Minutes of the Board of Health meeting on January 11, 2024

Meeting began at 10:20 AM

Present: Gordon “Rusty” Luce, Donna Gibson (chair) and Helen Symons for first agenda item only.

1. Discussed “Trauma Services” company for their proposal to pick up and dispose of our “sharps” waste. The board voted (GL/HS) unanimously to go with this company for one year with quarterly pick-ups of our sharps containers at $55 per one of their 3.7 cu.ft. boxes. They will call Rusty before coming to coordinate the timing of the pick-up. They do not need a signed contract according to Tom McNally, sales representative.

2. We reviewed the current Tobacco Regulations the area Tobacco Coalition is using (most recent of the state). The Coalition is based in South Hadley and has contracted with the BOH in Northampton to do retail store checks. The Foothills Health District towns will use Northampton to do these checks and be reported back to us. The Board voted (GL/DG) unanimously to accept these regulations for Williamsburg. Donna will work with Mark Bushee, Health Director, to put these in place, notify the 3 sales points in town and any other steps. Donna will notify Meredith O’Leary in Northampton of our decision.

3. Discussed having Taylor Millspaugh come to our next meeting to discuss the process of possibly setting up “pay-as-you-throw” system for collecting household trash at our transfer station. Prices for our disposal of municipal solid waste (household trash going into the compactor) we now pay to have transported to McNamara Transfer Station in Springfield, MA which then sends it to South Carolina. For the past year and a half, we no longer receive money for our recyclables at the MRF but instead pay a portion of the market rate to dispose of each ton going to the MRF. These costs are in addition to payment for the hauling of everything.

Meeting adjourned at 11:27 am.

Notes submitted by Donna Gibson