



TOWN OF CHARLTON
37 MAIN STREET
CHARLTON, MA. 01507
508-248-2210

BOARD OF HEALTH

August 23, 2022

Members Present:

Matt Gagner, Chair

Pete Lancette, Vice Chair

Jon Sanborn, Member

Others Present:

James Philbrook-Health Director

Gary Magnuson-CMG Environmental

- Chair, Matt Gagner, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Member Jon Sanborn made a motion to accept the July 26, 2022, minutes. Vice Chair Peter seconded, all in favor.
- Well Variance for 27 S. Buffumville Shore Road
 - Jason Dubois of DC Engineering was in attendance to discuss this variance.
 - 4 wells are less than 100 feet from the proposed septic system including the owners. Also looking for a local upgrade for septic to be closer to the property line. 3 abutters were notified. No residents attended the meeting. Pete made a motion to allow the reduced distance between the proposed septic system and the 4 wells, Jon seconded, all in favor. Peter made a motion to allow the setback to the property line be less than 10 feet. Jon seconded all in favor.
- 171 Sunset Ave well issue.
 - 171 Sunset has a hand dug well for over 30 years and the water flow fluctuates with the level of Glen Echo Lake. Gary Magnuson of CMG Engineering went to this address and surveyed the elevations of the lake and shallow dug well along with Health Director James Philbrook. See attached report in an email from Gary. The main concern is that if the level of Glen Echo goes down, at a minimum, 171 Sunset drive may lose their use of water. There were 2 members of the lake association in attendance. They would like to be able to lower the lake for weed control. They spoke of an order of conditions that had a contingency to supply potable water to any residents with shallow wells that may lose their water. Matt asks some questions to better understand the issues. Residents from 171 spoke about how they lose their water when it is lowered to 4 feet for over 30 years. They have good quality water and do not want to drill an artesian well and risk

having bad quality water. They stated that no water buffalos have been allowed in the past.

- Another resident that was part of the lake association spoke about how important drawdowns for weed control are to protect the safety of residents on the lake. Matt would like to figure out the best way to make everyone happy, but the only part of this debate that pertains to the Board of Health is if the residents have potable water. Matt said that he can't decide about something that might happen. They can act on what has happened. Matt feels for the people involved on both sides of this issue. He must look at what the role of the Board of Health from a legal point of view. To the best of his knowledge, he has no authority to decide if the lake is drawn down or not. It comes down to us saying that if houses don't have water, they are unfit for human habitation. He believes this is a civil issue besides the houses being fit for human habitation.
- The residents want to be proactive and not reactive. That is why they are here.
- This Board cannot tell the association not to draw down the lake. If any residents lose water, it could become a civil matter that would go to court.
- It seems that it would be possible to provide any residents with water if they do lose water from what was discussed.
- Gary clarified that the well at 171 Sunset Dr., could be lowered many ways. There is a way to document the water flow of the well with different yields of the well, but it would be very extensive study. It would be a years' worth of work and would cost at least \$10,000.00.
- Flint Road and Old Town Road Well Contamination
 - Quarterly testing data was received yesterday, and everything is non-detect. Each time they get data, they are required to send an email to the DEP. CMG has requested to have the testing frequency reduced. We have 4 quarters of data that meet the standard with no detections. Number 12 Old Town Road has a concerned citizen, and they may continue doing quarterly sampling there due to an anomalous result historically.
- 54 Flint Road Landfill Closure
 - Generalized plan will be ready within a month of the capping concept with some scenarios. Engineering working on that. 90 Flint Road testing done in June and date was consistent with historical data. Mowing is ongoing and all is going fine. Will get 2 mowings done this year and he is mixing in the fixing of the berms.
- Covid Vaccine Updates
 - Plenty of test kits are available in the Board of Health office. These are free to the residents.
- Department Head Reports-James Philbrook
 - There is a water issue at Bay Path Regional Vocational High School. There has been a loss of water and they are trying to figure out what the problem is and how to fix it.
 - The Permanent Solution Statement going out to the public for Mass Pike 6W Exxon/Mobile spill.

- The Inter-Municipal Agreement for shared services grant needs to be signed by Matt as the Chair.
- Jim received a letter from DEP that the Charlton Woolen Mill must do a 21E.
- Dresser Hill and Sturbridge Coffee Roasters working on opening.
- PFAS study results are available.
- Other Business Not known at time of posting
 - None
- Next meeting will be September 13, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.
- Jon made a motion to adjourn, Peter seconded all in favor 7:20 p.m.

Peter J. Farrell
Matt. J. Jager.
Jon J. Jager

