

## Ware Board of Health Meeting

September 15, 2021 Hybrid Meeting / Conference Room

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85099254034?pwd=Y0dQRUxra1dTYUwzWkJmclZwUHJIUT09>  
Meeting ID: 850 9925 4034  
Passcode: 597677

Present: Jennifer McMartin, Katrina Velle, John Desmond

In Attendance: Stephen Bell, Betty Barlow, Stuart Beckley, Sai Palani via Zoom

John called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Betty Announced the meeting is being audio recorded

### APPOINTMENT

No Appointments

### DISCUSSION/ACTION:

- Stephen gave board an update on covid. Numbers are updated late Thursday so he does not have this week's numbers but as of last week Ware's fully vaccinated rate is 55% and partially vaccinated is 60%, which is still a little behind the region and state. Belchertown is at 70% vaccinated and 64% partially vaccinated. There have been 38 cases in Ware from 8/22 – 9/4 at a case rate of 5%. By last years metrics Ware is almost in red. Baystate has over 100 ICU beds filled with covid patients and are approaching 90% capacity. Case numbers are also rising at the schools. Katrina questioned if testing is being done at the schools but unfortunately, they do not have the test kits needed to able to do this. The board discussed possible mask mandates including town wide or municipal mandate particularly the Senior Center. Due to seniors already having the highest vaccination rate the board determined it would be better to educate more about covid, the variants and masking and possibly handing out masks. This educational material should also be distributed amongst the various town departments. The board has also requested Stephen keep track of the ages of the positive cases to determine where the highest rate is within town. The Board also questioned Stuart if the town would be able to help with getting supplies such as masks and test kits, with Stuart stating the funds are available and he will look into the availability of the supplies. There was also discussion on home testing kits being available for purchase at local pharmacies however the tests are often not taken properly and the results are not generated in the state numbers.
- Board members signed DSCP # 21- 28 New construction septic design at Lot A Horseshoe Circle for HRQ Global LLC designed by Civil Engineering Associates / Bob Cafarelli PE
- Board members signed DSCP @ 21-29 New construction septic design at Lot 7 Bondsville Road for David Dellatorre designed by Cold Spring Environmental Consultants Inc / Alan Weiss

- John questioned if any new news regarding mosquitos, Stephen stated her had not heard anything new regarding mosquitos and West Nile in the area.
- John questioned if any follow up to the air quality following the fires in the west and Stephen informed the board that he still waiting to hear back from the state regarding this.
- John motioned to approve meeting minutes of August 18, 2021, Katrina seconded, all in favor.

John motioned to adjourned at 6:57PM, Jennifer seconded all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Betty Barlow

Meeting minutes approved October 20, 2021