



Re: Request for town to notify pregnant women about the latest study on fluoride's link to reduced IQ in children

Bryan Moss

Wed, Feb 19, 2020

To: selectmen@shrewsburyma.gov

Cc: Kevin Mizikar <kmizikar@shrewsburyma.gov>, drowley@shrewsburyma.gov, Valerie Clemmey <vclemmey@shrewsburyma.gov>

Dear Board of Selectmen (Water Commissioners),

Please include this email under the correspondence section of the BOS 02/25/20 Agenda.

In response to the discussion at the 02/11/20 BOS meeting, the BOS said nothing has changed from the 1/28 meeting and appear to be again deferring completely to the BOH.

BOS 01/28/20 Fluoride

<https://youtu.be/y1G74pAGUUU?t=168>

- *"Putting fluoride in the water is not under our purview. It's the purview of the Board of Health and I know some people think other than that but that's the case so this isn't the right forum for that."* - **Shrewsbury BOS/Water Commissioner chair, 01/28/20**

However, the BOH said in 2016 that it wasn't under their purview, but rather it was under the Town Meeting's purview.

BOH 08/31/16 Fluoride

<https://youtu.be/ATnx-7E99w4?t=1200>

- *"In the case of fluoridation, as you know, the original decision to fluoridate Shrewsbury's water came from town meeting and so town meeting will again decide this issue so it's not specifically the Board of Health that decides whether or not to do it. If for some reason town meeting decided to end fluoridation, the Board of Health could bring it back but it will be subject to a referendum; therefore it's not really directly coming from the Board of Health per se it's really coming more from town meeting and Shrewsbury residents."* - **Shrewsbury BOH chair, 08/31/16**

Therefore, the BOS/Water Commissioner meeting is a valid forum for this important discussion because when Town Meeting gave the funds to the BOS/Water Commissioners back in 1952 to maintain the town's fluoridation program, those funds came along with the inherent responsibility for the BOS to advise Town Meeting on fluoridation matters - which it has done during the last two fluoridation related citizen petitions.

I'm not sure why the BOS is deferring to the BOH for my request as my request does not ask for any judgement on the studies, only that the studies that the BOS previously said in 2016 did not exist, now do exist.

I would also request (for the 3rd time) that we be given time on a Board of Selectmen / Water Commissioners agenda to present this information and answer any questions or concerns you may have as to avoid any further confusion. If you haven't noticed, the only citizens to show up for the last two BOS meetings have been those concerned with this topic and they will also plan on being in attendance at the next BOS meeting to hear the board's discussion this topic. Also, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions and concerns.

Thank you,
Bryan Moss