

A Public Hearing of the Board of Health was held on Tuesday, December 11, 2018. Elinor D. Kelliher, M.D., Chairman, Carolyn Rogowski, Secretary, and Adrienne DeSantis, Member were present. Office Assistant Timothy Fontaine was recording the minutes. The hearing was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Dr. Kelliher.

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
2019 JAN -9 A 9:23  
TOWN OF LUDLOW

In Attendance at the Public Hearing:

- Sarah McColgan – Massachusetts Health Officers Association

Dr. Kelliher: This public hearing is to discuss proposed tobacco regulations for the Town of Ludlow. Copies of the proposal have been made available at the Board of Health office.

The Ludlow Board of Health is a 3-member board that is elected for a 3-year term. The duty of the board is to promote and protect the public health of the residents of Ludlow. The board derives its authority from the Massachusetts Legislature. The members are:

1. Dr. Elinor Kelliher, Chair
2. Carolyn Rogowski, Secretary
3. Adrienne DeSantis, Member

Also in attendance tonight is Sarah McColgan, Tobacco Control Director, for the Massachusetts Health Officers Association.

Because of the broad interest in tobacco control, every effort has been made to provide a public forum. As the purpose of the public hearing is to collect information and opinions, the Board will not ask for a vote from the audience nor will the Board itself vote on the proposed regulations at this public hearing. The Board will discuss and vote on the proposed regulations at its regular meeting at the conclusion of the public hearing. This meeting will be public, however, the Board will not provide time for further public testimony unless a Board member has a specific question to which an audience member can offer some clarification.

Written comments were accepted up to December 10, 2018.

Was there any written testimony to provide?

Mr. Fontaine: No testimony to provide.

Dr. Kelliher: Before we begin taking testimony and in the interest of time, we ask that you adhere to the following ground rules:

1. Before addressing the Board of Health, please be familiar with the proposed regulation.
2. When addressing the Board of Health, you must first identify yourself by name, address and any professional affiliation you may have that impacts your comments.

3. Please limit your comments to 3 minutes so that other members of the audience will have a chance to speak.
4. Please be considerate of those persons speaking, whether you agree or disagree with them and refrain from commenting out of turn.
5. Any person showing verbal disrespect to those speaking will be asked to leave the public hearing.

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE  
2019 JAN -9 A 9:23

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

May I have a motion to open the public hearing?

Ms. Rogowski: Motion to open.

Dr. Kelliher: Is there a second?

Ms. DeSantis: Seconded.

Dr. Kelliher: All in Favor 3-0.

Dr. Kelliher: The 1st proposed regulation change is to reduce the amount of tobacco permits in Town from twenty-five (25) to twenty (20). Of the twenty (20), only two (2) will be allowed as Adult-Only Retail Tobacco Shops.

Right now we have eighteen (18) permits issued and NO Adult-Only shops. We decided not to retire permits and to keep the number at twenty (20).

Dr. Kelliher: The other proposed change would raise the age for purchase of tobacco products to 21. Under the current regulations, once the new State Law takes effect on December 31, 2018, the change from 18 to 21 would occur in a stepwise fashion over a three-year period. In addition, individuals 18 years of age by December 31 would be permitted to continue to purchase tobacco products. This would be more difficult to enforce and more confusing for our tobacco retailers. Adopting new regulations restricting purchase age to 21 in the Town of Ludlow means that once the State Law goes into effect December 31, all individuals will need to be 21 years of age to purchase tobacco products.

Dr. Kelliher: New signage would be made available for retailers in the Board of Health office as soon as possible.

Dr. Kelliher: Since we have no one in attendance and no testimony to read, do I have a motion to adjourn from the public hearing?

Ms. Rogowski: Motion to adjourn.

Ms. DeSantis: Second.

Dr. Kelliher: Meeting is adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

2019 JAN -9 A 9:23

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Respectfully submitted,



\_\_\_\_\_  
Carolyn Rogowski  
Secretary

CR/tf