

Board of Health Minutes February 11, 2019 Town of Williamsburg

Members present, Donna Gibson, chair, Gordon Rusty Luce, Helen Symons

Guest, Valerie Bird, Health Agent

Meeting called to order at 2pm

Continuation of hearing re property at 10 Dewey Circle:

A site visit was made on Feb 3 by Helen Symons, Rusty Luce and Valerie Bird, Mrs. Tripp was present for the visit. The inspection of the site was as described previously by the HA. It clearly is uninhabitable and poses a danger for the elderly owner. (No electricity, open stairs to basement, no water and no toilet)

A motion was made, seconded and approved unanimously to condemn the property as uninhabitable. Mrs. Tripp will be informed of the Board's decision by letter and Ms. Bird will notify the fire and police department so that the property can be marked and secured.

A referral was made to the COA re the Board's concern that Mrs. Tripp is an elderly lady at risk.

Minutes of meeting 1/28/2019 were approved with one correction. 10 Dewey Circle is not in the process of receivership

Old Business:

The new roll off box has been delivered and installed. The bill has been presented for payment.

Health Agent Concerns:

Agent made a site visit to 2 Laurel and the violations have been corrected.

The resident of 5 Valley View has returned to her home after being hospitalized and the home was inspected for safety problems. None were detected and the resident is receiving home health services.

Old Business:

The board voted to opt out of the Tobacco Coalition Agreement as previously signed with South Hadley as they felt their surveying methods were not effective and biased.

New Business:

Donna presented her worksheet for the town budget for 2020 and this was discussed. It looks like there will be a significant increase in transfer station costs for hauling because of a change in contractors. Bids were submitted for the interim hauling contract and Wickles provided the lowest bid. (See attached sheet). The current company was bought out and the fees went from \$110/haul to \$400. The new interim 2020 contract will be for a year until the next contract is renegotiated thru HRMC. The Board feels they will need to discuss this further with the finance committee and that it will be necessary to increase the permit fee for 2020 to \$100/vehicle for resident under 70 and \$75 for resident over 70 in order to offset the anticipated increase. It may be as much as a 48% increase. Donna has noted this on her worksheet to the finance committee. It may be necessary to go to a pay per bag system and this will need to be explored further. It will take at least a year to research and implement this system. It was suggested by

Donna that there may be funds available thru HRMC to help with implement this system. Rusty will check with Kathleen Casey.

#### Annual Report

Draft report was reviewed. Helen will merge the two reports as written by herself and Donna and will submit the final version to Eleanor by the 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### Next meeting

February 25, 2019 at 2pm

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Symons