

Board of Health

Meeting Minutes

August 5, 2026

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2026 SEP 10 P 3: 54

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Members Present: Lauren Yelinek; Chair, Antonio Tavares; Secretary, Kelly Lamas; Member

Also Present: Paulina Matusik; Health Director

Meeting was called to order by Ms. Yelinek, and the Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Public Comment:

Ms. Maria Fernandes of 110 Richmond Road spoke on behalf of the complaint regarding chickens, a rooster and turkeys at 59 Hubbard Street. She explained that they were unaware approval was needed from the Board of Health and once she received the letter from the Health Department, she submitted the required information immediately. She also noted that the area is clean and her daughter who lives at the residence no longer has the rooster and the four turkeys will be gone by Thanksgiving.

Monthly Business:

Mr. Tavares made a motion to approve and sign the monthly minutes from Tuesday, June 9, 2026, seconded by Ms. Yelinek. All in favor 2-0.

Actions/Correspondence:

Ms. Matusik explained to the Board that a complaint was received regarding chickens at 59 Hubbard Street. They are requesting approval from the Board they have fifteen chickens, and four turkeys (the turkeys will be gone by Thanksgiving). The food is stored in the basement of their home; the coop is cleaned weekly and a special powder is used for odor control. They do have black traps in place for pest control. On Friday, July 31, 2026, Ms. Matusik did an inspection and explained that the feeder is stored above the ground to help with pest management, with no signs of accumulation of manure or sanitary issues.

Mr. Tavares made a motion to approve up to fifteen chickens and to keep the four turkeys until Thanksgiving for 59 Hubbard Street, seconded by Ms. Lamas. All in favor 3-0.

Ms. Matusik discussed with the Board that she received a call from a concerned resident as to why Ludlow is not a part of the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District. She corresponded with John Briggs (Mosquito Control Director) and the cost to join the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District is \$5,250.00 on an annual basis and in order to join the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District it would need to be approved by the Board because essentially it would come from their budget, then go to the Select Board for approval and then to Town Meeting to be voted on by the members of the community. Ms. Matusik discussed this with Mr. Strange (Town Administrator) about funding the

annual fee from the grant for FY27 and going forward putting it into the budget for overhead costs. The Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District sends out weekly reports, Mr. Briggs will help with the press releases for confirmed cases, and educational information to share with the community.

Ms. Lamas made a motion to present a warrant to Town Meeting for Ludlow to join the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District, seconded by Mr. Tavares. All in favor 3-0.

Ms. Matusik explained to the Board that she wanted to recommend contracting out for inspections regarding the two restaurants that Mr. Tavares owns for transparency to town members and residents that there is no favoritism. She reached out to John Prenosil (Code Enforcement Officer for the Quabbin Health District) to see what the cost would be associated to contract out, and he said he would be willing to help with the inspections. His fees are \$120.00 per inspection and \$70.00 for reinspection's. Ms. Matusik also explained that there is enough money in the budget (\$1,500.00) to contract with Mr. Prenosil as a Consultant Health Inspector.

Ms. Lamas made a motion to approve a Consultant Health Inspector for the Ludlow Health Department and simultaneously appoint Mr. John Prenosil as an Agent of the Board effective August 5, 2026, seconded by Ms. Yelinek. All in favor 2-0.

Other Discussion:

Ms. Matusik updated the Board with the Health Department updates. She explained that their department is looking to hire a Public Health Nurse and have received two new applicants and interviews will be scheduled. The Health Department will be expanding to across the hall from their department and that move will take place in a couple of weeks. The Health Fair will be held on August 21, 2026, from 2:00-6:00 PM. They currently have twenty-three vendors attending which has doubled from last year. Ms. Matusik did a press release, shared it on Facebook, an article in the Register, and yard signs were placed around town.

Ms. Matusik updated the Board with the Shared Services updates. She explained that Flu season is coming up and Ms. Hertz (Part-Time Regional Nurse) has been working on and preparing for clinics.

- Ludlow Home Visits - September 2nd & 9th, 2026
- Ludlow Senior Center - September 14, 2026, from 9:00-1:00 PM
- West Brookfield Senior Center – September 16, 2026, from 9:00-1:00 PM
- Ludlow Senior Center – September 22, 2026, from 12:00-3:00 PM

Ms. Matusik explained that they are hiring for a Community Health Advocate, they have received two applicants and will schedule interviews.

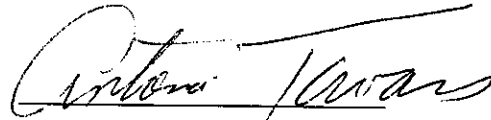
The next CPR class that Ms. McMurray will be holding will be on September 23, 2026, at 10:30 AM at the Ludlow Town Hall.

The Legal Notices were reviewed by the Board.

The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at 5:00 PM in the Select Boards conference room.

Mr. Tavares made a motion to adjourn the Board of Health meeting on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at 5:09 PM, seconded by Ms. Lamas. All in favor 3-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Antonio Tavares", written in a cursive style.

Antonio Tavares, Secretary