

# MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, November 15th, 2023 – 5:00 PM  
Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room and ZOOM

## Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Melanie Ames-Zamojski, Rachel Stoler and Michael Nelson (Michael Nelson via zoom)

**Staff:** Ryan Paxton - Health Director for Montague and Mackenzie Salls – Board of Health Clerk

**Other:** Julian Mendoza with the Greenfield Recorder

**Melanie Ames-Zamojski opened the meeting at 5:00 PM**

**(VOTING ROLL CALL- MICHAEL NELSON ATTENDING VIA ZOOM)**

### **Minutes:**

October 2023 Minutes

- The BOH members reviewed the minutes and discussed topics to revisit.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the October Minutes as presented. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Nelson – aye and Zamojski– aye, Stoler – aye*

### **Director's Report:**

- Conducted inspection at 74 Turnpike Rd- issued order to correct with resolution. Code enforcement involving a second unit at that address is ongoing with the first inspection on 11/16/23.
- 96 Third St was condemned. The occupant of that building is now residing in temporary housing.
- Completed lead determination at 22 Grand Ave in which order to correct was filed. The owner is working to resolve the lead finding.
- Housing court case Montague Board of Health v. Bich Thuy Reed was resolved and dismissed.
- Several town departments are working together to resolve noise, odor, and light pollution complaints at Flower Power.
- Conducted 27 inspections related to trash at 16 different addresses resulting in citations, orders to correct, reinspection and resolutions.
- Continued with bi-annual food inspections at several locations. Resolved complaint at Carroll's Market, permitted concession stand at TFHS and completed walk through of the National Spiritual Alliance's kitchen.
- Issued cease and desist to Montague Village Store due to lack of appropriate permit for food preparation/service.
- Issued order to correct for 551 Turners Falls Rd which is ongoing. Issued Disposal System Construction Permit for 408 Millers Falls Rd. Inspected systems at 139 W Chestnut Rd and 26 Lake Pleasant Rd.
- Attended various meetings, conferences/webinars, and the Fall Special Town Meeting.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Director's Report. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski– aye*

**Nurse Report:**

- Covid vaccine clinic was cancelled in Montague.
- Continued health screenings and community outreach.
- Continued investigation and home visits with ongoing TB case.
- Continued weekly meetings for covid.
- Working with Robin regarding Narcan training.
- MAVEN report.
- Looking at more engagement with nursing hours. Potential for working with the Senior Center, or potential for assisting those with their health appointments/patient portal.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Nurse's Report. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski – aye*

**Animal/Barn Inspector Report:**

- Working on barn inspections.
- 2 dog related issues.
- 2 cat related issues.

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to accept the Animal/Barn Inspector's Report. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Nelson – aye, Zamojski – Aye and Stoler – aye*

**Discussion: Noise Regulation in Montague**

- Revisiting from October meeting due to absence of Rachel Stoler.
- Continued concern for enforcement if a regulation is passed.
- If a regulation was to be passed, it would need to be very specific regarding source of noise, levels of noise and time frames. MAHB regulations may be beneficial to model.

**Discussion: Montague Village Store**

- Completed inspection at the store and issued cease and desist. No contact with owner Kathleen Lynch since (notification of meeting was sent on 11/1/23).
- Will schedule another visit to follow up since there has been no contact.
- The facility does not prevent entry of rodents (receiving doors have gaps), the food prep areas cannot be sanitized properly, missing floor tiles, no adequate hand washing sinks and the dishwasher is not reaching the appropriate temperature. The store is not up to code for food service currently, only retail.
- Investigate options for potential grants/loans or other options to bring the store up to code for food service if owner inquires.

**Discussion: GG's Home Catering**

- There was initial concern for operation against the food code, however, it was found that there are no violations (appropriate documentation was provided) and the situation has been resolved.

- GG's to resume operations and be charged a yearly fee as a caterer.

**Discussion: Topics Unanticipated**

- Reviewed fee schedule for food service which shows that churches have been charged a fee in the past. If churches are doing non-profit food service/charity per Mass General Law, there should be no charge.
- Discussion of potential internship/shadowing the Director of Public Health in the future.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to remove the fees for churches in accordance with the Mass General Law regarding non-profit/charity food service. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

*Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski – aye*

**Meeting adjourned: 5:34 PM**

*Rachel Stoler **Motioned** to adjourn the Board of Health meeting. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Motion passes.***

*Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski – aye*

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Documents:**

October Minutes

Director's Report

Nurse's Report

Animal/Barn Inspector Report

Inspection Report for Montague Village Store

Correspondence with Montague Village Store

Correspondence with GG's Home Catering