

Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
September 29, 2022, 12:00 pm
59 Main Street, Hatfield, MA

Approved October 20, 2022

Present: Bob Osley, Chair, Member Liz Kugler; Vice Chairperson Jeffrey Zgrodnik; Charlie Kaniecki, Health Agent

CALL TO ORDER Chair Osley called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik recommend accepting the meeting Minutes of June 22, 2022; Member Kugler seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; Minutes approved.

POSTED BUSINESS

TOPIC 1 COVID-19 Update: Health Agent Kaniecki informed the Board he has not received COVID numbers from Northampton this week. However, the Board agreed that the information in those reports is misleading, and the numbers are not accurate. Health Agent Kaniecki said in the beginning the numbers were supposed to be confidential, now it's all out there. Health Agent Kaniecki said let Northampton send the information, it will be reviewed and monitored by the Board and if there is a spike then things can change. Chair Osley made a motion to keep all the reports from Northampton and distribute them only to the Board of Health and not any other public entity and if the Health Agent sees a spike, the numbers will be reported; Member Kugler and Vice-Chairperson seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; motion approved.

Member Kugler mentioned Jean Hobbie, the school nurse, has been keeping track of numbers. Member Kugler asked if Nurse Hobbie should continue to keep a record. It was agreed that she should keep the data.

TOPIC 2 COVID Test Distribution: Member Kugler mentioned there was an email from a woman looking for COVID-19 test kits. How can we distribute the tests to the middle-aged group? It was agreed that a notice would be posted on the Town's website and Facebook that COVID-19 tests are available at the Board of Health Office at Town Hall.

TOPIC 3 320 West Street: The Board has been made aware of issues still occurring at 320 West Street. Health Agent Kaniecki received a written complaint that the occupant is not eating, the residence is flea infested and dirty. If there is a concern about someone's health and wellbeing the Board is obligated to investigate and call in Elder Services or Highland Valley Elder Services if needed. The Board agreed that the resident may not listen but at least the Board

of Health has done what they can. Health Agent Kaniecki stopped by the residence prior to the meeting and left his business card in the door. He will stop by again to see if the card has been moved. The Board of Health was there about two years ago and seems the residence is reverting back to where it was. The Board mentioned that there is electricity in the home as there is power on and heat pump is running. The Board was informed that the people who helped the resident two years have been notified and they would try to see if they could help again. It was agreed that the Board would not take action but in a week the Health Agent will stop by again to check on the resident. If he has water, heat and food, there is no reason to press him on anything. Chair Osley reminded the Board that if he denies help, there is not much the Board can do.

Health Agent Kaniecki stated he would begin doing food inspections.

TOPIC 4 Update food establishment inspections – 5 School Street, Hatfield Elementary roof: Chair Osley updated the Board on the person who gave the complaint about 5 School Street. Chair Osley gave him a run down about the inspection. Chair Osley and Health Agent Kaniecki did a surprise inspection. There is a list of violations which the business has been notify of. The Board of Health will go back to the establishment in the next week or so. The Elementary School put in a brand-new walk-in freezer. The school is good except the roof. It was agreed the Members of the Board of Health would be doing the food truck inspections on October 8, 2022 for the bonfire.

TOPIC 5 Board of Health office space: Chair Osley stated that the Board of Health office is just that – the Board of Health Office. It is not shared space. The Board agreed the Treasurer/Collector office would be notified that they have until October 16 to remove all materials from the office. At that time, a new lock will be put on the door.

TOPIC 6 10 Cronin Hill Road/bats: Health Agent Kaniecki informed the Board that once he sent the email to the owner of the property, the owner jumped right on it and took care of the issues. The issues have been taken care of so at this time, the case is closed.

UNANTICIPATED NEW BUSINESS:

ADJOURN Vice Chairperson Zgrodnik made a motion adjourn, Member Kugler seconded; no discussion; all in favor – aye; meeting adjourned at 1:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Brodeur
Executive Assistant