



TOWN OF WESTBOROUGH MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF HEALTH

FORBES MUNICIPAL BUILDING
45 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 25
WESTBOROUGH, MA 01581-1916

TEL. (508) 366-3045
FAX (508) 366-3047

BOARD OF HEALTH MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday

November 17, 2009
Forbes Municipal Bldg., Room 24
5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Meeting (10/13/09)
2. Director's Reports (10/09)
3. Sanitarian's Reports (10/09)
4. Health Inspector's Reports (10/09)

Old Business

- A. Dump Sticker Fees Discussion
5. Director's Issues
6. Adjourn



TOWN OF WESTBOROUGH MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF HEALTH

FORBES MUNICIPAL BUILDING
45 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 25
WESTBOROUGH, MA 01581-1916

TEL. (508) 366-3045
FAX (508) 366-3047

Minutes of Board of Health Meeting November 17, 2009

The regular Board of Health meeting was held on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, in room 24 in the Forbes Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m. by Chairman Reh. Those present were Members Ehrlich and Federici, Director McNulty, and Sanitarian Baccari. Inspector Gilchrist absent. Bills and payroll were signed.

Minutes of meeting held on October 13, 2009, were reviewed and approved.

Director's report was discussed and approved.

Sanitarian's report was discussed and approved.

Health Inspector's report was discussed and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Dump Sticker Fee Discussion

FINCOM member, Robert Brown, was present for this discussion. Mr. Brown is the BOH's liaison to the Advisory Finance Committee.

Discussion on the dump sticker fees was initiated by FINCOM earlier this year during a budget meeting with Director McNulty. During that meeting, FINCOM members asked Director McNulty to consider raising the sticker fees enough to subsidize the trash budget (Mr. Brown was not a member of the Advisory Finance Committee at that time). Based on his findings, Director McNulty has determined that the fee would have to increase to \$200 per year to cover that cost (\$100 for seniors). The current fee is \$40 per year; \$80 for a two-year sticker. Director McNulty's discussion with FINCOM indicated that it was entirely up to the BOH to set the fee; FINCOM did not want to suggest a price.

Member Federici commented she is opposed to raising the fees in this present economy.

Member Ehrlich asked Mr. Brown to explain to the Board the perspective from those who deal with the Town's entire budget. In order to cover the Town's expenses, is that why FINCOM is asking the Board to do it this way?

Mr. Brown replied that he will have it placed on the agenda for the committee's next meeting on November 30th and get some more clarification. He wants to ask his Committee what the difference is between what Tidy Town charges versus what a sticker costs.

Director McNulty explained the trash program for Mr. Brown. There are two charges that are paid out of the budget. Harvey's is paid a "per ton" fee to run the transfer station and truck the trash to Wheelabrator. Wheelabrator is paid a separate "per ton" fee to incinerate the trash. Trash picked

up by Tidy Town (owned by E. L. Harvey & Sons) is dumped on the conveyor belt and is taken to Wheelabrator; Wheelabrator bills the Town. If the Town did away with Tidy Town, Harvey's would have to take the trash to another building where it costs \$90 per ton and the fees would increase. The fee charged to Tidy Town customers is for trash disposal. Some residents use Tidy Town services and have a dump sticker. The Board of Health offers free recycling stickers to residents because it encourages recycling and it saves the Town money. If it doesn't go to Wheelabrator, the Town doesn't pay for it. Theoretically, Director McNulty explained, if we could recycle everything, we wouldn't have to send anything to Wheelabrator and the Town wouldn't have to pay Wheelabrator. The less sent to Wheelabrator is a savings to the Town.

Member Ehrlich said it would be helpful to have guidance from both a financial and philosophical point of view from FINCOM.

Mr. Brown said he would take the Board's concerns back to his committee.

Director McNulty said he tried to engage the Committee into a discussion as how much they thought the fees should be increased during his budget meeting with them, but the Committee insisted that it was up to the Board of Health.

Member Federici said she realizes that they'll probably have to increase the fee, but she can't justify \$100; that's a huge amount. The increase will encourage illegal dumping.

Chairman Reh said, that on the philosophical side, Tidy Town is a business; the transfer station/dump stickers is a service.

Member Ehrlich commented that he thinks everyone would agree that disposal of household waste is a town function. It could be privatized, but, in some fashion, the residents of the Town will have to pay for it, either individually or through taxes. It's not free.

Director McNulty said it was unfortunate that Mr. Brown was not on FINCOM last year for the history and background of the trash program/budget.

Mr. Brown said FINCOM meets again on November 30 and he hopes to get more clarification.

Director McNulty said the stickers need to be ordered in February and for the last several years, the stickers have had an expiration date printed on them. A study conducted several years ago determined that it was more efficient to sell two-year stickers versus one-year stickers.

Discussion ended at 6:00 p.m.

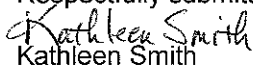
DIRECTOR'S ISSUES

The H1N1 vaccine is starting to trickle in. The first H1N1 clinic at the High School students was held on Nov. 10th; 180 students were vaccinated in one hour. A second clinic will be held at the High School on the 19th. Approximately 100 students have pre-registered. Students at the Gibbons Middle School will be next. The school administration has been very cooperative.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be January 19, 2010.

Respectfully submitted,


Kathleen Smith

Administrative Assistant