

## **Winchendon Board of Health**

109 Front Street  
Winchendon, MA 01475

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### **Minutes Regular Meeting Monday December 5, 2022 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room**

**Members Present:** Keith Kent, Lionel Cloutier, Glenn LaRochelle, Tina Santos  
**Members Absent:** Edward Bond

**Others Present:** James Abare, Health Agent, James Bigwood

**Meeting called to order: 6:08 pm**

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of silence for Dr. Maureen Ward's mother, Olga Floyd, resident of British Columbia, Canada, who passed away today at the age of 95.

#### **Chair Report:**

Chairman Kent reported that Toy Town has shown a slow climb of the viral positivity rate to 9.86%, breaking a 7 week trend. Eight out of ten towns in our area per the December 1, 2022 report showed a decreased positivity rate. Gardner and Athol, both larger than Winchendon have decreased. Ashburnham, Westminster, Phillipston, Templeton, Royalston, Ashby, and Hubbardston have all decreased as well. The Winchendon Board of Health offers free COVID 19 test kits certified good through January 2023. These are located in the BOH office at Town Hall. Mr. Kent delivered several cases of test kits to the Congregational Church, the hispanic church on Central Street, and the Unitarian Universalist Church. Mr. Kent will reach out to Immaculate Heart of Mary as well.

#### **Minutes:**

Minutes of the October 17, 2022 meeting were presented. *Motion to accept minutes Cloutier/Santos 4-0 Approved by roll call vote.*

Minutes of the November 7, 2022 meeting were presented. *Motion to accept minutes Cloutier/LaRochelle 4-0 Approved by roll call vote.*

*Motion to take agenda items out of order Santos/LaRochelle 4-0 Approved by roll call vote.*

#### **19 Chestnut Street**

Mr. James Bigwood is in attendance to update the Board. He stated that all repairs have been corrected and inspected except for the issue with the tub in the bathroom. He would like to



address this repair during the renovation he is planning for the unit. Mr. Abare feels this is a reasonable request. Mr. Bigwood feels ideally the renovation would be easier if the unit was unoccupied. As there is a court date pending, this is a difficult situation. The original court date was November 18, 2022 and was delayed. The new court date is 12-16-22. The tenant is handicapped and is having a hard time accessing the bathroom. There was discussion about the possibility of emergency housing while the unit is being rehabbed. There is a lack of emergency and/or affordable housing which is making this option difficult. Mr. Bigwood is asking for an additional extension to complete repairs. There have been no previous issues or violations. *Motion to grant 60 day extension for repairs and pending court outcome LaRochelle/Santos 3-0 Approved, 1 Abstention (Cloutier), by roll call vote.*

### **Permits:**

#### **Retail Food:**

#2292-A-1 Go Mart, formerly Gateway Convenience, \$100 fee paid, no notes or violations.

#2293-The Glen Caffe, \$100 fee paid, 1 note, ice machine needs cleaning. Issue has been resolved.

#2294-RAB Interprises Inc., DBA Gabbys Pizza, \$100 fee paid. Notes: Floors need additional cleaning in hard to reach areas, reinspection has not been performed.

#2295-Christo's Place, \$100 fee paid, no notes or violations.

#2296-Nouria Energy Corp. \$100 fee paid, one note, product found out of code, Hidden Valley Ranch.

*Motion to approve permits 2292, 2293, 2295, and 2296 Santos/Cloutier 4-0 Approved by roll call vote.*

*Motion to approve permit 2294 upon reinspection by Health Agent Cloutier/LaRochelle 4-0 Approved by roll call vote.*

#### **Tobacco:**

T#22-01 Paragon Investment Group Inc., DBA Winchendon Wine and Spirits, \$150 fee paid.

T#22-02 One Stop Plaza Convenience, \$150 fee paid.

T#22-03 Nouria Energy Corporation, \$150 fee paid.

T#22-04 S.K. RAJ Inc., DBA Williams Package Store, \$150 fee paid.

T#22-05 St. Charbel Convenience Inc., DBA A-1 Go Mart, \$150 fee paid.

T#22-06 NDHP Corporation, DBA Mike Mart, \$150 fee paid.

T#22-07 RAB Enterprises Inc., DBA Gabbys Pizza, \$150 fee paid.

Missing permits include Family Dollar and Cumberland Farms.

*Motion to approve tobacco permits T#22-01, T#22-02, T#22-03, T#22-04, T#22-05, T#22-06, and T# 22-07 Santos/LaRochelle 4-0 Approved by roll call vote.*

Seven out of nine tobacco permits have been returned. Have not received permits for Family Dollar or Cumberland Farms.

### **Invoices:**

Two invoices were presented. The first was for Recording Secretary Jenelle Sroczynski for the November 7, 2022 meeting in the amount of \$75.00. The second was for former Recording Secretary Debra Dennis in the amount of \$75.00. *Motion to approve both invoices Cloutier/LaRochelle 4-0 Approved by roll call vote.*

Ms. Santos excused herself from the meeting due to a family emergency.

### **New Business:**



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1.  $\mathcal{C} = \mathcal{C}_1 \cup \mathcal{C}_2$  and  $\mathcal{C}_1 \cap \mathcal{C}_2 = \emptyset$ .  
2.  $\mathcal{C}_1$  and  $\mathcal{C}_2$  are both  $\mathcal{C}$ -closed.

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On the other hand, the fact that the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration in the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channel is lower than that in the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channel is not surprising. The  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration in the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channel is lower than that in the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channel.

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(a)  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$  (b)  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$  (c)  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$  (d)  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{4}$

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[illegible]

and  $\mathcal{H}^1$  is the Hausdorff measure of order 1. The following theorem is due to [10].

40.  $\frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{1+x}{1-x} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \ln \left( \frac{1+0.05}{1-0.05} \right) \approx 0.05105$  (rounded to 5 decimal places).

[illegible]

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the  $\mathcal{H}^1$ -norm. In case (19b)  $\alpha = 0$  and all homogeneous terms are of order  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$ . In case (19c)  $\mathcal{H}^1$ -norms are not available and  $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$  is not

1. The first step is to identify the problem. This involves understanding the current situation and the goals that need to be achieved.

(iii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\log \log n}{\log n} = 0$  implies that  $\log \log n$  is negligible, but  $\log n$  is not  $\leq \log 4$ .

2019-01-14



1/9/2023  
K.K.

Mr. Kent discussed the Cumberland Farms food permit. Specifically the lettering over the counter where food is kept, which appears to be dusty. When the door opens it tends to be drafty and may be contributing to the issue. Also, the construction on Central Street, with all of the additional dust certainly posed and issue. There is also an issue with the heat lamp not being at the correct degree. The manager of Cumberland Farms following correct corporate procedure has filed a "fix-it" ticket and is waiting for a repair person to show up. Mr. Kent would like to see the lettering cleaned every 3 months.

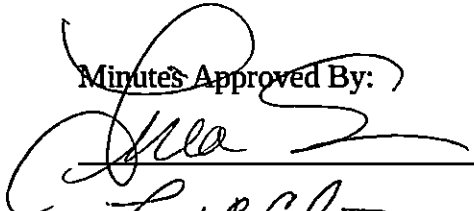

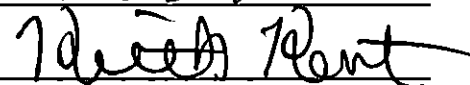
Mr. Cloutier spoke to the Poop and Scoop by-law the town has in place. He has noticed an increase of people not cleaning up after their dogs on the sidewalks and bike path. He would like to revisit who is responsible for issuing the \$50 citation for violations. He was in possession of citation book, that was asked to be returned. Mr. Kent has spoken to the Board of Selectmen. The DPW and Police have not issue citations. Mr. LaRochelle noted there has been a significant increase in illegal dumping. Mr. Kent feels this is due to the inability to pay dump fees. Mr. Kent asked Mr. Cloutier to speak to the Board of Selectmen regarding the Poop and Scoop bylaw.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn: Cloutier/LaRochelle 3- 0 approved by rollcall vote at 7:18pm.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:19 pm.**

Respectfully submitted by:  
Jenelle Sroczynski  
Board Secretary

Minutes Approved By:

  
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15-15.  
1/9/2022

## **Area illness rates skyrocketing. Hospitals nearing capacity.**

Current Triple-demic rates of COVID-19 / The Flu / & RSV infections are causing significant stress on both Local and Commonwealth wide hospitals and secondary healthcare facilities, which are now asking for the public to please take common sense precautions and measures with their health as systems are nearing or now at full capacity depending on location. Patients from both the Chair City and North Quabbin areas are continuing to be showing up at times on social media reported by their families transported to out of state hospitals just to get a bed for treatment as needed on a case by case basis.

All indicators are up - According to the Mass DPH, as of Thursday, January 5, the Commonwealth 14 day average per its latest report has increased to 11.94%, with the more accurate up to date "7 day average" increasing to 13.39% positivity.

### **Nine of Ten local towns in Viral double digits**

Locally in our immediate Ten Town Area of North Worcester County, "9 of 10 towns" are now at double digit COVID-19 or SARS-CoV-2 positivity. In just the last 7 days based on the newest Massachusetts Department of Public Health report released Thursday, January 5, our 10 town area traveling just 2 towns in any direction south of the State of NH border from Winchendon, has increased in viral positivity from 10.93 to 14.30 percent positivity average, a 24% one week jump, and has now almost nearly doubled in COVID-19 positivity from 7.57%, just 2 weeks prior.

Beginning with Winchendon at 10,500 residents which this week actually dipped from 13.29 to 10.42%, Toy Town was only 1 of 3 area towns to realize a slight decrease. Those joining it were Hubbardston dropping from a very high 13.83 to a still high 13.43% positivity, and the Town of Athol with nearly 12,000 residents, still above eight percent, lowering from 8.56 to 8.01% positivity based on 395 molecular tests.

### **Local Municipalities on the rise**

Others all on the on the SARS-CoV-2 rise were Ashburnham moving from 10.62 to 11.76%, and its school district partnering Town of Westminster increasing from 6.25 to 12.32%. In the Narragansett Regional School District to Winchendon's south, Templeton realized a significant surge, trending up from 7.30 to 15.65% positivity, and its partnering town Phillipston, increasing from 14.29 to 18.18% positivity. Ashby to Ashburnham's east increased from 10.62 to 14.93%, and Royalston to Winchendon's west and also a joint school district member with Athol, jumped from 14.3 to 25.00 percent. Lastly, in the Chair City, the City of Gardner with 21,000 residents jumped from 8.75 to 12.85% positivity. Again it should be noted, "NONE OF THESE NUMBERS INCLUDE ANY STORE BOUGHT OR GOVERNMENT PROVIDED HOME ANTIGEN TEST KITS" which are not mandated for reporting to the Mass DPH for calculations, and according to it, add at a bare minimum at least if not more, 5 percent or better.

Keith Kent, Chair, Board of Health, Town of Winchendon.



KK  
1/9/2023

"Heywood Healthcare, along with health systems across the Commonwealth, is experiencing a surge of high acuity patients, including a high prevalence of COVID-19 and influenza, resulting in a lack of inpatient beds statewide. Currently there are 23 COVID-19 inpatients in the Heywood system, and a handful of influenza patients. Wastewater data is indicating a potential peak during the month of January.

"In an effort to optimize access to healthcare for residents of our community, we have to prioritize inpatient beds for those with urgent and emergent needs. There is no interruption to elective outpatient, urgent or emergent surgeries. Due to the higher volume of inpatient admissions, capacity for elective inpatient surgeries is evaluated daily. Unfortunately some patients scheduled for elective inpatient surgery had to be rescheduled. We provide as much notice as possible, understanding the considerable planning and preparation taken on behalf of our patients scheduled for surgery," stated Rozanna Penney, Vice President of Ambulatory and Perioperative Services for Heywood Healthcare.

Community members can help by contacting your primary care physician upon onset of symptoms, and by accessing the right level of care at the right place. Residents experiencing more mild symptoms may be best evaluated at an Urgent Care Center, such as Heywood Urgent Care (Gardner) and Tully Walk-In Care (Athol). Patients experiencing severe symptoms should seek emergency care. Residents can also help by avoiding public places if they are sick and by wearing a mask to avoid transmission to others".

Dawn Casavant, Vice President of External Affairs  
Executive Director, Heywood Healthcare Charitable Foundation  
Heywood Healthcare