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Inspection Services
41 Elm Street

TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
July 20, 2023 BOH Meeting 6:00pm
Veteran's Room

Agenda #1- Open Meeting- 6:03pm

Agenda #2- Roll Call
N. Duffey
J. Quinones
D, Grabowski-excused

NOTE: 2 out of 5 members in attendance does not constitute a quorum

Discussion: Chair Duffey indicates that a quorum is not attainable with this meeting due to lack of member attendance. Meeting agenda will not be discussed.

Chair reads in verbatim an email provided by member Grabowski:

From member Grabowski: "It's with deep regret that I won't be attending tonight's BOH meeting because of circumstances beyond my control. There are too many confusing issues going on within the Town Managers office and the Town Council" See email attached.

Chair understands there was some questioning regarding the legality of tonight's meeting and that he (Dan) got his answers from the Town Manager. Chair states she has completed some research from Mass General Laws, Mass Boards and Town Manager. All were in alignment.

Chair makes the following announcement, reading an FYI email dated July 19, 2023 from Councilor Chenier to Town Manager, Charles Blanchard:

From Chenier: "I am sure that you have had a morning full of this question but I would like to know how a determination was made concerning the non-reappointment of a member of the board of health. On Monday night a Board of Health member (Duffey) was not approved to be reappointed and also an attempt was made to make a her a new appointment both failed. My understanding is that her term of office ended on July 1st 2023. There is a Board of Health meeting scheduled for Thursday night with the member in questioned acting as the chair. I would like to know how this is possible as her term is supposed to end on July 1st. (see attached)

Response from Interim Town Manager:

"The Charter, which is consistent with Massachusetts General Laws, states: Appointments shall be effective on the first day of July, and expire on the thirtieth day of June, or when a Successor has been appointed and qualified.

In my experience this has been interpreted to mean that the person remains in the position, even if not re-appointed, until a successor has been appointed.

The question came up in a community I worked in where re-appointments had lapsed, and members on a

RECEIVED
OWN CLERK'S OFFICE
2023 AUG 10 PM 7:40
TOWN OF SOUTHBRIDGE
MASSACHUSETTS

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Paladino".

Board continued to serve. Town Counsel's opinion was that this wording gave those members the authority to continue to serve.” (See attached)

Chair re-schedules next BOH meeting for July 27, 2023 at 6:00pm.

Councilor Lazo states to the point of Bylaws, about being appointed, or not appointed, I'm not debating any of that. He explains there's only two vacancies on the Board and they're being filled Monday night. There are no other vacancies due to letter of resignation not submitted by Paige at this time. Chair states the only intention was to address this, on why member Grabowski decided not to show and just to reschedule our meeting and that's it.

Agenda #3- Re-Organization

Agenda #4- Accept Meeting Minutes

a. February 16, 2023

b. June 29, 2023

Agenda #5-Citizens Forum

Agenda #6-Old Business

a. Blight Update

Agenda #7- On-going Business

a. Discussion on Community Mental Health needs

Agenda #8- Health Director's Announcement

Agenda #9- Chairman Announcement

Agenda #10- Board Members Announcements

Agenda #11- Schedule Next Meeting- Thursday, July 27, 2023 @ 6:00pm

Agenda #12- Adjournment-Motion to adjourn made by Chair Duffey; 2nd by member Quinones-
Roll Call

N. Duffey- yes

J. Quinones- yes

Discussion adjourned at 6:09 pm

Recording Clerk,

Maritza Portalatin
