

MONTAGUE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Wednesday, December 20th, 2023 – 5:00 PM

Town Hall – Second Floor Meeting Room and ZOOM

Meeting Minutes

Present: Melanie Ames-Zamojski, Rachel Stoler and Michael Nelson

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

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

Minutes:

November 15th, 2023 Minutes

- The BOH Members reviewed the minutes.

November 22nd, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes

- The BOH Members reviewed the minutes.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the November 15th Minutes as presented. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

*Rachel Stoler proposed an **Amendment** to the motion to include “Roll Call Votes Taken” in the November 15th Minutes due to Michael Nelson attending via Zoom. Seconded by Michael Nelson. **Amendment to motion passes.***

Nelson – aye and Zamojski– aye, Stoler – aye

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the November 22nd Special Meeting Minutes as presented. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Nelson – aye and Zamojski– aye, Stoler – aye

Director’s Report:

- Conducted various inspections including 87 Fourth Street, 107 Avenue A, 12 Federal Street, 74 Turnpike Road and 9-11 West Main Street with no new orders to correct issued. 87 Fourth Street and 9-11 West Main Street are resolved.
- Requested to inspect 11 Meadow Road/a camper on property which is delayed due to a potential sale of the camper.
- Working with LifePath on a housing case.
- Conducted 27 inspections related to trash at 13 addresses. 11 citations and 2 orders to correct issued along with several reinspections.
- Had an interdepartmental meeting regarding Flower Power.
- Completed pre-operational inspection of Nouria Energy.
- Issued Certificates of Compliance for 32 North Leverett Road and 312 Meadow Road.
- Disposal System Construction Permit issued to both 312 Meadow Road and 230 Meadow Road.

- Received Deed Restriction for 551 Turners Falls Road.
- Water Supply Certificate issued to 16 Sunderland Road.
- Attended various meetings including a meeting with Gina to coordinate bi-annual food inspections, a meeting to discuss membership in the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District, a meeting with the Town Nurse and Council on Aging to set up a “Meet and Greet” with the Senior Center and a meeting with the Building Inspector and Assessor to discuss the Connecticut River Camps.
- Further investigation to be done regarding code enforcement at Connecticut River Camps.

*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 clinics continued- one scheduled on 12/08 at FCTS.
- Held one health screening during Public Health Nurse Office Hours.
- MAVEN.
- Attending weekly meetings.
- Continuing to post on social media (office hours and vaccine information).

*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:

- Annual barn inspections were completed, and a report was sent to MDAR.
- Interdepartmental discussion regarding dog bite scenarios and dangerous dog hearings moving forward.
- 3 quarantines, 2 dog issues and 1 cat issue.

*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: Medical Director

- Discussion to be pushed back until the next meeting due to some potential changes to the MOA and Dr. Lepore’s absence.

Discussion: 2024 Fee Schedule

- Non-Profit Food Distribution added to reflect MGL.
- Religious Organizations/Churches to be included in Non-Profit Food Distribution/removed as their own category.
- Farmers Market and Seasonal Food Permits removed to reflect the food code.

- Retail Establishment fees are \$225 for <10,000 sq. ft. and \$350 for >10,000 sq. ft. Food Service Establishment fees are \$200 for 0-50 seats, \$250 for 51-100 seats and \$300 for 100+ seats. There is more involved in Food Service Establishment inspections than retail, the current fee schedule does not reflect a larger inspectional load at Food Service Establishments and places a larger load on Retail Establishments.
- Franklin County Tech School Apprentice Kitchen fee is different than Food Service Establishment fee. Consideration for this to fall under non-profit since the school is a non-profit organization, or to be part of the Food Service Establishment Fee.
- Language added to Temporary Food Permit to suggest the permit is for 14 *consecutive* days.
- Language added to Temporary Body Art Practitioner Permit for clarification.
- Marijuana Permits removed entirely.
- Disposal “Works” was changed to Disposal “System” for clarity.
- Trash hauler fee changed to reflect price per vehicle instead of per company.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to accept the 2024 Fee Schedule. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Motion passes.***

Fee Changes 2024:

- Retail Food Establishment Fee:
 - <10,000 sq. ft. fee to be \$200.
 - >10,000 sq. ft. fee to be \$350.
- Food Service Establishment:
 - 0-50 seats to have a \$250 fee.
 - 51-100 seats to have a \$300 fee.
 - 100+ seats to have a \$350 fee.
- FCTS Apprentice Kitchen:
 - Further research to be done regarding the fee.
 - Fee to be left as is at this time.
- Trash Hauler Fee:
 - Changing the fee to be per vehicle rather than per company. Fee per vehicle to be \$100.

*Michael Nelson proposed an **Amendment** to the motion to include the fee changes in the 2024 Fee Schedule. Seconded by Rachel Stoler. **Amendment to motion passes.***

Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski– aye

Discussion: 2024 Meeting Schedule

- Board Members reviewed the proposed 2024 meeting schedule.
- Meetings will be held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month, except for the June 12th meeting (due to Juneteenth Holiday on the 3rd Wednesday).

Discussion: Well Regulations

- Clerical error was observed in the Town's Well Regulation.
- The Nitrite Nitrogen level was listed as .001mg/L, it is supposed to be 1mg/L.

*Michael Nelson **Motioned** to amend the well regulation. Seconded by Rachel Stoler.
Motion passes.*

Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski – aye

Discussion: Topics Unanticipated

- Thorntail Tattoo and Art Collective is hoping to have a new artist join the studio. The artist is licensed in the state of Vermont and has 1 year of experience. To receive a practitioner license in the Town of Montague, 2 years of experience is required.
- Mackenzie Creedon, owner of Thorntail, is asking to accept the artist's year of experience and license in Vermont, so the artist does not need an apprenticeship in the Town of Montague.
- Massachusetts does not have state regulations regarding body arts, however, surrounding towns such as Greenfield, Northampton, Holyoke and Amherst all require 2 or more years of experience as well.
- The Board will not grant a variance at this time to Thorntail and will continue to require 2 years of experience.
- Board to revisit Body Art Regulations as needed moving forward.

Meeting adjourned: 5:56 PM

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

Stoler – aye, Nelson – aye and Zamojski – aye

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Documents:

November Minutes
November Special Meeting Minutes
Director's Report
Nurse's Report
Animal/Barn Inspector Report
Medical Director Agreement
2024 Fee Schedule
2024 Meeting Schedule
Well Regulation Document