

Ayer Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2012 - Ayer Town Hall - Call to order 5:00 p.m.



Members present: Mary Spinner, Chair; Margaret Kidder, Clerk; Marilyn McMillan, Member

Also present: Ruth Terry, Administrative Assistant

Documents: Agenda, Mail Update, Ayer Electronic Communication Policy

- **M. Kidder motioned to approve the minutes of September 24, 2012, M. McMillan 2<sup>nd</sup>, A 3/0.**
- No material was received this week from Nashoba Associated Boards of Health.
  - Bridgette Braley has been doing food inspections. No violations at Apple Valley. The Indian buffet decided not to open on Barnum Road. She has yet not heard from Ah Gin Wong.
  - Many calls have come in re Vitasoy. B. Braley contacts DEP with these complaints. DEP and Vitasoy will be meeting this week re this is an ongoing situation.
  - The permit checklists should be ready for approval at the next BOH meeting. This will be given to Economic Development and located by the Town Clerk, outside the BOH office, and on our webpage.
  - No court date yet for the Washington and Williams Street properties. October 16 is set for West Main Street in either Lowell or Lawrence.
  - The tenant has moved out of 128 Washington Street.
- Fowl Permits
  - The Shirley Street application will be reviewed by BOH next year, probably in March.
  - The applicants for the Snake Hill Road permit will meet with Conservation shortly. BOH review will take place near the end of October.
- Bills – None.
- Continuation of BOH regulations review
  - Outdoor Wood Burning (OWB) – Fire Chief commented that there is conflict between Ayer and state regs with regard to setback and stack height requirements. B. Braley noted that local takes precedence over state and that setbacks and stack height always go with the stricter reg. B. Braley will review the Chief's comments. The Board would like to know which is stricter; if the state's are stricter, we should go with that. Paragraph 3 in the Ayer regs needs to be updated or removed since state regs now exist.
  - Abandoned properties – Webster sent an abandoned reg being drafted for their town. It is closely aligned with Gardner's reg, but references the Building Inspector. They asked to see our draft when it is ready for review.
- Mail review
  - No Board members are available to attend the Hazard Mitigation Meeting in October.
  - The CDC issued a report on state laboratory preparedness. Massachusetts labs look good. Current issues at Hinton Labs do not affect public health testing.
  - The Ayer Electronic Communication Policy was distributed. Effective today, all Town email (sent and received) will be archived. Email training will take place for staff and volunteers. This relates to the recent lawsuit re Ayer Town email.
- M. Spinner further updated re the Emergency Team meeting re freight trains going through Ayer. These are not ethanol but bulk petroleum, with two trains of 100+ cars carrying 3 million gallons per week. M. Kidder asked whether there was a rule that a train coming through town cannot block a crossing for more than 5 or 10 minutes on a major hospital route. A 100-car train would do that and potentially delay an ambulance. M. Spinner will check with the Fire Chief.

- **M. Kidder motioned to adjourn, M. McMillan 2<sup>nd</sup>, A 3/0.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

*Mary Spinner - 10/15/12*

*Margaret M Kidder 10/15/12*