

**Board of Health Meeting  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
August 25, 2022**

The Hopedale Board of Health held a regular meeting on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 6:00 p.m., in the Draper Room, Town Hall, 78 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, MA. Those in attendance included: Walter Swift, Jason MacDonald and Mary Watson. The meeting was videotaped.

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Swift called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., noting that all members were present.

**B. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.**

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. Draft Minutes: July 21, 2022 Regular Meeting**

It was moved by Ms. Watson, seconded by Mr. MacDonald, to approve the regular meeting minutes of July 21, 2022 (as amended). All voted in favor.

**D. REPORT OF THE CHAIR – None.**

**E. REPORTS OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Mr. MacDonald reported that he and Mr. Fisher had gone to Regional Restrooms to review a handful of violations, which included an open tote of raw sewage, cleaning up the property, an open 20-gallon waste oil tote. He noted that they went back four days later and all the violations were corrected.

Ms. Watson noted that the Hopedale Senior Center will be hosting a free flu shot clinic on Thursday, October 13 and October 27, at the high school cafeteria from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

**F. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. 75 Plain Street Development**

Mr. Swift read a brief statement outlining the history of the submission of data to date, the planning board's decision and why the Board was reviewing and discussing this at its meeting. Mr. Swift noted there was a great deal of information on the project on the town's website.

Highpoint Engineer Doug Hartnett, Hydrogeologist Robert Bird, GFI Manager William Buckley, and Attorney Jay Towerman all presented data and answered questions.

It was the consensus of the Board to schedule a site visit at 75 Plain Street on Wednesday, August 31, at 3:00 p.m., with representatives of the project.

## **2. Hiring of New Health Agent**

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to hire a part-time health agent and advertise. The Board would discuss with the town administrator the details of where the funds would come from.

## **3. Recycle Center**

### **(a) Additional Date for Disposal of Unusable Trash Totes**

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to set one more date for residents to dispose of their old and unusable trash and recycle totes.

### **(b) Recycle Center Revolving Account**

The Board members reviewed the accounting department's recycle center revolving account ledger which showed a very low balance. Board members expressed concern for how recycle center employees would be paid going forward if there was low revenue coming in.

### **(c) Closing of Recycle Center**

It was the consensus of the board not to close the recycle center and keep it open until the end of December, which is the usual season closing date. Ms. Schindler stated that there might be some funds in the reserve account to keep paying the recycle center employees.

## **4. Other – None.**

## **G. ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Ed Caracino/Excavating Solutions to Review Septic Plans**

After discussion, it was moved by Mr. MacDonald, seconded by Ms. Watson, to appoint Ed Caracino of Excavating Solutions to review and give initial approval/denial of disposal works/septic plans. All voted in favor.

**2. Approval of Disposal Works/Septic System Plan Local Upgrade and Well Installation: 208 Freedom Street**

After review of the plan and Mr. Fisher's recommendation, it was moved by Mr. MacDonald, seconded by Ms. Watson, to approval a local upgrade of the disposal works/septic system plan for 208 Freedom Street to allow a 90' setback as opposed to 100' setback to accommodate the drilling of a new well. All voted in favor.

**3. Other**

a. Mendon Lions Club One Day/One Event Food Permit Application

Board members reviewed the notes submitted by Inspector Markman and were not willing to grant a permit until corrections as outlined were made.

b. Algae at Spindleville Pond

Mr. Swift noted the water report of Spindleville Pond revealed the presence of an algae named cyanobacteria and stated residents should refrain from fishing swimming, boating, fishing or allowing pets in the water until further testing is done.

**H. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- (a) Bill Fisher Resignation Letter
- (b) Accounting Dept. General Ledger: Recycle Center Revolving Account (Hazardous Waste Material); 7/28/22
- (c) Accounting Dept. – General Ledger: Animal Control; 7/28/22
- (d) Accounting Dept. – Expenditure Ledger: 8/4/22
- (e) Waste Innovations/Wheelabrator Invoice

Ms. DeMattia of 11 Richard Road stated that the water in the Mill River was looking strange with a bluish-green tint. Mr. Swift stated that it was probably beavers and not cynobacteria and that he would take a look at the river.

**I. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Household Hazardous Waste Day
2. Award of Waste Zero Contract

**J. NEXT MEETING**

1. September 15, 2022

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:09 p.m., it was moved by Mr. MacDonald, seconded by Ms. Watson, to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa

Carol A. Villa  
Recording Secretary

**Approved: September 15, 2022**

**Board of Health  
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Documents List**

- 1. Draft Minutes: July 21, 2022 Regular Meeting**
- 2. Groundwater Protection Regulation, Board of Health**
3. Surface Water Protection Regulation, Board of Health
- 4. 75 Plain Street Development Documents**
  - (a) Hopedale Memo to BOH from GFI; August 4, 2022
  - (b) Hopedale Graves Peer Site Plan Review; February 2, 2022
  - (c) Hopedale Long-Term Operation & Maintenance; January 14, 2022
  - (d) Hopedale Planning Board Decision and Certificate of Action Rec'd by Clerk; May 11, 2022
  - (e) Application for Special Permit, Hopedale ZBA SP Submittal; July 29, 2021
  - (f) Hopedale Water & Sewer Department Site Plan Review Letter; February 11, 2022
  - (g) Hopedale DEP WPA Form 5 - Order of Conditions
  - (h) Enviro Trac Letter
  - (i) Hopedale Phased Site Plan
  - (j) Phasing Plan Review Letter: Graves Engineering
- 5. Health Agent Job Description**
- 6. Recycle Center Account Data**
7. Disposal Works/Septic system Local Upgrade and Well Installation Data: 208 Freedom Street
- 8. Informational Items**

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- (a) Bill Fisher Resignation Letter
- (b) Waste Innovations/Wheelabrator Invoice
- (c) Accounting Dept. – Expenditure Ledger: 8/4/22
- (d) Hazardous Waste/Revolving Account Ledger: 7/28/22
- (e) Animal Control Ledger: 7/28/22
- (f) Blackstone Valley Animal Control Update
- (g) Letter to 270 South Main Street re: Trash

Additional Items:

1. Mendon Lions Club One Day/One Event Food Vendor Permit Application for Day in the Park 2022
2. Hopedale Spindleville Pond Algae Test Data