

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Present: Board Members: Herb Butzke, Chair; Kathleen Atwood, Dan Poplawski, Board Members; and Christine Bailey, BOH Clerk

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

General Business:

- A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the November 15, 2023, meeting.

FY24 Budget/Payables: A motion was made and seconded to approve the following FY24 invoices:

- McKesson, Inv 21376847, dtd 11/21/2023; **\$124.76** (Used credit on account)
- McKesson, Inv 21396924, dtd 11/28/23; 109.73 (Used remaining bal. on account-pay **\$11.63 balance**)
- McKesson, Inv 21409726, dtd 11/30/23; **\$28.25**
- Housatonic Basin, Inc. H2311-132, dtd 11/30/23; **75.00**
- FRCOG, Inv. 2095 – FY24 Q3, dtd 12/1/23; **\$1,439.00**
- Lodge Tire, Inv. G1-234347, dtd 11/29/23; **\$76.00**
- FCSWMD, Inv. 24211, dtd 12/6/2023; **\$175.00**

FY24 Acct	Account #	7-1-23 Approp	Curr Bal (11-25-23)	Payroll/Payables	Amount	New Bal
BOH Stipends	01-512-5141	\$ 4,938.00	\$ 3,703.50			
Clerk Wages	01-512-5142	\$12,880.00	\$ 8,128.90			
Transfer Station Att'd	01-512-5140	\$16,607.00	\$ 11,082.80			
Town Nurse	01-512-5143	\$43,997.00	\$ 28,252.85			
Physician Stipend	01-512-5144	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
Snow Removal	01-512-5145	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
Hazardous Waste Col	01-512-5290	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00			
FCSWMD Assess	01-512-5300	\$ 8,417.00	\$ 4,208.50			
Mosquito Control	01-512-5382	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 0			
BOH Operations	01-512-5701	\$13,500.00	\$ 8,014.02	HBST, Inv. H2311-132, dtd 12/1/23	\$ 75.00	\$ 7,939.02
Health Sv Ops	01-512-5703	\$ 7,390.00	\$ 5,271.97	McKesson, Inv 21396924, dtd 11/28/23	\$ 11.63	\$ 5,260.34
				McKesson, Inv 21409726, dtd 11/28/23	\$ 28.25	\$ 5,232.09
Refuse Gardens Ops	01-512-5708	\$35,050.00	\$20,318.07	Lodge Tire, Inv. G1-234347, dtd 11/29/23	\$ 76.00	\$20,242.07
				FCSWMD, Inv 24211, dtd 12/6/23	\$ 175.00	\$20,067.07
FRCOG Health Sv Ops	01-512-5788	\$ 5,797.00	\$ 2,919.00	FRCOG, Inv. 2095, dtd 12/1/2023	\$ 1,439.00	\$ 1,480.00

Transfer Station:

- The Transfer Station logs were reviewed and read by Dan Poplawski.
- Jan Ameen reported the FY24 Recycling AMV & Revenue for November was \$48.38.

FY25 Budget: The FY25 preliminary budget is due on December 14, 2023. Christine submitted the proposed budget from Rachel Lewis, Nurse and the FCSWMD proposed budget from Jan Ameen. Herb requested that Christine add the OPIOID fund line item in the budget table above.

Title V: Inspections: The following Title V inspections were/will be witnessed by Kathy Atwood:

- 312 Zoar Road – RC&CC – November 28, 2023 @ 8:00am (Passed/witnessed by Kathy)
- 10 Kings Highway – RC&CC Fromson House – December 13, 2023 @ 8:00am (Kathy to witness)

Septics pumped: The following septics were pumped in the Town:

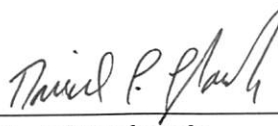
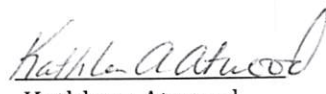
- 42 Old Cyrus Stage Road – Reed Brown
- 112 Ford Hill Road – Elizabeth Balawick (owner A. Reisman)

BOH Concerns:

- OPIOID funds/money discussion – Christine has emailed Phoebe Walker, FRCOG in reference to the FY24 OPIOID funding. She also said all reports to the State Attorney General are filed and up to date. She will let the Board know when any funds begin to come in.
- Christine's vacation request for 12/25/23 – 12/29/23 was approved.
- The group discussed Rachel Lewis' budget request. The group will be looking to obtain more information before a decision is made.

Nursing Updates: Herb Butzke read the nursing report:

- Individual Statistics for November 2023: Worked 11.5 days- saw 121 patients. 104 of these patients were 65+ and a lot of flu shots, wound care, and post-hospitalization care and coordination.
- We are seeing A LOT of respiratory illness in the hospital and in the community- If it gets worse, it may be wise to do a robo-call reminding people to stay home if sick, and mask if sick, hand washing, get vaccinated, etc. Massachusetts does a 'Respiratory Illness Dashboard' which encompasses any respiratory illness (Covid, Flu, RSV, unknown illness but with respiratory symptoms) see below for figures
- Week of 11/19-11/25: 14.1% of ER visits were for a Respiratory Illness. This is on a similar trajectory from 2 years ago (last year was a little worse at this time). Franklin county is a little less than Massachusetts as a whole (12.3%)
- Covid: There were 2,830 confirmed cases of Covid and 19 deaths in the week of 11/19/23-11/25/23 in Massachusetts. Last year this time there were 7,500 confirmed cases of Covid and 76 deaths in Massachusetts. In Franklin County there have been 19 positive tests during week of 11/19/23-11/25/23, last year this time there were 96 positive tests. **Better numbers, but maybe less testing...either way in general people are not quite as sick as they once were**
- Flu: In Massachusetts week of November 19, 2023 there were 556 confirmed cases of Flu and an 'Influenza Like Illness' (ILI) visit rate to health care providers of 2.4%- this is a few weeks behind last years trend. Severity of Influenza is considered LOW right now in many parts of Mass, including Franklin County.
- The end of November I worked with the FRCOG nurse to vaccinate 5 residents for Covid at home.
- Another round of Free Covid Tests available from the Government- I have put this on my website and posted signs at the Town Hall. I will add to my goal post in January.
- Compiling data for the emergency preparedness survey now- will be handing out red/green cards to put in people's windows in case of another severe weather event so the services know if (vulnerable) people need to be checked on if there is no phone/means of communication. Stay tuned (this is COA and police/fire that is doing this)

Correspondence: N/A**New Business:** N/A**Resident Comments/Questions:** N/A*Meeting Adjourned: 7:02 pm unanimously**Next meeting: December 20, 2023, at 6:00 pm**Approved:*
Herb Butzke, Chair
Daniel Poplawski
Kathleen Atwood