

**Newburyport Board of Health Public Meeting
November 19, 2015**

Attendees:

*Chairperson of the Board: Dr. Robin Blair
Board Member: Patricia Lawrence
Board Member: Dr. Daryl Colden
Interim Health Director: Joseph Tabbi
Public Health Nurse: Pamela Palombo
Energy & Recycle Coordinator: Molly Ettenborough
Animal Control Officer: Scott Purdie
New Health Director: Frank Giacalone*

Call to Order: Dr. Blair called the meeting to order 7:05 pm

Motion was made by Patricia Lawrence that the Board, acting in accordance with the MGL Chapter III Section 30, to appoint Mr. Frank Giacalone as the Director of Health for the City of Newburyport effective November 23, 2015. Unanimous vote to approve.

Motion was made by Patricia Lawrence; second by Dr. Blair that the minutes of the September 17, 2015 meeting of the Board be approved subject to minor changes of the minutes. Unanimous vote to approve.

Molly Ettenborough updated the board on the organics program in the south end. Ms. Ettenborough informed the Board that the program is oversubscribed and has a waiting list of over 30. The City was able to get additional carts from Salem Mass (because they did not meet their numbers) so Newburyport can now fulfill its waitlist. The program has been very successful and residents are very pleased with it thus far. On average about 300 people are putting carts out each week. Patricia Lawrence asked if the program will continue when the pilot is completed to which Ms. Ettenborough responded it will depend on the economics and findings of the pilot.

Additionally, the Recycling Division is updating the Mayor's office on the fee schedule and will update the Board of Health if there needs to be any increase in the fees since the electronics' recycling company has just changed.

Hoarding Task Force: Mr. Tabbi requested that the Board support the establishment of a Hoarding Task Force to address the hoarding issues within the City of Newburyport. Mr. Ben Iaccono was present at the meeting; he gave the Board an overview of his activities on the Task Force in Watertown and he agreed to serve as a member of the Newburyport Task Force. Further information regarding the status of the implementation of the Committee will be reported at a future meeting of the Board. On a Motion by Patricia Lawrence; seconded by Dr. Blair the Hoarding Task Force will be established in the City of Newburyport.

Influenza Clinic for Students within the City School System – Pamela Palombo presented to the Board a verbal report on providing flu immunization to the students in the school at the various schools in the City. Another community that has been conducting these

immunizations has had a success rate of immunizing 40% of the entire student population against influenza. Mr. Tabbi informed the Board that the town of Winchester would be providing computer generated templates for registration. The recommendation by Pamela Palombo that we begin with the elementary schools for next year as long as we receive permission from the School Department. The Board allowed the Department to proceed with reviewing the procedure with the school department and will wait for a report from the Health Department at a future meeting.

Animal Control - Mr. Scott Purdie addressed the Board relative to issues involving complaints of unrestrained dogs on the Rail Trail. Mr. Purdie informed the Board that the scheduling of patrols will be changed and with the assistance of the Assistant Animal Inspector more coverage will be conducted in the early hours and on the weekends. Regarding the Request for Information, Mr. Purdie and the Office Manager will be providing the necessary information to the person that requested the information.

Dumpster Regulations – Mr. Tabbi addressed the Board relative to licensing dumpsters and implementation of dumpster regulation for the City. Mr. Tabbi will provide a copy of another community’s regulations for their review.

Budget – Mr. Tabbi reviewed with the Board the line item expenditures to date within the budget. All the budget items are within normal expenses for this period of the fiscal year. The budget will be reviewed at a later date with the Board.

Discussion was held regarding the policy of the businesses paying for their inspections by the food consultants for the Health Department. Mr. Tabbi recommended that the restaurants license be increased by \$200 per year; the money will be deposited into the General Fund and a line item will be established within the budget to pay the food inspectors. Amount will be determined before the end of the budget submittal process. This issue will be discussed at the next meeting of the Board.

8 Strong Street – Mr. Tabbi provided the Board with copies of information distributed to the Mayor’s Office and to the Conservation and Preservation Foundation regarding 8 Strong Street. Dr. Blair stated that he had discussed this matter with the Building Commissioner and that there was no objection of this matter at the Board of Health Public Meeting relative to the condemnation and the demolition of this property as a public health nuisance.

New Business – Mr. Tabbi requested of the Board that a Temporary data entry person be engaged within the health department to assist the Office Manager in updating all of the records associated with the temporary events. Mr. Tabbi stated that for the last two months he has been the acting Health Director on a Part time basis, working a very limited schedule, thus placing the burden of the remainder of the functions within the Health Department upon the Office manager and that is why the data entry person is needed to bring up the data entry to date.

Meeting adjourned: 9:15 pm

*Meeting Minutes were drafted by Joseph Tabbi