

**Board of Health Meeting
Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2023**

The Hopedale Board of Health held a hearing followed by a regular meeting on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m., in the Draper Room, Town Hall, 78 Hopedale Street, Hopedale, MA. Those in attendance included: Jason MacDonald and Mary Watson. Health Agent Bill Fisher was also present. The meeting was videotaped and held on Zoom.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. MacDonald called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., noting that Mr. Swift was absent.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Regular Meeting: August 17, 2023

It was moved by Ms. Watson, seconded by Mr. MacDonald, to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 17, 2023. All voted in favor.

D. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Mr. MacDonald noted that the recycle center will be open for one hour per week for the collection of metal, electronics, grass and brush only and the day and time is noted on the town's website and on Facebook.

E. REPORTS OF BOARD MEMBERS

Ms. Watson asked for further investigation of using seniors from the senior tax credit program to work at the recycle center.

F. REPORT OF HEALTH AGENT

Mr. Fisher reported:

- COVID-19 vaccines will be available at CVS and Walgreens pharmacies and doctors' offices and will be covered by all insurance companies. The new vaccine is recommended for people six months and older. It is safe to have the COVID-19 shot and flu shot at the same time.
- The RSV vaccine is also available at pharmacies
- Free COVID-19 tests are being made available as of September 25 and free test kits are made available from the government.

- There is a website to report at-home tests, which is makemytestcount.org.
- Well testing at 75 Plain Street was in response to an oil spill at an excavated site. The soils will be transported to a site that can deal with it and the LSP for 75 Plain Street will send results to the Board of Health.
- Hopedale is on the waiting list to participate in a state tobacco compliance program.
- EEE has been detected in some towns in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut.
- Beavers are creating problems for residents on Greene Street, Hopedale Street, and Dana Park.
- The state has advised towns to prepare for the possible arrival of illegal immigrants.

G. DISCUSSION ITEMS – None.

H. ACTION ITEMS

1. Approval of Beaver Trapping

It was noted that beavers can not be relocated and must be trapped live and then later killed.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Ms. Watson, seconded by Mr. MacDonald to approve the beaver trapping at the identified locations. All voted in favor.

2. Approval of RHB Removal & Salvage Metal Removal and Recycling for Metal Dumpster and Disposal at Recycling Center

Mr. MacDonald noted that this company was supplying the metal dumpster at no cost to the town and other town departments would be able to use this dumpster.

It was moved by Ms. Watson, seconded by Mr. MacDonald to approve the use of RHB Removal & Salvage Metal Removal and Recycling dumpster at the recycle center. All voted in favor.

3. Other – None.

I. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Accounting Department Expenditure Ledger: 9/6/2023

J. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

K. NEXT MEETING

1. October 19, 2023

L. ADJOURNMENT

At 6:29 p.m., it was moved by Ms. Watson, seconded by Mr. MacDonald, to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Villa

Carol A. Villa
Recording Secretary

Approved: October 19, 2023

**Board of Health
September 21, 2023
Regular Meeting
Documents List**

1. Draft Minutes: August 17, 2023
2. Massachusetts Beaver Law Flow Chart
3. Informational Items
 - a. Accounting Department Expenditure Ledger: 9/6/2023