

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Via Zoom # 288 065 7034 or in person

Present: **Board Members:** Herb Butzke, Chair; Dan Poplawski and Joanne Semanie, Board Members; Christine Bailey, Health Clerk, Rachel Lewis, RN and Treasurer Terry Green.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Herb Butzke at the Rowe Town Hall.

Unipay – Accepting on-line payments: Treasurer, Terry Green joined the meeting at 6:01 p.m. to discuss the benefits of accepting on-line payments for dump tags and stickers. This would eliminate fees when the Town accepts cash payments. Terry also discussed the various fees that will be charged to the “customer” when making an on-line payment (\$50 fee directly from a bank account and \$2.50-debit card and \$3.95 major charge card). Most Western Mass towns are in accordance with this on-line payment system. Terry left the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

General Business:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the January 18, 2023 meeting.

FY23 Budget/Payables: A motion was made and seconded to approve the following invoices:

- Lodge Tire, Invoice G1-227598; dated 1/17/2023 \$33.00
- FCSWMD, Invoice 23221; dated 1/6/2023 \$14.70
- Housatonic Sampling and Testing, Invoice H2301-126; dated 1/31/2023 \$155.00
- Housatonic Sampling and Testing, Invoice H2301-129; dated 1/31/2023 \$155.00
- Housatonic Sampling and Testing, Invoice H2212-128; dated 12/31/2022 \$180.00
- Housatonic Sampling and Testing, Invoice H2301-128; dated 1/31/2023 \$307.00
- Rachel Lewis, Wellness Fair, Receipts attached; dated 1/26/2023 \$26.22

FY23 Acct	Account #	7-1-22 Approp	Curr Bal (01-26-23)	Payroll/Payables	Amount	New Bal
BOH Stipends	01-512-5141	\$ 4,938.00	\$ 2,469.00			
Clerk Wages	01-512-5142	\$13,447.50	\$ 6,324.00			
Transfer Station Att'd	01-512-5140	\$16,887.00	\$ 7,668.04			
Town Nurse	01-512-5143	\$44,492.00	\$21,761.00			
Physician Stipend	01-512-5144	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
Snow Removal	01-512-5145	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
Hazardous Waste Collection	01-512-5290	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
FCSWMD Assess	01-512-5300	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00			
Mosquito Control	01-512-5382	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00			
BOH Operations	01-512-5701	\$13,500.00	\$ 9,076.00	Housatonic Basin	\$ 155.00	\$ 8,921.00
				Housatonic Basin	\$ 155.00	\$ 8,766.00
				Housatonic Basin	\$ 180.00	\$ 8,586.00
				Housatonic Basin	\$ 307.00	\$ 8,279.00
Health Svcs Ops	01-512-5703	\$ 7,390.00	\$ 4,048.78	Rachel Lewis – Wellness Fair	\$ 26.22	\$ 4,022.56
Refuse Gardens Ops	01-512-5708	\$33,509.00	\$14,107.69	Lodge Tire	\$ 33.00	\$14,074.69
				FCSWMD	\$ 14.70	\$14,059.99
FRCOG Health Services Ops	01-512-5788	\$ 5,521.00	\$ 4,140.75			

Transfer Station

- The Transfer Station logs were reviewed and read by Dan Poplawski.
- FCSWMD is hosting a series of OSHA Trainings via Zoom beginning February 7, 2023. Chair Herb and Rob Beaumier will be attending. Christine will be inviting Dawn Beaumier and Mike Denson.

- Jan Ameen emailed saying due to the frigid weather coming in this weekend, some transfer stations will be closing. Herb said he would leave it to Rob's discretion.
- Chair Herb has been working with Jan Ameen in adding railings to the trash compactor at the Transfer Station.
- FCSWMD has asked that two motions be made for a Representative and Alternate be voted as special Municipal Employees. BOS will be voting on these motions tomorrow.

Nurse Updates:

- Individual Statistics January 2023: 9 days worked, total patients 65, Avg 7patients/day
- Covid update: Past 7 days: 5,797 new cases in Mass, positivity rate of 9.35% (down from 2 weeks ago 9000+ cases and 12% positivity), 33 cases in Franklin County with 6.2% positivity rate, 0 reported cases in Rowe.
- 863 hospitalizations in Mass, 266 primarily for Covid (down from 2 weeks ago 1200 total hospitalizations and 400 primary for Covid)
- 168 deaths in Mass (up from 142, 2 weeks ago) 1 death in Franklin County over last 2 weeks,
- Flu update: ILI (influenza like illness) 2.04% (trending down was 4.3% 2 weeks ago), hospitalizations 0.62% (trending down was 2.85% 2 weeks ago), overall flu activity is 'low' in Mass and 'minimal' in Western Mass!
- Wellness Clinic: no success- 2 clients came, ?weather, or ? little interest...will attempt similar in spring/summer and evaluate turn out then as to time/cost effectiveness.
- Foot clinic Thurs Feb 2nd- All slots are filled.
- LifePath Seminar is scheduled Thursday, March 23rd from 1-230pm. Shauna (Rowe case worker) and Holly (information and referrals dept) to speak.

FRCOG: The group discussed the money allotted (\$50,000) to Rowe to use towards Town Opioid related projects. Discussed was age appropriate awareness seminars, educational brochures, Narcan training and prevention curriculum. The group thought it good to invite Bill Knittle and the Rowe Elementary School nurse to the next meeting. In the meantime, Herb would like to do more research.

Water Testing: Herb reviewed the Housatonic Basin Sampling Testing reports. All levels remain safe.

NEW BUSINESS: Dan Poplawski inquired if there was any clean up at 19 Ford Hill Road. No one has heard any concrete updates. Herb will check into.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:49 pm unanimously

Next meeting: February 15, 2023, at 6:00 pm

Approved:



Herb Butzke, Chair



Daniel Poplawski



Joanne Semanie