



# Town of Boxford

## Meeting Minutes of the Board of Health

December 15, 2021

**NO PUBLIC ATTENDANCE - REMOTE PARTICIPATION ONLY**

**7:30PM**

**Virtual Participation Only**

**This meeting will be audio and video recorded**

**To View: FIOS #39; Comcast #22; BCAT Tv website**

**For Directions to Participate via Zoom**

## **ZOOM Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85358691815?pwd=Y2RncIU1Z2VPQ3dVUUFUNFJ6d2Y1Zz09>

**ID: 853 5869 1815**

**Passcode: 657624**

**Present:** Dick Taylor, Richard Fahrner, Alex Constan, Heather Forand, Kendell Longo, Lance Cluster, Kristin Kwiatek, Karen Sheridan, Michael White, Phil McManus, Joanna Daniel

**Absent:** Rhonda Hodge

### Meeting Opened at 7:30 by D. Taylor

Roll call indicated that the following members of the Board of Health were present remotely: D. Taylor, R. Fahrner, A. Constan, H. Forand

### Minutes

Minutes were reviewed from the November 17, 2021 meeting. A **motion** was made by R. Fahrner to accept the minutes, **seconded** by A. Constan. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

A **motion** was made by R. Fahrner that the Board forgo the outstanding penalty to Waste Management for missed trash pick-ups **seconded** by A. Constan. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

### Bills

D. Taylor reviewed with the Board the December bills payable totaling \$61,485.65. A **motion** was made by R. Fahrner to accept the total bills of \$61,485.65 **seconded** by A. Constan. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

### Discussion with Finance Committee

D. Taylor informed the Board that Matt Coogan wants to put together a task force to including the Health Board, Recycling Committee, the Finance Committee, and himself to discuss the waste stream in the Town to look at ways for improvement. The Board will not make a decision tonight. It will be on the agenda at the next meeting. D. Taylor said it would be good idea since costs are fluctuating and the contract will be up for bid in early 2023. Michael White, the Finance Committee Chair commented that their committee is concerned that trash expense is over 2% of the budget and that they like the idea of a task force. K. Longo stated that in Ipswich one barrel is allowed per household and then any overflow will go in purchased bags along with unlimited recycling. D. Taylor stated the importance of collecting data for the task force to come up with a plan. D. Taylor said that Waste Management has a list of every residence that puts out trash but they could not tell us how much is put out. R. Fahrner stated that he believes it is far more efficient for what the town is paying for town wide service than what someone would pay on an individual basis. The Boards also discussed the selling of the trash stickers and they agreed all said they look forward to working on the task force.

### Update Septic System Regulations

D. Taylor stated that the policies the Board has been enforcing for many years will now be incorporated into the actual regulation. It is an addendum to the septic system regulations and

once agreed upon there will have to be a hearing in which an announcement of the hearing will be published twice the last publication being two weeks before the meeting. Chapter 201 Article V and VI were displayed on the screen for members and were discussed changed and agreed upon. D. Taylor stated that there will not be a vote on the changes until it is in final form.

### COVID Discussion

Displayed on the screen provided by D. Taylor were the Covid cases in Boxford by month for 2020 and 2021. D. Taylor said the Omicron variant appears to be very infectious. K. Longo informed the Board of a Covid cluster at Spofford Pond School and that they have the test and stay program set up for that specific classroom for monitoring. H. Forand asked how many infection cases make it a cluster. K. Longo responded three. K. Longo asked the Board if they would consider lifting the mask mandate. The mask mandate will stay in place.

### Personnel Issues

D. Taylor suggested to first approve the current contract and then the Board could think about other things they would like to see in the Health Director's contract and job description which would start a discussion with the Personnel Board to increase the position's pay level. A motion was made by R. Fahrner to accept the Health Director's contract for FY2022 with the revision that the Board reviews it with time before the next contract gets put in place **seconded** by A. Constan. Approved **unanimously** by a roll call vote.

D. Taylor was in contact with Matt Coogan who was responsible for the full-time extension for the administrative position in the Health Department. Matt Coogan has provided D. Taylor with information needed along with input from the Department in order to submit what is needed for the Selectmen.

### Adjourn 9:30pm

With no further business, on a motion made by A. Constan **seconded** by R. Fahrner, the Board of Health voted **unanimously** with a roll call vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristin Kwiatek  
Minutes Secretary