



**TOWN OF DIGHTON
BOARD OF HEALTH
Regular Meeting Minutes**

TOWN CLERK
BY
DIGHTON, MA
[Signature]

2022 MAY 30 PM 11: 27

RECEIVED

March 10, 2022

Members Present

Thomas Pires
Kevin Bernardo
Barbara Catabia

Staff Present

Todd Pilling
Nicole Mello
Stacy Ferry
Rosalind Grassie

Town Officials Present: Leonard Hull

Call to Order: Chairman Thomas Pires called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Inspectors Reports

Town Nurse Nicole Mello reported the COVID-19 numbers continue to go down. She explained that at this time there is no longer a need for assistance with contact tracing. Mrs. Mello inquired about the time frame for the contact tracer Diane Shannon's assistance. Chairman Pires stated he would discuss with the Board of Selectmen pausing Mrs. Shannon's appointment as contact tracer.

Animal Inspector Stacy Ferry reported the Avian Flu is in Massachusetts. She advised, humans cannot catch it. Birds only are affected: chickens, turkeys, and fowl. She stated if you suspect your chickens are not acting right to contact the State Agricultural Commission, they will test your birds for free.

Committee Business:

Health Agent Job Description and Duties

Chairman Pires stated that during the health agent job duties discussion with the Board of Selectmen the chairman of the stormwater committee Nancy Goulart, stated that she would like more of the health agent's hours allotted to stormwater responsibilities. The Board discussed the seven hours that were recently added to the Health Agent's position. They agreed there is a need for more stormwater hours but not from the health agent. The added (7) hours for the health agent increased his hours from 28-35. The increase was to help get the health department work completed not to add more hours for stormwater duties. Building Commissioner James Aguiar discussed the towns responsibility for stormwater and that is not going away. He stated it is only going to get worse.

Selectman Leonard Hull stated that he also has concerns and would like to discuss ways to adequately address stormwater. He suggested a joint meeting with the Board of Selectmen to

1 *[Signature]*

discuss ways to improve stormwater, maybe reorganization, possibly reallocation of time or monies.

6:23 Town Administrator Michael Mullen joined the meeting.

Board member Kevin Bernardo recommended keeping the status quo until the Board can work out the job description and duties for the health agent.

It was motioned by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to keep the status quo until the job description for the health agent and stormwater agent are worked out.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

Review / Discuss / Act: Signed Commitment Statement for the State Public Health

Excellence Grant

Town Administrator Michael Mullen gave a summary of the grant for shared nursing services. He explained the Town will not be giving up our base services. We will still have a Town nurse. This will add supplemental services. The Board asked what services would be added, and if there was also help for the health agent within the shared services. Mr. Mullen stated the distribution of resources has not been awarded yet. He explained that there are (6) communities included in the shared grant: Dighton, Rehoboth, Berkley, Taunton, Attleboro, and North Attleboro. He also stated an intermunicipal agreement will be needed and he advised that the grant is only for 1 ½ years.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to participate in the North Bristol County Public Health Alliance.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

Review / Discuss / Act: Amended Kennel Regulations, Board of Health Unlicensed and Unvaccinated dogs and Kennel and Dog Renewal Letters.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to table items 4(c) Amended Regulations, Unlicensed and Unvaccinated Dogs and 4(d) Kennel and Dog License Renewal Letters until the next meeting.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

Review / Discuss / Act: Residential Kennel Zoning Bylaw Change with Policies and Procedures

Chairman Pires gave a summary of the proposed kennel licensing process to date. He explained that the previous residential kennel regulation failed at Annual Town Meeting (ATM) because there were no policies and procedures.

Building Commissioner James Aguiar read the proposed ATM motion.

Motion: To see if the town will vote to amend the Zoning Bylaws of the Town of Dighton, Appendix A, Use Regulation Schedule, “Kennel Residential” by removing the requirement of a SP (Special Permit) and replacing it with a Y* (Yes, with Footnote)

The Board of Health, Town Clerk and Animal Control Officer shall promulgate policies and procedures governing said process for approving a Residential / Personal Kennel as so defined in accordance with applicable Massachusetts General Laws.

A foot note will read as follows: *A Residential Kennel shall be awarded as a “Matter of Right” in a Residential District on a lot size of 35,000 sq. ft. or greater. A public hearing will be required with the Board of Health on a lot with less than the minimum of 35,000 sq. ft.

Mr. Aguiar stated Town Council is reviewing the amended bylaw.

Board member Kevin Bernardo stated makes it too easy, it will invite problems.

It was moved by Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires stepped down to second and VOTED to send the proposed amended Bylaw to the Annual Town meeting for discussion.

Roll call AYE (2) Barbara Catabia (1), Thomas Pires (2), Nay (1) Kevin Bernardo (1).

The proposed Policies and Procedures for New Residential Kennels was reviewed by the committee: These policies and procedures were agreed upon by the workshop participants: Chairman Thomas Pires, Zoning Enforcement Officer James Aguiar, Town Clerk Mark Pacheco, Police Lieutenant Shawn Cronin, and Animal Control Officer Stacy Ferry. The wording of regulations has been changed to policies and procedures. The Town Clerk’s role is licensing only. Enforcement of the policies and procedures was discussed.....

It was moved by Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires stepped down to second and VOTED to adopt the Town of Dighton Policies and Procedures for New Kennels and Town of Dighton Administrative Procedures for Kennel Renewal.

Review / Discuss / Act: Board of Health Member Job Posting – The job description and posting was reviewed by the Board.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo, seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the job posting.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

Review / Discuss / Act: Schedule Public Hearing for Proposed Body Art Regulations -

The Board members stated these proposed regulations will need to be posted in the Town Clerk's Office, the Taunton Daily Gazette, and the Board of Health office. Please post the public hearing for 6:00 p.m. Thursday, April 14, 2022 and send the proposed regulations to all the body art establishments and practitioners.

Review / Discuss / Act: Schedule Public Hearing for Proposed Septic Regulations –

The Board members stated these proposed regulations will also need to be posted in the Town Clerk's Office, the Taunton Daily Gazette, and the Board of Health office. Please post the public hearing for 6:15 p.m. Thursday April 14, 2022. The proposed regulations will need to be sent to the currently licensed installers and engineers that do work in town.

Update Capital Outlay Request – Chairman Thomas Pires stated this request was only for future projects and we have already requested what we feel is needed in the next five years.

Update on Recommendation to the Board of Selectmen re: Form a Solid Waste Committee.

Chairman Pires gave a history of curbside solid waste in Dighton and the need for the formation of a committee to research recycling and solid waste disposal options as the disposal fees are increasing at an alarming rate.

Review / Discuss / Act: Resident Handbook of what to expect when installing, repairing, or upgrading a Septic System-

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to post the handbook on the Town of Dighton website and print some as handouts.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

Inspectors Reports

Health Agent Todd Pilling – Stated the Mass Environmental Health Association (MEHA) 2022 Title V Seminar is five credits towards his soil evaluator Title V System Inspector. He would like to attend the training.

The opioid task force wants to involve Dighton. It will require 1-5 hours a month. Mr. Pilling recommended sending all the information regarding the task force to Town Nurse Nicole Mello. He thinks she would be a good Town of Dighton Representative.

Mr. Pilling stated that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has new regulations regarding Sewage Pollution notification. He explained the Board of Health will be required to notify the public in the event of a release of sewage from the Taunton Sewage Plant. He stated we a required utilize the CodeRed emergency notification system and the message boards for these alerts. Signage at all access points is will be required to be posted for 48 hours after a release.

The Board of Health office received an inquiry regarding a mobile spray tanning business. They are looking to open a business in Town. They inquired about what would be necessary to open a mobile spray tan business. Board member Kevin Bernardo did a lot of research. He could find no regulations regarding spray tanning. He stated all that would be needed to open a mobile spray tan business would be a Business Certificate from the Building Department.

Building Commissioner James Aguiar- Spoke regarding the Board of Health member posting. He stated with the upcoming change to the Board of Health membership he recommended the interview committee consider a candidate with minimum housing training or at least housing experience.

Animal Inspector Stacy Ferry added that there is a property in Town with 14 dogs. The dog owner feels that that because the property is a 61A property and they are considered livestock. As such, he has the right to breed and does not need a kennel license.

Health Agent Pilling will research the court case regarding dogs being considered livestock and report back to the Board.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded, Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to approve the meeting minutes of February 10, 2022.

Roll Call (3)

Kevin Bernardo, Thomas Pires Barbara Catabia

Adjournment

It was moved by Barbara Catabia seconded, Kevin Bernardo, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 P.M.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

Respectfully Submitted

Rosalind Grassie

These minutes reflect a summary of procedure and discussion for this meeting.