

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

BOARD OF HEALTH MONTHLY MEETING

Tuesday

January 19, 2010 Forbes Municipal Bldg., Room 24 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1. Minutes of Meeting (11/17/09)
- 2. Director's Reports (11/09 & 12/09)
- 3. Sanitarian's Reports (11/09 & 12/09)
- 4. Health Inspector's Reports (11/09 & 12/09)

Old Business

A. Dump Sticker Fees Discussion

New Business

- A. Budget
- 5. Director's Issues
- 6. Adjourn



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Minutes of Board of Health Meeting January 19, 2010

The regular Board of Health meeting was held on Tuesday, January 19, 2010, in room 24 in the Forbes Municipal Building. The meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m. by Acting Chairman Ehrlich. Present: Member Federici, Director McNulty, Sanitarian Baccari, and Health Inspector Gilchrist. Absent: Chairman Reh. Bills and payroll were signed.

Minutes of meeting held on November 17, 2009, were reviewed and approved.

Director's reports (11/09 and 12/09) were discussed and approved.

Sanitarian's reports (11/09 and 12/09) were discussed and approved.

Health Inspector's reports (11/09 and 12/09) were discussed and approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Dump Sticker Fee

FINCOM member, Robert Brown, was present for a continuation from last month's meeting concerning fees. (Mr. Brown is the BOH's liaison to the Advisory Finance Committee.)

Director McNulty said a decision is needed tonight. The stickers have to be ordered. A decision regarding a one-year sticker or a two-year sticker is also needed tonight.

Mr. Brown said FINCOM does not want to tell the BOH what to charge. Mr. Brown told the Committee that, in his own personal opinion, if you raise the fees too high too fast, it will encourage illegal dumping. A suggestion from the Committee, in order to encourage more recycling, was to move the recycling area away from the trash area. The Committee felt that the long traffic lines discouraged residents from using the recycling area. The Committee also favors a one-year sticker. The revenue generated with the one-year sticker sales allows the Town to budget better. Mr. Brown said, in his own personal opinion, the fee for the one-year sticker should be increased gradually each year until it gets to a level where the trash budget can subsidize itself.

Director McNulty said there is a drawback to selling a one-year sticker. Over 4,000 stickers are sold during the two-year period. A one-year sticker would result in a steady stream of people coming to the office. It would be very disruptive and take a lot of staff time. In response to a question from Member Federici, Director McNulty said the use of senior volunteers could be a solution.

Dr. Ehrlich said the first few months that the stickers go on sale are the most intense. Maybe high school students could be used.

Director McNulty added that dump stickers can also be ordered through the mail. There is a mail-in form that is mailed with the real estate tax bills from the Treasurer's office in the spring. He also said that according to the Town Treasurer, arrangements could be made to have residents order dump stickers from the Town's website.

Sanitarian Baccari said he didn't think that would make a huge difference. Many of those who come in are in an older generation that probably doesn't conduct much business on the internet. Maybe five or ten years down the line it might work.

According to the Town Treasurer, dump sticker receipts for the following years are as follows:

FY07 \$79,000

FY08 \$110,000

FY09 \$136,000

FY10 \$7,600 (current fiscal year to date)

The Board agreed to continue with a two-year dump sticker.

The Board discussed changes in the fees.

A motion was made by Member Federici to accept the following fee structure:

\$100.00 for one two-year sticker

\$50.00 for a second sticker (when bought at the same time as the first)

\$50.00 for residents age 65 and over

\$20.00 for a one-month pass

\$5.00 for a one-day pass

\$10.00 for a replacement sticker

The motion was seconded by Member Ehrlich; the vote was unanimous.

Director McNulty will research the feasibility of computerizing a database for dump stickers.

Discussion on the fee for a replacement sticker will be discussed at the next meeting. The fees will go into effect in May.

In response to a question from Mr. Brown, Director McNulty replied that there is always an attendant on duty. Sometimes there are two.

Discussion ended at 6:30 pm.

NEW BUSINESS

The budget for FY 2011 has been submitted to the Town Manager for approval. All of the BOH's expenses have been level-funded for the next fiscal year. The Town is facing an almost \$1,000,000 deficit for the next fiscal year. The Town is currently trying to negotiate changes to the Town's insurance plan that has a potential savings of over \$900,000. In case the Town is unable to reach an agreement on an insurance change, the Town Manager has asked all departments to reduce their expense budgets by 1.8%. Director McNulty said that would mean a reduction of \$4,749 from a \$7,300 expense budget, leaving \$2,551 for the department's budget for next year. He said increasing fees does not help; the revenue goes into the Town's general fund. There's a very strong possibility that the BOH will no longer conduct flu clinics. The BOH receives some reimbursement from Medicare for the administration of the flu shots at the clinics, but that money is also deposited in to the Town's general fund.

DIRECTOR'S ISSUES

State legislators have approved an ethics reform bill that will mandate online training with a guiz on ethics and conflict of interest laws for all city, town, and school employees, along with volunteers who serve on town boards and committees. The quiz must be taken every two years. The Town of Westborough is fighting the requirement. However, at a Department Head meeting held today, the Town Manager said he will be emailing the link to the website to all departments. boards, and committees and he wants everyone to take the guiz.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be February 9, 2010.

Respectfully submitted, Kathleen Smith

Administrative Assistant