



**Town of Boxford
Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health**

November 30, 2022

Present: Richard Taylor, Alex Constan, Richard Fahrner, Heather Forand, Kendell Longo, Kristin Kwiatek
Absent: Rhonda Hodge

Meeting called to order at 6:30 by D. Taylor

Announcements

Covid Vaccination Clinic at Masconomet on December 16, 2022 from 3:00pm-7:00pm

Minutes: Minutes were reviewed from the October 24, 2022 meeting. Motion by R. Fahrner to accept minutes, seconded by H. Forand. Approved unanimously.

Bills: Bills were signed.

National Grid Proposal, Untreated Poles

D. Taylor stated that National Grid would like to meet with the BOH to discuss the proposal that the installation of new utility poles would be untreated. The Board discussed and decided to agree to another meeting with National Grid as long as it was productive and positive.

Waste Management Update

A. Constan summarized to the Board that the waste stream taskforce that had been meeting for a few months considered many options and also received new information from members who were also on a Northshore Consortium that were looking for a Five- year contract. A. Constan stated that all trash contracts have greatly increased. Waste Management offered the Town an extension at a cheaper price. The recommendation from the task force was to proceed with a five -year extension with Waste Management. A. Constan discussed with the Board the different

options such as the automated lifting the barrels. Michael White was present at the meeting and spoke with the Board about the financial savings over five years. D. Taylor stated that the Board needs have a meeting with Waste Management before a decision is made to discuss how they plan on improving and providing a better system for missed pickups. A. Constan stated that the task force made a recommendation and that it is the Board of Health's decision. The Board was in agreement that before accepting a proposal they would try to meet in December with Waste Management or they would ask for extension.

Andrews Farm Water Quality

A. Constan stated that the Select Board is trying to work with the residents to figure out a resolution. The PFAS numbers have gone down for the month of September. R. Fahrner stated that the contamination could also be coming from the non-use of the well. D. Taylor stated it is now in the hands of the DEP.

COVID Update

COVID numbers have gone down slightly. According to the CDC, the seasonal influenza activity has elevated across the country. The CDC reported so far for the season there have 6.2 million cases of the flu, 53 thousand hospitalizations, and 29 hundred deaths. Only 35 percent of Massachusetts residents have had the flu shot. Hospitalizations in Massachusetts have gone up in 2 weeks from .36 percent to .53 percent and lab reported cases have gone from 845 to 1285. R. Fahrner stated that RSV has also been spiking nationally.

Director's Report

K. Longo stated that at the vaccination clinics, 100 to 120 people have been vaccinated. Topsfield's numbers were 100 to 150 vaccines administered, and Middleton 50-80. The RSV/ Covid/flu is being called the triple demic. A letter went out to all the families on best practices to keep healthy during winter months. Last week at Cole School sickness include Strep, Flu, and RSV. No reports of Covid. Spofford School had a few cases of each. The middle school 13 confirmed cases of Flu, no RSV or Covid. The High School, Flu, Covid, Strep, GI bug, and Hand Foot and Mouth.

K. Longo mentioned the budget and putting more funds toward Blue Algae testing. D. Taylor stated that the subject and study belongs with the Cons Com with it being an Environmental/pollution form runoff. R. Fahrner mentioned the maintenance of de scumming. D. Taylor stated he would contact the Cons Com Chair

Adjourn 8:00pm

The next meeting date to be determined and with no further business there was a motion made by A. Constan, seconded by R. Fahrner the Board voted unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin Kwiatek/ Minutes Secretary