

WESTON BOARD OF HEALTH
Meeting Minutes for
Monday, May 9, 2022
07:35 AM – 07:48 AM
Zoom Meeting

Present: Laura Azzam – Chair
 Dr. David Kominz – Member
 Dr. Jennifer Kickham - Member
 Kelly Pawluczonek, RS, MS - Public Health Director

I. Meeting Called to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:35 AM.

II. Discussion on Town Meeting Article 34 Septic Management Program

Laura Azzam had researched this plan a little bit more and heard some of the concerns from the Finance Committee and felt that there should be a meeting. There is an alternative solution using the MA Housing Septic System Repair Loan Program, which is a similar program, but with lower income requirements. This program is run by the state, which would mean potentially no management from our local Board of Health in town. With the pandemic still ongoing and the increase in construction and septic repairs, Laura would like to look at this possibly being a solution that we were unaware of. Kelly stated she thinks the loan amounts from this program may not be as high as amounts from the Betterment Program, but would have to look into it further. Laura is thinking of potentially withdrawing the Betterment Loan Program or passing it over at Town Meeting, but would need a vote. Nantucket had stated that the process can be cumbersome, but it serves its purpose. The homeowner would have to meet certain financial requirements, they would need to fill out the application, they would have to get 3 quotes from engineers and installers, and it would then come to a Board meeting. There would be work that relies on the Board of Health, and also work that relies on the Finance Department. Laura believes the priority of the Board of Health should be on the shared services grants and ensuring that those are set up correctly. The Betterment Program could be reconsidered at a later date.

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to withdraw Article 34 from the Town Meeting vote tonight, May 9, 2022 in favor of using the current state program and to be reviewed in the future if needed. Dr. David Kominz seconds the motion. All in favor, the motion is carried.

III. Discussion on Town Meeting Articles 27 (Appropriate for Water Tank Replacement) and Article 28 (Amend Zoning By-Laws – Municipal Utility Structure Standards) to enable to town to begin replacing obsolete water tanks

Laura Azzam received a request from Laurie Bent to make a Board of Health recommendation to support Article 27 and Article 28. These are to enable to town to begin replacing obsolete water tanks. She stated having an adequate and safe water supply is critical to the health, safety, and economic wellbeing of the town. Laura is willing to offer the Board of Health's support at Town Meeting. The Board members agree water conservation is important, but one tank is currently deteriorating, and the other 2 are not large enough.

Dr. Jennifer Kickham made a motion to provide Board of Health support for Article 27 and Article 28 at Town Meeting tonight, May 9, 2022. Dr. David Kominz seconds the motion. All in favor, the motion is carried.

IV. Adjourn

Dr. Jennifer Kickham motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. David Kominz seconds and Laura Azzam adjourned the meeting at 07:48 AM.