

The meeting was called to order at 11:02 a.m. by Chairman, Richard Robinson. Also in attendance were; Member, Al Holman; Member, Richard Desjardins; Town Nurse/Agent, Trish Parent; Senior Center Director, Janice Nowicki; Social Service coordinator, Jessica D'Amato; Town Manager, Blythe Robinson; Fire Chief, Aaron Goodale, and Asst. Public Health Supervisor, Diane Tiernan.

Yvonne Kadlik, tenant of 92 Hopkinton Road was also in attendance.

Richard R. stated we have called this meeting to order to discuss the most recent issues at 92 Hopkinton Road, owned by Tara Mezei.

Richard D. stated he received a call from the BOH office that the Police Dept. was requesting the BOH come to the property at 92 Hopkinton Road, to assess the living conditions. We had to get suited up in haz. mat. gear and went into the house and took pictures. We were there as a result of an emergency call by the homeowner who had invited them in. The owner was later taken to the hospital. Richard observed an overwhelming stench, and several cats which were later removed by the MSPCA and the ACO (total of 14 cats and 2 rabbits). He also noted general filth and animal feces everywhere. He is concerned that our EMS employees could have slipped and fallen. The passageways were crowded and covered in feces, portable toilets were full with human feces. Richard returned from the inspection and reviewed the pictures with the Board, fire and police dept. The fire and police depts. asked us to have an emergency meeting at 5:00 that same day at which time we ruled because of the danger to the tenants and owner, we had to close the residence. It was clearly a health hazard and we had to take action.

Chief Goodale stated he and his team were on location at 92 Hopkinton Road, they were called there by the owner. He and the police chief made contact with other boards to come to the residence for an inspection. He noted that the heating source was stacked with debris and fires can result. There was also a hoarding/collection of materials throughout the house. It is so packed it creates a safety hazard. If we are trying to evacuate someone, we would likely injure our emergency responders as well. Evidence of a self-extinguished fire was also observed. There are several situations that need to be addressed before allowing anyone in. The dryer is also an issue; unvented and coated with lint, cobwebs, and cat hair. It's all very dangerous and highly flammable. He did not see any CO detectors or smoke detectors. He plugged in a smoke detector that he had in his car just so that there was one.

Yvonne stated that she was only recently told the only people allowed to occupy the apartment are a care giver. My apartment is immaculate. When I first moved in I was cleaning and getting the cats spayed. Yvonne was asked if she had a lease agreement, she stated no, it is a tenant at will. When I cleaned, I took money off the rent. When I stopped cleaning, the EMS were in at least once a week. Three months ago I was asked to stop cleaning. Why didn't anyone advise me when they were in the house all those times that there were problems? It's common courtesy. Richard R. asked Yvonne if she observed that the house was dirty. Yvonne stated she did. She has every right to stay at her apartment, her rent is paid and Tara won't give her back her money. She stated that Tara is nuts. Chief Goodale stated we have no proof that Tara is schizophrenic. Al stated the property has been condemned; your issue is not with the town, but with your landlord. Yvonne stated she can sleep in the camper or her car

if she wants. She understands the towns concern for a fire, she won't sleep in the house. Blythe stated we are offering you the assistance of the town to relocate your belongings to another residence.

Al stated we are going to board the property up, you have to move. Yvonne stated you have made me homeless. Richard R. asked for comments from Jessica of the COA. Jessica stated they are trying to coordinate with social services. They have contacted the Red Cross and the Salvation Army, but they cannot help. She did however find three apartments that are available on 11/1 and will take pets. They are located in Uxbridge, Grafton and Framingham. She also stated that they contacted emergency shelters to see if there are any resources or space for the large dogs. The kennels are very costly and emergency housing for pets does not exist. Yvonne stated she can't just put everything in a truck. Is the town going to pay for me to move? Blythe reiterated that the town will pay the trucking expenses to move her items. Al stated we are obligated to board up your home. We are not ignoring your needs, we are offering you help. Trish also shared with Yvonne other apartments close by that are available and pet friendly. Yvonne become extremely upset and left stating she would just go ahead and kill herself. Chief Goodale left the meeting and followed Yvonne out of the room. Janice and Jessica also went to speak with Yvonne. Police were also called to the scene and eventually Yvonne was brought to the hospital for follow-up.

ACO Mike Moran was called to the meeting as he may have to find a kennel for Yvonne's dogs if she does not return from the hospital today.

Blythe stated she would meet with the Fin. Com if necessary on the 5th of November for funds to address all the needs that the home will require.

Motion one - Al made a motion to ratify the condemnation order. Richard D. seconded the motion and Richard R. made the motion unanimous. Board will proceed with the condemnation order.

Jessica, Janice and Chief Goodale returned to the meeting following the removal of Yvonne by the Police Dept.

Al made contact with someone who could provide a moving service for Yvonne early next week.

Mike Moran left and stated he would be in contact with the Police Dept., to find out Yvonne's status. If she did not come home to her dogs today, he would find appropriate shelter for the animals as needed.

Blythe stated we needed contacts for a professional company to come and clean and board up the property. Diane stated she had some company names in the BOH office.

Blythe also spoke to town counsel by telephone who stated we will need a court order to clean things up and board the house. Until we have that order we cannot do so. Diane and town council will be going to court on Monday to try and obtain the order.

Jessica stated she also had a contact for a housing lawyer for Yvonne at no cost. Hopefully she can elevate the problems with Tara's funding. She has also contacted the Bridge fund which is a foundation that will help with funds; first last and security.

Blythe asked Jessica if she had any sense of the other two occupants; Tara and Kathy, what their condition was. Jessica stated she spoke to the social workers at both the hospital where Tara is and the Rehab facility where Kathy is. She explained to both of them that the house has been condemned. She is unsure how long either of them will be in the facilities.

Chief Goodale stated condemning of the property is a separate issue; we also need to address the condition of the house and where it's going to from here. Blythe stated we also need to look at cutting the power to the house to prevent a fire hazard and shut the water off to prevent the pipes from freezing.

12:00 p.m., Blythe, Chief Goodale, Jessica and Janice left the meeting.

A d-box repair permit for 4 Thayer Street was reviewed.

Motion two – Richard D. made a motion to approve of the permit and Al seconded the motion. Richard R. made the motion unanimous. Permit was approved.

Food Permits were reviewed for MVP-VFW, Honey Farms-Main Street Plaza, and Loco Coco – Walker Drive.

Motion three - Richard D. made a motion to approve of the permits and Al seconded the motion. Richard R. made the motion unanimous. Permits were approved.

An Installers permit for Knapik Construction-Grafton, was reviewed

Motion four - Richard D. made a motion to approve of the permit and Al seconded the motion. Richard R. made the motion unanimous. Permit was approved.

Motion five - Richard D. made a motion to accept the minutes to the meeting on 10/27/15 (emergency meeting). Al seconded the motion and Richard R. made the motion unanimous. Minutes were approved.

Motion six - Richard D. made a motion to adjourn and Al seconded the motion. Richard R. made the motion unanimous.

12:24 p.m. meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane Tiernan

Asst. Public Health Supervisor