

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, January 20, 2021 – 5:30 pm
Downstairs Meeting Room – Montague Town Hall
Turners Falls, MA

Meeting Minutes

Present: Al Cummings, Christopher Boutwell, Michael Nelson & Cheryl Volpe (left 6:18 PM)

Staff: Health Director, Daniel Wasiuk & Board of Health Clerk, Anne Stuart

Meeting being recorded.

Meeting offered through Zoom.

Al Cummings opened the meeting at 5:35 PM.

Minutes: Board of Health Meeting December 2020 & January 2021

- Board of Health members discussed and no changes or additions were noted.

*Christopher Boutwell **Motioned** to accept the November 18, 2020 Board of Health Minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: *Michael Nelson – aye, Christopher Boutwell – aye, Al Cummings – aye*

Director's Report November 2020, December 2020 & January 2021

- Daniel Wasiuk, Health Director updated the Board of Health members on the situation at 19 Sherman Drive which continues to be in non-compliance with correction orders have warranted a re-inspection fee of \$200 each visit made by the BOH. Non-payment of the previous years fees have been passed on by Anne & Daniel to Karen Tonelli for a tax lien. The chickens seem to be more of an annoyance along with the continued burning of trash which John Zellmann is aware of and the state Fire Marshall has been informed. Mr. Chapin continues to use the lot across the street for stock piling debris and metal along with a fire ring.
- Charter NEX Films located on Industrial Boulevard has a complaint that has come in from a resident of Erving, Thomas Adamski who says he hears a high pitch noise coming from this location. Daniel went out to take noise reading and no conditions were found at that time or in excess of 10 decibels. Anne called Mr. Adamski and let him know we have done a site visit but that Daniel would not be going to Erving. Anne gave Mr. Adamski the phone number and name of Claudia Lucas who handles the Erving BOH. Anne then followed up with Claudia regarding the situation and she responded that she passed it on to DEP for follow up.

*Christopher Boutwell **Motioned** to accept the Directors Report as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: *Christopher Boutwell – aye, Michael Nelson – aye, Al Cummings – aye*

Nurse's Report November 2020, December 2020 & January 2021

- The Board of Health members reviewed the nurse report while Cheryl Volpe went over the entire report with all of us.

The Town of Montague is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider

- Cheryl Volpe to work up to 20 hours was discussed and voted on to be able to be increased during the COVID-19 Pandemic. This was also noted to be of interest from Town Meeting members.

*Christopher Boutwell **Motioned** to accept the Nurse's Report as presented. . Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: *Christopher Boutwell – aye, Michael Nelson – aye, Al Cummings – aye*

Introduction by Cheryl Volpe, RN regarding the AAMC Uniform Clinical Training Affiliation Agreement with UMASS Amherst

- Cheryl Volpe, RN explained that she will have two groups of UMASS nursing students (traditional track May 2021 graduation & accelerated track December 2021 graduation) joining the Town of Montague for part of the Spring semester as a requirement for their program. They will be working on a web page for the Public Health Nurse focusing on activities surrounding promoting, protecting and prevention within the Public Health field. This includes focusing on Chronic medical conditions consisting of the top three 1. high blood pressure, 2. high cholesterol, and 3, pre-diabetic. They will also look at the arbo-virus, EEE and Lyme Disease. If there is time and they can do vaccines they will help with COVID-19 and study the affects on both the human body and mind. Michael Nelson commented that this is a positive opportunity for the department and that the UMASS program is regarded highly in the community.

Discussion: Regarding the Board of Health coverage during non working hours.

- Daniel Wasiuk, Health Director presented a draft for Emergency 24/7 Protocols for the Board of Health Response to the board regarding what he feels are the areas and response time we cover as a Board of Health Department.
- Daniel drew upon his knowledge in various municipal positions along with his knowledge and time in the private field of food and human safety. There was some discussion regarding that this is not a round the clock/shift work staffed department with lots of staff and there is not any shift differentials or stipends given for emergency calls or response.
- It has been in Daniel's experience that the wants of other emergency responding departments (Fire & Police) list in their protocols to call the Board of Health and Building when an emergency occurs. There is not an issue regarding if it is an emergency just on who actually needs to respond at the moment and or responding at a later time due to the situation. Daniel stated that the Board of Health is not totally responsible for accommodating Fire Department and Police protocols this comes from Board of Health at the state level.
- Michael Nelson commented that the draft plan was excellent and well written with the time responses noted. He would like the opportunity for conversations with the other emergency departments and have an updated version for discussion at the February Board of Health meeting.

Discussion 2021 Calendar to continue to meet on the 3rd Wednesday of the month:

- The Board of Health members approved the 2021 calendar but suggested to move the start time of meeting to 5:00 PM from 5:30 PM. It was also noted some adjustments might have to be made along the way due to scheduling conflicts.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the 2021 Board of Health Calendar with the adjustment of the time to 5:00 PM starting with the February meeting. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: *Christopher Boutwell – aye, Michael Nelson – aye, Al Cummings – aye*

Topics not anticipated within the 48 Hours of posting:

- Reminder by Christopher Boutwell that the Finance Committee has extended an invitation to Daniel Wasiuk and others to participate in a conversation at their monthly meeting. Topic of discussion to be the nurse responsibilities going forward and the funding needed for such.

Meeting adjourned: 6:44 PM

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to adjourn the monthly Board of Health meeting at 6:44 PM. Seconded by Christopher Boutwell. **Motion passes.***

Roll Call Vote: *Christopher Boutwell – aye, Michael Nelson – aye, Al Cummings – aye*

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Documents:

November 18, 2021 Minutes

Director's Report

Nurse's Report

Draft of Emergency 24/7 Protocols for the Board of Health

2021 Board of Health Calendar