



CITY OF METHUEN BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Thursday April 9, 2026, 6:00 PM

Methuen City Hall Searles Building- 2nd Floor Conference Room

Call to Order:

Motion: Francesca Rogato
Second: Donald Marcus
Vote: Unanimous yes vote

Members in Attendance:

Francesca Rogato
Donald Marcus
Traci Lavigne Milnes

Others in Attendance:

Caeli Tegan Zampach
Paula George

Discussion: Minutes from December 10, 2025 and March 4, 2026, meetings:

Caeli Tegan Zampach discussed the need to postpone the minutes' approvals since not all the members who were present at the two meetings were present that evening.

Motion: Motion to table the minutes approvals, Francesca Rogato
Secon: Donald Marcus
Vote: Unanimous yes vote

Discussion and Decision: Prohibiting the Manufacturing, sale, and Distribution of Kratom Products:

Public Attendance: None

Caeli Tegan Zampach explained that the ordinance would prohibit the manufacturing and sale of Kratom products in local stores, including gas stations. She noted that only a few locations currently carry these products, and some are already in the process of removing them.

Traci Lavigne Milnes asked whether withdrawal symptoms are associated with Kratom use. Caeli Tegan Zampach responded that documented symptoms include nausea and cravings.

Francesca Rogato asked how the need for this ordinance arose. Caeli Tegan Zampach stated that Kratom is not FDA-approved or regulated, and it can activate the same receptors in the brain as opioids.

2026 MAY 13 AM 8:43

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Donald Marcus added that his research shows increasing use of Kratom alongside other substances. Francesca Rogato shared that, through her work with young adults, she has seen how easily accessible the product is.

Caeli Tegan Zampach also noted that the Methuen Police Department supports the ordinance and plans to continue raising awareness about Kratom use. She mentioned that one example of these products is marketed as "botanic tonics."

Motion: Traci Lavigne Milnes Motioned to approve the Prohibiting of Manufacturing, Sale, and Distribution of Kratom Products in the City of Methuen.
Second: Donald Marcus
Vote: Unanimous yes vote

Adjournment:

Motion: Traci Lavigne Milnes
Second: Francesca Rogato
Vote: Unanimous yes vote

Meeting adjourned at: 6:33 PM