

Board of Health emergency meeting  
Town Building – Council on Aging  
March 20, 2020

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. Present by remote participation were John G. Schuler, M. D. (JS), Robert DeFrancesco DMD (RD), Susan Green, Chair, (SG) Also present were Julia Junghanns, (JJ) Director of Health, Louise Miller (LM) Town Administrator, Ruth Mori, M.S.N, R.N., (RM) Public Health Nurse/School Nurse Leader and Patti White, Department Assistant

SG: In compliance with revised Open Meeting Law requirements, we will live stream the meeting on WayCAM, Public Comments will be received by phone at 508-358-6812 for this meeting. The phone number will be active during the public comment portion of the meeting. Thank you in advance for your patience; we intend to address all calls that come in during the public comment period.

SG: roll call for the meeting: JJ- yes, JS –Yes, RD – yes, SG - yes

JJ: Yesterday we had a situation regarding 2 restaurants in town: Liberty Pizza and Starbucks. The Health Director of another town contacted us to advise us that they had a child that tested positive and the parents operate a food service business in Wayland. The parents were quarantining, but the business remained open, I went to Liberty Pizza with our Health Agent, Darren MacCaughey and the Wayland Police . We explained the situation to the employees working in the restaurant that they may have been in contact with persons exposed to Covid 19. There were some language barriers and we were made aware that the 5 workers were not aware of the situation. We explained about their need to quarantine and that the business was to be shut down until we had completed our investigation. JS: Was the child a worker in the restaurant? SG: Do we know the age of child? JJ: RM is working on the investigation today. JS: When was positive test notification received? JJ: Yesterday was the date of notification. SG: Do we know if the owner works in the store? JJ: Yes he and his wife work in the store. Right after that meeting, we were notified by Wayland Police that the Starbucks was being locked up; an officer stopped by as they were locking up and was told they were closed as they had been advised a worker was presumptive positive. We returned to both locations with official closed signs that were not to be removed until the Health Department had completed their investigation. JJ: I have tried to contact the corporate office of Starbucks in Washington State for more information; we have been trying to contact the District Manager as well. We were advised by the Corporate Starbucks that the District Manager would call the Health Dept. office today.

JJ: I am looking for vote from the Board that they are in agreement with the closures during the investigation.

**JG: I make a motion that both Liberty Pizza and Starbucks remain closed until the Health Department deems it safe to reopen the stores. SG- second. Board roll call: RD: yes, JS: yes SG: yes 3-0 All in favor**

Continued update: JJ: Our food inspector has contacted all food retailers via phone to go over food handling, Darren MacCaughey (DM) our Health Agent, went around town to check on businesses to confirm their compliance. JJ: We will continue to go to stores to hand out the information from the food inspector regarding food handling operations. We are working to be sure people are following the current rules for gatherings. We are suggesting following the more conservative measure of 10 people or less as advised by President and CDC, although the state is still saying 25 or less, we have not had pushback from anyone so far.

JS: Have you notified other businesses that serve food, about positive tests? JJ: We will confirm that they understand the seriousness of the situation. JJ: When Darren MacCaughey was following up with other businesses, he discovered that Wayland House of Pizza shares staff with Liberty's. Owners of Wayland Pizza were notified that the staff from Liberty's was ordered home to self-quarantine.

8:20 a.m. Arne Soslow (AS) M. D. has joined the meeting

SG: Yesterday I received the notice from JJ regarding the closing of the 2 restaurants, and shortly after received the notice again from the Wayland Patch, social media had this information out quickly. JJ: We are working to be as transparent as possible; we started getting calls with questions regarding these two locations. JS: Is Starbucks locally owned or franchise? JJ: I do not know, I will inquire with the district manager when he contacts me today.

**8:25 a.m. Louise Miller (LM) has joined the meeting.**

The Town administrator has joined the meeting to read to the Board the Declaration for Emergency in the Town of Wayland. This is supplemental to the Board of Selectman (BOS) declaration voted under the town code on Monday. This is a state law with both BOS and BOH to vote to authorize certain steps to be taken that are additional to the steps already taken by the State and Federal government. Some of these steps may have already been taken; this will

authorize deficit spending in certain line items of certain Town Departments, specifically for the Health Department, Fire Department, Police Department and the Facilities Department.  
The Town Administrator has read the Declaration of Emergency for the Town of Wayland

**L. Miller read a declaration of local state of emergency:**

"Whereas, on March 10, 2020, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts issued a declaration of a state of emergency to respond to COVID-19;  
Whereas, on March 13, 2020 the President of the United States announced a national declaration of emergency;  
Whereas, on March 16, 2020 the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Wayland declared a local state of emergency;  
Whereas, the state and federal governments have taken various actions to respond to the evolving COVID-19 public health emergency impacting the nation, the commonwealth and Wayland;  
Whereas, the Board of Selectmen have determined that COVID-19 is a public health emergency that poses an immediate threat to the public safety and general welfare of the people residing both within and outside of the Town of Wayland;  
Whereas, it is critical to take all steps necessary to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of the people of Wayland, which steps may be additional to steps that are taken by the state and federal governments; and  
Whereas, declaring a state of emergency will facilitate and expedite the use of resources to protect persons from the impacts of COVID-19 including but not limited to emergency expenditures pursuant to M.G.L Chapter 44 Section 31;  
Now, Therefore, We, the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Wayland, Massachusetts hereby declare that a state of emergency exists in the Town of Wayland. This declaration of emergency shall remain in effect until further notice is given pursuant to our judgement that the conditions leading to this declaration no longer exist."

**The floor is open for Board discussion – there was none.**

**SG: Motion to adopt the Local State of Emergency as of 3/20/ 2020 the Board of Health to declare a state of emergency under Chapter 58 Section 3 of the Town Code. Second RD . Yes: A. Soslow, J Schuler, R. Defrancesco, S Green. No: none. ABSENT: Brian McNamara ABSTAIN: none. Adopted 4-0.**

JS: Do we officially end this as a board/town? LM: The Board of Selectman will end the State of Emergency as a town.

JS: Does this allow for us to overspend budget lines items for things like overtime? LM: yes, the Board of Selectmen (BOS) will meet at 10 am; part of the declaration will be the BOS delegating these decisions to be made by joint decision of LM and JJ.

There was a brief discussion regarding Gov. Baker deploying up to 2000 National Guard troops and what that might mean for the State, we will wait for updates and plans from the Governor.

The Board has concerns regarding testing sites and supply inventories. JJ: I did see the announcement regarding the CVS Shrewsbury location being setup for testing, I have heard of others, but have not received any confirmation; I will be working on that today. We have supplies that have been inventoried; they will be used to protect staff and our first responders. This will be critical for the near future, to be sure they are properly protected as they assist and transport our residents. AS: This is an important topic; we need to plan to discuss this more in the future. JJ: We have been working with the Public Safety staff to inventory and project what supplies we may need going forward. We have had contact yesterday with a resource group within the MA State Department of Public Health inquiring as to how much money we may need. We replied with an amount, we have opined on that but it appears that funding will be limited, we did put our name in and will be watching for additional sources of funding such as MEMA, (Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency) and other regional resources.? I also heard the National Guard have funding sources. JS: Always to be safe to request funding, what is not used can be returned if not needed. JJ: Exactly, we don't know how this will play out with resources; we are just one community, we will wait and see how they are allocating resources and supplies.

JS: Please keep us updated as this is developing. JJ: I sent out information regarding the Liberty Pizza and Starbucks, we will continue with our investigation. We are sending communications to all food establishments along with Covid-19 information from the Mass Restaurant Association, along with our recommendations. JJ: We will be providing regular updates as we become aware of impactful situations as they may occur.

JJ: We are working on plans for remote operations, along with other town departments. We have a remote way to check phone messages, we can access info and communicate with others, ID badges have been updated to allow for us to travel should there be any type of travel ban.

Ruth Mori, M.S.N, R.N., Public Health Nurse/School Nurse leader has joined the meeting. JS: Are all the school nurses working with you? RM: We have had several in the office and another nurse will be in today; there will be some coming in next week as well. Things were quieter and they were not in for a couple of days, but things are ramping up and they will be coming in on a more regular basis as needed.

RD: Given the declaration of emergency, do roles for BOH change as this goes forward? JJ: I want to bring Louise in to clarify the information, there has been much discussion regarding responsibilities. LM: The Board should to continue to post at least one meeting per week by conference call and updates from JJ and LM will continue by email. All public communications will be posted on the website. If there are decisions that need to be run by the BOH, we will call an emergency meeting. If there are emergency actions that need to occur, LM and JJ are able to take the actions. Unless otherwise decided, if we need an immediate response the person to make that decision would be your chair SG. SG: Yes, I do not have a problem with that. LM: If a live signature is needed, the Board should delegate that JJ or LM can sign on the behalf of the Board, so we do not need to ask a live person enter the town building. When this Delegation of Authority should take place, we will contact you to let you know. I will be signing the Declaration of Emergency on your behalf later today at the Board of Selectmen meeting.

JJ: Mass General Law have these guidelines in place; allowing one person to act on the Board's behalf to approve critical actions. AS: Will you please email out the document for the board to review? JJ: Yes.

Next Meeting Date: Friday March 27<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m.

**We are now opening the phones for public comment. Pleases call into 508-358-6812**

**9:00 a.m. Public Comment – there were none**

The Board had additional questions regarding the investigations for Starbucks and Liberty's pizza. JJ: Both businesses have had a notice of closure posted on their doors and will not be allowed to open until the investigation is completed. Staff has gotten a fair amount of information regarding the situation at Liberty's after speaking with the owners. In regards to Starbucks, they had closed their doors so we don't have any information at this time; we expect to have more after the conversation with the Starbucks personnel later today. We will be having a conversation with the State for guidance on how extensive an investigation we have to do for customers who made purchases at Liberty's and Starbucks. AS: Before we authorize stores to reopen, we need to be certain that everyone on staff has been signed off to return to work.

JS: Are you checking on the assisted living facilities and nursing homes? JJ: Those are on lockdown and we are keeping in contact with them.

**9:05 a.m. SG: Motion to adjourn. second RD:. roll call RD - yes, JS - yes, AS - yes, SG - yes; 4-0 All in favor**

Respectfully submitted  
Patti White  
Department Assistant  
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