

**Minutes of the
Carlisle Board of Health
May 22, 2018**

AGENDA

7:00 Minutes
Bills
Administrative Reports

NEW BUSINESS

7:15 555 East Street - Fraser
Request to use garbage grinder allowance for an addition.

7:30 Fern's County Store – new owners (Herweck)

7:45 Water Quality Discussion – resident request

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Bi-Annual Well Testing – June 20 and 21
Board Reorganization Discussion
83 McAllister – Divine Will Foundation – Change in Use Discussion

ONGOING BUSINESS

Gleason Public Library – Well results
CHNA Implementation Grant Award
TURI Grant Discussion (due 6/22/18)
Staffing
Food Inspection Reports

- Clark Farm
- Carlisle Public School

The meeting was called to order by the chairman at 7:00 pm. at town hall. Present: Todd Thorsen (chairman), Alan Lewis, Lee Storrs, and Donna Margolies; Absent - Todd Brady. Also present was Linda Fantasia (Health Agent) and Tony Mariano, Sr, Tony Mariano, Jr. and Steve Hinton of the Water Quality Subcommittee.

MINUTES – It was moved (Lewis) and seconded (Storrs) to approve the minutes of 2/27/18, 4/12/18 and 5/3/18. Motion passed 4-0-0.

BILLS - It was moved (Lewis) and seconded (Margolies) to approve the bills as presented (payroll, Animal Inspector Stipend). Motion passed 4-0-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Tick Testing – Ad to be run in the Mosquito this week.

Hazardous Waste Collection – Invoice to be revised. Charged \$2200 for Set Up fee when it should have been \$900 under CommBuys. \$4500 minimum charge same as last year. Fantasia will check with the company.

Carlisle Extended Day PWS – 4/18/18 test results showed no problem with coliform.

Town Website – see staff meeting summary in books; a date has not yet been set to launch the new site.

95 Hanover Road – Fantasia received a call from DEP Wastewater Section Chief Kevin Brander on 5/11/18 to discuss status of the installation following a call from the owner. Based on a summary of the work done and what still needs to be done, Brander agreed that the BOH is taking the proper action. There has been no response from the owner on possible dates and times for a meeting with the BOH.

Lyme Disease Subcommittee – CHNA Mini-Grant Application - the Subcommittee submitted an application for \$6000 to host a “Carlisle Tick-A-Thon” on 10/13/18 at the school.

NEW BUSINESS

555 EAST STREET – request to use garbage grinder allowance to finish a room in the basement.

Fantasia explained that the owner, Lisa Fraser, was unable to attend the meeting due to car difficulties. She asked that Fantasia present the request in her absence.

Fantasia said the house has a four bedroom septic system with a garbage grinder allowance for a total of 660 gpd. There are currently nine rooms in the house. Finishing a playroom in the basement would be the tenth room and require a five bedroom system with a minimum 550 gpd capacity. There is a grinder in the house but it will be removed and the owners are willing to record a garbage grinder deed restriction in order to use the additional capacity for the tenth room. Board members agreed that they are in favor of eliminating grinders. The additional room will not exceed the actual system capacity.

It was moved (Storrs) and seconded (Lewis) to approve the use of the garbage grinder allowance for the addition of a tenth room to the house at 555 East Street conditional upon removal of the existing grinder to be verified in writing by the owner and upon recording of a Garbage Grinder Deed Restriction with proof of recording submitted to the Board prior to issuance of the Occupancy Permit. Motion passed 4-0-0.

CARLISLE WATER QUALITY DISCUSSION –Present for the discussion: Vanessa Moroney of 142 Bedford Road, and Tony Mariano Sr. Tony Mariano Jr and Steve Hinton of the Water Quality Subcommittee.

Moroney recently participated in a MA Dept. of Public Health (MDPH) sponsored Biomonitoring Study out of scientific curiosity and was very surprised when she learned that her lab results showed high levels of uranium. She is now concerned about how little private well homeowners know about water quality and the potential for adverse health impacts. One of her two children also had above normal results. Moroney contacted Dr. Marc Nascarella, the Principal Investigator for the study who informed her that exposure over a small number of days does not present an urgent health problem but consuming large quantities overtime could possibly affect long term health, particularly the kidneys. She is looking into a Reverse Osmosis mitigation system. She decided to share her personal information with the Board of Health to demonstrate the importance of educating homeowners about water quality and health. Dr. Nascarella has offered to come to Carlisle to talk about the Biomonitoring study. If there is interest MDPH would be willing to arrange for a day to take blood and urine samples. Moroney explained how confusing it was to get her water tested for Uranium and how the pricing differed significantly. Most homeowners are probably only aware of the basic water chemistry in their drinking water and do not test for the more expensive elements. Moroney put the information on the Carlisle Parents Association Facebook page and 48 people have expressed an interest learning more about their drinking water and the Biomonitoring Study.

Mariano, Sr., a geologist by profession, said that in the 1960's he surveyed many of the rock formations in Carlisle. He does not believe the geology in Carlisle is any more problematic than most towns in the northeast. As a curiosity he said Carlisle was very similar to the rock formations he found in Norway. He would be very surprised if Carlisle had a higher potential for Uranium compared to surrounding towns like Bedford.

Thorsen had researched Uranium in water and associated health risks. According to CDC the radioactivity in Uranium which consist of alpha rays have not been determined to cause cancer. It can be toxic to the kidneys as a chemical. Mariano, Sr. asked whether there had been confirmatory tests. Not many laboratories are certified to test for Uranium in water. There is only one lab in Canada that he feels does adequate testing. Thorsen said there does not seem to be a significant health risk from ingesting Uranium in water unless it is done over a long period. What is of concern is that leafy vegetables can take up the Uranium when watered so garden vegetables could be a source of exposure. Mariano, Jr questioned whether it had been shown that the exposure was from the well water and not some other source. It could be from a food source. Moroney said she is a stay at home Mom so her daily exposure is more than anyone else in the family. She felt this explained her higher levels. She asked how the Board felt about sponsoring an information event. Lewis did not have a problem with sponsoring an educational event with the possibility of offering testing if there was interest. The Board does not believe there is an urgent health risk and does not want to unnecessarily alarm residents. Moroney offered to help with the event. The Board discussed some

of the details of hosting the event. Thorsen felt it would be important to provide residents with a list of acceptable laboratories in case residents want to do their own testing.

The Board is conducting the voluntary private well testing on June 21-22. Nashoba Analytical will be doing the sampling. Residents can choose to test for Gross Alpha as a screening and if the levels exceed the recommended MCL, do more specific testing. Mariano, Sr. said there is no scientific evidence of health problems in many parts of the country that have significantly more radioactive deposits. Hinton suggested that Carlisle groundwater contains a lot of particulates which can cause concentrations of Uranium and other elements. He is not aware that ingested Uranium has caused any anomalies although there is no standard for what to measure, how to measure and what the toxic levels are. Mariano Sr. said Uranium is very stable and is very low in water solubility. Mariano Jr. said people become alarmed when they hear the word "Uranium" attributing it to radioactivity. Uranium is not very toxic. There is very little radioactive risk from Uranium in the ground. The primary health risk from Uranium as a chemical would be damage to the kidneys.

Board members agreed that it wants to inform and not alarm residents. Storrs suggested waiting until the study is completed in a year. The Board agreed that it is willing to consider sponsoring an informational event for residents but wants more information before agreeing to organize clinical testing. Moroney offered to provide the MDPH contact information and Fantasia will follow up.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Board Reorganization – Lewis informed the Board that he will resign from his term as of July 1st. He is now serving on the Board of Selectmen. Because the position is elected the Board of Health and Selectmen are authorized to fill the vacancy until the next annual town election. A legal notice will be published in the Mosquito.

Gleason Public Library – water testing. The last results on file are from December 2017. Fantasia will follow up.

CHNA15 Implementation Grant – The \$30,000 award will be split into two payments. The second payment will be distributed in December based on the progress of the projects. The Steering Committee does not feel this is workable since all three of the projects will require contracts. The Committee is asking for a reconsideration.

Toxic Use Reduction Initiative (TURI) – The Board does not have a project to move forward on at this time.


Clark Farm – Fantasia showed the Board a photo of a new sink behind the building. It appears to discharge to a drywell. The Board agreed that a sink used for handwashing or washing produce is grey water. Fantasia will check with the Plumbing Inspector to see if a permit was required.

Staffing – Fantasia said she will be on vacation from 6/13 through 6/20. Judy Hodges will cover the office part-time. There may be a delay in processing permits. Board members will need to be available for any emergency situations. Summer hours for town hall are: Monday, Wednesday Thursday 9-3; Tuesday 9-6 and Friday 9-12. Fantasia asked if the Board intended to pursue a single fulltime position for the Assistant. The Board agreed that it was unlikely that the Selectmen would change their position and approve the request. As an alternative Fantasia suggested advertising for a 19.5 hr. primary position which would not include benefits. The second position would then be 10.5. The primary Assistant must have excellent IT skills to do more electronically and the town is launching a new website. The additional hours will also provide opportunity for training.

Meeting Dates – June 5th and June 26th

There was no further business. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,


Linda M Fantasia,

Recorder