



TOWN OF
CHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS

01011

BOARD OF HEALTH
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Chester, MA 01011
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Board of Health@townofchester.net

Board of Health Meeting Town Hall March 5, 2025 at 5:00 pm

Open Public Meeting 5:00 pm

In attendance: Jennifer Chase; St. Pauly Textile, Charlie Kaniecki (CK); Health Agent, Evie Botelho Martenson, Chris Martensen, Elizabeth Massa (EM); Clerk, Nicholas Chiusano (NC); Chair, Veronica Marr

Agenda

NC would like to thank Duane Pease for his service on the BOH, Duane has resigned from the BOH on 02/27/25. EM respectfully stated that Duane has been an asset to the BOH offering his long prior experience with the BOH over the years and he will be greatly missed.

-Approve last meeting minutes of October 23rd, 2024.

NC motion, all approved.

-Condemnation Hearing 6 Sylvester Hamilton Road 5:30 NC called to order for condemnation hearing for 6 Sylvester Hamilton Road. CK report that house was damaged by fire, inspected on 01-17-25 it was determined that the principal dwelling is unfit for human habitation MGL c122, 127 B and 105 CMR 410.650 F. Conditions found within the dwelling are lack of sewage disposal and water, lack of proper permits, electrical and heating sources. Building is ordered to be vacated, boarded and secured no later than 03/20/25, the exterior of the building shall be cleaned of all waste, junk, materials within the next 30 days, the lawn areas shall be mowed and maintained as needed with no grasses growing beyond 12 inches. The owner shall not allow camping on the property, after one year the BOH may seek this dwelling to be demolished if it has not been brought up to code. NC motion to condemn, all approved.

-update on enforcement properties with Charlie Kaniecki, Health Agent CK review of the following properties currently in Enforcement 348 Skyline Trail; in housing court, awaiting June 4, 2025 to ask for a receiver. A proposed buyer has come forward, granting time for purchase however order will transfer to new owner. Currently building has not been boarded and secured. 171 Prospect Street; Title search in progress before receiver can be appointed, there is a problem with the title and CK is awaiting information. 34 Taft Road; will be inspected 03-28-25 as complaint was received of no water/septic. 28 Middlefield Road; bank owned abandoned property with failed septic, no progress from the bank CK will update on getting a receiver. 10 William Street; bank owned abandoned property, no progress from the bank CK will update on getting receiver. Note; will package both 10 and 28 in order to save on legal fees. 126/133 Middlefield Road; potential brownfield problem, August 2024 last sent email to TA to schedule dept wide meeting to discuss solution of this abandoned property with underground fuel oil tanks, did not happen. CK recommend fire chief working with DEP. EM to resend email out to TA dept wide to again request a meeting. EM thanked Charlie for being a valuable asset to the Town of Chester.

-RDP Grant EM The TS has received a DEP grant for recycling again this year. For 2025 the RDP grant has an opportunity for a cardboard compactor, EM will apply.

-Bids for Transfer Station Hauling the TS hauling contract is expiring in June of this year. EM is putting out requests for bids.

-Shared Services Grant Updates for new revised Statewide Accelerated Public Health for Every Community (SAPHE) legislation, work to be done by the BOH from now until May. The FPHS Framework is a national framework that Massachusetts adopted to define a minimum set of public health services that must be available in every municipality. Local boards of health and health departments are not responsible for providing all services directly, but are responsible for ensuring that all FPHS services are available within their communities. EM has been working with City of Northampton on our shared services grant. The DPH is collecting data and doing a review from Jan to May to review processes to measure current spending by local public health and to estimate costs for local public health to fully deliver services. The results will support strategic planning and help build local public health capacity to deliver services across the state for a healthier more equitable Massachusetts.

-Grease Trap Pumping CK recommends sending out the septic pumping letters to all restaurants and commercial kitchens. The state requires pumping of grease traps every three months per code for outside systems. Also, also septage haulers must provide septic pumping records to the BOH. EM to send out letters.

-HRMC presentation EM stated cancelled; rep did not want to drive in bad weather will be rescheduled to next meeting.

And any other concerns that can not wait for the next posted meeting

Jennifer from St. Pauly Textile contacted the TA to have a textiles donation box placed somewhere in town, EM suggested the Fire Station. This box would also pay the town dividends. Previously the BOH had asked the BOS about placing these boxes around town and the answer was no. EM to reach out to the new fire Chief Nate and BOS and ask if the box would be ok with him. It would be a wooden shed 8 x 14 in size.

Veronica Marr asked questions about creating a cemetery on private land ie. Burial ground. EM directed her to the Town Clerk. NC stated there are other burial grounds in town, all with an access path and the homeowner has a right of way given to the Town in the case that someone would sell the property. The BOH does not oversee burials.

EM asked CK to reiterate the State procedure on septic plans reviewed with no DWP issued. Ck stated that the clock starts on a septic plan when a Disposal Works Permit is issued there is a period of 3 years to construct the system. If no DWP is issued then a septic plan review must take place again.

NC motion to adjourn, all approved 6:30pm

Meeting will adjourn

*Approved 04-11-25
Elizabeth Massa*

Posted _____ by _____