

**Belchertown Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
Monday May 2, 2016 at 7:30 PM
Lawrence Memorial Hall**

Present: Roger Bonsall, Gail Gramarossa, Robert Hutchinson, Gary Racicot and Sean Cleary

Absent: Judy Metcalf

In-Attendance: Mary Grenier

Robert opened the meeting at 7:33 PM

March 7, 2016 Minutes: Roger motioned to approve the minutes of March 7, 2016 as presented. Gail seconded. All in Favor.

350 Cold Spring Rd. Swift River Sportsman's Club Owner; Terry Smith, PE Engineer; LUA 3' separation from high groundwater from required 4'. Mr. Smith was not present. The Board reviewed the design. Gail motioned to approve the local upgrade to Swift River Sportsman's Club at 350 Cold Spring Road a 1' separation from high groundwater: 3' instead of the required 4' separation: due to the slab construction and to avoid the use of a pump system. This motion will be based on the review/approval of Judy Metcalf, Director. Roger seconded. All in Favor.

Board signed annual Funeral Director permit for Beers & Story Funeral Home.

625 State Street Follow up from October 2015 meeting. Mr. Healey has submitted a letter to the Board and explained that his tenant doing mechanical work on the property is still there, but will be gone by October 2016. Roger asks that Judy or Matt contact Mr. Healey sometime in September 2016 for update.

Public Hearing: *Smoking and Access to Tobacco Regulations* proposed amendments: Robert opened the public hearing. Gail read through the proposed amendments for the audience. Robert asked the audience if they wish to speak. Shawn Lindholm representing the Belchertown Fair Committee explained to the Board that the committee was told by Fire Chief Ted Bock that they would not be able to use bay hales on the common during the town fair. Fair uses the bale hales for seating and marking off areas. If the amendment to ban smoking on town property passes the Fire Chief would allow hay bales to be used. Ms. Lindholm asked who would enforce the no smoking ban. Robert said the police. Gail also mentioned community self-enforcement. There would be signage up and people could point out to the offender that there is no smoking in public places. Question was raised in regards to smoking in one's vehicle in the parking lot? Gail said the Board may need to define §145-3 ...*certain outdoor locations listed*... Mr. Patel Owner of Town Mart was present and addressed the Board. He explained that there are many users of fake ID's, who would be enforcing that. Gary asked if he had an ID scanner like they do for alcohol purchases. Mr. Patel said his was down and that they require a monthly maintenance fee. Gail explained that whether the Belchertown Board of Health enacts the regulation to sell tobacco products to 21 yrs. and older the State is currently looking at legislation that will enact 21 yrs. and older very soon. Mr. Patel should invest in an ID scanning machine. Dr. Lester Hartman, a Pediatrician at Children's Hospital Boston, was present and addressed the Board. He said he is very active in the Tobacco Free movement. He explained that the frontal lobe in the brain of someone under 21 yrs. of age is not developed. High Schooler's 17, 18, and 19 yrs. of

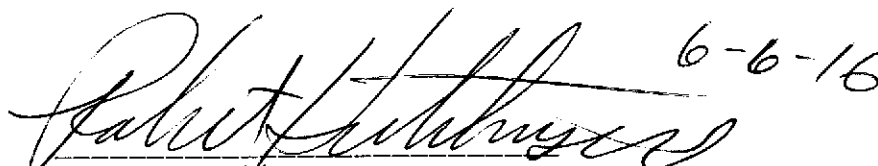
age hang together. If the age to purchase tobacco and tobacco products were raised to 21 yrs. these teenagers would not have one of their group old enough to purchase tobacco. Flavored e-juice (vapor liquid) is very popular and very toxic. Tobacco companies push these alternative products saying they are safer than cigarettes. Melinda Calianos from Hampshire-Franklin Free Community Partnership was present and let the Board know that she would be willing to help the Board in regards to getting new signs for Town property. She was very happy that Belchertown is considering these new amendments. The Board thanked members of the audience for their input and said that they will make a vote on the amendments at their June 6, 2016 meeting.

Bob closed the public portion of the hearing @8:33 PM Gary seconded. All in Favor.

Gary motioned to adjourn meeting @ 8:34 PM Roger seconded. All in Favor.


Respectfully Submitted,


Mary Grenier, Recording Secretary



Robert Hutchinson

Sean Cleary

Gail Gramarossa



Roger Bonsall



Gary Racicot