



## TOWNSEND BOARD OF HEALTH

272 Main Street  
Townsend, Massachusetts 01469

approved  
6-22-2020

Christopher Genoter, Chairman  
Office (978) 597-1713

Christopher Nocella, Vice-Chairman

Linda Johansen, Clerk  
Fax (978) 597-8135

### Board of Health Meeting Minutes

May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 9:00 a.m. EST

Via Teleconference

Chris Genoter (CG), Linda Johansen (LJ), Chris Nocella (CN), Chief Sartell (CS), Kathy Spofford (KS), Carla Hitzenbuhler (CH), Rick Metcalf (RM), James Kreidler Jr. (JK), Mary Ellen Jones (MEJ), Shirley Coit (SC), Janet Leavitt (JL) and Brian Kennedy (BK)

Open meeting at 9:02am. Roll call for Board of Health members complete.

1. **CO-VID 19 Update:** RM weekly numbers yesterday 5/1/2020 were 21, last meeting question was raised how many positive have gone into isolation and released. At the time April 30<sup>th</sup>, there were seven (7) cleared. Major updates with guidance documents and Governor face mask order. Would like to speak enforcement strategy. Community tracing collaborative spoken about last week had software issue so although we are linked with them we have not officially used them. NBOH are able to keep up with case load with six (6) public nurses. We do expect the numbers to go up when the State reopens in Phase III and calls will increase. CG requests the rest of board members offer their thoughts on if they feel we need to issue our own notice or leaning towards opinion state order and not one for Townsend. LJ fine with state order but states there is already confusion in community though. Some businesses are challenged eating in the parking lots. She noted Groton ice cream stand where police had to be called. RM noted the first offence is a warning and repeat offenders up to \$300. People are confused LJ says. RM conference call this afternoon with DPH hopefully will have more guidance. Definition of public place needs to be clarified. Where are calls and complaints going, which department, who is tracing warnings and fines? CN asks if we can use the school board and the Board agrees the solar signs need to be updated. CN also asks about local pizza shops and why are chefs not wearing masks. Chefs are not six feet apart when cooking. All members agree kitchens are small and masks need to worn. LJ what other businesses are open that need to have educational materials. CG asks JK if the BOS order is adequate for town hall employees JK yes, the BOS order is stronger than Governor's order with town hall employees. LJ what other buildings just town hall? JK water department has work staggered and Highway too. Library as

of last week voted and BOS supported curbside pickup. CS explained a few weeks back the Police and Fire mandated PPE when interacting with the public and when you can't maintain 6ft in the office. RM will call with Chief tonight after the 3pm conference call. The Board approves Police and Nashoba working together and to keep them updated. RM is going to clarify what is enforceable and what is not. All times grocery, retail store, regardless of size, taxi's all times, and any other indoor or outdoor to the public is the person who can't maintain the distance of 6ft. Agrees confusion is going to come. Communication with Police and Nashoba has been working very well. CN confirms the BOH would be the ones to enforce the order with back-up from police once they determine who this person to do checking is. Do we check for ID? Who keeps the log with repeat offenders? RM wants to know if the Chief wants all calls dispatched on mask issues to the NBOH. Chief agrees. LJ wants to do more. Flyers for businesses for customers to pick up? Resources we don't give out masks how we get them the information on how to make masks. RM yesterday pdf from CDC guidance went to the website for posting. RM says SC is trying to get word out too. RM masks are tough to get right now. Instructions on how to make, two layers of cloth together are the best way to provide guidance on masks as well as the 211 call number. RM states SC has volunteers to get paper copies out to bigger places. SC wants how to keep the masks clean and what to do when you leave your office and care for them in the educational material. RM sent email with guidance. SC has not seen it. First page shows how to wear, and care for it. State and CDC is sending out information. Newspaper LJ? Direct people to 211. Board members agree to have RM and Chief work through process and will let the BOH members know. CG thanks for everyone calling in. Continued to Recycling Center procedure.

2. CH updated the Board on her communication with the CG, RM and Mass DEP. DEP is recommending only opening for brush and not accepting cash at this time. There is also the issue that vendors are not collecting. They discussed the protocol for traffic and agreed a detailed officer was not needed and cars would be let in one at a time for Townsend residents only to dispose of their debris on May 16, 2020. The Board asked CH to update the protocol to send to them so they can vote at their next meeting scheduled for 5/12/2020. CH agreed.
3. No invoices were submitted, payroll was approved by the Chairman previously and minutes will continue to be send through email with individual responses.
4. The Weston & Sampson contract for 2020 – 2023 was reviewed. LJ asked how much the contact has risen. It is up \$5,000. Previous contract was \$52,000 and the proposed is \$57,000. CH stated JK had given approval for Town Council review. At this time, they are going through the review and hope to have approval at their next meeting.
5. A MOTION was made to adjourn the meeting at 10:07am. CN, LJ 2<sup>nd</sup> 3/0



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**Tuesday, May 5th 2020 at 9:00 a.m., EST**

The Board of Health meeting is being held virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, MGL c. 30A. s.20. Interested individuals can listen in and participate by phone by dialing the phone number below and using the provided access code.

**Telephone Number: 1-717-275-8940**

**Access Code: 6602188**

1 PRELIMINARIES

1.1 Roll Call

2 APPOINTMENT/HEARINGS

2.1 COVID-19 update/discussion

2.2 Recycling Center Procedures Discussion

3 WORK SESSION

3.1 Invoices and Payroll

3.2 Weston & Sampson Landfill Engineering Contract Renewal

3.3 Minutes of April 2020

4 ADJOURNMENT