

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

MINUTES

**The Watertown Board of Health has scheduled a REMOTE ZOOM meeting on
Wednesday January 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm**

PRESENT: Dr. Barbara Beck, Chairman, Richard Arnold and Dr. Dominic Amirtharaj

Staff: Abbey Myers, Acting Director of Health Maureen Foley, Clerk

In attendance: Sibhon Branch, Judy Fallows

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Beck called the meeting to order 7:04 pm

Minutes

Minutes were approved for December 20, 2023 meeting,
(Amirtharaj, Arnold) (3,0)

Public Comment

No Public Comments

Introduction to Dumpster Regulations

Ms. Myers presented the process for the BOH to approve Dumpster Regulations. This includes public hearings, publishing in the newspaper, public comments, sending the regulations to Mass. Department of Environmental Protection.

Ms. Myers stated Dumpster Regulations can deter rodent harborage and provide enforceable actions if Health Department determines violations. Mr. Arnold asked how the Health Department will identify dumpsters. Ms. Myers stated we know the food establishment and we will coordinate with building and DPW. Dr. Amirtharaj asked how Health determines who is responsible for the dumpster.

Ms. Myers read food waste from the draft Dumpster Regulations to the BOH. Dr. Beck inquired about a fee. Dr. Amirtharaj wanted to know what is the plan once these dumpsters are registered. Dr. Beck asked about the timeline related to facilitation the registrations. Mr. Arnold wants to review before moving forward.

Department Update

Ms. Myers stated Health Department will be moving February 1st to 124 Watertown Street. The Budget was submitted for FY25.

The ACO has issued several tickets to the resident for a Nuisance Dog on Belmont Street. Neighbors (9 to 10) have complained about this dog unleashed through the area. BOH needs to have a Nuisance Dog Hearing with the public, owner, concerned residents. This strengthens ACO's ability to take the owner to court with additional violations. The end game is to contain the dog to the owner's property and remain leashed.

The Nuisance Dog Hearing will be February 5, 2024.

Next Meeting

February 21, 2024

Mr. Arnold thanked Dr. Beck for her service and experience on the BOH. Dr. Amirtharaj stated it was a pleasure to work with Dr. Beck.

Adjourn:

(Amirtharaj, Arnold) (3,0)

All in favor.

Roll Call

Adjourned the meeting at 7:54 PM