

Board of Health

Meeting Minutes Summary – January 27, 2025

Attendance: Members in attendance: Chair Helaine R. Hazlett, Thomas Massaro, MD., Tom McMahon, & Health Director Andrew Petty.

1. Call to Order – 7:30 p.m.

Meeting commenced with recognition of the successful community event organized by Tom McMahon and supported by Andrew and Marty. The event saw strong attendance and community engagement.

2. Community Health Update

- The Marblehead Rotary Club pledged \$10,000 to the CAHM program, with efforts underway to secure matching funds from other local organizations.
- Plans to collaborate with the Marblehead Ministerial Association to increase community participation in surveys and focus groups.

3. Board of Health vs. Department of Health Clarification

- Town Counsel clarified that Marblehead has an elected Board of Health, not a separate Department of Health.
- The Board oversees all health-related functions, with staff working under its authority.

MOTION: To have the chair meet with Town Counsel to review / modify appropriate job description of Health Director to create a contract. Second. All in favor, passed.

4. Director's report

- Transfer Station Updates
 - Structural issues were discovered during compactor repairs, requiring replacement of corroded beams.

MOTION: To allocate \$4,500 for structural engineering services for repair at the compactor building.

- The estimated cost for repairs is around \$50,000, and expedited action is being taken to address the issue.
- Opioid Settlement Funds
 - The town has received \$330,000 from opioid settlements.
 - Funds will be used primarily to support treatment for individuals in need.
 - Discussion on using funds to expand peer support groups and mental health services in collaboration with local organizations.

5. Meeting Minutes & Compliance

- A response is being prepared for an Open Meeting Law complaint regarding missing minutes on the town website.
- It was clarified that while minutes must be available upon request, they are not required to be published online.
- Past meeting minutes will be reviewed and approved at the next session.

6. State of the Town Meeting

- scheduled for February 5, focusing on financial and budget planning.
- Continued discussions on restructuring the Board of Health annual report to improve organization and include strategic planning.

7. Adjournment

- Next Meeting February 3rd, 2025

MOTION to adjourn. Second. All in favor, Passed. 9:13 p.m.