

**Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes -September 20, 2022  
Selectmen's Meeting Room  
and Remote Meeting via Zoom Video**

**PRESENT**

Chairperson – Vincent Forte, Jr.  
Vice Chairperson - Patricia Leclair  
Member: Michael Hennessey  
Health Agent – Bruce Wilson, Jr.  
Food & Tobacco Inspector: Robert Griffin III via Zoom  
Minutes Clerk: Laura Renaud via Zoom

**OTHER ATTENDEES**

Town Administrator - Denis Fraine  
Town Counsel – Nicole Costanza via Zoom

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Forte called the meeting to order at 7:00.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the minutes of August 23, 2022, as presented. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

**7:00**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

Mr. Forte continued the Public Hearing for the Tobacco Regulation amendment from 2013.

Town Counsel Costanzo stated she had a phone conversation with Robert Griffin, Tobacco Agent, and Chairman Forte. She stated they would continue working together to narrow down the definition of mind-altering substances that would not be allowed. They would have a draft prepared for the next meeting on October 4, 2022.

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to continue this Public Hearing to October 4, 2022, at 7:00 PM. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.  
Mr. Forte stated Agent Griffin, himself and Town Counsel will speak again and have a draft prepared for the next hearing.

**7:30 PM – BUILDING CONDEMN**

**740 Pulaski Blvd – Water Shut Off**

Mr. Forte explained he received a call from the water department Thursday in the am. They had excessive water usage for this property. They sent someone down in July but did not shut the water off then. This time they called the BOH. Mr. Forte went to the building. It was closed. He met up with the tenant that was moving out. The toilet was boarded up. The roof had holes large enough you could see sky. He did look closer with a flashlight and saw a drip after the

meter which means it is the property issue. The sump pump was discharging into the neighbor's yard. He did tell the Water Department to shut off the water. He tried to get in touch with the owner with no response. A certified letter was sent. He also left a voice mail. He tried many times to call him. There are wetlands nearby and drums of oil nearby. It is reportable to the BOH and we would decide if DEP needs to get involved. The tenant will continue to move his stuff out. The owner needs to fix the building. There is mold and insulation all over the place. There is no way it can be rented. He suggested giving him 30 days to resolve all the issues. The BOH request the owner's attendance at this meeting, but he did not show up.

**Mr. Hennessey made a motion that the owner has 30 days to start the process of getting Building Permits to fix the property and obtain a Certificate Occupancy. He cannot rent until this is complete. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **Donation Bins**

Ms. Leclair had questions about the book bin in front of the old Pinecrest School. It is full and the company has closed. It is full of books. Agent Wilson stated it changed ownership and someone else is serving it. He will check the status in Permit Eyes. Town Administrator Fraine stated if the town doesn't know who owns it and it is on town property it can be removed. Agent Wilson will work on that, who owns it and if there is a current permit. The school will soon be demolished so they could take it away. Mr. Forte stated it must have the new name on it.

Agent Forte stated he has provided photos of people littering outside the bins at Larry's Liquors on North Main Street. He has the time and the license plate from his camera. Agent Wilson stated that they have been working with Chief Daigle on this issue. He could not be in attendance. The Board would like him in attendance to discuss the researching of these license plates. Town Administrator Denis Fraine stated they are doing a better job. It is a lot cleaner there. Ms. Leclair agreed that it has come a long way. Ms. Renaud stated that out of the 5 license plates that were given at the beginning of this project that only 1 person was found. It is a difficult process for the BOH staff and the detectives. They do not have time for such a detailed search. It is going well but they will talk to Chief Daigle when he can attend the meeting.

## **FOOD INSPECTOR UPDATES**

Agent Griffin explained how a grading system works. He would like to bring it forward for the new year. It is a point system. The establishment would get a letter grade of A, B, or C. If it is a C or below, then they would have to come to a meeting. They would require a reinspection within 30 days. The letter would be posted on the website and/or a letter grade in the establishments window. Mr. Hennessey felt that if one establishment scored a C then the stigma may stick with the establishment and their business would be hurt. Town Administrator agreed that this could hurt our local businesses. We would like to keep our establishments up and running in town. The establishments should be up on all their requirements without posting a grade system. The Board felt that they should investigate this further. Agent Griffin stated he will reach out to the different establishments and get their opinions. He will also set up a poll on Facebook/social media to get the general public's view on this system. Agent Wilson will get in touch with Uxbridge as he knows they use this system there. Mr. Forte asked Agent Griffin to

mention this to the Food Establishment owners on the next round of inspections and to work on a social media poll for the next quarter. Agent Griffin and Agent Wilson will report back to the Board when they have their findings. A Public Hearing would be set up if they decide to go that route.

### **TOBACCO AGENT UPDATES**

Mr. Forte asked if the BP Gas at 1052 South Main Street was still selling tobacco. Agent Griffin had a conversation with the owners and confirmed they are not selling tobacco. They will be pursuing another permit.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Board noted there is an employee flu clinic coming up on October 19, 2022, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. This is a part of the VNS contract. Ms. Leclair asked if they could add a 5 month check up with the Senior Center on the BOH timeline just to see how things were going and if they needed to add anything. Ms. Renaud stated she would add that.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **Warrant for Town Meeting**

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the Betterment Loan process at the Town Meeting to raise the sum of \$400,000.00 of monies for the purposes of remediating failing septic systems. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

The Board asked if Agent Wilson could find out if we can add oil tanks and de-leading to this loan program.

### **HEALTH AGENT UPDATES**

Agent Wilson updated the Board on the status of the school food inspections. There were no issues as they are all kept in great condition. The high school has a cooler system that they are updating. It should be ready by the next round of inspections.

Mr. Forte suggested using the movable sign for educating people on littering. Mr. Hennessey suggested doing a contest for the students. They could create a slogan and we can offer a small prize such as a gift card.

Town Administrator Denis Fraine asked if the Board has heard from the clean up crew that travels town to town. Ms. Leclair shared it on Facebook and told residents to contact them directly. Town Administrator had a link that they could sign up directly. He would share that with the Board.

Town Administrator Denis Fraine wanted to make the residents aware that as of November 1, 2022, mattresses will no longer be taken by Harvey's. After that they can be brought to the recycling center. This will be advertised on the town website and Facebook.

### **PLAN REVIEWS**

**336 Theresa Road**

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the reduction of the septic system to groundwater distribution to allow 3 feet where 5 feet is required for 336 Theresa Road. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

**BILLS:**

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the invoice to Salmon VNA for \$ 666.66. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the invoice to MHOA for the Health Agent's annual conference for \$ 600.00. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the invoice to the Seacrest Hotel for \$ 550.26. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the invoice to WB Mason for \$ 87.48. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

**BETTERMENT LOANS**

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the Betterment Loan Application for 67 Donna Road. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

**BETTERMENT BILLS**

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to approve the invoice to Michael Marchand Septic for \$ 32,500.00 pending notarized signatures from the owner for the work on 150 South Main Street. Ms. Leclair seconded, and the motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Hennessey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM. The motion was seconded by Ms. Leclair and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Laura Renaud*

Laura Renaud  
Minutes Clerk

Approved 10/18/2022