



# Town of Fairhaven

## Board of Health

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2021 MAY 28 A 9:17

FAIRHAVEN,  
MASS.

May 12, 2021

PRESENT: Peter DeTerra, Michael Ristuccia, Kevin Gallagher, David Flaherty

### 1. Call to Order

- a. Chairman Michael Ristuccia called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Roll call attendance of the meeting members were taken, Michael Ristuccia and Kevin Gallagher, all were in attendance.

### 2. Welcome and Media Notification

- a. Mr. Ristuccia welcomed everyone and read the media and recording notifications and Welcome the public to speak on items.

### 3. Minutes of the Meeting:

- a. Open Session April 28, 2021  
Mr. DeTerra made the motion to approve the minutes of the open session on April 28, 2021. Mr. Gallagher seconded. Vote passed unanimously.

### 4. Health Agent Report/ COVID-19 Update

- a. As of May 7, 2021 the total case count for Fairhaven is 1,993. The total case count for the last 14 days is 49, the Public Health Nurse is following these cases along with other communicable diseases. The total number of tests for the last two weeks is 1,410. The positivity rate is 4.11% which is down from the previous two week rate at 4.82%. Fairhaven is still yellow.
- b. There are currently 6,474 fully vaccinated persons in Fairhaven, a 436 increase from 4/30.  
3,813 fully vaccinated females at 59%, a 220 increase from 4/30.  
2,661 Fully vaccinated males at 41%, a 163 increase from 4/30.
- c. COVID Testing is at the Emergency Management Building at 150 Sconticut Neck Road on Saturdays from 10am-12 Noon until further notice.
- d. The Fairhaven Board of Health and Fairhaven Fire Department are partnering with Walmart to offer Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations to Fairhaven residents, 12+ on Saturday, May 15 from 10AM - 2PM at the Fairhaven Recreation Center (227 Huttleston Avenue). This event is a walk-in event only, however, we strongly encourage people to call the Fairhaven Health Department at 508-979-4023 ext. 125 to help us to gauge the numbers of vaccines needed for the day, but please note this is not a reservation. Individuals will need to bring their ID and insurance card (if applicable). Minors should either be accompanied by a consenting adult or parents/guardians can use the link below to print and fill out ahead of time for minors under 18 years older. Minors can bring the pre-filled forms with them on Saturday with no need for consenting adults present.

<https://www.mass.gov/doc/ma-consent-form-for-individuals-under-18-years-of-age-english-4222021/download> . The follow-up date for the second Pfizer vaccine shot will be June 5, 2021 from 10AM - 2PM at the Fairhaven Recreation Center. For more information, contact the Fairhaven Health Department at 508-979-4023 ext. 125.

- e. The State has also relaxed guidelines for mask wearing and other COVID measures in public.
- f. All seniors who are having difficulty signing up for a vaccine may call the Council on Aging for assistance 508-979-4029.
- g. No Perc tests witnessed, No System Install Inspections, Followed up on 3 complaints.
- h. Mosquito and Tick season is here. The Fairhaven Health Department website has more information online on how to prevent mosquitos and ticks.
- i. Mr. Flaherty has also attended various zoom meetings and seminars for MOHA, LOBH, and COVID 19.
- j. More information on Public Health Nursing grants to follow.
- k. Mr. DeTerra reminded everyone about the Home Bound Vaccination line and if anyone needs assistance getting to a vaccine please contact the Council on Aging. Mr. DeTerra also mentioned that ticks and mosquitos are coming and on the Fairhaven Health Dept Facebook page there is more information as well as more information at Town Hall.
- l. Mr. Gallagher said it is wonderful and rewarding knowing that the vaccine rate is going up and the percent positivity is going down, and that it is wonderful that Fairhaven is hosting a clinic this weekend for Fairhaven Residents. Mr. Flaherty said they will see how this one goes and has hopes to have another.
- m. Mr. Flaherty also mentioned that he will be doing Marina Inspections shortly with the Harbor Master.

#### **5. Private Pool Variance**

- a. Mr. Flaherty stated: Following up from the previous meeting, the homeowners had purchased a pool in the winter and due a pool shortage, they had to change their oval pool to a round pool. This resulted in the variance request to allow a 7ft setback from the property line and foundation. Mr. DeTerra made the motion to approve the variance request, Mr. Gallagher seconded. Vote passed.

#### **6. New Animal Permit**

- a. Ms. Dompierre was via Zoom and stated that they would like to have 3 goats on 7.5 acres of property. They have proper shelter, areas for grazing as well as food storage and bedding. Mr. Gallagher made the motion to issue the animal permit for 3 goats at 312 Mill rd, Mr. Ristuccia seconded, Mr. DeTerra abstained, vote passed.

#### **7. 302 Mill Rd**

- a. Mr. Flaherty said it this is a plan from Foresight Engineering for a new septic system. Mr. Flaherty and Mrs. Bowers, the Administrative Assistant, witnessed the perc test for the property. It is a dual compartment septic tank with a pump chamber. The engineer is requesting a variance due to high ground water. To prevent ground water from entering the tanks a boot will be placed on the inlet and outlet tees. Mr. DeTerra gave the board a full description to reiterate Mr. Flaherty's explanation of the variance and type of system. Mr. Gallagher made a motion to approve the plans for 302 Mill Rd, Mr. Ristuccia seconded the motion, Mr. DeTerra abstained, vote passed.

**8. Discussion of FY22 Budget**

- a. Mr. Gallagher had two concerns about the Board of Health Budget for FY22. His first concern is to free up some funds due to the cuts in other portions for the budget to assist with COVID since there are grants and COVID funds that could be used instead of making cuts. His second concern was eliminating the stipend for members of the Board. A discussion ensued amongst all present. Mr. Gallagher made a motion to reduce the stipend by \$1,758 which is his stipend amount for FY22, Mr. DeTerra seconded, Mr. Ristuccia opposed. Vote 2-1.

**9. Public Hearing- Continued**

- a. Mr. DeTerra made a motion to re-open the public hearing that was continued, Mr. Gallagher seconded, vote passed.  
Mr. Flaherty stated there has been no feedback on this public hearing. Mr. Gallagher stated that it is the Town coming in line with the States fines and rolling papers.  
Mr. DeTerra made a motion to approve the Tobacco Regulations, Mr. Gallagher seconded, vote passed.

**10. Invoices, Correspondence, and Other Business**

- a. Mr. Gallagher asked if the Board would consider allowing the press to attend their next meeting. Mr. Ristuccia said he would consider it and it would be placed on the next agenda. A short discussion about COVID vaccinations also spoken of.

**11. Public Comment**

- a. No Public Comment.

**12. Next meeting Date: May 26, 2021**

- a. Mr. DeTerra made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:45PM, Mr. Gallagher seconded, vote was unanimous.