Minutes of August 28, 2023 - Ayer Board of Health Meeting

Location: 1st Floor Meeting room, Ayer Town Hall Meeting was recorded and broadcast by APAC.

Members Present: Stephen Slarsky – Chair; Patricia Peters; Pamela Papineau

Also Present: Samantha Benoit, Administrative Coordinator

Stephen Slarsky called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.



There was no public input.

Old Business:

S. Slarsky noted the Animal and Fowl Permit for 17 Taft Street was signed and mailed certified to the homeowner. The permit laid out the conditions of the permit. The Board has since been contacted by the homeowner, and was informed that the pond has been filled in. The property will be reinspected in October to see if the other conditions imposed have been met.

TOWN OF AYER

TOWN CLERK

S. Slarsky reported that the dumpsters on Park St. have been moved and a company was hired to deal with the rodent problem.

New Business:

S. Slarsky explained the process in which a Food Permit may be obtained from the Board of Health. The Ayer Board of Health (BOH) is a three-member board that holds meetings that are open to the public. S. Benoit is the Administrator for the BOH and is available at the Ayer Town Hall during all open hours. The Nashoba Associated Boards of Health (NABOH) handles all inspections on behalf of the Board. Bridgette Braley is the Health Agent assigned to the Town of Ayer by NABOH, and is the one who will carry out inspection and issue Food Permits. Permits will be issued when all requirements are met in accordance with Mass. General Law. The main concern of the BOH and NABOH is safety. B. Braley is a qualified sanitarian, and it is upon her recommendation that a permit should be issued.

A town must have a BOH by state law, and it is the BOH job to uphold the state regulations. Health and Safety regulations are not put in place by the town but by the state.

The BOH also licenses food trucks, but does not dictate where they can operate, that is an issue for Public Safety.

- S. Benoit noted that copies of all licenses and permit issued by the BOH are kept in the BOH office located on the third floor of Town Hall.
- P. Papineau encourages those who would like to know more to attend a meeting.

Nashoba Update:

B. Braley, Health Agent, was not present and no update was given.

Call Log:

There was no discussion.

Motion: P. Papineau made a motion to accept the Minutes of July 24, 2023.

Seconded: P. Peters Motion Passes (3-0)

Administrative Matters:

The Board of Health has received no mail or bills since the last meeting.

The Board of Health shall meet in September on the 11th and 25th.

Motion: P. Peters made a motion to adjourn.

Seconded: P. Papineau Motion Passes (3-0)

Meeting Adjourned at 5:49pm.

Stephen Slarsky, Chair

Respectfully Submitted,

Samantha Benoit, Administrative Coordinator