



# Town of Fairhaven

## Board of Health

Town Hall · 40 Center Street · Fairhaven, MA 02719  
Telephone: (508) 979-4023 ext. 125 · Fax: (508) 979-4079

April 24, 2024

PRESENT: Justine Frezza, Brian Meneses, Barbara Acksen, David Flaherty

**1. Call to Order**

- a. Chair Frezza called the meeting to order at 5:01pm. Chair Frezza welcomed everyone.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

**3. Welcome and Media Notification**

- a. Chair Frezza read the media and recording notifications.

**4. Minutes of the Meeting**

- a. **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses made the motion to accept the minutes of the meeting April 10, 2024. Member Acksen seconded. The motion passed unanimously (3-0-0).

**5. Health Agent Report**

- a. Health Agent Flaherty reports COVID numbers are at 11.92%, which is slightly down from 12.34%. This is from positive tests in a clinical setting only. COVID Test Kits are no longer available at the Health Department.
- b. Blood pressure and wellness clinics offered every Wednesday at the COA from 1-3 pm.
- c. Gastrointestinal illness cases, such as the norovirus, have risen in Fairhaven and the South Coast. Influenza is also on the rise. Please consult your physician regarding vaccination. Be sure to wash hands often, after the restroom, before preparing, serving, and eating meals. Sanitize surfaces frequently as well.
- d. No Perc tests were witnessed and no Title 5 were witnessed.

- e. Rodent complaints have picked-up. 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.
- f. Fairhaven home-bound residents qualify for a free home-bound flu vaccine offered by the Southeastern Mass Public Health Collaborative to provide an in-home vaccine. Please call the Health Department for more information. The COVID vaccine is not yet available for home-bound residents.
- g. Agent Flaherty attended a CPR training through the Southeastern MA Public Health Collaborative last Thursday. Agent Flaherty notes it was an excellent training. Narcan training was also performed and, as such, there is now 2 doses at the Town Hall for emergency use. Chair Frezza asked if Narcan is only available at the pharmacy. Vice Chair Meneses notes that there is a State order that Narcan be available over the counter at the pharmacies.
- h. The Southeastern MA Public Health Collaborative has provided more medication disposal bags, sharps containers, CPR masks, and pill containers (these are available in English and Spanish). Please visit the Health Department for any of these items. Agent Flaherty attends weekly meetings and there will be a webpage, and Facebook page coming soon. There was also a Pre-Diabetes screening offered and Wellness Walks being offered.
- i. Olivia's Restaurant is planning to open on Tuesday April 30<sup>th</sup>. Agent Flaherty will be doing the pre-operational health inspection that morning.
- j. Agent Flaherty lists the current Chapter II housing complaints: 10 Francis Street, 15 Academy Street, 109 Spring Street, 6 Shirley Street, 14 Oxford Road, and 6 Evergreen Street. Agent Flaherty commented that the addresses have not typically been provided at meetings, but given that some of these have been ongoing felt it may be time to review the current list. Chair Frezza requested a summary of what constitutes a Chapter II. Agent Flaherty briefly summarized some conditions; any circumstance as written in the 105 CMR 410.000 Minimum Standards of Fitness for Human Habitation (State Sanitary Code, Chapter II).
- k. Agent Flaherty lists the current chicken complaints: 25 Mulberry Street, 19 Brook Street. Agent Flaherty has sent letters to the residence regarding the permitting process. Agent Flaherty will be working with the Animal Control Officer on these.
- l. Agent Flaherty let the Board Members know that there are trainings available for Board of Health members. Agent Flaherty will forward any trainings to the Board as he is notified of them.

- 6. Discussion Regarding Condemnation Hearing for 6 Evergreen Street** – Agent Flaherty reviewed that this has been an on-going case that had been brought before the Court. At the last court date, which was last week, it was decided by the judge that it would have to stay within the Town of Fairhaven to resolve. Agent Flaherty reviewed the situation that had occurred at the residence, which prompted the Chapter II action from the Board of Health. Agent Flaherty was told by Town Council that 6 Evergreen can now be discussed at Public Hearing going forward. Agent Flaherty will start the process to proceed with a Public Hearing for Condemnation of 6 Evergreen Street.
- 7. Public Comment** – No public comment at this time.
- 8. Invoices, Correspondence and other business**
  - a. Invoices reviewed and approved.
- 9. Next Meeting Date** – May 8, 2024 at 5:00 pm
- 10. Meeting Adjourned – Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Acksen seconded. The vote is unanimous (3-0-0).