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TOWN OF AYER
BOARD OF HEALTH

TOWN HALL – 1 MAIN STREET – AYER, MASSACHUSETTS 01432 – (978) 772-8220 Ext 145

Minutes of February 28, 2022 - Ayer Board of Health Meeting

Location: Remote Participation via Zoom

Meeting was recorded and broadcast by APAC

Members Present: Stephen Slarsky, Chairman, Patricia Peters, Clerk and Pam Papineau

Also Present: Heather Hampson, Administrative Coordinator and Bridgett Braley from Nashoba Associated Boards of Health

Chairman Slarsky opened the meeting 5:32 PM

At 5:33 PM P. Peters read aloud the notice allowing for remote participation meetings as stated on the posted agenda

Public Input

There was no one present for public input.

Discussion, Odor Complaint from Nasoya

S. Slarsky asked for an update from B. Braley, Health Agent, on the situation regarding recent complaints of a fowl odor coming from Nasoya.

B. Braley gave a brief background on the situation at Nasoya stating that a few years ago there use to be several odor complaints from the neighbors regarding the plant. Since then, several measures have been taken to reduce the odor coming from the plant. Recently there have been more odor complaints and DEP has gotten involved and issued an enforcement order.

S. Slarsky mentioned that he had spoken with Mr. Dan Van Schalkwyk, Superintendent for the Department of Public Works, regarding the odor issue and the problem is not with the Town's wastewater system. S. Slarsky mentioned that the Board should discuss the matter at their next meeting and invite both Mr. Van Schalkwyk and a representative from Nasoya to the meeting.

The Board held a brief discussion regarding the odor complaints from the past and how they differ from the ones currently. B. Braley mentioned that there have been production increases and staffing changes in the plant that may have led to some of the odor issues.

Discussion, Solid Waste Regulations

P. Papineau mentioned that at the last meeting she was just waiting to hear back from B. Braley on the regulations to see if she had any corrections.

B. Braley mentioned that she had reviewed the regulations and did not see anything that would need to be changed.

P. Papineau mentioned that she also sent the regulations to the Department of Public Works to review to

see if there was anything the Board could do to help with recycling credits. The DPW suggested that the Board could add that haulers should be required to offer recycling to apartment buildings. P. Papineau stated that she did not think it was the Board of Health place to require trash haulers to make people recycle.

The Board held a brief discussion on the suggestion from the DPW to require haulers to offer recycling for larger dumpsters.

S. Slarsky asked if the Board was ok with the regulations as they are written with no changes.

P. Papineau mentioned that the Board normally reviewed all their regulations every 3 years and reaffirmed them with or without changes.

At 6:00 PM P. Peters made a motion to accept the Solid Waste Regulations as written with no changes. P. Papineau seconded. No discussion. Unanimous vote to approve. (3-0-0)

COVID-19

B. Braley mentioned the positive case numbers are very good in town now at around 3.9%. B. Braley did mention that the number of people with COVID may be higher as those that test positive at home may not be reporting it.

S. Slarsky agreed with B. Braley that people testing at home may not be reporting the positive case but in the cases, he has seen the people seem to all have mild symptoms.

NABOH Update

B. Braley stated that all food inspections reports are not completed electronically, and she has submitted them to the office once completed. B. Braley mentioned that a complaint was brought to her regarding a labeling issue at Shop and Save. B. Braley met with the owner to discuss the issue and the matter has been resolved.

Minutes January 24, 2022

The minutes were tabled to the next meeting.

Administrative Items

Annual Report

S. Slarsky mentioned that he has completed the town report and emailed copies to the other Board members for any additional information.

Both P. Papineau and P. Peters had no corrections or additions to the 2021 Board of Health Annual Report.

S. Slarsky will submit the report for the Board as drafted.

Adjourn:

P. Papineau motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 PM, and P. Peters seconded. No discussion. Unanimous vote to approve. (3-0-0)



Steve Slarsky, Chair

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Hampson, *Administrative Coordinator*