



Town of Boylston Board of Health boh@boylston-ma.gov
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MEETING MINUTES

August 22, 2022

Members Present: Robert Thibeault, John Wentzell

Members Absent: Sarah Barrette

Others Present: Dennis Costello

Recorder: Melanie Rich

The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Republic Services (Mike Thomson, Operations Manager) – Mike Thomson (Operations Manager) and Joe Barry (General Manager) were in attendance. Mr. Barry said there is a lack of drivers; they had to call in the competition to help because they couldn't keep up with trash collection. There are 47 customers in Boylston.

Rob asked how the customers who didn't get their trash picked up, yet had to pay their bill, were being compensated. Mr. Barry said it's on a case-by-case basis; the customers have to call them. Dennis said there was another trash pick-up issue in 2017/2018; the board talked to the company and had to go on TV to get them to do something. The board then required an emergency contact number (which did not work this year). The town licenses Republic to work in the town so the trucks can travel in town. Other trash companies don't have the disruption that Republic has because they are bigger companies. Rob was concerned that the customers are getting the short end of the stick because of that and would like some reassurance that's not the case; that Boylston customers are getting the same customer service as the larger companies. Mr. Barry asked if it was only residential and not commercial because they are different trucks and people. Mr. Thomson said they've had losses in town; no one gets special treatment. Going forward he said they will continue to pick up on time. They have the chance to get back on their feet. The goal is to have one truck, one driver, one route, every day. Rob said it sounds like they are on the right track. He asked if every customer has been picked up yet. Mr. Thomson said the containers that he saw today did not have trash. Tuesday/Wednesday are pick up days. Rob reminded them that they have two strikes and would hate to see three strikes come up; they understood.

John Wentzell made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes dated July 25, 2022; Rob Thibeault seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

September 26, 2022 was confirmed as the next meeting date.

Compass Pointe HOA – Dennis and Rob will tentatively meet Thursday, August 25th at 4:30 p.m. at the large system. It will not be a public meeting.

The meeting was paused at 6:30 p.m. and reconvened at 6:40 p.m.

AGENT’S REPORT

COVID-19 Virus Update – COVID continues to decline at this time.

Town Nurse Interviews – Two interviews were held; a decision will be made soon.

Greater Boroughs Partnership for Health Update – No update this month.

Cemetery Regulation/Site Visit – Dennis spoke with Jordana Schreiber (Day Pitney) today and gave her more direction as far as the zoning bylaw and other information he sent her to be combined into one Board of Health Regulation. A date needs to be determined for a site visit to the burial site.

Office Work Cell (\$29/month General Expense) – The board voted to pay a portion of the Administrative Assistant’s phone service for emergency use as well as during working hours and off hours as her personal phone is being used more for work related and emergency communications with the Health Agent and the board; the amount is not to exceed \$30/month.

PLAN REVIEW – No plans for review tonight.

Rob Thibeault made a motion to adjourn; John Wentzell seconded; all voted in favor; motion approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.