

**MEETING NOTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING  
OF THE PEABODY BOARD OF HEALTH  
Lower- Level Conference Room, Peabody City Hall  
Remote participation also available via Zoom  
June 24, 2024 4:30 pm**

**In Attendance:** Chairperson Thomas J. Durkin III; Health Department Director Sharon Cameron, Julia Fleet, D.O., and Anthony Carli via Zoom

The meeting was held in the City Hall Lower- Level Conference Room at 4:30 p.m. with public access also available remotely Via Zoom

**At 4:40 pm Mr. Durkin opened the General Meeting,** read the hearing notice, and welcomed everyone. He explained that the first matters before the Board today were some hearings.

**HEARINGS**

**Subject:** Hearing re: Application to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Pedro Martin Gonzalez. Vote anticipated to grant or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice and opened the hearing at 4:40. He welcomed Mr. Gonzales to the meeting table and asked him to tell the Board about his background. Mr. Gonzales said he has ten years experience tattooing and plans to work in Peabody at 4 Lake Street. He explained that he worked in Everett before. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any questions from the board. No responses were received. Mr. Durkin then asked if Ms. Cameron had any questions. Ms. Cameron asked Mr. Gonzales to tell what steps he will take to prevent cross contamination. Mr. Gonzales explained that he wears gloves, wraps his machine and surfaces in plastic, and afterward applies derma-shield over the tattoo. Ms. Cameron asked him to tell the Board about the types of needles he uses. Mr. Gonzales replied that they are disposable, as is everything he uses. Ms. Cameron asked if he has ever had any issues or problems when permitted elsewhere? Mr. Gonzales replied no, he had not. Ms. Cameron explained that she had asked the Everett Board of Health and Mr. Gonzalez is in good standing. She added that the application was also in good order. She noted that the Public Health nurse pointed out that he has only received one dose of the Hepatitis B vaccine and wants him to continue with that series. He agreed. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present or online wished to speak on this matter. No responses were received. Mr. Durkin closed the hearing at 4:44.

Dr. Fleet made a **motion** to approve the permit. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken and the Board unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** Hearing re: Application to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Bao Tran. Vote anticipated to grant or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice and opened the hearing at 4:30. He welcomed Mr. Tran to the table and asked him to tell the board about his background.

Mr. Tran said he is planning to become a professional tattoo artist and wants to open his own shop in Quincy and thinks he can learn a lot about tattooing at Timeless Ink. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any questions from the board. None were put forth. Ms. Cameron asked what sort of medical conditions a client may have that would cause you to discuss not doing their tattoo. Mr. Tran replied that if the person has a rash, he will not tattoo them if they have any redness. Ms. Cameron said she had a question about a letter of support that had been submitted on his behalf which refers to his skill at using an autoclave and asked if he will be using an autoclave. He replied that at the old shop they used it but at the new shop they don't use an autoclave and use all single use disposable products. Ms. Cameron reported that the application is all in order. Mr. Durkin asked if any board members have any further questions. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present or on Zoom had any questions. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin closed the hearing at 4:48

Dr. Fleet made a **motion** to approve the permit. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. A roll call vote was held and the Board unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** Hearings re: Application to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Renato Cleber Dos Santos and Application for Permit to Operate a Body Tattooing Establishment at 145 Summit St.- Mahalo Tattoo. Votes anticipated to grant or deny permits.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice and opened the hearing at 4:48. He welcomed Mr. Dos Santos to the hearing and Kauana Negri introduced herself as Mr. Dos Santos' translator. Mr. Durkin welcomed her and reminded that this is a public hearing and that they will give the applicant an opportunity to be heard and for others to ask questions. Through Ms. Negri's translation Mr. Dos Santos explained that he worked in Brazil tattooing since 2005. He said he opened his first studio there in 2010, and in 2012 he opened his second, and in 2016 opened his third. He explained that he knows that he cannot tattoo here without a permit and since he wants to work here now he is applying here. Mr. Durkin asked if he would still tattoo in Brazil as well. Mr. Dos Santos replied no, he will just work in Peabody. He added that he wants to open shops in other places in America as well. Mr. Durkin asked if any board members had any questions. Dr. Fleet asked Mr. Dos Santos about his training in the US. Mr. Dos Santos replied that he worked at the Boston Tattoo company and that studio didn't work out, but he worked there for a couple of months. Mr. Durkin noted that he also worked in Palm Beach and in Boca Raton. Ms. Cameron asked about the precautions he will take to prevent cross contamination. Mr. Dos Santos replied that he cleans the entire space and that everything he uses is disposable. Ms. Cameron said she noticed that he has been a piercing professional in the past, and wanted to make sure that he understands that tonight he has only applied for tattoo permit and not a piercing permit, and that he would have to apply for a separate permit for that should he choose to do so. Mr. Dos Santos replied that he doesn't work with piercings at all anymore, but since he has the space he might have someone come in who does piercing but will make sure they get that license. Ms. Cameron asked if he has ever had any disciplinary action taken against him at any place he has been permitted. Mr. Dos Santos replied no. Ms.

Cameron asked if he intends to have guest artists or to take on apprentices. Mr. Dos Santos replied yes, he is interested in having people work with him as apprentices and to have guest artists. Ms. Cameron explained that those individuals will need to apply for a permit in order to apprentice or to be a guest artist even just for a few days. Mr. Dos Santos said he understood. Ms. Cameron explained to the board that the Inspector has not been to the site yet but said this is the site of the former Suicida Ink location so they fully expect it will be in order. Mr. Durkin asked where it is located at the Summit Plaza. Mr. Dos Santos replied that it is in the back building on the second floor. Mr. Durkin said an approval for the establishment would have to be pending that inspection. Mr. Dos Santos said he understands. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any further questions from the board. None were put forth. He asked if anyone present or on zoom wished to comment, and that those online can just please use the raise hand feature. No comments were put forth. Mr. Durkin closed the hearing at 4:57 pm.

Dr. Fleet made a **motion** to approve the tattoo permit for Mr. Dos Santos and to approve the tattoo establishment permit pending the outcome of the inspection. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the two permits. Ms. Cameron said to contact Ramphis Medina to schedule the site inspection. Mr. Dos Santos thanked the Board.

**Subject:** Hearing re: Application for Permit to Keep Certain Animals (10 hens) at 9 Parkview Lane submitted by Zulmira Sousa. Vote anticipated to grant or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice and opened the hearing at 5:00 pm. He welcomed Ms. Sousa to the table along with her daughter, Norine Lima who said she would translate for her mother. Mr. Durkin explained that it was a public hearing and asked Ms. Sousa to tell the Board what they hope to do. Ms. Lima translated that Ms. Sousa said she really wants to have hens and that she likes to collect their eggs and gives them to her friends. Mr. Durkin asked if any Board members have questions. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present or on zoom wished to speak on this matter. No responses were received. Mr. Durkin noted that their home was located off Endicott Street, near Warren Street and backs up to the PMLP. The Board reviewed the plot plan and Mr. Durkin asked where chickens are located on the plan. Ms. Sousa and Ms. Lima indicated that they were near the back of the lot with nothing nearby. Mr. Durkin asked if they have the chickens already. Ms. Sousa replied yes. Mr. Durkin asked if they had any problems with their neighbors. Ms. Lima said one neighbor complained about noise, but the reality is that it is not their chickens, it is the wild turkeys in the neighbors that moved in and are making noise. She said that her nextdoor neighbor is ok with the chickens. Mr. Durkin asked if they would be open to hear what the neighbors would say on the matter. Ms. Lima said they would but said they came today hoping he would be here since he received notification of the hearing but he is not, and she added that he could be here if he wanted to be here. Mr. Durkin pointed out that rodents are a concern in Peabody, and he asked if they had had any problems with them on their property. Ms. Lima said Ms. Sousa has a contract with Patriot rodent control already. She added that they are both allergic to bees and hired them for that but they did an inspection for rodents as well and placed a trap as well

but did not find anything. Ms. Cameron said the inspector had been out to the site. She added that their knowledge of this site came in as a complaint. She said the inspector found things are pretty well in order. She said the coop was an older coop and was not in good condition, so they have built a new one. She added that the inspector has also asked them to remove or repair the old one. She stated that they received a complaint from a neighbor regarding chickens on the property. Ms. Lima said that was a turkey not one of their chickens. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present or on the call had any comments. Denise Kelly of 8 Parkview Lane called in via Zoom in support of Ms. Sousa's permit application. Ms. Cameron explained that the city is starting a large construction project on Central Street and that will likely disperse rodents into the neighborhoods nearby, so they will need to be aware and to continue to monitor and control rodents. Ms. Lima worried that a neighbor may have complained about rodents, or may in the future, and asked if they will be informing everyone of this happening so they know it is not due to her chickens. Ms. Cameron said yes, the City is informing the neighbors and if the project is increasing the rodents there will be a mechanism to address it. Mr. Durkin said there are no rodents there yet but said there may be some in the future and said they will need to be vigilant. Dr. Fleet asked if the coop is fenced in. Ms. Lima replied yes, and said they have the chicken coop and chicken fence in one area. She said the inspector said they should install some more on the side abutting the backyard but said they won't bother to do it if they don't get the permit. Dr. Fleet asked if they have a chicken run. Ms. Lima replied yes, they have an area where the chicken can walk that is all fenced in so they don't get loose. Mr. Durkin asked if Ms. Cameron or any board member had any more questions. None were put forth. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone on present or on Zoom had any questions. None were received. Mr. Durkin closed the hearing at 5:11.

Dr. Fleet made a **motion** to approve the permit to keep ten hens at 9 Parkview Lane. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit.

**Subject:** Hearings re: Application to Perform Body Tattooing submitted by Jessica Duran and Application for Permit to Operate a Body Tattooing Establishment at 243 Andover St.- Salon de Beaute submitted by Carla Evans. Votes anticipated to grant or deny permits.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice and opened the hearing at 4:59 and asked if Jessica or Carla were present on the zoom call. They were not. Mr. Durkin suggested that the Board continue this matter to a later time in the meeting if the applicants arrived. All agreed. At 5:12 Ms. Duran appeared on Zoom and Mr. Durkin reopened the hearing and welcomed Ms. Duran. He asked if the salon is to be located on Route 114. Ms. Duran replied yes. Mr. Durkin asked Ms. Duran to tell the board about her plans and history. Ms. Duran replied that she had been in the beauty industry for 14 years, and that she was a full- time cosmetology instructor in Lawrence. She said in 2017 she started doing body art and worked in Fall River and Methuen. She said she had connected with Evans who had decided to broaden her horizons at her own establishment. Mr. Durkin asked if any board member had any questions at this time.

None were put forth. Ms. Cameron asked if Ms. Duran was planning to do both permanent makeup as well as regular tattoos. Ms. Duran replied yes, she planned to do small, fine line tattoos and permanent makeup. Ms. Cameron asked Ms. Duran to tell about the procedures she will use to prevent contamination. Ms. Duran replied that she uses PPE- masks, gloves, and said that everything is disposable, that she does not allow anyone in room, no guests or dogs, she uses single use, non-woven sheets and disposes of them after using them, and places needles in a sharps container, and discards them with the police or fire department. Ms. Cameron asked if all needles are disposable would she have an autoclave. Ms. Duran replied that she does have an autoclave. Ms. Cameron asked what sort of tools go into the autoclave. Ms. Duran replied that she puts the tattoo machine itself into the autoclave for extra precaution. Ms. Cameron asked if Ms. Duran had been the subject of any disciplinary action in any of the other jurisdictions where she has worked. Ms. Duran replied that she had not. Ms. Cameron said that she will be operating in a larger establishment, and asked if there will be hair salon in one part of the business and tattooing in another. Ms. Duran replied that she has a private room only for tattooing. Ms. Cameron asked if she can close the door. Ms. Duran replied yes, and said she is not in the same workspace as the stylists, and said she is completely on the other side of building in her own workspace behind closed doors. Ms. Cameron explained that usually for an establishment permit it is usually granted to a body artist, not that is not the case here. Ms. Cameron asked Ms. Duran how the contract with the building owner is set up, for instance, who is responsible for sanitation of space, who is responsible for handwashing stations. Ms. Duran replied that all tattoo clients only go to her, that there is a sink in her space, and ultimately she will be responsible for keeping it up to code. Ms. Cameron asked if Ms. Evans is aware she is not able to perform body art. Ms. Duran replied yes. Ms. Cameron reported that the application is in order. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any further questions from board members. None were put forth. Dr. Fleet said it is unusual that we don't have the owner here to speak, but said it sounds like Jessica is aware of her responsibilities. Mr. Durkin asked if the inspector had gone there? Ms. Cameron replied that the inspector is fine with the establishment. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present or on zoom wished to speak on the matter. No responses were received. Mr. Durkin closed the hearing at 5:20

Dr. Fleet made a motion to approve the permit for Ms. Duran to perform body tattooing and the permit to operate the body tattoo establishment for Carla Evans. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the two permits.

**Subject:** Hearing re: Application for Permit to Keep Certain Animals (6 hens) at 50 Home St. submitted by Jennifer Feener. Vote anticipated to grant or deny permit.

**Discussion:** Mr. Durkin opened the hearing at 5:21 and read the hearing notice and welcomed Ms. Feener via zoom. He explained that it was a public hearing and that they will allow her to tell about why she is applying for the permit, and then will allow others to comment as well.

Ms. Feener explained that they were looking to get a permit approved to have 6 hens in their fenced in backyard. She said they have 2 little girls that they homeschool and want to teach them animal care and added that they believe in farm to table fresh food. Mr. Durkin asked if 50 Home Street is right at the bend on that street. Ms. Feener replied that it is. He asked if the neighbors have any concerns. Ms. Feener replied not that she knows of and said the house to the left of her is abandoned, that they are on the Salem city line behind them, and that there is nothing on the other side. Mr. Durkin explained that the City is concerned about rodents, and wants to ensure that she is taking appropriate steps. Ms. Feener replied that she has had an exterminator out to inspect the property and said he will come to do regular checks. She said Mr. Yale said their coop is rodent proof with chicken wire buried under the soil and cinder blocks holding down the coop so it is secure. Mr. Durkin said that conditions change so she may have issues with rodents in the future, and asked if she would remain vigilant? Ms. Feener replied that she would and said the inspector will come back to do regular checks and treatments if necessary. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any questions from the Board. None were put forth. He asked if anyone on Zoom had any questions or comments. None were put forth. He noted that no one was present to speak in person. Ms. Cameron said inspector Yale said their coop is very well constructed, but said he saw what might be a rat burrow, and noted a brush pile that he had asked be removed. She said she doesn't know if it has been removed yet, and added that Mr. Yale said that in conversation with Jennifer's husband he came to understand that they are feeding turkeys on the property, and Yale said that draws rodents and is not good for wildlife, but Ms. Feener's husband was unwilling to commit to stop feeding wildlife on the property. Ms. Feener said she learned that the brush pile could be brought to 50 Farm Ave and added that she didn't know that was an option and will do so. She explained that they had their inspection from the exterminator after Inspector Yale had come out to inspect and everything was fine, and said the exterminator also recommended they remove their bird feeder, so they have not removed it but are no longer filling it. Mr. Durkin asked about the turkeys. Ms. Feener replied that they have a large, wooded area near them, with lots of wildlife around. She said they won't fill the bird feeder any more. Mr. Durkin asked about feeding the wild turkeys. Ms. Feener replied that they had food out for them in the past but are not doing that anymore. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone present or on Zoom wished to speak on this matter. No responses were put forth. Mr. Durkin closed the hearing at 5:27 pm.

Dr. Fleet made a **motion** to approve the permit contingent upon the removal of brush, that they not refill the bird feeder, that they not feed the wildlife, and that they continue to have the involvement of the exterminator. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to grant the permit with the above contingencies.

**Subject:** Hearing re: Order to Correct and Citation issued to Waste Management re: violation of Code of Ordinance Chapter 13 section 2. Vote anticipated to uphold, suspend, modify or revoke Order and/or Citation.

**Discussion:** At 5:30 pm Mr. Durkin read the hearing notice and opened the hearing. Cathy Perreira was present via Zoom from Waste Management to speak on this. Ms. Cameron reported that Inspector Suckney received a complaint about a 6:30 am trash pickup on Foster Street. She said they don't have the exact number, but said a Waste Management vehicle was confirmed. She said the City restricts trash collection to between 7 am and 7 pm, so they issued an order to correct and a \$300 ticket. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any questions from the board. None were put forth. Ms. Perreira said they do understand the no pickup is allowed before 7 am, but said they want to know if that regulation includes all of Peabody. She explained that the pickup was at Cataldo Ambulance and said they have an issue with access if they go there later. She said they want to understand exactly where we can or cannot be prior to 7 am. Ms. Cameron explained that the city ordinance does not carve out any exemption for any area of the city, and said the City responds to complaints usually from residences near businesses. Ms. Perreira said she knows not to send them next to a house. Mr. Durkin asked if she was confident she could arrange a schedule that won't result in complaints. He said that the City Council set this time frame so 7 am is the start time so you will need to be confident that you can comply with. Ms. Perreira said they are looking into that. She said they may have to tell customers they would not be able to serve them. Mr. Durkin said they can tell clients that no one can pick up before 7 am, it is city wide. Ms. Perreira said she understood, and added that sometimes it is about access to a container. Mr. Durkin thanked her for her diligence in trying to comply. Mr. Durkin asked if there were any questions from the Board. None were put forth. He asked Ms. Perreira if she had anything else to say on the matter. Ms. Perreira asked if the Board would consider removing fine. Ms. Cameron said she appreciates that they are cooperating in trying to resolve this issue. Mr. Durkin said he would be inclined to modify the order and remove the \$300 fine since there is no other prior offense on record. Discussion ensued and the Board agreed. Ms. Perreira thanked the Board for their time and consideration. Mr. Durkin asked if anyone else wish to speak on the matter on Zoom. No responses were received. Mr. Durkin closed the hearing at 5:37pm.

Dr. Fleet made a motion to modify the Order to remove the \$300 fine. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to modify the order to remove the \$300 fine. The Order otherwise remains in effect.

## **BUSINESS**

### **Item 1.) Approval of minutes of May 23, 2024- Vote anticipated to approve or amend minutes.**

Dr. Fleet made a motion to approve the minutes from May 23, 2024. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. A vote was taken and it was unanimously agreed to approve the minutes.

### **Item 2a.) Regulatory updates- Tobacco control**

Ms. Cameron explained that in Brookline a bylaw was passed that prohibits sale of tobacco to anyone who wasn't 21 by the time the law was enacted. She said this was implemented several years ago but the tobacco companies challenged it and recently

the courts upheld it. She explained that since then a number of health departments have moved forward with similar steps, and she has been asked if the Peabody Board of Health intends to consider similar action, so it is on today's agenda for discussion.

Mr. Carli asked if the tobacco companies are now appealing this. Ms. Cameron replied that this is not currently under appeal. She replied that the Boston Globe article is her only source of information on that at the moment. She said that the director of the convenience store trade group was weighing whether or not to appeal. Mr. Carli said this is obviously a health issue but he looks at it from an economic impact on store owners as well, and said he would need to look into it a little more before formulating an opinion. Dr. Fleet explained that she has reviewed the statistics about smoking deaths and saw that there are 480,000 deaths attributed to smoking in the US annually, and that smoking is the #1 cause of preventable death, so she feels it is very important to continue to reduce smoking. She added that policy is the most effective tool to reduce smoking, that policy has cut the percentage of smokers in half, because in 2005 20% of people were smokers and now it is half that. She said that it is within the purview of the BOH to make this determination as it is a public health policy; however it is a legal substance and people should be able to make that decision themselves, so that is beyond the scope of the board of health. She stated that it is a big issue that she needs to think about. Mr. Durkin said he typically prefer to allow adults to make their own choices, and to promote changes by providing information, but not in this case. He said as members of the Board of Health they have a duty to do what they can to protect the public health. He said it is a heavy burden to live up to this obligation and said so many people die from something that is preventable. He said the government has over time taken steps to protect water and food safety, and said he thinks this falls into that category. He said he would be willing to set a date so that younger people after that cannot buy tobacco products. He asked about the steps they would need to take: allow more time, hold a public hearing? Mr. Carli said he agrees that a public hearing would be in order and suggested that they get the feeling of public officials on it first. He also suggested that they should get a draft of Brookline's ordinance and see where to go from there. Dr. Fleet suggested that they make a recommendation to City Council to consider doing it as a city ordinance instead of a BOH regulation. Mr. Durkin agreed, and said this is a big issue, so they don't want to do it cavalierly or without proper input. He asked how this could be taken up. Ms. Cameron explained that in Brookline it was done at Town Meeting where the entire town comes out to vote. She added that it is different from asking a small number of elected officials to vote on it. She added that she is also concerned about setting a precedent on deferring the Board's authority to City Council on a matter in which the Board clearly has authority to act. Mr. Durkin suggested that they instead invite City Council members and the Mayor to the public hearing. Ms. Cameron said that in other cities where this was done a lot of outreach was done to retailers to make sure they were aware of the hearing. She said they would also take those steps so that everyone was well informed. Mr. Durkin suggested putting this on the agenda in September or October. Mr. Carli and Dr. Fleet agreed. Ms. Cameron said if they are holding a hearing, they should have proposed language ready for people to comment on. Discussion ensued on the language. Ms. Cameron said the language is the same for all communities and says starting January 1<sup>st</sup> of whatever year

tobacco products would not be sold to people born after a certain date. She asked if there were any suggested changes to the language. None were suggested. Ms. Cameron will write up and disseminate the language next month for the Board to review. Ms. Cameron commented on Dr. Fleet's comment on policy being effective, and that they need to make the healthy choice the easy choice. Cameron stated they currently do have other effective policies in place, such as a cap on the number of tobacco retailers which reduces as they go out of business, but they can also further reduce the cap on the number of establishments as well, as an environmental strategy. Mr. Durkin asked what communities nearby are doing? Ms. Cameron replied that Melrose and Wakefield are the closest communities that have already adopted the Nicotine Free Generation, but said many neighboring communities are having the same conversation that we are having right now. She said over the coming months they expect some to have the same hearings. Mr. Durkin said if we do this it is easy to go to Salem to buy tobacco, so it would be better if this was a regional movement. Ms. Cameron said for the next meeting she will try to get a handle on where other surrounding communities are on this issue.

#### **Item 2b.) Regulatory updates- Hemp-derived products**

Mr. Durkin commented on the pictures taken by Joyce Redford that show the products that were being marketed to kids that look like Skittles and Doritos. Ms. Cameron explained that the State had issued a joint statement from the Department of Agricultural Resources and the Department of Public Health saying that these products are an adulterated product, and telling retailers that they are not allowed to sell the products and giving local law enforcement the authority to remove them. She said some examples are carbonated seltzers with CBD, delta 8 and delta 10. She said they will be going out over the coming months to the package stores to make sure these products are not sold there. She said this is not applicable to cannabis retailers licensed by the Cannabis Control Commission and added that it is good to see the state come out with these directives. She shared language from the Beverly local regs to address these items, which were enacted prior to the state's recent directive. She added that she thinks it still makes sense to pass local regulations, and said they should mirror the tobacco regulations, with the same fines. She said Police Chief Griffin is very much in favor of these regulations. She suggested using the language from the Beverly BOH. Mr. Durkin said he is comfortable for next month's public hearing for potential adoption of these regulations and said the fines are the issue to decide. Ms. Cameron replied that she does not think they can do it next month as she has not yet run the language by city solicitor and suggested that they do this in August or September depending on their timing. All agreed that was a good plan.

#### **Item 2c.) Regulatory updates- Body art**

Ms. Cameron requested to hold this matter over until next month. All agreed.

#### **Item 3a.) Environmental Updates- Rodent control**

Ms. Cameron reported that there had been approximately 100 captures at Tilly's Farm. Ms. Cameron explained that Tilly's had a sizeable compost pile, and some recent rodent

activity there was brought to our attention, so the DEP Composting Consultant developed best practices for composting. She said the new system is in place and should allow them to manage things more effectively. The sentinel traps in downtown areas continue to catch a lot of rats. Mr. Durkin said he found it very informative and thanked her for including it in the package.

**Item 3b.) Environmental Updates- Rousselot**

Ms. Cameron reported that Rousselot continues to meet the established time frames with DEP for decommissioning the plant. She said they have not received any odor complaints.

**Item 3c.) Environmental Updates- HHW collection**

Ms. Cameron reported that their Hazardous Household Wasted Collection event was very successful. She said 185 cars came through and an estimated 3,000 pounds of waste was collected and added that this was one of our bigger and more expensive events. She said people were in line at 7:00 am and they opened at 9. If they came after 11:00 they would have would have breezed right in. Mr. Durkin noted that he did a drop off that day. He asked what happens if the closing time comes and there is still a line. Ms. Cameron replied that they service anyone in line by the advertised time. They are concerned about illegal dumping if they turn people away. She reminded that they collect many materials year- round at the Public Services building, including propane, motor oil, tires, and fluorescent lightbulbs.

**Item 3d.) Environmental Updates- Northeast Nursery composting report**

Ms. Cameron explained that Northeast Nurseries was the recipient of the excess compost from Tilly's Farm. She said there have been no complaints.

**Item 4a.) Code enforcement updates- Housing: 11 Carlton St.**

Reviewed.

**Item 4b.) Code enforcement updates- Nuisances: 76 Walnut St; 21 Sprague St; 48 Holten St; 33 Northend St; 8R Andover St; 2 Northend St.**

Reviewed

**Item 4c.) Code enforcement updates- Other: Republic Services; Casella Waste**

Reviewed.

**Item 5a.)- Permitting updates- List of permits issued in May 2024**

Reviewed.

**Item 5b.)- Permitting updates- Permitting software**

Ms. Cameron explained that the new permitting software was in place and ready to be used, but said it came so late in their permitting cycle that they decided they are going to go live once the summer renewal cycle is completed, so new applicants will be able to use it.

**Item 6a.)- Public Health Nursing updates-May 2024 surveillance report**

Ms. Cameron explained that Laura Nash, their regional Epidemiologist, was going to come to today's meeting but had a last-minute conflict. Ms. Nash has prepared a report on bird flu, Pertussis, and other regional trends and will present that information next month.

### **School Health updates**

Ms. Cameron said they would have for the Board next time.

### **Social service updates**

Ms. Cameron reported on the We Care project wrap up. She said they did not have the number of participants they had hoped for, but those who did participate found it very helpful. She said some who participated started going to their senior center, and some wanted to meet up with our callers. She explained that the funding has changed so it no longer supports staffing as it was, but they may be able to revamp it and make it a volunteer program going forward. She reported that they had gotten notification of a \$300,000 award of funding for a multilingual case worker to add to the staffing in their social services division, and hope to have that person reach out to our Haitian or Spanish population. Mr. Durkin asked how they managed the wrap things up on the We Care project. Ms. Cameron said they gave people a lot of notice, phased down the frequency of calls, gave people lots of resources, but added that a lot of people wanted the calls to continue. She explained that a lot of people who signed up to participate are going through loss, of a spouse, or of moving from home, so some sort of a difficult transition, and they are hoping with the smaller amount of funding remaining to contract with an agency to run some grief groups and allow for peer-to-peer connections. She added that while the participants enjoyed the calls, they wished the callers were closer in life stage with them.

Ms. Cameron reported that Citizens Inn had stopped providing sit-down meals and now offer only to-go meals. She explained that the sit-down meal was very valuable because it allowed people to make connections, to meet service providers, and to build trust with someone. It also was helpful as it helped them get out of weather on those days, both overly hot or cold weather. She said the Homelessness Task Force is trying to identify other resources to provide these services. She said this change was unfortunate because a lot of municipal and other funds were invested in Haven to provide these services. She reported that last week NSCAP stepped up to provide a cooling center during the heat wave for a few days. She said that while there are other partners who have stepped up, the change at Citizens Inn was absolutely disruptive. She said the food pantry and to-go meals will continue though. Mr. Durkin said he had volunteered at the Haven many years ago when he had worked for the City and said he found it to be one of the most fulfilling things he did.

**Correspondence:** From DEP re: 40-42 Endicott St.; From CEC re: Peabody Ash Monofill; From DEP re: drinking water annual update.

**Reviewed.**

Dr. Fleet made a motion to adjourn at 6:12 pm. Mr. Carli seconded the motion. All were in agreement, and the meeting was adjourned at 6:12 pm.

**Next meeting date: July 25, 2024**