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Town of Southborough
Board of Health
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Minutes of the Southborough Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2023 – Board of Health – Hybrid Meeting – McAuliffe Meeting Room (Town House - 17 Common Street) & Virtual – 9:30 am

Present:

Board Members Chelsea Malinowski, Dr. Safdar Medina, Nancy Sacco; Public Health Director, Dr. Heather Alker; Public Health Nurse, Taylor West; Business Administrator, Barbara Spiri

Opening:

The meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 9:35 AM by Ms. Malinowski.

Topic: Public Comments

Discussion: Public comments were not brought before the Board.

Topic: Approval of Minutes from the 12/13/22 Meeting

Action: Ms. Malinowski made a motion to accept the minutes from the 12/13/22 meeting. Ms. Sacco seconded the motion. 3-0 - All in favor.

Topic: Nurse Report

Discussion: Ms. West said the reported number of Covid cases is not accurate. Many people test at home. She has been monitoring the waste water data and the recent surge has passed. Ms. West told the Board there will be Narcan boxes next to the AED units in town buildings. A training session is scheduled in February.

Topic: Opioid Settlement Money

Discussion: Ms. Malinowski informed the other Board members the money must roll to free cash before it can be appropriated at the fall town meeting. The State has yet to issue guidance as to how the money can be used.

Topic: Status of Commcan

Discussion: Commcan, Inc. is relocating. At the time of the meeting, there did not seem to be a timetable. Ms. Malinowski will inform the Board when she has more information.

Topic: FY24 Budget Meeting

Discussion: The budget meeting for the Health department is scheduled for a later slot on 1/28/23. Dr. Alker and Dr. Medina would like to attend. An agenda will be posted for the meeting.

Topic: **Collins Center & Preliminary Scope for the Town of Southborough for a Public Health Regionalization Assessment**

Discussion: Ms. Malinowski sent a draft of the scope to the Collins Center. No changes were suggested. A signed agreement is needed to get on the schedule with the Collins Center.

Action: **Ms. Malinowski made a motion to move ahead with the Collins Center subject to any changes with Boylston and Northborough, to accept the proposed scope of work, and enter into a contract with the Collins Center. Ms. Sacco seconded the motion. 3-0 – All in favor.**

Topic: **Algonquin School – Turf Field**

Discussion: This topic will be discussed at Town Meeting. Southborough will pay for part of the cost. A Zoom meeting on 1/30/23 - between Southborough, Northborough, and the Superintendent's team will be scheduled. Topics to be discussed –health concerns (not many studies have been conducted on direct health impacts) and the cost. Suggestions were made about reaching out to companies to help with donations. An agenda for this meeting will be posted.

At 9:57 am, Ms. Malinowski moved for the Board to enter Executive Session per Mass General Law (Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a)(21)) – to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for a contract for the Health Director and will return to Open Session. Ms. Sacco seconded the motion. 3-0 - All in favor.

At 10:20 am, Ms. Malinowski made a motion to reconvene the meeting in Open Session. Ms. Sacco seconded the motion. 3-0 - All in favor.

Discussion: An increase of \$6,953.39, in regards to the Public Health Director, was made to the FY24 budget. The total amount for the line item is \$73,288.80 for FY24. The total amount for the budget will be \$275,224.50. (Math will be checked for accuracy.)

Action: **Ms. Malinowski moved to approve the adjusted FY24 budget. Ms. Sacco seconded the motion. 3-0 – All in favor.**

Ms. Malinowski moved to not use \$50,000 from ARPA for the Public Health Director's salary. Ms. Sacco seconded the motion. 3-0 – All in favor.

Topic: **Meeting Schedule
Tuesday, February 14, 2023 – Hybrid – 9:30 am**

Ms. Malinowski made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 am. Ms. Sacco seconded the motion. 3-0 – All in favor.

Respectively submitted by Barbara Spiri, Business Administrator and edited by Chelsea Malinowski.