Searles attempts to making repairs. Katrina and Stephen agree with this recommendation.

6:30 Appointment: Engineer Alan Weiss is present via zoom to request a local upgrade at 72 River Road for Lynda Callahan. Request is for a 1 foot reduction in separation between SAS and high groundwater. Alan states due to the way this lot slopes down configured towards

River Road they are requested a 4 foot reduction instead of 5 feet separation to groundwater. Both Stephen and Sai confer with Alan for this request. Based on this John makes a motion to approve this local upgrade for a 1 foot reduction to groundwater, Katrina seconds, all in favor. John and Katrina sign DSCP# 21-35.

6:45 Appointment: Tim Barbiasz owner of Pig Park BBQ is present to request a variance from the Food Code for the use of a temporary handwash station during winter months. Sai informed the board of his inspection at Pig Park BBQ and his findings. There was issue with no running water and permit was issued for unit with running water for washing hands and proper ware washing. At the time Sai told Tim to put coolers in and use same type of handwashing station as allowed at temporary food events which include potable warm water in a clean container with a valve or spigot that remains opens in use, liquid soap in a pump type dispenser, paper towels and container for waste water placed by the smoker and inside the food truck. He also informed Tim he would need to submit a written request for a variance from the Food Code to the Board of Health requesting to continue to use this type of handwashing station as well as allow ware washing to be conducted inside his home through winter months to approved by the Board of Health in order to continue operation. Tim states it is impossible to keep a constant flow of water to his unit during winter months without the lines freezing. Stephen gives the board his approval for the use of temporary handwashing stations and home ware washing of utensils strictly during winter months due to the limited hours of operation. During warmer months running water within the truck will be used. John motions to approve variance for temporary handwashing facilities at the smoker and inside the unit and use of his home kitchen for ware washing, Katrina seconded all in favor.

Discussion item#2 Stephen gave update on COVID cases, vaccination rates and mask mandates. Case numbers have been pretty bad the past couple weeks, last week Ware had 108 cases which is the highest total we have ever had, previous weeks was 86. Since November 1st we've had 333 cases, 113 of those cases were vaccinated and only 4 hospitalizations. We believe the low number of hospitalizations is due to vaccination rate of 68% though that rate is about 10% behind the state average. Schools are struggling at this time with a number of cases. The vaccination rate now are: ages 5-11 are 17% partially vaccinated 8% fully vaccinated, 12-15 are 62% partially vaccinated 58% fully, 16-19 is 51% partially 46% fully, seniors are still doing great 65-74 are 88% fully vaccinated 95% having had at least 1 vaccine and 75+ is at 92% fully vaccinated. Ware is one of 102 communities selected as having a large enough low income population to get a delivery of free test kits from State that came in yesterday afternoon. We are currently trying to decide the best way to distribute and at this time we are thinking about targeting the Ware Housing Authority, Jubilee Cupboard, Highland Village & Hillside Village, as well as to the Veterans Agent, Housing for Elderly and Senior Center. We rec'd 3,150 free test kits and in couple weeks the State will be allowing communities to buy the test kits through their procurement website in bulk. Stephen feels we'll go thru these free kits quickly. He is also planning on having a distribution area set up in the auditorium for a couple hours to eliminate foot traffic within the town hall. Stephen also updated the board on changes regarding contact tracing. Up until November 30th the state had contract hiring a large number of employees for contact tracing which has ended so we lost our ability to send cases to them for follow up and tracing and now has to be handled on the local level. The main change is in the number of times you try to reach out to each case used to be 8 times but that number has now been lowered to once and we are obligated to provide a very detailed breakdown of what to do if you're are a case, the timeline of isolation, please notify your contacts and provide them information and trust them to do the right thing. The rationale for this by DPH is contact tracing is a tool very important early on in a pandemic to learn as much as we can, what types of settings are higher risk, places transmitted etc and now they know all that information so now just need to let cases know what they need to do with less enfacess on the full interview process.

Because of this added workload he worked with the office of regional health to expand our excellence grant contract so we'll be hiring a contract based contact tracer to help out with the surge right now for a few months.

John wants Stephen to look into Fee Schedules to help with getting inspectors for follow up on referrals.

Stephen provided the board with a memo he received today from Stuart Beckley regarding Resource Waste Expansion Permit. Resource Waste has proposed a Host Community Agreement for Ware as part of the expansion request. The Select Board would like to establish a small committee to negotiate the Host agreement and would like a Board of Health to appoint a member as well as the Director to participate in this committee. It has been agreed upon that John Desmond and Stephen Bell will participate on this committee.

DISCUSSION/ACTION:

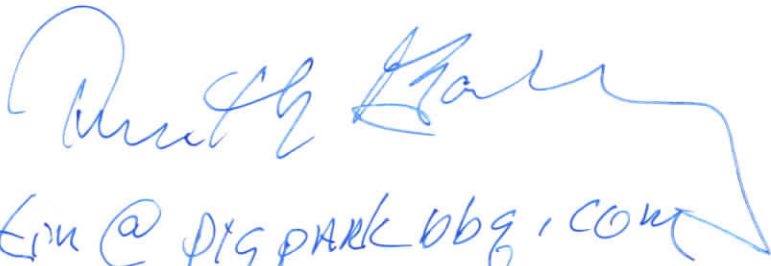
- Board members sign DSCP# 21-37 @ 17 Coldbrook Drive (old lot9) for Karl Beaumier, designed by Paul Campagna with Neil Jackson of J&P Engineering Services.
- John motioned to approve meeting minutes of November 17, 2021, Katrina seconded, all in favor.

John motioned to adjourned at 7:27PM, Jennifer seconded all in favor. Next meeting to be January 19, 2022 at 6:00PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Betty Barlow

Meeting minutes approved 1/19/2022

Pig PARK BBQ PROPOSES TO
HAVE 2 Temporary HAND WASH
STATIONS during the winter months.
When temperatures permit water
storage tanks will be reattached
offering NORMAL USE OF SINKS


Amy Lane
am@pigparkbbq.com
413-544-4712

RECEIVED

DEC 09 2021

Board of Health



TOWN OF WARE
Office of the Town Manager

126 Main Street
Ware, MA 01082
413-967-9648 x100

December 10, 2021

To : Stephen Bell, Health Director
Board of Health

From : Stuart Beckley, Town Manager

Subject: Resource Waste Expansion of Permit

RECEIVED
DEC 15 2021
Board of Health

Hello,

The Select Board has been approached by Resource Waste (formerly Tri-County and ABCD) regarding their interest in increasing the tonnage of Construction and Demolition materials at the Gilbertville Road facility. They understand that they will need permits from the Board of Health, DEP, and the Planning Board.

Resource Waste has proposed a Host Community Agreement for Ware as part of this expansion request. This would establish a payment for tonnage to the Town as well as possibly provide services such as Hazardous Waste collection or recycling.

The Select Board would like to establish a small committee to negotiate the Host Community Agreement. Would the Board please consider appointing a member as well as the Director to participate in this Committee?

Thank you. Please let me know if you have any questions.