



Town of Mendon

18 Main Street
Mendon, MA 01756
(508) 634-2656

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday – April 27, 2022 | 7:00 PM

In Attendance: Andy Fiske – BOH Chairman
Alan Greenberg – BOH Vice-Chairman
Tom Fichtner – BOH Member

Not Present: N/A

Meeting Location: [REMOTE VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS](#)

MINUTES APPROVED
By Board of Health on
NOVEMBER 16, 2022

At 7:00 PM, BOH Meeting has been called to order by Tom Fichtner. Tom reads the Open Meeting Law Extension. Also, in on the meeting, Tom Ryder, Professional Engineer for the Town of Mendon, Joan Hamlett and Jodie Brighenti, both from the Tobacco Control Alliance. Tom hands over the meeting to Chairman Fiske.

Chairman Fiske thanks Tom, and begins the meeting.

1st Item on Agenda Update on Tobacco Enforcement

Joan Hamlett begins off introducing herself and her Tobacco Inspector, Jodie. Joan mentions that from June 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022, they are funded to provide tobacco control services to most of the surrounding towns of Mendon, but Mendon was not included in the funding RFP. Joan explains how the services are provided to the towns and how enforcement is done to any retailer of tobacco who does not comply with the laws. Joan said that since Mendon was not part of the funding, Jodie could work as a Per-Diem consultant for Mendon to provide the tobacco enforcement services.

Chairman Fiske thanks Joan and cannot wait to work with her and Jodie to get these services in the Town of Mendon. Tom states that Mendon has been lacking this service, and is on board with moving forward. Alan is also on board with moving forward.

Chairman Fiske thanks Joan and wants to speak with the Town Administrator, Kim Newman, about the Tobacco Enforcement Services to get her input. Joan also wanted to point out that when Jodie is in the surrounding towns of Mendon, Joan will coordinate that Jodie also provide services to Mendon so that some of the mileage incurred would come from the funded grant since Jodie is already in the area.

Tom mentions that since Tom Ryder is in on the meeting, that they have a general discussion on BOH procedures. Chairman Fiske agrees. This item is listed under “Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to meeting”.

2nd Item on Agenda Update on Hazardous Waste Day

Tom lets the Board know that he reached out to NEDT out of Sutton, MA, but they do not provide services like Clean Harbor does for a Town Hazardous Waste Day. Tom also reached out to another company from Clean Earth, but they haven’t responded to Tom’s inquiry. Also reach out to Waste Management, but again, nothing in response back to the inquiry.

- 3rd Item on Agenda** Discuss Contract Extension E.L. Harvey
Tom mentions that Mendon is on their final extension within the contract. Chairman Fiske reminds the Board that before issuing subscription pricing to the residents, that the costs for supplying the Hazardous Waste Day, must not be included in the subscription pricing. Alan mentioned that the Wheelabrator Contract needs to be taken in consideration with regard to pricing, who provide the disposal of the trash collected by EL Harvey. Chairman Fiske will reach out to EL Harvey to confirm with them that Mendon is good to go with the Extension.
- 4th Item on Agenda** Discuss Municipal Master Agreement
Tom spoke to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) who is funding the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) grant. It basically states that if Mendon was a part of the agreement, Mendon could be part of grant money, if one becomes available. Tom will send the information to Kim Newman, Town Administrator, for her review and input.
- 5th Item on Agenda** Update on vacant BOH position
Tom states that the individual that the BOH has chosen, and has been hired, and that an offer letter has been sent out. Background checks have been completed and will be appointed tonight at the Board of Selectman's meeting. Starting on Monday, May 2nd.
- 6th Item on Agenda** Discuss Senior Discount Trash Program Application
Tom wanted to make sure the BOH is on the same page on how the process is done. One of the discussions was why a senior discount was implemented. Tom believes that since they are seniors, they are producing less trash and why the discount was implemented. Another discussion as to why there is a spot for a number to be written in for how many people live in the household, but is not part of the determination to approve the application. The concern if the total number of people, other than the senior(s), in the household producing the same amount of trash that a standard resident would generate. Chairman Fiske believes it should be a recognition of being a senior citizen, not by how many people are in the household, and to leave the process as is. Alan agrees.
- 7th Item on Agenda** Town Hall Campus Restoration Project/Grant Deadline
Tom wanted to bring Chairman Fiske's attention about an email sent from Ann Mazar, Mendon Land/Energy Use Committee Chair & Mendon Community Preservation Committee Chair, regarding the Town Hall Campus Restoration. Ann sent an application for the BOH approval, in with the deadline approaching to spend the funds. The application was for a replacement septic line as part of the Town Hall Campus Restoration Project.
- 8th Item on Agenda** Discuss VNA contract
Tom brought up that the Visiting Nurses Association contract is coming up for approval. Tom will reach out to the VNA for a contract renewal and pricing for Fiscal Year 2023. Chairman Fiske and Alan agree.
- 9th Item on Agenda** Discuss local permitting requirements for Tata and Howard Inc.
Tom said he received an email from Robert Simms, who works for Tata and Howard, and just wanted to let the BOH know that they are beginning to drill for a small public water supply in Mendon. They have done numerous wells in communities and typically communicate with the BOH in correspondence related to the permitting and development of a public water supply (PWS). Since Tata & Howard go through the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) as they are more rigorous and detailed, that they would not go through the local BOH permitting process.

Tom responded back to Robert Simms, and thanks him for keeping the BOH in the loop and believes Robert is correct in the process through MassDEP vs. the local BOH, but wanted to run it by the BOH to confirm. Tom has asked Robert on the Name and Location for the PWS, but has not heard back yet. Chairman Fiske stated that Tom is correct and the BOH does not need to be involved as MassDEP is in charge, but would like to stay in the loop of the process. Alan also confirms that is the way to go.

ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED 48 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING

- I. Tom Ryder starts off by wanting to talk about Standard Operation Procedures (SOP) in regard to property septic systems and wells in regards to questions from realtors, good to have on hand. Alan mentions that there is a resident on Washington Street, has a few wells on the property and a cesspool, everything seems to be in working order. Realtor had questions about the property and what needed to be done to put the property on the market. Tom Ryder suggests getting some links available on the BOH website that would point to specific answers to specific questions regarding septic and wells when selling a home in Massachusetts. Tom Ryder will work with the new BOH Office person to go over the requirements.
- II. Tom Fichtner wanted to discuss the work being done at 9 Main Street. Tom noticed that the project has come to a stand still on the septic installation, and is there a certain period of time to complete the work. Chairman Fiske believes it would be best to ask Steve Donatelli, as installing septic during winter months is not ideal. Tom will reach out to Steve.
- III. Tom wanted to bring awareness to an email sent from Ellen Agro from the Zoning Board of Appeals, regard to 106 Millville Road. Abutting residents around the property are not happy with the filling operations on the property. Abutters have hired an attorney and pursuing and appeal from the Building Department decisions about the property and seeking zoning enforcement. Ellen asked those involved to submit any documentation they may have relating to the issues at the property. Tom said the BOH involvement was from suspected restaurant activity not permitted to operate. Tom submitted to Ellen the report from the Mendon Health Agent, Danielle Edmands. Alan brought up that Tom Ryder also went to the property in regard to septic and well concerns. Tom will reach out to Tom Ryder for any documentation he may have.

The Board has set its next meeting date for Wednesday, May 11th at 7 PM.

Chairman Fiske calls for a Motion to adjourn tonight's BOH Meeting:

Alan makes the motion to adjourn the BOH Meeting. Tom seconds the motion.
The motion is passed.

Roll call vote: Fiske-Aye, Greenberg-Aye, Fichtner-Aye.

Meeting is adjourned at 9:04 PM.