

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

TOWN HALL – 1 MAIN STREET – AYER, MASSACHUSETTS 01432 – (978) 772-8213

Meeting Minutes  
February 10, 2014



Members Present: Heather Hasz, *Chair*; Mary Spinner, *Clerk*; Pamela Papineau, *Member*

Others Present: Bridgette Braley, *Health Agent*; Debra Butcher, *Administrative Assistant*

Meeting Called to Order: H. Hasz called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

FY2015 Transfer Station Fees: Present: Lisa Gabree, *Town Accountant*

H. Hasz stated that in preparation of setting 2014 fee rates for the Transfer Station, she invited the Town Accountant to meet with us to give us an idea of revenue generated at the Transfer Station and whether a transfer station sticker rate increase would be cost effective. She reported that the Board would need to establish rates by March. H. Hasz stated that, from a personal standpoint, she preferred to have an increase in bag fees which may incite residents to recycle more.

L. Gabree provided spreadsheets to the Board which included current solid waste enterprise revenue and transfer station sticker revenue as well as projected revenue if rates were increased by \$2, \$5 and \$10. She stated that the costs for the Transfer Station may be reduced, however, but that information won't be known until she is provided healthcare costs from the Assistant Treasurer. She stated that she would have a better update by the end of February.

Discussion followed concerning the quality of the existing bags. P. Papineau stated that the Board needed to look at the bag quality and whether a bag using better stock needed to be sought. H. Hasz stated the DPW Superintendent informed her that if the town opted to go with another vendor, it would be necessary to go through an RFP process. P. Papineau offered to make it an action item for her to contact the DPW Superintendent to see if it was feasible.

M. Spinner recommended that the Board raise the price of the larger bag because the larger bag was double the size of the smaller one and the price should reflect that. M. Spinner also recommended the possibility of creating a recycling sticker at a small fee.

Acceptance of Minutes: January 13, 2014: M. Spinner made a motion to accept the minutes of January 13, 2014 as written, 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Papineau. *VOTE: 3-0 in favor.*

168 Willard Street – Lead Determination Update – Bridgette Braley: B. Braley reported that she has been in contact with the landlord who stated that he hired a contractor to remediate the small amount of lead detected. She stated that once the lead certification paperwork is received, she will provide the landlord with a compliance letter.

Nashoba Associated Boards of Health Mail: The Board reviewed the mail packet containing (2) satisfactory food inspection reports – one from McDonald's and one from Billiards Café.

Septic Permits: Ms. Braley reported that permits for 162A Willow Road and Lot 9 Westford Road were not ready for approval from the Board. She stated that upon further review of the design plan, the permit for Willow Road needed Title 5 variances.

Permit for the Keeping of Animals & Fowl: H. Hasz reported that two permits were being presented to the Board for approval: 80 Central Avenue (new) – application for 20 chickens & 15 rabbits within a 10'x12' coop & 72 Snake Hill Road (modification of existing permit) – application for downsizing to (5)

bantam chickens from (10) within a smaller sized 2'x5' coop instead of the original proposed coop of 4'x7'.

H. Hasz stated that the Barn Inspector has been to both properties and supports the approval of these applications. The Board had no objections to the applications. M. Spinner made a motion to approve the application for a new permit for 80 Central Avenue for 20 chickens and 15 rabbits, 2<sup>nd</sup> P. Papineau. *VOTE: 3-0 in favor.*

P. Papineau made a motion to approve the permit modification for 72 Snake Hill Road downsizing to (5) bantam chickens within a 2'x5' coop, 2<sup>nd</sup> M. Spinner. *VOTE: 3-0 in favor.*

Mail Review: The Board reviewed the mail packet. P. Papineau was pleased to see that the Town received a closure report for the Railroad Round House/Red Cove Plow shop.

#### Administrative Assistant Update

Online Permitting: Ms. Butcher reported that the IT Systems Administrator requested copies of all permit applications granted through the Board of Health. She stated that she will send them electronically to Ms. Knox. Ms. Butcher also stated that Ms. Knox didn't want permits issued from Nashoba at this time.

#### Miscellaneous:

Region 2 Consultant Evaluation: H. Hasz received a request from Kerry Clark, Chief, Division of Public Health asking communities to respond to a performance evaluation for their Region 2 Consultant. Board members stated that they were very pleased with Ken Gikas and his level of professionalism and response. H. Hasz will complete the evaluation for the Board.

24 Maple Street: M. Spinner requested an update on this property concerning the housing violations. Ms. Braley stated that it was her understanding that the property was vacant which would negate any timeframe for compliance to the violations. She stated she would follow up with the homeowner to see if the property was still vacant.

39 East Main Street: P. Papineau requested an update on this. Ms. Braley reported that the asbestos removal has been completed and that if the Department of Environmental Protection had any other issues concerning this, they would contact us.

Vitasoy: Ms. Braley reported that she has received additional odor complaints and stated that she is addressing the issue of odor control with them.

Devens Shopping Plaza: The Board expressed concern for the building structure as being unfit for another food establishment. H. Hasz recommended sending a letter to the landowner to communicate to them that no permits shall be issued until the issues are resolved with the landlord. She stated the letter will be copied to the Fire Chief, Board of Selectmen and the Building Inspector.

*Having no other business involving Health Agent Bridgette Braley, the Board thanked her for attending the meeting and she left at 6:30 pm.*

Shepley Hill/Plow Shop Update: - Pamela Papineau: P. Papineau reported that she will review the closure report and have a report at the next meeting. She stated that the next Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 20, 2014 at Devens.

Curbside Pick Up Working Group Update – Mary Spinner: M. Spinner stated that she attended the first meeting and stated that they have set goals and scheduled additional meetings with DEP representative Irene Congdon.

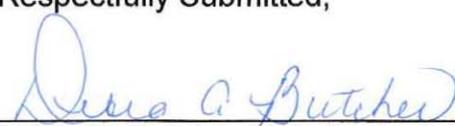
Nashoba Associated Boards of Health Quarterly Report – Mary Spinner: M. Spinner reported that Nashoba Boards of Health has completed their budget and commented that she was impressed with how Director Jim Garreffo negotiated the nursing contract where they agreed to a 2% increase for one year. She said that they were looking for 10% over three years. She reported that Community Health Nurse Carol Horgan is retiring in June and Nashoba has applied for a grant from the Community Foundation. She said that this grant, plus Ms. Horgan's former salary, would help fund a new, non-nursing position. She also added that a big problem these days involves hoarding. She said that a new "Friends of Nashoba Board of Health" has been formed and Carol Horgan will be part of this group. She stated that they would do fundraising and will apply for grants, etc. to help fund different programs.

Adjourn: M. Spinner made a motion to adjourn at 6:55 pm, P. Papineau 2<sup>nd</sup>. *VOTE: 3-0 in favor.*

AYER BOARD OF HEALTH

 _____ Heather Fasz, <i>Chair</i>	 _____ Mary Spinner, <i>Clerk</i>	 _____ Pamela Papineau, <i>Member</i>
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Respectfully Submitted,

  
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Debra A. Butcher, *Administrative Assistant*