



## **Acton Board of Health**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**January 9, 2024**

**7:30 PM.**

**Hybrid Meeting Room 204 Acton Town Hall and via Zoom**

#### **Present:**

**Members Present:** Mark Conoby - Chairman, William McInnis and Dr. William Taylor

**Virtual Members Present:** Mike Kreuze and Dr. Rekha Singh

**Staff Present:** Matthew Dow – Interim Health Director, John Mangiaratti – Town Manager and Nina Pickering-Cook – Town Counsel

**Others Present:** Sam Bajwa, Komal Bajwa and Steve Marsh

**Others Present Virtually:** Alissa Nicol – Select Board Liaison and Call-in user #1

#### **1. Opening**

Chairman – Mark Conoby opened the meeting at 7:33 P.M. A script was read that was provided by the Town and this meeting of the Board of Health was called to order.

#### **2. Special Business**

##### **Executive Session – 92B Willow Street**

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to go into Executive Session at 7:36 P.M. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

#### **3. Regular Business started back up at 8:38 P.M.**

##### **Health Director Update**

Mr. Dow mentioned to the Board that the Health/Human Services Director position was posted and they had over 41 applicants for the position.

Mr. Dow informed the Board he has reached out to Minuteman Inn to see what is needed for supplies for the shelter, as he has had a few people ask him what they can donate. They are not allowing cooking in the rooms or in the back-community area, so no pots and pans are necessary.



Mr. Dow mentioned that it is permit renewal time. The Health Division is asking all establishments and contractors to renew online with our new online permitting software Open Gov.

### **Nursing Service Update**

Mr. Dow mentioned that there are 34 COVID cases and 22 Flu cases in Town. These are cases that we know about, but that there are probably more that are not reported.

### **Other**

The Board asked the Health Division and Nursing Department to check in with Emerson Hospital and the elderly care facilities in Town to make sure they are doing ok and have the necessary PPE.

### **92B Willow Street – Update / Order and Enforcement**

The update regarding 92B Willow Street is that there is a case pending and Town Counsel has filed information with the court. There is a full administrative record. There is a request for judgment on the pleadings, and there are affidavits. Next step is to see what the courts action is after the date of January 24<sup>th</sup>. The Board wishes to stress to the court that there are health and safety violations which have not been corrected. These violations make the property uninhabitable, and the Board strongly recommends the court immediately grant the relief requested to uphold the condemnation and to enforce the order to vacate.

The other issue is whether the Board should order the owners to secure the property upon the premises being vacated. On a motion made by Mr. McInnis on the property being secured upon the departure of the current tenants seconded by Dr. Taylor. Call in User #1 had a question as to why the Judge deemed the health and safety violations not serious and that if the Town would reconsider the condemnation order. Call in User #1 stressed to the Board that the Thompson's have the right to due process. The Chair of the Board Mr. Conoby interjected that the housing code is explicit that those violations, if not corrected within a timeline ordered by the Board shall be deemed health and safety violations which could lead to the premises being uninhabitable. Steve Marsh, contractor for the Bajwa's did get up and speak to the Board and offered to secure the property immediately upon the property being vacated. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

### **Minutes – December 5, 2023**

On a motion made by Mr. Kreuze, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to accept the minutes of December 5, 2023. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

### **Adjournment**



On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Mr. Kreuze, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:11 P.M. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Board of Health meeting will be on January 23, 2024

### **Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting:**

- Town of Acton script for boards and committees opening meeting
- Board of Health agenda
- Court Documents
- Board of Health meeting minutes from 12/5/2023

Respectfully Submitted,

Matthew R. Dow

Matthew Dow  
Interim Health Director

Mark Conoby

Mark Conoby, Chairman  
Acton Board of Health