

Board of Health
Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2023

Members in attendance: Dr. Todd Belfbecker (Chairperson), Helaine R. Hazlett, & Joanne Greer Miller, and Health Director Andrew Petty.

Agenda:

1. Leaf Blowers

Beatrice Stahl, Kathy Breslin

Spoke before the Board of Health to discuss the health impacts, of leaf blowing. They covered the Pollution, Noise, & Particulate issues, while also discussing the need to educate the public on the differences between gas/electric blowers. They also covered how this bylaw needs approval from the Attorney General and will most likely not be enforced until 2024 season. The fines of \$100.00 for first offense, and \$200.00 for the second offense will be given to the property owner, not the company/person doing the work. The ban would be from Memorial Day through Labor Day. Both Police and the Health Department are authorized to issue fines when this passes. Sustainable Marblehead is in support and looking to help educate the residents to this bylaw and situation.

2. Budget Update

Andrew discussed meeting with finance committee over the proposed budget. Cuts to mental health contract services was recommended. Other cuts would cause the elimination of grants we currently receive, and there can not be financial cuts to employees or their hours. After speaking to the finance director, the amount needed to be cut went from just over \$10,000.00 to under \$2000.00. Further discussion on the use of ARPA monies to offset this amount was discussed.

Discussed was the use of the Waste Revolving Account to pay for the leased vehicles at the transfer station, rather than roll it into the Board of Health budget. Unlike a traditional lease, the vehicles are owned after the payments are complete. This change brings the Waste Revolving Account to \$1,488,200.00. This amount covers the solid waste disposal, lease payment of the John Deere loader, Solid Waste Facility Upgrades, & Repairs. This account is jointly supported by the Board of Health & Finance Committee in an effort to stabilize payment of disposal costs of the town.

Motion: Made by Helaine R. Hazlett & Seconded by Joanne Greer Miller to approve \$313,000.00 Health Department Budget FY24., adjust the Waste Revolving Account Expenditures to \$1,488,200.00 for FY24. Vote Passed with 3 YEA votes.

3. Tobacco Control Discussion

Andrew discussed the current Department of Agriculture ban of sales on Kratom and Delta-8 products, which are also currently illegal in Massachusetts. Looking to discuss rolling this into local tobacco regulations would allow for inspections and the fines when vendors break the regulations.

4. Mental Health Task Force Update

Joanne discussed the Healthy Kids Fair April 29th, 2023 @ YMCA 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Task Force will have a Mental health table, Marblehead Current providing an article. Joanne asked for funding to provide promotional materials, website maintenance and design, and a speaker series. The request was for \$10,000.00 to cover these needs.

Motion: Made by Joanne Greer Miller & Seconded by Dr. Todd Belfbecker to approve \$10,000.00 of ARPA money to be used for the Mental Health Task Force for promotional materials, website design & maintenance, and a speaker series. Vote passed with 3 YEA votes.

5. Transfer Station Facility Update

Meeting with the Architects, Department of Environmental Protection, Civil Engineers, and Andrew Petty on Thursday 10:00 a.m. to discuss permitting and moving forward with the schedule and project. The DEP permit process can take anywhere from 1-4 months. Jerry Smith updated on the Green Street gate automation and schedule with the architects (to follow at later meeting).

6. Transfer Station Fee Schedule Update

Andrew discussed the addition of Freon-recapture company to allow for the receipt of A/C's, Refrigerator (Doors must be removed), De-Humidifiers, etc...The Fee for this will be \$25.00 per item and they will be recycled after processing.

Motion: Made by Helaine R. Hazlett & Seconded by Joanne Greer Miller to approve the addition of the \$25.00 Fee for Freon-based items. Vote Passed 3 YEA votes.

7. Director's Report

Andrew discussed the North Shore Public Health Coalition, consisting of Swampscott, Lynn, Marblehead, Danvers, Beverly, & Salem. They are working together to update body art regulations (microblading, micropigmentation) on permanent makeup. The Impact Melanoma project with sun safety and organic sunblock at locations this summer. Working on Narcan training and kits for opioid overdose issues. There are currently 24 Kits in the Health office. Also discussed the Massachusetts Behavioral Health Helpline you can call or text 1-833-773-2445. Available 24 hours a day. If you need help, reach out. The North Shore Public Health Coalition is also setting up a diaper drive and New Mother Request Visits (1-Time visit to new mothers for information and education).

8. Public Comment Period

Tom McMahon, Barbara (PC)
Spoke about Transfer station funding.

Meeting Adjourned @

Next Meeting May 9th, 2023.