Ayer Board of Health Meeting Minutes May 17, 2010

JCCIT 06-15-10 10:42 RCVD

Call to order 5:00pm

Members present: Mary Spinner, Chair, Margaret Kidder, Clerk and Marilyn McMillan, Member Also present: Michelle Carlisle, Administrative Assistant

- Dan Nason, DPW Superintendent Household Hazardous Waste Site at Devens
 - Presentation on how the town can pay for this program.
 - Program is hoping to get a \$100,000 grant.
 - Originally this program was fiscally impossible for the town, but things have changed. A company in Ayer has been fined by the Mass Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP), and they can opt to pay the fine directly to the town for certain programs and the HHW program qualifies. This fine will pay for ~75% of the up-front cost.
 - There will be savings from going to single-stream recycling at the transfer station because we won't need to purchase a new bailer and that money can be used for this program.
 - M. Spinner asked what the timeframe is for the HHW site. D. Nason stated sometime in September – October.
 - D. Nason stated he is very happy that the town can be a part of this program because the permit for the Stormwater Maintenance Program requires it.
 - D. Nason also stated that the town can be fined or even lose their solid waste contract if there is too much household hazardous waste found in the solid waste.
 - M. Kidder asked if the timing of this new facility will meet the permitting requirements for the stormwater plan. D. Nason stated he would be attending a meeting 5/18/10 to find that out.
 - M. McMillan and M. Kidder stated how happy they were to hear that DEP is allowing companies to pay their fines directly to the town for certain programs. DEP is encouraging this by giving a 25% discount on the fine if the company chooses this option.
 - M. Spinner asked if residents still need to make appointments to dispose of their hazardous waste at this new facility. D. Nason stated no, the site will have regularly scheduled hours, but will be closed during the months of January and February.
 - > D. Nason stated that the contract for the bags is currently waiting for BOS approval.
 - M. Spinner stated that we are trying to limit the amount of bag tags sold to residents due to the impending change.
 - > D. Nason stated that the DPW will be selling the bags in sleeves of 10.
- Mark Miller request to keep chickens and geese.
 - Lives on Flanagan's Pond.
 - M. Kidder asked if the yard is fenced in on all sides. M. Miller stated no, on three sides, the pond side will not have a fence.
 - M. Miller stated that the chickens will be fenced in most of the times, but the geese will be allowed to run free.
 - M. McMillan asked if the garden that M. Miller plans using the waste on as a fertilizer is raised. M. Miller stated yes.
 - M. McMillan asked if there were to be heavy rains, could the waste run-off from the garden and into the pond. M. Miller stated that the garden will be bordered with plastic and that it doesn't get much run-off.
 - M. Kidder asked if they plan on keeping the fowl year round. M. Miller stated yes. The geese will be used for meat and the chickens for eggs.
 - M. McMillan stated she would like to hear from the board's health agent, Bridgette Braley and from the Conservation Committee before making her decision because of the geese.

There was a huge problem a while back with geese at the public beach – Sandy Pond. There was so much waste from the geese that it became a health hazard.

- M. McMillan asked M. Carlisle if B. Braley has responded regarding the question of the difference between chicken and geese waste – if any. M. Carlisle stated still waiting.
- M. Carlisle to ask B. Braley to contact M. Miller to do an inspection as soon as possible. Also to check with ConCom to see if they have any comments.
- > Board will meet on 5/20/10 at 5:30pm to finalize this matter. M. Carlisle to post.
- John Overcash request to keep chickens.
 - > Lives on Washington Street.
 - M. Kidder asked if this application needs to go to the Conservation Commission. M. Spinner stated no because he does not live on water.
 - M. Kidder motioned to approve John Overcash's request to keep chickens as presented, M. McMillan 2nd, A 3/0.
- Minutes approval for 5/3/10 and Horgan Public Hearing on 5/6/10.
 - > M. Kidder motioned to approve minutes from 5/3/10, M. McMillan 2nd, A 3/0.
 - M. Kidder motioned to approve minutes from the Public Hearing on 5/6/10, M. McMillan 2nd, A 3/0.
- Bills approval Lowell Sun and Public Spirit \$144.10.
- Mail reviewed
 - Clean Water Action looking for letter of support for a house bill that would require manufacturers of items with hazardous waste to dispose of their own products.
 - M. Spinner stated that this might make the manufacturers increase their prices on such products, thereby passing it on to the consumer.
 - M. Spinner asked what Rich Doherty, Engineering Consulting Resources, says about Plow Shop Pond. R. Doherty believes that a condition of Readily Apparent Harm does exist.
 - M. McMillan stated the army always states that toxins are on the bottom of a water source.
 R. Doherty is questioning the "anomalous" reading.
 - > Risks for cancer are elevated and this triggers a Mass requirement to address the risks.
- Nashoba Associated Boards of Health Bridgette Braley, Health Agent material review
 - Routine inspections.
- M. Spinner will be doing a cable show with Dan Nason to talk about the upcoming changes at the transfer station.
- M. Carlisle to post new bulk item list on Clerk's board.
- Miscellaneous
 - Old medications disposal M. Spinner asked M. McMillan if she had found out anything new about this issue. There is a new law now regarding the disposal of unused medications.
 - M. McMillan did find out that some medications can be disposed of in the regular municipal solid waste if you combine it with kitty litter. She will look into it further.
 - M. McMillan stated that the Cape is having some serious issues regarding this. The water supply has been found to be contaminated with such medications as antidepressants.
 - M. Carlisle's request for summer hours Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9AM to 1PM, June 14, 2010 through September 3, 2010. Approved.
 - > Board reviewed M. Carlisle's performance evaluation done by M. Spinner.
 - > Board reviewed Notice of Decision for Kevin Horgan that the chair signed.
 - M. Kidder motioned to adjourn, M. McMillan 2nd, A 3/0. Meeting adjourned at 6:08pm.

May Dinner - 6/14/10 Naceput Lidde 6/14/10

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