



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


April 14, 2022

Members Present

Thomas Pires
Kevin Bernardo
Barbara Catabia

Staff Present

Todd Pilling
James Aguiar
Nicole Mello

TOWN CLERK
DIGHTON MA
BY 
Stacy Ferry
Rosalind Grassie

2022 JUL -7 PM 1:27

RECEIVED

Call to Order: Chairman Thomas Pires called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

6:00 P.M. Public Hearing for Proposed Body Art Regulations

The Board read the legal notice posted in the Taunton Daily Gazette. Health Agent Todd Pilling stated the Town had previously had a body art studio with three (3) practitioners. He explained that they have recently moved out of town.

Board member Kevin Bernardo confirmed the legal posting was in the newspaper on two separate occasions.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to close the public Hearing.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the Rules and Regulations for Body Art Establishments and Practitioners

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to take Public Input out of order.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

Public Input: - Highway Superintendent Thomas Ferry inquired about the resignation of the landfill attendant. Health Agent Pilling stated that he had contacted the assistant landfill attendant Jon Lawrence to see his availability, to work at the transfer station. Mr. Lawrence will work every Saturday, but he cannot work the Tuesday shifts. Mr. Ferry stated the highway department workers can help out until another assistant can be hired. Chairman Pires suggested the Board invite Tom Ferry to the next Board of Health meeting to discuss mattresses and the change in the Simple Recycling textile recycling program.

1 

Committee Business:

Tastefully Simple Temporary Food Permit Fee Waiver Request- Health Agent Todd Pilling explained she only sells prepackaged foods. There is no preparing of foods.

It was moved by Barbara Catabia Thomas Pires stepped down to second and VOTED to approve and reduce the permit fee to \$10.00.

Roll Call

**Barbara Catabia Aye, Thomas Pires Aye,
Kevin Bernardo Abstained**

6:15 P.M. Public Hearing for Proposed Septic Regulations-

The Board read the legal notice posted in the Taunton Daily Gazette. It was confirmed this legal notice was posted on two separate occasions.

There was a discussion regarding the requirement for a Water Analysis for any Title V Inspection requiring a Certificate of Compliance. The regulation is meant to account for the need for a water test for any certificate of compliance, even if it is just a distribution box repair.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to close the Public Hearing.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded by Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adopt the proposed regulations and changes.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

Review / Discuss / Act: Poppasquash Craft Fair Temporary Food Permit Fee Waiver Request

Kevin Bernardo recused himself from the food permit waiver discussion.

Karen Minster of the Poppasquash Community Swim Club requested the Board of Health waive the temporary food permit fee for their up-coming craft fair as they are a non-profit organization.

It was moved by Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires stepped down to second and VOTED to waive the permit fee for the Poppasquash Swim Club.

Roll Call (2) Ayes

Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires, Kevin Bernardo abstained.

Review / Discuss / Act: amendments to the Board of Health Regulations dated 2/12/2020 entitled "Unlicensed and Unvaccinated Dogs" with referred notification letters.

Corrections and amendments were discussed. Animal Control will perform enforcement and approval authority is being taken from the Board of Health and being given to the Town Clerk.

The Animal Control Officer now reports to the police department and the Town Clerk is the licensing authority.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo Thomas Pires stepped down to second and VOTED to approve the amended Regulations for Unlicensed and Unvaccinated Dogs dated April 14, 2020.

Roll Call

Kevin Bernardo Aye, Thomas Pires Aye, Barbara Catabia Abstained

Review / Discuss / Act: MDAR Nomination of Animal Inspector

Chairman Pires stated Mrs. Stacy Ferry has been the Town of Dighton Animal Inspector for over 12 years.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded Barbara Catabia and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to recommend the nomination of Mrs. Stacy Ferry as Inspector of Animals.

Roll Call (3) Ayes

Kevin Bernardo, Barbara Catabia, Thomas Pires

6:45 P.M. Resident Tony Roderick entered the meeting for the Title V Regulation Public Hearing. The Board explained the public hearing was closed, but they stated that if he had questions, they would be happy to discuss.

Mr. Roderick inquired about requiring another percolation test if there are good tests, even if over 10 years old.

The Board explained they are not requiring another percolation test, only a deep hole to confirm no changes in soil type or water table. This is a checks and balance. We are talking about tests over 10 years ago. The deep hole or confirmatory hole can be done at the time of the open hole to verify the soils have not changed. Kevin Bernardo stated this requirement is consistent with other towns regulations.

Inspectors Reports

Animal Inspector Stacy Ferry reported with the Avian Flu is in Massachusetts there are no shows or trade of any poultry allowed. She stated the State has shut down everything except slaughterhouses.

She reminded the public that the Rabies Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, May 21, 2022 from 3-4 P.M.

Town Nurse Nicole Mello reported the COVID-19 cases are increasing once again. She explained that at this time she is not concerned with the increasing numbers. She will be attending the Department of Public Health webinar Monday April 18, 2022.

Health Agent Todd Pilling reported Simple Recycling who runs the textile recycling program is changing their procedures. The Board will need to discuss how they would like to move forward with the program. It will be added to the next regular meeting agenda.

Mr. Pilling advised the Board that we had tentatively scheduled the household hazardous waste collection day for Saturday, August 27, 2022. The office has requested dates and quotes from

numerous companies but only one company has responded. We held the date and are waiting on their quote.

Mr. Pilling explained that the office received a Sustainable Materials Recovery Program (SMRP) grant Master Municipal Agreement that is now a 7-year contract. He inquired who should be signing a contract between the Town and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP). Should it be signed by the Town Administrator, the Board of Selectmen, or the Board of Health?

Chairman Pires stated it should be sent it to the Town Administrator for his review.

Committee Business continued:

Health Agent Job Description and Duties

Chairman Pires stated when the Board of Health met with the Board of Selectmen in executive session regarding the Health Agent job description and duties, there was much discussion, and it was agreed to keep the status quo until the Board can work out the job description and duties for the health agent. No will be no change in duties or wage at this time.

Selectmen Leonard Hull stated the Town Administrator is on vacation. Selectmen Pacheco is currently representing the Board of Selectmen in meetings. Mr. Hull stated that the State regulations are getting steeper and more involved. The Board of Selectmen and Board of Health will meet again to discuss further the job description and duties for the Health Agent.

Review / Discuss / Act: Combined Sewer Overflow Regulation

Health Agent Todd Pilling stated the new State regulation requires the Town to install signage at all river access points. We will need to utilize the message boards as well as all our other public notification systems, including CodeRed.

Selectmen Hull stated time is money. Is the Town receiving funds from Taunton to pay for these requirements? Mr. Pilling was not aware of any funds for this, but Taunton is supposed to be reaching out to Dighton.

Review / Discuss / Act: Amendments to and Mailing of Recycling Flyer

Chairman Pires stated the previous mailer cost \$1379.00. There is \$2,000 in the communications budget. He recommended drafting a new mailer with updated information.

Review / Discuss / Act: Reorganize the Board

Chairman Pires stated he is retiring April 30th and Kevin Bernardo is leaving June 30th. Tom has been involved with Town government since 1978, with over 21 years of service. He recommended one new member start May 1, 2022 and the second new member start July 1, 2022.

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded Thomas Pires and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to nominate Barbara Catabia as chairman.

Point of Order:

Selectmen Hull stated on behalf of the Board of Selectmen he wanted to thank Tom Pires for his years of service to the Town. Mr. Hull stated your decision to split the Board of Health from the Board of Selectmen five years ago was a wise decision. You are a caring, kind, official. Thank you for your service.

James Aguiar stated Thomas Pires hired me. I love working here. I have learned a lot from you and I am inspired by you. Jim presented Tom with a plaque of recognition from the Building Department and the Health Department.

Correspondence

Health Agent Todd Pilling read an email from the state regarding mattress disposal. As of November 1, 2022, mattresses can no longer be disposed of. They must be recycled. Whether the Town continue accepting mattresses and chooses to recycle them or send them to other locations to be recycled will be a difficult decision. James Aguiar stated the public needs to be educated. If the town decides to continue accepting mattresses the full burden and cost of disposal needs to be on the resident.

Acceptance of Minutes

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded Thomas Pires and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the Executive Session minutes of September 9, September 30, and November 18, 2021.

Roll Call (3)

Kevin Bernardo, Thomas Pires, Barbara Catabia

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded, Thomas Pires and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to approve the meeting minutes of March 10, 2022.

Roll Call (3)

Kevin Bernardo, Thomas Pires, Barbara Catabia

Adjournment

It was moved by Kevin Bernardo seconded by Thomas Pires, and VOTED UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 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.