

**TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
BOARD OF HEALTH
JANUARY 9, 2024
TOWN HALL FIRST FLOOR MEETING ROOM
5:30 PM
MEETING MINUTES**

Members Present: Pat Levine, Chair
Scott Smith
Eileen Clarke
Todd Ranolde
Joshua Webb

Others Present: Kathy Orlando, Housing Commission
Pamela Tambourine, Board Administrator

Members of the Public: See Sign-in Sheet

Chair Levine called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Discussion and Possible Action on State Tobacco Regulations / Presentation, by Jim Wilusz, Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative:

Jim Wilusz was unable to attend this meeting. Discussion was tabled to the February 13th meeting.

The Board reviewed quarterly reports from Berkshire Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative, including a tuberculosis case in Sheffield.

Discussion and Possible Action on Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative Assistance to the Board of Health:

Jim Wilusz was unable to attend this meeting. Discussion was tabled to the February 13th meeting.

Meeting with Housing Committee / Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Receivership Program:

- Discussed affordable housing challenges in Sheffield, including the low percentage of affordable housing and infrastructure problems.
- Proposed receivership as a solution to increase affordable housing and improve property values, citing examples of successful receivership in other towns.
- Explained that the Attorney General's office works with properties below state sanitary code and identifies the owner, trying to work with them to bring the property up to code.
- Explained the benefits of paying off back taxes as a receiver, citing the town's appreciation and the potential to buy the property back.
- Developers use state funding and loans to renovate affordable homes in Massachusetts.
- Explained how the Attorney General's Office can help identify properties not complying with housing codes and put them into receivership.
- Explained the authority of the Board of Health and building inspectors to work with the Attorney General to identify and address these properties.
- The property owner can sell the occupied or unoccupied property to the receiver.
- Assists with relocating people in receivership situations.
- Discussed the affordable housing receivership process and pricing.
- Explained the process of assigning properties to homeowners needing repairs, including using lotteries and deadlines.

*Board of Health
January 9, 2024 Meeting Minutes*

Discussion/Possible Action Regarding FY25 Budget:

This item was tabled to the next meeting or sooner if the deadline is sooner.

Review/Discussion Mail: The Board reviewed the mail.

P. Levine motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by S. Smith. The motion passed unanimously 5-0

Chair Levine adjourned the meeting at 6:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Pamela Tambourine
Board Administrator

There were no documents reviewed at this meeting.