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Inspection Services
41 Elm Street

TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
June 29, 2023 BOH Meeting 6:00pm
Veteran's Room **AMENDED** June 27, 2023

Agenda #1- Open Meeting

Agenda #2- Roll Call

J. Quinones
N. Duffey
P. Szugda-excused
D. Grabowski

Agenda #3- Accept Meeting Minutes

a. February 16, 2023-

Chair Duffey motions to accept the May 11, 2023; 2nd by member Grabowski:

Motion passes unanimously by those present.

b. May 11, 2023-

Chair Duffey explains in light of how involved the meeting of February 16, 2023, she motions to table the meeting minutes. Motion is 2nd by member Grabowski:

Roll Call

J. Quinones-yes
N. Duffey-yes
D. Grabowski-yes

Motion passes unanimously by those present.

Agenda #4-Citizens Forum- Citizen Kevin Buxton questions the status of municipal liens for 21D Tickets issued. Director Wasiuk's explains the process regarding municipal liens is an on-going process which currently awaits assistance from various municipal departments and final approval from Council. Citizen Buxton's questions where the cost for the toters came from. Chair Duffey requests Director Wasiuk to research the payment for toters. In addition, K. Buxton explains the town will need to complete an inventory of the toters (trash and recycling) distributed to 6300 households who currently take part in the curbside collection. This is to enforce regulations and to be able to hold those accountable should they have more than one trash container.

Councilor Daou states he believes the department currently has a data base with this information including serial numbers assigned to each address.

Citizen Buxton emotionally expresses concerns on the commercial entities not recycling and thus unfair to the residents whom are relied upon to recycle. Voicing the Town can't overlook this issue.

Councilor Marketti questions what plans are in place to cut down on the illegal dumping? Director Wasiuk is aware of issues regarding illegal dumping areas and its difficulty to control. Some possibilities which

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "M. Marketti".

may deter to violators are posting signage on town owned property with barriers or chains and or fencing for turnaround areas. This continues to be work in progress.

Councilor Daou suggests the placement of cameras in certain areas. Chair Duffey states the Board has been told there is no money available. Councilor Chenier suggests looking into grants for funds. Councilor Lazo states we will find the money that is necessary.

Councilor Marketti requests more details on agenda items as it is too vague and citizens need to know what old business and on-going business will be discussed.

Agenda #5-Old Business- Chair Duffey following up on Brick Row and the Thomas St status. Dir. Wasiuk explains Brick Row is moving to be demolished and will be before Town Council for approval. This particular property has been on the blighted list for quite some time due to the structural integrity of the property and its potential risk for public safety. The Town is looking into all avenues to make the Charlton St property habitable if possible or move forward with demolition. Member Wasiuk requests the status on the Hamilton St property (known as 215). This property has been recently purchased and now off the blighted list. Dir. Wasiuk announces two properties located on Main St has recently removed all the rubbish, debris and illegal dumping throughout the yard.

Agenda #6- On-going Business- Member Quinones announces the KIVA Centers 3rd respite located in Dudley. The KIVA Center has partnered up with the mobile crisis unit to be able to reduce some of the screening that is needed for emergencies room visits. This should alleviate emergency clusters.

Agenda #7- Discuss Emergency Tick control at Henry St. Field - Why Board of Health was not informed- Director Wasiuk begins with an overview including the chain of events and his duty is to protect public health as well as disease prevention. States this was a joint effort between Health Department, Town Council, DPW, Recreation and Town Manager. The Department was able to obtain a pest control company to mitigate risk of infection to the public specifically, children utilizing the field.

Chair Duffey asks when was the incident, when was it treated and why wasn't the Board notified? This could have been as simple as including the Board in an email.

Questions regarding retreating the fields arose by member Grabowski. Director Wasiuk replies often the treatment will involved several treatments begin with a subsequent treatment in July, then early fall. These have not been scheduled as of yet.

Discussion between Chair Duffey and Director Wasiuk continues regarding why the Board was not notified.

Councilor Lazo and Citizen Chenier express the Town does not have contract with a licensed pest control company nor does it have anyone on payroll who can conduct pesticides on town property. There were obvious concerns with the ticks on the field, which led to a quick response by the Director and staff. Councilor Lazo commends the Director.

Councilor Daou and Councilor Lazo both agree this is not to forum (public meeting) to question the actions of the Director of Public Health. He is doing his job to make sure that the public is safe however, there should be more communication between the two.

Chair Duffey shares disappointment when the public is aware of this situation and the Board is blindsided.

Member Quinones expresses lack of and some of the behind the scenes communication and would like to see a little more involvement. Director Wasiuk understands.

Chair Duffey mentions there have been several instances where questions to the Director were not answered. For the record, Chair Duffey questions why the Board was not informed. No comment by Director Wasiuk.

Chair Duffey makes note that a public records request was submitted for all communications related to ticks.

Agenda #8- Health Director's Announcement- Director Wasiuk reads an announcement in verbatim (see attached).

Agenda #9- Chairman Announcement- no announcement

Agenda #10- Board Members Announcements

a. D. Grabowski- questions the best practices of illegal purchase of tobacco and his duty. Director Wasiuk states concerns with any illegal tobacco purchases, please let him know.

b. J. Quinones- no announcement

Agenda #11- Schedule Next Meeting- July 20, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Agenda #12- Adjournment- motion to adjourn made by D. Grabowski; 2nd Chair Duffey;
Roll Call

J. Quinones-yes

D. Grabowski-yes

N. Duffey-yes

Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 7:01pm

Recording Clerk,

M. Portalatin

