

Minutes
Northfield Board of Health
September 13, 2023
6:00 PM
Northfield Town Hall
69 Main Street, Northfield, MA
Board of Health Office 2nd Floor

Call to Order: 6:02

Quorum Established: David Balk, Ruth Potee, Kathie Bridges, Ali Wahlstrom

Also, in attendance- Pam Veith, Board Secretary; Robert McQwen, Transfer Station Manager; Sarah Kerns, Citizen

Business:

- ~~Transfer Station Discussion~~ – Discussed with Bob the issues raised by a transfer station employee. Bob stated he had offered to accompany the employee to Board of Health meeting but employee declined. It was discuss that dump stickers may go on the windshield in a very visible spot. Some residents become upset when asked to see their sticker. The attendants are always free to call the police when anyone doesn't abide by the town's Code of Conduct. It was suggested that attendants snap license plate photos to send to either Bob or the Police for follow up. Signage stating something similar to "Attendants in Charge. Aggressive behavior will not be tolerated" is being prepared for the entrance of the Transfer Station. Other ideas were to find a type of license plate recognition system, chip, and more regularly give the list of dump stickers purchased to the attendants. Bob to talk with Town Clerk about the new residents transfer station procedures.
 - Ruth asked about increasing the price of the sticker – also asked when the last increase was. Kathie suggested that the sticker for a 2nd car of the same household should be available at half price.
 - Ruth and Ali inquired about replacing the town trash bags with stickers that could be used on personal bags in order to decrease the amount of plastic involved in disposing of trash.
 - Board to draft a survey for residents with Bob and the attendants' input, asking for suggestions and reactions to several of these ideas. Board and Bob to review prior to sending this survey out.
 - Bob will be back to the Board of Health after speaking with Jan Ameen of the Franklin County Solid Waste District about the option of residents dumping their own trash cans, minus bags or stickers from the town, into the compactors at the Transfer Station.
 - Ali asked if an additional attendant is needed at the Transfer Station. The four car limit at the Transfer Station allows the single attendant to oversee activity of residents while disposing of their trash and recyclables as well as being able to assist any resident who needs help.
- Review of Invoices
- Old Files from the previous Eastern Franklin County Health District (EFCHD) need to be picked up. David and Kathy to pick up files on the 27th. File drawers have been cleared in Board of Health office to accommodate these files.
- Thomas Aquianis has been notified by Department of Environmental Protection to compile a Compliance Plan for their onside treatment facility that pumps to the Town's Sewer Treatment Plant. David to ensure that Board of Health is directly notified of anything to do with this project by DEP.
- EFCHD meeting attended by Kathy on August 2, 2023 where the insurance policy through The Hartford was up for renewal. Vote to renew was taken EFCHD. Policy now in effect through August 8, 2024.

Review and Approval of Minutes:

- August 9, 2023 Minutes- approved

Citizen's Concerns:

- Sarah Kerns – Looking for any updated information regarding noise level testing in town.
- Neighbor concerned about the number of people occupying a home. This is nothing the Board can act on. Neighbor also expressed sentiment that an abundance of belongings were outside home. Board member to

do drive-by and access if there is any obvious condition that would warrant further action such as asking our Agent to visit the property.

- 74 Highland Avenue – Call from contractor who found a concrete tank while digging for foundation piers. Contractor checking to see if this home is serviced by active septic system or connected to sewer. David visited and got contractor in contact with sewer and highway departments. Further investigation to be done and David to assist.

Permit Applications:

- Temporary Food Permit – Veracruz Foods Incl for Sept 23 Bike Race - approved
- Special Event Permit- Great River Challenge for October 7th - approved
- Septic Tank Replacement Permit – 59 Strowbridge Road - approved
- Septic System Repair- 159 Alexander Hill Road - approved
- Septic System Addition to existing system – 20 Riverview Drive - approved

Reports:

- Assorted septic pumping reports- reviewed

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair within 48 Hours:

- none

Adjourn: 7:17 pm

Next Meeting September 27, 2023

Kathryn L. Bridger

Al Steen

Al Dwanish

David C. [Signature] 9/27/23