



**Town of Mendon**  
**Board of Health**  
18 Main Street  
Mendon, MA 01756

## MINUTES APPROVED

By Board of Health on  
FEBRUARY 28, 2024

### Board of Health • Meeting Minutes | Wednesday – July 12, 2023

BOARD OF HEALTH	ATTENDANCE	ATTENDED
Alan Greenberg • Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Remote
Tom Fichtner • Vice-Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Remote
Joyce Gilmore • Member	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Remote
Jack McLellan – Inspectional Svcs. Office Coord.   Health Admin.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In-Person <input type="checkbox"/> Remote
MEETING LOCATION		START TIME
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Microsoft Teams		7:30 PM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mendon Town Hall – Upper Meeting Room • 18 Main Street, Mendon MA		9:38 PM

At 7:30 PM, BOH Meeting has been called to order by Chairman Greenberg and begins with the 1<sup>st</sup> Item on tonight's agenda. Jack informs the Board that Danielle would be about 15 minutes late and suggests moving to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Agenda Item until Danielle arrives. Chairman Greenberg agrees and starts the meeting with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Agenda Item.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Item on Agenda

##### Danielle Edmands – Animal Inspector Updates

Chairman Greenberg welcomes Danielle and asks her for any updates, comments, or anything the Board of Health may assist her on. Danielle asks the Board if they thought any more about the permit of animals in Mendon, as it would make the reporting to the state easier as Danielle would know who had what for animals as she conducts her inspections in town. Joyce asks Danielle to elaborate her meaning on permitting of animals. Danielle explains that every town does it differently, some towns charge and some towns don't, but basically, it's the resident letting the town know what animals are on their property as Danielle would note that for inspections as she reports her findings to the Mass. Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) on an annual basis. Danielle also points out that some surrounding towns, such as Northbridge and Uxbridge, have animal regulations which go in hand with the permitting of the animals, but Mendon does not have any regulations for animals. Right now, Danielle said she does the annual Barn Inspections and keeps track of the addresses, but most of the time, when she's driving, she notices the animals at a residence that's not on her list. Joyce just wanted to clarify that its farm animals that Danielle is looking to get permitted. Danielle replied yes, just the farm animals for MDAR's reporting. Tom remarks that he could see the benefit of tracking the farm animals for the potential of disease, and Mendon is a Right-To-Farm community and would like to think the owners would understand a registration element for such tracking of knowing where the animals are. Chairman Greenberg asks for any further questions or comments, no one had anymore to add. Chairman Greenberg thanks Danielle for joining tonight and moves on to the 3<sup>rd</sup> topic.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Item on Agenda

##### Daniel Markman – Food Establishment Inspections Discussion

Chairman Greenberg asks Daniel how the food inspections are going in the Town of Mendon. Daniel responds that they are going well and almost caught up. Daniel's concern is that a few are only open outside the Collaborative working hours. Daniel's hope is that once the PT Health Agent is on board, that they would get those completed. Chairman Greenberg asked Daniel if there are food establishments that have repeating violations during the 1<sup>st</sup> inspection and 6 months later, the 2<sup>nd</sup> inspection. Daniel responded that in some cases, yes, but they are usually minor violations that are quickly remedied. Chairman Greenberg mentions that the PT Health Agent should be on board shortly to take some of the load off from Daniel and Danielle, and thanks them both and appreciates them both for all that they have been doing for Mendon. Chairman Greenberg asks the Board if they had any questions or comments for Daniel. Both Tom and Joyce also extended their thanks and appreciation to Daniel and Danielle for their commitment to the Town of Mendon. Chairman Greenberg sees that Danielle Edmands is now present at tonight's meeting and returns back to the 1<sup>st</sup> Agenda Item.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Item on Agenda**

**PT Health Agent Vacancy Update Discussion - Recap of BOS Meeting Attendance on 7/5/2023**

Chairman Greenberg states that the BOH attended the Board of Selectmen's Meeting on July 5<sup>th</sup>, and the BOH voted to appoint Colleen Strapponi as the PT Health Agent for Mendon. It was believed the Board of Selectmen also had to appoint Colleen for an Administrative Role for another Department, but that was no longer the case. Tom and Joyce are happy that Colleen will be joining the team and the Board looks forward to working with her. Chairman Greenberg asks for any further questions or comments, no one had anymore to add. Chairman Greenberg moves onto the 4<sup>th</sup> Agenda Item.

**4<sup>th</sup> Item on Agenda**

**Rooster Regulations Discussion**

Tom wanted to discuss the current regulations with regard to "Section 2: Purpose" and believe the reasoning for putting Rooster Regulations to begin with, was to address any issues from problem roosters. Tom believes that the "Purpose" section didn't clearly state its intent, so Tom is looking to modify the Purpose" section to correct any ambiguity. Chairman Greenberg agrees and that its not for all roosters in Mendon that are not an issue, but those that are a problem for residents neighboring the property of the problem rooster. Joyce agrees that it should be modified to clearly state its true purpose. Tom asks Jack to send the proposed modification to the AgComm for their review and comments and to have this topic back on the Agenda at a later date. Chairman Greenberg asks for any further questions or comments, no one had anymore to add. Chairman Greenberg thanks Tom and moves onto the 5<sup>th</sup> Agenda Item.

**5<sup>th</sup> Item on Agenda**

**EL Harvey FY24 Contract Update**

Jack updates the Board that the EL Harvey Legal Team is still working on it. Chairman Greenberg thanks Jack and moves onto the 6<sup>th</sup> Agenda Item.

**6<sup>th</sup> Item on Agenda**

**Mendon Landfill Update Discussion**

Jack updates the Board that Atlas has provided an updated contract and Jack has forwarded it to Town Counsel for their review and comments. Chairman Greenberg thanks Jack and moves on to the last Agenda Item.

**7<sup>th</sup> Item on Agenda**

**Topics Not Anticipated Within 48 Hours**

1. Before letting Danielle go from the 1<sup>st</sup> Agenda Item, Jack brings to the Boards attention of the failing septic system, at 10 Northbridge Road. Jack informs the Board that a Certified Letter has been sent on 06/26/2023 to the Owner of the Property but has not claimed the letter. Danielle mentioned that she did a housing inspection on 06/22/2023 and noted the failing septic system and also had Steve Donatelli, Title 5 Inspector, take a look, and confirmed the system is in complete failure. Chairman Greenberg said he would try to deliver the Certified Letter to the Property Owner personally since he would be in the area and asks Jack to get in touch with the Owner to let them know the Board has sent a Certified Letter that has gone unclaimed about the situation. Tom and Joyce agree that a phone call should be made to make the Property Owner aware of the BOH's concerns. Chairman Greenberg thanks Jack and Danielle and moves on to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Agenda Item.
2. Tom mentions the email sent from Anne Mazar regarding the Open Space Recreation Plan. Anne asked if the Board was willing to submit a letter of recommendation for the submitted plan. Chairman Greenberg and Joyce haven't reviewed the plan yet but are willing to submit a letter of recommendation after the review. The Board will review the submitted plan and come up with a support letter.
3. Chairman Greenberg asks Jack to follow-up with Tom Ryder on the Well Regulations. Also looking for status update on the Lake Nipmuc Task Force. Joyce mentioned that she hadn't heard anything about its 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Tom Fichtner said the Select Board is working on their appointment to the Task Force and perhaps send an email for follow-up. Jack will send out a follow up to the Select Board on their Appointment. Chairman Greenberg asks Jack to reach out to the Finance Committee in regard to the BOH Budget Accounts, specifically for the Town Trash Subscriber Program, and see if the BOH can be on their next Agenda.

The Board set its next meeting for Wednesday – July 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm.

**Chairman Greenberg calls for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.**

Joyce makes the motion to adjourn tonight's BOH Meeting. Tom Fichtner seconds the motion. The motion is passed.

**Roll call vote: Greenberg-Aye, Fichtner-Aye, Gilmore-Aye.**

Meeting is ended at 9:38 PM.