

**BOARD OF HEALTH  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 14, 2018**

RECEIVED-POSTED

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Hoyt called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. 18 MAR -8 AM 11:19

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Peter Hoyt, Vice-Chairman David Rhoads, Bruce Shepley, Tom Romaniak (Code Enforcement), Pam Gerry (Administrative Assistant)

TOWN CLERK  
ADAMS MASS.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

CLERK

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Jack Guerino, (iBerkshires) and William Martischnig

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes from the January 3 meeting was circulated. B. Shepley moved to accept, D. Rhoads seconded & the minutes were unanimously approved as written.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None

**CLOSED CASES:** We voted unanimously to close the following cases.

- 29 Orchard St.: The owner Mr. Hines died this past week, so the house clean-up & unregistered vehicles should now be addressed by the estate. This case may be reopened, if necessary.
- Laliberte's truck signage (PJ's Trash & Appliance Removal): Mr. Laliberte has stenciled "Adams, MA" on his truck in conformance with the regulation.
- 76 Howland Ave.: No heat in kitchen. This heater has been repaired. The living room heater was sufficient in the interim.
- 33.5 Mill St.: Frozen/broken sewer pipe. Pipe was being repaired when T. Romaniak visited the place.
- 166 Howland Ave.: Overflowing trash in rear of property. This complaint was unfounded.
- 108 Summer St.: No heat in various classrooms. The principal informed T. Romaniak that only one classroom was affected. Children were moved to another room until the problem was resolved.
- 184 Columbia St.: Leaking pipe; residue seen from apartment. Leak was due to a frozen sewer line, which has now been replaced.
- 21 Murray St.: Large amounts of trash in backyard and porch. This issue was resolved within a week.
- 76-78 Howland Ave.: Overflowing trash containers. This issue was resolved the next day.

**CURRENT CASES:**

- 9 Marshall Ave.: Construction debris on neighbor's property. Weather continues to hinder resolution, so this case will be kept open.
- 33 Grove St.: Paint peeling & dead rats found in apartment unit. T. Romaniak, accompanied by D. Torrico & B. Shepley, condemned the property. The live-in owner & tenants will move out March 1.
- 8-10 Depot St.: Blue roof tarp flapping in wind. This is an abandoned building. The tarp, used to cover a roof leak, was flapping close to power lines. T. Romaniak speculated that the power was off. He will continue to monitor the situation.
- 72 Friend St.: Trash buildup in rear of property. T. Romaniak gave the owner one week to clean up the trash. However, he did not comply, so T. Romaniak issued a fine.

**VIOLATIONS:**

- Mr. Ciempa was fined for inadvertently overlooking the need for a rental inspection. He has since paid it.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Town of Adams Emergency Management; Guidelines for Adams Memorial Middle School as an emergency dispensing site (EDS) & emergency shelter; BOH role in Town Emergency Management plan: Little movement has occurred in these areas. Notably, the heater in AMMS is scheduled for

replacement, increasing its suitability for use. D. Torrico & T. Romaniak toured the building to strategize how to restrict use to appropriate areas. Issues regarding emergency planning were tabled until the Town Administration clarifies the role of the BOH within an updated emergency management plan.

- Dementia Friendly Workshop: This has been scheduled for February 28, 2:00 PM, at the Council on Aging (Adams Visitor Center). Allison Egan of BRPC will present.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- L. Cernik reported that a Jeremy Higdon was promoting free scrap hauling of TVs & metal on Facebook, but only picked up the metal, leaving the TVs, for two individuals who took him up on the offer. B. Shepley was unable to find Higdon on Google, Facebook or yellow pages. Nevertheless, we agreed on the importance of keeping an eye out for rogue haulers.
- T. Romaniak & B. Shepley attended an in-person training class for the Incident Command System (ICS-100) offered by BCBOHA at Berkshire Community College. Both acknowledged that they learned a lot from the class. Completion of this course is required for all public health, public works, and municipal administrators. The course is also offered online.

#### LOCAL & COUNTY UPDATES:

- Berkshire County Boards of Health Association: B. Shepley attended the February 5 meeting. He will circulate their listing of upcoming events. The Spring Dinner is tentatively scheduled for April 26.
- FRCOG is presenting a workshop on "Vacant & Abandoned Buildings: Options for Town Officials" on March 8. B. Shepley indicated that he will try to attend. Contact him for further information.
- Northern Berkshire Regional Emergency Response Committee: D. Rhoads attended January meeting. There was nothing of relevance to BOH. Future reports will be on an as needed basis.
- Western Mass Health & Medical Coordinating Committee: B. Shepley attended the recent meeting. BRPC is making a bid to oversee the western Mass Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).

#### FOR THE GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- We noted that demolition of the building on 50 Commercial St. has been approved. T. Romaniak & D. Torrico visited the site along with other Town officials in preparation for the demolition.
- P. Gerry received a request for information on our solid waste handling from Great Barrington, presumably because the Town just expanded its Transfer Station operations. We suggested that requests of this type be referred to Linda Cernik of Northern Berkshire Solid Waste District.

#### REVIEW MAIL:

- P. Gerry circulation material from the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture on bee-friendly resources & training opportunities.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for March 7, 2018 at 4:00 pm.

ADJOURN: B. Shepley moved to adjourn, seconded by D. Rhoads & passed unanimously at 4:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date 8/7/18

  
  
