

TOWN OF AYER BOARD OF HEALTH Meeting Minutes, November 10, 2014

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Call to Order: 5:31 pm:

Members present included *Chair* Pamela Papineau, *Clerk* Mary Spinner, *Member* Heather Hasz, and *Administrative Assistant* Jane Morriss.

DISCUSSIONS:

- **Tobacco regulations:** Joan E. Hamlett, director of the Tobacco Control Alliance, spoke to the BOH about the proliferation of new products that are aimed at hooking young people on tobacco. She stressed the importance of local regulation in the absence of federal regulation addressing the proliferation of new flavored tobacco products being aggressively marketed to children. Vaporizers are especially problematic in the schools because they can easily masquerade as a piece of jewelry – and can be used with any drug that can be liquefied. ● Ms. Hamlett said she will keep the Board apprised of developments in Westminster as they work through the process towards becoming the first tobacco-free town in the US. ● The Ayer BOH last updated its tobacco regulations in 2008, and the Board agreed that it will begin reviewing the regulation once it finishes its work on the Trash Hauler Regulations. At that time, J. Hamlett will return, providing draft regulations for Board consideration.
- **Mass. DEP comments on draft Trash Haulers Regulations (Continued):** Members went through DEP’s Central Mass Municipal Assistance Coordinator Irene Congdon’s suggestions and edits. M. Spinner objected to Ms. Congdon’s suggestion that haulers be required to offer a bundled price for residential trash and recycling. This provision would earn a recycling dividend from the DEP for the town, but M. Spinner argued the Board shouldn’t be telling private haulers how to conduct their business. P. Papineau and H. Hasz tentatively agreed in principle. The members also discussed the wisdom of mandating the number of containers in proposed item 5.7. As far as the listing of information to be included on the permit application enumerated in section 6.1 of the draft regulation, the members agreed to follow Ms. Congdon’s advice and ask Town Counsel for advice before making final changes. With M. Spinner voicing concerns about the cost of a legal review, the Board agreed to have P. Papineau clean up the draft and give it to the Town Administrator requesting him to submit the draft to Town Counsel for review, urging a timely turn-around. The Board wants to have a final draft of the regulation in Feb. so it is ready to go into effect by July 1, 2015.
- **FY 2016 BOH budget and FY 2015 goals and objectives (Continued):** Reviewing the Animal Inspector’s compensation; adopting new Trash Hauler Regulations and updating Tobacco Regulations are on the list of things the Board wants to accomplish next year. The Board also agreed it would like to partner with the schools to educate the students about smokeless tobacco.
- **Possible website content and design changes:** J. Morriss met with Cindy Knox and reported that the town website is being redesigned. She also reported that C. Knox will be happy to work with the BOH in to reorganize our webpages and updating their content.
- **Ebola information from Mass. DPH:** J. Morriss reported on evolving Ebola protocols.

NEW BUSINESS:

- M. Spinner motioned to accept the minutes of Oct.6 and Oct. 20, 2014. H Hasz, 2nd. **A 3/0**
- NABOH material from B. Braley included a number of renewed food permits and inspection reports. Empire City had 7 violations. H. Hasz and M. Spinner asked the Chair to follow up with a letter, and she agreed.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS:

- **Action items for the next meeting:** Requests for tobacco permit renewals are beginning to come in and they will be signed at the next meeting so they can be sent out.
- **Vitasoy has had a spill** which was not reported. This event will be taken up at the next meeting.

ADJOURN: M. Spinner motioned to adjourn at 7:03 pm; H. Hasz 2nd. **A 3/0**

Respectfully submitted,


Pamela Papineau, *Chair*


Mary Spinner, *Clerk*


Heather Hasz, *Member*


Jane Morriss, *Admin. Asst.*