

Telephone: 508-764-5412  
Fax: 508-764-5407



Inspection Services  
41 Elm Street

**TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE**  
**May 11, 2023 BOH Meeting 6:00pm**  
**Veteran's Room**

---

Agenda #1- Open Meeting- 6:01pm

Agenda #2- Roll Call

Nicole Duffey  
Anthony Postale  
Daniel Grabowski  
Paige Szugda-excused  
Jasmine Quinones

RECEIVED  
TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE  
MASSACHUSETTS  
2023 JUN 29 PM 7:09

Agenda #3- Accept Meeting Minutes

a. February 16, 2023- Chair Duffey praises Recording Clerk for a job well done however; would like minutes in more details. Chair motions to table. Vice Chair Postale agrees stating minutes should reflect more as the intent was missed therefore unintentionally stepping on toes. Motion to table is 2<sup>nd</sup> by Postale. Recording Clerk advises to review the recording and for discussion on editing when time allows.

Roll Call

N. Duffey-yes  
A. Postale-yes  
D. Grabowski-yes  
P. Szugda-excused  
J. Quinones-yes

Motion passes 4-1 excused (Szugda)

b. April 20, 2023- Motion to accept made by member Grabowski; 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Quinones-

Roll Call

J. Quinones-yes  
P. Szugda-excused  
A. Postale-yes  
N. Duffey-yes  
D. Grabowski-yes

Motion passes 4-1 excused (Szugda).

Agenda #4-Citizens Forum- Councilor Marketti claims a lot of mattresses around town. The mattresses at the end of Morris St were finally picked up. Would putting up security cameras in that area deter illegal dumping? Director Wasiuk explains without the instituting of fines as municipal charges we are going around in circles. When illegal dumping is identified, the department issues an order to correct; allowing the property owner/tenant to correct the violation (s).

Member Grabowski states he believes when the mattress/box spring is covered (wrapped) in plastic it has been registered to get picked up.

Director Wasiuk continues to explain if the Town institutes a solid municipal charges lien and a well-grounded ticketing system, we will get a cleaner community with far much more compliance.

Chair Duffey adds she would like to get cameras however; there is no money available.

Councilor Marketti states there is a \$150,000.00 for blight. Maybe we should consider using this for cameras.

Director Wasiuk states cameras would most likely deter illegal dumping from one area only to locate other dumping areas throughout town. IF the town continues with the issuance of tickets, tickets will most likely go unpaid and the cost to go through the courts would be greater than the fine itself.

With municipal charges liens, it would be less costly for the town while adding consequences to the property owner.

Chair Duffey expressed she would have liked to see those complaining about trash join the Beautify Southbridge event.

Member Postale questions can the department determine who is dumping the mattresses? Director Wasiuk states that is part of the problem.

Member Postale agrees with municipal charges lien.

Councilor Marketti states all he is asking for is a plan going forward. Member Quinones states there is a plan however; it just needs to be executed.

Chair Duffey requests the website be updated to advertise: Report any illegal dumping to the Health Department.

#### Agenda #5- COVID Update

a. Discuss current status and act on anything thereto- Director Wasiuk announces the last report for the flu and COVID (contingent) until the fall of 2023. Report from the epidemiologist reports 3 COVID cases since the last update. This is a significant decline. No flu cases reported.

Chair Duffey expresses relief the report shows 0 hospitalization; no cases in children under 19 from April 13<sup>th</sup>- May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Director Wasiuk will keep the Board updated should there be any changes in cases.

#### Agenda #6-Old Business

a. Blight Update- Chair Duffey requests status update on 20 Brick Row and 36 Thomas St. Director Wasiuk states he is still at the research stages with all the properties listed on the blighted list this includes Brick Row and Thomas St. The department is in the process of visiting these 10-11 blighted properties with a team consisting of Building, Health, DPW and Fire Department. This is mandated by law.

Chair believes Brick Row and Thomas St is the priority.

Director Wasiuk states Brick Row is not Town owned property and would still need to go through legal process with the first being a survey to determine whether or not it can be rehabbed or demolished, then approval by Town Council.

Chair requests surveys on both properties as soon as possible and report back to Board.

Director Wasiuk states 757 Main St has been cleaned up by property manager and 743 Main St has been re-secured against entry.

b. On-going discussion on community Mental Health needs- Member Quinones reports BMH is rolling out a post COVID program for life after COVID. Schools concentrating on parent concerns regarding lack of activities and support from the school systems. Member Quinones discusses statistics in Southbridge with emphasis on what these reports dictates. Member Quinones shares the variety of program services available at KIVA Center.

---

#### Agenda #7- On-going Business

a. Beautify Southbridge Update- see Chairman announcements.

Agenda #8- Discuss whether to amend current Regulations on Tobacco Use Including Restricting Youth Access on the prohibition of smoking bars- Chair Duffey makes motion to remove this agenda item; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Member Grabowski;

Roll Call  
J. Quinones-yes  
A. Postale-yes  
D. Grabowski-yes  
N. Duffey-yes

Motion passes unanimously of those present.

Agenda #9- Discuss the process of issuing permits to determine if this is to be amended- Chair Duffey requests any new use business or any new business come before the Board for discussion. Member Quinones agrees as long as it pertains to the Board of Health.

Director Wasiuk expressed this process would impede a lot of the procedures in the department and requests a bit more definition.

Member Quinones excused from meeting at 7:08pm.

Member Grabowski makes a motion to table; 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Postale;

Roll Call  
N. Duffey-yes  
A. Postale-yes  
D. Grabowski-yes

Motion passes unanimously by members present.

Agenda #10- Discuss input for usage of Opioid Funds- Director Wasiuk informs the Board the Opioid Committee will need to be formed in concert with other departments as requested by the previous Town Manager.

Motion to table agenda #10 by member Postale; 2<sup>nd</sup> by member Grabowski;

Roll Call  
N. Duffey-yes  
A. Postale-yes  
D. Grabowski-yes

Motion passes unanimously by members present.

Agenda #11- Discuss ARPA funds project ie: homeless shelter- Dir. Wasiuk announces lack of ARPA funds. Any APRA projects may be possible if allocated funds are not completely utilized.

Agenda #12- Health Director's Announcement- Director Wasiuk announces Health Inspector, Emily Quinn has recently resigned from her position. We wish her well. This position has been advertised through Human Resources.

Agenda #13- Chairman Announcement- Chair Duffey announces a great turn out for Beautify Southbridge Event. There were a ton of students in attendance. We are thankful for all volunteers who attended.

Chair requests update on the odor from Big Y. Director Wasiuk explains this is due to the Waste Water Treatment Facility and its anaerobic decomposing materials as well as other factors such as humidity and wind. After investigating, the odor appears intermittently. Brief discussion.  
Chair Duffey requests status on compliance at the Waste Water Treatment Facility.

Agenda #14- Board Members Announcements-

- a. Member Postale announces his resignation. Thankful for the opportunity. Wishes the Board well.
- b. Member Grabowski (apology) appreciates the time and experience offered by Postale.

Agenda #15- Schedule Next Meeting- June 22, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Agenda #16- Adjournment- Motion to adjourn made by A. Postale; 2<sup>nd</sup> by D. Grabowski

Roll Call

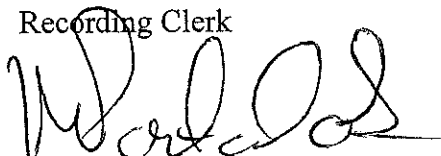
D. Grabowski-yes

N. Duffey-yes

A. Postale-yes

Motion passes unanimously of all present members. Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm

Recording Clerk



M. Portalatin