

# TOWN OF PLAINVILLE - BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes— March 29, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

Town Hall, 190 South Street, Plainville, MA

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Approved 5/3/23

The Plainville Board of Health held a scheduled meeting on Wednesday, March 29, 2023, at the Town Hall beginning at 5:47 p.m. Board members Louis Leblanc, Chairman, Richard Achin, Vice Chairman & Bob Davis, member were present. Also present was Deborah J. Revelle, Health Director and Brian Noble, Town Administrator.

## General Business

- Trash & Recycling - Board to discuss the trash & recycling program beginning July 1, 2023. The mission is to provide a cost effective and comprehensive program to the residents that need the town to provide an affordable option to private haulers. After a proposed contract received from E.L. Harvey, four options were left available for the trash program for Plainville residents. The four options for the continuation of the trash program include, the continuation of the trash program as it was previously with the inclusion of trash stickers purchased for each 35-gallon trash bag, the continuation of the trash stickers with the inclusion of a 64-gallon recycling cart, the use of a 35-gallon trash cart and 64-gallon recycling cart with trash stickers only used for overflow, or the use of two 64-gallon carts used for both trash and recycling with stickers only used for overflow bags. Ms. Revelle stated that "Offering a cart where the cost of trash is included in the annual fee, reduces the amount of special bags or stickers for bags and therefore results in less aggravation for the resident. Prices will also go up a considerable amount regardless, but at least they will receive something useful for that increase." The consideration of people who only produce one bag of trash a week was discussed. It was mentioned that the MassDEP states on average 35 gallon carts result in approximately 6 overflow bags/HH/year and 64 gallon carts results in approximately 2 overflow bags/HH/year. Most households are also expected to fill a 35-gallon cart, but not all households are expected to fill a 64-gallon cart. The physical labor of the sanitation worker was also considered. A truck can use a mechanical arm to lift a cart reduces the risk of injury or strain exponentially for the worker and does not require the constant lifting and throwing of individual trash bags. Ms. Revelle explained why the use of two 35-gallon carts is not a reliable option because of billing. Ms. Revelle also mentions that the trash program is an opt in program and residents always have the option to hire a private hauler, but the private haulers have much higher rates. The rodent problem in Plainville has also been an increasing issue over the last year. As the Massachusetts Housing Code 410.600 states "Garbage or mixed garbage and rubbish shall be stored in watertight receptacles with tight-fitting covers. Said receptacles and covers shall be of metal or other durable, rodent-proof material. Rubbish shall be stored in receptacles of metal or other durable, rodent-proof material. Garbage and rubbish shall be put out for collection no earlier than the day of collection." The use of two carts for trash and recycling will help to keep residents in compliance with MA housing codes and help to decrease the rodent issue. Ms. Revelle stated that she believes for the Town of Plainville a 35-gallon trash cart and a 64-gallon recycling cart is the best overall option after considering all other variables and their associated prices.

After considerable discussion, Lou Leblanc made a motion to approve the trash and recycling program that included a 35-gallon trash cart and a 64-gallon recycling cart with stickers only used for overflow bags and Bob Davis seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

**Minutes-**

March 22, 2023- Dick Achin made a motion to approve the minutes, Bob Davis seconded, all in favor, motion carried.

**Adjournment**

Dick Achin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49pm. Bob Davis seconded, all in favor, meeting adjourned.