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4/10/2022

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK
RCUD APR 5 2022 PM2:50

**TOWN OF WINCHENDON
BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES MARCH 7, 2022**

Members in attendance: Chair Keith Kent, Lionel Cloutier, Edward Bond, and Tina Santos

Absent: Garrett Wante

Also in attendance: James Abare, Health Agent

Meeting Material:

- March 7, 2022, Meeting Agenda
- February 14, 2022, Draft Meeting Minutes
- Food Permit applications: Immaculate Heart of Mary, American Legion, Not Just Produced, Chick's Tavern, Broadview, and River Walk Café
- Invoices: MHOA DEP Seminar and Recording Secretary

Chair Kent called the meeting to order at 6PM.

Pledge

Chair Update

Chair Keith Kent said Winchendon continues to receive positive news based on strong data received by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, as in the past 7 days, Winchendon's 14-day COVID positivity average has significantly dropped from 8.50 to 4.98 percent, a number not seen in quite some time.

Overall, ten town area surrounding Winchendon has now dropped in the last three weeks from 10.86, to 7.02, to 5.45 percent, down a strong 50 percent in 2 weeks, and an additional drop of 33 percent in just one week.

Numbers across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts continue to yield similar results. The Massachusetts 14-day COVID-19 viral positivity testing average registers at 2.32 percent, with Massachusetts now realizing a 7-day average of just 1.80 percent. The only towns still testing high in positivity in the current Mass DPH update are mainly located in the northwest corner of the Commonwealth, one of the two longest identified clusters in Massachusetts.

In Winchendon, all vaccination numbers, while picking up a few residents in each age group, remained unchanged from the prior weekly report in important youth age groups for school populations. The age group of 5 to 11 years old remained 21 percent fully vaccinated, and 24 percent partially vaccinated. Children ages 12 to 15 also remained unchanged at 41 percent fully vaccinated, and 45 percent partially vaccinated. The teenage age group of 16 to 19 year old individuals remained 46 percent fully vaccinated, and

39 52 percent partially vaccinated.

40
41 Winchendon, listed by the Massachusetts DPH with a population of 10,765 residents, also remained
42 unchanged in overall vaccination numbers, yielding for the second consecutive week 6,011 of its residents
43 or 56 percent fully vaccinated and 6,740 residents or 63 percent partially vaccinated.

44
45 In closing, the Town of Winchendon Board of Health continues to recommend if one is not yet vaccinated
46 and is healthy enough to do so, to please become vaccinated. If you have any questions, please have that
47 conversation with your primary care physician, or a certified health care professional. Scientifically and
48 biologically proven by all medical data, the longer people chose to remain non-vaccinated, the longer
49 COVID-19 has another chance to find another biological human host for additional mutations. It's not just
50 proven with the current viral pandemic, but throughout global world genetic history.

51
52 Locally, almost all surrounding towns in our ten-town area realized drops, with only two towns increasing
53 by mere hundredths of a percent. Ashby only two towns away from Winchendon remained largely
54 unchanged, rising from 5.43 to 5.45 percent. In the Ashburnham-Westminster Regional School District,
55 Westminster continued with positive news, lowering from 8.06 to 5.00 percent, and partner Ashburnham
56 dropped 7.86 to 3.13 percent, over a 50 percent reduction. In the Narragansett Regional School District,
57 Templeton decreased from 7.29 to 5.04, and Phillipston, still the highest in the area, reduced from 12.82
58 to 9.84 percent. Gardner also realized a continued welcome reduction, going down from 5.11 to 4.47
59 percent. In the Athol Royalston Regional School District, Athol dropped slightly from 8.18 to 7.92
60 percent, while Royalston increased by the slightest of margins from 2.82 to 2.90, only up 0.08 percent.
61 Hubbardston, which borders Gardner, which borders Winchendon, realized a large drop from 7.92 to 3.62
62 percent.

63 64 Minutes

65 **Lionel Cloutier made a motion to approve the February 14, 2022, meeting minutes as submitted.**
66 **Tina Santos seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier yes, Edward Bond**
67 **yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.**

68 Rescinding emergency appointment of Police Officers as Agents of the Board of Health

69 **Lionel Cloutier made a motion to rescind the police officers as agents of the Board of Health.**
70 **Edward Bond seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier yes, Edward**
71 **Bond yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.**

72 Food Permits

73 **Camelot**

74 ***Present: Francis Chiminje, Manager***

75 Chair Kent said 2 ½ years ago the Board discussed the three bay sink which is required. Due to the
76 pandemic the Board in September gave an addition six months to get it installed.

77 Francis Chiminje said financially it has been very challenging. It has been hard to get a licensed
78 contractor. He said he should have an estimate next week.

79 James Abare, Health Agent said they will have to remove some of the cabinets to fit the three-bay sink.
80 They will have to still prepare meals during this process. Chair Kent said he wanted the Board to be
81 updated through the Health Agent with the status of the project.

82 Tina Santos suggested Francis Chiminje reach out to Monty Tech for help.

83 **Edward Bond made a motion to grant a six-month temporary extension with a stipulation to keep**
84 **the Board updated through the Health Agent of the status of the project. Lionel Cloutier seconded**
85 **the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier yes, Edward Bond yes, Tina Santos yes,**
86 **and Keith Kent yes.**

87 Tina Santos said food permit #2209 for Immaculate Heart of Mary with a request to waive the fee due to
88 charitable status. There were no notes or violations. **Lionel Cloutier made a motion to approve with**
89 **the fee waived. Edward Bond seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier**
90 **yes, Edward Bond yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.**

91 Tina Santos said food permit #2210 for American Legion with the \$100 fee paid. There were no notes or
92 violations. **Lionel Cloutier made a motion to approve food permit #2210 for American Legion.**
93 **Edward Bond seconded the motion.** Tina Santos questions if she should vote since she is associated
94 with the American Legion. Edward Bond said he is a member. This permit was tabled due to potential
95 conflicts. They will check with the Town Clerk and revisit.

96 Tina Santos said food permit #2211 for Not Just Produced with the \$100 fee paid. There were no notes or
97 violations. **Lionel Cloutier made a motion to approve food permit #2211 for Not Just Produced.**
98 **Edward Bond seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier yes, Edward**
99 **Bond yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.**

100 Tina Santos said food permit #2212 for Chick's Tavern with the \$100 fee paid. There were no notes or
101 violations. **Lionel Cloutier made a motion to approve food permit #2212 for Chick's Tavern.**
102 **Edward Bond seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier yes, Edward**
103 **Bond yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.**

104 Tina Santos said food permit #2213 for Broadview with the \$100 fee paid. There were no notes or
105 violations. **Lionel Cloutier made a motion to approve food permit #2213 for Broadview. Edward**
106 **Bond seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier yes, Edward Bond yes,**
107 **Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.**

108 Tina Santos said food permit #2214 for River Walk Café with the \$100 fee paid. There were no notes or
109 violations. **Lionel Cloutier made a motion to approve food permit #2212 for River Walk Cafe.**
110 **Edward Bond seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier yes, Edward**
111 **Bond yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.**

112 **Invoices**

113 Lionel Cloutier made a motion to reimburse James Abare for the MHOA DEP Seminar in the
114 amount of \$40.00. Edward Bond seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel
115 Cloutier yes, Edward Bond yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.

116 Lionel Cloutier made a motion to pay the Recording Secretary \$75.00 for the February 14, 2022,
117 meeting minutes. Edward Bond seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier
118 yes, Edward Bond yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.

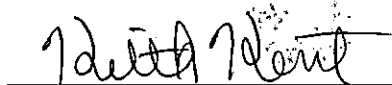
119 Adjourn

120 Edward Bond made a motion to adjourn. Lionel Cloutier seconded the motion. No discussion. Roll
121 Call Vote: Lionel Cloutier yes, Edward Bond yes, Tina Santos yes, and Keith Kent yes.

122 The meeting was adjourned at 6:51pm.

123
124 Respectfully submitted

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126 Debra Dennis, Board of Health Recording Secretary

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128 

129 Keith Kent

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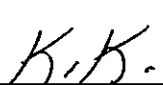
131 Lionel Cloutier

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134 Edward Bond

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137 Tina Santos

6:10 P.M.
Approved:  01/04/2022