

## **MINUTES OF THE PEMBROKE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

**March 2, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.**

**Board of Health Office, Town Hall Room #5**

**PRESENT:** Thomas Driscoll (Chair), Matthew Newman (Clerk), Adam Gedutis (Member), and Lisa Cullity (Health Agent).

Chair Driscoll opened the meeting at 6:00pm and read the statement regarding the recording of the Meeting.

**BOARD DISCUSSION –** The septic system at a Center St location along with a possible site visit.

The Chair asked what was going on at Center St. The Agent said the property was sold after Arrow closed. The person that bought has since passed away. The property was unmanaged for over a year. The current owner bought it about four months ago – an LLC. Perc tests have been done and a septic plan is in the works. No one can answer who is living there and why are they living there. They moved in 4 years ago with a one-year agreement with the previous owner. No one knows if the agreement has been extended. Rick Grady is the current engineer working on the project. Driscoll stated there is a possible collapse of one of the septic tanks there. If that is the case, it could pollute Hobomock Pond. The agent for the estate of the previous owner, was liquidating the property and told the Health Agent the people living there were not paying rent. No one knows why they are still there. The Agent stated, by law, if a house has tenants and the septic is in failure, the owner has 30 days to repair the system and may be required to provide temporary housing for the tenants. The Agent suggested the Board send a letter to the residents and the owner stating the Board is considering a complete condemnation of the entire property. There is also a camper on the property. No one knows if the camper is occupied. The Agent said in the past, a letter is sent to the owner stating the Board would like to do a site visit. A week after the site visit, a meeting could be held to vote on condemnation. Driscoll stated he does not want to create hardship, but the pond needs to be protected. He said if they do conduct a site visit, he would like to bring a uniformed officer with them. Newman made a motion to send a letter of intent to the owner of the property at 300 Center Street in regard to violations of 310CMR. Driscoll seconded and all were in favor.

**BOARD ACTION ITEM –** Discuss Livestock Subcommittee “Preliminary Regulations for Keeping Livestock” Handbook.

Driscoll said he read the regulations and he thought the subcommittee did an excellent job. He did have one concern with the “no pen can be within 25 feet of the residence.” He was concerned it could result in the pen being less than twenty-five feet of a neighbor’s home. The Agent suggested it be changed to no closer than twenty-five feet to any residence. The Board noted the Subcommittee suggested to change the noise of roosters to all loud birds. Driscoll stated he would like to have a public forum to allow residents to comment on the proposed changes. The Agent thought it would be possible to do so at the end of March or in April. The Agent will look into the availability of Veterans’ Hall and invite the subcommittee to attend. The Agent added perhaps the Board should add not allowing pens in front yards, only in the side or back yards. She also thought the drawing on the blackboard regarding lot density in the BoH Office should be in the appendix of the Handbook.

### **Health Agent’s Report**

Spring is upon us, and perc tests are up. It would be busier if there were more homes for sale.

COVID cases is way down. January was tough. The State is definitely stepping away from most, if not all, mandates. Mass Transit is the only place still requiring masks. The biggest and best predictor of a spike is the Boston Water and Sewer division. The state is just monitoring the wastewater to let them know a spike is coming. The state is leaning towards this being a seasonal virus.

The Town has been giving out COVID tests kits. On average, a case a day (90 test kits with two tests in each kit per day).

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**BOARD ACTION ITEM** – Vote to accept the Minutes of September 1, 2021, October 12, 2021, and December 15, 2021.

Newman made a motion to a Vote to accept the Minutes of September 1, 2021, October 12, 2021, and December 15, 2021. Gedutis seconded and all were in favor.

At 6:40, Newman made a motion to adjourn, Gedutis seconded, and all were in favor.