



BOARD OF HEALTH

TOWN OF MILFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 01757

Jacquelyn A. Murphy, *Director of Public Health*

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Board Members

Kenneth C. Evans

Leonard A. Izzo

Paul A. Mazzuchelli

Board of Health Meeting Minutes – February 15, 2022

Attendees

Paul Mazzuchelli, Chair

Leonard Izzo, Member

Ken Evans, Member

Jacquelyn Murphy, Director of Public Health

Michael Szczepan, EL Harvey & Sons

Well-being

Agenda

Call Meeting to Order

Paul Mazzuchelli called the meeting to order at 4:33pm.

Michael Szczepan, EL Harvey & Sons

Mr. Michael Szczepan, who works at EL Harvey & Sons, attended the meeting to discuss some current issues with missed trash and recycle curbside pickup program, an unclear bill, as well as future plans.

Mr. Szczepan explained that many of the recent issues with missed curbside pickups could be explained by drivers being out sick or caring for sick family members, road construction preventing trucks from getting to streets, and weather delays, which the Board of Health communicated to town residents via the reverse 911 system, press release sent to local media, and social media posts.

The BOH members requested continued communication with the BOH office regarding any issues they knew would come up. The BOH also requested that all dumpsters be picked up at all schools prior to the start of the school day (i.e., the material should be removed by EL Harvey before 7am every week day) rather than later in the day.

In November 2021, the BOH received a bill from Wheelabrator which was much larger than the tonnage bill has been for the previous three years. It was also much larger than any bill in nearby months, and based on estimated tonnage delivered to the Wheelabrator facility by EL Harvey & Sons. Mr. Szczepan previously asked the accounting department at his company to send an explanation to the BOH office and no information was received.

After discussing this aberration with Mr. Szczepan, and agreeing that a fair price reduction was in order, the board unanimously voted to deduct \$21,548.42 from the next Harvey Industries invoice to resolve the issue of over estimated tonnage from Milford, MA delivered to Wheelabrator. This amount was suggested by Mr. Mazzuchelli, based on the tonnage for November 2018, 2019, and 2020 (834.7 tons in 2018, 837.9 tons in 2019, and 885.8 tons in 2020 = 852.8 average tons for the past three years). The average of 852.8 tons will be subtracted from 1,156 tons, the reported amount for November 2021, and multiplied by the cost per ton (\$71.07).

For future planning, the Board discussed bulk items and changes to the contract in the future.

While discussing how to control tonnage costs, Mr. Szczepan offered that other municipalities have removed bulk items from their pickup contract and seen a significant reduction in their monthly tonnage costs. In those towns, residents still can have items removed by calling EL Harvey directly and paying a fee for item pickup directly to the hauler. In Milford, since there is a transfer station, it also may be possible that residents would get rid of certain bulk items at the transfer station. The board members requested a draft of a contract from Mr. Szczepan reflecting this change in the Town of Milford starting on July 1, 2022.

Another change other municipalities are implementing is removing 4- and 5-family dwellings from their curbside pickup contracts as well as purchasing barrels with wheels and lids over a 10-year period. The barrels would be serviced by EL Harvey (e.g., if a resident had a lost barrel, it would be replaced by EL Harvey) during the 10-year purchase period. After that time, the barrels would be maintained by the town. Different municipalities are choosing different size barrels for trash and recycle, and the quantity limits are set by the size of the barrels. For example, in Bellingham, residents are allowed 95 gallons of recycling and 65 gallons of trash per week. Other towns have different quantities. Barrels help reduce uncertainty about the permitted amount of trash and recycle materials. They also reduce pest activity, compared to trash placed out only in bags. Finally, less trash would be able to litter the streets if it was contained in a barrel with a lid.

The Board of Health was in favor of Milford purchasing the bins for trash and recycle over the next ten years beginning July 1, 2023. They requested that Mr. Szczepan send the town of Milford a draft contract including the cost of bins spread over ten years.

COVID-19 Update regarding mask mandate

Given current statistics putting Milford at High risk of community transmission, per guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Board of Health is not yet rescinding the mask mandate in municipal buildings. The board voted to revisit the decision and lift the mandate once Milford's incidence of cases and percent positivity met the CDC requirements for Low or Moderate transmission.

Professional Development – Board of Health staff

The board unanimously approved expenses for trainings and exams to certify the following Board of Health staff with the respective qualifications:

Lisa Tamagni (Assistant Director) will attend a Certified Pool Inspector course and take the required exam afterwards. The cost will be about \$400.

Joan Clarico (Health Inspector) will attend training to renew her Certified Professional in Food Safety credentials. The cost will be about \$500.

The potential need for a new soil evaluator came up. Mr. Catalano has worked with the Milford Board of Health for a few years, and his license expires in June, at which time he may choose not to renew it. To remain competitive in recruiting soil evaluators, the Board of Health unanimously voted to increase the per evaluation compensation from \$75 to \$125.

Mr. Izzo made the motion to approve, Mr. Evans seconded, and all were in favor.

Public Health Nurse job description

The Board reviewed the draft job description for a Public Health nurse. They approved this description to go to the personnel board. The motion was made by Mr. Izzo, seconded by Mr. Evans, and voted in favor unanimously. This position would replace the current contract with the Visiting Nurse Association. Municipalities similar in size and demographic composition, such as Framingham and Marlborough, have their own public health nurses, rather than a contract.

Other updates: Housing Court and Tobacco Permits

Mr. Mazzuchelli joined Mr. Charles Boddy (Town Counsel) and Mr. John Erickson (Building Commissioner) at a housing court trial for 140 Congress Street to go into receivership. The town was granted the request to have another individual charged with improving the conditions at the property. The board of health and other town departments will work

The food establishment at 186 Central Street is reopening after several months of being closed. The board discussed that they will need to attend a future Board of Health meeting to be issued their tobacco permit since the local regulations do not automatically authorize tobacco permits after a gap in being open to the public.

Adjourn

Paul Mazzuchelli asked for any other topics, questions, or business. Since there was none, Mr. Evans made a motion to adjourn, and Mr. Izzo seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:22pm.
