



# CITY OF NEWBURYPORT

## BOARD OF HEALTH

60 Pleasant Street  
Newburyport, MA 01950

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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### Board & Staff Present:

Dr. Robin Blair, Board Chair  
Dr. Richard Tilson, Board Member  
Lina Matta, Board Member

Laura Vlasuk, Director of Public Health  
Kristine Harris, Public Health Nurse

### Board of Health Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2023

- I. Meeting called to order by Dr. Blair at 7:07pm
- II. Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting  
Motion to approve minutes made by Lina Matta, seconded by Dr. Tilson. Motion passes 3-0.
- III. Elaine Perry 10 Warren St attended meeting to discuss the rodent activity she is experiencing. Ms. Perry expressed that she believes her rats are a result of chicken coop located at 8 Warren Street. Matthew Davis owner of 8 Warren Street attended meeting to provide Board with information as to how he protects his yard, his chickens and his home from rodents. Director Vlasuk and Animal Control officer Kayla Provencher were present and discussed that they have inspected the chicken coop on several occasions, their finding is that each time the coop shows no evidence of rodents. After some discussion the Board discussed contacting an outside pest control company to obtain additional inspection. Lina Matta will contact the company to ensure that previous inspections are not discussed and Ms. Vlasuk and Ms. Provencher will attend the inspection when date is set.
- IV. Directors Report 4/27/23
  - a. Mayor Sean R. Reardon is pleased to share that the City of Newburyport will be hosting a Boards, Commissions and Volunteer Fair to highlight opportunities to volunteer with the City of Newburyport. Thursday, May 4, from 6 to 7:30 p. m. Newburyport City Hall auditorium, 60 Pleasant St, Newburyport, MA. Board request Director Vlasuk bring flyers, COVID test and KI pills to event.
  - b. On 4-5-23 Director Vlasuk conducted an inspection of the Shell Station located at 81 Storey Ave. A bedroom was discovered in the upstairs storage room. Director Vlasuk ordered the bedroom be removed immediately upon a reinspection

bedroom was removed. Director Vlasuk informed Deputy Salt to insure safety in future inspections.

- c. Two new locations have opened in Newburyport
  - i. Dulce Fredo Gelato – location open for the season
  - ii. Porta Vida 10 Center Street – Mexican Restaurant
- d. \$8,676.33 has been collected for reimbursement from last year's flu season
- e. A preorder of 350 vaccines has been placed for flu season 2024.
  - i. 150 Single dose Quadrivalent
  - ii. 200 Single dose Quadrivalent high-dose
- f. April 12<sup>th</sup> the Health Department conducted a therapy dog session at The Heritage House.
- g. Health Department in conjunction with the American Red Cross is hosting a Blood Drive on May 2 at Newburyport Senior Community Center 331 High Street from 2pm to 7pm. Dr. Blair suggested calling the local newspaper and inquiring if they could post the flyer.
- h. Reminder, The Health Department did receive the maximum State allotment of COVID test kits, kits are available both at the entrance to town hall and at the Health Department office located in the lower level of City Hall. I encourage everyone to come take as many as they wish.
- i. *Application for a Portable Generator was approved by Emergency Preparedness. Health Department received a generator at no cost by June 2023*
  - i. 2200 Watt Portable Generator • Fuel tank capacity: .90 - 1.2 gal. • Dimensions: 18 – 22”L x 10 – 13”W x 15 – 17”H • Dry weight: 45 – 49 lbs. • Recoil starting system • AC Output: 120V 2200W max • Displacement: 120cc - 124cc • Receptacles: 20A 125V Duplex • Run Time per Tankful: 3.0 – 3.3hr @ rated load Example Product: Honda EU220
- j. Food Permits expire June 30. Reminders were sent March 15 additional reminders will be sent May 1, 2023 and June 1, 2023. I request that Board of Health vote to issue tickets of \$50 per day to any that has not renewed by July 14, 2023. Locations that continue to fail to comply will be closed on July 24, 2023 pending permit renewal. Motion to approve made by Lina Matta, seconded by Dr. Tilson. Motion passes 3-0.

- k. The health department is working actively towards conducting inspections at food establishments and schools to ensure that each location is inspected bi-annually in 2023
- V. Currently every location is required to clean their grease trap monthly in the City of Newburyport unless a variance is obtained by the Board of Health. Director Vlasuk asked the Board to review the forms and application provided by The Candy Man located at 14 Pleasant Street. Due to the nature of their business Ms. Vlasuk asked the Board to vote to reduce the frequency to Quarterly. Board voted to reduce system pumping for the Candy Man located at 14 Pleasant street to quarterly and reserved the right to revert to monthly should levels rise to 20% or more. *Motion to approve made by Dr. Tilson, seconded by Lina Matta. Motion passes 3-0.*
- VI. Yankee Homecoming: May 26, 2022 the Board of Health voted to reduce the temporary food permit fee for Yankee Homecoming to \$50 per day with a max of \$350, motion passed 3-0. Director Vlasuk requested that the board approve this fee reduction for the 2023 Yankee Homecoming Event. In addition, Director Vlasuk requested that The Board approve no fee for vendors that are licensed, inspected and permitted establishments in the City of Newburyport. *Motion to approve made by Dr. Tilson, seconded by Lina Matta. Motion passes 3-0.*
- VII. Farmers Market is a 7-month event happening every Sunday; this results in 28 events per vendor with a total of 22 vendors. Cost for event is \$50 per day according to our fee schedule, this would result in a total of \$1,400 per vendor for the season.
  - a. Director Vlasuk requested that the fee for licensed, inspected and permitted establishments in the City of Newburyport be waived.
  - b. For the remaining 19 vendors the fee at \$50 per week would be \$1,400. Director Vlasuk request that The Board reduce that fee to \$350 for the season per vendor. This would result in a saving of \$1,050 per vendor.
  - c. Discussion followed and a motion was made to approve waiving the fee for licensed, inspected and permitted establishments in the City of Newburyport and reduce the fee for non-Newburyport licensed vendors be reduced to \$300. *Motion to approve made by Dr. Tilson, seconded by Lina Matta. Motion passes 3-0.*
- VIII. Next Meeting  
May 4, 2023 at 7:00 pm in person (Boards and Commissions Meeting)  
May 24, 2023 at 7:00 pm in person
- IX. Adjourn  
*Motion to adjourn made at 8:26pm by Dr. Blair. seconded by Dr. Tilson. Motion passes 3-0.*