

Buckland Board of Health
 Meeting Minutes
 April 3, 2020 5:30 p.m.
 Remote Meeting via Zoom

AGENDA

1. Open the meeting.
2. Order to require social distancing practices at Buckland Transfer Station.
3. Nuisance burning in the Village; review response protocol with Fire Chief.
4. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman 48 hours prior to meeting.
5. Public comment.
6. Adjourn the meeting.

PARTICIPANTS

Richard Warner - BOH Chairman
 Terry Estes - BOH Member
 Marti Taft-Ferguson - BOH Member
 Heather Butler - Buckland Town Administrator
 Herb Guyette - Fire Chief
 Randy Crochier - FRCOG Health Agent
 Lisa Danek Burke - FRCOG Health Agent
 Mary Bolduc - Boards' Clerk

MEETING

1. Open the meeting - Meeting opened at 5:35 p.m. Meeting conducted remotely via Zoom video conferencing, hosted by Marti.
2. Order to require social distancing practices at Buckland Transfer Station -
 1. Marti shared document (via Zoom) regarding protocols to be followed at Buckland Transfer Station.
 2. Heather visited transfer station to observe. She has arranged for Officer Kurt Gilmore of the Buckland PD to be present during transfer station hours on Saturday, April 4. She felt one day of officer detail is sufficient to ensure residents are familiar with, and practice, social distancing and procedures set forth for disposing of trash and recyclables.
 3. Rich moved to approve Transfer Station protocols as written, with Terry as designated signee for Board. Marti seconded. Vote in favor of motion was unanimous.
3. Nuisance burning in the Village; review response protocol with Fire Chief -

1. Meeting minutes referred to from September meeting when town counsel was present to discuss nuisance burning.
2. Fire Chief Herb Guyette wanted to clarify Board's stand. Rich responded that complainants must be assured that complaint(s) will be investigated. Marti added that BOH members can investigate and document incidents, but not enforce. Fire department has protocols, BOH does not. Town counsel has advised that BOH need not take on issue, must weigh the benefits of few vs many.
3. Herb reported that one complainant is not basing complaints on local regulations, but federal laws. Rich wanted to know if there was a specific federal law cited.
4. Herb explained difficulties if calls come to fire department through dispatch. FD must respond and it becomes a financial drain on department.
5. Heather asked if FD or BOH members wear PPE in responding to calls. At this time they do not. Herb said it could deplete the FD supply. If responses are dealt with outdoors, social distancing is easier to practice and there is less need for PPE.
6. Terry responded to a complaint on March 21 at 11:33 a.m. Conditions were a clear blue sky and 40 degree temperature. He could detect odor of smoke but it was not visible. Terry has spoken to BOH chair in Northampton. Northampton has burning regulations, but difficult to enforce. They limit smoke opacity to no more than 40% which has to be determined by a certified opacity specialist. Chair of Northampton BOH reported that in 9 to 10 years, there has only been 1 complaint. Herb added that the first 15 +/- minutes of any fire will be smokey and opaque, but then burns clean.
7. Herb again emphasized that if complaints are made by calling control, FD must respond and compensate those who answered call. He will ensure that all FD trucks are equipped with protocols. He also determined that if fire is burning clean and is NOT rubbish, let it burn.
4. Any other items not reasonably anticipated by Chairman 48 hours prior to meeting -
 1. Reports of use of Mohawk track, school grounds, and elementary school playgrounds, with concern over groups larger than 10 and disregard for social distancing.
 1. Mary Bolduc stated that she has used the Mohawk track on multiple occasions and never experienced 1.) a large group of people present, or 2). lack of respect for social distancing.
 2. Discussion followed weighing benefit of fresh air and exercise vs closing facility to public. Signage discussed, but Marti preferred that it be done by Mohawk before it became necessary for BOH or Town of Buckland to take action.
 3. Marti to respond to Pat Bell of Mohawk regarding BOH discussion of the high school's property.
 4. Mohawk proposed boosting internet service so people can sit in cars in parking lot to access internet. Users must stay in vehicles and all social distancing protocols followed.
 5. Rich recommended checking also with Jane Buchanan, librarian of Buckland Library. Internet may be able to be accessed from that parking lot if the library internet is on.

6. Calls had been received expressing concern with out of state traffic on East Buckland Road. Marti made some inquiries. Determined not to be a cause for concern as they posed no threat to public health.
2. Marti inquired on number of COVID-19 cases in Buckland, and asked if Rich is getting information with contacts. Rich reported that all persons impacted are quarantined or self-isolating at home.
3. Heather set up phone mailbox which lists BOH and other boards. Marti has instructions to answer BOH mailbox and will forward to Rich and Terry.
4. Rich reported that homemade masks are acceptable. If anyone has a supply of masks that can be donated to health care facilities and those on the "front line", please advise so they can be directed to the proper recipients.
5. Marti would like DPH or FEMA instructions for sterilizing masks.
6. Lisa reported that new owner of 277 Ashfield Road has agreed to soil evaluation. Previous owner denied observation wells. Dan Fleurriel has information on property. Terry does not believe there is an existing septic system at that address, cesspool maybe, and does not believe there to be a well.
7. LUA for 26 Avery Road which was tabled at last meeting was discussed. System is an alternate system by Sean Kimberly, asking for a reduction so a 9-B can be issued. Rich moved to approve request for local upgrade, reduction in separation between SAS (soil absorption system) and high ground water table. Terry seconded the motion. Motion was voted on and approved by both Richard Warner and Terry Estes. Marti Ferguson recused herself from discussion and vote. Motion carried, LUA approved.
8. Permit for Mohawk Recreation Program on hold due to COVID-19.
5. Public comment - Offered regarding usage of Mohawk track, first discussion under Agenda Item #4.
6. Adjourn the meeting - Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Bolduc, Boards' Clerk, April 21, 2020

Approved by:

Terry Estes 7/15/2020

Richard Warner 07-15-20

Richard Warner 7/15/20