

**TOWN OF GROTON**

Board of Health

173 Main Street

Groton, MA 01450

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

Jason Weber, Chairman

Robert J. Fleischer, Member

Michelle Collette, Member

Date: Tuesday, February 16th, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members Present: Jason Weber, Chairman; Robert J. Fleischer, Member; Michelle Collette, Member; Ira Grossman, Nashoba Associated Board of Health Agent

**DISCUSSION OF USE OF POLYSTYRENE CONTAINERS**

Board members discussed thoughts on a potential ban of Polystyrene containers used by Food Service Establishments in town.

Robert Fleischer supports the ban and would also like to see any substitute packaging used be PFAS free.

Michelle Collette also supports implementing the ban, mentioning that Styrofoam material cannot be recycled.

The purpose of this discussion is to decide on submitting a placeholder on the Warrant Schedule for the upcoming Spring Town Meeting a regulation and / or bylaw related to the use of Polystyrene containers.

Brief discussion ensued regarding the best approach to ensure that the Warrant Article is submitted by the deadline and is in line with the Board of Health’s objective.

Ira Grossman informed members that this can be done as a Board of Health regulation and explained the difference between proposing this as a regulation versus a bylaw.

With a bylaw the Town has to vote on the article being presented. If it passes at Town Meeting the Board of Health can assign different parties to enforce this bylaw. Any changes thereafter to the approved bylaw would require a Town vote therefore this may not be as flexible an option versus a regulation.

The Board members are not opposed to the bylaw approach as it provides an opportunity for the Public to share opinions and concerns. This also gives the Board the ability to modify any existing bylaws based on new information or developments.

**Michelle Collette moved to request a placeholder on the Warrant Schedule for the 2021 Spring Town Meeting to adopt a bylaw prohibiting the use of Polystyrene containers at Food Service Establishments.**

**Robert Fleisher seconded, asking that the motion be amended to include containers that have PFAS.**

Brief discussion ensued regarding the specifics and details of the type of containers that would be categorized under this proposed bylaw. The proposed bylaw or regulation would cover these details. Based on this information Mr. Fleisher withdrew his request for an amended motion.

**Discussion ended and the motion carried by unanimous vote.**

The next step will be to send the Select Board a Memo from the Board of Health informing them of the Board’s intent to request a placeholder for this.

During the interim the Board members will work on drafting the bylaw for inclusion on the Warrant.

**MEETING MINUTES**

The Board reviewed the meeting minutes dated December 7th, 2020.

**Robert Fleischer moved to accept the meeting minutes dated December 7th, 2020. Michelle Collette seconded and the motion carried.**

**INVOICES**

Board members reviewed and approved the following invoice(s):

* Verizon $51.49 Date of Invoice: 1/22/2021

**OLD / NEW BUSINESS**

Michelle Collette asked whether we have received the requested information back from Johnson’s Restaurant.

Ira Grossman informed her that the Food Inspector at the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health is working on it.

**With the agenda complete and no further topics raised for discussion, Chair Weber adjourned the meeting.**

Minutes by Sammie Kul.

**APPROVED: March 1, 2021**