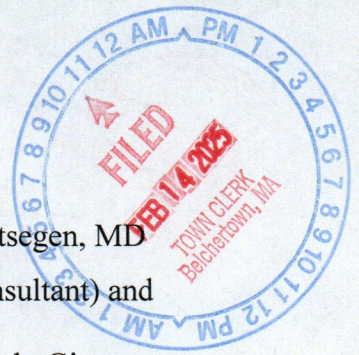


Belchertown Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2024



Present: Jim Potter, Colleen DuroShea, Ken Elstein, LeeAnne Connolly and David Gottsegen, MD

In-Attendance: Andrea Crete (Public Health Director), Roger Bacon (QHD Title V Consultant) and Mary Grenier (Recording Secretary) and BCTV

Remote Participants: Anthony Ishak, PharmD., Emily Kirby, Emily Wieja, Kate Silbaugh, Ginny Chadwick, MPH, Jonathon Winickoff MD, MPH, Heather Warner, and Stephen Hefler

L. Connolly opened the meeting at 6:31 PM

6:30 PM 41 Dressell Avenue requesting Local Upgrade Approval for a 1' reduction in separation between SAS and high groundwater. Roger Bacon PE was present and addressed the Board. He explained that this would be a pump system. The ground water in this area is very high. He has approved the design done by Neil Jackson but said N. Jackson will need change the buoyancy and show heavy tanks need to be used per Title V.K. Elstein motioned to approve the LUA subject to the acceptance of the staff that the changes to plan are made. J. Potter seconded. All in Favor.

Board signed warrant.

Board reviewed the infectious disease report for Belchertown 11-13-24 ~ 12-11-24. Dr. Gottsegen said he is seeing Flu and RSV cases ramping up.

Public Hearing Scheduled 6:45 PM – 7:15 PM Belchertown Tobacco Regulations

L. Connolly moved to open the Public Hearing on Belchertown's Tobacco Sales Regulation. K. Elstein seconded. All in Favor. The board held a public hearing on proposed updates to tobacco regulations, including a nicotine-free generation initiative aimed at preventing youth nicotine addiction. Various community members, including students and health professionals, expressed support for the regulations, while some local business representatives raised concerns about potential impacts on business. The board ultimately voted to adopt the new regulations which will begin January 1, 2025 but allowing for a 60-day implementation period for businesses to comply with the sale of *Oral Nicotine Pouches* which will only be allowed for sale in Adult-only stores. Tobacco retailers will have until February 9, 2025 to sell off remaining stock and remove from their shelves.

D. Gottsegen moved to close the Public Hearing. K. Elstein seconded. All in Favor

C. DuroShea moved to re-open Board of Health meeting. K. Elstein seconded. All in Favor.

K. Elstein motioned to adopt the Nicotine Free Generation policy into our regulations. By replacing the age limit of twenty-one years (21) to *any one born on or after January 1, 2004*. C. DuroShea seconded.

L. Connolly abstained. 4-0-1

K. Elstein motioned to regulate Oral Nicotine products be sold only in adult-only stores.

L. Connolly amended the motion to allow retailers sixty days (60) from today's date to remove oral nicotine products from their shelves. C. DuroShea seconded. 5-0-0

K. Elstein motioned to adopt the statement of purpose to reflect updated information; adopt the added changes in definitions, adopt updated violations and policies subject to state and local fines and Section T (7) a. and b.

The Board thanked the audience for coming.

J. Potter motioned to close the meeting. D. Gottsegen seconded. All in Favor.

940 CMR 29.11 M.G.L. c. 30A, §22(a). List of documents and other exhibits used at the meeting:

Agenda:

Form 9A Local Upgrade Approval 41 Dressell Ave
Draft Belchertown Tobacco Sales Regulations
Gail Gramarossa letter to Board in favor of tobacco changes
Pride Operating, LLC letter against the tobacco changes

Heather Warner, MPH email in favor of tobacco changes
Jay Patel of Town Mart 10 Federal St opposing tobacco changes
Sign-in sheet
Jonathon Winickoff, MD, MPH letter in favor of tobacco changes