

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

January 5, 2021

Teleconference: 7:00 PM

Present: Holliston Board of Health (BoH): Laura Nolan (*Chair*)
Thomas Ellis (*Vice-Chair*)
Josh Mann (*member*)

Scott Moles, *Health Director and Agent*
Ann Adams, *Health Department Clerk*
Lisa Deering, *Health Department Clerk*

Fire Chief Michael Cassidy, *Emergency Director*

Thomas Ellis, BoH Vice-Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Scott Moles, Health Director, read the Remote Participation Statement.

Board of Health Roll Call: Laura Nolan-Present, Thomas Ellis-Present, Josh Mann-Present

Public Comment: None

The Marshall Street Landfill Solar Array presentation has been rescheduled to the 1-19-21 BoH meeting since they have issues with the parking and the slab for the panels.

COVID-19 update:

- Total COVID-19 cases = 432
- Schools have 23 positive cases. The School website has the details.
- The Schools will be meeting with Scott and Mike Cassidy regarding sports and contact tracing.
- Vaccine is being distributed in the State per the three phase plan, with prioritization taking care of high-risk / high exposure individuals first.
- There will be regional clinics instead of local clinics due to the storage requirements of the vaccine.
- Town COVID-19 case demographics were sent to the BoH. Mike Cassidy spoke about the current situation. He updated the Board regarding vaccine allocation and distribution.
- Holliston first responders will be getting their vaccine potentially next week.
- Teachers are not currently considered “COVID facing” and are not in the first priority category for vaccine with the healthcare and first responders.
- Holliston remains a Red (high risk) town on the State COVID-19 risk map.
- The DPH has a new dashboard and vaccine distribution information on their website.
- Josh asked if COVID-19 vaccination would be required for school next year. Mike Cassidy doubted whether that could be mandated.
- Mike Cassidy said the State is crafting the messages supporting vaccination to be shared when there is wide-spread vaccine availability.
- The Health Department needs funds for additional clerical hours to keep up with the extra work that has precipitated from the pandemic.
- The Board discussed the extra expenses due to the pandemic, including VNA for December and January.

Laura motioned to request \$20,000 from the CARES Act to pay for the Salmon VNA contact tracing costs and the additional clerical hours needed. Thomas seconded.

Roll call: Laura- Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

- Scott will send a memo to Mike to request the additional funds.

FY'22 Budget Preparation: We have not gotten the new sheets from the Town Accountant. They will be forwarded to the Board ASAP. The BoH meets with the Finance Committee March 15th. The new budget should include additional clerical hours, which will make both Health Department clerk positions benefited. This will require significant documentation.

Health Department Clerks: Laura asked to go on record saying the 2 Health Department clerks were doing an exceptional job, and vital to the Department's successful operations. The Board concurred.

Town Hall Septic upgrade – Paul Saulnier, engineer, and James Keast, Town Facility Manager will be meeting next week to discuss the upgrade plans. Scott will keep the Board posted.

Health Director Performance Evaluation Scott will be meeting with Travis Ahern, Town Administrator for his self-evaluation. The Board will do their evaluation with Scott at the next meeting.

Septic system upgrades: Cole Court septic system upgrade is progressing. There are many septic systems being upgraded due to more people working from home.

Tobacco Control Manager Olivia DuFour met with the 10 tobacco retailers in Town and her report was sent to the Board. She was pleased with their cooperation. The next step will be compliance checks.

Annual Permits: The annual food and tobacco permits are processed. The septic installers and hauler permits are being processed this month. The additional clerk hours have made this permitting process happen in a timely manner.

Covanta quarterly report from Compliance Officer Brian Moran was sent to the Board and is good.

Bills: The following bills were reviewed and approved:

Salmon VNA COVID-19	\$8,040.00
Salmon VNA other contagious disease	\$134.00
Total	\$8,174.00
Northeast Stamp & Engraving – Date stamp	\$64.95

Laura made a motion to approve the Salmon bill as listed above.

Thomas seconded. Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Laura made a motion to approve the Northeast Stamp bill as listed above.

Thomas seconded. Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

BoH Meeting Minutes: Laura made a motion to approve the December 15, 2020 BoH Minutes.

Thomas seconded. Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Next BoH Meetings: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom Teleconference (using different Zoom ID)

Board Comment: The Board requested that the meeting agenda be included with the bills on their meeting day reminder email.

Laura motioned to close the meeting at 8:00 PM. Thomas seconded.

Roll call: Laura- Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Respectfully submitted:
Ann Adams

Approval Date: 1-19-21