

CHAPTER XVIII

Board of Health Application Review Fees

Section 1.

When reviewing an application for permit/ approval, the Board of Health may determine that the assistance of outside consultants is warranted due to the size, scale or complexity of a proposed project or because of a project's potential impacts. The Board of Health may require that applicants pay a "review fee" consisting of the reasonable costs incurred by the Board of Health to assist in the review of an application.

Section 2.

In hiring outside consultants, the Board of Health may engage engineers, planners, lawyers, urban designers or other appropriate professionals who can assist the Board of Health in analyzing a project to ensure compliance with all relevant laws, ordinances/bylaws, and regulations.

Section 3.

Funds received by the Board of Health pursuant to this section shall be deposited with the municipal treasurer who shall establish a special account for this purpose. Expenditures from this special account may be made at the direction of the Board of Health without further appropriation. Expenditures from this special account shall be made only in connection with the review of a specific project or projects for which a review fee has been or will be collected from the applicant. Failure of an applicant to pay a review fee shall be grounds for denial of the application/ permit.

Section 4.

Review fees may only be spent for services rendered in connection with the specific project from which they were collected. Accrued interest may also be spent for this purpose. At the completion of the Board of Health's review of a project, any excess amount in the account, including interest, attributable to a specific project, shall be repaid to the applicant or the

applicant's successor in interest. A final report of said account shall be made available to the applicant or the applicant's successor in interest. For the purpose of this regulation, any person or entity claiming to be an applicant's successor in interest shall provide the Board of Health with documentation establishing such succession in interest.

Section 5.

Any applicant may take an administrative appeal from the selection of the outside consultant to the Board of Selectmen. The grounds for such an appeal shall be limited to claims that the consultant selected has a conflict of interest or does not possess the minimum, required qualifications. The minimum qualifications shall consist either of an educational degree in, or related to, the field at issue or three or more years of practice in the field at issue or a related field. The required time limit for action upon an application by the Board of Health shall be extended by the duration of the administrative appeal. In the event that no decision is made by the Board of Selectmen within one month following the filing of the appeal, the selection made by the Board of Health shall stand.

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BOARD OF HEALTH
Natick, Mass.

Arthur C. Taddeo, M.Ed. Chairman
J. Cary Parsons, C.G.
Anthony G. Capobianco, M.D.