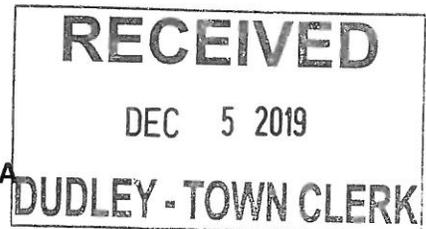


**Town of Dudley  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES**

**September 24, 2019, 2019 @ 6:30pm  
Dudley Municipal Complex – Room 321A  
71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA**



**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Discussion for waiving the 1<sup>st</sup> Dudley Farm Days application fee...**

Lorri Ducharme made a motion to waive the fee for application and permit for the Dudley vendors at the Farm Days Event on Saturday October 5<sup>th</sup>. Roberta Seconded the Motion and it passed unanimously.

**Animal regulation discussion...**

Jennifer Cournoyer opened the discussion with a statement noting that this is not a public hearing and that no vote would be conducted at the end of the discussion. This is a working meeting of the board to discuss edits to the draft. The Animal inspector currently inspects 26 properties that have farm animals in town.

Tom Purcell opened with a statement of intent for the regulations that would be for "Careful, Thoughtful, and Responsible keeping of animals" on parcels of land under 5 acres.

\*Title 5 Nitrogen sensitive areas may dictate no animals allowed

\*no crow collars for roosters

Jenn Cournoyer stated that it is not our intent to effect the current zoning bylaws but to work with in those parameters as set forth in zoning. \*Guidelines to help smaller properties with the handling of animals.

\* Requirements to register animals for the Animal Inspector to inspect on a yearly basis as required.

Discussion of edits section 1 ... adding Rabbits to the list of indoor animals

Adding ....and careful, thoughtful, and responsible keeping of animals

Section 2....A. "less than 1 acre" #s of animals "0-12" adjusting the numbers

Ken Korch- West Dudley Road "animals and foul" limiting the number for smaller animals vs larger animals.  
Horse vs chicken

Paul Joseph, Selectman

\*Consider Grandfathering Properties that have animal numbers that exceed the pending guidelines.

- Appeal process- case by case basis

There is a no fee process to appeal built into the regulations draft. The only expense is in notifying and advertising the hearing.

Variance for Roosters otherwise NO.... Zoning would refer to Zoning Bylaws without specification in BOH regs

Jenn Fitzgerald—State Regulated inspections on State forms that are sent to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Sandy Lieteau – West Dudley Road... Mail out and Ad placement for the variance as she has done so for the ZBA

Fee... free for the first year with reasonable fee for inspection and record keeping

Victor Kallgren- Airport Road wants to know the fee for “right to Farm town” so that future property owners will know

Would like to Grandfather all existing properties with animals for future generations

Lorri Ducharme asked Jenn Fitzgerald ... perspective on # of animals we should allow.

Jenn Fitzgerald..... size of animal is a factor in determining the space needed , conditions of land and enclosures.

Mary Sansoucy Rules for horses? Regulations on all animals. Zoning Questions

\$100. Fee seems excessive for fine

Tom Purcell The fee is not a useful enforcement tool but needs to be “reasonable, equitable, and Hurt”

Jenn Fitzgerald “We” are not looking to fine people, we are looking for animal owners to follow the rules as stipulated

Number of animals to be comfortable with as determined by animal size

Debra Easterbrook- Dresser Hill #2 People with under 5 acres should not be discouraged from wanting to farm in town. Would like us to” bump up the numbers”

Elaine Christianson Mill Road. Fowl and Animal Number of animals on a property. Her neighbor brings in animals from another town,

Increasing the numbers of animals for the land size. This needs more research for types and sizes of animals

State and national statistics of land requirements for animals (DAR) Division of Animal regulations  
A chart that gives limits?

Tom Purcell and Jenn Fitzgerald to research numbers of animals per lot with a breakdown of animals

Bill LePage.... Backing the inspectors into a corner? Zoning areas vs animal limitations. Classifying small, medium, large animals with foul being separate “ ....at the discretion of the animal inspector” level of build out and open space of lot is specific on a case by case basis.

Gather more information.....continue the discussion to the next meeting on Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> 6:30pm

Motion to adjourn by Roberta Johnson and seconded by Lorri Ducharme. Meeting adjourned at 7:42

The video of this meeting can be seen at **Dudleyma.gov, Video center, Board of Health**

**Some matters may have been taken out of agenda order but were typed up in agenda order for ease of locating**