

**TOWN OF AYER BOARD OF HEALTH
Meeting Minutes of September 26, 2016**



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Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm.

Members present included: *Chair Mary Spinner, Member Pamela Papineau and Clerk Patricia Peters, and Administrative Assistant Jane Morriss*

Recorded by APAC

PUBLIC INPUT: None.

NABOH

B. Braley has followed up the anonymous complaint about conditions at 43 Highland Avenue. She also investigated a complaint about trash in the yard at 7 Pine Street, which prompted a letter, which will be shortly followed with a follow-up visit to make sure the trash has been picked up. At Selectman Hillman's behest, the Board of Selectmen discussed a number of property enforcement issues at its last meeting, but none of the issues involved the BOH.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM September 12, 2016: After the Board amended the minutes, P. Papineau motioned to accept the minutes from the September 12 meeting as amended, and P. Peters seconded. The Board voted unanimously to accept the amended minutes. **A 3/0**

STATUS OF ARMY CORP OF ENGINEERS' SHEPLEY'S HILL REMEDIATION PROGRAM (P. Papineau):

P. Papineau told the Board she was not sure what might have triggered the story that appeared on the front page of the September 16, 2016 edition of the *Nashoba Valley Voice* ("Army Seeks to Halt Devens Arsenic Cleanup—20 years after base closure, landfill still leaks toxins," by Anne O'Connor) M. Spinner noted the article did not give due credit to the BOH for the Public Hearing it convened prior to adopting a moratorium on the use of groundwater wells in the affected area of town. She said she would speak with the reporter and suggest that she access our regulations on the Moratorium of Wells issued in February or March of 2014 which appear on our website. P. Papineau acknowledged the Army Corp of Engineers (who has been charged with doing the cleanup) and the Mass DEP and the EPA (who are overseeing the project) have divergent opinions about acceptable levels of arsenic, and that the Army was not satisfied with the results of pump-and-treat remediation. However the plume seems to be contained. The Board reassured the public that the Superfund site at Shepley's Hill does not pose a threat to Ayer's drinking water or gardens as the contamination is very deep in the ground. P. Papineau said she would report back to the Board after she had an opportunity to follow up with Laurie Nehring of People of Ayer Concerned about the Environment (PACE). She also plans to attend the next RAB meeting in October. P. Peters inquired about what has been done to remediate Plow Shop Pond and P. Papineau said there was a big draw-down and clean up in the Red Cove Area last year and now the pond is cleared for catch and release of fish.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS: None.

ADJOURN: P. Papineau motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 pm with P. Peters 2nd. **A 3/0**


Mary Spinner, *Chair*


Patricia Peters, *Clerk*


Pamela Papineau, *Member*