

# MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, March 20th, 2024 – 5:00 PM

Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room and ZOOM

## Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Melanie Ames-Zamojski, Rachel Stoler and Michael Nelson

**Staff:** Ryan Paxton - Health Director for Montague, Geneva Bickford – Board of Health Clerk

**Other:** Dr. Lepore, Annie Levine

### **Melanie Ames-Zamojski opened the meeting at 5:00 PM**

#### **Minutes:**

February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 Minutes

- The BOH Members reviewed the minutes of February 21, 2024.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the February 21st Minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Nelson – aye, Zamojski – aye and Stoler – aye*

#### **Director's Report:**

- Director, Ryan Paxton, presented the February 2024 Director's Report.
- Conducted inspections at 26 Third St, 7 G St, 9A Stations St and 89 Mormon Hollow Rd.
- 89 Mormon Hollow Rd and property was condemned due to lack of electrical services and continues to be occupied. The homeowner has been served a legal order and has not restored electricity and has not vacated the premises. The Health Director is waiting for a court date. The complaint initially came from a concerned family member aware of the living situation.
- Conducted 17 Nuisance Complaints related to trash or unregistered vehicle at 15 separate addresses.
- Conducted the bi-annual inspection at the Shea Theatre.
- Completed the complaint investigation with Food City and all complaints have been resolved.
- 88 Swamp Rd was issued a Disposal System Construction Permit.
- Attended Monthly Valley Health Regional Collaborative Steering Committee Meeting and one special meeting strategizing for EDS Planning, attended monthly MAPCHO Steering Committee Meeting, Attended Western Mass Public Health Association's Monthly Executive Meeting, Attended 2 Municipality Vulnerability Planning 2.0 Meetings,
- Attended and co-hosted with Phoebe Walker an opioid settlement listening session with FRCOG. Received good feedback in a report that can be used in any discussion regarding opioid settlement. The opioid settlement was mentioned at STM, questions were asked about how much money was in the fund, how much could the town expect to receive, etc. The Health Director's understanding is the SB would want guidance from the BOH but ultimately the SB authorizes payment.
- Attended monthly AGO Neighborhood Renewal Division Receivership meeting, 96 Third St is being prepared for auction.

- Met with Annie Levine, the manager of the Great Falls Farmer’s Market regarding permitting for 2024 and identified some of the things that were being permitted that did not need to be.
- Health Director, Ryan Paxton, also met with the owner of Nice Snack Parlor regarding future business plans as they are leaving the Nova Motorcycle space.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Director’s Report. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski – aye*

**Nurse Report:**

- Health Director, Ryan Paxton, presented the February 2024 Nurses Report.
- Continued with weekly office hours.
- She will coordinate with Robin to talk about doing one of those walking groups and maybe focusing on an employee wellness program.
- Continued weekly and monthly meetings.
- Worked with Robin to do some outreach for the edible safe program.
- MAVEN Report.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Nurse’s Report. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski – aye*

**Animal/Barn Inspector Report:**

- No quarantines for February 2024.
- No Barn Inspections.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Animal/Barn Inspector’s Report. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Nelson – aye, Zamojski – Aye and Stoler – aye*

**Discussion: 2024 Farmer’s Market Vendor Fees**

- Annie Levine requested to have the vendor fees waived in 2024 as Annie sees the market as a community service.
- It is the only place in town where HIP benefits are accepted.
- There are about 7 vendors per market and not all are food vendors.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to waive the permit fees for food establishments at the Farmer’s Market. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Nelson – aye, Zamojski – Aye and Stoler – aye*

**Topics Unanticipated:**

**Private Clubs and Code Enforcement**

- Director, Ryan Paxton, visited St. Stanislaus, Montague Elks Lodge and St. Kazimierz Society and took pictures of outdoor smoking areas.
- It was determined that the smoking areas were not in compliance and photos were taken.

- The Director mailed letters to each establishment informing the clubs that the Montague BOH will be conducting site visits in the future.
- Board agreed further enforcement is necessary.

**Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District**

- Health Director, Ryan Paxton, mailed letters in support of S. 445 and H.845.
- Health Director has reached out to John Briggs and Briggs will communicate some surveillance data as it seems relevant.
- Will not be able to join the PVMCD until next year due to timing.

**Meeting adjourned: 5:30PM**

*Rachel Stoler Motioned to adjourn the Board of Health Meeting. Seconded by Michael Nelson. Motion passes.*

*Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski – aye*

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Documents:**

February Minutes

Director's Report

Nurse's Report

Animal and Barn Inspector Report

Health Director's Letters and pictures mailed to St. Stanislaus Society, Montague Elks Lodge and St. Kazimierz Society.