

Board of Health Meeting 11-4-2015

November 4, 2015

7:00 pm

Community Center

The meeting began at 7:05 pm.

Present: Chuck Levine, Jay Schwab, Luba Raynus, Ed Welch, Ken Zoller

Also present: David Happnie; Ed Little

The Board reviewed the minutes of the October 7, 2015 meeting. A minor addition to the third paragraph was noted. Raynus moved to approve the minutes; Schwab seconded; all Board members voted in favor with the exception of Ed Welch who was not present at the October meeting.

The proposed budget for FY 17 was reviewed. Levine noted that the budget as presented resulted in a -1.21% reduction in expenses, and a 2.39% overall increase. The major impact to the budget stems from salary increases which are determined by contract. Raynus noted that the "Special Services" section needs to be added to the budget narrative. The Board of Health members indicated they generally agreed with the proposed budget. The final budget will be presented to the Board at a later date for a formal vote.

Anderson briefly went over current licensing issues to be presented at a future meeting.

David Happnie began his presentation on fluoride in drinking water. Schwab responded and questioned the scientific quality of the literature Happnie had presented to the Board. Happnie was presented with literature on fluoride including "Myths and Facts, Responses to Common Claims about Community Water Fluoridation" and another document from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "Statement on the Evidence Supporting the Safety and Effectiveness of Community Water Fluoridation". Happnie asked the Board if fluoride was approved by the FDA. After some discussion on the issue, the discussion was terminated.

Anderson mentioned that the regulations had been completed and Gellerman and Cabral had not submitted any further comments on the changes. Raynus noted that there is an outstanding issue with respect to Article 7, specifically the reference to "major and minor" additions to buildings. Levine asked that the discussion be continued at the next meeting.

Welch brought up the subject of the office conditions at the Health Department and was told by Levine that the subject had been addressed previously but now was closed. Welch asked that the Board pursue the issue again.

Levine asked the Board to consider future meetings. A meeting date was set for January 13, 2016.

Ed Little, Animal Inspector joined the meeting. He reviewed his role, and that the Animal Inspector is nominated by the Selectmen. He added that he carries out the 10-day quarantine on animals. He also inspects the conditions in which animals are kept with the exception of dogs and cats. He also discussed a license given to the Trustees of the Reservation at Moose Hill Center. He indicated that the organization was licensed to keep 50 cows, but that no animals are kept there at this time.

Welch motioned to adjourn; Zoller seconded the motion. All approved.

The meeting ended at 8:10 pm.