

**BOARD OF HEALTH  
MEETING MINUTES**



Sutton Town Hall  
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**TOWN OF SUTTON  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 17, 2023**

**Meeting Location:** Sutton Town Hall Meeting Room 1C

**Members Present:** Tammi Marois, John Silverberg, Ken Malo

**Staff Present:** Cheryl Rawinski, Judy Bater, Steve Donatelli

**Absent:** Diane Miller

**Guest/s Present:** Ron Gobeil with two associates.

**Call to Order:** Tammi Marois opened the regular meeting of the Board of Health at 7:00 PM.

**Approve Minutes:** Tabled

**Local Upgrade/Variance:** None

**Local Upgrade Reviewed by Steve Donatelli:** None

**56 Singletary Avenue – Surface Water/Animal Waste/Complaint:** Tabled – Neither parties showed up. Judy has not received an update from the Animal Inspector. John stated that he did watch the Conservation meeting. The Board stated that farm animals and feed may attract rats and he will need to keep up with that piece as they do not believe just a disturbance from National Grid would attract that many rats. In regards to the stream testing that Mr. Bacon provided, Ken stated that Mr. Bacon took the samples himself and he took samples upstream and downstream and both directions were high in regards to E. coli, which seems to be contradicting based on Mr. Bacons notes. The Board is not sure how to interpret this testing. Ken stated that if both upstream and downstream have high ecoli it must be coming from somewhere else as that is a contradiction. Judy asked what are the levels in other intermittent streams. What are the standards. This is not a beach. The Board stated the rats have seemingly been resolved, the pile in question was removed. Conservation is not concerned about the stream. Cheryl stated that the date of this water report is consistent with a time we had torrential downpours. Ken stated that the report has inconsistencies in regards to stable or turbulent water. Ken commented "Which is it?".

Mr. Ron Gobeil along with his two farm hands, apologized as he was at they were at the wrong meeting: He stated that he received our order letter. He gave an update in response to our order letter to correct.

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The exterminator comes in every two months. National Grid was working in the area with a lot of staging and disturbing the natural habitat. Kenny mentioned that he has been to the site and most of the pens were pretty clean, but the pig area is lacking ground cover and muddy. Mr. Gobeil said he had a pile of debris and that has been removed and the compost has been removed and leveled out. The pig area has been a concern due to all of the rain but in the spring they will have a cement slab put in the pig area to contain the mud. Though the pigs like the mud. They had someone come in and look at it. Ken asked about the manure. Some is spread in the vegetable garden and fig trees and the Michael (the farm hand) has a friend with a farm and they truck the rest away. John asked about the compost pile, is it animal waste or leaves and debris. They stated it is not animal waste. The pigs are grain fed, not garbage fed. They feed the pigs left over vegetables and fruits. They stated that the rats have been mitigated. The Board would like the animal inspector to do a site visit. Ron stated that the conservation committee sent out an independent person. Ron stated that Conservation did not find that they were doing anything wrong. National Grid had put their footing in the dry creek and then the creek filled in with water and it was National Grid who disturbed the creek. Mr. Gobeil stated he is willing to do whatever the Board feels is reasonable to do to placate his neighbor. Kenny stated that Conservation did not seem concerned with the intermittent stream and that falls under them. Mr. Gobeil stated that Tufts comes out twice a year for any necessary inoculations and tend to the animals, as necessary. He does not want to cause anyone any distress and he moved here because it was a farming community and he also does not want to be distressed. He is a psychiatrist and after his day he enjoys coming home to his animals and he would like to resolve this in a peaceful amicable way. He is open to any thoughts or recommendations. He stated he has a field of cows near him and a horse farm across the street and sometimes those smell foul but he accepts it as living in a farming community and that is why they chose to live here. The Board will send out the animal inspector. John Silverberg feels they are working towards a resolution.

**Department Update:** Cheryl will be allocating flu vaccine. Covid, RSV and Flu are present. Cheryl stated that they are now part of the State funded regional group, The Charlton Coalition of Public Health and the Board needs to appoint two representatives. This is to supplement services, not to replace anyone. They are currently hiring an inspector. We are obtaining tablets for inspections and training will be provided. Tammi asked why we chose this group. Cheryl stated that the State was strongly encouraging towns to join a group and some towns already were part of coalitions. Such as, Grafton and Millbury who were already part of the Worcester Coalition. The State is trying to standardize Boards of Health inspectional services. Cheryl stated this will be more available resources, if needed. Currently, we are very self-sufficient. This is grant money that is providing this extra service. Brianna Dunn has been hired and will be attending a future meeting to introduce herself.

**MOTION:** John Silverberg nominated Cheryl Rawinski as a representative to The Charlton Coalition of Public Health. Seconded by Ken Malo. All in Favour. Approved.

**MOTION:** Ken Malo nominated Judy Bater as a back up representative, Seconded by John Silverberg. All in Favour. Approved.

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**Old New Business:** Judy suggested that we review our well regulations in regards to geo-thermal wells. Judy read a section of the well regulations "Geo Thermal wells are allowed for Dual Use" and Judy stated that she does not understand this statement. She believes that we do not allow dual use. The Board will have Ron San Souci, once sworn in as a board member, review our well regulations.

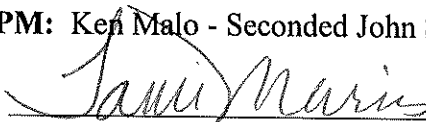
**Other Business Not Anticipated:** None

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM.

**Re-Organization of the Board of Health:** Add to February Agenda

**Motion to Adjourn at 7:45 PM:** Ken Malo - Seconded John Silverberg - Unanimous - Approved.

Tammi Marois, Vice Chair:



John Silverberg, Member:



Diane Miller, Member:



Ken Malo, Jr., Member:

