



BOARD OF HEALTH

TOWN OF WESTBOROUGH MASSACHUSETTS

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

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

MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday

July 21, 2009
Forbes Municipal Bldg., Room 24
5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Meeting (6/16/09)
2. Director's Report (6/09)
3. Sanitarian's Report (6/09)
4. Health Inspector's Report (6/09)

New Business

- A. Appointment of New Chairman
- B. Burial Permit Fees
5. Director's Issues
6. Adjourn



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Minutes of Board of Health Meeting July 21, 2009

The regular Board of Health meeting was held on Tuesday, July 21, 2009, in room 24 in the Forbes Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Federici. Those present were Members Ehrlich and Reh, Director McNulty, Sanitarian Baccari, and Inspector Gilchrist. Matt Dow, intern. Bills and payroll were signed.

Minutes of meeting held on June 16, 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. Recent inspections at the Central House were discussed. At the request of the Board, inspections will be conducted every three months, instead of the state-mandated every six months.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Chairman

A motion was made by Chairman Federici to nominate Member Reh as the next Chairman. The motion was seconded by Member Ehrlich; the vote was unanimous. The new chairman's term will commence at the Board's next meeting in September.

Burial Permit Fees

There was discussion regarding instituting fees for issuing burial permits. In June, the SJC ruled that the fees charged by any municipality for burial permits are valid regulatory fees and not taxes. The ruling comes as result of a case filed by a funeral director in Attleboro who claimed the fees were illegal taxes. Director McNulty commented that he has been considering the fee for some time. In response to a question from Chairman Federici, Director McNulty replied that the fees would generate more money for the Town.

A survey of twelve area towns indicated that only three out of the twelve charge a fee. One town has charged for several years and two just started charging as a result of the SJC ruling. The criterion for the survey was to query towns with approximately the same population as Westborough within central Massachusetts that have one or more healthcare centers / nursing homes and no hospitals.

Director McNulty would like the Board to consider a \$5.00 to \$10.00 fee per permit. The funeral director would pass the fee along to the family of the deceased. The money from the fees

collected would be deposited in the Town's general fund. Since the first of January, there have been 44 permits issued.

Member Ehrlich said it appears, right now, that the majority of area towns are not charging.

Member Reh said when compared to the amount of money generated by dump sticker fees and food service permit fees, it doesn't sound like there would be enough to bother with.

Director McNulty said he just thought he would bring it up.

DIRECTOR'S ISSUES

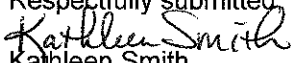
An update was given on 11 Bowman Street. The homeowner has been in the hospital and a nursing home for awhile. A few weeks ago, Director McNulty contacted a family friend and informed her that the Town intends to go to court and obtain a clean lien on the property. Director McNulty, along with one of the Board members, will visit the homeowner at the nursing home to inform him of the Town's intentions. Town Counsel has a motion ready to use for the court proceedings.

BT Region II Emergency Preparedness has purchased some satellite phones and BGAN units (a broad-band global area network that allows users to access the internet, send faxes and data by satellite.). The BOH will be getting one of each. If another town within the BT Region II district needs the phones and units, Westborough will have to transport the equipment to that community. There are 74 communities in BT Region II and only nine BEGN units.

The State Department of Public Health is considering adopting body piercing law regulations. The Board of Health passed its own regulations in 2001.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be September 15, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Smith
Administrative Assistant

TOWNS	NO	YES
Ashland		X \$10.00 - newly instituted
Auburn	X	
Holden		X \$10.00 - has charged a fee for many years
Hopkinton	X	
Hudson	x	
Millbury	X	
Northboro	X	
Northbridge	X	
Oxford	X	Town Clerk was unaware of SJC ruling; says the fee is illegal and she can't charge.
Shrewsbury	X	
Webster	X	
West Boylston		X \$10.00 - newly instituted

