



# Town of Fairhaven

## Board of Health

FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK  
RCUD 2023 AUG 17 PM 1:53

Town Hall · 40 Center Street · Fairhaven, MA 02719  
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August 2, 2023

PRESENT: Kevin Gallagher, Justine Frezza and David Flaherty  
ABSENT: Heidi Hacking

### 1. Call to Order

- a. Chairman Gallagher called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Chairman Gallagher welcomed everyone.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Welcome and Media Notification

- a. Chairman Gallagher read the media and recording notifications.

### 4. Minutes of the Meeting

- a. Member Frezza made the motion to accept the minutes of the meeting July 19, 2023. Chairman Gallagher in agreement and motion accepted. The vote is unanimous.

### 5. Health Agent Report

- a. Health Agent Flaherty reports COVID numbers continue to go down and have leveled off since his last report. COVID Test Kits are no longer available. Please visit the local pharmacies for test kits.
- b. Medication disposal bags are available in the Health Office at the Town Hall, Library, COA, Rec Center, Fire Department and Police Department.
- c. Blood pressure and wellness clinics offered every Wednesday at the COA from 1-3 pm.
- d. No Perc tests were witnessed and no Title 5 inspections were witnessed.
- e. Checked on various Chapter II inspections and complaints.

- f. Beach water testing continues. The testing is done weekly by Agent Flaherty for suitability for swimming. The test is for absence of E. coli and coliform bacteria.
- g. Water main flushing continues and will continue for a little longer.
- h. Arbovirus Update – Bristol County Mosquito Control Project continues their larva site treatments to wetlands and swamps for mosquitos. Pool testing continues and to date there have been 3,995 mosquito pools tested and 15 have been positive. There have been 65 humans tested and all negative. Requests for yard treatment will be taken. Ticks are out in force. Deet should be used and another treatment with permethrin should be used on shoes and pant legs when out in meadows and woods. Use of treatment on skin with anti-tick chemicals should be at the advice of the pharmacist. Agent Flaherty had the Fire Department do an electronic notification a couple of weeks ago regarding mosquito and tick control. Check the Fairhaven Health Department website for an updated PSA.
- i. Rodent complaints have gone down. Please be vigilant with trash and birdseed on your property. Consult a licensed exterminator for property treatment in conjunction with neighbors if it seems overwhelming.
- j. Agent Flaherty will be hosting a monthly “Donuts with Dave” meeting at the COA to discuss with seniors any health related topics or updates that are relevant to them or their families. The first meeting will begin August 14<sup>th</sup>.
- k. Update on Burger King. According to the manager at corporate all interior HVAC repairs have been made. Agent Flaherty did a walkthrough and confirmed this. The bathroom is better. The next phase will be to update the interior decoration and paint the outside.
- l. Chairman Gallagher thanked Agent Flaherty for keeping the beach testing going and noted there were many residents at West Island beach enjoying the water. Also, in regards to Burger King the main issue had been the HVAC, which seems to have been addressed for the customers as well as the area for the employees. Agent Flaherty affirmed.
- m. Member Frezza requested the COVID report not be included any longer since the numbers continue to go down. If the numbers rise then an update should be done. Agent Flaherty and Chairman Gallagher in agreement.

6. **Discuss weekly Board of Health related topics** – Chairman Gallagher asked if any topics to be discussed. Member Frezza discussed the town website, which is in process. Member Frezza asked for an update once it is completed.

7. **Discuss Chapter II hearing of 236 Adams Street** – Agent Flaherty has spoken to the homeowner and the homeowner assured Agent Flaherty that there is a contractor lined up. Agent Flaherty was able to speak with the contractor and the contractor affirmed work should begin within a couple of weeks. Agent Flaherty will continue to update the Board to the progress.
8. **Discuss Chapter II hearing of 6 Evergreen Street** – Chairman Gallagher noted this item to be skipped at this time because it will be discussed later in Executive Session.
9. **Public Comment** – Chairman Gallagher addressed that Vice Chair Hacking has regrettably resigned from the board due to health issues. Chairman Gallagher sends Vice Chair Hacking love and support from the department during this time. Respectfully, Chairman Gallagher will wait until the next meeting to address the Select Board regarding the vacancy of the position on the Board of Health. Massachusetts general law Chapter 41 Section 11 governs this process. The Board of Health has 30 days to notify the Select Board of the vacancy. No other public comment.
10. **Invoices, Correspondence and other business**
  - a. Invoices reviewed and approved.
11. **Next Meeting Date** – August 16, 2023 at 5pm.
12. **Future Agenda Items**
13. **Adjourn and Executive Session** - Chairman Gallagher motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:12pm and enter into executive session to discuss with Town Counsel pursuant to G.L. c. 30A, s. 21(a)(3) (potential litigation) and (7) “[t]o comply with, or act under the authority of, any general or special law or federal grant-in-aid requirements”: Public Records Law, G.L. c. 4, s. 7(26) (discuss privileged legal opinion and potential litigation concerning 6 Evergreen Street) and not to reconvene in open session. Member Frezza seconded and motion passed unanimously.