



**Town of Southborough
Board of Health
9 Cordaville Road, Lower Level
Southborough, MA 01772-1662**

Phone: (508) 481-3013

Minutes of the Southborough Board of Health

September 13, 2022 – Board of Health – Virtual – 9:30 AM

Present:

Board Members Chelsea Malinowski, Nancy Sacco, Dr. Safdar Medina; Public Health Director, Dr. Heather Alker; Public Health Nurse, Taylor West; Administrative Assistant, Barbara Spiri

Also in Attendance: Representing Ken’s Warehouse, Bill Pezzoni; Sound Engineer, David Coate, Operation Manager, Jim Bourne, Sound Engineer – Tech Environmental, Marc Wallace; Residents, Kevin Farrington, Meme Luttrell

Opening:

The meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 9:30 AM by Ms. Malinowski.

Topic: Public Comment

Discussion: Public comments were not brought before the Board.

Topic: Ken’s Warehouse – Sound Barrier

Discussion: Both Sound Engineers – David Coate and Marc Wallace – presented the report to the Board. The testing that occurred in July staged 20 refrigerated trucks that were turned on and off. The noise level was measured at 48, 58, 68 Flagg Road and 7 Eastbrook Farm Lane (utilizing actual receivers). The 50 Hz refrigeration unit peak was measurable above ambient sound levels at all locations. Mr. Coate stated he was not sure if 24 or 28 Flagg Road was disturbed with the noise. Mr. Farrington confirmed that the prior owner did hear the noise. CADNA (Computer-aided Noise Abatement) software is used for analysis and evaluation of environmental noise. The model was directionally in line with the actual results of the testing done at the resident locations. The results will help to create a reliable sound barrier. Three design options were included in the report. Each option showed where the barrier would be placed and how it will affect the noise at each address (the report included a grid that showed the reduction in noise for each wall option). Options were a short (in the middle of the parking lot), long (at the perimeter), and long shortened (at the perimeter) barriers along with the cost to build them.

Ms. Malinowski asked if an address could be added to the modeling software for the final report without slowing the process down. Mr. Coate and Mr. Pezzoni said that an address could be added, and the results shouldn’t change. Ms. Luttrell wanted to know if the trucks will be on the west side, if the wall was in the middle of the parking lot. (The barrier would be reducing the noise coming from the east side.) Mr. Pezzoni told her he could not say



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“never” but the refrigerated trucks are normally on the east side. Mr. Farrington did mention the original owner of 24 Flagg Road was one of the original complainers about the noise.

The Board requested Mr. Coate and Mr. Wallace give their recommendation which would be best for the residents. Mr. Pezzoni spoke to the representatives of Ken’s and they feel the shortened wall at the perimeter is the best scenario and within the cost. Mr. Wallace feels it is a good solution and protects some homes to the north as well, more so than the other two options. Ms. Malinowski thanked all of the parties involved and requested that a final report reflect the final recommendation as discussed and that Conservation Commission review the proposal for tweaks.

Action: Ms. Malinowski moved to adopt the recommendations from Mr. Coate and Mr. Wallace to move forward with the short perimeter wall as presented subject to the Conservation Commission review. Ms. Sacco seconded the motion and voted aye. Dr. Medina voted aye. Ms. Malinowski voted aye. All in favor.

Topic: Public Comment

Discussion: Public comments were not brought before the Board

At 10:42 am Ms. Malinowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Medina seconded the motion. Vote to end the meeting: Ms. Malinowski – yes and Dr. Medina – yes. All in favor.

Respectively submitted by Barbara Spiri, Business Administrator and edited by Chelsea Malinowski.

Documents:

Ken’s Food Southborough Noise Barrier Study