

# **Board of Health Meeting Minutes**

## **March 28, 2023**

**Present:** Holliston Board of Health (BoH): Josh Mann (*Chairperson*)  
Jay Leary (*Vice-Chair*)  
Peter Liffiton (*member*)

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

Josh Mann, BoH, Chairperson, opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Scott Moles read the Remote Participation Statement.

Board of Health roll call: Josh Mann – present, Jay Leary - present, Peter Liffiton - present

### **Public Comment:**

- Several residents were present to inquire about animal regulations.
- They were updated on the inclusion of the newly repopulated Agricultural Commission (AgCom) in the development of Town animal regulations.
- The animal registration for the State required Barn Book was discussed.
- The responsibilities of the Animal Control Officers and the Animal Inspectors was discussed.
- Two residents had questions about their specific properties that they will follow up with at the Health Department.
- The Board said they were happy to have conversations with the AgCom and residents regarding any issues. They appreciated the public coming to the meeting with their comments.

### **COVID-19 Update:**

- There is one active case (reported to the State) of COVID-19 in Town bringing the cumulative total to 3099.
- The Health Department has 17 cartons of COVID-19 test kits (180 tests per carton) to distribute to residents free of charge. They are available at Town Hall, Library, Senior Center, Pantry Shelf and other locations.
- Scott said that the Massachusetts Department of Public Health is reducing the requirements for tracking COVID-19 cases as of May 11<sup>th</sup>. Scott has reached out to Salmon VNA about this change. This will reduce the costs that are currently being covered by the American Rescue Plan Act.

**Housing - 53 Wingate Road:** Scott spoke with the new owner who will be upgrading the septic and fixing the house. Scott will keep the Board posted.

**Food Inspections:** Scott will be inspecting:

- Putts & More for the spring opening
- Jing's Garden as it is transferring ownership (no change in business category).

**Soil Tests:** Scott has witnessed 8 soil tests so far this year and has 6 more scheduled. In the future he will put this information on the Board's agenda.

**Minutes:** Josh made a motion to approve the BoH meeting minutes from March 14, 2023.

Jay seconded. Roll Call: Josh Mann- Aye, Jay Leary-Aye, Peter -Aye Passed.

**Bills:** None

**Board Comment:**

- Jay would like the Board to be consulted in more decisions that are made at the staff level. He would be happy to work with the AgCom to draft animal regulations if they are needed. He is happy to partner with the Select Board, Zoning and the AgCom to resolve animal grievances. Jay wants Scott to bring these decisions to the Board.
- Peter agrees with Jay; that he feels that the BoH authority was usurped. In Sherborn the BoH had a stronger roll. Peter asked if the Board of Health was going to be involved in the downtown sewer project. Scott said that the Health Department hasn't been included in this process yet, but would keep them posted.
- Josh said he has returned his nomination papers to be on the ballot for re-election to the BoH. He is glad the residents came to the meeting and hopes that issues can be cleared of confusion, and that disputes can be settled amicably.

**Josh made a motion to adjourn the BoH meeting at 7:42 PM. Jay seconded.**

**Roll Call: Josh Mann- Aye, Jay Leary-Aye, Peter -Aye Passed.**

Respectfully:

Ann Adams, Health Department Clerk

Approval Date: 4-11-23