

**BOARD OF
Health
MEETING
MINUTES**

**December 23, 2020
Town Hall 1 Main St., Upton, MA 01568**

1 The virtual meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m., by Chairman, Al Holman. Also in attendance were;
2 Member, Ted Briggs; Asst. Public Health Supervisor, Diane Tiernan; and Town Nurse, Trish Parent.

3
4 Al read the following statement: *Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain
5 Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order
6 concerning imposition on strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place,
7 meetings in the Town of Upton will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent
8 possible. We will strive to provide access to such meetings via a link to call in, or other similar option. In
9 the event we are unable to accommodate the same, despite best efforts, we will post recorded sessions
10 of the meeting as soon as possible following the same.*

11
12 **Motion one** – Ted made a motion to approve of the previous meeting minutes held on 10/29/20. Al
13 seconded the motion. Minutes were approved by majority.

14
15 Vouchers and payroll were reviewed and approved. Ted will go to the office in the morning to sign the
16 documents.

17
18 1:05 p.m., town manager, Derek Brindisi attended the meeting virtually. Derek wanted to discuss with
19 the Board the prospect of town employees working remotely. Derek discussed the present COVID rates
20 and the increase in cases, even amongst town employees. He feels that if employees work remotely for
21 a time period to be determined, it would hopefully be effective in stopping the spread amongst our
22 workers. Derek also submitted slides showing the curve of the spread. The police and fire department
23 would of course be exempt from this proposal. Derek asked for the Boards thoughts.

24
25 1:10 p.m., Member, Richard Desjardin joined the meeting remotely.

26
27 Al stated if the decision is made to close the town hall, that the due date of property taxes should be
28 delayed and no interest or fines should be imposed. Ted and Richard agreed.

29
30 **Motion two** - Following more discussion, the Board unanimously made a motion to accept Derek’s
31 proposal to close the town hall for a time period to be determined. Each town dept., can make their
32 own decision on how to operate their dept. staff effectively. All members unanimously voted yes to the
33 motion.

34
35 Trish gave an update to the COVID-19 situation. She feels it is a smart move to close the town hall as the
36 town of Upton is moving back into the “red” for cases. Trish has completed all the requirements to offer
37 clinics through the town of Upton. We will be offering our first, first responder clinic for Upton, Sutton,

38 Douglas, Northbridge, Hopedale, Blackstone, and Millville in a couple weeks. This clinic will be a better
39 alternative to the local responders vs. going to the Auburn clinic. We have approximately 250
40 responders signed up. Hopefully, we will be able to offer more clinics in the near future, but nothing is
41 guaranteed.

42

43 1:27 p.m., Trish and Derek left the meeting.

44

45 A septic design was reviewed for 22 Mechanic Street – Larry Baker. The plan was previously approved
46 by BOH Agent, Paul McKeon.

47 **Motion three** – Richard made a motion to approve the plan for 22 Mechanic Street and Ted seconded
48 the motion. Al made the motion unanimous. Plan was approved.

49

50 A d-box repair permit was submitted for 41 Pearl Street – Furman.

51 **Motion four** - Richard made a motion to approve the permit for 41 Pearl Street and Ted seconded the
52 motion. Al made the motion unanimous. Permit was approved.

53

54 Well permit applications were reviewed for Lobisser Building Corp - # 15 and # 11 Claflin Farm Rd.

55 **Motion five** – Ted made a motion to approve the well applications for # 11 and # 15 Claflin Farm Road.
56 Richard seconded the motion and Al made the motion unanimous. Permits were approved.

57

58 Applications for Garbage and Offal permits for; EL Harvey-Westboro, J. Hockman-Norfolk, JC Parmenter-
59 Hopkinton, ADC Septic-Blackstone and Mid-State Sewerage- Millbury were reviewed.

60 **Motion six** - Ted made a motion to approve the above garbage and offal applications. Richard seconded
61 the motion and Al made the motion unanimous. Permits were approved

62

63 Applications for installer’s permits were reviewed for; Michael Tetreault-Mendon and HC Larter-of
64 Hopkinton.

65 **Motion seven** - Richard made a motion to approve of the above installer applications and Ted seconded
66 the motion. Al made the motion unanimous. Permits were approved.

67

68 Diane discussed rescinding the town by-law that prohibits rolling papers from being sold in the town of
69 Upton. Now that marijuana has been legalized, it has been brought to our attention that the bylaw
70 should be rescinded. Board agreed.

71

72 **Motion eight** - Ted made a motion to rescind the bylaw prohibiting rolling papers from being sold in the
73 town of Upton. Richard seconded the motion and Al made the motion unanimous. Bylaw was
74 rescinded.

75

76 BOH Budget was reviewed and discussed.

77 **Motion nine** - Richard made a motion to approve of the BOH budget as presented and Ted seconded the
78 motion. Al made the motion unanimous. Budget was approved to be submitted for approval at the
79 annual town meeting.

80

81 A septic design was reviewed for 124 Mechanic Street – Diane is awaiting approval from BOH agent, Paul
82 McKeon.

83 **Motion ten** - Ted made a motion to approve the septic design for 124 Mechanic Street, pending
84 approval from BOH Agent, Paul McKeon. Richard seconded the motion and Al made the motion
85 unanimous. Permit was approved pending agents approval.

86

87 **Motion eleven** – Ted made a motion to adjourn and Richard seconded the motion. Al made the motion
88 unanimous.

89 1:50 p.m., meeting was adjourned.

90

91 Respectfully Submitted,

92

93 Diane Tiernan

94 Asst. Public Health Supervisor

95

96

97

98

99

100