

## **Brandon Board of Health Meeting July 9, 2018**

**NOTE: These are unapproved minutes, subject to amendment and/or approval at the subsequent board meeting.**

**Board Members In Attendance:** Seth Hopkins, Brian Coolidge, Doug Bailey, Devon Fuller

**Others In Attendance:** Dave Atherton, Jeff Biasuzzi, Bernie Carr, Richard Baker

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:43PM by Seth Hopkins - Chair.

#### *a. Agenda Adoption*

**Motion** by Doug Bailey/Brian Coolidge to approve the agenda as presented. **The motion passed unanimously.**

### **2. Update on Public Health Complaints**

Seth Hopkins provided information on three health complaints. Following the previous Public Health Officer's last day, the Town received a public health complaint. Sue Gage was advised by the Vermont Department of Health that in the absence of a Health Officer, the Select Board Chair is appointed as the Health Officer.

Mr. Hopkins advised there is a trailer on Conway Terrace that is piling their garbage outside of the trailer and there was a concern expressed by another resident of the park. Mr. Hopkins received information from the State of Vermont regarding information pertaining to the Health Officer's duties. Mr. Hopkins also received a complaint regarding an odor issue on Barlow Avenue; however, that issue is closed as the odor has dissipated. There was a report of a dog bite on Old Farm Road. Mr. Hopkins talked with the person who was bitten and was advised the dog was on a leash and it was determined the dog was registered and up to date on its rabies shots. There was also a call from Porter Hospital regarding a dog bite, which was a case of the dog's owner being bitten by the dog. The hospital advised that the dog was up to date on its shots and the person was released. Mr. Hopkins will confirm this information. Mr. Hopkins encouraged the Town Manager to actively pursue a replacement for this position. Dave Atherton advised that he has met with a person interested in filling the Health Officer and Rental Code Enforcement positions and will follow-up with the person to confirm if he is still interested. Mr. Hopkins suggested there could also be another person elected as the Deputy Health Officer and asked if it would be reasonable for the Police Chief to be the Deputy Health officer to assist in visiting locations. Mr. Atherton will speak with Chief Brickell. Mr. Atherton contacted the Department of Health and the Conway Terrace mobile home park owners due to the road conditions there. There is a statutory obligation for mobile home park owners to keep the roads clear for emergency vehicles. Mr. Atherton has attempted to contact the owners, without success. The

State suggested to first reach out to the park owners and if that does not resolve the issue, the Town should be in contact with the State. The Police Chief issued an order for the garbage to be cleaned up in a week. Due to the fact it is in a mobile home park with a number of homes in close proximity, there is likelihood that the neighboring properties could be infested with rodents. Mr. Atherton stated the park owners need to take ownership of these issues. It was noted the Town could put a judgement against the park owners because they own the property. In the longer-term, Mr. Hopkins suggested the subject of mobile home parks needs to be addressed. Mr. Atherton stated there is a statute that the park owners have to maintain the roads. Devon Fuller suggested the emergency process should be used in this case. Doug Bailey stated the Town should be going after the landowner, as they have their own set of by-laws and rules. Mr. Hopkins agreed this is an emergency situation and should be handled in that manner. Mr. Atherton will reach out to the Department of Health and advised that a letter and phone messages have been completed, with no response. Bernie Carr noted that the old Brooks Trailer Park's roads also need repair. Mr. Hopkins will continue to act as the Public Health Officer until a replacement has been hired.

### **3 Status of Town Health Officer and Deputy Health Officer Positions**

Mr. Atherton hopes to have a confirmation from the interested person soon.

### **4. Adjournment**

**Motion** by Brian Coolidge/Doug Bailey to adjourn the Board of Health meeting at 8:09PM. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bryant  
Recording Secretary