

## **BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 24, 2021**

**LOCATION: REMOTE**

### **PRESENT:**

Chairperson Margie LaFleur, Member Renee D'Argento, Member Stephen Themelis, Health Agent Kalene Gendron, Assistant Laurie Lessard

Chairperson LaFleur opened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. She announced that the meeting was remote participation only; meeting is being cablecast live and recorded by Pepperell Community Media.

### **ACCEPTANCES OF MINUTES:**

Ms. LaFleur presented the meeting minutes of August 10, 2021 to the Board. A motion was made by Mr. Themelis to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. D'Argento, motion moved.

### **ACTION ITEMS/NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Welcome Lisa Forbes, Animal Inspector**

The Board welcomed the new Animal Inspector, Lisa Forbes to the meeting. Forbes has many years of experience, also having her own business. Mr. Themelis asked Forbes what her work schedule would be and Forbes said a 20 hour week. Forbes said there are 95 barns in town that have to be inspected. Forbes also said that there was a goat issue in town and she spoke to the owner and she is cooperating and getting things done the right way.

The Board thanked Forbes and asked her to come back before the Board in 6 months to reassess.

Health Agent Gendron said that she and Lisa have been corresponding regarding no formal stable regulations. There are manure guidelines and stable regulations the Board of Health should think about regulating.

#### **Health Agents Comments**

##### **Covid-19 Update**

Health Agent Gendron said that the numbers were high in the last 14 days due to a cluster in town. They are higher than Middlesex. Agent Gendron said that the schools will be going back with masks for ages 5 and over until October 1<sup>st</sup>. After that the school committee will meet and discuss how to proceed. They do not want to go hybrid if necessary. Agent Gendron also spoke of free swimming lessons because there is grant money that will be available but you must apply.

Health Agent Gendron also spoke of a conversation with Chairperson LaFleur and departments to navigate the protocol of food trucks.

## **Old Business**

### **Tobacco Regulations**

Chairperson LaFleur thanked Sarah McColgan, Mass. Health Officers Association Tobacco Control Program Director for attending the meeting and discussing the regulations with the Board. McColgan stated that she has been the Director for 17 years. McColgan said that the Board should make a list of regulations they would like for the town of Pepperell. Themelis stated that if the Board drafted up a plan for the 4 vendors in town, there is no guarantee that they would get into the alliance. The Board had numerous questions stating that there were a lot of decisions that would have to be made.

After discussion, D'Argento asked the Board if they wanted McColgan to make a checklist for them but the Board said that they will need more time to think this through and they thanked McColgan again for attending the meeting and for all of the information she provided to them.

### **Future Meeting**

Chairperson LaFleur asked the Board if September 14<sup>th</sup> was a good day for the next meeting and they all agreed.

### **Adjournment**

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Themelis; seconded by Ms. D'Argento, motion moved.

**The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:36 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by Laurie Lessard, Assistant to the Board of Health.