



Town of Provincetown

Meeting of the

BOARD OF HEALTH

Thursday, April 18, 2019

Judge Welsh Hearing Room, Provincetown Town Hall,
260 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA

Board Members Present: Steve Katsurinis, Acting Chair; Dr. Elise Cozzi; and Dr. Janet Whelan; Kalliope Chute; and Dr. Susan Troyan and Irv Morgan (arrived at 3:20), Alternates

Board Members Absent: Mark Phillips, Chair

Other attendees: Morgan Clark, Director, Health Department; Lezli Rowell, Health Agent

Call to Order: Mr. Katsurinis called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

I. Discussion of Irrigation Well Regulations and Permitting Process.

Discussion: Cody Salisbury, Water Superintendent presented his perspective on the Water Department's role and responsibility in irrigation well installations including using dual-check valves moving forward as a means to protect the public water system, by preventing backflow from the irrigation water into the public water supply. Further discussion covered using annual inspections and the workload on the Water Department to inspect more than 400 wells, as well as the location of the valve. The cost to the property owner was commented on.

Mr. Desmond of Desmond Well Drilling presented information on his work installing wells. He stated that he knows of no other towns requiring this additional process, and that he considers the risk of cross connections to be low, based on his experience. Mr. Salisbury noted that other towns off Cape do require these types of preventive measures.

Further discussion covered the potential permitting system and concerns about the burden on the property owners and examples of how cross connections could potentially occur.

Mr. Morgan arrived at 3:20 p.m.

Ms. Chute left the meeting at 3:27 p.m. and returned at 3:27 p.m.

The discussion also covered the permitting process and options to ensure safety. Building Commission Anne Howard addressed the Board on the role the Water Department plays in the town's building permitting process.

Ms. Clark proposed adding a question regarding irrigation wells on the building permit application to initiate an opportunity to look at and resolve potential issues with the well. Further discussion covered different types of irrigation wells including those on pump start relays, and that Mr. Salisbury's process on new irrigation wells is separate from concerns about existing properties with two water sources. Ms. Clark addressed concerns about holding up the work of well drilling companies. The Board discussed the difference between regulating wells with tanks and without tanks and the Board's role in regulation.

The Board unanimously consented to this item being placed on the next meeting's agenda with prepared options to move forward on the regulation. Two comments which were not read into the record will be attached to the record.

Mr. Katsurinis adjourned the meeting at 4:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Fiorella

Approved by _____ on _____, 2019