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Inspection Services
41 Elm Street

TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE

January 20, 2022 6:00 pm VIRTUAL BOH MEETING

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6:10pm: Geldbaum Invitation for Q&A on 14 South St

*Approved by
Vote of BOH
Feb 10, 2022
AAR*

Agenda #1- Open Meeting-6:05pm

Agenda #2- Roll Call

- E. Stephens
- N. Duffey
- R. LaRochelle
- A. Postale

Agenda #3- Accept Meeting Minutes

a. November 18, 2021- Motion to accept made by A. Postale; 2nd by N. Duffey-
Roll Call

- E. Stephens-yes
- R. LaRochelle-yes
- N. Duffey-yes
- A. Postale-yes

Motion passes unanimously of those present.

b. November 30, 2021- Motion to accept made by A. Postale; 2nd by N. Duffey-
Roll Call

- E. Stephens-yes
- A. Postale-yes
- N. Duffey-yes
- R. LaRochelle- abstain

Motion passes 3-1 abstain (R. LaRochelle).

b. December 9, 2021- Motion to accept made by A. Postale; 2nd by N. Duffey-
Roll Call

- R. LaRochelle-yes
- A. Postale-yes
- E. Stephens-yes

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MA SOUTHBRIDGE

N. Duffey-yes

Motion passes unanimously of those present.

6:10pm-Invitation for Q&A on 14 South St. - A. Pelletier explains although there are no outstanding violations, the Board extended an invitation for a Q&A to the owners of 14 South St. Note: Owners of 14 South St are not present for Q&A.

At this time, A. Pelletier suggests moving the agenda out of order.

Motion made by R. LaRoche to move Agenda #6A prior to Agenda #4; 2nd by N. Duffey-

Roll Call

A. Postale-yes

E. Stephens-yes

N. Duffey-yes

R. LaRoche-yes

Motion passes unanimously.

A. Pelletier explains Casella is requesting to utilize/reserving the Blue Building for overflow of recycling materials.

Casella Representative, Paul Degnan further explains one of the local recycling plants will undergo retrofitting and the intent is to reserve the Blue Building as a contingency for any possible overflow. This may be until July. Any materials delivered will be in trailers using the same access road as before and operating within the permitted hours of the contract.

Brief discussion.

Consensus of the Board; Casella may utilize the Blue Building for any recycling overflow as needed

Agenda #4- COVID Update- A. Pelletier provides statistics for the week with 917 testing positive out of 2991 residents who tested thus showing the numbers dropping.

Two vaccine clinics were held for school employees as well as eligible students. The other clinic was for town employees. Also, the department is working with the State to set up a clinic for the general public. This clinic is scheduled for February 19, 2022 at the Senior Center beginning at 8am. Discussion continues with State on the final details of the clinic regarding boosters, walk-in's eligibility etc.

A. Pelletier explains the State has issued new guidance for contact tracing specifically concentrating on high risk situations such as in healthcare facilities, housing complex and any clusters in town.

The State has also concluded to trace those below 24 years of age and anyone above 60 therefore, contact tracing not necessary for those between the ages of 25-59 unless they fall in a specific category. This eliminates one third of contact tracing cases.

A. Pelletier states if the board is comfortable, he will continue with the new guidance until the State weighs in differently.

The Board agrees with the new guidance.

Additionally, the State has determined the most contagious period is the 1st five days therefore, CDC has reduced quarantine and isolation from 10 days to five days.

A. Pelletier reports Rapid Test kits are now readily available for orders on-line. Chair Stephens explains the website is COVIDTest.org as this will navigate to the US Postal Service who is delivering 4 per household.

Lastly, A. Pelletier informs the Board the Council has approved the Shared Services grant hiring one nurse and one epidemiologist to assist in COVID follow up for Webster, Dudley, Oxford and Southbridge. These positions are all grant funded including the purchase of equipment.

Board member Duffey questions if hospitalization numbers are reducing. Chair Stephens reports the numbers are the same and the hospital is busy as ever.

Agenda #5-Citizens Forum- None present

Agenda #6- New Business

- a. Discuss utilization of Blue Building for recycling overload- moved ahead
- b. Update on curbside replacement- A. Pelletier reports the Council voted to continue with a curbside program. This will be a town funded program. The next step will be determining how to fund this program. Member LaRochelle questions when/where additional meetings will be held to discuss the type of contract and options? A. Pelletier will communicate with Councilor Adams and suggest reviving the curbside committee. Additional information to be forthcoming.

Agenda #7-Old Business

a. Blight-

215 Hamilton St- No action

495 South St- Awarded contractors are actively completing the utility disconnects and rodent control. They will then apply for the demolition permit to take the building down.

36 Thomas St- Currently owned by the Town. A. Pelletier drafting an order to correct for the DPW to remove the hazardous waste on the property and board and secure the building.

A. Pelletier will be moving on 20 Brick Row. This dwelling has a big hole and is collapsing.

R. LaRoche requests update on Idlewood St questioning if the mold was remediated or just covered up? Mr. Pelletier answers; they removed the walls to the studs. R. LaRoche expresses concerns as a board member over what he has heard on the "covering of the mold" and wondering if there is confirmation that the mold has been exterminated.
Brief discussion.

At 6:53pm, R. LaRoche exits the meeting. Chair Stephens requests A. Pelletier follow up with Building Inspector, Julian for confirmation on the mold issue.

Vienna 14 South St- A. Pelletier reports some work being done with new windows added.

- b. Landfill status/update- The Landfill is closed and capped. Casella is finishing up their punch list and the department will review the reports submitted by Casella. Suggest Board members take a quick tour for the end result of the landfill.

Agenda #8- Chairman Announcements- No announcements

- a. Agenda #9- Health Director Announcements- Reports an order to 300 N Woodstock Rd was issued informing the installer to move forward with the septic installation thus allowing the local upgrade approval. In addition, requiring testing for ammonium nitrates, ammonium nitrites and coliforms six months following installation and one year following occupancy.
- b. The yearly DEP grant for recycling efforts was approved by Town Council.

Agenda #10- Board Members Announcements-

- a. Member Duffey- Inquires if the office has had residents concerned with food insecurities. A. Pelletier reports the calls for assistance are for homebound looking for booster shots.
- b. A. Postale- No announcements

Agenda #11- Schedule Next Meeting- February 10, 2022 at 6:00pm.

Agenda #12- Adjournment- Motion to adjourn made by N. Duffey; 2nd by A. Postale-

Roll Call

A. Postale-yes

E. Stephens-yes

N. Duffey-yes

Motion passes unanimously of those present. Meeting adjourned at 7:02pm

