

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

January 18, 2012

Town Council Chambers, Administration Building

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. John Straus called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

PRESENT: Dr. John Straus, Dr. Barbara Beck, Steven Ward, and Kristel Bennett.

Minute Review: The Board of Health reviewed the minutes of the December 21, 2011 meeting. Barbara Beck made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 21, 2011 meeting. Dr. Straus stepped down as Chair and seconded the motion. All were in favor.

107 Spring Street, #2-3: Kristel Bennett informed the Board that attorney David Downes was present for an administrative hearing to provide a status update to the Board for the correction of the November 22, 2011 Order to Correct letter. Attorney David Downes provided an update to the Board. After much discussion thereof, Dr. Beck made a motion to ratify the condemnation order of November 22, 2011. In addition the Board of Health requires the owner or his representative to provide a written plan for accessing the dwelling to remove valuables and to correct the violations listed in the Condemnation Order to Correct letter dated November 22, 2011 by February 15, 2012 the next Board of Health meeting. As a result of the condemnation order, the dwelling unit is to remain vacant and secured. No dwelling unit or portion thereof which is ordered to be secure shall be occupied without the written permission of the Board of Health based upon the board's written findings that the dwelling units or portion thereof to be occupied is fit for human habitation. Dr. John stepped down as Chair and seconded the motion. All were in favor.

61 – 63 Poplar Street: Kristel Bennett informed the Board that the owner Paul Varonakis, his representative, Attorney Bernard Loughran, and the owner's sister Connie Delrose were before the Board to determine whether the Inspection Report and Violations listed in the December 30, 2011 Condemnation Order Letter warrant a finding that the dwelling units located at 61 – 63 Poplar Street, Watertown are unfit for human habitation and the dwelling units are to remain

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condemned and that the order to vacate and secure the dwelling units remain in effect. After hearing the findings of the December 28, 2011 Health inspection report, hearing the testimony provided by Attorney Loughran, Mr. Varonakis, and Ms. Delrose, and after much discussion thereof, Dr. Beck made a motion to ratify the condemnation order of December 30, 2011. In addition the Board of Health requires the owner or his representative to provide a written plan for accessing the dwelling to remove valuables and to correct the violations listed in the Condemnation Order to Correct letter dated December 30, 2011 by March 21, 2012 or to provide an alternative to raze the dwelling by March 21, 2012, the March Board of Health meeting. As a result of the condemnation order, the dwelling units are to remain vacant and secured. No dwelling unit or portion thereof which is ordered to be secure shall be occupied without the written permission of the Board of Health based upon the board's written findings that the dwelling units or portion thereof to be occupied is fit for human habitation. Dr. Straus stepped down as Chair and seconded the motion. All were in favor.

FY12 Budget Overview: Steven Ward updated review the FY12 Budget with the Board.

Community Health/ EP/ Tobacco Update: Steven Ward provided an update to the Board of the status of the Community Health grants that the Health Department has received. Wesley Chin informed the Board that he is holding a training for Watertown youth for Tobacco compliance checks. Mr. Chin will be conducting two tobacco compliance checks and has completed annual tobacco signage inspections at tobacco retail establishments. Mr. Ward and Mr. Chin informed the Board as the potential amendments to the Sale of Tobacco Products to Minors and the Smoke Free Workplace Regulation. The Board reviewed the proposed amendments.

Next Meeting Date: February 15, 2012

Adjourn: 9:30 PM

Minutes: Submitted by Steven J. Ward, Director of Public Health